

January 9, 2006

## Editors Note

There will not be a news release on Monday, Jan. 16 due to the Martin Luther King Jr. holiday. Next week's release will come out on Tuesday, Jan. 17

## Next Up

- 1/12-14 Dodge First Frontier Circuit Finals  
Harrisburg, Pa.
- 1/13-15 Dodge Montana Circuit Finals  
Great Falls, Mont.
- 1/14-15 Dodge California Circuit Finals  
Norco, Calif.
- 1/14 Wrangler ProRodeo Tour round,  
Odessa, Texas
- 1/20-22 Dodge Turquoise Circuit Finals  
Lake Havasu City, Ariz.
- 1/22 Wrangler ProRodeo Tour round,  
Denver

## ProRodeo Leaders

New world standings will not come out until next week due to the lack of rodeos completed for the 2006 rodeo season.

## Wrangler ProRodeo Tour gets underway with SandHills Stock Show & Rodeo

COLORADO SPRINGS, Colo. - The 2006 edition of the Wrangler ProRodeo Winter Tour makes its first stop this Saturday, Jan. 14, with the SandHills Stock Show and Rodeo in Odessa, Texas, a new stop on the 2006 Tour.

The first of 12-Tour stops, the SandHills Stock Show and Rodeo will feature the best in ProRodeo competing for Tour points to qualify for the Pace Picante ProRodeo Chute-out, May 13-14 in Tulsa, Okla. The top 12 in each event following the 12th and final Tour stop in Guymon, Okla., on May 7 will qualify for this prestigious event.

Each regular Tour stop is the final round of one of the top rodeos in the country. Contestants earn Tour points based on his/her performance at the Tour rodeos.

The SandHills Stock Show and Rodeo, which ranked 16th among all PRCA rodeos in 2005 based on total prize money, is making its first appearance on the Tour. In 2005, the rodeo had a total purse of \$297,085. This

year it replaces RodeoHouston on the Wrangler ProRodeo Tour.

This year's event is being dedicated to Karen and Harry Vold of the Vold Rodeo Company. 2006 is the 40th consecutive year that the Vold Rodeo Company has provided top-notch livestock. The SandHills Rodeo Committee has worked with the Vold's through the years with no contract other than a handshake and Harry's word. This is a testament to the character and integrity of these two legends of professional rodeo.

The event which started on Jan. 5 will conclude with the Wrangler Tour round on Jan. 14 at 7:30 p.m. CT at the Ector County arena.

The second stop on the Wrangler ProRodeo Tour will be the National Western Stock Show and Rodeo in Denver. It is celebrating its 100th anniversary this year and the Wrangler Tour round is scheduled for Sunday, Jan. 22 at 2 p.m. MT.

## Brazile starts new year with a bang, winning three titles at the Dodge Texas Circuit Finals

WACO, Texas - Three-time all-around world champion Trevor Brazile got his New Year started off with a bang, winning the tie-down and steer roping average titles as well as the circuit all-around title at the annual Dodge Texas Circuit Finals in Waco, Jan. 5-7.

Brazile, of Decatur, Texas, faced some stiff competition in both the tie-down roping and steer roping events with seven-time and reigning tie-down roping champion Fred Whitfield and 18-time world champion steer roper Guy Allen in the mix.

Whitfield, of Hockley, Texas, won the first round with a quick time of 8.3 seconds, while Brazile finished second with a 9.0-second run. In the second round, Brazile finished in a

three-way tie for second place with Cash Myers and Scott Kormos, who turned in runs of 8.6 seconds.

The third round put Brazile on top with the fastest run of the event. He stopped the clock in 7.8 seconds to take home the average title with a total time of 25.4 seconds on three head. Justin Macha of Needville, Texas, was second with a time of 26.4.

On the steer roping front, Brazile finished second in the first round with an 11.0-second run behind "The Legend" Guy Allen, who turned in a run of 10.7 seconds. In the second round, Brazile finished fourth with a

*Continued on Page 2*

## What's Inside

2005 World Champions Exhibit . . . . .	2	Dodge Wilderness Circuit Finals . . . . .	3
Rodeo News and Notes . . . . .	2	World Standings . . . . .	4

### ▶ Road to Pocatello continues.

Qualification for the 2006 Dodge National Circuit Finals Rodeo (DNCFR) continues this weekend with three circuit finals rodeos that are filling the roster of contestants who will compete in Pocatello, Idaho, March 15-18.

