

MULE CROSSING: *Stock Show 1986*

By Meredith Hodges

After three months of record lows and an abundance of snow, the sky opened up and the sun shone brightly with warmer temperatures for the National Western Stock Show Mule Show held in Denver, Colorado, January 16-19, 1986. Mule exhibitors worked hard the first day getting settled and prepared for the three-day mule show;



cooperation and determination got the jobs accomplished, and by evening, mules and exhibitors were tired, but excited about the show to come.

Friday morning, the stable area was thick with curious spectators and busy exhibitors, yet they all had one thing in common... that curious grin that Longears bring to one's face. Spectators commented on the resemblance some mules had to their relatives, then laughed at their own clever jokes. In the face of all the noise and chaos, the mules themselves radiated the character and sense of humor that is a mule! Each mule was host to a multitude of mule-scratching fingers—imagine, a 16-hour massage! Colorado Poncho reveled in bliss, Scott's Gallant Eagle excitedly played with his chain, and Little Jack Horner brayed with enthusiasm; the barn rang with the musical voices of over a hundred donkeys and mules... and the spectators made new friends!

The improvement in the quality of performance was apparent this year, even to the barn exhibits. Exhibitors made signs and posters to enhance the spectators' experience, the Rocky Mountain Longear's courtesy booth was a tremendous success, and the actual performances of mules and riders reflected more professionalism than before. Tack and harness were all cleaned and shiny, and the carts and buggies were all quite impressive. Despite longer coats on some mules, they were "dressed to a tee" and showed well; the audience was unconditionally supportive.

There were disputes to deal with as in any show, however, we mule people welcome the improvements these disputes will bring. Learning is an important part of growing, and those of us with mules are learning all the time!

Mules and exhibitors wish to express their deepest appreciation to the sponsors and supporters of this year's National Western Stock Show Mule Show. First, our gratitude to Coors and the National Western Stock Show for making this show possible. Also our

thanks to our class sponsors for their loyal support: Adopt A Burro, Bennett Hardware & Lumber, Bennett Vet Clinic, Bitterroot Mule Co., Colorado Poncho Syndicate, Cooper's Haulin' Ass Ranch, HW Leasings, Jackson's Jackasses, Lucky Three Ranch, Nordykes Circle Bar N Mules, Plumsilly Stables, Potestio Bros. Equipment, Sherer's Auto Parts, Thunderbolt Jack Station, Ranch Supply of Evergreen, VL7 Mule Ranch, and Watkins Feed & Supply.

Congratulations to all of our winners and a special salute to our champions: Champion Model Mule was Lucky Three Mae Bea C.T., owned and shown by Meredith Hodges of the Lucky Three Ranch in Loveland, Colo., Reserve Champion Model Mule went to Cody, owned and shown by Gale W. Fortney of Colorado Springs, Colo. Our 1986 Grand Champion Jack was Blue Zebulon, owned and shown by Fran Howe of the Bitterroot Mule Co. of Bennett, Colo.; Reserve Champion Jack went to Scott's Gallant Eagle, owned and shown by Ann Greer-Rankine of the Thunderbolt Jack Station of Grass Creek, Wy. Youth Pleasure Champion went to Jill, shown by Krystal Nordyke and owned by Larry Jarrett of Franktown, Colo.; Ranch Riding Champion was JD Diamond's Blackjack, owned and shown by Jack Dishong of the JD Diamond Ranch in Bennett, Colo.; Sidesaddle Champion went to Sally and Mule Pleasure Champion went to Nifty, both owned and shown by Zell Brink of Ft. Collins, Colo. Single Hitch Champion (48" and under) went to Sweat Pea, owned and shown by Bud Stockwell of Loveland, Colo.; Drive and Ride Champion was Lucky Three Mae Bea C.T., owned and shown by Meredith Hodges of the Lucky Three Ranch in Loveland, Colo.; Single Hitch Champion (over 48") was Jill, shown by Boomer Navarro and owned by Larry Jarrett of Franktown, Colo.; Multiple Hitch Champions were Maude and Cocoa, owned and shown by Vernon and Sandy Miller of Strasburg, Co. In the pulls... Lightweight Champions were Maggie and Jiggs, owned and shown by Larry Jackson of Commerce City, Colo. and the Heavyweight Champions were Jerry and Kate, owned and shown by Marsh Bates of Evergreen, Colo.; High Point Mule went to Jill, owned by Larry Jarrett of Franktown, Colo.

