

# Daily Chatter

WEDNESDAY, JULY 30, 2008

Daily Chatter sponsored by Western Bloodstock

AN OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE NATIONAL CUTTING HORSE ASSOCIATION



## Matt Miller's 218 tops Non-Pro Day 1

Rapp and Westfall rank 2nd with 217

### WEDNESDAY'S SCHEDULE

Beginning at 8:00 a.m.

**Derby Non-Pro**  
1st go-round - 6 sets

### THURSDAY'S SCHEDULE

Beginning at 8:00 a.m.

**Derby Non-Pro**  
2nd go-round

### FRIDAY'S SCHEDULE

Beginning at 9:00 a.m.

**NCHA Summer Spectacular Sale**  
**Watt Arena**

Beginning at 12:00 p.m.  
**Derby Limited Non-Pro**  
**FINALS**

Beginning at 3:00 p.m.  
**NON-PRO SEMI-FINALS**

### SATURDAY'S SCHEDULE

Beginning at 9:00 a.m.

**NCHA Summer Spectacular Sale**  
**Watt Arena**

Beginning at 10:00 a.m.  
**John Deere Division of the Open**  
**FINALS**

Beginning at 3:00 p.m.

**OPEN SEMI-FINALS**



Matt Miller, Poolville, TX, scored 218 points on Snoop Cat, by High Brow Cat, to top yesterday's Non-Pro first go-round competition.

Former NCHA Futurity champion Matt Miller took command as the next-to-last rider in yesterday's fourth bunch of cattle. His 218-point score aboard Snoop Cat held as the high mark of the day.

"We only cut one cow that we knew and liked, and with the rest, we just went with what was still left and what felt good," said Miller, who won the 2006 NCHA Non-Pro Futurity on Travs Scooter.

Miller rode Snoop Cat as an open finalist (12th) in last

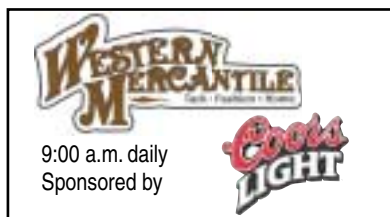
year's NCHA Futurity and, most recently, as a non-pro finalist (17th) in the Cotton Stakes.

"He's got a lot of pretty 'look' about him and he wants to really take a cow and get low," said Miller, who purchased Snoop Cat at the NCHA Summer Spectacular Sale as a yearling.

Today, Miller rides Skylin And Profilin, by Mr Skyline Peppy, as the last horse in the fourth set.

Janet Westfall and Mary Ann Rapp marked yesterday's

*Continued on page 2*





Left to right: Mary Ann Rapp, Weatherford, TX, scored 217 points yesterday on Swingin Star Pepto, by Peptoboonsmal; Janet Westfall, Los Olivos, CA, rode Lil Bit Reckless, by CD Royal, to also score 217; Adan Banuelos, Jacksboro, TX, marked 216.5 points on Dual With Christy, by Nitro Dual Doc.

second-highest score of 217. Westfall was aboard homegrown Lil Bit Reckless, by CD Royal, the stallion owned by Westfall and her husband, Russ.

“We really love her; she’s always been one of our favorite horses,” said Westfall of Lil Bit Reckless. “I’ve had better luck showing her than Russ has. It’s never his fault; it’s always just some little thing.”

Westfall showed Lil Bit Reckless as a finalist (7th) in the Breeders Invitational Non-Pro and the NCHA Super Stakes Novice Non-Pro (8th).

Mary Ann Rapp rode Swingin Star Pepto, by Peptoboonsmal, as the third entry in the sixth set.

“I didn’t drive up and cut aggressively enough on my first cow,” said Rapp. “But when I came up better with my second and third cows, she was a lot better.”

Rapp and her husband, Phil, purchased Swingin Star Pepto as a 3-year-old in training with Lloyd Cox, from her breeder Dean Sanders, who had shown the mare’s dam, Swingin Star Lady, to earn over \$120,000.

Mary Ann showed Swingin Star Pepto in the Non-Pro finals of the NCHA Futurity (7th), NCHA Super Stakes (7th), and Augusta Futurity (15th). Most recently, the roan mare carried Phil as a finalist in the Breeders Invitational (9th), and Mary Ann as reserve Non-Pro champion of the Cotton Stakes.



