

NRA News



Official Publication of the Northern Rodeo Association

DECEMBER 1995



COME'IN AT YA

FOR THE SECOND YEAR THE NORTHERN RODEO ASSOCIATION WILL BE TELEVISTED. IT'S TIME TO START GETTING DOWN AND READY FOR THE BEST FINALS YET • FEBRUARY 2-4 • LIKE JEFF SOLOMON OF HAVRE SHOWN HERE AT THE 1995 MONTANAFAIR RODEO. CHECK INSIDE FOR ALL YOUR NRF 21 INFO. PENNY CLARK PHOTO.

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**NRA
News**



WHAT'S INSIDE:

NRA News is the official newsletter of the Northern Rodeo Association and is published to continue the purpose of the Northern Rodeo Association as noted in the Association's rulebook.

This newsletter is designed to inform committee members, contestants and rodeo fans of sanctioned rodeos, rule changes and the business related to the Northern Rodeo Association.

NRA News is published April 15, May 15, June 15, July 15, Aug. 15, Sept. 15, Dec. 15, and March 15. Copy and ad deadlines are two weeks prior to publication date.

Circulation is 2,000 newsletters per issue. It is mailed third class from Billings. Permit Number 32.

Northern Rodeo Association headquarters are located in Public Auction Yards, 18th and Minnesota, Billings.

The mailing address for newsletter information is: Northern Rodeo Association, Box 1122, Billings, Montana 59103.

Jann Parker, executive secretary.

Theresa Caldwell, newsletter editor.

Vance Ruff, marketing and promotions.

NRA Office phone, 406-252-1122.

Annual subscriptions: \$20.00

Advertising Rates:

1 page: \$100;

1/2 page: \$60

1/4 page: \$35;

1/8 page: \$25.

Classified ads: \$5 pre-paid.

Inserts: \$200.00

10 percent discount for pre-payment and for ads running three or more times.

Northern Rodeo Association is a charter member of the North American Rodeo Commission and a member of the Old West Trail Foundation.

This is your NRA Finals Guide.

This is your guide for a GREAT week of events February 2-4.

Come and have a great time at Montana's premier finals event.

- Finals Schedule of Events
- Chatting with Chuck
- North American Rodeo Update
- Arena Dust
- Friends of Rodeo Update
- Stock of the Year
- Instant Rancher Update
- 1995 Saddlemakers
- Feature Story
- Rookie Standings
- Corral West Standings
- Standings

**GOOD LUCK AND
HATS OFF TO NFR QUALIFIERS**

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ROD LYMAN**

21ST ANNUAL NRA FINALS SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

Wednesday, January 31

Afternoon Stock contractors and stock arrives Public Auction Yards
7 p.m. Stock contractors dinner Eagles Nest

Thursday, February 1

6:30 p.m. Poker Tournament/First Cowboy Auction Desperados
7 p.m. Production Rehearsal MetraPark Arena

Friday, February 2

8 a.m.-noon Timed Event Jackpot - Limited to 12 Per Event MetraPark Arena
6:30-9:30 a.m. Complimentary Coffee and Donuts South Foyers Sheraton
1 p.m. General Membership Meeting Sheraton
3 p.m. Ladies Barrel Racing Meeting w/Heather Hart Sheraton
4 p.m. Contestant Check-In Sheraton
6:30-7:30 p.m. Sponsor/Committee Cocktail Party Metra Lower Level
6-11:30 p.m. MetraPark Shuttle (Departs Every Half Hour) Sheraton Lobby
8 p.m. NRA Finals First Performance MetraPark Arena
10 p.m. Dance, Video Ballroom, Sheraton

Saturday, February 3

6:30-9:30 a.m. Complimentary Coffee and Donuts South Foyer Sheraton
9 a.m. Junior Event Finals MetraPark Arena
9 a.m. Committee Seminar Sheraton
1 p.m. Board of Directors Meeting Sheraton
3 p.m. Timers Seminar Sheraton
4 p.m. Cowboy Auction - Lucky Diamond Sheraton
6:30-7:30 p.m. Sponsor/Committee Cocktail Party Metra Lower Level
6-11:30 p.m. MetraPark Shuttle (Departs Every Half Hour) Sheraton Lobby
8 p.m. NRA Finals Second Performance MetraPark Arena
10 p.m. Dance, Video Ballroom, Sheraton

Sunday, February 4

6:30-9:30 a.m. Complimentary Coffee and Donuts South Foyer Sheraton
9 a.m. Past Presidents/Secretaries Breakfast Sheraton
10:30 a.m. Cowboy Church Service - Skytop Room Sheraton
Noon-5:30 p.m. MetraPark Shuttle (Departs Every Half Hour) Sheraton Lobby
2 p.m. NRA Finals Final Performance MetraPark Arena
6-6:45 p.m. Cocktails Ballroom, Sheraton
6:45 p.m. Banquet Ballroom, Sheraton
7:30 p.m. Awards Presentation Ballroom, Sheraton
9 p.m. Dance, Video Ballroom, Sheraton

*Banquet ticket may be purchased at the door for \$12. Advance purchase requested. *Additional parking available in the Burlington Northern Parking lot on Montana Ave. across the street from the Sheraton. Also parking in parking garage at no charge to hotel guests. *Prize money check cashing available at Sheraton Front Desk with proper I.D.

GET READY FOR AN OUTSTANDING NRF 21

Check out all the positive changes in the Northern Rodeo Finals...your Finals keep on getting bigger and better! Here's an overview of what to expect at this year's NRA Finals set for Feb. 2-4, 1996.

You'll be on TV! THANK YOU, MONTANA CHEVY DEALERS... This will be the second year that the NRA Finals will be televised!

ENTRIES: Open Tuesday, January 2 from 9 a.m. until 4 p.m. 406-252-1122. Those contestants in the 11-15 positions also enter at this time as some events may not fill with the top ten. Entry Forms with fees (\$150 per event, per man in TR.) must be received in the NRA office by FRIDAY, January 6. Entry and entry form deadlines will be enforced.

JUNIORS: Your entry forms will be sent out to you shortly. Just fill them out and return to the NRA Office and you will be entered. Junior events added money will be \$200 per event with \$25 entry fees. See article from your director in this newsletter.

TIMED EVENT JACKPOT: Again set for FRIDAY MORNING Feb. 2 at 8 a.m. in the METRA. Barrel racing will start promptly at 8 a.m. Limited to 12 contestants per event, except barrel racing. See entry form in this issue.

GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING: Friday, Feb. 2 at 1 p.m. This is your chance to give input into your association. Motions passed at this meeting are referred to

the Board of Directors for their consideration the following day.

CONTESTANT CHECK-IN: Follows the General Membership meeting at 4 p.m. Friday.

JACKETS: Are awesome! Sponsored by the "Official Truck of the NRA" - CHEVROLET - and our MONTANA CHEVY DEALERS, this year's jacket is Letterman style, wool, with leather trim—Thank you Montana Chevy Dealers. Your jackets, wristbands, and photos will be handled during the contestant's meeting on Friday at 4 p.m. **YOU MUST ATTEND THIS MEETING TO RECEIVE YOUR JACKET AND ARENA PASS.**

COWBOY AUCTIONS: With the jackpot scheduled so early on Friday, new festivities are set for Thursday evening.

DESPERADOS is hosting the "Official NRA Finals Kick-off Party" and first Cowboy Auction on Thursday evening beginning at 6 p.m. (Cowboy Auction slated for 7 p.m.). The first go-around and average will be sold here. Desperados is the proud sponsor of your average buckles.

The second Cowboy Auction will be held on Saturday at 4 p.m. in the Lucky Diamond Lounge of the Sheraton (20th floor). Like last year, the second and third go-arounds will be sold.

COCKTAIL PARTIES: Friday and Saturday evenings will again be at the METRA,

lower level. Call the NRA office in advance for tickets.

POKER TOURNAMENT: Second annual NRA Finals Poker Tournament will be hosted by Desperado's Card Room. Poker Tourney begins at 6:30 p.m. on Thursday, Feb. 1 (right before first cowboy auction). Limited to the first 20 NRA members to register (Poker Tourney registration on the Finals entry form) with entry fees of \$45, the Champ will win cash and a Gist Buckle! Send a separate check to the NRA Office—TOURNEY IS OPEN TO ALL NRA MEMBERS! Congrats to reigning NRA Poker Champ, Rick Tryan, who collected \$400 in winnings along with a Gist Buckle at last year's tourney.

ARENA WARM-UP TIMES: The arena will be open for exercise Friday until noon if the Jackpot is over on time, Saturday from 8-9 a.m. and Sunday from 8 to 10 a.m.

PAST PRESIDENT'S AND SECRETARY'S Breakfast is Sunday, Feb. 4 at 9 a.m. Invitations will be sent out the first part of January.

CERTIFIED TIMERS SEMINAR: Set for Saturday, Feb. 3 at 3 p.m. at the Sheraton. Pre-registration is requested but not required. Call Tootie at 406-466-2091.

CONTESTANT SEATING: During both the jackpot on Friday morning and Junior Events on Saturday morning, spectator and contestant seating areas will be designated. We ask for your cooperation in honoring these specific areas.

VOTE FOR YOUR DIRECTORS!! Your ballot is included in this newsletter. Take the time to vote—Your board sets the course for your Association. Return your ballot to the

NRA Office no later than Monday, January 22.

FINALS RODEO PROGRAM AND BOOTH SPACE: Space now on sale! If you or your business would like to advertise and support the NRA in this capacity, please contact the NRA Office.

SHERATON VIDEOS: Will again be shown after the performances at the Sheraton. Videos will also be offered for sale by Big Sky Video- 406-652-7749- See ad in this newsletter.

SHERATON PARKING AND SHUTTLE: Free parking for guests of the Sheraton in the parking garage connected to the Shearton. Do not park in the post office parking lot next to the Sheraton because they will tow!

COMMITTEE SEMINAR: Scheduled for 9 a.m on Saturday, Feb. 3 on the third floor of the Sheraton. Topics and agenda will be mailed to committees in advance. Hope to see you there.

C'MON AND SUPPORT THOSE WHO SUPPORT US! Your sponsors help make each year of NRA rodeo better than the last. Drive your Chevrolet listening to the Northern Ag Network, talk on your cell phone from CommNet Cellular, fuel at Pelican Truck Plaza, pull a Logan Coach trailer, build a better burger at Fuddruckers, buy Roper Apparel and Carhartt at Corral West, ship with S and T Trucking, spend a day at the Little Bighorn Casino, visit Cost Cutters Family Hair Care, stay at the Sheraton, and buy your parts from Bouma Wholesale. Let's make a team effort to make this the best NRA Finals yet...See you there!

