



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## **The National Cutting Horse Association crowns eleven champions at the 2007 Ford/NCHA Super Stakes/Super Stakes Classic.**

*The 2007 Ford/NCHA Super Stakes/Super Stakes Classic, wrapped up at Will Rogers Coliseum in Fort Worth, Texas on April 15, 2007.*

### **Ford/NCHA Super Stakes Open (Co-Champions):**

**Copaspepto, by Peptoboonsmal, ridden by trainer Tag Rice of Crowley, Texas, wins the Ford NCHA Super Stakes Championship – **Open Division**, in Fort Worth, Texas, on April 15, 2007.**

Tag Rice took the lead with 222 points on Copaspepto, riding last in the first set of cattle in the Open Finals. He then helped by “turning back” for Clint Allen on Wood I Never, who drew up last to work in the last set of cattle. Clint Allen also scored 222 points, to tie with Rice for the 2007 Super Stakes Open championship.

“That’s quite a thing being tied with Tag,” said Allen, who was runner up in the 2006 NCHA Futurity on Hydrive Cat. Although he was the Limited Open Champion in 2002, the Super Stakes is his first major NCHA championship win.

Rice is one of only three riders to have ever won the NCHA Triple Crown (Chiquita Pistol 2003). “Anytime you can win in this building, it’s exciting,” said Rice. “Clint had kind of a harder run than I did, and I didn’t know what the judges would do, but it’s in their hands. We just go show our horses and do the best we can. I’m really happy the way it turned out. Clint and I have been good friends forever.”

Copaspepto was a NCHA Futurity finalist and also won both the Abilene Spectacular and the Memphis Futurity. The gelding, owned by Marvine Ranch of Meeker, CO, has earned nearly \$275,000.

### **And:**

**Wood I Never, by Zack T Wood, ridden by trainer Clint Allen of Weatherford, wins the Ford NCHA Super Stakes Co-Championship – **Open Division**, in Fort Worth, Texas, on April 15, 2007.**

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Wood I Never, owned by Julie Wrigley, Wrigley Ranches of Weatherford, Texas, has been a finalist in four major events this year.

### **Ford/NCHA Super Stakes Classic Open:**

**Halreycious, ridden by trainer Lloyd Cox of Fort Morgan, Colorado, wins the Ford NCHA Super Stakes Classic Championship – Open Division, in Fort Worth, Texas, on April 3, 2007.**

Halreycious and Lloyd Cox won the championship with a score of 226 points, which shut out the competition. The next highest score was 219 points. “The cattle didn’t look too good in the first bunch,” said Cox, who showed Halreycious in the second bunch of cattle of the 25-horse finals. “But my helpers and I were on the same page, and Boyd Rice did a good job settling the cattle.”

Of Halreycious, Cox said, “He’s extremely talented.” Cox rides the 5 year-old Dual Rey-sired stallion for Linda Holmes of Longmont, CO. “I rode both his father and his mother, but I don’t know if I’ve ever ridden a horse as physical and talented as him. His mom might have been the closest.”

Although Halreycious was trained by Corey Holden, Cox took up the schooling in July, 2006. “I’ve had a lot more success on other horses, but it was probably because we were more in sync,” said Cox. “It took a while for us to get adapted to each other. There’s always a transition. But there’s no doubt in my mind that he’s one of the most talented horses I’ve ever ridden.”

Including this championship, Lloyd Cox has won three Triple Crown events: 1999 NCHA Derby on Smart Lookin Hi Brow, and the 2003 NCHA Classic Challenge on Halreycious’ dam, Stylish Play Lena, by Docs Stylish Oak. Dual Rey sired Halreycious, and is the second leading sire of money earners in 2006. Cox also shows two full brothers to Halreycious, one named Reydiculous, who has earned \$70,000 under Cox, and the other is Stylish Rey with \$28,000 in earnings.

### **Ford/NCHA Super Stakes Non-Pro:**

**Beau Galyean, riding Spyder, by High Brow Cat, , wins the Ford NCHA Super Stakes Championship – Non-Pro Division, in Fort Worth, Texas, on April 15, 2007.**

Beau Galyean's score of 224 points on Spyder, was 7 points higher than the reserve champions score. "When I walk down there, it's one place for me," said Galyean, who was reserve champion of the 2004 NCHA Futurity on Highlightcat. "Five years from now they're not going to remember who won fourth or second place, so I'd rather show to win."