To qualify for the DNCFR a contestant must win either the year-end circuit award or the average title at the Dodge Circuit Finals. The year-end winner is the one who has collected the most money in their event during the year, while the average champion is solely based on their performance at the circuit finals. Each circuit will send two contestants from each event to Pocatello for a total of 16 from each circuit. Each event at the DNCFR will feature 24 contestants in each event representing all 12 circuits.

The 2006 DNCFR winners will get an added bonus because the PRCA Board of Directors approved a change. Winners will now receive automatic bids as the 13th contestant into the Tour Finales and will also be seeded into limited-entry rodeos between March and November.

The Dodge First Frontier Circuit Finals will take place in Harrisburg, Pa., Jan. 12-14, the Dodge Montana Circuit Finals Rodeo, Jan. 13-15, in Great Falls, Mont., and the Dodge California Circuit Finals Rodeo, Jan. 14-15, in Norco, Calif. The remaining circuit final, the Dodge Turquoise Circuit Finals, will take place Jan. 20-22, in Lake Havasu City, Ariz.

### ▶ 32nd Cowboy Downhill in Steamboat Springs, Colo.

Present and former rodeo champions from across North America will converge on Steamboat Springs, Colo., on Jan. 17 for the 32nd Annual Cowboy Downhill. Year after year, generations return to the Headwall Trail at the base of the ski area to experience Steamboat's own wild-West cowboy action, the most unique ski rodeo in the world.

Each year, the Cowboy Downhill makes a generous donation to The Justin Cowboy Crisis Fund, created in 1989 to provide financial support for cowboys and cowgirls unable to compete due to injuries sustained while competing in or traveling to or from rodeo competitions. Since its inception, the Fund has provided nearly \$3.8 million in assistance.

The Cowboy Downhill coincides with the 100th National Western Stock Show and Rodeo in Denver, Jan. 7-22. The downhill events begin with the dual slalom race at 1:30 p.m. on Headwall. After negotiating the slalom course, the cowboys must lasso a person, saddle a horse and cross the finish line in the fastest time and all in one piece. The grand finale of the Cowboy Downhill is a chaotic western Stampede on skis. The Stampede, utilizing a mass start, pits cowboy against cowboy in a winner-take-all race down Headwall. The greatest challenge is avoiding the hundreds of cowboys hurtling down the hill in hot pursuit of the title.

# 2005 World Champions Exhibit Opening set for Tuesday

COLORADO SPRINGS, Colo. - The 2005 World Champions Hall of Fame exhibit will officially be unveiled on Tuesday, Jan. 10 in Colorado Springs, Colo. ProRodeo Hall of Fame announcer Hadley Barrett of Kersey, Colo., will serve as the emcee.

The 2005 World Champions will be presented their gold buckles with their names engraved, a highlight video will run with each champion featured and the new exhibit with the 10 world champions will be unveiled. Each year the world champions are honored with a special exhibit in the ProRodeo Hall of Fame that remains up for that year.

The 2005 World Champions to be honored are all-around champion Ryan Jarrett (Summerville, Ga.); bareback rider Will Lowe (Canyon, Texas); steer wrestler Lee Graves (Calgary, Alberta); team roping Clay Tryan (Billings, Mont.)/Patrick Smith (Midland, Texas)\*, saddle bronc rider Jeffery Willert (Belvidere, S.D.); tie-down roper Fred Whitfield (Hockley,

Texas); barrel racer Kelly Kaminski (Bellville, Texas); bull rider Matt Austin (Wills Point, Texas); and steer roper Scott Snedecor (Uvalde, Texas).\*

Country music band Ricochet will perform prior to and after the ceremony. Ricochet consists of five singing musicians whose distinctive harmonies have earned them recognition as one of the most popular vocal groups in country music. They won the Academy of Country Music award for Top New Vocal Group in 1996 and have been a popular country band ever since. Mo Bandy will also be on hand to entertain the crowd along with other special guests.

General admission prices to the ProRodeo Hall of Fame will apply for this special event. Media interested in covering this event should contact Ann Bleiker (719) 528-4746.

\*will be unable to attend due to a scheduling conflict

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## Texas Circuit, from Page 1

12.4-second run and tied for second with Dan Fisher in the third and final round with a run of 10.5 seconds. Brazile captured the average title with a total of 33.9 seconds on three head, edging out 2005 World Champion Scott Snedecor, who finished with a time of 35.0 seconds.

