

How the west won an AQHA judge

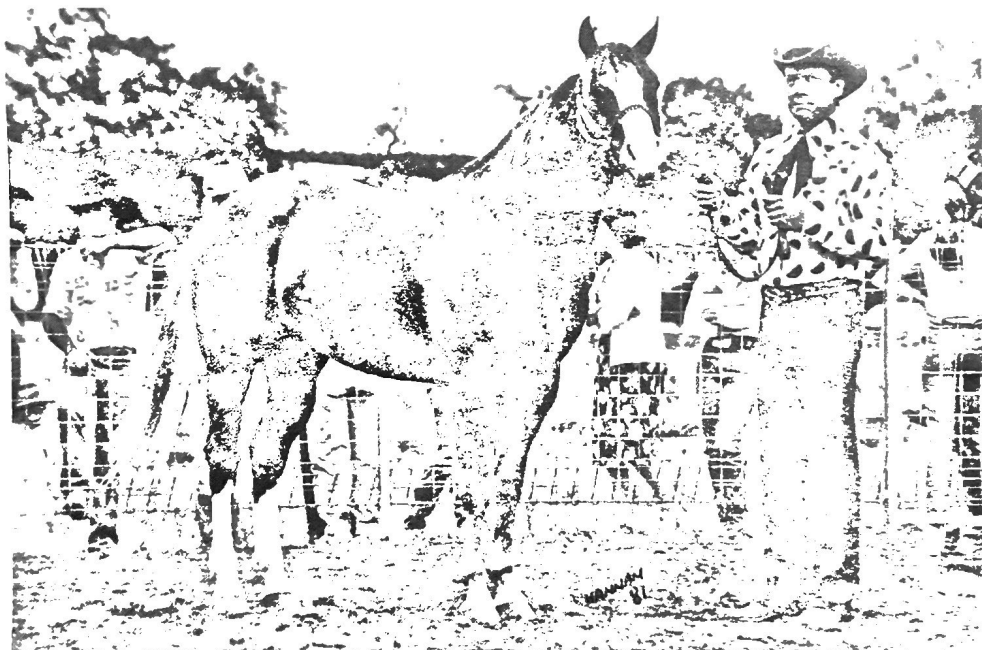
The 1981 West Australian Championships

Story: Jack Cooper and Michael Devine Pictures: Sandy Hannan

"Judging the 1981 West Australian Quarter Horse Championships was a most enjoyable task" said Judge Jack Cooper after the event. Jack went on to describe the Show to Editor Michael Devine on his return to Melbourne.

Speaking of the venue at David Barrett's property at Upper Swan some 29km North East of the city of Perth Jack has this to say — "The venue is in my estimation, the best outdoor arena in Australia. The size is huge and the surface 100%. The spectator viewing even more so. It's got a bank, a very steep bank right along one side of the arena which must be all of 250 feet long and maybe 300 feet long. It also has a beautiful cyclone mesh exterior fence, terrific yarding and beautiful access. Without a doubt, certainly, the best outdoor arena I've seen in Australia".

Jack was even impressed with the weather. "I went over there expecting to feel the 35 degrees that I had seen on the T.V. weather map each night down here in Melbourne and envying. But Saturday was overcast with a few spots of rain. As a matter of fact, I thought 'we're getting Melbourne weather in Perth!' But on the Sunday, it was all lovely clear blue skies, clear typical Perth weather. They turned on the sunshine and I thoroughly enjoyed it. It was about 36 degrees and then the Fremantle Doctor, as they call it, came in, the Indian Ocean, wind that comes in every day to cool things down. It was really nice." There were 277 entries listed on the official results sheets in 12 halter classes, 20 performance classes and 11 Youth events. This is a very creditable entry list given that there are only 250 members of the AQHA in WA and there are only 1400 Registered or Recorded Quarter Horses in the whole of WA and the NT Judge Cooper agrees. "Yes

