

1966 Rodeo Reference Book



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President—Dale D. Smith, Chandler, Ariz.; vice-presidents — Don Flanigan, Danville, Calif., and Jim Bausch, Kaufman, Tex.; directors — Dean Oliver, Boise, Ida., Jack Roddy, San Jose, Calif., Jim Wise, Loveland, Colo., Leonard McCravey, Memphis, Tex., Joe Green, Sulphur, Okla., Jim Bob Altizer, Del Rio, Tex., Clem McSpadden, Claremore, Okla., Gene Rambo, Shandon, Calif.; stock contractors' representative —Harry Knight, Fowler, Colo.; secretary and treasurer—Gene Pruett, Denver.

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Editor—George Williams, Denver.

The Rodeo Information Commission
Chairman—E. J. Leach Sr., Salinas, Calif.; directors—Tom Brock, Omaha, Neb., Tater Decker, Clayton, Okla., John P. Burke, Casper, Wyo., Clem McSpadden, Claremore, Okla.; informa-

tion officer—Dave Stout, Denver; secretary and treasurer—Gene Pruett.

Rodeo Foundation
Chairman — Wes Statton, El Paso, Tex.; vice-chairman — Burt Kruglick, Phoenix, Ariz.; members of the board—Gene Smith, St. Paul, Ore., E. J. Leach Jr., Salinas, Calif., Tony Sneberger, Deer Lodge, Mont., W. C. Sullivan, Phillipsburg, Kan., Lynn Beutler, Elk City, Okla., Reg Kesler, Rosemary, Alta., Cotton Rosser, Marysville, Calif., Bill Feddersen, El Reno, Okla., Troy Fort, Lovington, N. M., George Williams, Denver, Colo.; secretary and treasurer —Gene Pruett.

The National Finals Rodeo Comm.
Directors—Dale D. Smith, Chandler, Ariz., Bill Feddersen, El Reno, Okla., Gene Pruett, Denver, Colo., Lynn Beutler, Elk City, Okla., Paul Banks, Burwell, Neb.; secretary and treasurer—Pat Scudder, Dewey, Okla.

Rodeo Records

Most All-Around Championships	Jim Shoulders, 5
Most Total Money Won	Bill Linderman, \$443,013
Most Money Won One Year	Jim Shoulders, \$43,381, 1956
Most Money Won One Rodeo	Todd Whatley, \$8,898, N. Y. Garden, 1947
Most BB Championships	tied—Eddy Akridge, Jim Shoulders, 4
Most CR Championships	tied—Dean Oliver, Toots Mansfield, 7
Most SB Championships	Casey Tibbs, 6
Most SW Championships	Homer Pettigrew, 6
Most BR Championships	Jim Shoulders, 7
Most TR Championships	Jim Rodriguez, Jr., 4
Most SR Championships	Everett Shaw, 6
Youngest World Champion	Jim Rodriguez, Jr., at 18, TR, '59
Oldest World Champion	Ike Rude, at 59, SR, '53

Annual Statistics, R.C.A. Rodeo, 1953-1965

Year	States With Rodeos	No. of Rodeos	No. of Performances	Total Purse	Entry Fee	Total Prize Money
1953	35	578	1,779	\$1,486,805	\$1,006,051	\$2,492,856
1954	34	550	1,721	1,485,488	1,240,702	2,726,190
1955	36	542	1,751	1,549,769	1,280,215	2,829,984
1956	33	519	1,699	1,516,552	1,345,973	2,862,525
1957	33	458	1,475	1,467,032	1,328,163	2,795,195
1958	35	475	1,535	1,450,109	1,341,998	2,792,107
1959	38	493	1,566	1,491,045	1,701,700	3,192,745
1960	35	509	1,583	1,578,915	1,508,005	3,086,920
1961	37	542	1,667	1,551,528	1,461,715	3,013,243
1962	37	540	1,587	1,548,728	1,531,374	3,080,102
1963	41	582	1,738	1,672,836	1,838,411	3,511,247
1964	44	591	1,795	1,690,379	1,975,091	3,665,469
1965	42	542	1,666	1,661,276	1,907,084	3,568,360

Arena Injuries, '65—364

1965 Membership 3,205

Arena Fatalities, '65—0



Dean Oliver, Boise, Ida.

1965's All-Around Champion Cowboy

The all-around championship in professional rodeo goes to the cowboy who at the end of the season has won the most money in two, or more, of seven competitive events. Also, he collects a healthier financial cut from the donors award roster than do the one-event titlists.

And, since the big-hat fraternity are deeply interested in money as well as proving their prowess, the all-around crown is the sport's most sought-after accolade.

The year of 1965 gave Idaho's rangy Dean Oliver his third all-around title in a row, for a neat \$33,163 won roping calves and wrestling steers. It was the most he had won any season and pushed his 14-year career total in R.C.A. ranks to \$285,687.

More statistics on the big man from Boise are, he also has been national calf roping champion seven times since 1955, five of them coming in a row ('60-'64) and is the event's top money winner in the record books, with \$263,183 through 1965.

Dean's background has a tinge of Horatio Alger. One of seven children he was born November 17, 1929 at Dodge City, Kans. His father, Vernon Oliver, sold motor car accessories, work that kept the family on the move and resulted in his brood being born in seven different states, Dean recalls, "from Florida to California."

But the father's real obsession was flying. In the mid-thirties he found a job that combined what he liked best and kept the Oliver family afloat financially as well, as airport manager at Nampa, Ida. Five years later he was killed instantly when his light plane crashed in a snowstorm. Dean went to work, before and after school and during summer vacations, to help

bolster the family exchequer, then quit school for good before finishing the tenth grade.

What was behind a gangling 19-year-old Idaho farm boy's fierce desire to become a rodeo cowboy, most of his current contemporaries feel, was an in-born love of competition and an unshakeable belief in his own ability. These facets still crop up. As the cowboys say, "he's a winner," at anything he tries, skiing, bowling, shooting or pitching silver dollars at a paper cup.

At the start of his cowboy career, even before he began roping, Dean practiced steer wrestling surreptitiously on his employer's dairy heifers, and even tried riding broncs. Un-wittingly, the bucking horses may have done Dean a favor by flattening him with regularity for it was then he turned to roping and the beginning of his climb to rodeo fame and fortune.

From 1942 through 1961, the all-around crown was worn steadily by men recognized mainly for ability in riding events. But the latter season, Dean, then in pursuit of his fourth calf roping championship, realized he had a good chance for the "big one" too, if he'd tally even a minor win in another event. He entered steer wrestling at one rodeo, won \$47, and went back to his ropes, to finish second in the sweepstakes race.

There was a reason for this seeming indifference. Six years before Dean had broken a bone in his leg jumping at a steer in Madison Square Garden, an injury that lost him the season's richest roping pot. Coldly calculating what the injury cost him Dean gave up steer wrestling, as a threat to his main source of income.

In 1962, still wanting the big title, Dean took a chance and picked up

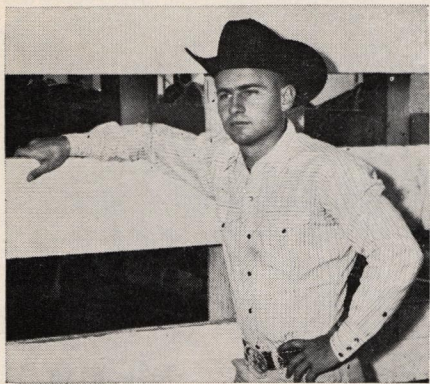
\$1,614 steer wrestling, along with his fifth calf roping diadem, placing second in all-around charts again; this time behind another roper-wrestler, Oklahoma's Tom Nesmith, the first to break the long reign of riding event men.

Then 1963 saw Dean earn his first term as the all-around champion, with \$2,954 steer wrestling and his sixth calf roping title. The next year it was the same story. Gaining confidence, he won \$7,559 steer wrestling, along with his seventh roping title.

By April, 1965, Dean had his 6'3", 200-pound frame back in the driver's seat again, a spot he never relinquished the rest of the year. Winding up his best season, Dean won \$9,477 steer wrestling—highlighted by checks for \$1,636 at Houston, Tex., and \$1,076 at Sidney, Ia., to place tenth in the final steer wrestling title standings.

Ironically, he lost out in his bid to establish a new record in calf roping titles—Dean and the retired Toots Mansfield are the only ones to have earned seven—by finishing second to New Mexico's Glen Franklin. The latter broke Dean's 1960 mark of one-event winnings in a single season, with \$29,646.

Emphasizing Oliver's coordination and determination is the fact he became proficient in another event after thirty, an age when most athletes are over the hill. There are many who wonder how long this man who neither drinks or smokes, and even passes up coffee, can keep his winning ways. To allay such apprehensions Oliver, by mid-March, 1966, had won \$11,807—more money than anyone ever collected before that early in the year—and was loping in front for a fourth all-around championship.



THE CHAMPION \$25,599
Shawn Davis Whitehall, Mont.

This dapper, young Montana cowboy's saddle bronc riding total is the most anyone ever won in the event during a single year; and as further emphasis, nobody prior to Shawn had come within \$2,000 of the old mark (\$24,121) set in '55 by the now retired Deb Copenhagen.

That financial feat alone makes Shawn a marked man in the world of professional rodeo but the blonde-haired bachelor owns other unusual facets. A convert to the Mormon faith, Shawn is deadly serious about his future, while giving the impression he thinks more of his tailor; fastidious to the extreme, one of his addictions is wearing monogrammed white dress shirts with tab collars to work in.

Congenial and unassuming, "the champ" neither drinks or smokes himself, but will rent a hotel suite and hold "open house" for his friends at the drop of a hat.

Born July 12, 1941, Shawn is the eldest of Mr. and Mrs. Herschel Davis' four children. There are two sisters and another son, Joe, in the family.

At four, Shawn, under watchful guidance of an uncle, Sam Kiskey, rode gentle ranch horses and at eleven, was breaking colts for pay. A year later he was entering local 4-H club rodeos.

Five years after that, at 17, Shawn was Montana state high school rodeo's bareback bronc titlist; and in '61, majoring in education at Western State Teacher's College at Dillon, nailed the first of four riding crowns in intercollegiate competition.

Attracted by the evident potential in the 5'8", 150-pound Shawn's riding, two of Montana's top hands, John and Ben Reynolds, took him in tow during the summer of '62, and in July watched him win the amateur bronc riding at both Calgary and Cheyenne. Shawn joined pro ranks ten days later.

Still mixing study with rodeo during winter months, Shawn ended up thirteenth for the '63 riding crown, jumped to fifth for '64. Going full blast in '65, Shawn "drew well and rode better," placed at fifty-six rodeos, including the N.F.R., with his biggest single grab, \$1,966 at Denver, at the start of the season. (Shawn's three-year bronc riding tally, \$47,844).

Saddle Bronc Riding, 1965

Winston Bruce Cochrane, Alta. (2nd—\$23,575)—Any of the previous nine years—before Shawn Davis went wild last season—Winston's prize money haul would have earned him another championship, hands down. He won the 1961 title with \$2,700 less.

