

# NCHA WESTERN CHAMPIONSHIPS

## Daily Chatter

MAY 4, 2008

AN OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE NATIONAL CUTTING HORSE ASSOCIATION



## Banuelos bags 2 titles in 2 days



Cookie Banuelos, pictured with fiancée Kate Gaughan, won the \$3,000 Novice championship on *A Whittle Relief*, and the \$10,000 Novice on *Instant Again*. Both horses are owned by Gaughan, who will show *Instant Again* in the \$10,000 Novice/Non-Pro division.

### THANK YOU!

#### WAYNE HODGES & OUTLAW CONVERSIONS

Boehringer Ingelheim

Gist Silversmiths

Healthy HairCare

KO Trading

Murray Leather

Ogden/Weber CC

Roo-Hide

Teskey's Saddle Shop

Look for the next issue  
of the *Daily Chatter*  
on Tuesday, May 6

AMERICAN  
QUARTER  
HORSE  
ASSOCIATION

Cookie Banuelos is two for two, following championship wins for owner Kate Gaughan on *A Whittle Relief* and *Instant Again*, respectively, in the \$3,000 Novice and the \$10,000 Novice.

"My help kept my mind straight and gave me the right cows," said Banuelos of his ride in the \$3,000 Novice Finals on Friday, where he scored 220.5 as the next-to-last rider in the first set. He had shown Bettin With Chex to score 215.5 early in the same set.

"She's my favorite," said Banuelos, who trained *A Whittle Relief*, a 7-year-old Peptoboonsmal daughter raised by Gaughan's mother, Paula, out of Smart Whittle Wena, the earner of more than \$260,000. "She's real easy to ride and

the more cow you cut on her, the more aggressive she gets. And when you ride her to the stops, she slams on the brakes really good."

*A Whittle Relief* was a finalist in five major events at four, then fractured her coffin bone and was out of action her entire 5-year-old season.

"She was a little fractious when I brought her back at six," said Banuelos. "It took me a long time to get her back solid and comfortable."

This spring, *A Whittle Relief* spent two and a half months in Texas while being bred for an embryo by High Brow Cat.

"The first day here she wasn't very good," said Banuelos, referring to *A*

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#### TODAY'S SCHEDULE

Beginning at 8:00 a.m.

Junior Youth - FINALS

Senior Youth - FINALS

\$3,000 Novice/Non-Pro - 1st go-round

#### MONDAY'S SCHEDULE

Beginning at 8:00 a.m.

\$2,000 Limit Rider - 1st go-round

\$3,000 Novice/Non-Pro - FINALS

#### TUESDAY'S SCHEDULE

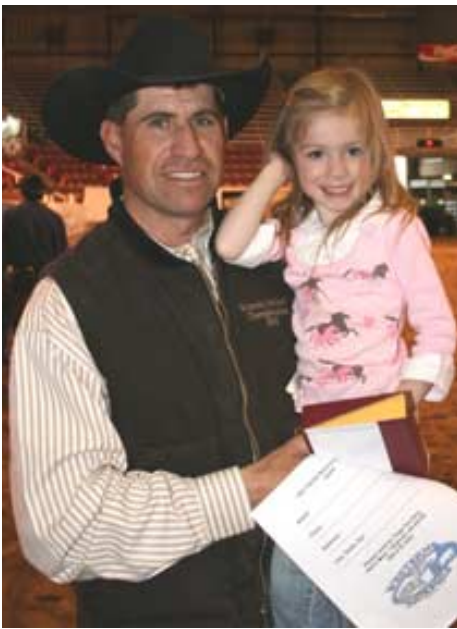
Beginning at 8:00 a.m.

\$10,000 Amateur - 1st go-round

\$2,000 Limit Rider - FINALS

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Live Webcast of National Championships

Team Roping



Left to right: Todd Adolph, holding daughter Makayla, was reserve champion of the \$10,000 Novice on A Proud Choice, owned by Linda Souders; Robin Hayes claimed the \$3,000 Novice reserve title on Mates Irish Rose, owned by Sherry Knight; Lawson Hadlock, last year's Open champion, placed third in the \$10,000 Novice aboard Little Sun Rey, owned by Pete and Donna Sartin.

Whittle Relief's 213-point performance in the first go-round on Thursday. "She was fresh and they got an embryo out of her on Sunday, so she was probably a little sore.

