

SlideStreet Journal

April 21, 2024

TODAY'S SCHEDULE

Ford Truck

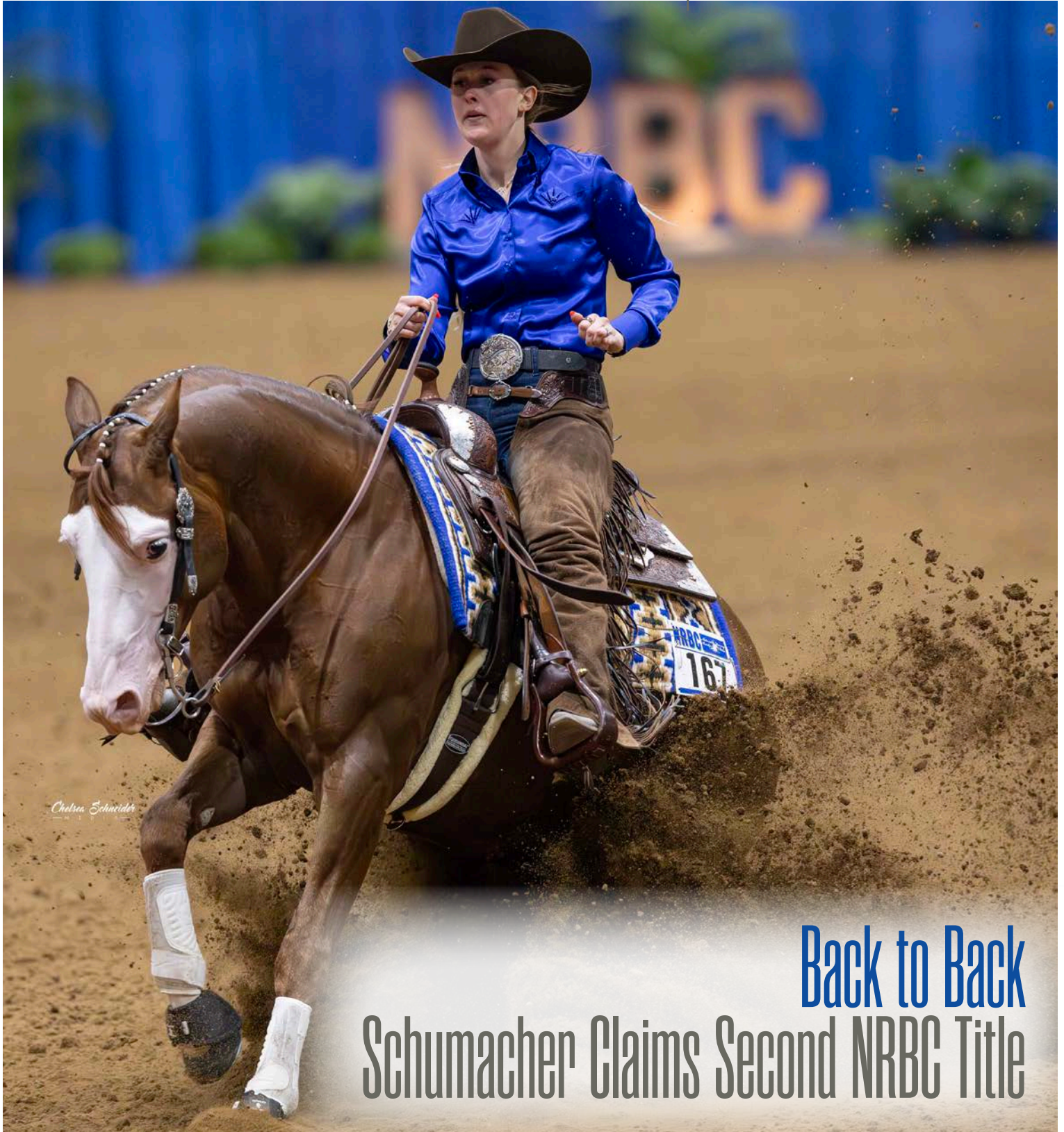
Open Riding for Open Classic Entries

Super Duty Indoor

8 a.m. - Rookie L1 & 2, Prime Time Rookie/Yellowstone
Rookie Shootout Round 1/TRFAM Rookie Qualifier

Central Park Hall Arena

8:30 a.m. - Ltd., Prime Time, Masters, and Legends Non Pro
Warm Up Class



Chelsea Schneider

Back to Back
Schumacher Claims Second NRBC Title

Gina Schumacher & Gunin Addy Tude

Non Pro Champions



Laying down an electrifying run she wasn't expecting, Gina Schumacher claimed the Level 4 Non Pro Classic championship at the National Reining Breeders Classic, with a score of 222.5, on Gunin Addy Tude.

