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Photos by Linscott Photography



TORNADA UPSETS IN RICHMOND STAKES AT INDIANA GRAND RACING & CASINO

SHELBYVILLE, Ind.; – Oct. 7, 2015 – Tornada and Jockey Dick Cardenas used a ground-saving move in the final turn of the 15th running of the \$85,000-added Richmond Stakes to rally home as the upset winners Wednesday, Oct. 7 at Indiana Grand Racing & Casino. The duo covered the one and one-sixteenth mile race in a time of 1:46.82, marking the first stakes win for both horse and rider.

Starting from post five in the 10-horse field, Tornada has been versatile in her past starts, giving Cardenas the opportunity to assess the options at the start of the race. Tornada moved over to the rail as stablemate Miss Chatty Cat and Francisco Torres rallied out for the early lead, joined by Lena Love and Jon Court. The top two set very quick fractions of :23.25 and :46.66, increasing the distance between them and the remainder of the field. As the pace began to slow down on the front, Cardenas saw an opportunity to move Tornada along the inside and save ground, placing the five-year-old chestnut mare in second as the field turned for home.

In the stretch, Cardenas continued to keep Tornada focused on her race and pressed on to the wire, fending off the late closing efforts of Hebe's Victory and Sophie Doyle to win the race by three-quarters of a length. Hebe's Victory was just a neck in front of Show Me Indy and Indiana Grand's leading jockey Albin Jimenez, who came from off the pace to finish third. Miss Chatty Cat held on for fourth place.

"The first time I rode her (Tornada) I didn't know her very well," said Cardenas. "So, the second time today, I wanted to put her close to the lead because she likes that better. The trainer told me to rate her well early and wait for the last half to make a move, and that is what we did."

Tornada surprised everyone with her win, paying \$83.00, \$19.20, \$8.60 across the board. The win marked her second of the year in seven starts and boosted her career earnings to nearly \$150,000 for Zach Short of Broughton, Ill., who is the owner and breeder. His father, Ricky, is the trainer, and Zach serves as the assistant trainer on their farm just four miles west of Norris City, Ill.

Zach, a 2002 graduate of Norris City-Omaha-Enfield High School, went straight into the horse business following graduation. He currently has

two horses in training and will return to Indiana Grand on Friday with his other horse, Lovely Leeann, who is a half-sister to Tornada. The mother of both horses, Painter, passed away following the birth of her foal after Tornada was born. Lovely Leeann, now seven, is scheduled to run in the second race of the day from post seven and is the third choice in the race Friday, Oct. 9 at Indiana Grand.

Zach's mother, Jill, also assists with the racing business that includes a training track, breeding business and racing stock at their farm. They currently have 40 horses at their farm, including 14 that are currently racing.

"Ricky followed his father, Carl, into the horse business and has been doing this full time for the past 34 years," said Jill. "We mainly have Indiana bred. It's such a good program with a lot of incentives, we have invested most of our stock into it. We race year round and will race at Turfway Park and Chicago during the winter, and because Ellis Park is so close to us, we race there often, too, during their meet each summer."

For Cardenas, the win aboard Tornada marked his first stakes win in the United States. A native of Panama, Cardenas won 360 races in his native country when he began riding in 2005 and then moved to Jamaica where he won the leading rider title several times. He also won Jamaica's version of the Triple Crown before going back to Panama last year. He has been in the United States continuing his trade since December 2014 and joined the jockey colony at Indiana Grand midway through the meet. Since arriving in August, Cardenas has won 18 races and has moved into the top 15 in the jockey standings at Indiana Grand.

Live Thoroughbred and Quarter Horse racing continues at Indiana Grand through Saturday, Oct. 31, racing at 2:05 p.m. Tuesday through Friday with Saturday racing held at 6:05 p.m.

About Indiana Grand Racing & Casino: Indiana Grand Racing & Casino, a Centaur Gaming destination, holds multiple awards from industry publications for customer service, entertainment, gaming and dining. Located in Shelbyville, Ind., Indiana Grand features 2,200 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 or www.CentaurGaming.net.

