

## Casey Deary Earns Second NRBC Open Championship on Down Right Amazing



Casey Deary came out swinging on Saturday night at the NRBC Open Classic Finals. First, as draw 5, he put up a 227 on Ten Thirty owned by Rancho El Fortin. Then came DAG Ventures LLC-owned stallion Down Right Amazing (Gunner x Shesouttaylorleague) at draw 17. The duo motored to a crowd-pleasing 230 score that

stood for the remainder of the 31-horse Final field to earn the Open Classic Champion title.

“That horse is a star and has shown up every time I’ve called on him,” Deary said of the horse called “Amazing.” “I knew he was going to do his job if he had the ability to do it. Obviously, there are

a lot of really great horses in there. I just have to give mine the best opportunity.”

It’s been a year of opportunities for Deary and Amazing. The pair qualified in the top five NRHA earners for 2022 to make a run at the American Performance Horseman in Arlington, Texas, where

they won with a 231.5. Then, all eyes turned to the NRBC.

“I think the American was its own unique event and we had so much fun. To come here, it was the reality that we were at the NRBC where it is competitive with amazing horses, amazing riders and amazing competitors, and the reality of that has kept me grounded,” said Debbie Good, owner.

A 225 in the preliminary should have been a shoe-in, but with the deep NRBC field, Deary qualified the horse in the 23rd hole. Understanding that the competition was tougher than ever, he made a plan for the Finals.

“This is a big arena and I knew it would be a tough horse show,” Deary said. “I went as fast as he was comfortable going. He turned around really good for me and let me put him exactly where I needed to be. He let me circle him as good as I’ve ever circled him—he went fast and slow and stayed between the bridle reins. I could tell that after I circled him, he was running out of gas running and stopping.”

But, Amazing had enough for the five judges—Ed Bricker, Van Luse, Robert LaPorta, Bob Kail and Margaret Fuchs—to credit him with a 230. The high score earned \$100,000 and the use of the Twin Cities Trailers Gooseneck trailer for one year. It is Deary’s second NRBC Open Classic L4 title, the first being in 2020 when the show was also held in Tulsa during COVID.

“The scores [in the preliminary round] was just phenomenal. This whole entire week has been phenomenal and to see it for an entire



week, the Open and the Non Pro, has been exceptional,” said Good. “I’m very excited, grateful, thankful and blessed. He’s an amazing animal. Coming off the American, that was a pretty big show for him and he’s held up. Like Michael Jordan, he’s a top athlete and we’ve been doing our best to take care of him.”

When the Deary crew returns to Weatherford, Texas, Down Right Amazing will get some time off and also enter the breeding shed. One thing is for sure, right now, all eyes are on Las Vegas where Down

Right Amazing qualified Deary to compete. It will be another family affair for Deary Performance Horses.

“I want to thank my wife, my biggest cheerleader. She’s taught all my children the exciting cheers, like “shake it off dad!” I wouldn’t and couldn’t do it without her,” Deary said. “I have the best set of customers anyone could have; they’re all happy and happy when one of their friends wins it if they don’t. It is a big family event for us.”

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## Making His Own Way: Luca Fappani & Dream On Whiz Take Level 2 and 3 Open Classic Championship

The last minute decision for Luca Fappani to show Dream On Whiz paid off in the NRBC Open Classic Level 1 and 2 Finals. The the Magnum Chic Dream gelding out of Ms Sassy Whiz marked a 226.5. The duo added a total of \$60,000 combining money earned in both levels, \$20,000 in Level 2 and \$40,000 in Level 3.

“It is Joetta Bell’s horse and she offered him to me to show right before the NRBC. I rode him five times before the show, and a couple times here at the NRBC, then went and showed,” Fappani said.

Fappani took a break from showing for a year, then after he completed high school went to work for Corey Cushing, where he says he learned a lot about how a horse’s mind worked, and the way horses learn in general. The knowledge is something he carries over to how he trains and rides his show horses now at Casey Deary’s, who he has worked for since January 2023.

“I feel like such a better rider since I graduated high school. Adding to what I learned at Corey’s, and from my dad my whole life, and now [learning from] Casey,” Fappani said. “I’m feeling really confident in how my horses are starting to feel.”

While Fappani was worried about how the gelding would respond to the noise, pressure and crowd, he says he warmed up the same and



showed the exact same as he did in the preliminaries.