A new scoring format, where the riders total score isn't announced and the rider must wait to find out until they exit the pen and see a monitor, kept Schumacher on her toes.

"I was just walking out and thinking 'I hope that's enough,'" said Schumacher. "I knew he felt great so I thought he should have gotten a good score, but I wanted to know for sure."

Having piloted CS Nifty Sailor, a horse she's previously had great success with, earlier in the night to a score that hadn't secured her the championship, Schumacher's confidence was lower than normal as she took Gunin Addy Tude into the pen.

"To not do anything wrong on my side is what drives me to do it good," explained Schumacher. "I just hadn't clicked with this horse and I hadn't done as good before so I was just less confident and wanted to go in and do good."

Gunin Addy Tude, a 2018 stallion by NRHA Eleven Million Dollar Sire Gunnatrashya out of Miss Lil Addy Tude, is what Schumacher described as a 'kid in school that's kind of a nerd' due his quick-to-please, and easily worried personality.

This win in the Level 4 Non Pro Classic at the NRBC earned the pair an impressive \$50,000 to add to Schumacher's lifetime earnings of over a million dollars.

Schumacher elected to just thank everyone, stating there are just too many people who made the win possible to risk forgetting anyone.

Addisyn Schmersal & TA Dunit Redhot

Non Pro Level 3 Co-Champions



In an impressive show of skill, 18-year-old Addisyn Schmersal claimed the title of the Level 3 Non Pro Classic champion at the NRBC with a score of 222.

Schmersal rode TA Dunit Redhot, a 2018 stallion, by Pale Face Dunnit out of Red Hot Walla. The stallion, who she describes as, “a stud who doesn’t act like it,” has been piloted by Schmersal since his three-year-old year.

“Everytime I show he gives it his all,” said Schmersal. “He is just a really special horse.”

Schmersal and TA Dunit Redhot are an impressive pair. Despite their young ages, Schmersal already has a lifetime earnings of over \$230,000, and the stallion has more than \$87,000. An additional \$38,000 will be added to those numbers from winnings in the Non Pro Classic at the NRBC.



Lauren Love & Chexi Chic

Non Pro Level 2 Co-Champions



Lauren Love and Chexi Chic tied for the Non Pro Level 2 title at the NRBC.

Love and Chexi Chic, by Wimpy Chic out of Chexanicki, aka 'Nicki,' scored a 218.5 for a \$15,750 payout across all levels. Love said this win is even sweeter because she bought the mare as a yearling, sight unseen, in an online sale, just based on her pedigree. She selected Nicki because of her dam, Chexanicki, who foaled the first reiner Love ever owned—and because she was a bay.

"I love bay horses," Love said. "And I just got super lucky. I started her myself. My fiancé, Arnaud Ferret, helped me with her and helped get her ready to show. She's kind of like the family horse now. This is very special because I love this horse so much and I'm glad she gets the recognition of winning some-

thing big like this."

Her long history with Nicki means that Love knows the mare pretty well, which is a benefit to them both in the show pen.

"She's kind of like my baby," Love gushed. "It's actually kind of surreal that I bought a horse that I'd never seen as a yearling. And then she's become such a great show horse for me and such a great partner. She's the reason I want to go to the barn every morning."

Love's upcoming plans for the mare include her being shown again in the Open Classic in the second week of the NRBC, with Ferret at the reins. To Ferret, she has just one piece of advice: "Just don't screw it up."

Jesse Boyd & Gunna Be First Non Pro Level 2 Co-Champions



Jesse Boyd, who was riding in his six-year-old Gunna Be First by ARC Gunnabeabigstar out of ARC Wallas First, tied for the Non Pro Level 2 Championship with a 218.5.

Gunna Be First is nicknamed 'Justin' at the barn, after the singer Justing Bieber—although the horse may not have a pop singer personality.

"He's so easy," Boyd remarked. "Just laid back. He doesn't care about much. He's super easy to be around."

Boyd also owns Elite Equine with his wife, Sierra Li-

trell. He's been working at the Elite Equine spa trailer at the NRBC when he isn't riding horses—and it's a good thing, because Boyd isn't the type of person that likes to sit around.

"I've been working a little bit in the mornings to help fill in and been getting up early and riding, then riding in the evenings and trying to get some sleep," he said.

He and Justin earned \$21,000 across all the evels for their run—not bad for Boyd's first ever Level 4 finals.

Olivia Cardi & CC Gun Show

Non Pro Level 1 Champions



Eighteen-year-old Olivia Cardi slid into the Non Pro L1 Championship at the NRBC on CC Gun Show, a five-year-old gelding by Colonels Shining Gun out of Wimpys Eye Candy. Cardi calls this horse 'Toffee.'