The statement of other bronc riders this polite, 5'8", 150-pound Albertan already ranks with the event's legendary greats isn't idle chatter back of the chutes. Since '59, when Win came south of the border after winning every title in Canada, he has finished out of the top three only twice and won \$113,226.

Bruce has a unique style of riding all his own. He sits flat down on horses, moving effortlessly, "with 'em every jump." If you could fault his style, it is that he makes even the roughest horses look easy. He and his younger brother, Duane, were prepped from boyhood for a riding career by their father, the late Laurence Bruce.

Starting what turned out his biggest year, Winston led the standings in March after early indoor rodeos, then dropped off the pace. By July 1 he was \$4,000 behind. Catching fire in the next fifty days he won \$9,190, one of the greatest come-from-behind runs the event has ever seen. He caught Davis who won a little over half that much in the same period—then dropped back to second for good after Labor Day.

Enoch Walker Cody, Wyo. (3rd—\$19,350)—The 1965 season was a typical year for this 5'11", 155-pound veteran who was 1960's bronc riding champion. Over the past nine years Enoch has finished out of the event's top three winners only three times. (In '64 he was fourth, and in both '63 and '62 he was seventh.)

Over that span Enoch has won \$133,890, a total that is second only to Canada's Marty Wood, and '65 goes in the record as Enoch's second best year in a career which started in the early Fifties at Flagstaff in Arizona.

Born January 28, 1932 at Cottonwood in the Cactus state, Enoch is one of the few top bronc riders to come out of the southwest. An un-ruffled graduate of the school of hard knocks, he mined hard rock and ran wild horses before trying his luck in the rodeo arena. The idea there might be glamour attached to his calling has never occurred to Enoch. To him, riding broncs is a business, specialized perhaps, but a prosaic one.

His longtime friend, and former champion, Gene Pruett, thinks Enoch's greatest talent is his uncanny ability to recover his balance and timing when a horse stumbles or suddenly breaks the pitching pattern in any manner. It's a rarity when Enoch is loosened.

Enoch grabbed a momentary lead in the title standing three times during '65 and he collected 52 checks, the biggest for \$1,853 at Fort Worth.

Marty Wood Bowness, Alta. (4th—\$14,319)—Outside of the legendary Casey Tibbs, who has hung up his famous lavender chaps, after wearing them to six bronc riding titles, no one in the rodeo game has won more money on saddle broncs than Marty—a neat \$158,931 since '57.

Coupled with two championships ('58 and '64) the 5'11", 155-pound Wood has compiled a record of consistency amazing in an event where "luck of the draw" always plays a major part. In nine seasons Marty has never been below fifth in prize money take.

Born June 4, 1933 near Calgary, Alta., Marty grew up around horses, helping his father, Harry Wood, school green jumpers. Perhaps Marty's interest in roedos was heightened by hearing tales of his father's friend, the late Pete Knight, who came out of Alberta in the Thirties to win four national bronc riding titles.

Virtually unknown "south of the border," in '53 Marty appeared at Omaha to walk off with all the money after six near-perfect rides, and then head back north. He made several more brief tours to the States in the next three years but it wasn't until '57 when he finished runner-up for the title that his name became familiar to fans. Now, inside rodeo at least, it is synonymous with the event.

Bill Smith Cody, Wyo. (5th—\$12,661)—This Montana-born bronc rider who zoomed out of the blue in '65 to become a title threat, has been hooked for horses and things western since he can remember. Fellow contestants say right now Bill would rather ride bucking horses than eat, and this, in a way, is the synopsis of Bill's early career.

Born June 28, 1941 at Red Lodge, where horses and cattle support the town, Bill aimed for his goal early. His father, Glen Smith, knew livestock and rode broncs himself at nearby rodeos. Bill began by breaking colts for pay. Then, when the family moved to Cody the 17-year-old hopeful picked up further experience in the town's weekly jackpot ridings through summer months. In '61, Bill won the amateur bronc riding at Cheyenne.

Emboldened, Bill joined the R.C.A. three months later. But the pro trail was rough. Winning just \$613 in '62, forced him back home to work and save for fresh starts. Things weren't much better in '63. Bill won \$1,081 but was out two months with a broken collarbone, inflicted at Cheyenne. Then the tide turned in '64. He won \$5,523.

Perhaps it was the knowledge he had made it at last, sent Bill flying into the top five at the start of '65. He stayed there the rest of the season, capping it all with the two highest marked rides at the NFR, 79 points on his third and last mounts. By mid-March, '66, Bill was again close up for the title lead.



THE CHAMPION \$17,631
Jim Houston Omaha, Neb.

The see-saw duel for this championship between the rangy, Houston, defending titlist, and the hard-twisted, little challenger, Paul Mayo, has to be the competitive highlight of rodeo, '65.

Even cold statistics bear repeating; each man grabbed the title lead eight times during the regular season and even swapped places four times more at the Finals, where the outcome was decided on their very last horse.

Beating his Iowa adversary by \$641 for the year, Houston retained the championship he had first won in '64. With \$5,972 won steer wrestling during the season added to his riding total gave Jim the biggest haul of his 4-year career in pro ranks, \$23,603.

Born February 25, 1941, Jim first fell for rodeo at 10 when an aunt took him to see Cheyenne Frontier Days. While a student at Omaha Tech high school, where he was a fine forward on the gridiron, Jim spent vacations on Wyoming ranches.

From dusty summer, jackpot ridings, Jim, in '61, progressed to an R.C.A. permit but the abrupt change in his fortunes occurred a year later when he bumped into crusty, Pete Crump, a veteran, who said then of his protege, "there were a lot of things I could help Jim with but he had most of it."

You have to think like a winner to be one. Crump's constant pounding on this subject pushed Jim's name into national standings for the first time. By the end of '62 the gangling, 6'3", 180-pound newcomer was named "rookie of the year" and ended up ninth in the year-end title charts. In 1963, Jim was eighth for the championship and then, thirty-eight months after joining the R.C.A. he donned 64's gold title buckle.

To Jim's lasting credit as a competitor he nailed the '65 crown the hard way. Back in mid-August he'd lost three important weeks with a hand injury. Trailing Mayo by \$342 into the "series," he tore rib cartilages on his second horse, Knight's great sorrel, Come Apart. Taped from brisket to midriff, and hurting, Jim bucked off his third horse, managed to stay on board

Bareback Bronc Riding, '65

the next three, and then made a Gar-rison finish, winning the last two go-rounds. His Finals take, \$1,809, was more than twice what his rival won.

Paul Mayo Grinnell, Ia. (2nd—\$16,990)—Winning over \$25,000 (\$25,594) in three events any rodeo season as Paul did in '65 is, as the cowboys put it, "better than a poke with a sharp stick." Still, being nosed out right at the wire for the title bothered this stocky 5'8", 155-pounder, more than people realized.

Back in '63, an older brother, Don, was the event's leading rider. Closer than most brothers since childhood, Paul and Don were involved in a car crash, running between rodeos, that left Don sidelined permanently.

Born April 8, 1942, Paul, like Don, won high school titles in both rodeo competition and wrestling. Paul was the national high school all-around winner in '59, the same season he joined pro ranks.

After winning \$8,562 thru '64, Paul got away at the start of '65 like gang-busters. By Labor Day he'd won over twice his '64 total, and was among the top fifteen in bull riding to boot. Concentrating on his hope of winning the bareback crown Paul drew out of bull riding action at the Finals.

Oddly, it was the same horse, Christensen Brothers' sorrel, High Society, that the winner Houston had ridden for his first draw in the series—which brought Paul down in the last go-round and cost him the championship.

By mid-March, '66, Paul was back in front again in bareback bronc riding title charts.

Malcom Jones Lethbridge, Alta. (3rd—\$14,136)—This 5'11", 160-pound cowboy from southern Alberta, has twice been the Dominion's top bareback bronc rider and four of the last three seasons he also has been edging closer and closer to the event's national title. (He pulled up seventh in '63 and was fifth in '64).

Born June 16, 1942, "Rip," so-tagged for the time he spends in the arms of Morpheus, collected an overall \$15,591 in '65—competing in saddle broncs and steer wrestling occasionally—to log the best financial mark of his career which started in '60. A bachelor, Malcom has travelled much of that span with fellow Canadians, Kenny McLean and Bud Sharpe, both of whom Rip says, "helped my riding a lot."

Injuries have plagued Malcom at crucial points, when he was going strong in the title standings. Only \$711 off the bareback bronc riding lead in mid-October, '65, he pulled ligaments in his riding hand which cost him bunches of money the rest of the season.

Down at the Finals, he goose-egged on his first two horses—something he'd never done in his two previous junkets to the series—and had to draw

out on his next two. He got on the last four head without winning a penny, another Finals first for him.

Clyde Vamvoras Lake Charles, La. (4th—\$14,019)—A graduate of high school rodeo—he was their all-around champion in '60, the same season he joined pro ranks—"V.V." had the best year of his career in '65.

Born January 4, 1942, Clyde grew up in the countryside where he still lives. His father, George Vamvoras, owned a small farm. Clyde says "it was no sort of background for rodeo but when I was 14 I worked on another place and when the owner was gone I'd run in his bulls and try 'em. I must have really liked to ride bucking stock."

Other riders claim he still craves stock. Most of them agree it is Clyde's "throw it all at 'em" style that keeps him at the paywindow. They also know you tear a lot of holes in the turf following that method. Clyde is learning more each year about pacing himself.

Some evidence of this is discernible in the list of his '65 winnings. Only four of thirty-nine checks were for more than \$800, topped by \$1,115 at Sidney, Ia., in August. The other 35 pay slips he ground out with workman-like precision, from the start of the year to the end of November. By mid-March, '66, Clyde was back in contention for the title again, running third with \$4,228 in his pocket.

Jack Buschbom Mobridge, S.D.

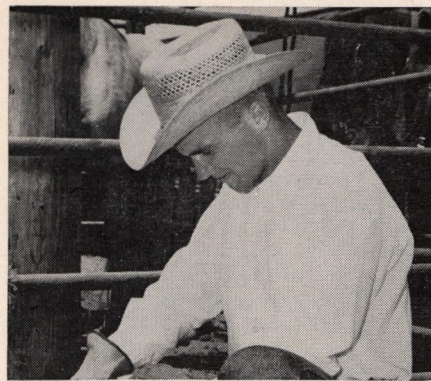
(5th—\$14,015)—Like other professional sports, rodeo can recall few successful comebacks from the downhill side of thirty. But this 5'11", 155-pounder is one of them.

Born October 6, 1927, Bushy grew up around Cassville in southwestern Wisconsin. His father, Bill Buschbom, was an early day bronc rider turned rodeo stock contractor. Jack admits to a real fear of horses then, the result of some narrow brushes with disaster; he remembers a runaway saddle horse somersaulting into a ravine and another, half-broken to harness, that bolted the full length of him when they met unexpectedly at the barn door.

