



Ace of Aces has the Winning Combination in the Hillsdale Stakes at Indiana Grand Racing & Casino

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



SHELBYVILLE, Ind. (Sept. 12, 2018) – Ace of Aces and Alex Canchari may have had a slow start, but the finish is what matters as the duo rallied to a four length victory in the 18th running of the \$100,000-added Hillsdale Stakes Wednesday, Sept. 12 at Indiana Grand.

Starting from post nine in the bulky field of 12, Ace of Aces quickly rebounded from a slow start and moved up to sit third on the outside as Cruman Tapote and Fernando De La Cruz got the first call for the lead. Squadron Commander, the stablemate for Ace of Aces, sat second on the outside with Richard Bracho aboard as the field approached the only turn of the six furlong race.

Canchari moved Ace of Aces onto the lead and had the top spot secured by the top of the stretch. They began to open up on the field and cruised under the wire for the win. A Little Irradic and Rodney Prescott finished a solid second over Gio Pantera and Eddie Perez, who used a late rally to move up for third. The time of the race was 1:10.13.

Overlooked by the betting public, Ace of Aces paid \$12.00, \$5.00 and \$4.00 for his victory in the Hillsdale Stakes. He is trained by Bernie Flint and owned by Ron Hillerich's Hillerich Racing LLC along with Flint's L.T.B. Inc. The partnership also bred the grey colt by Unbridled Express, who now has in excess of \$87,000 in career earnings in only three career starts.

"In his last race, I wanted to test him and sit off the lead because I felt he was the best horse in that race and he went on for the win," said Canchari. "That race gave me a lot of confidence for this race today. He really showed how good he is today. He's still green and he will just continue to get better. He didn't even switch his lead until right before the wire. I really appreciate getting to ride this colt for Mr. Bernie. He's going to be a really nice colt."

Canchari, who has been a top rider at Canterbury Park in Minnesota, his home state, for the past few years, relocated to Indiana for the 2018 season. He has maintained a position among the track's top five all season long and has scored 64 wins in the first 88 racing programs. His win aboard Ace of Aces marks his first stakes win in Indiana.

The 16th season of Thoroughbreds and Quarter Horse racing continues through Wednesday, Nov. 7. Racing is conducted Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday at 2:05 p.m. with Saturday racing beginning at 6:05 p.m.

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