

## *The Tale of Romancing the Cat - Continued*

Before I continue my story, let me bring you up to date on what's happened!

In October of my yearling year, I started school at In Front Training in Ghent, NY. My friend from the farm started school there with me! I did very well there and the trainer said I was very collected and know what I'm doing!

After taking a little vacation back at the farm from the end of December until April, I went back to learning at Overbrook Farm in New Jersey. Then I started working on the racetrack at Monmouth Park. During these months I galloped, did mini-races in company (they call them breezes) and learned how to load and break from the gate which earned me my gate card! I even got to work once with my childhood Best Friend, True Prosperity!

I also decided that when I race, I will run for Old Friends Cabin Creek and donate a percentage every time I earn so I hope I can do them proud!

Now that we're caught up, let me tell you about something exciting that happened to me! I ran my first race!!

Yep, in the beginning of November, my very first race was at Laurel Park in Maryland. I didn't mind the ride and when I walked to the paddock, I was happy to see some of my owners there to support me! My human mom was trying to hide so I would stay focused, but I saw her!

Anyway, I loaded and broke from the gate fabulously! However, I was all caught up in the moment and maybe I was being a Little Bugger goofing around a little. It cliqued in my head I need to be serious but it was too late. I finished 7<sup>th</sup> out of a field of 10. My owners said they were proud of me and so glad I crossed the finish line safe and sound! My human mom gave tons of kisses - I knew she would! He-He!

Then, I ran my first race at Aqueduct. I finished last! It was not a good day for me; I was all worked up in the paddock and couldn't wait for it to all be over so I could go home. My human mom hugged me and said my brain still has growing up to do. Moms are the best!

After getting over my loss, we decided I should try again at Laurel Park but this time I ran a mile. Guess what? I won!!! What an awesome feeling! I'm getting so much attention from everyone too!

Anyway, I'm almost 3 years old. I'll probably make another showing on the track before spring. I think I like racing longer distance and I am starting to pay more attention. In the spring though, I think I will give running on the grass a try!

Stay tuned...