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Indiana Thoroughbred Owners & Breeders Association



Castanon creates another Preakness Day memory at Indiana Grand Racing & Casino

Story by Tammy Knox

Racing photos by Linscott Photography, other photos provided by Jesus Castanon



Photos top to bottom: Jesus Castanon visits Shackelford in 2016 at Darby Dan Farm.



A newborn Shackira Shackira shows off her big blaze.



Shackira Shackira and her mother, Miss Dora, in a field near Castanon's farm in Shepherdsville, Ky.

"This entire process has been so fun," added Castanon. "We raised her at our farm (in Shepherdsville, Ky.) and my brother (Jose) is the one that broke her and did everything with her. I was only there to just help if he needed me."

Castanon sees a difference in Shackira Shackira from last year to this season. He explained her first three starts were over sloppy tracks and she had some rough trips where she got knocked around a little. Therefore, they decided to give her some time off to regroup before her first start at Indiana Grand and it has made a big difference.



Shackira Shackira winning in style. Shackira Shackira, Jesus Castanon and connections pose for the win picture.



"She (Shackira Shackira) is happy and she is getting her confidence back since we gave her some time off," said Castanon. "We just want to keep her happy and see how she comes back. There are a lot of opportunities for her but we aren't expecting a lot and don't want to shoot too high. We will just wait and see what is next for her."

Castanon is currently juggling a busy schedule, riding at other tracks besides Indiana Grand. The

multiple Graded Stakes winning jockey is among the top 10 riders at Indiana Grand this season. He has more than 2,400 career wins and in addition to his victory in the Preakness aboard Shackelford in 2011, the duo came back to finish second in the Breeders Cup Dirt Mile later that year. Trained by Dale Romans and owned by Michael Lauffer and W.D. Cubbedge, Shackelford returned as a four-year-old in 2012 to win the Grade I Clark Handicap with Castanon aboard before retiring to stud with more than \$3 million on his card. Shackelford now stands at Darby Dan Farm in Lexington, Ky.

Castanon still visits Shackelford frequently. He will forever have a bond with the big chestnut that gave him his first Triple Crown win. Now, he has even more reason to celebrate his success as Shackira Shackira carries on the family name straight to the winner's circle.

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.

About Indiana Grand Racing & Casino: Indiana Grand Racing & Casino 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.