Bushy's competitive career should be on page one of the record book. Over a 17-year span, he has won three bareback bronc riding championships ('49, '59, '60), been title runner-up four other years ('48, '50, '52, '61), and out of the top five winners only three times.

Two of those seasons he missed ('62, '63), Bushy was on the sidelines, undergoing intestinal surgery and getting a newly-purchased motel and hunting lodge started. Back in action midway of '64, he was ninth in the title race, capping the season by becoming the only 3-time winner of his event at the N.F.R. He'd won the Finals before in '59 and '61.

Jack collected 35 checks during '65, the biggest one for \$1,309 at Cheyenne.



THE CHAMPION \$18,105
Larry Mahan Brooks, Ore.

Claiming this affable, young Oregonian literally fell into his first national rodeo crown riding bulls isn't too far out in left field; until '65 was well underway Larry himself would have bet you he could win a lot more riding broncs.

Actually, he'd quit thinking about bull riding in '64 after an aptly monickered toro, called Stonehead, broke his jaw during a spring rodeo on the west coast. While the wired-up bone knitted, Larry came to the conclusion it was unwise to tinker with the bulls when he could make more, with less risk, in the bronc riding events. And, to prove his point he ended up among the top fifteen contenders for the '64 saddle bronc riding title.

But when he found himself in the middle of a cold streak the start of last season—he'd won only \$302 in both bronc riding events by the end of January—Larry dug down in his gear bag for his rope and bell. Three months later, he had banked \$9,214 and was leading the bull riding standings, a spot he never let go of the rest of the year.

Born at Salem, Ore., November 21, 1943. Larry went to high school in the capital city and spent his free time breaking colts at the state fairgrounds. Even then, at 16, Larry showed a natural talent on bucking horses. The rumor reached the ears of veteran, Bob Cook, who offered Larry a business deal.

Cook would pay Larry's rodeo expenses for a split of the winnings. By the start of '64 Larry had gained confidence he could make a living in rodeo for his wife, Darlene, and their small daughter, Lisa. After his bout with Stonehead, he bought a practice bucking horse, hauling the equine in a trailer behind his pickup truck. Getting to a rodeo early, he'd polish his "lick" on the old horse, but the farther they went the gentler the pseudo outlaw became.

"Finally," Larry recalls, "he'd just walk out of the chute. I'd carried him about 5,000 miles around the country by then and was kinda fond of the old dink. I turned him out in a friend's pasture and someday I'm going back for him. Get him gentle enough for my youngster to ride."

Bull Riding, 1965

Ron Rossen Broadus, Mont.

(2nd—\$17,084)—Most bull riders seem to thrive on the good draws and having things go just right. This hard-twisted Montanan, one of seven brothers all equipped with heavy duty muscles, seems to shine brightest when the going gets rough.

The only cowboy yet who has earned two NFR buckles in bull riding, when Punch gets his hand clenched on the rope and his gaze centered on the bull's head, you need blasting powder to bring him down before the whistle.

The champion in '61—he accepted the title from a hospital bed convalescing from a ruptured liver occasioned by a bull stepping in his middle—Ron had an even better year, dollarwise in '65. (He won \$13,392 his title year.)

Born July 7, 1937 at Ogallala, Neb. Ron and his family moved to Merino, Colo., where Ron went through high school and entered his first R.C.A. rodeo at Grand Lake, Colo., in '56. Now, he and his wife, Wanda Kay, raise Herefords and quarterhorses on 1,800 acres south of Broadus to augment their income from rodeo.

After collecting forty-three checks during the regular season, Ron came down to the '65 Finals to ride seven of the eight rankest bulls in the country and, one up on the rest of the season's top fifteen bull riders, won the average, worth \$1,849. (The 5'10", 150-pounder earned his first NFR buckle at the '64 Finals, splitting the average payoff with Bob Wegner, for \$1,854.

Ken Stanton Weiser, Ida.

(3rd — \$15,823) — Since joining pro ranks in the fall of '61, Ken has won \$81,239 riding bulls and bareback broncs. Few others in the sport can make the same claim.

'65 was the best of his five years in pro ranks—each of them progressively better—as the swarthy, little 5'5", 140-pounder pocketed \$25,787, to rank fifth in the season's money charts.

Born October 8, 1942, in Northern Oregon, a sector that has produced many top riders in the past, Kenny entered a kid's rodeo at 10. Later he apprenticed himself to Christensen Brothers, Eugene, Ore., stock contractors where he got a lot of valuable experience trying out prospective bucking animals under the coaching of veterans like Johnny Mitchell and Manuel Enos.

Quiet, unassuming, Ken seems content to let his riding ability speak for itself. A Finalist for the last four years — which underlines his talent since he's been on the road only five—Kenny has qualified in both his events twice. (He was tenth for the bareback bronc riding title in '65.) And the \$1,855 he earned in the Oklahoma City arena was the biggest chunk anybody took home from there last year.

Bob Wegner Auburn, Wash.

(4th — \$14,635) — Over the last eight season's this 5'6", 140-pound twister has earned \$115,114 on the hump-shouldered outlaws. Never out of the top five during that span, he also finished title runner-up three years, and collected the championship at last in '64.

His competitive record — he joined the R.C.A. in '53 — cements the expressed opinion of other members of the bull riding clan that "Weg" is capable of riding anybody's rankest bull on a given day. Short-legged, he seems to be the only one of that ilk who can handle the broad-backed bulls with the same ease as the slab-sided Brahmas.

Born March 10, 1934 at Ponca City, Okla., Bob grew up around livestock, started trying horses and bulls in the home corrals. His climb into national standing in pro ranks was no bolt out of the blue, but a progressively higher income each year.

Interested in raising and training quarterhorses—a vocation he plans to follow fulltime when his rodeo career comes to a close. Bob and his wife, Judy, moved from Oklahoma to Washington state three years ago. Bob collected thirty-five checks in '65. The \$813 he won at the Finals sent his 7-year take at the series to \$7,099, the event's money record there.

Bob Sheppard Tucson, Ariz.

(5th—\$11,974)—A lot of other cowboys were glad to see Shep come up with the best year of his career in '65; they were aware he'd at long last shaken a cold streak—one aggravated by injury—that had gone on for nearly thirty-six months, '61 being the last time he'd finished a year among the title contenders.

Born May 4, 1934 at Blooming Grove, Tex., Bob joined R.C.A. in '56 after prepping in high school competition. Shep's dry humor masks as dogged a rider as there is on the road. When he gets his hand shut he thinks he's ten feet tall. Not being built for heavy duty—he's an angular 5'9", and 135 pounds—this desire to make the qualifying horn come what may, has resulted in popped knees, pulled ligaments and ankle, arm and nose fractures.

Starting '65, Shep collected \$2,984 at Denver and Fort Worth, then put two more big ones (\$2,933) back to back at Ogden and Cheyenne, the latter part of July. Down at the Finals he heard the tooter on only three of the double-rank eight bulls allotted each contestant but typical of his gritty way of going, won two go-rounds.

One of an ever-growing group of golf nuts in the rodeo business, Shep has been seen on the fairways shooting a pretty fair stick with one arm in a cast.



THE CHAMPION \$29,646
Glen Franklin House, N.M.

As far back as '56—the year Glen joined pro ranks after winning his home state's high school roping crown—railbirds were touting the husky 19-year-old as the future national champion. As if to give the tipsters further authority, Franklin ended his freshman year third, some \$5,800 off the winner's pace.

In passing, it can be noted Glen captured the '65 championship by \$5,900 over his nearest rival and that his total (\$29,646) was the most a cowboy ever had won any season in a single event. Also, in the years between his start and the title, he was second four times, fourth once, and the three seasons he did miss being among the top three winners, he had been forced out of action by ulcers, wrecked wrists and twisted knees. (Over the 10-year span, Franklin's winnings total \$152,606, or an annual income of more than \$15,000).

The Franklin roping saga actually began while the two-year-old and his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Bert Franklin, watched a Sunday afternoon rodeo near their ranch home. The sight and sounds made a vivid impression on the youngster. Mrs. Franklin recalls now, "from then on Glen carried a rope in his hand wherever he went." At 12, he was ready for his first rodeo, a 4-H club affair at Tucumcari, and in high school the dedicated young man found time to win a berth on the all-state basketball team without sacrificing too much time from his real love, roping.

Much of the credit for Glen's record-breaking run for the title, he says, goes to his 16-year-old sorrel gelding, Red Light. Glen won Denver, Fort Worth and San Antonio in rapid succession which was a first in itself, and had over ten grand pocketed by early April. (Glen placed a total of forty-seven times calf roping during the year.)

Toward the end of the season, realizing he might have a shot at a share of the all-around award money, Glen entered single steer roping at Pendleton. His longtime friend, Olin Young, nudged him away from the pay line by a tenth of a second, but three weeks later Glen made his debut steer wrestling, at a small west coast rodeo, and won \$55, worth another \$450 for third in the sweepstakes race.

Born March 18, 1936, Glen is 6', 190 pounds.

Calf Roping '65

Dean Oliver Boise, Ida.

(2nd—\$23,867)—Down thru the years each calf roping champion has been indebted to a certain horse. In the case of this left-handed 200-pounder from northwest territory—collector of seven roping crowns from '55-'64—it was a scar-necked sorrel named Mickey. Astride this stout-backed gelding Oliver made hash of the record book and won over \$140,000.

It's true Dean won his first two roping crowns ('55 and '58) on other horses, but the Oliver touch — an effortless, magic timing—never was as apparent until he bought Mickey for what turned out to be a paltry sum, \$2,500. (In the fall of '61 the pair won nine rodeos in a row.)

When Mick hurt a stifle midway thru '63 Dean laid him up for a long eighteen months, missing the chunky gamester's free running and dying stop every day of it. Healthy again at the start of '65, Mickey earned Dean \$4,895 at Denver and Ft. Worth alone. Then, wisely, Oliver used his 17-year-old "taw" sparingly the rest of the season, and only when it counted. They won \$1,478 at Cheyenne and \$1,092 at the Finals. Dean pocketed 38 smaller checks as well, some of which he used to purchase a standby for Mick in March, '66; an 8-year-old black mare, Nancy Redstar, rated AA+ on the quarter tracks; and Dean says, owning a lot of Mick's class in the roping arena.

Lee Farris Sebastapol, Cal.

(3rd—\$16,154) — Lee, born May 26, 1942, had his best year in '65. The well coordinated 170-pounder grew up in the bay area of San Francisco where his parents owned a cattle sales yard. Cowboys working there gave the youngster the roping virus.

Lee first drew attention in pro ranks when Dale Smith let him rope on his legendary gray, Poker Chip, at Calgary and Cheyenne in the summer of '61.

It wasn't until two years later that Lee found a horse of his own that fitted him. This was an 1,125-lb. red roan gelding—of Tony breeding—that clattered to cattle in a hurry and put Lee down the rope with a rush every time. On this solid confederate, Lee has earned \$34,000 since.

