

**PRESS
RELEASE**

DELTA DOWNS[®]
RACETRACK ♦ CASINO ♦ HOTEL

2717 DELTA DOWNS DRIVE, VINTON, LA 70668
WWW.DELTADOWNS.COM | 800-589-7441

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 8, 2024
FOR MORE INFORMATION,
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FREE LIKE A GIRL DIGS IN FOR GUTSY VICTORY IN THE TREASURE CHEST STAKES AT DELTA DOWNS

THE 5-YEAR-OLD MARE MAKES HISTORY SURPASSING \$2 MILLION IN CAREER EARNINGS

VINTON, LA. – Delta Downs hosted a quartet of \$100,000 stakes races on Friday night. Fans were treated to the Delta Mile, Treasure Chest, Jean Lafitte and the My Trusty Cat. Although many talented equines took part in the activity, it was the 5-year-old mare Free Like a Girl that captured the most attention, as she was attempting to become the first Louisiana-bred to exceed \$2 million in career earnings.

Free Like a Girl did not disappoint her fans as she turned in a hard-fought performance under jockey Elio Barrera to get the 20th win of her career and in the process added another \$60,000 to her lofty bankroll. In all she has now racked up a total of \$2,039,978 during her 44-race career.

Free Like a Girl's trip in the Treasure Chest began in post position six and she broke well before she was taken off the pace set by Wild Bout Hilary, who covered the opening quarter mile in 22.98 seconds. As the field of seven fillies and mares reached the backstretch, Free Like a Girl began a sustained rally while Wild Bout Hilary clicked off the timer in 46.99 for the half mile.

As the field reached the second turn Free Like a Girl was moving with purpose, as she reached the leader at the head of the homestretch. The fractional time for $\frac{3}{4}$ of a mile was 1:12.30. Although Free Like a Girl gained a narrow advantage in the upper-stretch, a late contender emerged at the rail in the form of 21-1 longshot Autism Community. In the final strides Free Like a Girl dug in with determination and held off Autism Community to win by a head. Abundancia rallied for third, another $\frac{3}{4}$ of a length behind the runner-up.

Free Like a Girl covered the mile distance of the Treasure Chest in a time of 1:39.85. Each race on the Friday program was contested over a sealed track listed as muddy.

Owned by Gerald Bruno, Jr., Chasey Deville Pomier and Jerry Caroom, Free Like a Girl is a 5-year-old mare by El Deal, out of the Flashy Bull mare Flashy Prize. The Casey Deville Pomier trainee was purchased for the bargain basement price of just \$5,500 as a yearling in 2020.

Sent to the gate at odds of .30 cents on the dollar, Free Like a Girl paid \$2.60 to win, \$2.10 to place and \$2.10 to show. Autism Community returned \$8.20 to place and \$4.20 to show. Abundancia was worth \$2.60 to show.

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It was a Japanese-bred invader named Komorebino Omoide who scored a win in the Delta Mile Stakes under jockey Jansen Melancon. The Robertino Diodoro trainee defeated The Donegal Clan by a decisive 5-3/4 lengths with heavy favorite Touchuponastar winning up another length back in third. The winner covered eight furlongs in 1:37.50.

Owned by his breeder Perry Martin, Komorebino Omoide is a 4-year-old chestnut gelding by California Chrome, out of the Trippi mare Decennial.

Komorebino Omoide has now won four times from 12 career starts. He earned \$60,000 for his Delta Mile score and now has an overall bankroll of \$278,766.

A quick turn of foot around the far turn gained the lead for Norman Stables' Coal Battle, who went on to defeat A Million Moons by 2-1/2 lengths in the Jean Lafitte Stakes. Contrabandist was another 1-1/4 lengths back finishing in third. The winner was ridden to victory by jockey Juan Vargas, who accepted the mount from trainer Lonnie Briley.

The Jean Lafitte is a race for 2-year-olds and Coal Battle covered 6-1/2 furlongs in a time of 1:19.93.

After taking his career debut at Evangeline Downs in July, Coal Battle finished off the board twice in Kentucky on the turf before returning to the Bayou Stake for his Jean Lafitte win. He now has two wins from four starts and he snared \$60,000 for the his win Friday night. His bankroll now stands at \$127,625.

Bred in Kentucky by Hume Wornall & Jay Adcock, Coal Battle is a dark bay or brown colt by Coal Front, out of the Midshipman mare Wolfblade. He was purchased for \$70,000 as a yearling in 2023.

The My Trusty Cat Stakes was won in front-running style by Tapitures Actor, who was ridden to victory by C. J. McMahon. The 2-year-old filly is owned and trained by Jayde Gelner.

Tapitures Actor defeated Mrs. Medelssohn by 3-1/2 lengths while Nomoretanlines finished another neck behind the runner-up in third. The final time for Tapitures actor in the 6-1/2 test for fillies was 1:21.19.

Tapitures Actor has now won three races from six career starts. The My Trusty Cat was her first tally in stakes company. She earned \$60,000 for the score and now owns a bankroll of \$145,278.

Bred in Texas by Paul Pruett & Simon Winston, Tapitures Actor is a chestnut by Tapiture, out of the Curlin mare Upstage. She was purchased for \$35,000 as a yearling.

Delta Downs will close out the race week on Saturday night with a nine-race program starting at 4:50pm.

For more information about the season, visit the track's website at www.deltadowns.com/race

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[Delta Downs Racetrack Casino Hotel](#), a property of [Boyd Gaming Corporation](#), is the premier racing and gaming entertainment venue in Vinton, LA. Named “America’s Best Horse Racing Track” in 2023 by readers of USA TODAY 10Best, Delta Downs features a six-furlong oval track, 15,000 square feet of casino space and more than 1,500 of the most popular slot machines. Amenities include two restaurants, chart-topping entertainment at the Delta Event Center and the FanDuel Sportsbook.

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