“He is a broke horse. His owner, Joetta, does a great job of riding him at home and she has had a lot of success with him,” he said. “I just hopped on and I put on some little things I thought would help. He is such a talented horse; he is a great stopper, great circler, and he is just so talented and so simple. He does exactly what you tell him to do, he felt just right.”

When comparing the Non Pro competition to now competing in

the Open, Fappani says the horses are at a higher level but the competition isn’t much different. There are so many good Non Pros that do a great job in training their horses, he says, but it is more special to him to have the opportunity to compete with big names he has grown up with and watched for so long.

“I thank the Bell’s, and Casey Deary for mounting me, and to my girlfriend, Payton, for keeping me going the entire show,” he said. “She got my horses ready, helped me ride, band, tails, everything.

# DEARY



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She has done so much and the whole barn here is so supportive and every single non pro client, assistant, they've all been there for me through the whole show. It has been long, there's been a lot of horses, we put a lot of runs together, but it's been great."

**Raphael Bourdeau and Woodo Thatyoudo Claim Open Classic Level 1**

Since showing in local shows at the age of 10 years old, Canadian native Raphael Bourdeau always dreamed of being in the United States to compete with the "big dogs."

Bourdeau has been training with Dany Tremblay since his start here in the U.S. 8 years ago, saying he just wanted to learn a good training program.

The horse Bourdeau piloted to the win is Voodoo Thatyoudo by Shiners Voodoo Dr and out of Always Gotyer Gunsup. The duo add \$7,500 to their lifetime earnings.

"This win feels good, this win feels very special to me," he said. "I am from Canada and my dream is to be here and to compete against all these guys and be in the U.S. and be here at these events, so it is like a dream."

When asked about how the horse is to show, he emphasized how big of a stopper and how great of a circler and turner the gelding is. The horse is the same every day, and the plan for Bourdeau was to stay away from the penalties.

"It was good to show here, it is a very big arena, and he is a horse

that can circle really hard, so it was a good arena for him to show his circles," Bourdeau said. "I could run him real hard, and he is easy to prepare, he is pretty simple."

Bourdeau doesn't know what is next for the 2018 gelding, it is up to the owner Christy Trautman, but he is sure to have some time off.

He thanks Dany and Fred Tremblay and all the team members and customers at Tremblay Performance Horses for their support.

**Prime Time Open: Shawn Florida & Alpha Jack Sparrow Take Flight**

Seven Million Dollar Man Shawn Florida can add another title to the long, long list on his résumé—Level 4 Prime Time Open Champion at the 2023 NRBC.

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green, piloted Alpha Jack Sparrow (Spooks Gotta Whiz x Chexinici), bred by Alpha Quarter Horses LLC, owned by Fritz Leeman and Sam Flarida, Cody Flarida, and Katsy Flarida, to a 227.5 for the win.

The big, bay horse is no stranger to Flarida's show string. He's ridden Alpha Jack Sparrow to an NRHA Futurity finals berth, and won the \$40,000 Tamarach Ranch Reiners Open 4- and 5-Year-Old Stakes, and also rode the stallion in the American Performance Horseman event.

"I've been around him since he was a 2-year-old, Katsy rode him a lot and I then I got him as a 3-year-old and made the NRHA Futurity Finals on him," Flarida said. "He's been a very good horse, really consistent so far."

The NRHA Hall of Fame rider pushed the stallion to a 228 in the preliminary to make the Level 4 Finals, and the Prime Time Open Finals. It took a 224.5 to land a spot in the L4 Finals.

"As a competitor, you look up and think, 'My God I gotta go be good!' You have to do your job and the horse does his job," he said. "Wow, look where our sport is going! Look where we can go and where we came from, and credit to the horses and the trainers, and breeders. I have been doing this a long time and I could not be more proud of our sport."

As draw 20, Flarida was able to watch three sets of horses run, including the eventual Champion Casey Deary mark a 230 two runs prior. However, he and the horse kept their cool.

"He is moving fast and he's such a big horse, and big-strided, that he does go faster than some other horses I've shown," said Flarida, of Springfield, Ohio. "He is so big and powerful that when he makes a move, it is



unique. Tonight was one of the first nights that I got him to run through the gate and get that first stop. Then, he circled good to the right and his circles to the left could have been better, and his big deal is that he can run and stop. He is so strong. The arena fit him and the ground fit him, this was his night."

