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Editor's Note

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World Standings Note

Due to a computer error, up-to-date ProRodeo Cowboys World Standings were not available at press time. We apologize for any inconveniences.

Tour Standings Note

Updated standings from the Wrangler ProRodeo Tour were not available at press time and will be distributed on Tuesday, April 17.

Next Up

4/20-22	<i>Wrangler ProRodeo Tour</i> Red Bluff, Calif.
4/25-28	<i>Wrangler ProRodeo Tour</i> Corpus Christi, Texas
4/27-29	<i>Dodge Xtreme Bulls Tour</i> Clovis, Calif.

Seeing Red

Tour heads to Northern California

COLORADO SPRINGS, Colo. – The Red Bluff (Calif.) Roundup, entering its 86th year, plays host to the 10th stop on the 21-venue Wrangler ProRodeo Tour this weekend. The annual rodeo begins on Friday, April 20 and culminates with the Wrangler ProRodeo Tour Round on Sunday, April 22.

Cowboys and cowgirls will not only compete for part of a purse that exceeded \$215,000 in 2006, but earnings that apply toward the Wrangler ProRodeo Tour standings and inclusion into the newly formed playoff system later this summer.

This year's Wrangler Tour consists of 21 rodeos through August. Contestants can choose 15 out of the 21 rodeos to count toward their official Tour Rodeo count. At the conclusion of the 21st rodeo, the top 35 contestants in total Tour money and the "wild card," event champions from the Dodge National Circuit Finals Rodeo, will move on to the first Tour Championship event Aug. 14-18 in Caldwell, Idaho. From there, the field will be trimmed to a single champion after the

three subsequent playoff events in Puyallup, Wash.; Omaha, Neb.; and Dallas. Fox Sports Network and CBS are scheduled to televise the Championship events.

Red Bluff, a venue on the Wrangler Tour since its inception in 2000, is located some 130 miles north of Sacramento, California's capital city.

Last year, California bull rider Bobby Waller of Quail Valley picked up his first Wrangler ProRodeo Tour victory in Red Bluff with a 92-point ride in the Tour Round, good for the average title and \$3,558.

Other average champions from the 2006 Red Bluff Roundup were bareback rider Rowdy Buechner of Sandpoint, Idaho; steer wrestler Levi Wisness of Keene, N.D.; team ropers Trevor Brazile of Decatur, Texas/Rich Skelton of Llano, Texas, and Nelson Linares of Plant City, Fla./Travis Woodard of Stockton, Calif.; saddle bronc rider Rusty Allen of Lehi, Utah; tie-down roper Jerrad Hofstetter of Athens, Texas; and barrel racer Lindsay Sears of Nanton, Alberta.

Daily double

Brazile leads champs in San Francisco, Logandale

COLORADO SPRINGS, Colo. – Just another weekend at the office for Trevor Brazile.

Brazile, the four-time and reigning world champion all-around cowboy, was the high-dollar winner at both Wrangler Tour rodeos over the weekend at the Grand National Rodeo in San Francisco and the Clark County Fair and Rodeo in Logandale, Nev. Combined, Brazile of Decatur, Texas, bagged \$15,502 and further staked his claim as the cowboy to beat in 2007.

In San Francisco, Brazile shared the Wrangler Tour-Round title with Blair Burk of

Durant, Okla., with identical times of 7.6 seconds and claimed the average title outright with a total time of 24.6 seconds on three head. In team roping, Brazile and partner Patrick Smith of Midland, Texas, finished second in the final average standings.

In Logandale, Brazile and Smith won a round of team roping, while Brazile later finished second in the tie-down roping average to Matt Shiozawa of Chubbuck, Idaho.

This year's Wrangler ProRodeo Tour

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Rodeo News and Notes

► **Oakes wins Laughlin Xtreme Bulls title.** (*Special*) To say that watching Zack Oakes ride bulls is painful would be an insult to the two-time Wrangler NFR qualifier. But if you're aware of the injuries the Tonsaket, Wash., cowboy is riding with, you couldn't help but wince at every jump, spin and kick his bull makes.