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CHATting WITH CHUCK ABOUT SPORTS MEDICINE...

by Chuck Karnop,
Montana State University, Bobcat Athletics

Increasingly so, athletes who have had a great series of performances, an excellent season, or a hall of fame career give mental training considerable credit for their successes. I will introduce the common components of mental training in this issue and then elaborate on them in future issues this winter.

1. **Goal Setting:** The drive to achieve must come from within. It must be our choice, not someone else's choice or want for us. First we must know what we want. A goal is a specific, positive personal aim, wish, or dream. Once you feel clear about your goal, lay out a plan or a step-by-step process to achieve it.

2. **Positive Self-Statements:** Your thoughts control your actions. After setting goals for yourself, begin writing positive self-statements in support of your goal. Self-statements are always positive, personal, in the present tense, and usually begin with "I". Positive self-statements are necessary to combat the destructive self-beliefs and feelings we have from time to time which can interfere with performance.

3. **Creative Visualization:** It is important to "see" yourself succeeding and achieving your goals. "See" in your mind's eye the whole pro-

cess and routine of achieving your goal in as much detail as possible. Visualize the setting, the people, the environment, the stock; everything.

4. **Mental Log Keeping:** Disciplining yourself to keep a journal or log of your results will be to show you the situations in which you do well and the situations in which you do less than well. It is important to include a recap of your thoughts and feelings prior to and leading up to your rides or run.

5. **Progressive Relaxation:** Prior to performing creative visualization and imagery is important to be relaxed. Progressive relaxation is the tensing and relaxing of major muscle groups.

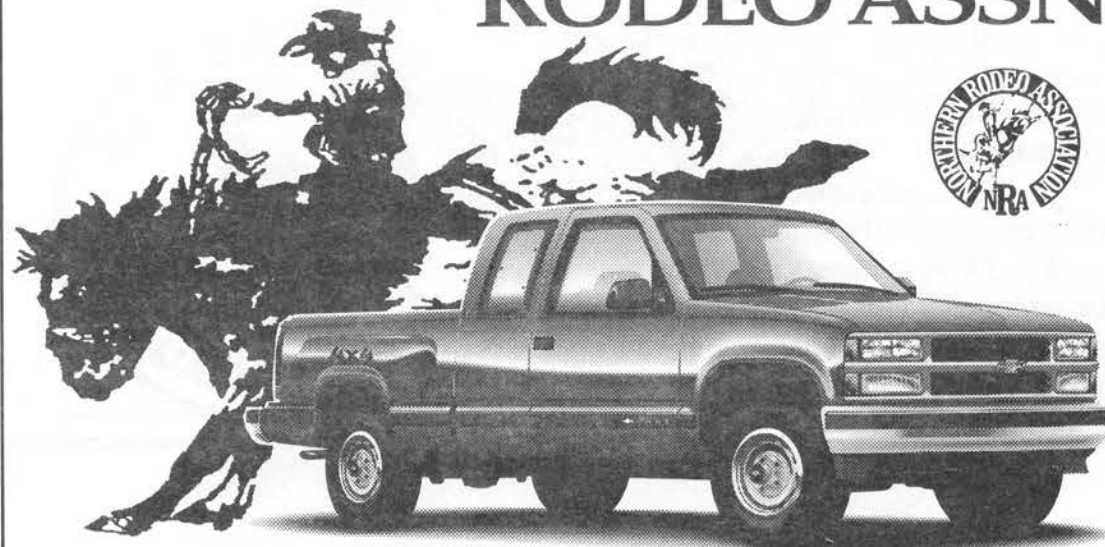
This introduction will suffice for now, I'll elaborate in successive issues.

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NEWS FROM FRIENDS OF RODEO

FROM: Tracy Acheson
 MT Deputy Director
 20233 Leo Hanson Rd
 Florence, MT 59833

Can you imagine a horse without a rider, a roper without a rope, or a cowboy without a hat? If you can't imagine that, then you can't imagine a world without rodeo. So please join today to help preserve our heritage, RODEO!!

I want to thank all of our members who have been with us for the last three years. The state of MT played a large role in keeping "FRIENDS OF RODEO" alive!

We will continue to move forward with our efforts to preserve the sport of rodeo.

The F.O.R. members of MT do not want to commercialize our organization; we simply want to sign up more members in an effort to show Montana's united belief in the sport of RODEO.



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Hugh Connolly of Billings rides Newman Rodeo Company's #7 Bush Popper for 73 points at this year's MontanaFair Rodeo in Billings. Connolly is one of 46 saddle bronc riders to win a paycheck in the bronc riding this season. See the Northern Rodeo Associations cowboys and top stock right back here at the MetraPark Arena February 2-4, 1996. Penny Clark photo.

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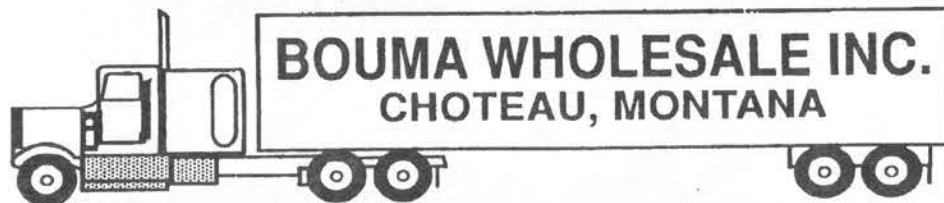
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NORTH AMERICAN RODEO UPDATE!

The 1995 World Finals Rodeo held the finals rounds Saturday, November 12 for the first time in at the North Charleston Coliseum, South Carolina. Over 30,000 spectators attended throughout the five days of competition. Congratulations to all of our cowboys and cowgirls who did very well over the 5 day event. NRA contestants took home nearly 10,000.00.

Bareback:

1.	Jackie Murray, TPRA	239.5
2.	Dennis Schmidt, DRAKE	235
3.	Brian Evans, DRAKE	234
4/5.	Marty Buckingham, NRA	232
4/5.	Audie Reagan, 94 CHAMP	232
6.	Tad Perry, DRAKE	231

Calf Roping

1.	Chad Thames, CPRA	30.22
2.	Allen Livengood, SRA	32.07
3.	K.C. Murphy, 94 CHAMP	32.38
4.	Todd Hutton, SRA	33.25
5.	Tad Hutton, SRA	41.17
6.	Widdie Barnette, SRA	44.30

Saddle Bronc:

1.	Marty Hebb, NRCA	227.5
2.	Buck Garlington, GALLUP	225.5
3.	Jack Hooge, CPRA	222
4.	Gordon Brown, APRA	221.5
5/6.	James Green, SRA	218.5
5/6.	Cap Pearman, NRCA	218.5

Break-A-Way

1.	Ginny Perry, TSRA	12.41
2.	Jackie J. Hampton, CPRA	12.79
3.	Teresa Blyule, WEBB	21.72
4.	Kim Crotta, APRA	23.54
5.	Karen Grantham, SRA	33.68
6.	Sissy Foster, TPRA	7.57

Bull Riding:

1.	Tony Mendes, NRA	233.5
2.	Chad Weishuhn, CPRA	227.5
3.	Clinton Cessna, WEBB	225
4.	Tim Johnson, APRA	224.5
5.	Billy Ray Byrd, APRA	218
6.	Billy Gearen, TPRA	156

Team Roping

1.	Joe Day/Rowdy Rieken, TPRA	17.02
2.	Scooter Nolan/Jackey Stephenson, CPRA	19.71
3.	Byron Wilderson/Gary Allen, WEBB	22.83
4.	Vic Morrison/Joel Maker, MENDEL	23.58
5.	Jorge Aros/Sergio Garibay, AVR	24.56
6.	Ben Moser/Dustin Rash, SRA	32.89

Steer Wrestling:

1.	Mike Sanders, Mendel	18.47
2.	Darrel Petry, CPRA	18.81
3.	Troy Orr, SRA	23.91
4.	Shawn Bidwell, APRA	27.21
5.	Steve Blixt, NRA	28.44
6.	Scott Bandy, ABCRA	29.26

Barrels

1.	Doreen Ulery, APRA	43.856
2.	Etta Reid, WEBB	43.869
3.	Tyra Kane, DRAKE	43.987
4.	Gayla Channel, APRA	44.083
5.	Lorraine Reefer, APRA	44.087
6.	Connie Landry, TPRA	44.122

Tatum Texan, Todd Arthur of both the CPRA and TPRA was named Best All-Around Cowboy after winning money in both Calf Roping and Team Roping. Lylesville North Carolinian, Karen Grantham of the SRA was named Best All-Around Cowgirl after winning money in Break Away and placing in Barrels.

ARENA DUST

Dear Northern Rodeo Association

Thank you for sponsoring the 14 & over barrel race at the State 4-H Horse Show held in Great Falls.

My mare and I had a pretty good go. Really good in fact. She only runs barrels 2-3 times a year. We placed 7th.

Thanks again,
Kathy Krambler

JUNIOR UPDATE

Congratulations !!!

I am excited you have all qualified for the Northern Rodeo Association Finals. We are looking forward to a great time in Billings, with the Junior events beginning at 9 a.m. sharp Saturday morning February 3rd.

There is a lot you have to do to prepare for this. So now is a great time to get started. Make sure you get your entries into Jann Parker at the N.R.A. office by December 15th. It is better to sign up now and then take your name off later if you cannot make it. Entry fees will be \$25 an event. The added money has gone up this year to \$200.00 an event. Thanks to some donations.

We also need to have your coat size so we can get that ordered. (It's best to go a size bigger than what you wear). In order to get

your coat you must compete at the Finals.

Next you need to get your motel reservation, the Sheraton Hotel is very handy and they have a great rodeo discount. You can receive your armband Friday night at the adult contestants meetings around 4 p.m. at the Sheraton Hotel or Saturday morning during the junior events. This will get you into the front doors only for each nights performance. Your parents have to by a ticket, just like contestants wives or husbands do. (You can get these at the discount price, read your NRA Newsletter).

Parents!!! I am at this time trying to get awards down to 10th place. If you have something that you could donate or could get donated let me know.