While Flarida enjoyed traveling to the NRBC in Katy, Texas, and accumu-

lated four NRBC Open Champion titles doing so, he likes the move to Tulsa, Oklahoma. "They do a great job putting on the horse show and the ground is always really, really good," he said. "It was the right move—more people, more money. The competition is off the charts, and I enjoy that."





# Top 10 Sire Awards Final Standings

- 1- Gunnatrashya - \$327,708
- 2- Spooks Gotta Whiz - \$205,811
- 3- Gunner - \$141,164
- 4- Magnum Chic Dream - \$97,852
- 5- SG Frozen Enterprize - \$71,609
- 6- Wimpys Little Step - \$58,409
- 7- Whizkey N Diamonds - \$57,173
- 8- Shiners Voodoo Dr - \$46,439
- 9- Platinum Vintage - \$39,907
- 10- Not Ruf At All - \$37,718



# Congratulations to Friday's Ancillary Winners!

## **Short Stirrup High Point Champion Sebastian Cervantes & SGC High Stage Whiz**

Aboard SGC High Stage Whiz (Walla Walla Whiz x Mark Of Cita), Sebastian Cervantes earned his first buckle, ever, in reining at the NRBC by taking the Short Stirrup High Point.

In Slate 1, Sebastian and "Julien" placed first, and in Slate 2, the pair's 72.5 score finished second.

"I like when he goes fast on the stops and he has good circles," Sebastian said.

For day two, Sebastian came in with a strong plan. He and Julien, owned by Cervantes Performance Horses LLC, had another consistent go.

"The stops [today] were good and my small circle to the right was good with the speed [change]," he said. "I make a plan and try to do it the same every day I show. On the spins, I wanted to keep him on the middle and on the stops, I wanted to go past the middle."

Though a little disappointed he didn't have the day's high score, Sebastian was all smiles holding his first buckle. Skyline Vaquero Silversmiths created the High Point award at the NRBC.

"My parents and my horse, thank you," he said.



## **Short Stirrup (2) Champion Joy Deary & Chics Love Me Wimpy**

Riding Chics Love Me Wimpy (Wimpys Little Step x Dream About Magic), Joy Deary marked a 74 to win the Short Stirrup Slate 2 in the Ranger Arena at the NRBC. She and the DAG Ventures LLC-owned gelding were 1.5 points higher than second place.

Joy shares the gelding with his owner, Debbie Good, says her mom, Nicole Deary.

"Debbie offered to share with Joy for the Short Stirrup, and Debbie shows him in the Limited Non Pro and Prime Time Non Pro," Deary said. "Debbie also offered to let Joy try the Rookie classes, and Joy qualified for the Rookie [at The] Run For A Million."

Though Joy didn't show him in Slate 1 she and the gelding were dialed in for the Saturday morning



class.

"He is really kind, and he does good circles, spins and pretty much everything," said Joy. "I'll show him at Derby and at The Run For A Million, whatever is good for Ms. Debbie."

## **Youth 13 & Under (2) Champion Lilly Walters & Lady Gotta Gun**

Lilly Walters and the "family horse," Lady Gotta Gun (Spooks Gotta Gun x Ms Kiper Nic), owned by Diamond Dub Quarter Horses, marked a 72.5 to take first place for the Youth 13 & Under Slate 2 here at the NRBC.

"My mom rode her then my dad rode her and now I'm riding her, so she is like a family horse," Lilly said.

Lilly has been riding the mare for a year now and says her strongest point is the circles. At first, the Youth rider needed to figure out the mare's stops, however, every-



thing else seems to be falling into place for the duo.

“She is a very strong and fast horse, so I showed all week, and it was kind of a rough run, but I’m really glad we won,” she said. “It really meant a lot to me.”

Lilly doesn’t know how she can ever thank Dany Tremblay enough for the sponsorship of entry fees for the youth classes. Lilly also thanks Ethan Willey and her family for their support.

### **13 & Under High Point Champion Allie Jones & Rawhides Supermodel**

The duo, Allie Jones and her mare, Rawhides Supermodel (Dunit Rawhide x Miss Cat Wood), have been together for a year and a half and just won their very first belt buckle to claim the High Point Youth 13&Under Championship here at the NRBC after Slate 2.

“Seventy-two is the highest score we have gotten and I’m really happy with what she has given me,” Allie said. “Today we had really good spins and really good stops, so I was really happy overall with the run.”