Oakes, who won the Laughlin, Nev., stop of the *Dodge Xtreme Bulls Tour* presented by B&W Trailer Hitches with a grand total of 258.5 points on three bulls for \$9,926, rode with torn groin and mysterious hip injury that required popping his leg back into his hip socket before riding. Oakes broke his pelvis last season and, while on the bubble for a Wrangler NFR qualification, rode with the injury only to wind up 20th in the world standings.

"I'm not sure where to start," Oakes said of his injuries. "Everything is kind of hurting: the groin that I tore apart last year and the hip that I broke. Pretty much the bottom half of me is sore all the time."

Oakes didn't let it stop him, though. With the two-day, two rounds and short format of the Laughlin Xtreme Bulls stop, he knew there'd be plenty of chances at money.

"I haven't really found it sore enough to stay home, but I can really pick and choose the rodeos that I go to," he said. "These kind of events you have to swallow the pain down. With the kind of money that they pay, they're kind of hard to miss."

In the first round, Oakes finished eighth with 84 points. In the second round, on Sunday, he drew Broken Arrow's Chico for 84 points. After the ride, he sought out the Justin SportsMedicine team to examine his hip. They advised him not to ride, but popped his leg back into place nonetheless.

Oakes, ignoring the doctors' advice, rode Southwick and Robertson's White Chocolate for 88.5 points and all the other cowboys who had qualified on two rides bucked off, making him the only cowboy to ride all three bulls. A fact made even more impressive considering his injury.

► **Branquinho sets arena record with 2.7.** First, the scoreboard stopped at 4.0 seconds. Then, it went down to 3.0. After the announcer yelled 2.7, Luke Branquinho, the 2004 world steer wrestling champion, knew he had become part of Grand National Rodeo history.

"That's a once-in-a-lifetime deal," said Branquinho. "Yeah, that really happened. The start has to be pretty quick, and my hazer (Billy Bugenig) knows how I like my steer set up. There are so many variables. For some reason, they all just aligned for me."

Branquinho, who recorded the historic run on Easter Sunday (April 8) during slack at the legendary San Francisco rodeo, set the arena record and also turned in a personal best.

"My fastest before this was a 3.0 in Nampa (Idaho)," Branquinho said. "It was slack, but I had quite a few witnesses. Lots of team ropers and calf ropers saw it, and all the bulldoggers who were there, too. I've got it on video, too."

WRANGLER TOUR, from Page 1

consists of 21 rodeos from January to August. Contestants will choose 15 out of the 21 rodeos to count toward their official Tour Rodeo count and will compete for money this year versus points as in years past.

At the conclusion of the 21st rodeo, the top 35 contestants in total Tour money and the "wild card," event champions from the Dodge National Circuit Finals Rodeo, will move on to the first Tour Championship event, July 14-18 in Caldwell, Idaho. Fox Sports Network and CBS are scheduled to televise all four Championship events.

Other average champions in San Francisco were bareback rider Jason Havens of Prineville, Ore., 169 points on three head, \$5,865; steer wrestler Clayton Hass of Terrell, Texas, 12.2 seconds on three head, \$4,238; team ropers David Key of Caldwell, Texas/Kory Koontz of Sudan, Texas, 15.5 seconds on three head, \$3,226 each; saddle bronc rider Dusty Hausauer of Dickinson, N.D., 167 points on two head, \$7,431; bull rider Dave Samsel of Haslet, Texas, 171 points on two head, \$5,431; and barrel racer Sabra O'Quinn of Ocala, Fla., 49.08 seconds on three runs, \$5,568.

Brazile wasn't the only champion to take top honors in Logandale. Bareback rider and 2004 world champion Kelly Timberman of Mills, Wyo., finished at the top after two rides, scoring 170 points and earning \$4,594 in the process. Team ropers Jake Barnes and Clay O'Brien Cooper, who combined for seven world team roping titles, claimed the Logandale title with a total time of 25.5 seconds on three head.

