

Lookin At Lucky

WINS INDIANA DERBY AT HOOSIER PARK RACING & CASINO

Anderson, IND. (Oct. 2, 2010)- Preakness winner Lookin At Lucky proved just how much of a superstar he really is, taking home the title in the 16th running of the Grade II \$500,000-added Indiana Derby Saturday, Oct. 2 at Hoosier Park Racing & Casino. Guided by rider Martin Garcia, Lookin At Lucky used a dazzling move around horses in the final turn to capture the win for trainer Bob Baffert and owners Karl Watson, Paul Weitman, and Indiana native Mike Pegram.

Lookin At Lucky didn't emerge as a dominant figure early, moving to the back of the pack in the nine-horse field as the lone Indiana-bred horse of the field Indy Bull and Fernando De La Cruz rallied out for the first call. Several horses tracked the leader around the first turn of the one and one-sixteenth mile race, putting Worldly and Francisco Torres into contention for the top spot as the field straightened down the backside. Indy Bull would not relinquish his position and continued to control the

pace of the race. Lookin At Lucky was far off the leaders and was still trailing all but one horse as they headed into the final turn. It was at this point that Lookin At Lucky came alive and started making up ground, beginning his steady move around horses. He was four-wide and close to overtaking the top ones at the head of the lane. In the stretch, Thiskyhasnolimit and Jamie Theriot had taken control of the lead, becoming the only horse that Lookin At Lucky had to catch.



Story By: Tammy Knox Photos By: Steven Heuertz

Lookin At Lucky continued



He rallied up beside the duo and in a few strides, he was clear and headed to the finish line for the win over the sloppy rain-soaked surface. With his ears up, Lookin At Lucky was a winner by one and one-quarter lengths over Thiskyhasnolimit. St. Maximus Gato and Eduardo Nunez was a distant third.

"I thought he (Lookin At Lucky) would be a little closer," said Baffert. "Down the backside, I was a little worried. But, he started making his run in the turn. The first thing I asked Martin was 'What happened? Did you think you were riding Secretariat,' and he said 'yes.' Lucky showed today just how good he is. He accomplished a lot today with the mud and all."



Lookin At Lucky *continued*



Photos By: Steven Heuertz

Lookin At Lucky paid \$2.80, \$2.10, \$2.10 across the board. The Smart Strike colt now has four wins in six starts this season and boosted his already bulky bankroll over the \$3 million mark.

"I never thought there would be an Indiana Derby," said Pegram, who was born and raised in Princeton, Ind. "I never thought it would be for a purse of \$500,000. I never thought there would be slots at a track. And, I never thought I'd have two partners like Karl (Watson) and Paul (Weitman)."

Lookin At Lucky brought home the second title in a row for Baffert in the Indiana Derby. Misremembered under rider Victor Espinosa won the 2009 race in a track record time of 1:40.80. Lookin At Lucky completed his race in a time of 1:43.2.

When asked if he will go for a third straight title, Baffert said, "I don't know. I'd like to break a maiden with one of my two-year-olds first, and then we'll start thinking about it."

The win was the second on the card for Baffert and Garcia, who also scored with Always A Princess in the 15th running of the Grade II \$200,000-added Indiana Oaks. Garcia is now two for two in his career at Hoosier Park.

Hoosier Park Racing & Casino in Anderson, Ind., is central Indiana's premier entertainment destination, featuring 2,000 electronic gaming devices; Standardbred, Thoroughbred and Quarter Horse racing; and wholecard simulcasting. Hoosier Park Racing & Casino is a wholly owned property of Centaur Gaming, which also owns and operates Fortune Valley Hotel and Casino in Central City, Colo., and is working to develop Valley View Downs in western Pennsylvania. Hoosier Park also provides simulcast-wagering facilities in Indianapolis, Fort Wayne and Merrillville, Ind. For more information, visit www.hoosierpark.com.