## You say it's your birthday!

These NCHA members are celebrating their birthday today.

Jane Brightwell.....	Henderson, TX	Amy Mccarthy .....	Troy, MO
Angie Brown .....	Shell Knob, MO	Matthew S Miller .....	Weatherford, TX
Charles Calvit .....	Avery, TX	Justin Phinney .....	Kersey, CO
Isaline Charmot .....	France	Gayle H Reynolds.....	Bay City, TX
Joel M Colgrove Sr .....	Boligee, AL	Tommy Roark .....	Manning, SC
Sara (Sally) Collins .....	Plant City, FL	Lori Roberts.....	Bowman, GA
Gary Cooper .....	Combine, TX	Michael Rogers .....	Fort Worth, TX
Craig Crumpler .....	Wichita Falls, TX	Jessica A Root .....	Independence, WV
Sandra Elliott.....	Canada	Roger Scoggins .....	Charleston, AR
Pamela Evans .....	Dallas, TX	Harris Shepard.....	Magnolia Spring, AL
Justin Farr .....	Salinas, CA	Marlana Smith.....	Huntington Bch, CA
Taylor Fountain.....	Bullard, TX	Ray Smith Jr .....	Beaufort, MO
Susan Grace Gibson .....	Valley View, TX	Stu Steiger .....	Pepper Pike, OH
Lindsay Graf.....	Boise, ID	Sue Stevens .....	Decatur, TX
Matt,Humphrey .....	Pilot Point, TX	Scott Steyee .....	Fairfield, MT
Stuart Jamieson .....	La Jolla, CA	Benny Thomas-Bear .....	Dallas, TX
Nicole Johannes .....	Carthage, MO	Scott Weis .....	Ojai, CA
John Jones .....	Burleson, TX	Robert Westlund .....	Mcminnville, OR
Mark Killian .....	Mesa, AZ	James F Wright.....	Monroe, GA
Dahana Miller Klerer .....	Fullerton, CA	James Young .....	Vacaville, CA
Ruth Lowrance .....	San Antonio, TX	Bradley L Zanin .....	Snowmass, CO
Taylor Mccall.....	Bullard, TX		

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Left to right: Jessica Peel, Millsap, TX, marked 216 points aboard Rosie Boonsmal, by Peptoboonsmal; Gail Hooper, Decatur, AL, and Tummys Little Gun, by Playgun, also scored 216, as did Ray Baldwin, Fort Worth, TX, and Lil Super Sweet, by Sweet Lil Pepto.

## Bill Freeman, 1950-2008

There were few dry eyes when Bill Freeman led Smart Little Lena into the spotlight of a darkened Watt Arena during the 2002 NCHA Futurity, 20 years after the two had won cutting's premier event.

When Freeman turned Smart Little Lena loose, the great stallion gazed up, as if to acknowledge the standing room-only crowd. Then he began to slowly trot and finally, as people began to cheer, broke into a graceful lope around the arena. Several minutes later - it might have been 2 1/2 - Smart Little Lena slowed his pace and came to a stop next to Freeman.

Bill Freeman and Smart Little Lena. It is hard to think of one without thinking of the other. Freeman passed away on Tuesday, July 29, at the age of 58. But he lives on to horsemen worldwide through the influence of Smart Little Lena.

Freeman, son of another legendary horseman, Shorty Freeman, started showing at the age of four. While Bill learned about horses by example from his father, it was Tom Lyons who inspired him to become a trainer.

"I was basically still a kid," said Freeman of his tenure with Lyons, in Phoenix during the 1970s. "I knew I loved riding cutting horses, but I didn't know

