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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE SATURDAY, MAY 25, 2024 FOR MORE INFORMATION, CONTACT DON STEVENS 337-589-7441 EXT. 1268

GOLD GUN Z CAPTURES THRILLING EDITION OF THE \$291,932 LADDIE FUTURITY AT DELTA DOWNS

LOUISIANA DEE LIGHT WINS THE \$40,000 LADDIE STAKES

VINTON, LA. – Delta Downs hosted the \$291,932 Laddie Futurity (RG2) on Saturday night and race fans were treated to a dramatic finish as Party Tyme Racing's Gold Gun Z just nosed out stablemate Thetrainrobbersace and San Lorenzo Hustle to get the narrow decision under jockey Guadalupe Lucio, Jr.

Breaking from post position five in a field of nine, Gold Gun Z battled for the lead early in the 330-yard test before dueling with Thetrainrobbersace and San Lorenzo Hustle throughout the final 100 yards. At the finish line the outcome was still in doubt, as the photo finish sign was lit on the toteboard for quite some time. When the numbers were posted Gold Gun Z prevailed and his connections celebrated the triumph.

Gold Gun Z covered the distance over a fast track in a time of 16.850 seconds. That clocking equaled a speed index of 91.

The victory by Gold Gun Z, who is trained by Jose R. Espinosa, kept his record perfect at two wins in as many starts. He took home a lofty paycheck of \$145,966 on Saturday and now has a bankroll of \$151,966.

Bred in Louisiana by Slash Z Quarter Horses, Gold Gun Z is a 2-year-old bay gelding by Gold Heart Eagle V, out of the Tres Seis mare Cf Smokin Gun. He was purchased for \$122,000 at the 2023 Louisiana Quarter Horses Breeders Association Yearling Sale.

Sent to the gate at odds of 4-1, Gold Gun Z paid \$10 to win, \$6.80 to place and \$3.80 to show. Thetrainrobbersace returned \$6.80 to place and \$4 to show. San Lorenzo Hustle was worth \$4.80 to show.

The \$40,000 Laddie Stakes was contested on the Saturday night undercard and it served as a consolation race for horses who did not qualify for the Laddie Futurity. The Laddie Stakes winner was won by Rancho El 48, LLC's Louisiana Dee Light (\$10.60) under jockey Juan Garcia, Jr.

Louisiana Dee Light, who is trained by Heath Taylor, defeated Big Dashin Eagle by ³/₄ of a length in the 330yard race while covering the distance in a time of 16.910 seconds. That time equaled a speed index of 89. Rounding out the top three finishers was G Forze, who ran a head behind the runner up.

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Louisiana Dee Light broke his maiden in the Laddie Stakes after finishing second in his career debut, which came in the Laddie Futurity trials on May 3. He earned \$24,000 for this first win and now has a bankroll of \$26,000.

Bred in Louisiana by Simmons Racing, Louisiana Dee Light is a 2-year-old bay colt by Five Bar Cartel, out of the Tres Seis mare Peacefull Delight. He was purchased for \$82,000 at the 2023 Louisiana Quarter Horse Breeders Association Yearling Sale.

Delta Downs will conduct another week of live Quarter Horse racing next Wednesday through Saturday, May 29 through June 1. First post time each night is at 6:15 pm.

For more information about the season, visit the track's website at <u>www.deltadownsracing.com</u>.

<u>Delta Downs Racetrack Casino Hotel</u>, a property of <u>Boyd Gaming Corporation</u>, 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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