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Photo by Linscott Photography



## PROUD AZTECA DEFEATS OLDER HORSES IN AJ FOYT STAKES AT INDIANA GRAND RACING & CASINO

SHELBYVILLE, Ind.; – Aug. 6, 2014 – The youngest horse in the field proved to be the toughest as Proud Azteca and rider Francisco Torres took home top honors in the 11th running of the \$85,000-added AJ Foyt Stakes Wednesday, Aug. 6 at Indiana Grand Racing & Casino.

Only three-years-old, Proud Azteca was facing a field of older, more seasoned veterans in the 12-horse lineup on the turf. He was the only horse in the field with lifetime earnings less than \$100,000, proving the depth of experience in the one and one-sixteenth mile race.

Breaking from post four, Proud Azteca was in the thick of the action from the start. Father Mick and rider Rodney Prescott scooted out to an early lead along the inside with immediate pressure from I'm Boundtoscore and rider Juan Saez from the outside. A host of other horses were vying for position behind the top two.

I'm Boundtoscore emerged as the leader heading down the backstretch and opened up several lengths on Father Mick, who in turn was several lengths ahead of the rest of the field. Proud Azteca was sitting comfortably in fourth on the outside of Short Round and Jeremy Rose. The field tightened up heading into the final turn and by the top of the stretch, there were several horses ready to pounce on the leaders.

"I thought he (Proud Azteca) would be further back early," said Torres. "He was aggressive early, and I took a hold of him, but after that, he was all professional. When I called on him he was ready to go."

I'm Boundtoscore was not giving in and maintained his position on the front. Torres had Proud Azteca rolling and after a brief battle, easily passed up the leader en route to a victory by one and one-half lengths over I'm Boundtoscore. Ironically, Unreachable Star, the oldest horse in the field at age 10, saved ground along the inside for jockey Leandro Goncalves and finished a strong third, representing both the youngest and the oldest horses in the field in the top three.

"It's always hard for a younger horse to step up against older horses but he (Proud Azteca) proved himself today," said Torres, who was aboard

for the first time in the horse's short career. "I think coming into this race, he probably needed a race last time out."

Proud Azteca just missed the win in his previous start, a second place finish in the \$85,000-added Snack Stakes. All seven of his career starts have been over the turf. Unraced at two, the Kitten's Joy chestnut colt is owned by Brenda Tabraue and Jorge Herrera. The Indiana bred is now three for seven in 2014 with earnings in excess of \$130,000. Proud Azteca is trained by Mike Maker.

The win in the AJ Foyt by Proud Azteca was the second on the card for Maker, who also had a win with Wild Swava in the afternoon's seventh race, the \$85,000-added Florence Henderson Stakes. Torres also rode that winner for Maker.



Photo by Linscott Photography

## MISTER POLLARD PREVAILS IN GOVERNOR'S STAKE AT INDIANA GRAND RACING & CASINO

SHELBYVILLE, Ind.; – Aug. 6, 2014 – Mister Pollard and rider Ricardo Santana Jr. were much the best in the 11th running of the \$150,000-guaranteed Governor's Stake at Indiana Grand Racing & Casino Wednesday, Aug. 6. The duo covered the one mile, 70 yard distance in a time of 1:41.64 as the second choice in the nine-horse field.

Starting from post nine could have proved to be a tough task for Mister Pollard. However, Santana, Jr. accepted the challenge and rallied out early to be within striking distance of the pace, set early by Just a Morgan and Octavio Vergara Jr. Mister Pollard sat patiently in third alongside Bourne Free and Olaf Hernandez through early fractions of :23.32 and :47.59.

Mister Pollard had obeyed his orders up until the final turn. The three-year-old son of Pollard's Vision began his move and by the top of the stretch, was on the lead. That lead increased as he moved down the stretch, opening up to a seven and three-quarter length win. Notion-ofmine and Fernando De La Cruz rallied up for second over Huntstown and Malcolm Franklin, who saved ground along the inside to finish third.

"I had the best horse today," said Santana, Jr. "Because of the outside post, I didn't want to be in trouble. He was easy going the whole time and he was flying in the stretch."



Mister Pollard coasted to his first win of 2014 in his sixth outing. Owned by Jim and Scott Farrar, Mike Johnson's Falcon Racing Stable and Penny Lauer, he now has in excess of \$240,000 in his career. Mister Pollard has never finished worse than third over Indiana Grand's dirt surface in six lifetime starts for trainer Mike Lauer. His last start over the turf at Indiana Grand proved the change in surface did not agree with him.

"He (Mister Pollard) didn't run well over the turf," said Lauer. "In fact, I think that was probably the worst race of his life. I thought it might be tough out of the nine hole, but when I saw where he was and what horses were in front of him, I thought he was sitting perfect. I thought at the half-mile he would win it. He was running smoothly and at that point, it was his race to lose."

Lauer has been associated with Mister Pollard his entire life. Lauer and his wife, Penny, raised the foal from their mare, Sweet Summer, at their farm located between Louisville, Ky. and Lexington, Ky. They have teamed up for many stakes winners in the state of Indiana over the years, including Dreamin Big, who is the richest Indiana bred female of all-time with nearly \$550,000 in earnings.

"He (Mister Pollard) is a very calm, very classy little horse," said Lauer. "He stood in the paddock like a police pony. He's really a neat horse to be around."