Allie got into reining to improve her



horsemanship to help her prepare for the National Little Britches Princess Rodeo Queen competition at the Lazy E Arena in Guthrie, Oklahoma, in July. She does all rodeo events including barrels, poles, goats, breakaway and team roping, although her favorite is barrel racing because she likes to go fast.

“For Tremblay [Performance Horses] to pay for the entries is really cool and I really appreciated it,” she said. “I would love to thank Woolsey Performance Horses for giving me the opportunity and I would love to thank my mom and dad for giving me the amazing opportunity to get to show these horses.”

### **Youth 13 & Under Classic Challenge Champion Jocelyn Anderson & Wimpin Aint Easy**

The Youth 13&Under Classic Challenge is a class within a class for horses that are 8-years-old and older with added money, and it is just for the Youth to show off. The division is offered each year at the NRBC for Youth to compete for additional money earned. This weekend, Jocelyn Anderson and Wimpin Aint Easy (Wimpys Little Step x Janie Be Nimble) marked a 70.5 to claim the title.



“Having that class offered here at the NRBC helps us all improve and have something to look forward to,” Jocelyn said.

With \$250 added to the Classic Challenge class, Jocelyn added \$152 to hers and Wimpin Aint Easy’s lifetime earnings.

“He was super good for me, it was just a clean, pretty run,” Jocelyn said. “There are a few things we need to work on but there is always room for improvement.”

Beginning with ranch riding at small shows, Jocelyn made the switch to showing reining about three years ago. Her dad, Jarvis Anderson, is a trainer, and her mom, Stephanie, always competing in reining, she knew she was bound to show eventually.

“I’ve always done reining, I really got competitive about three years ago,” she said.

Jocelyn thought it was great and “really nice” for Tremblay Performance Horses to sponsor the Youth entry fees. She also thanks her dad and mom, Jarvis and Stephanie Anderson.



**14-18 Classic Challenge Champion  
Bella Beck &  
Gunnabe N Hollywood**

The Classic Challenge is a well-known division in the NRBC, and the Youth are not excluded from the opportunity for their shot at the added money. Bella Beck and her horse Gunnabe N Hollywood (Gunnatrashya x Hollywoodsau-tumngold) took advantage of the opportunity taking first place position.

“I just wanted a good, easy, clean ride with no penalties and he did that for me so it was just great,” Becca said. “I got to drive him and be the captain. I went to turn him, and he turned really good so I loped off and he was with me the whole time.”

This is her first year in the 14-18 division with gelding, “Buddy,” and she gave credit to her fellow competitors. All are great competitors, so it has made her step her up her game, she says.

She thanks Drake Johnson and Shane Brown for their help and her



**Youth 14-18 & Unrestricted Youth  
(2) Champion  
Adele Cunningham &  
Trash Enterprise**

Adele Cunningham’s 2023 NRBC was what dreams are made of for many riders.

In the Youth 14-18, a few scratches caused her to be earlier in the draw than planned, which changed the game plan for preparation of her mare Trash Enterprises (Gunnatrashya x Magnums Enterprise). Even with the changes in the draw, Adele and “Marla” still won the Youth 14-18 and Unrestricted Youth Slate 2.

“She was a little more antsy today than she was on the other days but that is just Marla,” she said. “I just tried to keep her calm, I let her pick her speed, and I was kind of nervous but once I knew she was there with me, and I got my lead changes, I was good.”

After winning the Novice Horse Non Pro Level 1 on the mare, Adele



plans to give her a lot of days off and to let her be turned out in the pasture. Adele thanks Dany Tremblay and Tremblay Performance Horses for paying for the Youth entry fees, and thanked her mom and dad, as well as Tishman Performance Horses, for all they do.”

**Youth 14-18 High Point Champion  
Unrestricted Youth High Point  
Champion  
Anna Harris & SS Iconic**

Anna Harris patiently waited for the results to see who would claim the high point championship title. After barely missing the NRBC Non Pro Classic Finals, she was hoping to take home the hardware.

Anna tied for fourth in Slate 1 and in Slate 2, placed second marking a 72 that put her in the top spot for the High Point Champion title in the Youth 14-18 as well as the Unrestricted divisions.

“This is my first show where I’ve shown this horse so I have just practiced and focused on figuring out how to ride the horse first,” Anna said. “I have just cruised him

through and gotten to know him and learn his buttons and quirks in the pen.”

