

**PRESS
RELEASE**

DELTA DOWNS[®]
RACETRACK ♦ CASINO ♦ HOTEL

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

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
FRIDAY, APRIL 24, 2026
FOR MORE INFORMATION,
CONTACT DON STEVENS
337-589-7441 EXT. 1268

DROPPING DIMES PICKS UP THE WIN IN THE MISS POLLY CLASSIC AT DELTA DOWNS

- KONNAN CARTEL MAKES OFF WITH THE TITANIUM STAKES-

VINTON, LA. – The 2026 American Quarter Horse season kicked off on Friday night with a nine-race program the included the \$50,000 Miss Polly Classic Stakes (G3), the \$40,000 Titanium Stakes (RG3) as well as four qualifying trials for this year’s \$112,225 Old South Derby.

The Miss Polly Classic was won by Jaime Cardenas’ Dropping Dimes (\$5) with jockey Jorge Javier Garcia in the saddle for trainer Josue Ponce. The victory came as the gelding rallied late to get by Jj Jessa Dynasty by a head in the 400-yard showdown for 3-year-olds and up. Jd Heza Paintedeagle rounded out the top three by finishing another length behind the runner-up.

Dropping Dimes covered the distance in a time of 19.910, which earned him a speed index of 95.

Dropping Dimes has now won seven races from 16 trips to the starting gate. He earned \$30,000 for his score on Friday, and his bankroll now stands at \$150,813.

Bred in Louisiana by Ryan and Danielle Robicheaux, Dropping Dimes is a 4-year-old by Apollitical Blood, out of the Freighttrain B mare Depositing Chex.

This year’s Titanium Stakes was taken by Konnan Cartel (\$9.60) with jockey Victor Urieta, Jr. in the saddle for owner Dania Castellanos and trainer Santiago Villaseca. Konnan Cartel defeated Usxpress, who finished second and Jessapilottrain, who wound up third.

The Titanium was run at 300 yards and Konnan Cartel covered the distance in a time of 15.301 seconds (96 SI). Konnan Cartel is now three-for-three at the distance and has won 13-of-30 races overall during his career.

The winner’s paycheck in the Titanium was \$24,000 and that raised Konnan Cartel’s lifetime earnings to \$471,105.

Bred in Louisiana by Luis Armando Castellanos, Konnan Cartel is a 6-year-old brown gelding by Five Bar Cartel, out of the mare Jet Black Patriot mare Jet Black Ciraq.

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The fastest qualifier for the Old South Derby came out of the first trial of the night as Aj Big Cash (\$6.80) won the 330-yard test for 3-year-olds with a time of 16.698 seconds (97 SI). Aj Big Cash was ridden by jockey Rodrigo Vallejo and is trained by Vivian Hill. The sorrel gelding is owned by Jimmy Dean Harrel and Ryan Terry.

The Old South Derby final will take place on Friday, May 15. Listed below are the 10 qualifiers for the race in order of qualifying time.

	Horse	Jockey	Trainer	Time
1	Aj Big Cash	Rodrigo Vallejo	Vivian Hill	16.689
2	Hi Octane	Rodrigo Vallejo	Vivian Hill	16.749
3	Chilley	Jorge Garcia	Josue Ponce	16.754
4	Sheza a Whirlawaytoo	Javier Hernandez	Andre Brooks	16.763
5	Prey N Corona	Leonardo Rodriguez	Jose Lopez	16.803
6	Cm Dashing Cartel	Leonardo Rodriguez	Jose Lopez	16.850
7	Jess Telling Beau	Jorge Garcia	Josue Ponce	16.862
8	Ivorys Cartel	Victor Urieta, Jr.	Josue Ponce	16.866
9	Syms Sin Tacha	Randy Edison, Jr.	David Bustamante	16.884
10	Eyes So Gray	Federico Vargas	Paul Rigdon	16.953

For more information about the season visit the track's website at www.deltadowns.com/race. Fans can also follow the track through social media on Facebook and Twitter.

[Delta Downs Racetrack Casino Hotel](#), a property of [Boyd Gaming Corporation](#), is the premier racing and gaming entertainment venue in Vinton, LA. 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 Delta Downs Sportsbook.

Delta Downs is located in Vinton, Louisiana, on Delta Downs Drive. From Lake Charles, take Exit 7 and from Texas, take Exit 4.