Contestants!!! It is important you make the December 15 deadline for your entries and coat size. **NO EXCUSES !!!**

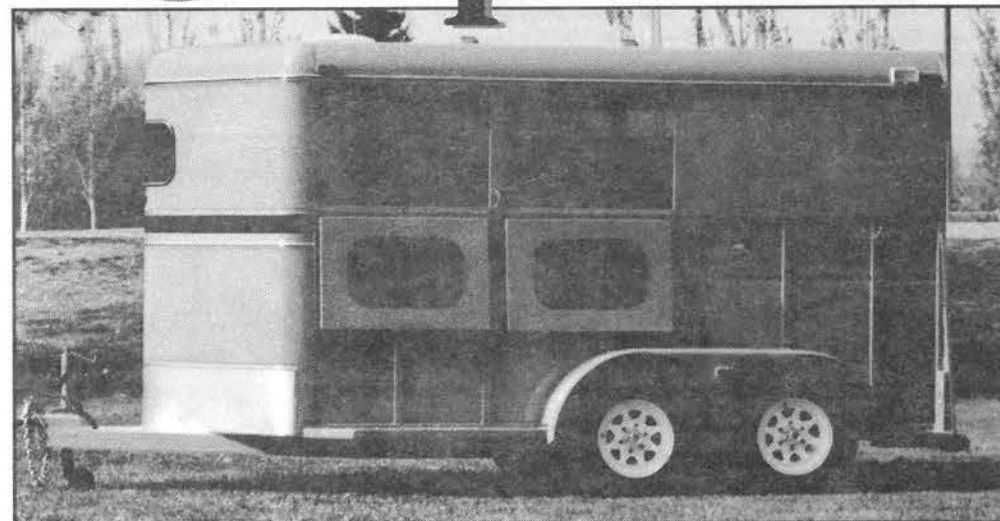
If you have any questions please call me.

Teri Jo Lyman
1-406-736-5645

Thank you for donating the buckle for barrels 14 & over at the 4-H State Horse Show. It's greatly appreciated and thank you for supporting 4-H.

Sincerely,
RoyAnn Fadness

Competitor



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COORS STOCK OF THE YEAR NAMED COMEAPART AND CENTENNIAL REPEAT WINS

The top two bucking horses in the Northern Rodeo Association for 1995 have probably won more trophies than most of the cowboys who try to ride them.

With 11 Bucking Horse of the Year championships between them, bareback bronc #90 Comeapart of the Newman Rodeo Company and saddle bronc #100 Centennial of the Northern Rodeo Company, have earned their spots in the NRA record books.

ComeApart earned her first Bareback Horse of the Year title in 1982 when she was a three-year-old. Dale Small purchased the 1,100 lb. bay mare in the loose horses through the sale ring.

Now Rodney Newman's bareback horse, she has been voted on by the cowboys to buck at every NRA Finals for the last 14 years, in addition to claiming six NRA Bareback Horse of the Year crowns along the way.

"You can trim her feet," says Rodney, "She's just like a saddle horse."

Since 1990, Larry Wirtz's #100 Centennial has garnered the Saddle Bronc of Year trophy every year but one.

The gentle 1,100 lb. bay gelding is a registered quarter horse. Centennial was broke to ride by Wes Watson of Jordan, and Larry purchased Centennial from Claud Saler.

"Centennial just likes to buck - but because of his early training, he is nice to handle," says Larry.

The 1995 Bull of the Year was initially purchased as a 250 lb roping calf. Over the last five years, Newman Rodeo Company's bull #20 Twenty Grand has gained 1,250 pounds and the respect of the NRA's top cowboys.

The horned, black brahama-angus cross bull "jumps high and kicks as hard as any horse", says Sid Newman of Newman Rodeo Company.

Montana Coors distributors proudly support the NRA Stock Contractors program and will award each winner with a trophy buckle at the 21st Annual Northern Rodeo Finals Feb. 2-4, 1996.

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INSTANT RANCHER UPDATE

COWBOYS & COWGIRLS

The NRA Finals will be the Grand Finale of the Instant Rancher Sweepstakes. Three Grand Prize drawings will be held during the NRF. One each night in MetraPark Arena in Billings. The first night will be for \$1,000 cash or \$1,000 toward the purchase of straight Bred Montana Angus Cattle. The second night will be for \$2,500 cash or \$2,500 toward the purchase of straight Bred Montana Angus Cattle. The third night will be for a brand new Logan Coach Competitor II Horse Trailer.

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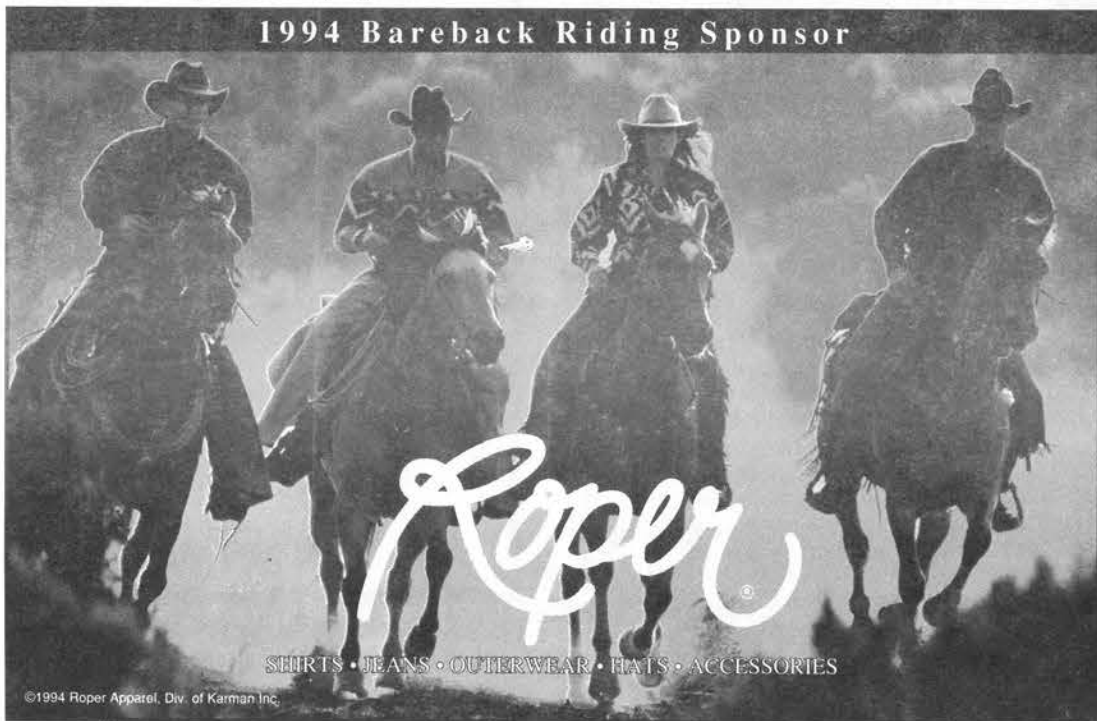
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Saturday, Dec 30, 2:00 pm

#8 Roping • Open Match • Drawpot • #5 Roping

Sunday, Dec 31, 2:00 pm

#6 Roping • Open Match • Incentive Roping

Monday, Jan 1, 1996, 11:00 am

#7 Roping • #9 Red and White Roping • Drawpot

Fees

- Open Matches 5 for \$50/man
- Red & White & Incentives 4/\$25/man
- All Other Ropings 3 for \$20/man

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- Best Western Locomotive Inn
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- Jamber Horse Shoeing
- Horse Palace

Prizes

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- Horse Blankets to Incentive Winners
- Jackets to Red & White Winners
- Rope Bags to Open Match High Dollar Winners

Roper must enter each day to qualify for the Trailer. Roper must enter both matches to receive Rope Bags.

DECEMBER TEAM ROPING SERIES

December 2 & 16 6 pm

#6 Roping • #8 Roping • Open Match • Drawpot

December 3 & 17 11 am

#5 Roping • #7 Roping • Open Match • Drawpot

WINTER RODEO SERIES

**December 23 & 24
1 pm**

Entries every Tuesday 6 pm

BULL RIDING JACKPOT

**DECEMBER 8 & 22
6:30 pm**

Entries every Tuesday prior

ROUGH STOCK PRACTICE

**DECEMBER 1 & 15
6:30 pm**

Entries every Tuesday prior

Horse Palace

equestrian center



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(406)628-2049

NRA's Saddlemakers' Program Going Strong

Handcrafted saddles built by top Montana saddlemakers will be awarded to the 1995 Northern Rodeo Association event and all-around champions.

Eleven custom saddlemakers are participating in this year's program, including Bruce Ruckman, Great Falls; Tim Martz, Wilsall; Jim Allee, Greycliff; Tod Twist, Kalispell; Nancy Petersen, Three Forks; Andy Clay, Wolf Creek; Allan Pursely, Great Falls; Mike Witt, Billings; Ben Swanke, Billings; Earl Twist, Kalispell; and Bob Pletan, Wilsall.

Three Forks, Montana saddlemaker and NRA Advisory Board member, Nancy Petersen originated the program which was




implemented by the NRA in 1992.


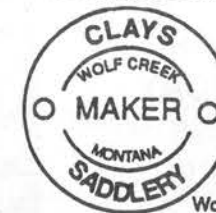

Each trophy saddle is unique, exhibiting the one-of-a-kind workmanship and creativity of the individual saddlemaker.

21st annual Northern Rodeo Finals will be held Feb. 2-4, 1996 at the METRAPARK arena in Billings. The top ten money earners in each of the eight sanctioned NRA events are eligible to compete at the \$50,000 payoff rodeo.

All saddles will be on display at the NRA Office located at the Public Auction Yards in Billings from now through the NRA Finals.

Saddles will be awarded to the Champions at the annual Awards Banquet set for 6 p.m. on Sunday evening, Feb. 4 at the Billings Sheraton Hotel. Tickets may be purchased at the door.

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<p>PLETAN'S CUSTOM LEATHER Bob & Jean Pletan Custom Saddles Tack & Dusters  (406) 578-2146 Rt. 2 • Box 415 Wilsall, MT 59086 We Build To Suit Horse & Rider</p>	<p>Allee Saddlery CUSTOM MADE SADDLES & TACK  (406) 932-6681 Jim & Barb Allee PRAIRIE DOG MALL GREYCLIFF, MT 59033</p>

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NRA Introduces 1995 Saddlemakers

On behalf of the Northern Rodeo Association Board of Directors, cowboys and cowgirls, we extend a sincere **THANK YOU** to the saddlemakers who have chosen to share their talents with us by participating in the NRA Saddlemakers Program. Thank you for making this one of the most unique and prestigious award programs in the country.

Diamond Ring Saddlery: A former NRA saddle bronc competitor, Bruce Ruckman is now in his fourth year of participating in the NRA Saddlemakers Program. This Great Falls saddlemaker learned his trade at a saddlemaking school in Washington and then spent two years as an apprentice to well-known Montana saddlemaker, Allan Pursley. Bruce is building the saddle which will be awarded to the 1995 Champion Bareback Rider. Bruce's shop is located at 3808-3rd Avenue North in Great Falls.

Tim Martz, Wilsall, MT: Tim's saddlemaking career began in 1989 when he became serious about saddlemaking and began working with Wilsall saddlemaker Bob Pletan. A fifth-generation Park County native, this Montana saddlemaker is building his third trophy saddle presented to the Saddle Bronc Riding Champion. Tim became interested in leatherwork at a young age, watching his great-uncle build saddles and do rawhide work. Tim now builds custom saddles & tack at Pletan's Custom Leather in Wilsall.