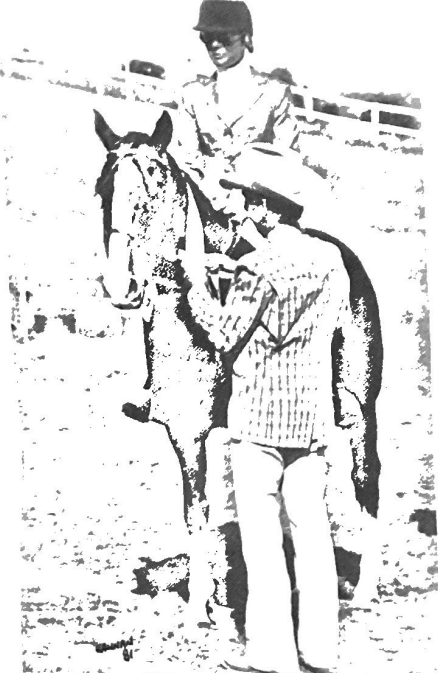


Supreme Champion of the Show. The imported stallion, My Brothers Keeper Q2304 by Dodgers Playboy. Owned by Ian and Aileen McAllister of Bindoon WA and being shown here by Ian.

that's true. Entries were high. Some people said they were down on last year but I thought we had good entries. there were more than I was expecting.

The Halter classes amazed me a little bit with their numbers. The gelding classes had 16. The Mare 3YO & over was magnificent really, there were 13 mares in that. The Quarter Horse Stallion Class had 8. That's more than I see at comparable sized shows here in New South Wales and Victoria. The quality of those horses the top bracket was good, and then there was quite a reasonable a drop down from there on in. 1st and 2nd and 3rd placings, thoroughly deserved it in any company in Australia but the

standard did drop rather sharply from there on in. The standard of both horses and competitors would be influenced by the lack of regular outside competition. I would imagine that competing against the same horses and people is a lot almost like competing against your mates all the time. You may take it more seriously show after show if you were competing against people that you hadn't seen before. I feel that the local competition, month after month has not given them the experience that we see here in the Eastern states. One thing that I must remark on, is the standard of dress of all competitors. It was tops and equals any that we see here in our Eastern States shows, they look



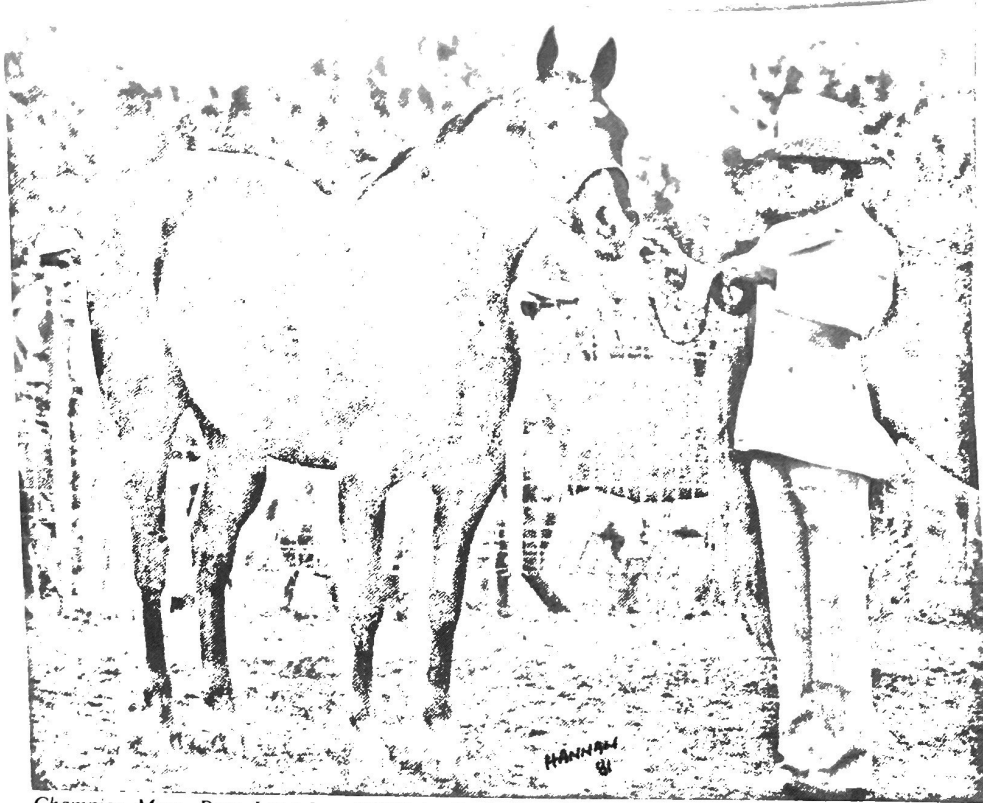
Judge (and co-author of this report) Jack Cooper of Victoria sashes Brandywine Galadcat after the gelding won the English Equitation. The rider is Diane Bennit. This horse is by Alfie's Cat and was not only Champion Gelding but with Sharon Scott riding won the English Pleasure, Senior Bridle Path Hack, Western Pleasure and the Youth Trail. Owned by Racheal Pardoe he placed second in Western Equitation and was Hi Point Horse!