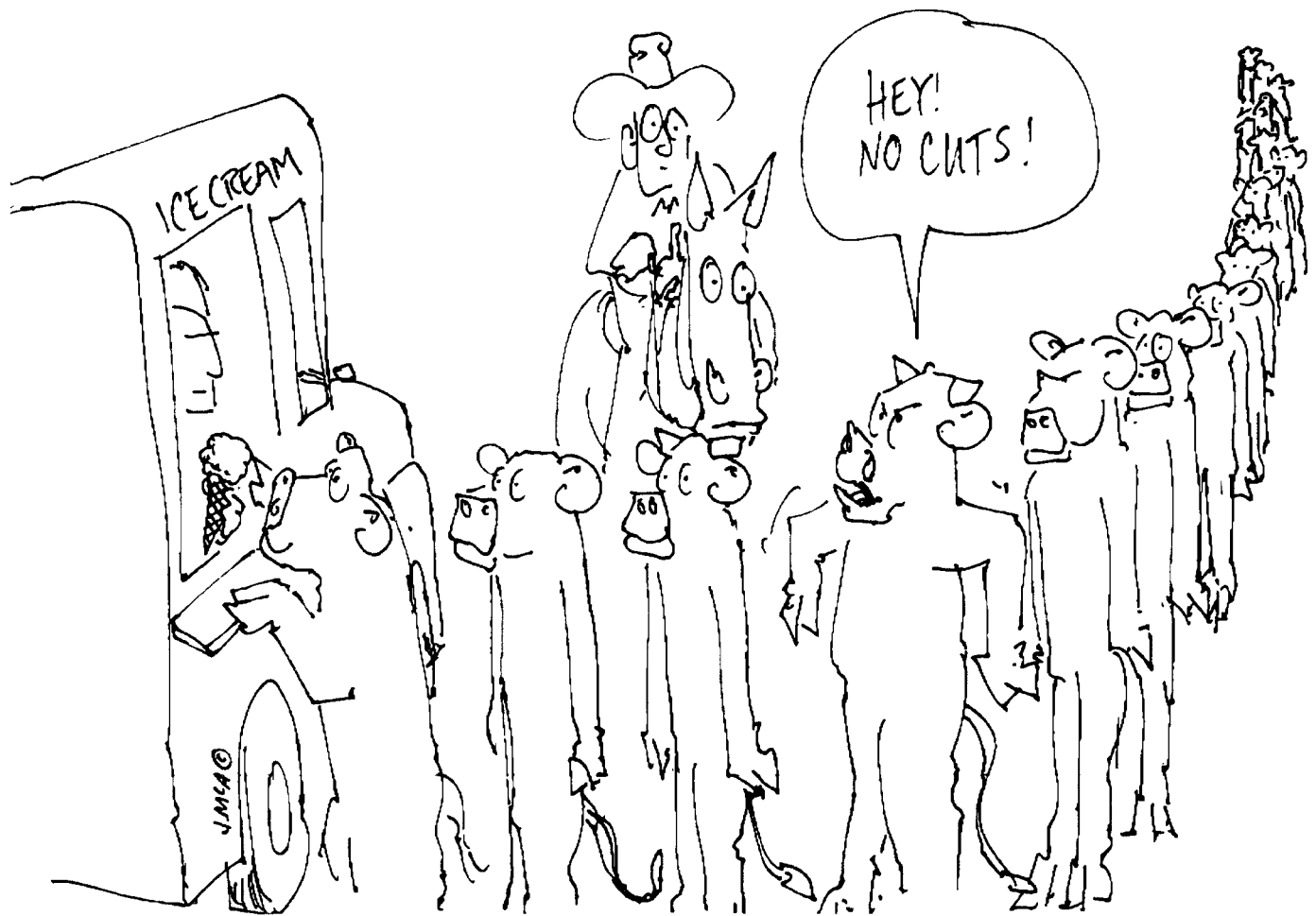
if I could be successful. Tom gave me the opportunity and the confidence to be able to do it, and I developed my own style during that period. It is some of Tommy Lyons and some of my father, and I think I got some of the showmanship from watching all the greats of that time. Probably the best showman I've ever seen is Buster Welch."

While working for Lyons, Freeman got to show a horse named Jay Freckles, owned by Hal Yerxa of Canada. It was the beginning of a brilliant career. Freeman ranks second only to Buster Welch in number of NCHA Futurity wins (Docs Diablo in 1979; Smart Little Lena in 1982; Smart Little Senor in 1988) and was the first rider to capture the NCHA Triple Crown (Smart Little Lena in 1983). Currently, Freeman ranks as the all-time leading open cutting horse rider, with over \$5.4 million in NCHA earnings.

Smart Little Lena, owned by a syndicate that Freeman had a major role in initiating, is the all-time leading cutting horse sire with offspring NCHA earnings of more than \$34 million.

Freeman is survived by his wife, Jill, and daughters, Tina, Erica, Kim and Elayna.





Cartoonist Jerry McAdams, "that cow art guy," is publisher of the Hico News Review and a nationally recognized artist whose favorite subjects are horses and cattle.

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