The partnership almost was dissolved in September, '66, when Roanie, higher than a kite, got out of the home corral and took off down the highway. A neighbor spied the flying horse and diverted him into an apple orchard. Still under full throttle Roanie ran head-on into a pruned tree branch that missed his brain by a quarter-inch. The horse's life hung in the balance for ten days but by time for the Finals he was playing again. Lee brought him on to the series, his head still bandaged. Roanie worked like a champ on all eight rollicky calves, keeping his boss in the same place in the title race they'd held all season; and proving the gelding has a heart as big as a saddle blanket.

Ron Sewalt Chico, Tex.

(4th—\$16,111)—This speedy southpaw, whose dad, Royce, was the national calf roping champion himself back in '46, may be the man to beat for the same diadem twenty years later.

Owning all the confidence and ability needed for a championship, Ron, by mid-March, '66, was leading calf roping charts with \$10,000. This was \$3,000 ahead of the next man in the standings and an early start of the same magnitude was what carried Glen Franklin to the '65 title and a new money record.

Born March 31, 1941, Ron spent his early boyhood in the practice arena with his father as coach. Before he finished grade school the youngster was making all the right moves, smooth as glass, and experience has whetted his sharpness; few can equal Ron's blinding speed with a tie string.

Blessed with an ideal disposition for rodeo, Ron seems to thrive on competitive pressure. From the time he joined pro ranks he's been a winner. (Runner-up for the '64 roping diadem, Ron's money total '61 thru '65 is \$59,567.)

Happy go lucky about most things in life, the 6', 170-lb. Ron makes no secret of the devotion he feels for his father. So far in rodeo annals no lefty has climbed on the calf roping throne. If Ron should become the first to shatter that tradition it's a toss-up what he'd be prouder of: winning the title or vindicating Royce's faith in his ability.

Mark Schricker Sutherlin, Ore.

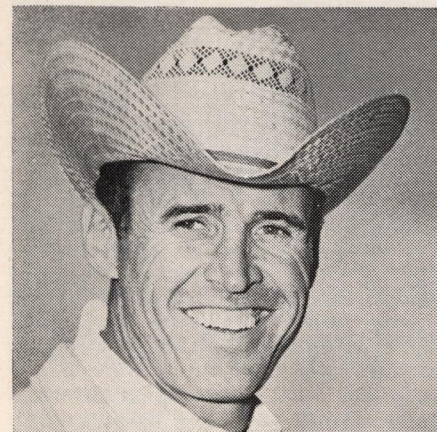
(5th—\$15,604)—A fine athlete in high school, Mark simply transferred that ability to the rodeo arena. The switch has earned him some \$83,548 in the last four seasons.

Marking the best year of his career, Mark in '65 collected \$30,696 in calf roping and steer wrestling, which was enough to earn him runner-up spot for the all-around championship. Proof of his equal dexterity is that he earned only \$593 more roping calves than he did in his other event.

Born August 28, 1938, Mark grew up around his parents' livestock auction yard and was introduced to rodeo by an elder brother, George, who gave the novice early training in an arena on the home place that was foot deep in sawdust. From there Mark progressed to state rodeos, then joined the R.C.A.

Until Dean Oliver first broke the reign of ropers from the southwest back in '55, northern cowboys felt they had the advantage only in riding events. Unwittingly, the rangy Idahoan started a trend which has each year since, seen more and more contestants from the cold country emerge as roping enthusiasts. They practice all winter long in building arenas. Schricker could be termed the best of that category so far.

Of Mark's roping, the headiest one of them all, former 5-time titlist, Don McLaughlin, has remarked, "all this boy needs is a horse to fit him. When he finds him, look out."



THE CHAMPION \$16,817
Harley May Oakdale, Cal.

The year of '65 began as many had before for this 17-year veteran. By mid-March he'd won only \$3,779 in the event, enough to rank him among the top five that early in the season but no reason at all for thinking of championships. In fact, Harley said later, he actually was considering that at 39 the handwriting might be on the wall. Just the year before he'd missed the top ten winners' list for the first time since '52; maybe the cowboying talents which had earned over a quarter-million dollars were slipping away.

Experience in any professional sport, among other things, brings knowledge the breaks make the difference. You go with your luck. It wasn't until mid-July Harley sensed there might be a chance to paste another title to the two he'd won in the past, ('52 and '56). At Salinas he picked up \$1,561, climbing from fourth in the standings to second, and the next week at Cheyenne made one of his famous runs on the last steer—downing the animal in 9.5 seconds over a 30-foot score—to collect the average, and another \$2,735. He spurted to the title lead and held it the rest of the year.

Born in 1926 at Deming, in southwestern New Mexico, Harley grew up on the Spanish Stirrup ranch owned by his father. Rodeo to youngsters in that region is as natural as sandlot ball games further east. Harley, at 10, won a kid's barrel race in his hometown contest.

Later, after serving two years with the air corps in the South Pacific, Harley graduated from Sul Ross State College at Alpine, Tex., in '51, with a B.S. in animal husbandry and eight college rodeo crowns to his credit. He is co-founder of the N.I.R.A. and was its first elected president. The next year the 6'4", 180-pounder won the steer wrestling title in professional ranks and set a money record that held for ten years in earning another in '56.

Articulate, and the public's conception of what a cowboy should look like, Harley has done much for the sport outside the arena as well. Three times steer wrestling director on the R.C.A. board, he served a like number of terms as its president and as chairman of the N.F.R. Commission.

Steer Wrestling, '65

Mark Schricker Sutherlin, Ore.

(2nd—\$15,021)—If the U.S. Army ever is forced into seeking testimonials as to the efficacy—and there's a \$5 word for you—of its physical fitness programs, let them contact this genial, 6'2", 190-pounder. In '62, at 24, Mark stacked on twenty pounds in five months, while in khaki, which transformed an also-ran into one of the toughest title contenders on the road.

Now, 28, Mark had his best year yet steer wrestling thru '65, depositing 37 checks in the event, topped by one for \$2,297 at San Antonio in February. During the same rodeo he also won \$1,252 calf roping which gave him a real boost in all-around cowboy standings. The \$30,696 he wound up with for the sweepstakes title at the end of the season was the most any runner-up had put together in ten years. (See Page 7 for Mark's calf roping bio).

In the world of rodeo all cowboys face a common foe in the livestock. The "luck of the draw" can make a good hand look like "Ned in the third reader" and by the same token create a big winner out of a mediocre roper or rider. Other contestants know Mark hasn't reached full potential yet but he has, so far, eluded prolonged cold streaks which, comparable to golf, get a man pressing too hard. He was 5th for the '62 steer wrestling title, 8th in '64.

Billy Hale Checotah, Okla.

(3rd—\$14,720)—Billy, the only cowboy who numbers both his dad and father-in-law as opponents in this event, has finished either second or third for the title since '63, a tip the hunch bettors might like to get down on this year, for the agile, 6', 185-pounder has all the ability needed to be champion.

Born December 1, 1938 at Colorado Springs, Billy's dad, Earl, drilled his son in the fundamentals. After graduating from Falcon high school with track and basketball laurels, Billy was packed off to Willard Combs' steer wrestling school at Checotah. Combs, the '57 steer wrestling titlist, had an only daughter, Jessie. Billy's trip for instruction blossomed into matrimony and the couple now have a place not far from the Combs' ranch and practice arena.

Billy is a fine steer wrestler. Enhancing this remark is the fact he is the only cowboy ever to win the rugged 8-steer Finals average twice. Billy accomplished the feat in '63 and '64, setting the series arena record, 69.2 seconds, in nailing the last one. The victory skein was broken with a third place finish in the '65 average. During the regular season Billy went to the lead after Salinas in July but lost it the next weekend to Harley May at Cheyenne. He ever got his hands on a big check the rest of the year.

Don Huddleston Talihina, Okla.

(4th—\$13,492)—One of the strongest men in the event, this 6'4", 235-pound Oklahoman has qualified for five of the seven Finals, pointing up the fact he has ability to go with his muscles.

Although '65 and '63 have been his closest moves for the championship buckle so far, Hud has knocked out a good living over the last ten years, augmented by letting other contestants ride his horses—as good as any around today—for a fourth of what they win.

This type of deal works well for both sides and is common practice among the fraternity. It gives those who are "afoot" a chance to choose a mount best suited to their style. If they win, a quarter of the loot is a lot less expensive than hauling a horse of their own. And, if they miss, the run costs them nothing. The owner, in turn, can mount four or five riders during a rodeo and, if they're good hands, he's almost a cinch to collect something. The horses were there, anyway.

Born August 21, 1934, Don beat a twin brother, Dale, into life by about four minutes. The latter also competes but not fulltime. In the beginning, Don picked up his ABC's in steer wrestling from fellow Oklahomans, Tater Decker and Sonny Oliphant. During the first five months of '65, Don won more than half his seasonal total but then the luck of the draw got him. He drew only thirteen more checks the rest of the year.

C. R. Boucher Burkburnett, Tex.

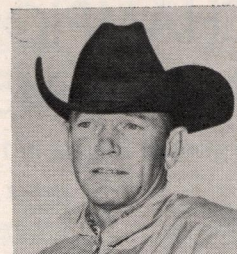
(5th—\$12,124) — After cracking the event's money winning mark and winning the title in '64, C. R. had a cold year for him. Only one of the thirty-eight checks he collected through last season was for more than a thousand and he won that at San Antonio.

The chill stayed with him right through the Finals where he got the "no time" wave-off on three of the eight head. This kind of luck was in direct contrast to his '64 series where—under the toughest kind of pressure from John W. Jones—C. R. averaged a little over 9 seconds on the same number of cattle and nailed the championship. You could have gotten long odds he was one guy that wouldn't walk away from the Finals anytime without winning something.

Typical of the way the cookie crumbles in rodeo competition, Jones made the '65 Finals when Dewey Dunaway wasn't able to get there, and won the average by fifteen seconds over the next man, a feat Jonesy would have given a pretty to have accomplished the year before when he'd been so close for the title.

Born May 21, 1931, and a husky 6'2", 195-pounder, C. R. counts as many friends as anyone in the sport. Raised in Montana, he migrated to the Southwest—after an army hitch—as a working cowpuncher then joined the R.C.A. in '52. He's a fine hand with horses.

Champion
Steer Roper
\$4,817



Sonney Wright Alto, N.M.

Before barbed wire fences parcelled the west, tying down big steers single-handed was part of a working cowboy's daily routine; the man, who in '65, topped the modern, stream-lined version of that rangeland chore was New Mexico cattle rancher, Sonney Wright. The championship was his first in a 30-year roping career.

Born September 19, 1925 at Fort Sumner—where Billy the Kid lies buried on the banks of the Pecos, south of town—Sonney entered his first roping contest at the age of 10 and has been hooked ever since.

Handling several hundred pounds of running steer on the end of twenty-five-foot of rope, cowboys claim, takes experience, horsemanship, and good horses. Wright has all these requisites. He raises cattle and quarterhorses on 20,000 acres near Alto, but like most steer ropers—with beef retailing over \$1 a pound—he uses heavy timber to simulate a steer's weight in training his horses.