Allee Saddlery, Jim Allee: Learning his leatherworking trade from Wyoming saddler

Eddie Stokes, Jim and his wife, Barb own Allee Saddlery located in the Prairie Dog Mall in Greycliff, MT. Since the beginning of the NRA Saddlemakers Program in 1992, Jim Allee has built the Bull Riding championship saddles. This Greycliff saddlemaker has built saddles since 1951. Stop by and check out their full line of tack including bits and spurs—just off I-90 at exit 377.

Tod Twist, Kalispell, MT: Learning his craft from one of the best in the business, Tod Twist was fortunate to have his father, Earl Twist, show him the finer points of saddlemaking. Now building his third trophy saddle for the NRA Steer Wrestling, his last two year's projects, the Championship SW Saddles, have been used in arenas throughout the region. This 28 year-old saddlemaker holds an undergraduate degree in history from Willamett University in Salem, OR. and is currently attending seminary in Minneapolis, MN.

Ben Swanke, Swanke Saddlery: Now in his 15th year of saddlemaking, Ben custom makes all styles and types of saddles in addition to chaps, breastcollars, and headstalls. Stop by Ben's shop at 219 North 15th in Billings (directly behind Shiptons). Ben has been involved in the NRA saddlemakers program since it began in 1992. This year, Ben has designed the saddle awarded to the Junior All-Around Champ.

Alan Pursley, Broken Arrow Saddlery: The builder of World Champion Danny Mortensen's bronc saddle also builds the trophy saddle awarded the NRA's top barrel racer! Maker of the 1993, 1994 and 1995 Ladies Barrel Racing Championship saddle, this Great Falls saddlemaker has been building saddles for over 22 years and is the maker of the "Montana Bar-

rel Racer", a barrel racing saddle endorsed by top Montana barrel racer, Charolette Schmidt of Cut Bank. Alan, his wife, Anne, and daughters Norma and Geri, are very instrumental in Montana rodeo. Stop by the shop located at Westgate Mall in Great Falls.

Earl Twist, Kalispell, MT: One of the founding saddlemakers in the NRA Saddlemakers Program, Earl has built the trophy saddle for the All-Around Cowboy each year since 1992. Earl's craftsmanship will once again be showcased in the All-Around Cowboy saddle for 1995. Building custom saddles since 1970, Hollywood directors took notice of Earl's work during the filming of "Heaven's Gate" where some of the crew extras rode his saddles. Now, Hollywood actors order Twist's saddles. Hard work and attention to detail have made Earl's saddles popular with cowboys and movie directors alike. Earl's shop is located at 224 Forest Drive in Kalispell.

Bob Pletan, Wilsall, MT: Bob has been building saddles since 1980, learning his craft from top Kalispell saddlemaker Earl Twist. Bob Pletan will again showcase his talents in the All-Around Cowgirl saddle for 1995. Bob has built the superb trophy saddles awarded at the Hardin Team Roping for many years. Bob also built the saddle awarded to the Livingston Roundup Queen. Bob began leatherworking while in high school, and not only builds custom saddles, but also constructs related tack on a custom basis. Visit Pletan's shop located on Main Street, Highway 89, in Wilsall.

Mike Witt, Witt's Custom Saddlery: Builder of the 1994 and 1995 trophy saddles awarded to the Ladies Breakaway Roping Champion, Mike's interest in leatherwork began while he

was in the sixth grade. Mike grew up northwest of Jordan, and has now been building saddles for over 21 years. In addition to saddles, Mike does custom leather work including belts, briefcases, chaps, etc. Stop by his shop located 2 blocks west of the fairgrounds in Billings- 1148-1st Ave. N. 406-259-3993.

Andy Clay, Clay's Saddlery: Andy will be showcasing his saddlemaking talents in the 1995 NRA Championship Team Roping saddle. In addition to handcrafted saddles, Andy also builds holsters, chaps, scabbards, belts, cases, and all types of leathersgoods for ranch or camp. Andy apprenticed under Bob Marrs in Amarillo, Texas and is now located in Wolf Creek call 406-235-9024.

Nancy Petersen, Three Forks Saddlery: The originator of the NRA Saddlemakers Program, Nancy is once again building the saddle awarded to the top calf roper for 1995. Nancy and her husband, Carl, are in their 23rd year of business at Three Forks Saddlery. In addition to custom saddles, Nancy also builds headstalls, chaps, belts, and breastcollars. A competitive roper and barrel racer, Nancy competes along with her daughter Jody, and husband Carl, at NRA rodeos throughout the summer.

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BULL RIDING

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(determined at NRA Finals)

LADIES BREAKAWAY ROPING

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STEER WRESTLING

Jarrett Theis

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(Determined at NRA Finals)

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A mother of four is back in the saddle with a successful...

RETURN TO THE RODEO

by Mary Pickett of the Billings Gazette Staff
(reprinted with permission)

The thrill of galloping down a rodeo arena makes barrel racing fun, says Charlene Murphy, of Billings.

So does winning.

Murphy has had a lot of fun in recent years.

Last year, she was named Montana Pro Rodeo Rookie Barrel Racer, based on her earnings in rodeos sanctioned by the Women's Professional Rodeo Association.

Murphy isn't doing too badly this year, either. Out of the 50 rodeos she has raced in so far, she has won money in at least 75 percent of them.

She has earned \$6,374 in Northern Rodeo Association rodeos this year, elevating her to second place in NRA barrel-racing standings. In WPRA rankings in the state, Murphy is seventh with earnings of \$2,179.

In light of her winning season, it's even more interesting to note that the slender, dark-haired mother of four turned 40 this year. Forty may be over the hill in some sports, but not in barrel racing.

Of the top 15 NRA barrel racers, seven



are 40 or older, says Jann Parker, NRA executive secretary.

Murphy's top rankings weren't easy to come by.

She grew up riding at the Billings Saddle Club. And Murphy barrel raced at a few junior-circuit and high-school rodeos, but gave it up more than 20 years ago when she married Mike Murphy, a former rodeo bareback rider.

The Murphys and their two youngest children, Clint, 17, and Sterling, 12, live south of Billings on Pryor Creek Road. Son Wade, 20, attends Dawson Community College in Glendive. Their daughter Darcy, 19, is a student at Miles Community College in Miles City and a member of the rodeo team.

About 10 years ago, Murphy's husband

encouraged her to start barrel racing again.

"He pushed me to do it," she says. "Everything I owe to him. He found the horse I'm running, and he stays home and keeps the home fires burning."

When Murphy climbed back into the saddle to race after several years absence, she found it was a humbling experience.

"You go out there, work your hardest and get your doors blown off," Murphy says.

The first few years, she made plenty of "donations," rodeo lingo for entry fees she paid in races in which she won no money.

Barrel races are won or lost by slivers of seconds and are over in 14 to 17 seconds.

To get ahead, Murphy sharpened her skills at several schools and clinics, including a Texas clinic run by Martha Josey, one of the country's best barrel racers.

Barrel racing is more than just quick dash around three barrels and a fast trip home. It takes more work, concentration and mental preparation than most people realize, Murphy says.

The right horse, agile enough to dart around a barrel and fast enough to fly home, also is a major factor in a racer's success.

Murphy's 9-year-old quarter-horse mare, "K.C." is such a horse.

"She is a natural barrel racer, who was easy to train," Murphy says.

A horse, even a good one, doesn't do all the work. A barrel racer must anticipate the quickly approaching barrel and fine tune the horse's trajectory. She also must adapt for changing conditions and different sizes of arenas.

In addition to Mike's encouragement and K.C.'s winning spirit, Murphy attributes her success to her traveling partner, Shirlee Fossum. Fossum, like Murphy, is among the top barrel racers in the state. She trails Murphy in NRA standings in third place, but is fourth in the WPRA's Montana circuit.

When one of the women comes up short on a race, the other is there for support.

A successful race boosts the morale of both.

"When one of us wins," Murphy says, "the other wins, too."

The women get along well, a necessity during long trips they make together. They routinely drive 1,000 miles or more in a single weekend. During one weekend this summer, they raced in a rodeo at Wolf Point at 7:30 p.m. and then drove all night to be in Helena to race by 7 the next morning.

Those early-morning races are called "slack." When large numbers of cowboys or cowgirls sign up for an event, the rodeo schedules slack competitions, usually earlier in the day before a performance. The times for slack rides are considered equally with rides in performances for prize money.

Holiday weekends are particularly busy. Over the Labor Day weekend, they raced in rodeos in Hamilton on Thursday night, Plains on Friday, White Sulphur Springs on Saturday, Helmville on Sunday and Dillon on Monday.

Many of the things that seem a natural part of barrel racing are, in fact, guided by rules and official encouragement.

Barrel racers are urged to wear bright colors. Murphy makes most of her colorful

Western wardrobe, including jeans.

The women also are required to wear hats and keep them on during a race. In WPRO rodeos, barrel racers who lose a hat are fined \$25. Murphy keeps her hat firmly secured with a stampede string.

In the last couple of years, the number of women competing in barrel racing has increased dramatically.

This summer, as many as 50 to 70 women would compete in a single rodeo.

One factor helping the numbers increase is a rule change allowing WPRO card holders to participate in NRA events, Murphy says.

The popularity of things Western, televised rodeo events and the increasing number of barrel-racing clubs also have nurtured an interest in the sport.

Later this month, Murphy will compete in barrel racing at the NILE rodeo.

In addition to being one of the last PRCA rodeos to qualify for the National Rodeo Finals in Las Vegas and a rodeo with a sizable purse. NILE also is blissfully close to home.

"Maybe we like it because we don't have to drive to it," Murphy says.

editor's note:

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Save \$12 - Special Ticket Offer For The 21st Annual Northern Rodeo Association Finals

Friday, Saturday, Sunday February 2, 3, 4 NRA Finals committee has made arrangements for the NRA members and their families to obtain series rodeo tickets at a bargain price. If you are a member of a rodeo association - NRA, WRA, NRCA, CCA, PRCA, NDRA, ect., - you can take advantage of this offer.

*Regular price reserved seats are
\$12 x 3 performances = \$36*

Your price for all three performances = \$24

These orders will be filled with the best available seats before tickets go on sale to the general public. Please specify rough stock or timed-event seating preference.

Order's must be received on or before January 5. Yes, I would like to take advantage of the special ticket offer. Enclosed is a check or money order in the amount of _____ for _____ (number) of ticket packages.

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Please enclose a stamped, self-addressed envelope.

This offer must be handled by mail and orders must be received before Monday, January 1, so tickets can be filled before tickets go on sale to the general public.

