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Indiana Thoroughbred Owners & Breeders Association



Baratti Slides Up Rail for Win in the Preston Madden at Indiana Grand Racing & Casino

Story by Tammy Knox - Photos by Linscott Photography (unless noted)



SHELBYVILLE, Ind. (Aug. 15, 2018) – It was a big move late in the race that brought Baratti and DeShawn Parker into the winner’s circle for the inaugural running of the \$50,000 Preston Madden Stakes for three-year-olds at Indiana Grand Wednesday, Aug. 15. Heavy rains covered the area all afternoon and all turf races were moved to the dirt except the Madden Stakes, which was contested at one mile over the turf course.

Starting from post three, Parker rushed Baratti out of the gate, not necessarily wanting the lead, but wanting to stay close. His plan worked out as Bizerk and Jesus Castanon went straight for the lead, tracked closely by Lanier and Marcelino Pedroza Jr., who had joined the leader by the time the field went under the wire for the first time in

front of the grandstand. When everyone settled, Baratti had settled along the rail in fifth in the field of 10.

Bizerk continued to lead the way and proved he would be a tough horse to overtake as the field turned for home. Lanier and Bizerk were battling back and forth with neither horse giving an inch. Heavy Roller, with Rodney Prescott aboard, had tipped to the outside and tried to close in, but it was Baratti who found another gear in the last few steps of the race to snag the win up the inside by a head over Lanier and Bizerk in the three-horse photo. The time of the race was 1:41.74.

Baratti, a claim by trainer John Ortiz two starts back at Churchill Downs for \$25,000, was greeted with many hugs from his trainer for his win in the Madden Stakes. The seven-year-old son of Medaglia d’Oro is now two for two for Ortiz since the claim and has won five of seven starts in 2018. He is owned by Brian Moore’s Hooties Racing LLC, William Simon’s WSS Consulting LLC along with Brent Gasaway. Baratti now has nearly \$200,000 in career earnings.

Baratti, the fourth choice of the field, paid \$12.40, \$5.80 and \$4.60 across the board for his win. The win also marked his second stakes victory, adding the Madden to his win at Meydan Racecourse in Dubai in early 2017 in the Jebel Ali Port.

Baratti spent three months in the Persian Gulf region in 2016 and 2017, racing at three different racetracks. Indiana Grand became the 10th track that Baratti has competed at during his five-year career.

The 16th season of Thoroughbred and Quarter Horse racing continues through Wednesday, Nov. 7. Racing is conducted Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday at 2:05 p.m. EST with Saturday racing beginning at 6:05 p.m. EST. Two special Thursday racing dates will be held July 19 and Sept. 6 with a 2:05 p.m. EST post time.



Indiana Grand Racing & Casino, which is owned and operated by a subsidiary of Caesars Entertainment Corporation (NASDAQ: CZR), holds multiple awards for customer service, entertainment, gaming, dining, and diversity. Located in Shelbyville, Ind., Indiana Grand features 2,200 of the latest slots and electronic table games in addition to a one-mile dirt race course and a seven-eighths mile turf course offering live Thoroughbred and Quarter Horse racing each year. Simulcast wagering is also offered year-round at Winner’s Circle Brewpub & OTB located on the casino floor as well as a Winner’s Circle OTB located in Clarksville, Ind. For more information, please visit www.IndianaGrand.com. Must be 18 or older to wager on horse racing at racetracks and 21 or older to gamble at casinos. Know When To Stop Before You Start.® Gambling Problem? Call 1-800-9-WITH-IT (1-800-994-8448) ©2018 Caesars License Company, LLC.