good, they know what ring manners are all about and they would do justice to any top Australian Championship show. They've got the expertise in dress and their way of riding is tops. It's just that their experience is lacking a little bit. The top competitors are pretty good, they'd compare favourably over here but again a sharp drop down after the top few."

Since Jack has always had a particular interest in Youth events we asked him to comment on the standard of the work he saw in the Youth Classes.

"I thoroughly enjoyed that side of it. The influence that some of the trainers, youth trainers, that have been over to Western Australia in recent years is showing through. The WA Youth had retained the style that they had been taught, which was good because what they had been taught was correct. The youth side of show I felt, was really good and the youth competitors even though, again, the lower bracket were lacking in expertise, their manners were terrific.

After the show I spoke to many of them and they are so enthusiastic. I'd love to get a handful of them and bring them over here for a couple of weeks and spend time with them. Take them around shows and I dare say that is possibly what's needed for the young Western Australians. I'm really working on the



Champion Mare, Poco Luna Lass Q3328 by Doc's Poco Bar owned by L.&A. Evans being shown by Lyndon Evans.

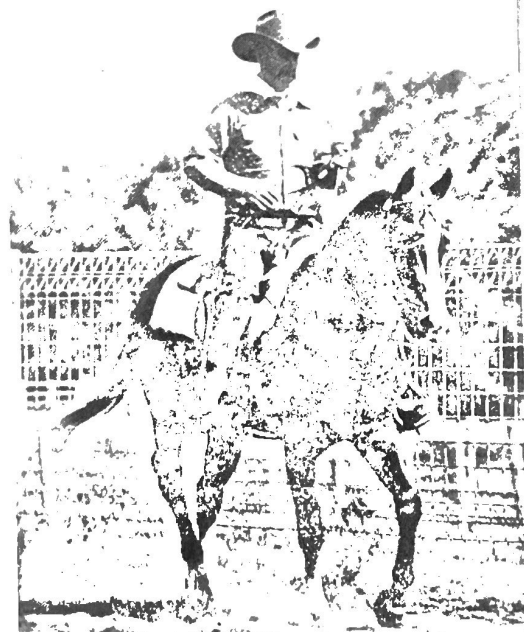
idea of putting that in action. I'd like to spend a bit of time on sharpening them up and they would be as good as any Australian Youth. Their keenness is there, their dress is there, they're just lacking in quality of horse and knowhow. The know-how only comes with showing amongst top competitors, that's what they're not getting enough of in Western Australia."

OK. enough of the background now to some of the major winners. The Champion Gelding was Rachel Pardoe's Brandywine Galadcat by Alfie's Cat out of Galadriel. This 10YO Chestnut has ROM's in Performance, Halter, Western Pleasure and Bridle Path. Champion Mare or Filly was Poco Luna Lass Q3328 by Doc's Poco Bar by Doc Bar out of Pesca owned by L.&A. Evans. The Supreme Exhibit of the day and Champion Stallion Colt was the imported 6YO sorrel, My Brothers Keeper Q2304. Owned by Ian McAllister of Bindoon, WA the Stallion is by Dodgers Playboy out of Poco Cindy Too. The Reserve Champion was David Barret's 2YO Colt Laroo's Bid.