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NORTHERN RODEO ASSOCIATION



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PRECEDING NRA FINALS - TOP TEN IN EACH EVENT QUALIFY FEB. 2-3-4, 1996

BAREBACK BRONC RIDING

1 Robert Schall, Arlee, Mt	5521.40
2 Heath Lafromboise, Helena, Mt	4418.23
3 Darryl Lamb, Absarokee, Mt	4368.77
4 Dustin Solomon, Havre, Mt	3653.37
5 Doug Leeds, Havre, Mt	2974.55
6 Travis Twitchell, Jordan, Mt	2376.00
7 Marty Buckingham, Miles City, Mt	1881.84
8 Steve Cutler, Billings, Mt	1810.84
9 Mathew Gilstrap, Big Sandy, Mt	1665.12
10 Kim Harris, Conrad, Mt	1328.30
11 Kelly Simac, Winifred, Mt	1032.96
12 Ryan Allen, Helena, Mt	1008.96
13 Derry McLane, Bozeman, Mt	786.20
14 Timothy Pankratz, Hays, Mt	705.28
15 William Cerkoney, Bozeman, Mt	587.52

BULL RIDING

1 Marty Penrod, Miles City, Mt	5603.21
2 Richard Bird, Cut Bank, Mt	4334.79
3 Dan Plummer, Billings, Mt	4265.27
4 Monte Finn, Big Timber, Mt	4084.98
5 Tony Mendes, Reno, Nv	3988.44
6 Jeff Burns, Terretton, Id	3839.31
7 Daniel Wigert, Colstrip, Mt	3624.69
8 Clint Solomon, Havre, Mt	3377.67
9 Robert Crump, St Ignatius, Mt	3057.57
10 Chad Onstad, Valier, Mt	2945.34
11 Bob Walter, Stanford, Mt	2902.03
12 Wyle Wells, Browning, Mt	2673.33
13 Scott Woodward, Sheridan, Wyo	2654.89
14 Phil Hastings, Bozeman, Mt	2570.74
15 Zane Fitzpatrick, Polson, Mt	2506.30

SADDLE BRONC RIDING

1 Kent Robbins, Dillon, Mt	3908.72
2 Brandon Smith, Helena, Mt	3464.95
3 Mike Twitchell, Jordan, Mt	2866.63
4 Joe Reynolds, Hamilton, Mt	2568.57
5 Leighton Redmond, Belfield, Nd	2100.09
6 Buck Reiner, Fishtail, Mt	2031.29
7 Wyle Wells, Browning, Mt	1900.39
8 Clint Solomon, Havre, Mt	1840.38
9 Jake Costello, Newell, Sd	1835.64
10 Les Best, Billings, Mt	1810.43
11 Joshua Reynolds, Corvallis, Mt	1777.08
12 Walter Lockie, Jordan, Mt	1764.59
13 Philip Whiteman, Lame Deer, Mt	1725.52
14 Tyler Fritz, Plentywood, Mt	1670.16
15 Charles Powell, Ten Sleep, Wyo	1361.71

STEER WRESTLING

1 Brent Ryder, Gallatin Gtwy, Mt	5015.44
2 Steve Blixt, Helena, Mt	3570.86
3 Jeff Solomon, Havre, Mt	3371.07
4 Tony Strainer, Helena, Mt	3099.46
5 Herb Harris, Polson, Mt	2537.24
6 Gary Zipperian, Clancy, Mt	2451.17
7 Ken Holland, Dillon, Mt	2331.10
8 Chuck Fields, Lewistown, Mt	2121.08
9 Bill Boyce, Lewistown, Mt	1989.67
10 Jody Wacker, Roundup, Mt	1875.83
11 Justin Davis, Sidney, Mt	1792.68
12 Randy Nunn, Winnett, Mt	1723.01
13 Nick Econom, Winifred, Mt	1632.76
14 Steve Downing, Helena, Mt	1556.33
15 Lorne Krone, Augusta, Mt	1523.67

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CALFROPING

1 Mike Barthelmeß, Condon, Mt	4349.46
2 Bill Boyce, Lewistown, Mt	3938.34
3 Bill Melaney, Wolf Creek, Mt	3090.22
4 Shane Eberline, Dillon, Mt	2904.26
5 Scott Salo, Billings, Mt	2521.63
6 Travis Caldwell, Billings, Mt	2444.25
7 Laramie Baumann, Hardin, Mt	2410.09
8 Lyle Baumann, Hardin, Mt	2274.96
9 Brent Ryder, Gallatin Gtwy, Mt	2061.35
10 Jim Scott, Billings, Mt	1862.25
11 Jody Wacker, Roundup, Mt	1828.01
12 J Billingsley, Glasgow, Mt	1561.20
13 Chris Witcher, Miles City, Mt	1522.94
14 Allen Fisher, Ashland, Mt	1196.83
15 Herb Harris, Polson, Mt	1119.85

TEAMROPING

1 Rick Tryan, Helena, Mt	4801.49
2 Robbie Kountz, Bozeman, Mt	4801.49
3 Clay Tryan, Huntley, Mt	3852.51
4 Dennis Tryan, Huntley, Mt	3852.51
5 Sam Bird, Cut Bank, Mt	2352.48
6 Jody Wacker, Roundup, Mt	2222.21
7 Dick Goins, Billings, Mt	2222.21
8 Larry Steele, Alladin, Wy	2124.66
9 Enoch Schaffer, Broadus, Mt	2124.66
10 John Barthelmeß, Lewistown, Mt	2084.39
11 Ty Steinbach, Wolf Creek, Mt	1978.79
12 Gary Sutton, Jourdonton, Tx	1946.59
13 Robert Schall, Arlee, Mt	1751.33
14 Herb Harris, Polson, Mt	1751.33
15 Mary Salmond, Choteau, Mt	1536.38
16 Mark Salmond, Choteau, Mt	1536.38
17 Mike Barthelmeß, Condon, Mt	1500.06
18 Charlie Briggs, Bozeman, Mt	1468.66
19 Eric Watson, Box Elder, Mt	1426.67
20 Dale Mcqueary, Three Forks, Mt	1317.74
21 Robert Herman, Hyattville, Wy	1166.44
22 Britt Givens, Riverton, Wy	1166.44
23 Mathew Sherwood, Higley, Az	1146.14
24 Jay Murnion, Jordan, Mt	1091.47
25 Pat Pendergrass, Billings, Mt	1091.47
26 Bill Melaney, Wolf Creek, Mt	1084.85
27 Steve Sherwood, Snowflake, Az	1043.32

28 Leo Ramone, Pocatello, Id	1028.13
29 Brent Ryder, Gallatin Gtwy, Mt	919.36
30 Teddy Hoyt, Browning, Mt	915.84

LADIES BARREL RACING

1 Rachael Myllymaki, Arlee, Mt	8447.74
2 Charlene Murphy, Billings, Mt	6374.10
3 Shirlee Fossum, Billings, Mt	5378.48
4 Jill Ferdina, Bozeman, Mt	3362.97
5 June Tibbetts, Terry, Mt	2950.17
6 Lynda Ottun, Forsyth, Mt	2821.63
7 Heather Hart, Gallatin Gateway, Mt	2471.13
8 Mary Salmond, Choteau, Mt	2329.67
9 Lisa Mainey, Hamilton, Mt	2109.35
10 Judy Myllymaki, Arlee, Mt	2009.65
11 Sandi Nordahl, Eureka, Mt	1999.39
12 Rayna Prewitt, Sidney, Mt	1938.07
13 Tori Woodard, Miles City, Mt	1715.14
14 Cinde Barthelmeß, Condon, Mt	1531.25
15 Donna Leibrand, Peerless, Mt	1450.60

LADIES BREAKAWAY ROPING

1 Mary Salmond, Choteau, Mt	4553.61
2 Heather Hart, Gallatin Gateway, Mt	3251.24
3 Kayleen Hougen, Melstone, Mt	2796.54
4 Jody Petersen, Three Forks, Mt	2631.42
5 Janie Carlson, Two Dot, Mt	2423.13
6 Karen Miller, Absarokee, Mt	2088.23
7 Laurie Tryan, Helena, Mt	1691.51
8 Tanya Hussey, Salmon, Id	1641.45
9 Shelley Johnston, Garden City, Ks	1588.26
10 Chris Mcqueary, Three Forks, Mt	1531.86
11 Valerie Lafrance, Huntley, Mt	1510.94
12 Mary Goyins, Helena, Mt	1489.17
13 Rhonda Kountz, Bozeman, Mt	1434.37
14 Deb Lloyd, Helena, Mt	1338.14
15 Connie Meiers, Williston, Nd	1273.15

JUNIOR BARREL RACING

1 Colt Tew, Belgrade, Mt	1868.29
2 Zimmie Jo Lytle, Ronan, Mt	936.16
3 Jenny Camp, Sun Valley, Mt	823.63
4 Brettney Vermandel, Billings, Mt	767.08
5 Jackie Jo Smith, Ronan, Mt	704.45

JUNIOR BREAKAWAY ROPING

1 Casey Currey, Jordan, Mt	1196.53
2 Josh Harris, Polson, Mt	1022.87
3 Travis Tryan, Huntley, Mt	805.53
4 Zeb Dale Lytle, Ronan, Mt	694.36
5 Tracey Currey, Jordan, Mt	628.08

JUNIOR ALL-AROUND

1 Colt Tew, Belgrade, Mt	2124.05
2 Tracey Currey, Jordan, Mt	1025.32
3 Jack Vanderlans, Cameron, Mt	653.46
4 Tammy Eberline, Dillon, Mt	410.18
5 Karnell Phillips, Inverness, Mt	402.14

ALL-AROUND COWBOY

1 Brent Ryder, Gallatin Gtwy, Mt	7996.15
2 Robert Schall, Arlee, Mt	7901.14
3 Robbie Kountz, Bozeman, Mt	7197.79
4 Bill Boyce, Lewistown, Mt	6504.11
5 Jody Wacker, Roundup, Mt	5926.05

ALL-AROUND COWGIRL

1 Rachael Myllymaki, Arlee, Mt	9820.44
2 Mary Salmond, Choteau, Mt	8419.66
3 Heather Hart, Gallatin Gateway, Mt	5722.37
4 Jill Ferdina, Bozeman, Mt	3725.94
5 Chris Mcqueary, Three Forks, Mt	3237.83



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21st ANNUAL NRF PERSONNEL

Judges: Bruce Martin, Lewistown; Steve O'Hern, Ronan; Zim Lytle, Ronan; Leonard Wortman, Boulder.

Timers: Teri Jo Lyman, Great Falls; and Tootie Rasmussen, Choteau.

Announcer: Stan Rasmussen, Choteau.

Bullfighters: Shawn Penrod, Rosebud; Mike Anderson, Dillon.

NRA Finals Coordinator: Ed Waldhauser

Grand Entry Coordinator: Debbie McCormick, Billings

Stock Contractors: Rocky Mountain Rodeo, Kalispell; Northern Rodeo Company, Outlook; Jacobs Livestock Rodeos, Great Falls; Sagebrush Rodeo Company, Brockton; Newman Rodeo Company, Melstone.

