

Daily Chatter

Wednesday, May 5, 2004

AN OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE NATIONAL CUTTING HORSE ASSOCIATION



Teens on top

Smith wins Senior, Weander takes Junior

WEDNESDAY'S SCHEDULE

Beginning at 8:00 a.m.

\$10,000 Amateur - 1st go-round
83 entries • 6 sets

Hadlock's Team Roping

3:00 p.m. - Roping

5:30 p.m. - "All You Can Eat"
Steak & chicken dinner

6:30 Live Western band

Hadlock Arena - 801-791-4680

THURSDAY'S SCHEDULE

Beginning at 8:00 a.m.

\$20,000 Non-Pro - 1st go-round
76 entries • 6 sets

\$10,000 AMATEUR FINALS
2 sets

Thank You Luncheon

Weber Chamber of Commerce/Weber
Economic Development Corp.
Golden Spike Arena

FRIDAY'S SCHEDULE

Beginning at 8:00 a.m.

\$50,000 Amateur - 1st go-round
72 entries • 6 sets

\$20,000 NON-PRO FINALS
2 sets

7:00 p.m. to Midnight
PCCHA/NWCHA Party
Comfort Suites
Dinner & Live band

Next edition of
Daily Chatter
available
Friday, May 7



Al Dunning scored 223 to win the \$10,000 Novice championship on Short Willy, owned by his daughter, McKenzie Dunning.

Three teenage riders captured championship titles in five divisions earlier this week. Kelli Smith and Lindsey Weander were champions of the Senior and Junior Youth divisions, respectively, and Angus Kittelman, who was also reserve champion in the Junior Youth, won the \$2,000 Limited Rider.

"It was a blast," said Angus, 14, a ninth grade student from Yoncalla, OR, who scored 219 in the \$2,000 Rider on Crisalena Commander, an eight-year-old

homegrown mare trained by his mother and father, Marilyn and John Kittelman.

Angus showed his first cutting horse at five and last year won year-end championships in both the Northwest and Oregon cutting horse associations. This was the fifth time he has qualified for the Western Nationals.

"When she turns, she's really quick and precise," said Angus of his mare. "There's not many cows that can get by her."

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Left to right: Kelli Smith won the Senior Youth division on Badgers Candy Man; Lindsey Weander claimed the Junior Youth championship with Flomo; Angus Kittelman was \$2,000 Limited Rider champion and Junior Youth reserve champion on Crisalena Commander.



Loren Christianson scored 221 on My Own League to win the \$3,000 Novice division.

Teens, continued from page 1

Candy Man can

Kelli Smith, 15, of Chandler, AZ, is showing in the National Finals for the first time. Although Kelli has only been riding cutting horses for two years, her mount, Badgers Candy Man, gives her the confidence of a veteran.

"I don't really have to worry about anything on him," said Kelli, who scored 221.5 points for her win. "I've had other horses that would quit on me, but I don't have to worry about that on him."

Badger Candy Man was Smith's Christmas present last year. The 18-year-old gelding had carried Lee Ann Uthoff as 2000 NCHA \$10,000 Amateur world champion.

Thanks

Competitors at the Millennium Trailers/NCHA Western National Championships have some people to thank for providing refreshments served in the Hospitality Room, and lunches. Thanks for the generosity and hard work of:

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- Weber Chamber of Commerce
- Weber Economic Development Corp.
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You say it's your birthday!

These NCHA members are celebrating their birthday today.

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| Reva Ash Taft, TN | Bobby Kennedy Prineville, OR |
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| Will Hardee Chiefland, FL | Owen Williams Canada |
| Katie Hooper Elko, NV | |