Before we move on to the rest of the results back to Judge Jack Cooper for what he saw as the highlights of the two day show. "I thought that the Winner of the Stallion Class was good I thoroughly enjoyed judging that class.

I also found the Cutting very interesting. Cutting is just getting

going over in Western Australia after a lull of about 4 or 5 years. NCHA cutting is just getting off the ground but there were eight in the Open Cutting. Again experience was lacking in some of the riders and a lot of the horses. It was a highlight because it was the first time that a big cutting has been held for three or four or maybe five years, and it drew a great deal of interest from the crowd.



Bob Neuman on Mister Skip Q2331 by Mr Bar Charge in the Western Pleasure where he placed second. On Speck Deck Leo Bob won the Reining and ran second in the Cutting and on Dakota Caryme he won the Working Cowhorse and placed second in the Reining.



Kirsten Nangle on Springhill Misty Blue by Camden Pride. Kirsten rode a whole string of seconds (usually behind Sharron Scott!) in the Youth events.

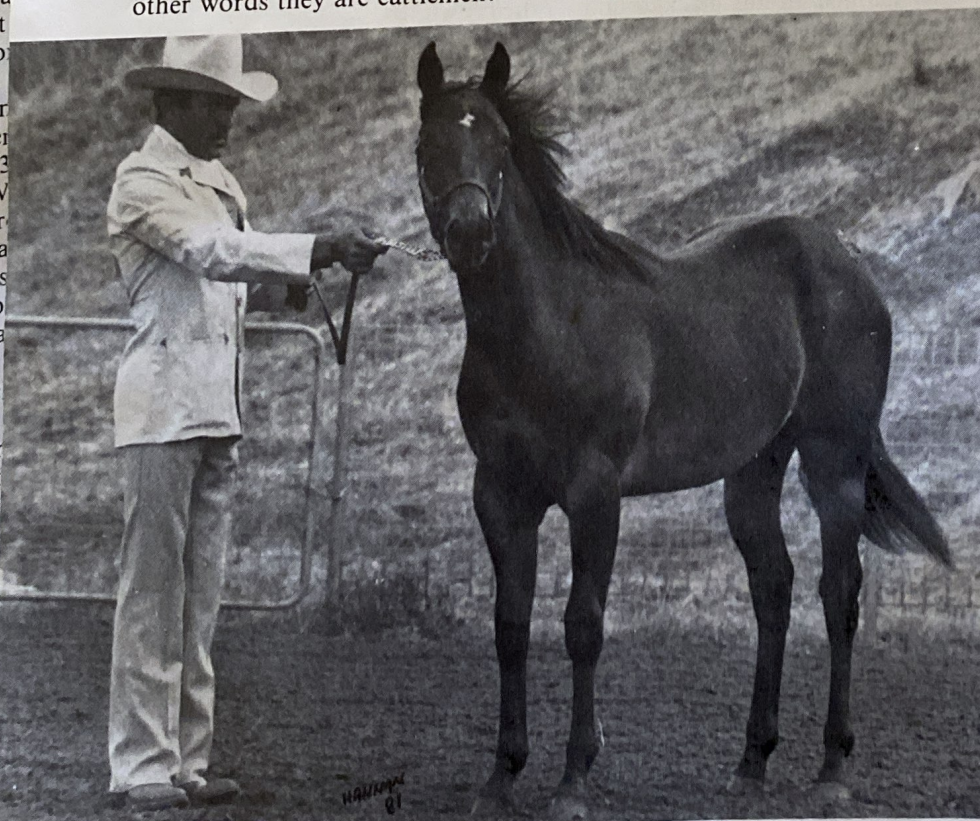
The other thing that I thought was a highlight was the Working Cowhorse event. Won by Bob Neuman on Dakota Caryme. There were four or five other runs in the Open Working Cowhorse that were real dazzling performances. Something that I thoroughly enjoyed. There was quality of horse, experience and expertise in that class. They know how to work cattle, in other words they are cattlemen!"