Shiozawa and saddle bronc rider Jesse Bail of Camp Crook, S.D., swept to Wrangler Tour-Round and average titles at the Clark County Fair and Rodeo, which concluded April 15. For Shiozawa, who roped four calves in 35.7 seconds, it was a homecoming of sorts after growing up and attending high school in nearby Moapa. Bail rode two horses for 171 points to finish on top of the saddle bronc riding standings.

Other average champions in Logandale were steer wrestler Todd Suhn of North Platte, Neb., 19.6 seconds on four head, \$6,706; bull riders JayC Bean of Goldendale, Wash., and Marcus Michaelis of Caldwell, Idaho, 166 points on two head, \$3,755 and \$5,280, respectively; and barrel racer Sheri Sinor Estrada of Alamogordo, N.M., 70.19 seconds on four runs, \$3,537.

Grand National Rodeo Tour, Average Champions

Bareback Riding

T: Steven Anding (Crossroads, Texas), 87 points
A: Jason Havens (Prineville, Ore.), 169 points on three head, \$5,865

Steer Wrestling

T: (tie) Blake Knowles (Heppner, Ore.) and Clayton Hass (Terrell, Texas), 4.3 seconds
A: Hass, 12.2 seconds on three head, \$4,238

Team Roping

T: Daniel Green (Oakdale, Calif.)/Todd Hampton (Chowchilla, Calif.), 4.3 seconds
A: David Key (Caldwell, Texas)/Kory Koontz (Sudan, Texas), 15.5 seconds on three head, \$3,226 each

Saddle Bronc Riding

T: Taos Muncy (Cedarvale, N.M.), 87 points
A: Dusty Hausauer (Dickinson, N.D.), 167 points on two head, \$7,431

Tie-Down Roping

T: (tie) Blair Burk (Durant, Okla.) and Trevor Brazile (Decatur, Texas), 7.6 seconds
A: Brazile, 24.6 seconds on three head, \$5,686

Barrel Racing

T: Deb Renger (Okotoks, Alberta), 16.43 seconds
A: Sabra O'Quinn (Ocala, Fla.), 49.08 seconds on three runs, \$5,568

Bull Riding

T: Dave Samsel (Haslet, Texas), 88 points
A: Samsel, 171 points on two head, \$5,431

Clark County Fair and Rodeo Tour, Average Champions

Bareback Riding

T: Chip Dees IV (Philadelphia, Miss.), 87 points
A: Kelly Timberman (Mills, Wyo.), 170 points on two head, \$4,594

Steer Wrestling

T: (tie) Wade Sumpter (Fowler, Colo.) and Todd Suhn (North Platte, Neb.), 4.0 seconds
A: Suhn, 19.6 seconds on four head, \$6,706

Team Roping

T: Jon Stafford (Nampa, Idaho)/Jade Anderson (Goshen, Utah), 6.0 seconds
A: Jake Barnes (Scottsdale, Ariz.)/Clay O'Brien Cooper (Morgan Mill, Texas), 25.5 seconds on three head, \$5,586 each

Saddle Bronc Riding

T: Jesse Bail (Camp Crook, S.D.), 87 points
A: Bail, 171 points on two head, \$5,895

Tie-Down Roping

T: Matt Shiozawa (Chubuck, Idaho), 9.0 seconds
A: Shiozawa, 35.7 seconds on four head, \$6,016

Barrel Racing

T: Sheri Sinor Estrada (Alamogordo, N.M.), 17.35 seconds
A: Estrada, 70.19 seconds on four runs, \$3,537

Bull Riding

T: JayC Bean (Goldendale, Wash.), 84 points
A: (tie) Bean and Marcus Michaelis (Caldwell, Idaho), 166 points on two head, \$3,755 and \$5,280, respectively