Galyean also rode another horse in the Non-Pro finals, Myles From Nowhere, by Smart Little Jerry, and placed fourth with 215.5 points. "I felt frustrated and down a little bit after not getting a better score on (Myles From Nowhere)," said Galyean. "I guess they got me for flushing cows. But I knew I had another chance."

Spyder, who Galyean gelded one month ago, had just earned \$2,125 prior to the Super Stakes. "No one knew the horse because I hadn't done anything on him," said Galyean. "But he's really come around at this show and is thinking about the right thing now."

### **Ford/NCHA Super Stakes Classic Non-Pro:**

**Skip Queen, riding Sister CD, by CD Olena, wins the Ford NCHA Super Stakes Classic Championship – Non-Pro Division, in Fort Worth, Texas, on April 4, 2007.**

Skip Queen and his mount, Sister CD, won the Classic Non-Pro championship with a score of 224 points. Last year, the dynamic duo won the Non-Pro Super Stakes with 222 points. "Paul (Hansma) had him ready for me and my help had the three cows I cut picked out," said Queen. "There were some great horses and great competitors tonight. We were just fortunate that it worked out for us. It just happened to be our night."

Queen's draw was halfway through the second bunch. "The first set of cattle were really tough," noted Queen. "The second set started that way, but then we had a couple of runs put together right before me. So the momentum started building and it all kind of fell together. Anytime you win, it's great. He's been such a great horse for us. He has a big stop, a lot of eye appeal, and a big heart. He's the whole package."

Sister CD was last year's leading money earner with \$311,596. He was bred by the Bar H Rancho of Weatherford, Texas, trained by Paul Hansma, and purchased at age three by Queen and his wife, Elizabeth, who rode two Non-Pro Classic finalists, including CD Hombre, also by CD Olena.

### **Ford/NCHA Super Stakes Classic Limited Non-Pro:**

**Fat Cat Named Jack, ridden by Michelle Anderson, wins the Ford NCHA Super Stakes Classic Championship – Limited Non-Pro Division, in Fort Worth, Texas, on April 2, 2007.**

Michelle gave much credit to trainer Dustan Horne for giving her a schooling lesson that helped her win the SS Classic Limited Non-Pro championship. "I got in trouble in another run, and I got a big lesson on cutting my cows and controlling them," she said. "So tonight, when I saw my first cow, I just went for it and put him down."

Michelle Anderson, who won the 2005 NCHA Classic Challenge Amateur title on Trava Joe, rode 6 year-old Fat Cat Named Jack, by High Brow Cat, for the 221-point win. "I felt really

confident on him,” said Anderson. “He’s felt good this whole show. He was stopping hard and he felt calm. And I’ve learned to be still on him instead of moving around.”

“I was hoping to get into the big finals, but I was the third horse of the day, on the first day of the go-rounds, and I was a little tentative,” she said. “In the second go-round, I had 20 seconds left and couldn’t get my third cow cut. I went to chip a cow and two came out and I never got them separated.”

Fat Cat Named Jack was bred by Phil and Mary Ann Rapp, out of Ruby Tuesday DNA, and trained by Phil. Michelle and husband, Steve, also a Non-Pro competitor, purchased the gelding two years ago. The couple began cutting in 1997, and live in Southlake, Texas. Their ranch is in Victoria.

### **Ford/NCHA Gelding Stakes Open:**

**Rey Jay Cat, by High Brow Cat, shown by Tag Rice, wins the Ford NCHA Super Stakes Championship – Open Gelding Division, in Fort Worth, Texas, on April 14, 2007.**

Rey Jay Cat, ridden by Tag Rice for Marvine Ranch in Meeker, Colorado, claimed the Super Stakes Open Gelding championship with a score of 219.5 points. “They kind of cut through the cattle I wanted,” said Rice, who drew up late in the Gelding finals. “But the two cows we cut just let us have a nice soft, clean run.”

### **Ford/NCHA Super Stakes Amateur:**

**Brandy Jones riding Silver Pepto Pistol, by Peptoboonsmal, wins the Ford NCHA Super Stakes Championship – Amateur Division, in Fort Worth, Texas, on April 7, 2007.**

Brandy Jones and her mount, Silver Pepto Pistol, won the NCHA Super Stakes Amateur championship on their first anniversary. “It was very exciting,” said Jones of her run as the fifth rider in the first set. “I had three cows that fell into place and my horse did just exactly what she was supposed to do.”