I would also like to extend a special thanks to all of those in the Costume Class; everyone did an excellent job portraying mules in their various authentic uses, making this, perhaps, the largest and best costume class ever!

Mule people are special! They work harder loving mules than most and are always there to lend a helping hand, as was apparent at this show. Congratulations to all for helping this year's National Western Stock Show Mule Show be better than ever; we cordially invite you all to participate next year. The more mules, the merrier!

NATIONAL WESTERN STOCK SHOW RESULTS

M-1 Miniature Mule Halter

M-2 Sponsored by: COPPER'S , Loveland, Colorado

1	Minnie The Mule	Cynthia F. Wolf	Littleton, Co.
2	Bitterroot Banjo	Bitterroot Mule Co.	Bennett, Co.

3 Jean Gordon Nordyke Bennett, Co.

M-3 Saddle Mule Halter

Sponsored by: RANCH SUPPLY, Evergreen, Co.

1	Cody	Gale W. Fortney	Co. Springs, Co.
2	Lucky Three Firestorm	Meredith Hodges	Loveland, Co.
3	Callipoe	Arthur Boyd	Ft. Lupton, Co.
4	Bitterroot Super Bill	Bitterroot Mule Co.	Bennett, Co.
5	Jezebel	Arthur Boyd	Ft. Lupton, Co.
6	Bushrod	Gaye Stockwell	Loveland, Co.

M-4 Saddle Mule Halter

Sponsored by: COLORADO PONCHO SYNDICATE, Bennett, Co.

1	Calico	Gorgon Nordyke	Bennett, Co.
2	Peggy Sue	Gaye Stockwell	Loveland, Co.
3	Rusty	Joseph Giesler	Longmont, Co.
4	Chester	William Rossman	Longmont, Co.
5	Funnybutt	Skip Jackson	Aurora, Co.
6	Sally	Zell Brink	Ft. Collins, Co.

M-5 Saddle Mule Halter

Sponsored by: POTESIO BROTHERS EQUIPMENT, Parker, Co.

1	Shenandoah	Mimi Weeks	Co. Springs, Co.
2	Lucky Three Stardust	Meredith Hodges	Loveland, Co.
3	Bitterroot Spider Dee	Bitterroot Mule Co.	Bennett, Co.
4	Prhzutah Tanka	Patricia Barnard	Littleton, Co.
5	Casper	William L. Millard	Montrose, Co.
6	Velvet Lilly	Hal & Diane Walston	Longmont, Co.

M-6 Saddle Mule Halter

Sponsored by: SHERERS AUTO PARTS, Bennett, Co.

1	Lucky 3 Mae Bea C.T.	Meredith Hodges	Loveland, Co.
2	Rambling Rose	Hal & Diane Walston	Longmont, Co.
3	Frijoles Dixie Belle	Sharon Anthony	Co. Springs, Co.
4	Lucky Three Ciji	Meredith Hodges	Loveland, Co.
5	Dummy	Larry Jarrett	Franktown, Co.
6	Pepsie	Georgia Andrews	Northglenn, Co.

M-7 Draft Mules Halter
NO ENTERIES

M-8 Draft Mules Halter

Sponsored by: WATKINS FEED AND SUPPLY, Watkins, Co.

1	Jewel	Ray Godfrey	Rapid City, SD.
2	Roy	Ray Godfrey	Rapid City, SD.
3	Merle	Half Ass Boat Co.	Wallace, KS
4	Maude	Vern & Sandy Miller	Strasburg, Co.
5	Cocoa	Vern & Sandy Miller	Strasburg, Co.