Secretary: Jeanne Carpenter, Kalispell; Theresa Caldwell, Billings.

Pickupmen: Robert Newman and T.J. Newman

Media Rep: Vance Ruff, Ryegate

NRA Cowboys Poker Tournament



DESPERADO'S CARD ROOM

Date: Thursday, February 1, 1996 at 6:30 pm

Limited to the first 20 NRA members to register

by January 12th

\$40 buy in

\$5 Registration

Winner gets *Gist Championship Buckle* plus
1st place purse

Please send separate check to the NRA office, tournament is open to all
NRA Members!

NRA Finals Stock (Tentative)

BAREBACKHORSES:

Jacobs Livestock Rodeos

*70 Riverton Joe
*TT Big Jake
F14 Georgie Blue
T21 Solomon Grey

Newman Rodeo Company

*Z76 Desert Shield
*656 Marble Eye
321 Countdown
90 Comeapart
2277 Medicare
S17 Hot-N-Spicey
28 Rocky

Northern Rodeo Company

*J Idaho Jack
*31 Bozo
H22 All Grit
H23 Snow Creek
H37 Tug Boat
10 Ten Below

Rocky Mountain Rodeo Company

*873 Dunny
*857 Abilene
32 Red Devil
33 Soldier

Sagebrush Rodeo Company

*505 Brownie
*07 Coor's Jim Dandy
C10 Lone Roan

SADDLE BRONCS:

Jacobs Livestock Rodeos

*1 Sand Coulee
*-11 Melvin O
B13 Blue Mary
49 Ironsides

Newman Rodeo Company

*672 Quicksand
*685 Cowboy Shuffle
6 Charlie Russell
465 Second Fiddle
E Cimmaron

Northern Rodeo Company

*3 Stormy
*TO True Grit
100 Centennial
H110 Norma Jean Riley
TB Dark Town
H79 Tar Baby

Rocky Mountain Rodeo Company

*47 Mirage
*483 Alberta Kid
30 Gray Trails
C68 Easy Money
122 Beechnut
71 One Spot
859 Tipperary

Sagebrush Rodeo Company

*1 Coor's Banner
*132 Red Skin

BULLS:

Jacobs Livestock Rodeos

*211 Paleface
*88 White Lightening
3 Hot House Herbie

Newman Rodeo Company

*23 Range Line
*N2 Weed Creek
65 Barley Pop
0 Awesome Ott
20 Twenty Grand
18 Smokin Joe

71 Smuckers

Northern Rodeo Company

*J Delaney
*ETN Chum
60 Velvet Coke
1D Thunder Struck
2 Mighty Mouse
57 Heinz 57
16 Dear John
17 Walleye
0 Back Draft

Rocky Mountain Rodeo Company

*111 Del Rio
*17 Jack Flash
245 Rattler

Sagebrush Rodeo Company


*17 Cowtown Kid
*18 Tiny Tim

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YEAR-END RESULTS

&

CHAMPIONS

Points are given as follows: 4 pts for 1st; 3 pts for 2nd; 2 pts for 3rd; 1 pt for 4th. BUCKLES will be awarded to each event champion at year-end!

BAREBACK RIDING

1. Bob Schall 19.5
2. Darryl Lamb 8.5
3. Heath LaFromboise 8

SADDLE BRONC RIDING

1. Clint Solomon 8
2. Brandy Smith 5.5
3. Kent Robbins 5

BULL RIDING

1. Monte Finn 8
2. Richard Bird 6
3. Tom Steele 4
 - Reid Reagan 4
 - Toby Dahl 4
 - Bob Walters 4

STEER WRESTLING

1. Brent Ryder 18.5
2. Tony Strainer 7.5
3. Ken Holland 7

CALF ROPING

1. Mike Barthelmess 6
 - Marty Icenoggle 6

TEAM ROPING

1. Dennis Tryan 7.5
 - Clay Tryan 7.5
2. Rob Kountz 5
 - Rick Tryan 5

LADIES BARREL RACING

1. Rachael Myllymaki 11
2. Charlene Murphy 9.5
3. Sandi Nordahl 8

LADIES BREAKAWAY ROPING

1. Heather Hart 10
2. Mary Salmond 8
3. Nancy Collins 6

JUNIOR BARREL RACING

1. Colt Tew 12
2. Jenny Camp 10
3. Karnell Phillips 9

JUNIOR BREAKAWAY ROPING

1. Josh Harris 15
2. Casey Currey 6
3. Jack Vanderlans 5.5



SPECIAL COMPANION TICKET OFFER

Each competitor is entitled to purchase a special half price companion pass. One companion only. Money must be enclosed with entry blank. Your choice of \$8 (upper level reserved), \$10 (above walkway reserved), \$12 (lower arena reserved) seats are all available at half price.

Vouchers will be issued, redeemable at MetraPark box office.

Yes, I want to take advantage of the special half-price offer:

Enclosed is \$ _____ for _____ \$ _____ tickets.

(Indicate if \$8, \$10, \$12 tickets are requested. Remember to divide your ticket price in half).



Tri-Country Fair in Deer Lodge welcomed 257 NRA contestants at this year's rodeo. One of 39 calf ropers entered Mike Rains of Missoula ropes his calf during the Sunday performance. Jeanne Carpenter photo.



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Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone () _____ Special Requests _____

This reservation form must be received prior to: **January 15, 1996**

After this date, all reservations subject to availability. If reservation is not guaranteed, room will be released at 4:00 p.m.

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- Check enclosed in amount of first night's room rate.
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- American Express
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NRA

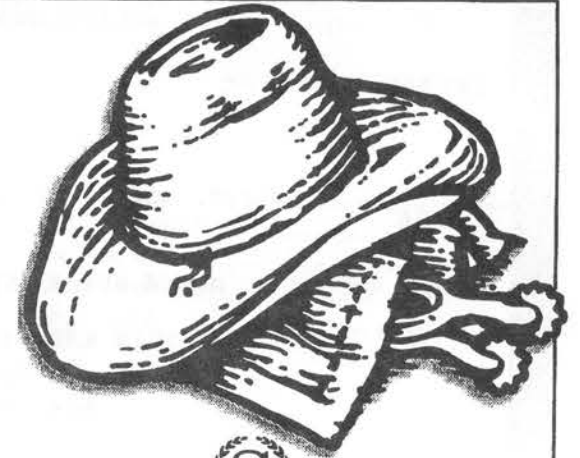
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PERSONALITY QUESTIONNAIRE AND FINALS ENTRY FORM

**•TOP 10 IN EACH EVENT ARE ELIGIBLE TO COMPETE IN THE NRA FINALS. ALL JUNIOR MEMBERS WHO HAVE WON MONEY IN THEIR RESPECTIVE EVENTS ARE ELIGIBLE.
•Entries must be called into the NRA OFFICE on Jan. 2, 1995 between 9 a.m. and 4 p.m. Call 252-1122 to enter. Then: send entry fees with this completed form to the NRA office by Friday, Jan. 6, NO EXCEPTIONS. If not received ON FRIDAY, the next person entered is eligible.**
NAME _____ ADDRESS _____
SOC. SECURITY # _____ PHONE _____
EVENTS ENTERED _____ TEAM ROPING PARTNER _____
PLEASE ENCLOSE ENTRY FEES: \$150 PER EVENT, TEAM ROPING: \$150 PER MAN. JUNIORS \$20. TOTAL FEES ENCLOSED _____
•STALLS MUST BE RESERVED IN ADVANCE. STALL SUPERINTENDENT WILL ASSIGN STALLS AT CONTESTANT CHECK IN TIME.
•NUMBER OF STALLS _____ AT \$5 TOTAL _____
•COCKTAIL PARTY INVITES - INDICATE NUMBER NEEDED _____
•PLEASE RESERVE TICKETS FOR NRA BANQUET. WE MUST HAVE AN ACCURATE COUNT.
I PLAN TO ATTEND NRA BANQUET. I NEED _____ TICKETS AT \$12.
PLEASE ENCLOSE WITH FINALS FEES.
BANQUET TICKETS WILL BE MAILED TO YOU IN ADVANCE.

YES, PLEASE ENTER ME IN THE POKER TOURNAMENT, ENCLOSED IS A SEPERATE \$45 CHECK.

Personality Questionnaire

Name _____ Birthday _____
Present mailing address _____ Hometown _____
Current occupation _____ If student, where _____
College Major _____ Marital Status _____
Spouse's name _____ Children's names, ages _____
Rodeo events you participate in _____
Biggest win in 1994 _____ Biggest lifetime win _____
Have you competed at NRA finals before _____ Years _____
Number of rodeos in 1994 _____ Favorite rodeo _____
Who most influenced rodeo career _____
Why do you rodeo _____
Hobbies, interests other than rodeo _____
If you could write a rule in NRA rule book, what would it be _____
Would you be interested in serving on a NRA Committe? _____ Which committee interests you? _____

VOTING BALLOT

Every NRA card holding member is invited to vote for three West Committee Directors. Only contestants who compete in the actual event are eligible to vote for event directors.

Mark a "X" in the box next to the person for whom you are selecting. If you desire to write in a candidate, be sure to mark and "X" next to his or her name. Candidates names appear in alphabetical order.