"He's the sweetest in the barn," she said. "He's like a little puppy dog. We bought him at the Futurity from Cade [McCutcheon], so we've just spent time getting him together, and we had a bobble earlier this week, so it's taken us a little bit of relearning our maneuvers. But it all came together in the end."

She and Toffee put together a run worthy of a 217 score and a check for \$5,000. Cardi said the huge Ford Arena allowed her to properly show off her horse, noting "Having a big strided horse is great, so we could actually show off our circles and run them. It was so fun running down the pen and just letting him go."

She thanked her family, as well as her trainer, Ben Beckett.

Monica Hicks Mathison & Girlz On Fire

Non Pro Prime Time Champions



Monica Hicks Mathison claimed the Non Pro Prime Time Championship and took reserve in the Non Pro L3 at the NRBC with a 219 for a \$13,000 payday.

Of the PrimeTime division, Mathison said, "It's great to have another division for us to be able to be champions in and to have something else to win."

She called her mare, six-year-old Girlz On Fire by Inferno Sixty Six out of Gotta Git Ya Dun, a 'unicorn'—a title the mare is all too aware of.

"She's the queen," Mathison joked. "She is always happy, always very pleasant, very fun to be around. If somebody wants to come to the barn to ride, we put them on her. She's so laid back, so easy."

Reflecting the home-raised mare's queen status, she's called 'Tyra' at home.

"She's very pretty, very model-esque," Mathison explained. "She was named after Tyra Banks."

Mathison thanked her husband, NRHA Professional Gunny Mathison, for his patient support all week, as well as her staff at Just Stitch It, who kept the booth running so she could show.

"I thank them very much," she said. "All the crew at the barn, I mean, they're great, they're helpful. They keep everything going. So, all my friends, all the encouragement. I mean, this is fun to do. We're like one big family, so it's great."

Andre De Bellefeuille & Snow Kiss

Non Pro Masters Champions



Aboard his homegrown gelding, Andre De Bellefeuille secured the Masters Non Pro Classic championship at the NRBC with a score of 219.

Snow Kiss, a 2018 gelding by Topsail Whiz out of Snow Gun, already had over \$18,000 in lifetime earnings, but more importantly than the money to De Bellefeuille, was the gelding's breeding.

Just days before leaving for the NRBC, De Bellefeuille lost Snow Gun, a horse he'd described as his pride, a gem, and a dream come true. For him, riding her offspring in the Non Pro Classic, just meant a lot to him.

"That mare really means something for me," said De Bellefeuille, full of emotion. "She gave a lot of heart to all the horses she gave us, so riding these horses today from her meant a lot."

This win in the Masters Non Pro Classic, along with their other top 7 placings, earned the pair just shy of \$3,000 to add to their respective lifetime earnings. De Bellefeuille thanked his trainer, Mathieu Buton for helping him prepare for his runs and for keeping him positive, despite their teasing about differences in their French versus French Canadian cultures.

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Double Up

Kristen Syburg Wins Green Reiner Level 1 & 2

Green Reiner Level 1 & Level 2 Champions Kristen Syburg & Cinco De Magnum

Kristen Syburg came out on top of the leaderboard in both the Green Reiner L1 & L2 [1] at the NRBC with a score of 71.5. She was riding Cinco De Magnum, a six-year-old by Magnum Chic Dream, that Kristen purchased in November.

“He is an amazing horse, and he’s very forgiving for a young horse and a green rider,” Syburg laughed. “He’s been really good to me. Just super soft, with a lot of feel, which is really fun when it all works out. A little disastrous when it doesn’t.”

However, ‘Cinco’ isn’t all business, all the time.

“He’s a character,” Syburg noted. “He breaks things. He shreds his blankets. He gets loose, no matter how good you tie him. He’s very fun. He goes out to pasture every day and loves to roll and play. He’s a little busy, but he’s a machine when you get to ride him. So I let him have all the fun time he wants.”

Syburg rides with Linde Von Koeding, whom she had high praise for, saying, “[She] has gotten both of us a lot of progress in a short time.”

With the win, Syburg is in great position to earn a spot in the new Rios of Mercedes Family of Brands Green Reiner Shootout next Thursday. To qualify for the Shootout, a rider must have one of the top five composite scores from the first two slates of competition, which means Syburg must compete again on Monday for a chance to advance.



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Here at the NRBC, every fifty dollars spent enters you to win a show pad of your choice.

"Come check out our selection of tack and boutique items," said owner Hannah Cleverger. "We're happy to be here at the NRBC and excited to see who wins the giveaway. Best of luck to everyone competing."