AQHA/NCHA Affiliate Challenge Standings as of May 4

Arizona CHA.....	1,150	Pacific Coast CHA.....	170	Northern Illinois CHA.....	30
Idaho CHA.....	1,025	North Texas Aqha CHA.....	155	San Diego CHA.....	30
Canadian CHA.....	875	Western Oklahoma CHA.....	135	West Central Texas CHA.....	30
Montana CHA.....	850	Four Corners Cuttinghorse Club.	125	Kansas CHA.....	20
Utah CHA.....	830	Longhorn CHA.....	100	Louisiana CHA.....	20
Northwest CHA.....	715	Southwest Oklahoma CHA.....	80	North Central Arkansas Semo.....	20
South Dakota CHA.....	490	Double Eagle CHA.....	65	Northeast CHA.....	20
Central Utah CHA.....	480	Beef Empire CHA.....	60	Rose Country CHA.....	20
Nevada Reined Cow CHA.....	475	Mississippi CHA.....	60	Western Nevada CHA.....	20
Oregon CHA.....	405	North Mississippi CHA.....	55	Barn Church CHA.....	10
Washington CHA.....	350	Southeastern Oklahoma CHA.....	50	Central Savannah Rvr Area CHA.	10
Alberta CHA.....	320	Central Texas CHA.....	45	Florida CHA.....	10
New Mexico CHA.....	300	Panhandle CHA.....	40	Iowa CHA.....	10
CHA of Nebraska.....	245	Mid State Illinois CHA.....	35	Live Oak CHA.....	10
Western States CHA.....	225	Bluebonnet CHA.....	30	Mid-South CHA.....	10
Minnesota CHA.....	210	Kern County CHA.....	30	Sowega CHA.....	10
Chisholm Trail CHA.....	195	Lone Star CHA.....	30	Waller CHA.....	10

Teens, continued from page 2

It was Kelli's mother, Terri, who sparked her interest in cutting and a 2003 Horsemen for Christ cutting clinic which helped her improve her riding skills.

Lindsey leads juniors

Lindsey Weander, 15, of Valentine, NE, was concentrating so hard on the action in the Junior Youth finals, she didn't remember many details. "We did a lot of stuff in the middle," noted Lindsey, who scored 222 points for her win aboard Flomo, a six-year-old gelding her father, Stan, purchased for her at the 2003 Futurity Sales.

"He's really easy to ride," said Lindsey, "and he's a cool mover. He gets down in the ground."

Last year, Lindsey qualified for the Summer Spectacular Youth finals on Cash If You Wood, a horse her sister, Bridget, 13, is now riding.

In addition to Lindsey, three other Nebraskans qualified for the Western National Junior Youth finals - Grant Smith, who finished fifth on Sanjo Sneaker, as well as Ryan Gregory and Sidney Smith.

Dunning rides tall on Short Willy

Trainer Al Dunning, of Scottsdale, AZ, rode 2002 Western National Non-Pro champion Short Willy to win the \$10,000 Novice division with 223 points, for his daughter McKenzie Dunning.

"I just felt through the cows and cut shape, basically," said Dunning. "He was dialed right into the first cow. Then the second cow was really neat and Willy was right on target. He does the rattle and shake in front of a cow and then, he can get up and go stop.

"McKenzie has marked sevens and sixes on this horse already this year," he added. "I've marked some fives on him, but I can't quite catch her."

Last year, McKenzie, a middle school teacher and coach, topped all divisions with the 227 points she scored on the gelded son of Shorty Lena.

Al Dunning also qualified for the \$3,000 Novice finals on Danielboonsmal, owned by William and Michelle Cowan, of Ardmore, OK.

"He's really a neat horse," said Dunning, who scored 219 on Danielboonsmal in the go-round. "I thought I had a chance to win it, but I lost the first cow I cut in the finals. So it was nice to come

back and redeem myself a little."

A league of his own

Loren Christianson, of Alberta, Canada, made his first time to show in the National Finals count with a 221-point win in the \$3,000 Novice finals.

Christianson rode My Own League, a six-year-old son of Smart Little Lena out of a full sister to Peptoboonsmal.

"The whole run was fairly smooth," said Christianson, who owns My Own League in partnership with Lionel and Gail Hertlein and is training some of the stallion's two-year-old colts.

Last year, Christianson rode My Own League to win both the open and \$3,000 Canadian year end championships. NCHA Hall of Fame Member Bill Collins is the only other rider to accomplish the feat.

"Bill is a really good friend and kind of my mentor," said Christianson. "It was really a big deal for me because he presented me with the bronze for Canada."

Christianson, who has trained horses most of his life, gave up rodeo and bronc riding in 1994 to ride cutting horses and reined cow horses.

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Through their Strategic Marketing Alliance, NCHA will be acknowledged as the authority for cutting competitions and the AQHA will be acknowledged as the foundation breed which provides the bloodlines for the majority of horses used in NCHA competition. Both Associations will work together to actively promote the sport of cutting.

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Daily Chatter

Editor: Sally Harrison

Contributors: Ross Hecox, Rebecca Brian

Contributions, comments, and suggestions welcomed.
sallyharrison@hotmail.com
(mention "Daily Chatter" in subject line)



260 Bailey Avenue • Fort Worth, TX 76107
(817) 244-6188 • Fax (817) 244-2015