Her mom purchased the horse, SS Iconic (In Like Flinn x Gunners Glory), at the Tulsa Classic in September of 2022. Since then, Anna has been more than excited to get the opportunity to ride and show the horse.

“I thank Yonathan Baruch for all of his help in finding the perfect horse for me,” she said. “I also want to thank my parents for all their hard work and time spent. I also have to give all the glory to God for all of this opportunity and for this talent to ride.”

### **Novice Horse Non Pro 1 (2) Champion**

#### **Jared Leclair & Magnum A Dare**

Today’s run for Jared LeClair felt much the same as yesterday’s aboard Magnum A Dare (Magnum Chic Dream x Adarable), only penalty free. He marked a 74.5 to win the Novice Horse Open Level 1 in Slate 2. The Tioga, Texas, horseman is preparing the horse for owner Angie Pennington to show.

“He’s a Non Pro horse. He is broke, but for me, I want to develop a desire for the horse to want to do it for the person,” he said. “For me, it takes a little bit of time. Each time I show him, he keeps getting better. When the horses are good enough for me, then the Non Pro shows them.”

Pennington will compete in Rookie classes, too, and LeClair appreciates the opportunity for all levels of rider to compete in the industry.



For now, he and Magnum A Dare are getting solid in the show pen before he hands over the reins.

“He was really easy. Yesterday, he fell out of lead but that was the only difference,” he said. “He’s handled the show well and he was simple for me to show today.”

### **Novice Horse Open L3 & L2 High Point**

#### **Peter DeFreitas**

#### **Keep On Th Sunnyside**

Riding Keep On Th Sunnyside (Shine On Line x Conquistadors Sandy), Peter DeFreitas maintained his high scores to earn the Novice Horse Open Level 3 and Level 2 wins in Slate 2, and the High Point. The mare, called “June Carter,” is owned by Carlton and Dr. Khris Crowe.

In Slate 2, DeFreitas piloted the mare to a 73.5. The Whitesboro, Texas, trainer says she is a horse that gets ready easily.

“I try to leave her alone; she is pretty simple, for the most part,” he said. “I probably got turned bet-

ter today, but she stopped big and was easy to show.”

The mare was not an easy horse to show as a 3-year-old, though she was good. After rehabbing her from an injury her 4-year-old year, the mare has come back with a little different outlook.

“She is broke and trained, so I keep her legged up but let her be outside and happy as much as I can,” he said. “I don’t know [what show] we are going to next, so it may be May when the planned cross between her and FM Cottonwood will be made.”

The Crowes also own reining and ranch riding champion FM Cottonwood (Colonels Smoking Gun x Sonita Lena Chick), who DeFreitas says will complement the mare. They’re both “big stoppers and good minded,” he says.

“I’d like to thank my owners, Carlton and Khris Crowe, and my wife and guys at home. They take care of everything at home so I can be off and going,” he said.

**Non Pro & Prime Time Non Pro  
Co-Champion  
Int. Non Pro Champion  
Kathleen Armenta &  
Off N Running**

Non Pro Kathleen Armenta enjoyed showing Off N Running (Walla Walla Whiz x Spook Off Sparks) in his derby years, now that the horse has aged out, she keeps “the rust knocked off” in the Non Pro, Intermediate Non Pro and Prime Time classes.

At the 2023 NRBA, Armenta and the gelding, owned by Armenta Quarter Horses, marked a 72.5 to tie for first in the Prime Time Slate 2, tie for first in the Non Pro Slate 1 and won the Intermediate Non Pro.

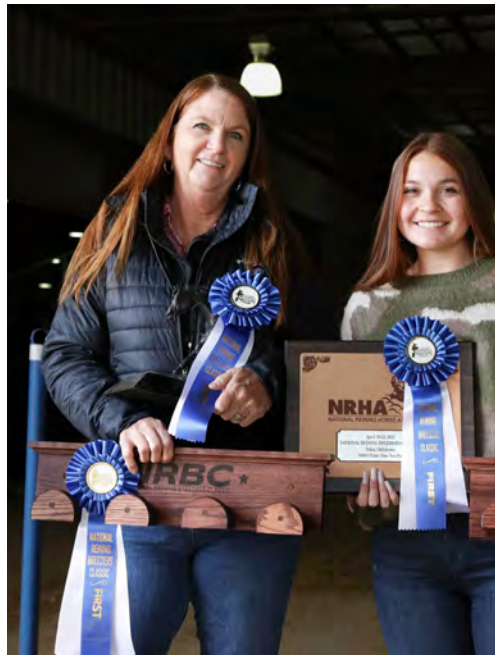
“He aged out of the derbies last year so I keep showing him so that we don’t get rusty,” she said. “It is good to have a horse in your back pocket to jump on and have fun.”

