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January 21, 2009

NCHA CONTACT:

Rebecca Brian

817.244.6188 x 125

Amarillo Texas gears up for the 2008 NCHA World Finals

February 12-21, 2009 Amarillo National Center

Top NCHA point-earners compete for the title

(Fort Worth, TX) – The NCHA World Championship Finals is heading back to Amarillo this year, and the best of the best will soon compete for top honors and a chance at the title of World Champion. The top 30 NCHA money-earners in each of the 12 NCHA-approved classes will make their way to Amarillo from all over the country early next month.

Competition will begin February 12th and continue through the 21st at the Amarillo National Center in the Tri-State Fairgrounds. Daily go-rounds will start at 8:00 am. Scores and a live web cast will be available each day through the [NCHA website, www.nchacutting.com](http://www.nchacutting.com).

This year entries reach nearly 360 and a record total purse of more than \$544,186; this event is shaping up to be the best World Finals yet. Spectators can expect to see some of the most exciting cutting competition all year with many eyes watching top horse MS Peppy Cat, owned by Lonnie and Barbara Allsup and ridden by Pete Branch in the Open Division, and top rider Candace Barwick in the Non-Pro. MS Peppy Cat has already earned more than \$122,230.00 going into the Open finals. Also a favorite, in the Non-Pro division, Candace Barwick of Stephenville, TX looks to claim the Non-Pro title, as she has already earned \$72,567.00 this year aboard Dual Rey Me; the 2007 Open World Champion horse.

The National Cutting Horse Association is made up of 21,000 members across the United States with a wide range of backgrounds. The sport of cutting has roots in Western ranching traditions, where good horses were a necessity for everyday ranch work and cattle handling. From cowgirls to CEOs, from firefighters to professional football players, the common ground is often in the cutting arena. Each year more than 2,200 NCHA-approved events are held throughout the country with more than \$43 million in prize money awarded. For more information about the NCHA, or for World Finals information and scores, please log on to www.nchacutting.com or call 817-244-6188.

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