A wiry, 5'10" and 165 pounds, Sonney finished among the top 15 winners three other seasons before earning the title; '61 was his closest bid when he ended up fourth in the standings. The title that year went to Oklahoma rancher, Clark McEntire.

In '65, Sonney collected \$1,055 at Cheyenne, Wyo., \$1,841 at Vinita and McAlester, in Oklahoma, and \$1,338 at Pentdleton, Ore., for the major part of his year-end total.

Joe Snively Pawhuska, Okla.
(2nd—\$4,202)—In an event populated largely by older men, this chunky 5'8", 185-pounder is an anomaly. Joe joined the R.C.A. at 17, in '58, and has finished among the top five winners four of the last five seasons.

There's an explanation for this deviation from the general rule. Joe is a second generation steer roper. His father, Jim Snively Sr., who was the champion in '56, indoctrinated his offspring with the fundamentals around the practice arena at home. Also, the Oklahoma Osage is steer roping country, and over the last thirty-six years there have been twenty champions from that sector.

So far the title has eluded Joe—this is the second time he's been runner-up, having missed the '61 championship by only \$94—but others know he's one of them you have to beat anytime he enters. Some of the runs he has made, like the 13.7 seconds he logged at the '65 Finals, are examples of co-ordinated hurry; the year Joe was born twice that time was considered a real, solid

run and might win it all.

Born July 11, 1941, at Pawhuska, Joe ranches on 700 acres southeast of his hometown.

Kelly Corbin Delaware, Okla.

(3rd—\$3,783)—In July, '64, an awkward young giant made his professional debut as a steer roper at Cheyenne Frontier Days and bounced into the winner's circle ahead of 77 other entries in the event. The 6'4", 205-pounder, then 18, was clocked in an overall 59.6 seconds on three steers.

Like his fellow Oklahoman, Joe Snively, Kelly Corbin is the son of a steer roping addict. Earl Corbin provided the ammunition and his great sorrel gelding, Heel Fly, to get Kelly on his way, but this is meant in no way to detract from the young man's native ability with a rope. His father's helping hand just made things jell quicker.

Born January 16, 1946, Kelly grew up steeped in the legend of other Oklahoma steer roping greats. Along with his dad, champions, like Everett Shaw and Ike Rude, took real interest in the youngster, who is the type any man would be proud to claim, and taught him the right moves; Kelly absorbed them, finished fourth for the title in '64.

Kelly plans to become a veterinarian, and toward that goal currently is a student at Oklahoma State University.



Champion
Team Roper
\$11,050

Jim Rodriguez Jr. Paso Robles, Cal.

This stocky Californian was the youngest champion ever in pro rodeo when—at 18—he first climbed on the tandem roping throne, in '59. Now, six years later, Jim owns another rodeo record. No one else has won four team roping titles in their career. (His other victories were '60 and '62.)

Born September 9, 1941, Jim grew up surrounded by the country's best ropers who came to practice in his dad's ranch arena at Castroville. One of them, Gene Rambo, saw the youngster's potential first. At 16, Jim and Gene, won Salinas, and then went on to capture Rodriguez's first three championships roping together.

But in '64, Rambo slowed his competitive pace to attend to cattle ranching interests and Jim found another partner, handy with a heel rope, in 22-year-old, Ken Luman. It was the latter who helped Jim to his fourth term, in '65.

Roping horns, which is the 5'10", 180-pound Jim's specialty, more often than not is an art overlooked by the grand-

stand. Unless the header positions the steer properly—and he's got to be consistent—the heeler's trapshots at the heels go awry. Jim handles his stock by the book. In '65, he picked up 23 checks—including one for \$1,298 at Klamath Falls on the Fourth—and wound up with his second best year ever in the event. (Jim's 7-year total in team roping, \$55,449.)

Ken Luman Merced, Cal.

(2nd—\$10,029)—Of this 6', 185-pounder's knack snaring a steer's hind feet on the fly, Jim Rodriguez says, "he's quick and good, and I believe he'll be one of the great ones," which is no faint praise in the rodeo business.

It means that Ken, with further experience, could take a place alongside Arizona's Tony Altamirano, John Rhodes and Olan Simms, or California's Clay Carr, Gene Rambo and Ted Ashworth in team roping history.

Born March 30, 1943 at Roswell, N. M., Ken can remember dragging a rope around even before his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Norval Luman, moved to the west coast when their offspring was five. The elder Luman, no slouch at team roping himself, broke quarter-horse colts for the late Frank Vessels Sr., at Los Alamitos race track before buying a place of his own further north, near Merced.

Ken started in junior rodeos at 12, practicing with his father. What he believes the mainspring of his roping is a 13-year-old sorrel gelding, called Red Man, he bought from his dad.

As a 2-year-old, Red had his sights set on becoming a bucking horse. He hadn't lost the idea even at 4, when he laid Ken across a barbed wire fence, requiring 56 stitches in his young master's anatomy. But the horse is all business now. The pair collected 22 checks in '65 for Ken's biggest year.

Billy Hamilton Phoenix, Ariz.

(3rd—\$8,660)—Raised in Arizona cow country, Billy learned to rope running maverick burros and wild cattle, a talent he put to good use in winning the '64 tandem roping championship.

Equally adept in calf roping, Billy—born Oct. 13, 1939—has, in the last four seasons, put together \$57,790 in his two events, and a lot of it has gone into a cattle spread he's building near Holbrook, Ariz. For Hamilton looks at rodeo as a business—one he's fond of—but something that has to pay off. Along those lines, Bill keeps a slew of practice calves and steers on the homeplace on Camelback Road in Phoenix.

Actually, until '63 when he finished fourth for the team roping title, Bill's economic attitude kept him from going down the road much. But when he started banking over \$1,000 a week early in '64 he realized he could make it. (Two-thirds of that over \$57,000 total, he's won in the last two seasons.)

The '65 season saw Billy pick up 17 checks in team roping, 29 in calf roping (for an overall \$18,805) and qualify for the Finals in both events. He ended fifteenth for the calf roping title.

CHAMPION COWBOYS 1929-1944

(From 1929 through 1944, rodeo's champions were named by the Rodeo Association of America)

ALL AROUND COWBOY		CALF ROPING	
Earl Thode	1929	Everett Bowman	1929
Clay Carr	1930	Jake McClure	1930
J. Schneider	1931	Herb Meyers	1931
Donald Nesbitt	1932	Richard Merchant	1932
Clay Carr	1933	Bill McFarlane	1933
Leonard Ward	1934	Irby Mundy	1934
Everett Bowman	1935	Everett Bowman	1935
John Bowman	1936	Clyde Burk	1936
Everett Bowman	1937	Everett Bowman	1937
Burel Mulkey	1938	Clyde Burk	1938
Paul Carney	1939	Toots Mansfield	1939
Fritz Truan	1940	Toots Mansfield	1940
Homer Pettigrew	1941	Toots Mansfield	1941
Gerald Roberts	1942	Clyde Burk	1942
Louis Brooks	1943	Toots Mansfield	1943
Louis Brooks	1944	Clyde Burk	1944

SADDLE BRONC RIDING		STEER WRESTLING	
Earl Thode	1929	Gene Ross	1929
Clay Carr	1930	Everett Bowman	1930
Earle Thode	1931	Gene Ross	1931
Pete Knight	1932	Hugh Bennett	1932
Pete Knight	1933	Everett Bowman	1933
Leonard Ward	1934	Shorty Ricker	1934
Pete Knight	1935	Everett Bowman	1935
Pete Knight	1936	Jack Kerscher	1936
Burel Mulkey	1937	Gene Ross	1937
Burel Mulkey	1938	Everett Bowman	1938
Fritz Truan	1939	Harry Hart	1939
Fritz Truan	1940	Homer Pettigrew	1940
Doff Aber	1941	Hub Whiteman	1941
Doff Aber	1942	Homer Pettigrew	1942
Louis Brooks	1943	Homer Pettigrew	1943
Louis Brooks	1944	Homer Pettigrew	1944

BAREBACK RIDING		STEER ROPING	
(No bareback champions named by the R. A. A. until 1932)		Charles Maggini	1929
		Clay Carr	1930
Smokey Snyder	1932	Andy Jauregui	1931
Nate Waldrum	1933	George Weir	1932
Leonard Ward	1934	John Bowman	1933
Frank Schneider	1935	John McEntire	1934
Smokey Snyder	1936	Richard Merchant	1935
Paul Carney	1937	John Bowman	1936
Pete Grubb	1938	Everett Bowman	1937
Paul Carney	1939	Hugh Bennett	1938
Carl Dossey	1940	Dick Truitt	1939
George Mills	1941	Clay Carr	1940
Louis Brooks	1942	Ike Rude	1941
Bill Linderman	1943	King Merritt	1942
Louis Brooks	1944	Tom Rhodes	1943
		Tom Rhodes	1944

BULL RIDING		TEAM ROPING	
John Schneider	1929	Charles Maggini	1929
John Schneider	1930	Norman Cowan	1930
Smokey Snyder	1931	Arthur Beloat	1931
Smokey Snyder	(tie) 1932	A. E. Gardner	1932
John Schneider	1933	Roy Adams	1933
Frank Schneider	1934	Andy Jauregui	1934
Smokey Snyder	1935	Lawrence Conley	1935
Smokey Snyder	1936	John Rhodes	1936
Smokey Snyder	1937	Asbury Schell	1937
Kid Fletcher	1938	John Rhodes	1938
Dick Griffith	1939	Asbury Schell	1939
Dick Griffith	1940	Jim Hudson	1941
Dick Griffith	1941	Vern Castro	(tie) 1942
Dick Griffith	1942	Mark Hull	(tie) 1943
Ken Roberts	1943	Leonard Block	(tie) 1943
Ken Roberts	1944	Murphy Chaney	1944