Well as we said in the headline the west certainly won Jack Cooper. The WA Committee has recently undergone some changes of personal and we wondered how this effected the organization of this important Show.

Jack again. "OK. The organisation was maybe a little bit hurried, probably because of the committee changes that happened just prior to the show. But the basic organisation

was good. I must admit I did put a few things of my own in from a judges point of view. You know, such things as how I wanted the horses to come in etc. I really sped things up, streamlined things from the approach to the arena side of it. I couldn't be too critical of the general organisation, except I could have cut an hour and a half off the time. I think I did cut about 3/4 of an hour off quite easily anyway. But no, I couldn't be too critical of the organising. It was good, but not quite what we see over here in the East." It has been suggested that because of last minute changes to the committee that perhaps the show was not promoted as well as it had been in the past. But a good crowd turned out on the Sunday to see a most unusual event. This was an event good enough to bring Perth's **Three** television channels out to the venue to cover the event. What is this event which stirs the blood of hard bitten T.V. editors? Believe it or not, Barrel Racing! But as it's Barrel Racing a difference!

The WA committee had arranged a Quarter Horse VS a Motor Bike Barrel Racing Contest. The motor bike was ridden by the current WA motor cycle champion. The race was run as the best of three rounds around the course. The result? We'll let Jack Cooper explain. "Actually I have to hang my head a little. The Quarter Horse was fastest around the barrels and had it not knocked



Winner of the Filly Futurity was Jetbar Miss Poco by Tweed out of the Show's Champion Mare Poco Luna Lass being shown by proud owner and breeder Lyndon Evans.



Hi Point Youth of the Show Sharron Scott on the Hi Point horse Brandywine Galadcat. Sharron won a total of 10 events.

W.A. QUARTER HORSE CHAMPIONSHIPS

Top left: Bob Newman's sliding stop.

Top right: Gene Hintze, judge Phil Webb, and 'Barroan'.

Middle left: Brain Cramp, Gillian Howe, Jennie Barrett.

Middle right: Diane Bennit and 'Conchita'.

Bottom left: Cody Lambert in action 'working cowhorse'.

Bottom right: Darryl Smith and 'Wee Willie Bailey' 1st open and novice cutting.

The largest West Australian Quarter Horse Championships were held at Balcormo Quarter Horse Stud, Upper Swan on 8-9 December 1979 with over 400 entries. Many thanks must go to the Show Committee: Ray Conrad, Mac McCormack, Gene Hintze, Barry Porter, who worked so hard to make this show a success.

The Show started with perfect weather at 8am sharp with the Gelding classes, Rachel Pardoe's Brandywine Galadacat being Champion Gelding also winning the Hi Point Horse Award over the 2 days.

A Yearling Futurity was added to the programme and proved a great success, the largest class being the Purebred Filly's winner Sheringa Poco Breeze owners K & C Hyde.

As always the Youth are out in the show ring showing their hardest, Rej Hintze winning the 12 years and under Showmanship and Purebred Mare Barroan who also won the Supreme Exhibit at Halter shown by his father Gene Hintze owned by Ian McAllister.

It was impressive to see the 'Big Men' (Purebred Stallions) in the show ring, completely well mannered even though they were standing 6 feet apart from each other, Champion Purebred Quarter Horse Stallion was Ocelot Bid shown by Jenni Barrett.

Everyone that presented their horses at Halter must be commended on their dress it was fabulous to see.

The ridden events started directly after the lunch break with the Youth Western Pleasure won by Debbie Powell on Illyarrie Drummer who was also the Hi Point Youth Rider for the Weekend.

The largest event for the weekend was the Open Western Pleasure with 23 entered horses — this was expertly won by Brian Cramp on Bell J Dan.

In all English events there was a good turn out, one consistent rider was Mandy Curnow on Clover Bendigo who won the Youth Bridle Path Hack.

The final event for Saturday was the Working Hunter (six 3 foot jumps). This was believed to be the first jumping event for Quarter Horses only, held in Western Australia, won by a 1 x Cross Mare Conchita ridden by Diane Bennitt.

A very enjoyable evening was had by all at the Dinner and Dance. Half way through the evening 6 Stallion Services were sold by the auctioneer Mr Ross Waddell.