NATIONAL WESTERN STOCK SHOW RESULTS CONT'D

M-9 Standard Jack Halter

Sponsored by: HW LEASINGS, HAL WILSTON, Longmont, Co.

1	Blue Zebulon	Bitterroot Mule Co.	Bennett, Co.
2	Little Jack Horner	Meredith Hodges	Loveland, Co.
3	Colorado Poncho	Co. Poncho Syndicate	Bennett, Co.
4	Ed Boykin	Larry D. Jackson	Commerce City, Co.

M-10 Mammoth Jack Halter

Sponsored by: NORDYKES CIRCLE BAR N MULES, Bennett, Co.

1	Scott's Gallant Eagle	Ann Rankine-Greer	Grass Crk. Wy.
2	Beau Bonanza	Thomas G. Smidt	Montrose, Co.
3	Laramie	LeRoy Andrews	Northglenn, Co.

CHAMPION MODEL MULE

Sponsored by: BITTERROOT MULE COMPANY, Bennett, Co.

LUCKY THREE MAE BEA C.T. MEREDITH HODGES Loveland, Co.

RESERVE CHAMPION MODEL MULE

CODY Gale W. Fortney Co. Springs, Co.

CHAMPION MODEL JACK

Sponsored by: RMLEA

BLUE ZEBULON BITTERROOT MULE CO. Bennett, Co.

RESERVE CHMAPION MODEL JACK

SCOTT GALLANT EAGLE Ann Rankine-Greer Grass Crk. Wy.

M-20 Youth Pleasure Ridng
Sponsored by: BENNETT FFA, Bennett, Co.

1	Larry Jarrett	Jill	Franktown, Co.
2	Ann Rankine-Greer	Drifter	Grass Crk, Wy.
3	JD Diamond Ranch	Miriah	Bennett, Co.
4	JD Diamond Ranch	Black Jack	Bennett, Co.
5	Gail Allen	Jasper	Genoa, Co.
6	Larry Jarrett	Rufus	Franktown, Co.

M-21 RANCH RIDING
Sponsored by: JACKSON'S JACKASSES, Commerce City, Co.

1	JD Diamond Ranch	JD Black Jack	Bennett, Co.
2	Zel Brink	Sally	Ft. Collins, Co.
3	Larry Jarrett	Gin	Franktown, Co.
4	JD Diamond Ranch	JD Miriah	Bennett, Co.
5	Lee Schweizer	L.J.	Larkspur, Co.
6	Larry Jarrett	Babe	Franktown, Co.

NATIONAL WESTERN STOCK SHOW CONT'D

M-22 SIDE SADDLE
Sponsored by: BITTERROOT MULE CO., Bennett, Co.

1	Zell Brink	Sally	Ft. Collins, Co.
2	Ann Rankine-Greer	Drifter	Grass Crk, Wy.
3	JD Diamond Ranch	JD Diamond Miriah	Bennett, Co.
4	Larry Jarrett	Gin	Franktown, Co.
5	Larry Jarrett	Rufus	Franktown, Co.
6	Debbie McLain	Cletus	Larkspur, Co.

M-23 PLEASURE RIDING
Sponsored by: BENNETT HARDWARE & LUMBER, Bennett, Co.

1	Zell Brink	Nifty	Ft. Collins, Co.
2	Sharon Anthony	Frijoles Dixie Belle	Co. Springs, Co.
3	Alan McLean	Bucko	Golden, Co.
4	Meredith Hodges	Lucky 3 Sundowner	Loveland, Co.
5	Meredith Hodges	Lucky 3 Mae Bea C.T	Loveland, Co.
6	Bitterroot Mule Co.	Bitterroot Martha	Bennett, Co.

M-24 SINGLE HITCH

Sponsored by: THUNDERBOLT JACK STATION, Grass Valley, Wy.

