

# NCHA WESTERN CHAMPIONSHIPS

## Daily Chatter

MAY 11, 2008

AN OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE NATIONAL CUTTING HORSE ASSOCIATION



### THANK YOU!

WAYNE HODGES &  
OUTLAW CONVERSIONS  
and  
ROO HIDE

The use of a new  
Wayne Hodges & Outlaw  
Conversions Trailer  
will be awarded to the owner,  
who must be over 18, of the  
highest scoring horse during  
the NCHA Western Nationals.

A Roo Hide Saddle  
will be awarded to the  
highest scoring rider  
(any age) during the  
NCHA Western Nationals.

Look for the next issue  
of the *Daily Chatter*  
online on Monday, May 12  
[www.sallyharrison.com](http://www.sallyharrison.com)

AMERICAN  
QUARTER  
HORSE  
ASSOCIATION

## Plummer's payday Herman nails Novice/NP



Shane Plummer, Farmington, UT, champion of the \$50,000 Amateur division with 222 points aboard Laredo Blue, who now has career earnings of \$296,000.

Shane Plummer and 8-year-old Laredo Blue, leaders in the first go-round with 219 points, nailed the \$50,000 Amateur championship title with 222 points in yesterday's Finals.

"He was spot on," said Plummer of the 8-year-old stallion that stands at Buffalo Ranch in Farmington, UT. "He's very, very gritty and not too easy to ride. A couple of years ago, I definitely would never have been able to ride him."

The score was a career high for Plummer, who was riding Laredo Blue for just the fifth time.

"He's such a great horse that he gives you a lot of confidence," said Plummer. "When he was showing in the aged events, there were seven different guys that showed him as a 4-year-old and they all won checks on him. It's unusual for two or three riders to be able to do that, let alone seven."

Shane's father, David Plummer, also showed Meradas Blue Sue, 1996 NCHA Horse of the Year and a Buffalo Ranch stallion, as a finalist in the \$50,000 Amateur.

Laredo Blue, by Mecom Blue, was the 2004 NCHA Co-Horse of the

Year and is a seven-time champion and reserve champion in limited age events.

Paige Kincaid, 18, Peoria, AZ, scored 218 points on Dee Acre Doc for the \$50,000 Amateur reserve championship. It was her fourth big showing at the Western Nationals. She won the Senior Youth on Dee Acre Doc last year, as well as in 2004, and was the 2005 \$10,000 Novice/Non-Pro champion.

Earlier this year, Kincaid and her 11-year-old gelding won the \$50,000 Amateur NCHA World Finals and the NCHA World championship.

"My horse was really good," said Kincaid, a high school senior. "It was the best that he's felt in a long time."

Kincaid, a high school senior, has been showing cutting horses for six years. She previously showed hunter jumpers.

"My jumper trainer quit when I was 13. So there was a trainer down the road that had a flag and some cows," she explained. "He was going to keep me jumping, but he put me on one of his cutting horses one time and it was kind of the end of it."

## \$10,000 Novice/Non-Pro

Ben Herman started his performance in the finals of the \$10,000 Novice/Non-Pro with a rerun cow that Kate Gaughan, the rider right before him, had cut. It turned out to be a money cow for both Herman and Gaughan, who finished as champion and reserve champion, respectively.

Gaughan, riding Whittle Wed Boon, scored 218.5 as the third rider in the first set. Herman bested her with 221 points on 7-year-old Stars Fancy Miss.

"Katie was a tough act to follow, said Herman. "We went in with three cows that looked real good that we wanted to cut. Then I ended up cutting all the cows we didn't mean to cut. But it ended up okay. That's the advantage of working early in the set, I guess."

Herman, 25, who works in his family's oil services business, had never ridden a horse until four years ago.

"I'm a city boy," he said. "But when we bought some land in Colorado, I thought it would be a cool idea to own a horse."

Herman purchased some Al Dunning video tapes to help him learn how to ride, and later hooked up with Dunning in person. When he purchased Stars Fancy Miss from Jim McNulty as a 4-year-old, he turned her over to Dunning, who has had her ever since.

