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Fillies battle in \$75,000 Vivacious Handicap at Belterra

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by Kimberly Rinker, For the Ohio Thoroughbred Race Fund

A competitive field of 13 Ohio-registered fillies are set to wage war in Sunday's \$75,000 Vivacious Handicap at Belterra Park. The one and one-sixteenth mile turf contest for 3-year-olds and up is the featured eighth race, with a scheduled post time of 4:57 pm, ET.

True Cinder, with career earnings just shy of \$400,000, will be vying for her third straight stakes triumph in the Vivacious. The 4-year-old Alcindor lass, who is trained and owned by Mike Rone, was second in the \$75,000 Classen Memorial on May 5 to Leona's Reward, and followed that up with back to back victories—in the \$75,000 Angenora Stakes on June 2 and the \$75,000 Buckeye Native Stakes on July 22. Bred by Larry Byer, True Cinder won those events impressively by a combined 14 lengths.

School Board Prez, the richest mare in the field with \$435,540 in her coffers, has yet to regain the form of her 3-year-old season. This Courageous Cat 5-year-old, who is bred and owned by John Royer, hails from Doug Matthews barn. She was a snappy second to Proper Discretion in her last outing, the \$75,000 Petro Memorial on June 23.

The lightly-raced **Magna Rose** comes into the Vivacious fresh off a near seven-length triumph in the \$75,000 Queen City Oaks on July 22 for trainer Brendan Walsh and looks poised for another solid effort. This 3-year-old Magna Graduate filly was bred by Elisabeth Alexander and owned by Ten Broeck Farm and sports a \$65,800 bankroll.

Another lightly-race distaff that appears highly-talented is the 3-year-old Take Charge Indy lass **Takechargedelilah**, who makes her Ohio debut for trainer Thomas Drury, Jr. Owned by StarLadies Racing, Takechargedelilah broke her maiden at Aqueduct on April 12 then stormed to a hard-trying win in a Belmont Park allowance race, before finishing a disappointing sixth in the Delaware Oaks on July 7 at Delaware Park.

Missap has been a solid stakes competitor this season and shows a definite liking for the turf, having captured the \$75,000 Green Carpet Stakes on May 27 at Belterra. The 3-year-old homebred daughter by A. P. Warrior is trained by Kellyn Gorder for Beckett Team, and sports a \$193,868 bankroll.

The 7-year-old **La Nina Bronca** comes into the Vivacious fresh off an impressive win in a Belterra sprint on June 28. Trained by Larry Smith for Hillburn Racing Stable, this Cactus Ridge mare has amassed \$175,320 to date in career earnings.

Southern Mischief, winner of the \$75,000 First Lady Stakes at Mahoning Valley last November, will be trying for her first stakes win of the season. Trained by Jeff Radosevich for Looch Racing Stable, this Into Mischief 4-year-old hasn't finished worse than second in four starts this season. Bred by the Justice Farm and Greg Justice, Southern Mischief has career earnings of \$150,510.

Trainer Nancy Adams will tighten the girth on **Hot Pink**, a 4-year-old Hold Me Back lass who scored a gate to wire victory on July 12 in a Belterra allowance, drawing off from her rivals by 5¼ lengths. Bred by Elliot Sullivan and owned by James Adams, Hot Pink has \$31,424 in her bank account.

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Photo Cutline: True Cinder will be trying for her third straight stakes victory in the \$75,000 Vivacious Handicap on Sunday, August 5 at Belterra Park. *Photo by Amy Griffiths/Coady Photography*