1	Buddy Stockwell	Sweet Pea	Loveland, Co.
2	Gordon Nordyke	Jean	Bennett, Co.
3	Garrie Bates	Grubstake	Evergreen, Co.

M-25 RIDE AND DRIVE

Sponsored by: NORDYKES CIRCLE BAR N MULES, Bennett, Co.

1	Meredith Hodges	Lucky 3 Mae Bea C.T	Loveland, Co.
2	Georgia Andrews	Pepsi	Northglenn, Co.
3	Luann Arney	Bonnie	Sandpoint, ID.
4	Larry Jarrett	Jill	Franktown, Co.
5	Zell Brink	Sally	Ft, Collins, Co.

M-26 SINGLE HITCH

Sponsored by: LUCKY THREE RANCH, Loveland, Co.

1	Larry Jarrett	Jill	Franktown, Co.
2	Meredith Hodges	Lucky 3 Mae Bea C.T	Loveland, Co.
3	Luann Arney	Bonnie	Sandpoint, ID.
4	Georgia Andrews	Pepsi	Northglenn, Co.
5	Berl Vinsonhaler	Sparky	Littleton, Co
6	Zell Brink	Sally	FT. Collins, Co.

M-27 COSTUME

Sponsored by: BENNETT VET. CLINIC, Bennett, Co.

1	Garrie Bates	Grubstake	Evergreen, Co.
2	Larry Jarrett	Jill	Franktown, Co.
3	Haulin' Ass Acres	Goliath	Loveland, Co.
4	Joseph Giesler	Rusty	Longmont, Co.
5	Haulin' Ass Acres	Buttermilk	Loveland, Co.
6	Meredith Hodges	Lucky 3 Sundowner	Loveland, Co.

NATIONAL WESTERN STOCK SHOW CONT'D

M-28 MULTIPLE HITCH

Sponsored by: VL7 MULE RANCH, Montrose, Co.

1	Vern & Sandy Miller	Maude & Cocoa	Strasburg, Co.
2	Westernaires	Francis & Josle	Lakewood, Co.

3	Luann Arney	Bonnie & Bess	Sandpoint, ID.
4	Ray Godfrey	Roy & Jewel	Rapid City, SD.
5	Bud Stockwell	6 & 7	Loveland, Co.
6	Shayne Copper	Robin & Lou	Loveland, Co.

HI POINT DONKEY

Sponsored by: ADOPT A BURRO, Evergreen, Co.

GRUBSTAKE	Garrie Bates	Evergreen, Co.
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HI POINT MULE

Sponsored by: PLUMSILLY STABLES, Commerce City, Co.

JILL	Larry Jarrett	Franktown, Co.
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M-30 LIGHTWEIGHT MULE PULL TEAM

Sponsored by: HAULING ASS RANCH, Loveland, Co.

1	Larry Jackson	Maggie & Jiggs	Commerce City, Co.
2	Freeman Hollandsworth	Jack & Liz	Brighton, Co.
3	Shayne Copper	Robin & Lou	Loveland, Co.
4	Bud Stockwell	6 & 7	Loveland, Co.
5	Rockie Stockwell	8 & 9	Loveland, Co.
6	LeRoy Andrews	Socks & Sally	Northglenn, Co.

M-31 HEAVEYWEIGHT MULE PULL TEAM

Sponsored by: LUCKY THREE RANCH, Loveland, Co.

1	Curtis Boswell	Jerry & Kate	Elizabeth, Co.
2	Ray Godfrey	Roy & Jewel	Rapid City, SD.
3	Joe Freund	Bill & Bob	Elizabeth, Co.
4	Paul Dickerson	Tiny & Red	Eagletown, OK.
5	W.M. Heincker	Jack & Jill	House Spring, Mo.
6	?. Stockwell	Bisquits & Gravey	Loveland, Co.

For more information about Meredith Hodges and her comprehensive correspondence training program, *Training Mules and Donkeys*, please visit www.LuckyThreeRanch.com or call **1-800-816-7566**. Also, find Meredith Hodges and Lucky Three Ranch on Facebook and Twitter. And don't forget to check out her children's website at JasperTheMule.com.

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