



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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David Alvarez captures riding title at Evangeline Downs

Opelousas, Louisiana—Jockey David Alvarez, who won last year's \$1million LQHBA Breeders Futurity aboard Open Me a Corona, added to his accomplishments as he captured his first local leading rider title at the 2013 Fall Quarter Horse season at Evangeline Downs Racetrack & Casino. Alvarez overcame a slow start by rallying strongly in the final half of the season to catch and pass early leaders John Hamilton & Alfonso Lujan in the final two weeks of the 46-night season ending up with a total of 46 victories along with purse earnings of \$491,157. The 33-year-old native of Nava, Mexico who now resides in Ledbetter, TX previously captured leading rider titles the state of Texas at both Sam Houston Race Park & Manor Downs before relocating to Louisiana in 2012.

John Hamilton, who has several leading rider titles to his credit in his career including titles earlier this year at both Delta Downs & Louisiana Downs, landed in the runner-up spot with 43 wins and purse earnings of \$462,300. Lujan, who had finished atop the standings the previous six years here at Evangeline Downs, settled for the third spot in the standings with 37 wins and purse earnings of \$377,339 after missing almost 1/3rd of the season due to a shoulder injury. Danny Lavergne led all riders in purse earnings with \$740,304. The Lake Charles, LA native earned the bulk of those dollars with his victory aboard Ol Time Preacher Man in the \$1,000,000 LQHBA Breeders Futurity on November 16.

Kenny Roberts, the all-time leading Quarter Horse trainer at Evangeline Downs not only captured his Seventh local leading trainer title but also set a new purse earnings record as his runners visited the winner's circle 26 times. Roberts' so dominated the higher class levels that his stable bankrolled \$716,542, more than 2 ½ times any other conditioner this season and breaking the previous mark of \$652,597 set last year by Bobby Martinez. Miguel Rodriguez was second in the standings with 22 wins and purse earnings of \$250,735, followed by Vann Haywood with 21 wins and purse earnings of \$248,039. Last year's leading trainer Kevin Broussard recorded 20 wins and purse earnings of \$278,501, good for fourth in the standings.

Live racing will return to the Opelousas, La. oval on Wednesday, April 9, 2014 with the start of the Spring/Summer Thoroughbred racing season. The 84-night meet will feature racing on a four-evening-a-week schedule, Wednesday thru Saturday.

For more information contact Evangeline Downs at 337-594-3000.