"I didn't even work her before the first go-round. But before the finals, I went in the practice pen and just kind of fiddled around with her and she was incredible (in the Finals)."

Chance Smith showed A Whittle Relief's full brother, Whittle Red Boon, yesterday to win the go-round of Senior Youth competition with 219 points.

Banuelos and Instant Again scored 219.5 points for the win in the \$10,000 Novice, after a go-round score of 214.5 points.

"He doesn't take any work," said Banuelos of the 9-year-old gelding sired by SR Instant Choice. "You can just run him from the stall and go show him. He loves tough cows and he's so athletic and cow smart."

Instant Again was raised and trained by Banuelos' brother Carlos, and shown by both Carlos and Ascencion Banuelos, before Gaughan purchased him.

"I was pretty green when I came to work for the Gaughans," said Cookie. "He tried to do right, but I'd get nervous showing him and made a lot of mistakes. But he's been really tough on the weekends."

Instant Again won the PCCHA Paso Robles Roundup at 4 and the Wine Country Classic at 5 with Carlos Banuelos. Gaughan placed third on him in the 2005 Suncoast Non-Pro Classic, the same year that Cookie placed fourth in the West Texas Classic and the Cutting by the Sea.

Instant Again has lifetime earnings of \$85,000; A Whittle Relief has earnings of over \$48,000.

Gaughan and Banuelos became engaged this past Christmas, but have been too busy showing to plan a wedding. Friends joke that since they live in Las Vegas, they could just have a drive-through ceremony.

"You never know," said Gaughan. "You might see a picture of us with Elvis as our best man. I just don't know if our

mothers would appreciate it."

Gaughan's parents, Michael and Paula, own the South Point Hotel and Casino in Las Vegas and host the South Point Cutting.

**Reserve champions**

Mates Irish Rose and Robin Hayes scored 219.5 for reserve of the \$3,000 Novice division for owner Sherry Knight.

"I cut all three cows that I wanted, except the last cow was a kind of go-for-it deal," said Hayes. "We were all a little scared of it. But the run was building and it was in a good spot."

Eight-year-old Mates Irish Rose, by Smart Mate, was raised by Pat Fitzgerald and ridden throughout her limited age career by Roger Wagner and Jim Vangilder, respectively trainer for and

owner of Rock Creek Ranch.

"She's a really nice mare, but she's a handful," said Hayes. "If she's had a week or two off, you definitely don't want to crawl on her and go to clucking, unless you're pretty brave."

Mates Irish Rose is the earner of over \$140,000.

A Proud Choice and Todd Adolph scored 217 points to claim the reserve championship title in the \$10,000 Novice for Linda and Dan Souders.

"Eddie Flynn trained this horse and did a really good job," said Adolph, who has been riding the 9-year-old gelding for eight months.

A Proud Choice, by SR Instant Choice, was a finalist in five major events at five and has earnings of more than \$100,000.



**You say it's your birthday!**

*These NCHA members are celebrating their birthday today.*

Carlette Allen .....	Cleburne, TX	Cathy Harmon .....	Tolar, TX
Terri Kahla Audilet .....	Stowell, TX	Dawn Hnatow .....	Bowie, TX
Tabitha Banner .....	Hamilton, MT	Gary Janacek .....	Crosby, TX
Scott Barnhart .....	Hesston, KS	Andrea Jensen .....	Thatcher, ID
Lyndel Berry .....	Waller, TX	Kelsey Karanges .....	Fort Worth, TX
Lise Blanton .....	Myakka City, FL	Kendal Kern .....	Lipan, TX
Jeanette Blewitt .....	Hartsville, SC	Tony Langdon .....	Aubrey, TX
Susan Boyd .....	Eagle Point, OR	Vic Loewen .....	Canada,
Leonard Brooks .....	Jamestown, CA	Susan McBryde .....	Mineral Wells, TX
Debbie De Cordova .....	Groesbeck, TX	Eileen Parisi .....	Rolla, MO
Rick Dolan .....	Canada,	Chad Saulsberry .....	Magdalena, NM
Roy Gene Evans .....	Dallas, TX	Marci Aplin Scott Dmd .....	Redmond, OR
Bailey Gornto .....	Avon Park, FL	Douglas E Wheat .....	Gonzales, LA
Don Hagglund .....	Gold Hill, OR	Beverly Williams .....	Caldwell, ID

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