Mister Pollard paid \$6.60, \$3.80 and \$2.80 across the board. All four of his career wins have now been recorded at Indiana Grand.

## Congratulations to the Following Stakes Winners!

FIRST LADY STAKES  
MARY N'EILEEN  
JOCKEY: PACO LOPEZ

GOVERNOR'S STAKES  
MISTER POLLARD  
JOCKEY: RICARDO SANTANA, JR.

FLORENCE HENDERSON STAKES  
WILD SWAVA  
JOCKEY: FRANCISCO TORRES

AJ FOYT STAKES  
PROUD AZTECA  
JOCKEY: FRANCISCO TORRES



## REMAINING 2014 INDIANA BRED STAKES SCHEDULE

Date	Race	Distance	Purse	Age	Sex
Aug 27	IToba Stallion Season Stake - Colts	1 Mile	\$75,000 added	3 year olds	C/G
Aug 27	IToba Stallion Season Stake - Fillies	1 Mile	\$75,000 added	3 year olds	F/M
Sept 10	The Merrillville Stakes	6 Furlongs	\$85,000 added	3 and up	F
Sept 10	The Brickyard Stakes	6 Furlongs	\$85,000 added	3 and up	
Oct 1	The Indiana Stallion Stakes (*S)	6 Furlongs	\$85,000 added	2 year olds	F
Oct 1	The Crown Ambassador (*S)	6 Furlongs	\$85,000 added	2 year olds	
Oct 1	The Hillsdale Stakes	6 Furlongs	\$85,000 added	2 year olds	
Oct 1	The City Of Anderson	6 Furlongs	\$85,000 added	2 year olds	F
Oct 4	The Richmond Stakes (*S)	1 1/16 Mile	\$85,000 added	3 and up	F/M
Oct 4	The Gus Grissom Stakes	1 1/16 Mile	\$85,000 added	3 and up	
Oct 4	Hoosier Breeders Sophomore Stakes	1 1/16 Mile	\$85,000 added	3 year olds	
Oct 4	Hoosier Breeders Sophomore Stakes	1 1/16 Mile	\$85,000 added	3 year olds	F
Nov 1	The Frances Slocum Stakes	1 1/16 Mile	\$150,000 Guaranteed	3 and up	F/M
Nov 1	The Too Much Coffee Stakes	1 1/16 Mile	\$150,000 Guaranteed	3 and up	
Nov 1	The Indiana Futurity	1 mile 70 yds.	\$85,000 added	2 year olds	
Nov 1	The Miss Indiana Stales	1 mile 70 yds.	\$85,000 added	2 year olds	F



## NOMINATIONS STRONG FOR FIRST RUNNING OF ITOBA STAKES AT INDIANA GRAND RACING & CASINO



SHELBYVILLE, Ind.; – Aug. 16, 2014 – Nominations were strong for the first running of the Paul Tinkle ITOBA Stallion Season Colts and Geldings Stakes as well as the ITOBA Stallion Season Fillies Stakes. Nominations closed Wednesday, Aug. 13 with 34 in the colts and geldings division while the list for the fillies included 17 nominations.

Heading the list of nominations for the colts and geldings stakes is Union Express, winner of the \$85,000-added Sagamore Sired Stakes earlier this year at Indiana Grand. The chestnut son of Unbridled Express has two wins and two seconds in eight starts this year and will move back to the dirt surface after an ineffective start over the turf course in the Snack Stakes.

Joining Union Express on the list of nominations includes Walden Forest, who is undefeated in two starts. The Forest Danger gelding is trained by Brian Waltz and a start in the Paul Tinkle ITOBA Stallion Season stakes would be his first among stakes company.

In the filly division of the ITOBA Stallion Season Fillies, Lena Love has already recorded three wins this season for trainer Bob Gorham. The City Weekend filly is currently on a two race win streak after defeating competition in her last two outings at Thistledown. The ITOBA Stallion Season Fillies would be her first stakes start.

Another filly on the nomination list is Deliver from the Tommy Short Stable. The Article of Faith filly has five starts and one win this year with nearly \$100,000 in career earnings. Deliver won two starts ago at Mountaineer Park.

The stakes races are for three year old registered Indiana bred progeny of donated stallions that sold at the ITOBA Live Auction or were deemed as Reserve Not Attained (RNA) Internet Auction. The payment schedule began in October of 2011 and continued through the final nomination deadline this past week. The race will be limited to 10 starters. If more than 10 are entered for the Wednesday, Aug. 27 event, then horses will be given preference on highest lifetime earnings.

*Live Thoroughbred and Quarter Horse racing continues through Saturday, Nov. 1 offering racing Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday at 2:05 p.m. with Friday and Saturday action beginning at 5:05 p.m. For more information, visit the Website at indianagrand.com.*

*About Indiana Grand Racing & Casino: Indiana Grand Racing & Casino holds multiple awards from industry publications for customer service, entertainment, gaming and dining. Located in Shelbyville, Ind., Indiana Grand features 2,000 of the latest slots and electronic table games in addition to a one-mile oval race course offering live Thoroughbred and Quarter Horse racing each year. Simulcast wagering is also offered year-round at Indiana Grand Racing & Casino as well as an off-track betting facility located in Clarksville, Ind. For more information, please visit [www.IndianaGrand.com](http://www.IndianaGrand.com).*

# HAVE YOU NOMINATED

your Indiana Bred foal for the coming years Indiana TOBA Stakes Race? Please email us for forms and more information!

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