"He's done a great job with her," said Herman. "She was the first horse that I ever showed in cutting, and she was an open and a non-pro horse. This is the last time we are ever going to show her. She's going to be retired after this show."

This was Kate Gaughan's first time to show at the Western National's, but it won't be the last. Last week, Gaughan's fiancée, Cookie Banuelos, showed two of her horses, A Whittle Relief, a full brother to Whittle Wed Boon, and Instant Choice, to championship titles in the \$3,000 and \$10,000 Novice divisions.

"We usually don't get to go to many weekend shows," said Gaughan, who lives in Las Vegas, where her parents, Paula and Michael, own South Point Casino and Hotel, home to cutters during the South Point Cutting and Breeders Invitational. "But we showed at three weekend shows last summer and qualified. "It's so pretty up here and it's a lot cooler (than at home).

Gaughan had also loaned Whittle Wed Boon to Chance Smith last weekend in the Senior Youth competition, where he won the go-round with 219 points and finished third in the Finals.



Top: Ben Herm, \$10,000 Novice/Non-Pro champion; left to right: Kate Gaughan, reserve champion of the \$10,000 Novice/Non-Pro; Paige Kincaid, reserve champion of the \$50,000 Amateur.



### You say it's your birthday!

These NCHA members are celebrating their birthday today.

- |                          |                    |                        |                     |
|--------------------------|--------------------|------------------------|---------------------|
| Claudia Arlint .....     | Springfield, OR    | Dawn Kirby .....       | Bishop, CA          |
| Diego Bahistoni .....    | Venezuela,         | Clarence Mayer .....   | Houston, TX         |
| Shannon Barker .....     | Madill, OK         | Michael McAdams .....  | Santa Barbara, CA   |
| Glynn Barron .....       | Martin, TN         | Bryant Morris .....    | Saint Helena, CA    |
| Patrick Bendele .....    | San Antonio, TX    | Keith Morris .....     | Tarboro, NC         |
| Melinda Black .....      | Oakdale, CA        | James Nelson .....     | Ely, NV             |
| David Burbidge .....     | Salt Lake City, UT | Scarlet Pearce .....   | Eutaw, AL           |
| Karen Cole .....         | Batesville, MS     | Paula Peterson .....   | Orange, CA          |
| Walter Cross .....       | Grass Lake, MI     | Joe Pridmore .....     | Napa, CA            |
| Ellie Dabney .....       | Georgetown, TX     | Curt Priest .....      | Merced, CA          |
| Brian Dennis .....       | Toppenish, WA      | Scott Shepard .....    | Sanger, TX          |
| William Domenichelli ... | Potter Valley, CA  | Karl Smith .....       | Corcoran, CA        |
| Drew Dunham .....        | Scottsdale, AZ     | Jaylee Stimpson .....  | Paul, ID            |
| Joyce Ellis .....        | Tomball, TX        | Bill Teafatiller ..... | Mt Pleasant, TX     |
| Cody Fisher .....        | Haskell, OK        | Joe Temples .....      | Selligman, MO       |
| Charlene Foster .....    | Wheatland, CA      | Darrel Teter .....     | Castle Rock, CO     |
| Darrel George .....      | Uniontown, KS      | Terry Thomason .....   | Forestburg, TX      |
| Hart Holtz .....         | Ramona, OK         | Kelly Tompkins .....   | Canada,             |
| Troy Hood .....          | Belton, TX         | Sarah Walsh .....      | Byers, TX           |
| R David Jackson .....    | Pocatello, ID      | Ginger Wedekind .....  | Stanwood, WA        |
| Mark A Jensen .....      | Canada,            | Margaret York .....    | Fairfax Station, VA |

**NCHA CUTTING**

**EDGE NEWS**

WITH TOM HOLT

**TUNE IN TWICE A DAY**

**AT WWW.NCHACUTTING.COM**