Calf Roping
Caldwell, Travis _____

Stock Contractor
Rodney Newman _____

Ladies Barrel Racing
Cook, George _____

Contract Personnel
Dick Lyman _____

Ladies Breakaway Roping
Janie Carlson _____
Rhonda Kountz _____
Deb Lloyd _____
Karen Miller _____

West Committee Directors
Roger Brockway _____
Bob Graveley _____
Rodger Nordahl _____
Amy Robbins _____
Leonard Wortman _____
(VOTE FOR THREE)

Saddle Bronc
Kent Robbins _____
Brandy Smith _____

**Ballots will be counted Wednesday
Jan. 24, 1996
Mail Ballot to:
Northern Rodeo Association
Box 1122
Billings, MT 59103**

Bareback
Steve Cutler _____

CONTESTANT SIGNATURE _____

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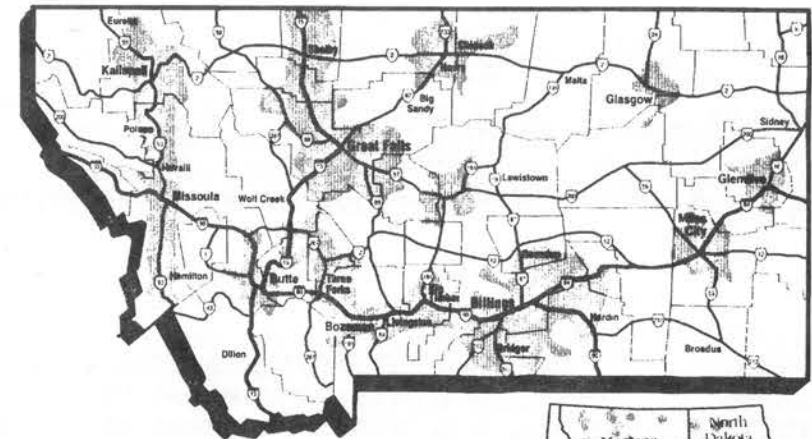
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OFFICIAL JUNIOR EVENT STANDINGS 1995

REGULAR SEASON YEAR-END

PRECEDING NRA FINALS - ALL OF THE FOLLOWING QUALIFY FEB 3, 1996

JUNIOR BARREL RACING

1 Colt Tew, Belgrade, Mt	1868.29
2 Zimmie Jo Lytle, Ronan, Mt	936.16
3 Jenny Camp, Sun Valley, Mt	823.63
4 Brettney Vermandel, Billings, Mt	767.08
5 Jackie Jo Smith, Ronan, Mt	704.45
6 Jack Vanderlans, Cameron, Mt	421.78
7 Tracey Currey, Jordan, Mt	397.24
8 Karnell Phillips, Inverness, Mt	372.86
9 Shawna Wright, Helena, Mt	346.63
10 Kamber Ann Kelly, Roundup, Mt	334.17
11 Rylee Strauser, Chinook, Mt	313.28
12 Jaime Perry, Shelby, Mt	312.61
13 Jana Smith, Ronan, Mt	281.28
14 Katie Crowley, Poplar, Mt	259.00
15 Lacy Fleharty, Grass Range, Mt	244.31
16 Dillon Mcpherson, Wolf Point, Mt	228.52
17 Tierani Brusett, Brusett, Mt	228.48
18 Tammy Eberline, Dillon, Mt	197.42
19 Ginger Smith, Bozeman, Mt	187.20
20 Milee Malone, Livingston, Mt	179.59
21 Shyla Epler, Helena, Mt	132.72
22 Amber Crowley, Poplar, Mt	131.32
23 Teri Kay Leibrand, Peerless, Mt	126.91
24 Kiley Haugland, Belgrade, Mt	121.54
25 Brittani Brusett, Brusett, Mt	88.11
26 Ivy Lee Brown, Kalispell, Mt	82.69
27 Krystal Roberts, Geraldine, Mt	80.26
28 Tia Coleman, Cut Bank, Mt	70.08
29 Tate Else, Dillon, Mt	69.31
30 Nikki Lafrance, Huntley, Mt	67.20
31 Carrie Smith, Deer Lodge, Mt	63.84
32 Gail Sivertson, Belt, Mt	54.72
33 Stephanie Baertsch, Helena, Mt	41.28
34 Brittany Schnee, Shelby, Mt	33.60

35 Tiffany Wagner, Helena, Mt	21.12
36 Rae Lynn Roesler, Miles City, Mt	20.40
37 Amanda Davis, Darby, Mt	20.16
38 Blair Barthelmess, Condon, Mt	14.88
39 Nicole Porter, Helena, Mt	10.80

JUNIOR BREAKAWAY ROPING

1 Casey Currey, Jordan, Mt	1196.53
2 Josh Harris, Polson, Mt	1022.87
3 Travis Tryan, Huntley, Mt	805.53
4 Zeb Dale Lytle, Ronan, Mt	694.36
5 Tracey Currey, Jordan, Mt	628.08
6 Buckley Reynolds, Billings, Mt	493.44
7 Kyle Donohoe, Nye, Mt	324.32
8 Bryan Barthelmess, Condon, Mt	300.07
9 Treston Vermandel, Billings, Mt	268.24
10 Kaleb Phillips, Inverness, Mt	264.67
11 Cleve Fuller, Augusta, Mt	256.22
12 Colt Tew, Belgrade, Mt	255.76
13 Tate Else, Dillon, Mt	237.09
14 Jack Vanderlans, Cameron, Mt	231.68
15 Tammy Eberline, Dillon, Mt	212.76
16 Klate Greaney, Helena, Mt	194.21
17 Milee Malone, Livingston, Mt	161.82
18 Josh Clark, Belgrade, Mt	139.37
19 Kaycee Greany, Helena, Mt	127.52
20 Brittani Brusett, Brusett, Mt	110.64
21 Bo Wagner, Laurel, Mt	107.97
22 Tyler J. Kelly, Stanford, Mt	106.72
23 Justin Mcpherson, Forsyth, Mt	103.04
24 Beau Clark, Belgrade, Mt	101.76
25 Colter Gorrell, Beach, Nd	97.44
26 JC Crowley, Poplar, Mt	68.64
27 Clay Kincheloe, Melstone, Mt	63.84
28 Tehra Dallaserra, Dillon, Mt	57.60

29 Jake Hould, Malta, Mt	53.76
30 Delon Parker, Billings, Mt	51.52
31 Teka Brock, Glendive, Mt	49.92
32 Jordan Holland, Dillon, Mt	44.93
33 Troy Ruhkala, St Ignatius, Mt	42.24
34 Jared Graveley, Townsend, Mt	38.40
35 Fanci Lyman, Great Falls, Mt	38.40
36 Casey Currey, Jordan, Mt	38.08
37 Leah McLaughlin, Manhattan, Mt	38.08
38 Dru Stewart, Hamilton, Mt	32.64
39 Karnell Phillips, Inverness, Mt	29.28
40 Tyler Holland, Dillon, Mt	24.95
41 Gail Sivertson, Belt, Mt	19.20
42 Henry Hollenbeck, Molt, Mt	18.40
43 Sterling Murphy, Billings, Mt	13.92

Be a part of the NRA Junior Event Finals
Saturday February 3, 9 am at MetraPark
Arena.

Congratulations to all Junior Finalists!!!

The Junior Members Salute Bee-Wild for
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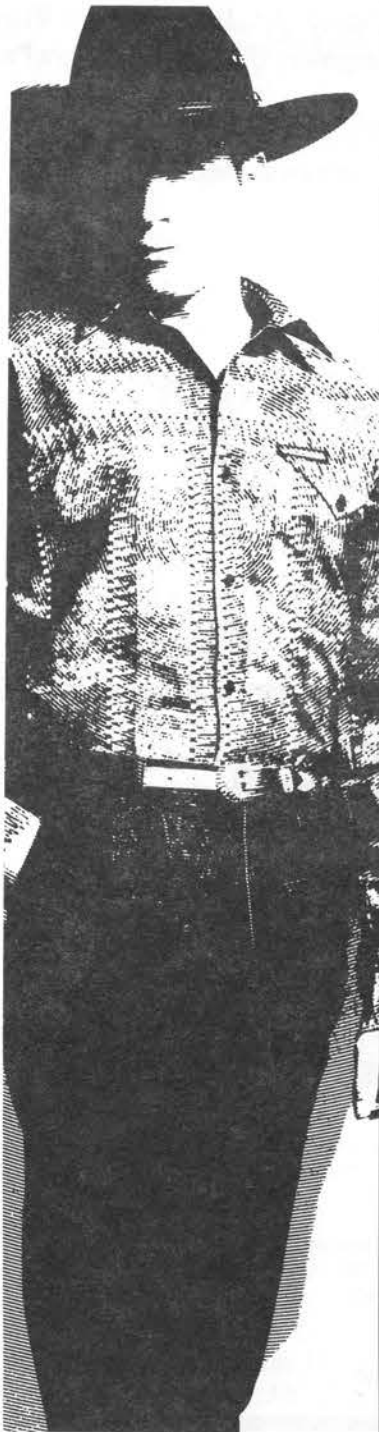
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BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
Tuesday, October 17, 1995
Northern Rodeo Association Office
Billings, Montana

President Charlie Briggs called the meeting to order.

Roll was taken and a quorum verified. Those members present included: President, Charlie Briggs; Glen Hough proxy for Stan Rasmussen, Director at Large; Steve Blixt, Steer Wrestling; Steve Cutler, Bareback Riding; Kent Robbins, Saddle Bronc Riding; Ty Steinbach proxy for Mark Salmond, Team Roping; Rodney Newman, Stock Contractors; Dick Lyman, Contract Personnel; Janie Carlson, Ladies Breakaway Roping; Theresa Caldwell proxy for Heather Hart, Ladies Barrel Racing; Teri Jo Lyman, Junior Events; Marty Penrod, Bull Riding; Advisory Board Members: Alvin Wagner, Ed Waldhauser, Committee Directors East: Joe Murnion, Dr. Howard Holloway; Committee Directors West: Leonard Wortman. Bruce Martin representing Steve O'Hern, Judging Program Director.

Financial Report was read and approved subject to audit. Association finances were discussed and an overview of the 1995 rodeo season given.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

North American Rodeo Commission: WFR will be held Nov. 7-12 in Charleston, SC. NRA will be represented by 21 contestants.

Awards Program: Overall program was discussed. Average and Rookie buckles have been sponsored and have arrived. Buckles were shown to the Board. Discussion concerning Championship buckles.

NRA Finals: The NRA Finals were discussed. A new finals committee was formed to work on specific items for the upcoming Finals in 1996. Those Board members serving on the committee include: Steve Cutler, Glen Hough, and Janie Carlson.

Logan Coach Judges Program: Current judging program was discussed. There is a PRCA Judging Seminar this coming weekend, Oct. 20-21 in Billings. All NRA Judges are encouraged to attend. Dick Lyman presented the Board with additions/changes to the current program. Dick had visited with prior NRA judges and had researched the proposed additions/changes. Discussion. The Board asked Dick to make any final changes and submit to the NRA Office to run in the December issue of the NRA News with the General Membership voting on the proposal in February, with final Board decision at the February Board of Directors meeting.

Instant Rancher Sweepstakes Program: Vance Ruff gave an overview of this year's program including the Logan Coach promotion. It worked very well selling the Instant Rancher tickets at the various rodeos and having a Logan Coach trailer on site; Instant Rancher Drawings at the rodeos were successful. Discussion. It was moved and seconded: At the NRA Finals, the drawings be split to include both the current year and, to encourage pre-sales on the upcoming year, hold the Sunday drawing on the next year's tickets. PASSED. Specifics to be worked out by the Instant Rancher Sweepstakes committee. Those serving on the committee include: Dana Parini, Charlie Briggs, Jerry Matt, Vance Ruff, Jeanne Carpenter, and Gary Zipperian.

Excel Telephone: At the March meeting, the NRA Board voted to accept the Excel Telecommunications program. Discussion concerning the program. It was moved and seconded: After six months, the NRA evaluate the program and if the NRA has not saved money, discontinue the program. Seconded. PASSED.