FINAL CHAMPIONSHIP STANDINGS 1945-1965

No. R. C. A. all around award in 1945 or 1946

Standings—1945		Standings—1946	
SADDLE BRONC RIDING		SADDLE BRONC RIDING	
Bill Linderman	\$ 7,104	Jerry Ambler	10,657
Ken Roberts	5,660	Bill McMacken	6,027
Bud Linderman	5,244	Jackie Cooper	5,831
George Yardley	5,240	Paul Gould	5,476
Bill McMacken	4,854	Tom Knight	5,437
BAREBACK BRONC RIDING		BAREBACK BRONC RIDING	
Bud Linderman	8,313	Bud Speelman	6,689
Bill Linderman	6,919	Bud Linderman	6,129
Gerald Roberts	4,983	Paul Bond	6,085
Hank Mills	4,340	Sonny Tureman	5,650
Paul Gould	3,898	Wag Blessing	5,520
BULL RIDING		BULL RIDING	
Ken Roberts	9,332	Pee Wee Morris	7,147
Dick Griffith	5,792	Ken Roberts	7,009
G. K. Lewallen	5,709	Wag Blessing	6,279
Todd Whatley	5,466	Glenn Tyler	5,282
Gerald Roberts	5,397	G. K. Lewallen	4,598
STEER WRESTLING		STEER WRESTLING	
Homer Pettigrew	6,630	Dave Campbell	10,472
George Yardley	4,844	Steve Heacock	6,945
Royce Sewalt	4,683	Dub Phillips	6,579
Buck Sorrells	4,532	Wilbur Plaugher	6,257
Dave Campbell	4,213	Hank Mills	5,307
CALF ROPING		CALF ROPING	
Toots Mansfield	14,180	Royce Sewalt	12,807
Homer Pettigrew	8,450	Toots Mansfield	11,272
Royce Sewalt	6,291	Jess Goodspeed	9,538
Jess Goodspeed	5,730	Lanham Riley	8,468
Tony Salinas	5,300	Dee Burk	8,287
TEAM ROPING		TEAM ROPING	
Ernest Gill	1,122	Chuck Sheppard	3,368
Toots Mansfield	993	Jim Hudson	3,157
Tom Rhodes	970	Joe Bassett	3,028
Sunny Edwards	925	Jim Brister	2,995
Joe Bassett	900	Manerd Gaylor	2,887
STEER ROPING		STEER ROPING	
Everett Shaw	2,573	Everett Shaw	3,894
Buck Goodspeed	1,137	Ike Rude	2,785
Harry Hart	1,071	Toots Mansfield	2,633
Carl Arnold	1,032	Buck Goodspeed	2,454
John Bowman	845	Carl Arnold	2,328

Standings—1946		Standings—1948	
SADDLE BRONC RIDING		ALL AROUND COWBOY	
Jerry Ambler	10,657	Gerald Roberts	21,766
Bill McMacken	6,027	Toots Mansfield	21,369
Jackie Cooper	5,831	Todd Whatley	20,017
Paul Gould	5,476	Gene Rambo	19,553
Tom Knight	5,437	Harry Tompkins	17,296
		Bill Linderman	16,878
		Homer Pettigrew	15,979
		Chuck Sheppard	15,694
		Buck Sorrells	14,970
		Vern Castro	14,642
BAREBACK BRONC RIDING		SADDLE BRONC RIDING	
Bud Spealman	6,689	Gene Pruett	11,221
Bud Linderman	6,129	Carl Olson	7,715
Paul Bond	6,085	Casey Tibbs	7,633
Sonny Tureman	5,650	Bart Clennon	6,736
Wag Blessing	5,520	Gerald Roberts	6,627
BULL RIDING		BAREBACK BRONC RIDING	
Pee Wee Morris	7,147	Sonny Tureman	9,813
Ken Roberts	7,009	Jack Buschbom	8,901
Wag Blessing	6,279	Bud Linderman	6,103
Glenn Tyler	5,282	Harry Tompkins	5,982
G. K. Lewallen	4,598	Wallace Brooks	5,919
STEER WRESTLING		BULL RIDING	
Dave Campbell	10,472	Harry Tompkins	11,313
Steve Heacock	6,945	Gerald Roberts	10,654
Dub Phillips	6,579	Sonny Lavender	8,417
Wilbur Plaughter	6,257	Todd Whatley	8,397
Hank Mills	5,307	Jim Shoulders	6,212
CALF ROPING		STEER WRESTLING	
Royce Sewalt	12,807	Homer Pettigrew	9,906
Toots Mansfield	11,272	Dub Phillips	9,411
Jess Goodspeed	9,538	Ken Boen	9,347
Langham Riley	8,468	Barney Willis	8,546
Dee Burk	8,287	Todd Whatley	7,523
TEAM ROPING		CALF ROPING	
Chuck Sheppard	3,368	Toots Mansfield	17,812
Jim Hudson	3,157	Zeno Farris	12,260
Joe Bassett	3,028	Dee Burk	10,855
Jim Brister	2,995	Jess Goodspeed	10,352
Manerd Gaylor	2,887	Troy Fort	8,664
STEER ROPING		TEAM ROPING	
Everett Shaw	3,836	Joe Glenn	3,881
Buck Goodspeed	2,588	Marion Vincent	3,676
Cotton Lee	2,561	John Rhodes	3,474
Jiggs Burk	2,340	Clay Carr	3,397
Dick Truitt	2,111	Willie Clay	2,935

Standings—1949		Standings—1950	
ALL AROUND COWBOY		ALL AROUND COWBOY	
Jim Shoulders	21,495	Bill Linderman	30,715
Bill Linderman	20,680	Jim Shoulders	27,583
Gene Rambo	19,494	Harry Tompkins	25,891
Harry Tompkins	18,875	Gene Rambo	24,161
Homer Pettigrew	18,553	Casey Tibbs	19,958
Gerald Roberts	17,286	Gerald Roberts	17,089
Vern Castro	16,896	Buck Rutherford	17,043
Bud Linderman	16,550	Vern Castro	16,557
Todd Whatley	16,337	Bud Linderman	16,457
Casey Tibbs	15,882	Homer Pettigrew	15,653
SADDLE BRONC RIDING		SADDLE BRONC RIDING	
Casey Tibbs	12,867	Bill Linderman	12,485
Bill Linderman	10,471	Casey Tibbs	12,308
Ross Dollarhide	9,110	Bill Ward	8,341
Bill Ward	8,229	Ross Dollarhide	7,636
Bud Linderman	7,631	Bud Linderman	7,404
BAREBACK BRONC RIDING		BAREBACK BRONC RIDING	
Jack Buschbom	9,240	Jim Shoulders	11,988
Jim Shoulders	8,635	Jack Buschbom	8,683
Duncan Brown	6,318	Buck Rutherford	8,194
Ike Thomsen	5,419	Wallace Brooks	8,059
Harry Tompkins	5,336	Casey Tibbs	7,042
BULL RIDING		BULL RIDING	
Harry Tompkins	13,290	Harry Tompkins	19,213
Jim Shoulders	12,860	Jim Shoulders	15,595
Gerald Roberts	8,449	Gerald Roberts	8,978
Todd Whatley	6,813	Dave Mason	6,237
Buck Rutherford	5,500	Bob Maynard	5,632
STEER WRESTLING		STEER WRESTLING	
Bill McGuire	8,058	Bill Linderman	11,946
Homer Pettigrew	6,957	Homer Pettigrew	9,608
Charlie Colbert	6,850	Dub Phillips	9,541
Todd Whatley	6,796	James Bynum	5,368
Jack Favor	6,637	Bill Hancock	5,137
CALF ROPING		CALF ROPING	
Troy Fort	14,145	Toots Mansfield	12,721
Homer Pettigrew	11,496	Don McLaughlin	11,201
J. D. Holleyman	10,425	Dan Taylor	10,762
Toots Mansfield	9,928	Gene Rambo	9,897
Jess Goodspeed	9,247	Ray Wharton	9,828
TEAM ROPING		TEAM ROPING	
Ed Yanez	6,050	Buck Sorrells	4,636
Vern Castro	4,509	Clay Carr	4,506
Clay Carr	4,480	Vern Castro	3,667
Andy Jauregui	4,093	Olan Simms	3,065
Olan Simms	3,863	John Rhodes	2,896
STEER ROPING		STEER ROPING	
Shoat Webster	2,813	Shoat Webster	3,226
Everett Shaw	2,111	Everett Shaw	1,706
Jack Skipworth	1,573	John Scott	1,409
John Scott	1,278	Jack Skipworth	1,200
Clark McEntire	1,222	Shorty Valdez	1,170

Standings—1951		Standings—1952	
ALL AROUND COWBOY		ALL AROUND COWBOY	
Casey Tibbs	29,104	Harry Tompkins	30,934
Jim Shoulders	27,244	Buck Rutherford	28,895
Bill Linderman	23,666	Bill Linderman	28,135
Buck Rutherford	19,923	Jim Shoulders	22,875
Harry Tompkins	16,321	Harley May	22,663
Del Haverty	15,402	Del Haverty	21,600
Bud Linderman	14,825	Todd Whatley	20,837
Gerald Roberts	14,245	Casey Tibbs	20,242
Vern Castro	12,827	Gordon Davis	18,735
Troy Fort	12,400	Elliott Calhoun	18,730
SADDLE BRONC RIDING		SADDLE BRONC RIDING	
Casey Tibbs	15,594	Casey Tibbs	14,631
Deb Copenhaver	11,338	Bill Linderman	13,389
Gene Pruet	9,039	Deb Copenhaver	12,157
Bill Linderman	8,818	Buster Ivory	10,721
Buster Ivory	7,880	Gene Pruet	9,011
BAREBACK BRONC RIDING		BAREBACK BRONC RIDING	
Casey Tibbs	13,244	Harry Tompkins	14,152
Jim Shoulders	10,465	Jack Buschbom	10,243
Sonny Tureman	7,444	Billy Weeks	9,757
Jack Buschbom	6,915	Jim Shoulders	8,591
Del Haverty	6,488	Buck Abbott	8,515
BULL RIDING		BULL RIDING	
Jim Shoulders	16,779	Harry Tompkins	16,783
Harry Tompkins	10,929	Jim Shoulders	14,103
Buck Rutherford	10,614	Elliott Calhoun	9,251
Gerald Roberts	8,673	Bob Maynard	8,869
Bob Chartier	6,123	Todd Whatley	8,038
STEER WRESTLING		STEER WRESTLING	
Dub Phillips	10,957	Harley May	15,381
James Bynum	6,971	Todd Whatley	9,175
Dan Poore	6,957	Jack Favor	8,230
Jack Favor	6,590	Bill Linderman	8,074
Bill Linderman	6,395	Buck Rutherford	6,935
CALF ROPING		CALF ROPING	
Don McLaughlin	12,822	Don McLaughlin	18,294
Troy Fort	12,241	Jess Goodspeed	14,980
Lanham Riley	10,359	B. J. Pierce	11,310
Dan Taylor	9,085	Gordon Davis	10,654
Doyle Riley	9,008	Doyle Riley	9,835
TEAM ROPING		TEAM ROPING	
Olan Simms	3,546	Asbury Schell	5,311
Clay Carr	3,106	Joe Bassett	5,039
Tom Rhodes	2,866	Vic Castro	4,892
Vern Castro	2,845	Buck Sorrells	3,855
Everett Muzio	2,526	Chuck Sheppard	2,929
STEER ROPING		STEER ROPING	
Everett Shaw	4,020	J. A. (Buddy) Neal	3,712
Shoat Webster	2,926	Jim Snively	2,896
J. D. Holleyman	2,126	Shoat Webster	2,361
Buddy Neal	1,917	Ike Rude	1,

Standings—1957	
ALL AROUND COWBOY	
Jim Shoulders	32,299
Duane Howard	29,944
Dale Smith	24,209
Alvin Nelson	23,746
Guy Weeks	23,118
Don McLaughlin	22,028
Harry Tompkins	21,528
Buck Rutherford	20,533
Bill Linderman	20,181
Glen Franklin	18,121

SADDLE BRONC RIDING	
Alvin Nelson	21,813
Marty Wood	17,565
Enoch Walker	12,202
Guy Weeks	12,069
Duane Howard	9,490