Silver Pepto Pistol was purchased by Jones at the 2006 Super Stakes Sale. The mare by Peptoboonsmal had been trained by Russell Harrison, and Jonathan Rogers, who works with Jones, rode the horse to the semi-finals of the NCHA Futurity. Jones began riding the mare this last January, and won the 4 year-old Amateur division of the Abilene Spectacular. It was Jones’ second big win, as she was Amateur co-champion of the Bonanza. The Super Stakes victory is her first in a NCHA Triple Crown event, although she has been a finalist in the Amateur Derby.

Of her mount, Jones said, “She gets very low down to the ground and is very smooth and easy to ride. She’s got a lot of moves like her mother did, so I am told.” Silver Pepto Pistol’s dam is Miss Silver Pistol, who ranks 12<sup>th</sup> among all-time NCHA money earners with \$500,876.

### **Ford/NCHA Super Stakes Classic Amateur:**

**Daegan Arnold riding KC Again, by King of Clarks, wins the Ford NCHA Super Stakes Classic Championship – Amateur Division, in Fort Worth, Texas, on April 6, 2007.**

Daegan Arnold, from Kermit, Texas, claimed his second Triple Crown event title by winning the 2007 Ford NCHA Super Stakes Amateur Classic with a score of 223 points. He was also the winner of the 2006 NCHA Summer Spectacular Amateur Classic/Challenge. "I had to hustle quite a bit and stay up with the cows," said Arnold who rode KC Again, his Classic/Challenge Amateur champion. "It went real fast. Those good runs never seem like they last very long. It's the bad runs that seem to take forever."

KC Again is a full brother to Rioismysister, the horse that Arnold's father, Kevin, rode to win the 2001 NCHA Non-Pro Super Stakes and the 2001 NCHA Non-Pro Derby. Arnold's grandfather, Jack Arnold, rode King of Clarks, the sire of both KC Again and Rioismysister.

The Arnolds have a ranch in Kermit, Texas, where they raise cattle and horses. They also own a business that manufactures a natural fertilizer that destroys bacteria. Cutting has always been a big part of their operation.

### **Ford/NCHA Super Stakes Limited Open:**

**Ristos Fair Lady, by Smart Aristocrat, shown by Aaron Wheatley, wins the Ford NCHA Super Stakes Championship – Limited Open Division, in Fort Worth, Texas, on April 13, 2007.**

Australian rider, Aaron Wheatley, clinched the Super Stakes Open Limited championship with a 220-point winning performance on Ristos Fair Lady. Wheatley, who works for Jack and Susan Waggoner, owners of both Ristos Fair Lady and her sire, Smart Aristocrat, drew up first. "There were only a handful of cows that we thought were decent, but we were able to cut three of them and they were good," said Wheatley. "The mare was really good, the cuts were clean, and we didn't get into any trouble and were also able to stay in the middle. It was a textbook run."

Ristos Fair Lady was bred by the Waggoners, and trained by Rodie Whitman. Wheatley took up the reins last December and rode the mare as a finalist in the Bonanza cutting. "She's very small, but she has a big heart," said Wheatley. "And she is very cow smart. Her biggest attribute is that she's step-by-step with that cow the whole time, and that enables her to be consistent with all types of cows."

### **Ford/NCHA Super Stakes Limited Non-Pro:**

**Michelle Anderson, riding Cats Quixote Jack, by High Brow Cat, wins the Ford NCHA Super Stakes Championship – Limited Non-Pro Division, in Fort Worth, Texas, on April 14, 2007. She previously clinched the Ford NCHA Super Stakes Classic Limited Non-Pro championship on Fat Cat Named Jack.**

Anderson claimed two major championships at the 2007 NCHA Super Stakes, winning both the Limited Non-Pro divisions in the Super Stakes *Classic*, and the Super Stakes.

Of the 221-point scored Super Stakes win, she said, "I cut my first cow really fast. I cut my second one clean, too, but when it ran up (the pen), I got kind of nervous and tagged off with a minute left. But it didn't bother me. I just went deep and my horse was really good."

Anderson and husband, Steve, only recently purchased Cats Quixote Jack from breeders, Andy and Karen Beckstein of Unionville, Indiana. Kory Pounds trained the stallion and showed him in

the Open class. “Kory broke his arm right after we bought him,” said Anderson. “It was kind of a tough situation. But the horse was very easy to get used to and he does his job completely, Kory gave me a little pep talk before I showed today, and I had my ear tuned to him.”

**The National Cutting Horse Association is made up of over 17,000 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 \$42 million in prize money awarded. To learn more about the National Cutting Horse Association and the sport of cutting, call 817-244-6188 or visit [www.nchacutting.com](http://www.nchacutting.com).**