Sunday's Programme started at 9am with the cheery voice of announcer Frank Tett who did a marvellous job over the two days.

An enthusiastic group of Youth Riders went out into the Trail Class to work their horses through the obstacles laid out, Gidget Freeman winning on Quarter Bend Meda.

The afternoon events started with the action packed cattle events. First up was the Junior Snaffle Bit Working Cow Horse won by Bob Neuman on Dakota Caryme. Bob was also the Hi Point Rider for the weekend.

The Grand Final of the Championships was the 'Golden Spurs Cutting Award' presented to Daryl Smith on Wee Willy Baily after a superb ride.

The award was presented by judge, Mr Phil Webb, one of the top trainers in the Eastern States who was ably assisted by his wife Tauretta. ●

Benny Newland 3rd Youth Showmanship.



SHOW RESULTS SHO

W.A.Q.H.A.

Champion Gelding: Brandywine Galadacat.

Reserve Champion Gelding: Dax.

Champion Crossbred Stallion: Oakford Sun Rio.

Reserve Champion Crossbred Stallion: Triple Blue.

Champion Crossbred Mare: Oakford Monita.

Reserve Champion Crossbred Mare: Oakford Grenita.

Champion Pure Bred Stallion: Ocelot Bid.

Reserve Champion Purebred Stallion: Rumble Cause.

Champion Purebred Mare: Barroan.

Reserve Purebred Mare: Illyarrie Miss Titan..

Get of Sire: Illyarrie Miss Titan Oakford Grenita-Oakford Monita 1, King Ameraillo-Colorado King-El Dorado Melaso 2, El Dorado Juanita-Oakford Duolita-Oakford Sun Rio 3.

Youth Showmanship: Reg Hintze, Raina Hintze, S. Scott, C. Lambert.

Youth Western Pleasure: D. Powell, M. Curnow, G. Freeman.

Open Western Pleasure: Bell J. Dan (B. Cramp), Clover Bendigo (J. Curnow), Sundance King (B. Porter).

Youth Western Riding: G. Freeman, D. Powell, S. Newman.

Open Western Riding: Teewana Ardene (D. Smith), Country Buck (H. Adkins), Illyarrie Drummer (B. Treloar).

Youth Bridle Path Hack: M. Curnow, D. Powell, L. Davies.

Maiden Bridle Path Hack: Brandywine Galadacat (D. Bennit), Teewana Ardene (K. Blair), Beaufort (C. Hyde).

Open Bridle Path Hack: Teewana Ardene (K. Blair), Ocelot Bid (B. Cramp), Clover Bendigo (J. Curnow).

English Equitation: Brandywine Galadacat (D. Bennit), Teewana Ardene (K. Blair), Clover Bendigo (J. Curnow).

Working Hunter: Conchita (D. Bennit), Clover Bendigo (J. Curnow), Brandywine Galadacat (D. Bennit).

Youth Western Equitation: M. Curnow, D. Powell, G. Freeman.

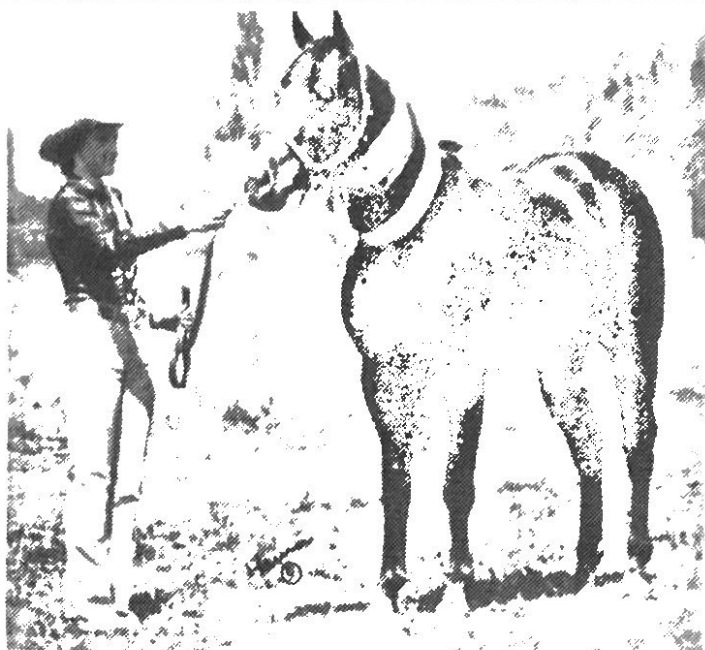
Maiden Western Pleasure: Wanjina Leo's Jubilation (R. Conrad), Willomurra Hep Cat (M. Bowtell), Doc's Cinnabar (B. Morris).