BAREBACK BRONC RIDING	
Jim Shoulders	15,197
John Hawkins	15,179
Harry Tompkins	11,330
Jack Buschbom	9,625
Buck Rutherford	9,572

BULL RIDING	
Jim Shoulders	17,816
Duane Howard	15,454
Harry Tompkins	10,198
Eddie Quaid	9,028
Joel Sublette	8,899

STEER WRESTLING	
Willard Combs	16,112
Sherman Sullins	12,753
Wilbur Plaugher	12,689
Bill Linderman	11,895
Benny Combs	10,303

CALF ROPING	
Don McLaughlin	19,575
Glen Franklin	17,707
Dale Smith	17,508
Ray Wharton	12,709
Herschel Romine	11,668

TEAM ROPING	
Dale Smith	6,521
Bob G. Jones	4,136
Frank Ferreira	4,061
Gene Rambo	3,342
Eddie Schell	3,308

STEER ROPING	
Clark McEntire	5,184
Sonny Davis	4,067
Everett Shaw	4,055
Shoat Webster	2,970
Don McLaughlin	2,390

Standings—1958	
ALL AROUND COWBOY	
Jim Shoulders	33,212
Guy Weeks	26,810
Benny Reynolds	26,450
Harry Tompkins	23,953
Jack Buschbom	20,293
Harley May	18,770
Tom Nesmith	17,574
Bob Wegner	16,560
Duane Howard	15,704
Don McLaughlin	14,687

SADDLE BRONC RIDING	
Marty Wood	18,771
Enoch Walker	13,454
George Menkenmaier	12,337
Deb Copenhaver	11,470
Tom Tescher	10,818

BAREBACK BRONC RIDING	
Jim Shoulders	17,121
John Hawkins	15,724
Jack Buschbom	14,153
Harry Tompkins	12,210
Benny Reynolds	10,357

BULL RIDING	
Jim Shoulders	16,092
Bob Wegner	15,249
Harry Tompkins	11,743
Billy Hand	10,153
Eddie Quaid	9,666

STEER WRESTLING	
James Bynum	14,280
Wilbur Plaugher	13,860
Willard Combs	12,365
Don Feddersen	9,874
John Hatley	8,933

CALF ROPING	
Dean Oliver	22,269
Glen Franklin	16,071
Don McLaughlin	13,857
Tom Nesmith	11,523
Guy Weeks	10,791

TEAM ROPING	
Ted Ashworth	5,363
Dale Smith	5,350
John Bowman	5,175
Gene Rambo	4,944
Al Gomez	3,842

STEER ROPING	
Clark McEntire	3,314
Jim Snively	2,175
J. T. Wilkinson	2,376
Everett Shaw	2,116
Sonny Davis	2,093

Standings—1959	
ALL AROUND COWBOY	
Jim Shoulders	32,905
Jim Bob Altizer	25,263
Guy Weeks	25,207
Harry Charters	24,930
Dale Smith	23,885
Benny Reynolds	22,724
Jim Tescher	22,223
Jack Buschbom	22,184
Tom Nesmith	20,820
Bob A. Robinson	20,420

SADDLE BRONC RIDING	
Casey Tibbs	17,485
Winston Bruce	14,250
Enoch Walker	12,625
Jim Tescher	12,157
Marty Wood	12,125

BAREBACK BRONC RIDING	
Jack Buschbom	17,611
John Hawkins	16,176
Jim Shoulders	15,885
Ralph Buell	12,489
Walt Mason	9,679

BULL RIDING	
Jim Shoulders	17,021
Bob Wegner	15,714
Bill Riestine	10,409
Joe Green	10,226
Ed LeTourneau	8,600

STEER WRESTLING	
Harry Charters	18,636
Don Feddersen	12,940
Danny Daniels	11,256
Tom Nesmith	10,362
Willard Combs	10,132

CALF ROPING	
Jim Bob Altizer	24,728
Dale Smith	18,421
Dean Oliver	18,104
Olin Young	17,732
Sonny Davis	15,678

TEAM ROPING	
Jim Rodriguez, Jr.	6,184
Joe Glenn	6,120
Gene Rambo	6,087
John Clem	5,449
Art Arnold	5,260

STEER ROPING	
Everett Shaw	5,155
Shoat Webster	3,753
Jim Snively	3,280
Sonny Davis	2,756
Troy Fort	2,695

Standings—1960	
ALL AROUND COWBOY	
Harry Tompkins	32,522
Bob A. Robinson	29,213
Guy Weeks	25,459
Duane Howard	25,367
Jim Shoulders	23,368
Benny Reynolds	22,168
Freckles Brown	19,838
Alvin Nelson	19,553
Jack Buschbom	19,064
Harry Charters	18,360

SADDLE BRONC RIDING	
Enoch Walker	20,832
Alvin Nelson	17,509
Winston Bruce	16,048
Guy Weeks	15,517
Marty Wood	14,221

BAREBACK BRONC RIDING	
Jack Buschbom	16,977
Harry Tompkins	15,379
John Hawkins	13,875
Jim Shoulders	11,847
Buddy Peak	9,661

BULL RIDING	
Harry Tompkins	17,143
Duane Howard	16,274
Bob Wegner	12,291
Pete Crump	11,688
Jim Shoulders	11,521

STEER WRESTLING	
Bob A. Robinson	13,768
Harley May	13,469
Jim Bynum	11,917
Jim Painter	11,569
Bill Linderman	10,668

CALF ROPING	
Dean Oliver	28,841
Glen Franklin	20,081
Sonny Davis	15,226
Don McLaughlin	13,953
Olin Young	13,562

TEAM ROPING	
Jim Rodriguez, Jr.	10,408
Gene Rambo	9,111
Harold Mattos	6,411
Les Hirdes	5,893
E. V. Dorsey	4,961

STEER ROPING	
Don McLaughlin	4,178
John Dalton	3,068
Bill Harlan	2,735
Shoat Webster	2,694
Joe Snively	2,394

Standings—1961	
ALL AROUND COWBOY	
Benny Reynolds	31,309
Dean Oliver	28,062
Guy Weeks	26,255
Tom Nesmith	25,497
Freckles Brown	22,652
Tex Martin	19,456
Dale Smith	-19,425
Harry Charters	19,010
Sonny Davis	18,747
Alvin Nelson	18,725

SADDLE BRONC RIDING	
Winston Bruce	20,833
Enoch Walker	17,608
Alvin Nelson	15,837
Kenny McLean	14,648
Marty Wood	13,833

BAREBACK BRONC RIDING	
Eddy Akridge	15,029
Jack Buschbom	13,519
Paul Templeton	11,844
Pete Fredericks	10,807
Benny Reynolds	10,315

BULL RIDING	
Ronnie Rossen	13,392
Bob Wegner	12,974
Freckles Brown	12,850
Del Hataway	11,192
Billy Hand	11,170

STEER WRESTLING	
Jim Bynum	15,565
C. R. Boucher	14,312
Benny Combs	13,587
Billy Deussen	10,656
Benny Reynolds	10,279

CALF ROPING	
Dean Oliver	28,015
Sonny Davis	16,318
Tom Nesmith	16,111
Glen Franklin	15,873
Jim Bob Altizer	15,649

TEAM ROPING	
Al Hooper	6,346
R. D. Rutledge	6,166
Harold Mattos	6,047
Les Hirdes	5,850
Ben Jacobs	5,031

STEER ROPING	
Clark McEntire	3,877
Joe Snively	3,783
Shoat Webster	3,771
Sonney Wright	2,756
Don McLaughlin	2,701

Standings—1962	
ALL AROUND COWBOY	
Tom Nesmith	32,611
Dean Oliver	29,989
Benny Reynolds	24,058
Harry Charters	22,694
Harley May	21,517
Tex Martin	21,384
Freckles Brown	20,483
Kenny McLean	18,370
Bernis Johnson	17,699
Mark Schricker	16,759

SADDLE BRONC RIDING	
Kenny McLean	18,204
Marty Wood	16,821
Winston Bruce	16,759
Larry Kane	11,654
Guy Weeks	10,137

BAREBACK BRONC RIDING	
Ralph Buell	16,720
Don Mayo	15,189
Buddy Peak	11,948
Walt Mason	10,138
Paul Templeton	9,567

BULL RIDING	
Freckles Brown	18,675
Bill Riestine	14,042
Bob Wegner	12,042
Billy Hand	11,648
Pete Crump	11,597

STEER WRESTLING	
Tom Nesmith	16,789
Harry Charters, Jr.	16,016
Harley May	12,331
Wilbur Plaugher	11,380
Mark Schricker	11,287

CALF ROPING	
Dean Oliver	27,756
Glen Franklin	16,242
Tom Nesmith	15,822
Olin Young	15,412
Bob Ragsdale	15,117

TEAM ROPING	
Jim Rodriguez, Jr.	9,623
Dale Smith	6,545
Gene Rambo	6,392
Frank Ferreira	5,985
Les Hirdes	5,470

STEER ROPING	
Everett Shaw	4,308
Sonny Davis	4,131
Don McLaughlin	3,688
Joe Snively	2,594
Jim Bob Altizer	2,475

Standings—1963	
ALL AROUND COWBOY	
Dean Oliver	31,329
Guy Weeks	28,717
Tom Nesmith	26,271
Harry Charters	25,149
Dale Smith	23,984
Bernis Johnson	22,110
Jim Tescher	20,904
Benny Reynolds	19,303
Jim Bausch	19,040
Bob Ragsdale	18,972

SADDLE BRONC RIDING	
Guy Weeks	19,372
Marty Wood	19,128
Jim Tescher	15,099
Bill Martinelli	13,722
Larry Kane	13,322

BAREBACK BRONC RIDING	
John Hawkins	16,388
Buddy Peak	15,655
Bernis Johnson	12,891
Jim Bausch	12,693
Clyde Frost	10,243

BULL RIDING	
Bill Kornell	15,452
Dickey Cox	13,180
Carl Nafzger	13,010
Joe Green	12,047
Bob Wegner	11,452

STEER WRESTLING	
Jim Bynum	18,252
Billy Hale	15,635
C. R. Boucher	15,363
Don Huddleston	14,460
Tom Nesmith	13,352

CALF ROPING	
Dean Oliver	28,375
Bob Wiley	18,180
Olin Young	15,334
Bob Ragsdale	15,116
Dale Smith	15,101

TEAM ROPING	
Les Hirdes	13,266
Al Hooper	12,186
Dale Smith	8,885
Billy Hamilton	7,642
Frank Ferreira	7,374

STEER ROPING	
Don McLaughlin	3,792
Sonny Davis	3,529
Shoat Webster	3,018
Troy Fort	2,681
Everett Shaw	2,638

1964 STANDINGS

ALL AROUND COWBOY	
Dean Oliver	31,150
Benny Reynolds	27,413
Jim Tescher	25,644
Mark Schricker	23,323
Kenny McLean	23,233
Ron Sewalt	22,831
John W. Jones	22,674
Jim Houston	21,822
Ken Stanton	20,492
Guy Weeks	19,282

SADDLE BRONC RIDING	
Marty Wood	22,148
Jim Tescher	21,577
Kenny McLean	19,760
Enoch Walker	18,033
Shawn Davis	13,289

BAREBACK BRONC RIDING	
Jim Houston	20,897
Jim Mihalek	15,086
Jim Bausch	14,070
John Hawkins	14,069
Malcom Jones	11,182

Leading Rodeo Cowboys

Explanation of event abbreviations: SB, saddle bronc riding; BB, bareback bronc riding; BR, bull riding; CR, calf roping; SW, steer wrestling; TR, team roping; SR, single steer roping.