Showing in the Super Duty covered arena was a little more challenging than in the Ford Arena, she said.

“This arena is tricky, it’s not a big arena to get running to your stops. He turned great, circled great and we had one stop where he caught a shoe, but he’s a trooper,” she said. “He’s got it all, if I can get my act together, he’s got it all.”

Armenta rides with Casey Hinton, and has for many years, and acknowledges her thanks for his support as well as the entire Hinton barn.

“Thank you to my daughter, Sarah, who always tells me how it is,”



she laughed. “The barn is always there cheering for you; it’s a group effort.”

**Non Pro & Prime Time Non Pro  
Co-Champion  
Linda Sawyer  
Spooksgottaprettyboy**

Six years ago, Linda Sawyer purchased Spooksgottaprettyboy (Spooks Gotta Gun x Prettywhiz-prettydoes) from the Havertys. The Montgomery, Texas, exhibitor didn’t set foot in the show pen with the gelding until fall 2022. Now, she’s checked off a bucket list win in under a year of competition.

“We just decided last week we were coming, so it worked out really well! This is my first NRBC, it was on my bucket list to show at the NRBC,” she said. “It was a seven-and-a-half-hour drive for me, but it was worth it.”

Sawyer’s 72.5 score tied to win the Non Pro Slate 1 and tied to win the Prime Time Slate 2, and she also won The Run For A Million qualifier.



“I just started back showing; he is a cool horse and really easy to show,” she said. “I was nervous going in, especially about the spins, but they went well. He was good. He just listens to me and waits on me, and it felt good.”

Sawyer hauls to ride with Debbie Brown once a month. Before showing today, Brown reminded Sawyer to breathe.

“Debbie Brown told me to breathe and to send him down on my rundowns,” Sawyer laughed. “Coming around the end, she said, ‘Do not trot out of that rollback!’ Deb is awesome. I keep him home and haul up once a month to ride with her, so she really worked on me at this show.”

The excitement of her wins came with the realization she has a chance to go to Las Vegas, Nevada, in August with her qualification.

“My kids are supportive of me showing,” she said. “I am thankful for Deb, of course, and the McCutcheons, they are so supportive.

I'm also thankful to the Haverty's for selling me this horse. It was lucky to be at the right place, right time to buy him."

**Prime Time Non Pro High Point  
Champion  
Morris Kulmer &  
NVR What A Lucky Joe**

After winning the Prime Time Non Pro Slate 1, Morris Kulmer and NVR What A Lucky Joe (Little Joe Cash x What A Lucky Hit) followed it up with a 72 in Slate 2 to tie for third but earn the class High Point award. The exhibitor from Scottsdale, Arizona, gives all the kudos to his gelding, "Joey." However, today, he was riding for more than just himself.

"This run today was special; it's for my biggest cheerleader, my older sister, who was hospitalized last night," Kulmer said. "Hopefully, she'll get some good vibes and I can put a smile on her face when I send the video. We are praying for

her!"

Kulmer's mind wasn't fully on his run at the start, and it was apparent when he under-spun. However, he felt his spin and his circles were credit earning. And the score reflected that.

"I went in to ride my heart out for my sister, but I got to thinking too much," he said. "My first spin was a plus one, but an underspin. I asked him a lot in the circles, and he circles as good as any horse. This pen is different than the Ford pen; you can run them hard but not out of gas in here. We show tomorrow in the big pen, so hopefully I left some gas in the tank."

He trains with Dan Huss and credits Dan and Wendy for taking such great care of his horse. Though Joey was retired, the gelding is still sound and Kulmer enjoys riding him too much to leave him home.



"Nobody takes better care of their horses than Dan and Wendy Huss. I think my horses get better care than I [give] myself, and that helps with longevity," he said. "I'd like to take care of myself the way I take care of Joey."

Kulmer was appreciative of the Huss', their barn and all the helpers that keep the shows running.

**Shapley's Best Turned  
Out Award**

The NRBC has partnered with Shapley's Equine Products to produce the Shapley's Best Turned Out awards for the past five years. This year's winner received a silver engraved plate paired with a bucket of Shapley's Superior Equine Grooming products.



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