

Thank Heaven For Little Girls

For the third consecutive year, fillies dominated the Texas Open Futurity field, capturing second and third places behind winning filly Tesora Segura

The colts were clearly outnumbered and outrun in the 1987 Texas Open Futurity as three fillies dashed under the wire to claim the win, place and show spots in this annual TTBA-sponsored event at Louisiana Downs on August 21.

Tesora Segura, a daughter of Texas stallion Fuego Seguro and owned by Richard Mays DVM of San Antonio, broke her maiden in the six-furlong contest in a respectable 1:12.3, five-and-a-half lengths ahead of favorite Dealing Duck. The latter horse edged out Rougette by 10½ lengths.

This was the sixth running of the race for two-year-olds sired by stallions participating in the TTBA Texas Open Futurity program. Fourteen horses started; ten of those were fillies. This marks the third consecutive year the event has been won by a filly.

"I'm pleased as punch," a grinning Mays exclaimed following his homebred's performance. "This was her third out, and she's been impressive in every race." Tesora Segura finished third in her first out in July, and captured second place in one of two Texas Open Futurity trial heats in early August.

"She's doing pretty good for a two-year-old," Mays commented.

In the finals, Tesora Segura grabbed the lead right out of the gate. Under jockey David Guillory at 109 pounds, she slipped back to a close fourth at the quarter pole, advancing to second at the half and then surging ahead of Dealing Duck

By ANNE LANG

— who had been leading the field throughout the trip — in the stretch. Bold Rose and Touch Of Spy each posed a threat in the early going, but finished fifth and seventh respectively.

The victory was worth \$40,549 from a purse of \$84,479. Twenty percent of the overall purse (\$16,859) was allocated to stallion awards. Weldon Granger of Houston collected \$13,516 for Dealing Duck's place finish, while Rougette, owned and bred by Henry Simon of Lafayette, Louisiana, was awarded \$6,758. Fourth-place money of \$4,054 went to Irvin deCordova of Groesbeck, Texas, for his Banker's Haven, the only colt among the top

five. Fifth was worth \$2,703 to Edwin Dow of Fort Worth, owner/breeder of Bold Rose.

Tesora Segura's trainer Don Stemmans was pleased with the results.

"I've really never had a horse come into a race in this good shape," said the 25-year veteran. "She's just a good filly, as good as any filly here on the grounds [at Louisiana Downs]. Dr. Mays raised this filly, broke her in Laredo and has been aiming her toward this race ever since she was a baby."

Jockey Guillory, 26, was also happy with Tesora Segura's trip.

"I knew I had a lot of horse on the backside," he said. "They [Dealing Duck and Touch Of Spy] set the perfect pace for me. At the top of the stretch, I felt I had plenty of horse."

"Every time she runs, she gets a little better."

Photos by
Equine Sports Graphics Inc.

Owner Mays will also receive a stallion award of \$10,137 for



Opposite page: Tesora Segura flies to a 5½-length victory in the \$84,000 event

Right: The winner and her many supporters gathered for a post-race photo

1987 TEXAS OPEN FUTURITY PURSE DISTRIBUTION

(\$84,479 less Stallion Awards of \$16,859.80)

| | | |
|-----------|---------------------|-------------|
| 1st (60%) | Richard Mays DVM | \$40,549.92 |
| 2nd (20%) | Weldon Granger | \$13,516.64 |
| 3rd (10%) | Henry Simon | \$ 6,758.32 |
| 4th (6%) | Irvin deCordova Jr. | \$ 4,054.99 |
| 5th (4%) | Edwin Dow | \$ 2,703.33 |



In the winner's circle (l-r): Louisiana Downs Racing Secretary Pat Pope; trainer Don Stemmans; Anne Lang of TTBA; Janet Stemmans; owner Richard Mays DVM; and jockey David Guillory

IT PAYS TO HAVE AN ELIGIBLE STALLION

Listed below are Stallion Awards for the 1987 Texas Open Futurity. These stallions were made eligible during the 1984 breeding season by either the Texas Thoroughbred Breeders' Association selling donated seasons or the stallion owner purchasing the season himself for one-half the advertised stud fee.

| STALLION NOMINATORS | STALLIONS | STALLION AWARDS (20% of Gross Purse) |
|---------------------|----------------|---|
| Richard Mays DVM | Fuego Seguro | \$ 10,137.48 (60%) |
| McDermott Ranch | Plain Dealing | \$ 3,379.16 (20%) |
| Charles Graham DVM | Nativo | \$ 1,689.58 (10%) |
| Barbara Clark | Debtor's Haven | \$ 1,013.75 (6%) |
| E.L. Baker Jr. | Sir Ack | \$ 675.83 (4%) |

nominating Fuego Seguro to the Texas Open Futurity program three years ago. Mays stands the stallion at his Key To The Hills Farm in Boerne. Fuego Seguro's first crop are two-year-olds this year, and Tesora Segura was his first starter from that crop.

Second through fifth-place stallion awards are as follows: Plain Dealing (McDermott Ranch), \$3,379; Nativo (Charles Graham DVM), \$1,689; Debtor's Haven (Barbara Clark), \$1,013; and Sir Ack (E.L. Baker Jr.), \$675.

The remainder of the field, their order of finish and their owners are: 6th, Raise A Flash, Henry Simon; 7th, Touch Of Spy (winner of a trial heat), George Wolff; 8th, Peace River Doll, Ernest & Vivian Dixon; 9th, Mansfield, M.L. Burleson and D.T. Farms; 10th, Sweet Appointment, B.D. & Roy Reid; 11th, La Avenger's Tip, Benis Lee; 12th, Set Sail, El Camino Real; 13th, Delta County Ack, Scotty Calvin; and 14th, Spy's Storm, George Wolff.

Nine of the 14 starters are Texas-bred, although that was not a prerequisite for nomination.

"It's nice that so many Texas horses are running, and in decent times, too," Mays remarked.

The next TTBA-sponsored race will be the October 3 Friendship Stakes for Accredited Texas-bred two-year-olds. Tesora Segura will join other hopefuls in the 14th running of the event, which is the longest-running stakes race in Louisiana Downs' history. ▣



An elated David Guillory aboard the filly nobody could catch