"This is a good way to start the New Year," said Brazile, who collected his first career tie-down roping circuit title. "I feel great. I've been roping a lot and all my horses are working good, so I'm really pleased with things."

Bareback rider Wes Stevenson also got his 2006 season off to a good start, winning the average title and a trip to the Dodge National Circuit Finals in Pocatello, Idaho, March 15-18.

Stevenson, of Kaufman, Texas, finished with a total of 250 points on three head, just one point ahead of fellow bareback rider Chris Harris. Stevenson rode Classic ProRodeo's Roan Annie for 83 points to finish second in the first round and finished in a tie for fourth in the second round aboard Classic ProRodeo's Touched By An Angel after scoring 78 points. In the third and final round Stevenson found himself in yet another tie, but this time he was tied for first with Harris after turning in an 89-point ride aboard Andrews Rodeo's Roly Poly.

"That's the fourth time I've been on that

horse and the scores have gone up every time," said Stevenson about his final round horse, Roly Poly. "The first time, I think it was in 2000, I scored a 76 on the horse and in 2004 at the Pace Challenge in Omaha (Neb.), I was 84. Last spring in Austin I was 88 and then tonight I was 89. Maybe if I get on a few more times, I can get up there in the 90's."

Full-time firefighter and part-time steer wrestler Craig Cavaness captured the steer wrestling average title with a total time of 15.5 seconds on three head, more than a full second ahead of Chris Bradley, who finished with a 16.9. Cavaness, of Brenham, Texas, works as a firefighter in nearby Houston, but steer wrestles every chance he gets. He won the second round with a 4.1-second run. It was the only round he placed in the money, but his consistent times in each round propelled him to the average victory.

Other average winners at the Dodge Texas Circuit Finals were Shane Durbin, Elsa, Texas/Thomas Zuniga, Kingsville, Texas, team roping, 17.1 seconds on three head; Todd Rangel, Lubbock, Texas, saddle bronc riding, 241 points on three head; Bobbi Wagner, San Angelo, Texas, barrel racing, 48.65 seconds on three runs; and Greg Fuller, Dimmitt, Texas, bull riding, 168 points on two head.

# Robinson goes 3-for-3 en route to Dodge Wilderness Circuit Finals Title

OGDEN, Utah - Clint Robinson dominated the steer wrestling competition at the Dodge Wilderness Circuit Finals held Dec. 29-31 in Ogden, Utah.

Robinson, of Spanish Fork, Utah, went 3-for-3 en route to the average title with a total time of 11.0 seconds on three head. He narrowly won the first round in 4.3 seconds, just one-tick ahead of Ryan Shaw's 4.4-second run.

Robinson widened his lead in the second round, turfing his steer in 3.3 seconds, six-tenths of a second quicker than his closest competitors Tommy Cook and Craig Smith who tied with a 3.9-second run. He finished it off winning the third round with a time of 3.4. Robinson finished 1.2 seconds faster than Craig Smith in the average race to qualify for his second Dodge National Circuit Finals Rodeo. He competed at the 2004 DNCFR in the tie-down roping after winning the circuit's year-end title.

"They had a real good herd of steers there," Robinson said. "I had three pretty good steers and just won all three go-rounds, and it worked out good.

"My game plan was to go in and win every go-round every night, but don't be stupid," he said. "Don't break the barrier or anything, but try to just do what you can do every night."

Robinson also competed in the tie-down roping, finishing fourth in the first round with an 11.5-second run and was third in the third round with a run of 9.0 seconds. He finished third in the average with a total time of 32.7 seconds on three head.

With Robinson's success in both the steer wrestling and tie-down roping, he also collected the all-around title in the Wilderness Circuit. The win marked his third circuit all-around title. His previous titles came in 2002 and 2004.

Saddle bronc rider Cody Wright turned in three stellar performances to walk away with the average title and a trip to Pocatello, Idaho, for the DNCFR in March.

Wright, of Milford, Utah, rode Bar T Rodeo's Bay Rum for 83 points in the first round to finish second behind Wrangler NFR qualifier Rusty Allen, who won the round with an 84 on Bar T Rodeo's Cut Above. Wright got the best of Allen in the second round with an 87 on Bar T Rodeo's Robin's Best to Allen's 83 on Slash T Rodeo's Pay Day. Wright finished in a tie for the top spot in the third round with Shawn Morehead, Allen's traveling partner. Wright rode Slash T Rodeo's Pay Day for 82 points while Morehead matched that score aboard Bar T Rodeo's Cut Above.