You can find Hannah's Custom Tack outside the Super Duty Arena.



Nutrena Cornhole Tournament Fun That Shouldn't Be Missed



It's not too late to enter the NRBC Nutrena Cornhole Tournament, starting at 2pm on the lawn outside Central Park Hall. The entry fees benefit Rein In Cancer and the champion duo will each take home a custom set of NRBC/Nutrena Cornhole boards. It's sure to be a good time, so make sure you get signed up!

Classic Connection

Kristi Wiggins

We all know that horse that's always hamming it up around the barn. For NRHA Non Pro Kristi Wiggins, that horse is Gunninfortrashychics, better known as 'Gus.' He's a six-year-old son of Gunnatrashya out of Wimpy's Little Tag.

"He is his name," Wiggins remarked. "He's just a clunky guy. How he doesn't fall over, half the time you don't know, but he's just the sweetest... He sees food and he will find a way to get the bag of grain open and flip over the mats, just for fun. Like, he wants to be a menace, but in the best way."

Wiggins is located in Scottsdale and rides with her boyfriend, NRHA Professional Glen Estival. Gus' favorite snack is well known around the barn.

"Ooh, Cheez-Its," she said, grinning, without a second's hesitation. "Glen and I have Cheez-its on hand at all times, and that's the snack that, after I ride, I go and get out the bag and he sees it and he just goes crazy."

She and Gus made the Non Pro Classic Level 2 finals and Wiggins is excited for another chance to showcase the horse she loves so much.

"He's such a cool horse," she praised. "And he deserves to be up there with everyone else."

That's not the only reason Wiggins wants to do well with Gus in the show pen.

"It's getting time where we're probably going to have to think about selling him, but anytime Glen and I think about it, we just start crying because he is part of the family," Wiggins shared. "We want him to come home with us and be a dog and lay on our bed... That's why I want to do well for him, because he's just an extension of us."

With the Non Pro Classic Finals scheduled for Saturday this year, there's an added level of excitement.

"With the different setup this time, we actually get to show on a Saturday," Wiggins said, "so more people get to come into town and be part of the Non Pro Finals."

No matter what happens, Wiggins loves her horse all the same, expressing "I think we just have to be happy with what these horses give us. It doesn't matter if you were a 205 or a 220, these horses are trying their all for us and we should be happy with whatever we have because we at least get to do the sport we love every day."



Classic Connection

She Went to Jared

For someone whose horse was stolen by his trainer, Paul Queen is having a surprisingly good week.

After a year of hauling Makendiamonds all across the United States, Queen handed the reins over to his trainer, Jared Leclair.

“When we bought her two years ago, we decided the first year was for him to show her, and the second was mine,” explained Queen. “But then Jared qualified [for The Run For A Million] on her, and I was like, ‘well, guess I’ve got to get my old horse back out again.’”

Queen’s ‘old horse’ is no ordinary pony– Outta Dough is a 2005 stallion with a lifetime earnings of nearly \$94,000 and more than one win during a National Reining Breeders Classic.

Despite the joke that Leclair stole ‘Josie’, Queen emphasized that a good relationship is the foundation of good horse training, especially if a trainer is going to take over the reins.

“You’ve got to have trust. I know he’s got Josie’s best interests at heart, because he loves that mare,” said Queen. “There’s got to be respect between the trainer, the horse, and the owner for it to work.”

In the meantime, Queen has plans to see if he can “kick some butt with the old man” as he competes in several ancillary classes at the NRBC.



Claim a Reiner at the NRBC

Just a reminder that Claiming Reining horses must be entered by noon on Tuesday, April 23, to give potential claimers a chance to look over the draw. Horses entered in the Claiming Reining will be decked out in an orange-striped back number, so keep an eye out for these horses, in case you want to claim one!

For more information, check out the terms and conditions on the website, or head over to the Horse Show Office to learn more.



April 21 - Sunday

Ranger Arena

10 a.m. – Church Services with Jason Vanlandingham

Ford Truck Arena

Open Riding for Classic Exhibitors Only

Super Duty Indoor

8 a.m. – Rookie L1, L2, Prime Time, Yellowstone Rookie Shootout, and TRFAM Qualifier –
Pattern 8
Drag every 8th draw
Lunch following draw #48
Rookie Awards

Central Park Hall Arena

8:30 a.m. – Ltd. Non Pro, Prime Time Non Pro, Masters Non Pro, Platinum Non Pro – Pattern 6
Drag every 8th Draw
45-minute break for Lunch & Awards

Warm Up Class [1] – Pattern 5
Drag every 10th draw

Central Park

2 p.m. – Nutrena Cornhole Tournament



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