NEW BUSINESS:

L and B Cattle Company d/b/a Lillian Rodeo Company, Whitehall, Montana has requested approval as an NRA stock contractor. All necessary information has been received by the NRA, including all obligations set forth in the NRA rulebook for stock contractor membership. Boyd McMillan, President of Lillian Rodeo Company, addressed the Board. It was moved and seconded: Lillian Rodeo Company be approved as NRA Stock Contractors. PASSED.

Entry fee scale was discussed. It was moved and seconded: Entry fee scale be used as a guideline, not a requirement, for committees. Information to be sent out with spring committee packet. PASSED.

Equal added money in all events was discussed. Equal added money can be used as a guideline, not a requirement, for committees.

Clarification on Bull Riding Day Money ruling: It was moved and seconded: add to rule A6.5.1: If a contestant turns out of a performance and pays his fees AFTER the day money for his performance has been paid out, day money to be included in overall payoff for the rodeo. PASSED.

Clarification on conflicting rules R.9.1.1 and R.9.1.6. It was moved and seconded: R.9.1.6 was to be replaced by R.9.1.1. PASSED.

Clarification on "extra" animal drawn in the timed events. Some judges "issue" the "extra" from the first draw to the first contestant in the next draw. Proper procedure is not to "issue" animal, but put animal back in draw and redraw.

Discussion concerning Rookie Bareback Riding event.

Discussion concerning local/hometown entries. It was moved and seconded: All contestants competing at an NRA rodeo be members of the Northern Rodeo Association. PASSED. UNANIMOUS. One-rodeo permits are available for \$25 in addition to permits for \$50, and memberships for \$80 and \$100.

One-day NRA rodeos held in conjunction with two or three day NRA rodeos were discussed. It was moved and seconded: Clause in the Central Entry contract allowing contestants to work all NRA sanctioned rodeos in a given weekend or time period be evaluated. PASSED. Findings to be brought to the Board at the February meeting.

Problems with rodeo arenas using overhead pull barriers were discussed. Committees are strongly encouraged to replace the overhead pull barriers with side pull barriers. Item to be included on committee suggestion listing.

Lowering the age requirement in the junior events was discussed. It was moved and seconded: Junior age requirement be evaluated. PASSED. To be discussed at the February meeting.

Rule A.6.5.8 "When less than the number of contestants place in an event than the proper payoff for that event..." was addressed. It was moved and seconded: Add to rule A.6.5.8: Contestant will receive official points only for the proper payoff percentage for placing received. PASSED. To be voted on and discussed at February meeting.

Meeting adjourned.

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Member 1995? NO Card Number _____

New members: Are you eligible for rookie awards? _____

From official rule book of Northern Rodeo Association: "M.2.1.4. Rookie qualifications are as follows: First year of competition in NRA rodeo, and the member may not have won over \$500 in organized professional or regional rodeo competition during their lifetime prior to joining the NRA."

Circle Membership Category for which you are applying

CONTESTING MEMBERSHIP \$80 as of May 1 \$100 there after.	JUNIOR MEMBERSHIP \$25 (14 years and under by Jan. 1)	NRA PERMIT \$50 RODEO (\$500 money won limit)	HIGH SCHOOL RODEO ASSOCIATION MEMBERS \$40 till May 1 then \$50 High School card #	NON-CONTESTING CONTRACT PESONNEL \$25 Timers \$50 Others	ONE-RODEO PERMIT \$25
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ENCLOSED IS AN ADDITIONAL \$20 FOR MY LUCKY INSTANT RANCHER SWEEPSTAKES TICKET

MEMBERSHIP: Entitles purchaser to work all sanctioned rodeos without restrictions, to share all advantages of a member in good standing including such items as a guarantee to your entry fee; check writing privileges after the first year initiation period; and a subscription to the nesletter.

PERMITS: Entitles purchaser to work all sanctioned rodeos accepting permits as listed in newsletter untio \$500 is won. After \$500 money limit is won by permit holder, a card must be purchased, the price of card to be the dollar difference between the cost of a permit and the cost of the card. Permit holder's points will be credited to the year-end standing, however, the contestant must be a card holder to compete at the NRA Finals. The \$500 money limit will be accumulated from year to year, allowing the contestant to purchase a permit each year until the \$500 is won. A card holder the previous year cannot purchase a permit the following year.

A CONTESTANT COMPETING IN BOTH ADULT AND JUNIOR EVENTS MUST HOLD BOTH A JUNIOR AND ADULT MEMBERSHIP

Both sides of application must be completed to quarrantee processing of membership application.

RELEASE AND AGREEMENT NOT TO SUE

In consideration of being allowed to participate in Northern Rodeo Association sanctioned events and membership in the Association, I and my heirs, successors, personal representatives and next of kin, hereby **RELEASE, WAIVE, DISCHARGE** and agree to **HOLD HARMLESS AND INDEMNIFY** the Northern Rodeo Association, the rodeo committees, stock contractors, sponsors, arena operations or owners, their agents, representatives (collectively referred to as the NRA) from all liability to me and my personal representatives, heirs, successors, and next of kin from and all claims and liability for all loss of damage, and any claim of damages therefore on account of any injury to my person including death or damage to my property while I am utilizing NRA facilities or participating in NRA events.

I, hereby represent to the NRA that I understand that **THERE ARE CERTAIN RISKS OF SERIOUS INJURY AND DEATH** inherent in participating in rodeo events and any related activities. I realize conditions of the rodeo arena change from time to time and may become more hazardous, that rodeo animals are dangerous and unpredictable and there is **INHERENT DANGER** in rodeo which I appreciate and voluntarily assume because I choose to participate in such events. I make this choice even though I have observed or participated in events of this kind in the past and know conditions, facilities, rodeo animals, and other rodeo contestants and participants pose a danger to me. I recognize and expressly agree to assume the entire risk of any and all accidents or personal injury including serious paralysis or death which I might suffer during my participation in said events.

I further **COVENANT AND AGREE NOT TO SUE THE NRA** for any injury, damages or death which occur as a result of my participation in said events and any claim or damage therefore. I understand that this document may be treated as a complete defense to any legal action I might bring against the NRA for any injuries or other damages I might suffer.

I understand and agree this **RELEASE AND AGREEMENT NOT TO SUE** extends to any and all claims I may have, specially including but not limited to, claims arising out of participation in said events, claims with respect to the design, manufacture, repair, or maintenance of the facilities or equipment which I will be using, or with respect to the conditions, qualification, instructions, rules or procedures under which my use of said facilities or equipment are conducted or from any other cause.

I **UNDERSTAND AND AGREE THIS RELEASE AND AGREEMENT NOT TO SUE** extends to **ACCIDENT, INJURY, OR DEATH OCCURRING DURING THE TERM OF MY MEMBERSHIP IN THE NRA**. Any subsequent Releases and agreement I might sign in the future shall amplify, but shall in no way limit, the provisions of this document.

I further state and certify that I have carefully read the foregoing Release, know the contents thereof and sign this Release and Agreement Not to Sue as a free and voluntary act. I am not relying on any statements of representations of any party released hereby. I **UNDERSTAND THIS IS A RELEASE OF ALL CLAIMS**.

Dated this _____ day of _____, 199_____

Member _____

(Your signature must be notarized)

(Parent or legal guardian must sign if applicant is a minor under the law of the state of residence and/ or a High School Rodeo Association Member.)

I declare that I am a parent or legal guardian of the above named minor. I have carefully read the foregoing Release and Agreement Not to Sue. I know the representations made are true. I agree to be bound by the terms of the Release and Agreement Not to Sue both personally and as representative of the interests of the minor.

Signature _____ Date _____

Signature _____ Date _____

State of _____)

County of _____) ss

On this _____ day of _____, 199_____, before me the undersigned, a Notary Public in and for the State of _____, personally appeared _____ known to me to be this person whose name is subscribed to the within instrument, and acknowledged to me that he/she executed the same.

In witness whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed my official seal the day and year first above written.

Notary Public for the state of _____

Residing at _____

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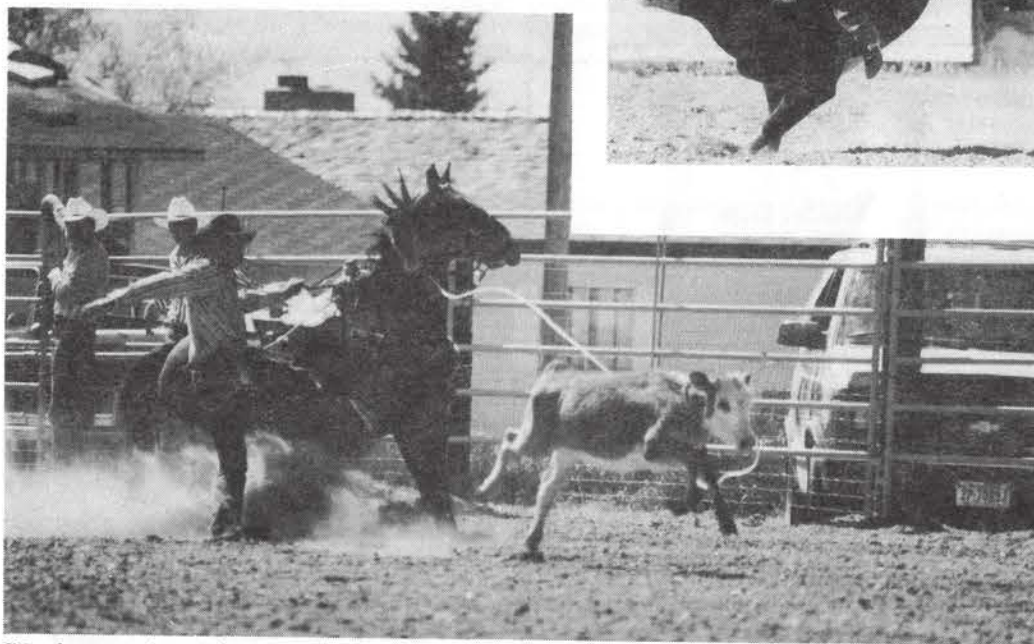


Labor Day action at Meager County Rodeo



NRA bareback riding finalist Travis Twitchell of Jordan has earned \$2,376.00 riding bareback horses this year in the NRA. Shown here aboard Newman Rodeo Company's Rocky Travis failed to earn a paycheck. Penny Clark photo.

Currently ranked 4th in the standings Big Timber bull rider Monte Finn rides Newman Rodeo Company's #N2 Weed Creek. Bull was marked 36 • Monte 0. WSS hosted 69 bull riders, both NRA and rookie, during the three day event. Penny Clark photo.



St. Xavier cowboy Tim Moullett's calf roping run of 13.00 won him \$265.00 at this years WSS Rodeo. Penny Clark photo.

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Future NRA Bullriding Finalist Justin Woodward is have a word with clown Flint Rasmussen. See lots of kids, cowboys and clowns at this years NRA Finals Feb 2-4.

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