Wright finished with 252 points on three head while

Morehead, of Bear River, Utah, had 235 points.

"I wanted to win the average," Wright said. "I had a goal set that I wanted to win so I could go to Pocatello. I wasn't at the top in the money, and there wasn't enough money at the circuit finals, so I knew I didn't have a shot at the year-end (title), but I wanted to ride whatever I got as good as I could."

Allen captured the year-end title and will represent the Wilderness Circuit at the DNCFR.

Other Dodge Wilderness Circuit Finals average winners included Josi Young, Buhl,

Idaho, bareback riding, 242 points on three head; Craig Richens, La Point, Utah/Brad Freeland, West Haven, Utah, team roping, 22.4 seconds on three head; Justin Truman, Huntington, Utah, tie-down roping, 30.5 seconds on three head; Stephanie Jones, Spanish Fork, Utah, barrel racing, 41.87 seconds on three runs; and Sonny Murphy, Herriman, Utah, bull riding, 242 points on three head.

The circuit's year-end winners who also earned a spot at the DNCFR were Cody DeMers, Kimberly, Idaho, bareback riding; Brock Andrus, St. George, Utah, steer wrestling; Logan Olson, Flandreau, S.D./Cody Hintz, Spring Creek, Nev., team roping; Rusty Allen, Lehi, Utah, saddle bronc riding; Nate Baldwin, Rigby, Idaho, tie-down roping; Shana Gibson, Ogden, Utah, barrel racing and Wesley Silcox, Payson, Utah, bull riding.

## Wilderness Circuit Average, Year-end Champions

### Bareback Riding

A: Josi Young, Buhl, Idaho

Y: Cody DeMers, Kimberly, Idaho

### Steer Wrestling

A: Clint Robinson, Spanish Fork, Utah

Y: Brock Andrus, St. George, Utah

### Team Roping

A: Craig Richens (La Point, Utah)/Brad Freeland (West Haven, Utah)

Y: Logan Olson (Flandreau, S.D.)/Cody Hintz (Spring Creek, Nev.)

### Saddle Bronc Riding

A: Cody Wright, Milford, Utah

Y: Rusty Allen, Lehi, Utah

### Tie-Down Roping

A: Justin Truman, Huntington, Utah

Y: Nate Baldwin, Rigby, Idaho

### Barrel Racing

A: Stephanie Jones, Spanish Fork, Utah

Y: Shana Gibson, Ogden, Utah

### Bull Riding

A: Sonny Murphy, Herriman, Utah

Y: Wesley Silcox, Payson, Utah

## Upcoming PRCA rodeos

**California Circuit:** Dodge California National Circuit Finals Rodeo, Jan. 14-15, Norco

**First Frontier Circuit:** Dodge First Frontier National Circuit Finals Rodeo, Jan. 12-14, Harrisburg, Pa.

**Great Lakes Circuit:** 17th Annual Show Me Center Championship Rodeo, Jan. 20-21, Cape Girardeau, Mo.

**Montana Circuit:** Dodge Montana States Circuit Finals, Jan. 13-15, Great Falls

**Mountain States Circuit:** National Western Stock Show & Rodeo, Jan. 7-8, Jan. 12-22, Denver, Colo.

**Prairie Circuit:** Bullnanza, Jan. 13-14, Guthrie, Okla.; Wrangler ProRodeo Classic, Jan. 20-22, Wichita, Kan.

**Southeastern Circuit:** Mid-Winter Fair & Rodeo, Jan. 12-15, Lafayette, La.; Amicus Club PRCA Rodeo, Jan. 20-21, Alexandria, La.; 4th Annual American Pro Rodeo Classic, Jan. 20-21, Lakeland, Fla.; NE Mississippi Championship Rodeo, Jan. 20-21, Tupelo, Ms.

**Texas Circuit:** SandHills Stock Show & Rodeo, Jan. 5-7, Jan. 11-14, Odessa; Division 2 Xtreme Bulls Qualifying Event, Jan. 17 & 18, Fort Worth; Southwestern Exposition and Livestock Show, Jan. 20-Feb. 5, Fort Worth.

**Turquoise Circuit:** Dodge Turquoise Circuit Finals Rodeo, Jan. 20-22, Lake Havasu City, Ariz.