Open Western Equitation: Bell J. Dan (B. Cramp), Clover Bendigo, (J. Curnow), Rumble Bill (V. Wilson).

Maiden Reining: Dundas Top Cat (S. Baker), Doc's Cinnabar (B. Morris), Balmoral Sharnhorst (A. Barnes).

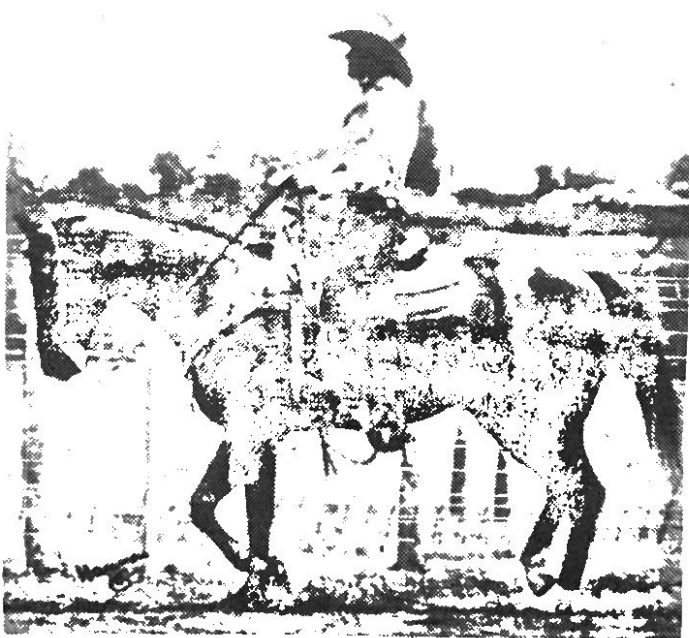
Barrel Race: Wee Willy Bailey (D. Smith), Rumble Babe (K. Fowler), Tara Whandah (J. Quinie).

Youth Trail Class: G. Freeman, D. Powell, A. Newman.



Debbie Powell "Oakford Sun Rio"

Brian Cramp "Bell J. Dan"



Open Trail Class: Clover Cocolossil (B. Newman), Country Buck (H. Adkins), Balmoral Sharnhorst (B. Barnes).

Youth Reining: D. Powell, C. Lambert.

Open Reining: Speck Deck Leo (B. Neuman), Clover Cocolossil (B. Neuman), Colony Mercury Bar (G. Hintze).

English Pleasure: Brandywine Galadacat (D. Bennit), Bell J. Dan (B. Cramp), Clover Bendigo (J. Curnow).

Junior Snaffle Bit Working Cowhorse: Dakota Cary Me (B. Neuman), Tewana Arnette (G. Marshall).

Senior Bridle Working Cowhorse: Clover Cocolossil (B. Neuman), Country Buck (H. Adkins), Clover Cocaine (C. Lambert).

Open Calf Roping: Rumble Babe (R. Neuman), Country Buck (H. Adkins), Clover Cocaine (C. Forbes).

Non Pro Cutting: Wee Willy Bailey (D. Smith), Quarter Bend Meda (J. Freeman), Doc's Cinnabar (B. Morris).

Cutting: Wee Willy Bailey (D. Smith), Speck Deck Leo (B. Neuman), Colony Kirsty (G. Hintze).

High Point Youth: D. Powell.
High Point Ride: B. Neuman.
High Point Horse: Brandywine Galadacat.