A

Abbie, Hank **Rumsey, Alta.**
Born May 26, 1936, 5'10" 154#; married, enters BR; total money '65, \$5,082, finishing among the event's top 30 winners; was 12th for BR championship in '64, his first full pro year.

Adams, C. W. **San Luis Obispo, Cal.**
Born Dec. 27, 1941, 5'11" 160#; married, enters BR; total money '65, \$3,756; joined the R.C.A. in '63 while still attending Cal Poly; won N.I.R.A. BR title in '65.

Akers, Eddie **Bakersfield, Cal.**
Born Nov. 7, 1945, 6' 130#; single, enters TR; total money '65, \$3,747, finishing among event's top 30 winners; joined the R.C.A. in '63, and was 14th for TR title in '64.

Allen, Grady **El Campo, Tex.**
Born July 31, 1931, 6' 165#; married, enters CR, SW, TR; total money '65, \$2,834; a southpaw, he was inter-collegiate TR titlist in '57 while attending Oklahoma State University; among top fifteen calf ropers in '60.

Altizer, Jim Bob **Del Rio, Tex.**
Born May 19, 1932, 5'9" 175#; married, enters CR, SR, TR; total money '65, \$16,876; national high school CR champ in '48 and world champion CR in '59. Jim Bob has been out of that event's top ten winners only twice since '53; other ropers consider this icy-nerved Texan the toughest hand yet, any place you get to rope as many as five calves; proof of this, Altizer's wins CR at both the 1964 and 1965 Finals; runner up for the SR title in '64, he finished 9th for the same crown in '65; runs 75,000-acre stock ranch at Del Rio; was also 9th for the CR championship in '65.

Anderson, Jim **Cave Creek, Ariz.**
Born March 27, 1936, 6'1" 173#; married, enters CR, TR; total money '65, \$3,860; a son of long-time Arizona rancher, Kenneth Anderson, Jim learned to rope in the rugged cattle country in southeastern Maricopa county; nobody quits a rope horse faster and fellow Arizonans claim he'd be tough for the CR title if he'd travel more; with boxing as a hobby he runs Hereford cattle at Cave Creek; joined the R.C.A. in '63.

Anthony, Dale **Littleton, Colo.**
Born Sept. 13, 1941, 6'3" 215#; single, enters CR, SW; total money '65, \$3,838; a graduate of Toots Mansfield roping school, Dale may be one of the old master's prize alumnus; Dale has all the right moves down pat and needs only a good horse to complement his ability to threaten for a title; joined the R.C.A. in '60.

Arave, Neal **Idaho Falls, Ida.**
Born April 1, 1936, 5'10" 170#; single, enters SB, BB, SW, TR; total money '65, \$6,747; raised on a ranch Neal joined the R.C.A. in '60, tutored by fellow Idahoan, Mike Isley and a brother Dale Arave; one of the few four-event twisters, Neal's best shot is BB but other rodeo hands say, for Neal's size he's one of the best steer wrestlers in the game.

Arnold, Art **Buckeye, Ariz.**
Born March 20, 1940, 5'6" 130#; married, enters CR, TR; total money '65, \$4,517; a son of Carl Arnold, Arizona rancher and long-time rodeo contestant, Art has been among the top fifteen TR winners for the last three years ending up 13th for that title in '65; nobody ties the heel knot faster.

Arnold, Walt **Silverton, Tex.**
Born Sept. 1, 1938, 5'11" 170#; married, enters CR, SR, TR; total money '65, \$4,615; ranch-raised Walt joined the R.C.A. in '64 and climbed to 6th for the SR championship in '65; highlight of the latter season for Walt was his \$1,300 victory at the SR Finals in Vinita, Okla.

Ashorn, Bo **Houston, Tex.**
Born Aug. 1, 1943, 5'9" 148#; single, enters BR, SW; total money '65 \$5,785; raised on a farm, Bo joined the R.C.A. in '59 "because he liked the sport"; an amateur pool shark, when he's in the mood he can make one of the best bull ropes ever to go 'round a bull's middle; finished among the top 30 winners BR in '65.

B

Badger, Ken **Onida, S.D.**
Born Jan. 16, 1934, 5'10" 155#; single, enters SB, BB; total money '65, \$6,562; raised on a ranch, joined the R.C.A. in '59 coached by the late Billy Myers and Terry Etzkorn; works on a cattle ranch during winter months and rodeos mostly in the middle west; had his best year yet, dollar-wise, in '65.

Bales, R. C. **Lewisville, Tex.**
Born July 30, 1930, 6' 155#; married, enters BR; total money '65, \$5,846; finished among the top 30 winners BR in '65; contests mostly in the south-west; joined the R.C.A. in '48.

Bauerle, Leon **Kyle, Tex.**
Born July 17, 1938, 6'1" 195#; single, enters SW, CR; total money '65, \$4,913; among top fifteen SW winners in '62 and '63; joined the R.C.A. in '60.

Bausch, Jim **Kaufman, Tex.**
Born July 10, 1939, 6' 170#; single, enters SB, BB, SW; total money '65 \$9,954; raised in the Black Hills range country Jim joined the R.C.A. in '58 still in the midst of a championship career in inter-collegiate rodeo, at Sul Ross State College in Alpine, Tex; appointed a vice-president of the R.C.A. in '64; Jim's closest bid for a national rodeo title was the same season when he finished third for the BB crown; he was among the event's top thirty winners in '65.

Becker, Eddie **Ashby, Neb.**
Born April 24, 1929, 5'10" 160#; married, enters CR, SR; total money '65, \$1,209; manager of a cattle ranch Eddie contests near home base during summer months; finished 14th for the SR title in '65; joined the R.C.A. in '51.

Belyeu, Howard **Phoenix, Ariz.**
Born Sept. 11, 1939, 5'10" 145#; single, enters BR; total money '65, \$4,830; graduate of Arizona junior rodeos he joined the R.C.A. in '56 along with a brother, the late Ray Belyeu; the latter was injured fatally in a car-truck crash at Tucson last December; Howard was among the top 30 BR winners in '65.

Berger, Bob **Halstead, Kans.**
Born June 22, 1945, 5'6" 130#; single, enters SB, BR; total money '65 \$6,602; named top newcomer saddle bronc riding in '65, Bobby owns a background of high school and junior college rodeo competition; he was Kansas state high school all-around champ in both '62 and '63; following in the footsteps of two older brothers, Bobby has tried to pattern his riding style after Kenny McLean, rides with a right rein like the Canadian great.

Berry, Ace **Modesto, Cal.**
Born Jan. 13, 1947, 5'8" 150#; single, enters TR; BB; total money '65 \$6,524; son of the late Virgil Berry, a top west coast team roper, Ace has finished among the top fifteen winners TR three of the last four seasons; 9th for the TR title in '64 he was 16th in '65; Ace was coached by the '48 champion, Sonny Tureman, in his BB start.

Bigon, Ron **Santa Rosa, Cal.**
Born May 16, 1937, 5'7" 144#; married, enters TR, SB, BR; total money '65 \$5,265; joined the R.C.A. in '63 after a five-year stint in California state rodeos; heeling for Jack Gomez in '64 Ron finished 12th for the pro TR title; wound up among the events top 30 winners in '65.

Bond, Merrill **Ordway, Colo.**
Born March 17, 1942, 5'11" 150#; single, enters CR, TR, SW, BB; total money '65 \$5,795; a graduate of high school and college rodeo competition, the latter at C.S.U. in Ft. Collins, he won the college CR title for the Rocky Mountain region in '62; joined the R.C.A. in '63.

Bothum, Jim **Woodburn, Ore.**
Born Sept. 23, 1940, 5'10" 160#; single, enters SB; total money '65 \$5,208; ranch-raised Jim got on his first head of stock at a kids' rodeo in Aurora, Ore., in '53, then joined pro ranks in '60 helped by Ron Raymond and veteran Manuel Enos; wound up among the top 30 SB winners in '65.

Bowman, Ron **Durant, Okla.**
Born May 9, 1941, 5'10" 155#; married, enters BR, CR; total money '65 \$7,781; joining the R.C.A. in '65 he finished 14th for the BR title; an amateur photographer Ron was ranch-raised, still runs a few cattle in partnership with his father, Paul Bowman; the latter wanted his son to be a calf roper and started him as such in junior rodeo competition; Ron owns a B.S. in general business administration from Southeastern State College at Durant.

Boucher, C. R. **Page 8**

Branham, Jack **Tucson, Ariz.**
Born Sept. 19, 1926, 5'11" 180#; single, enters CR, TR; total money '65 \$3,742; raised around Bisbee, Ariz., Jack entered his first contest, an impromptu gathering of working cowhands at Naco, a nearby border town, then joined the R.C.A. in '47; a smooth horn roper and quick on the heel tie, Jack and his partner, Al Gastellum, logged the fastest time in the tie-down version of TR at the '65 Finals, a neat 11.1 seconds.

Brannon, Don **Lakewood, Colo.**
Born Aug. 20, 1932, 5'11" 165#; single, enters CR, SW; total money '65, \$6,099; joining the R.C.A. in '50 Don had the best year of his career in '64 when he would up 12th for the SW championship; troubled by torn knee ligaments he failed to make the title standings in either of his events in '65.

Brown, Freckles **Soper, Okla.**
Born Jan. 18, 1921, 5'8" 160#; married, enters SB, BB, BR; total money '65 \$2,276; a living legend, Freckles won the BR title in '63 proving himself the exception to the rule that the event is a young man's game; a broken neck received at the end of his title season has slowed his fabulous cowboy career which began 28 years ago at Willcox, Ariz.; most of the \$70,000-odd Freckles won in the arena over the last five seasons has gone into his ranch at Soper.

Bruce, Duane **Calgary, Alta.**
Born Feb. 18, 1939, 5'9" 155#; married enters SB; total money '65 \$4,164; both Duane and his brother, Winston, were

schooled for their riding careers by their father, the late Laurence Bruce, who had been one of the Dominion's top bronc riders himself; Duane joined the R.C.A. in '58, wound up among the top 30 SB winners in '65.

Bruce, Winston **Page 4**

Bryant, Dick **Loveland, Colo.**
Born July 28, 1932, 5'8" 140#; married, enters BB, BR; total money '65, \$5,140; contests mostly in the Rocky Mountain states and mixes his rodeoing with a carpenter's tools; joined the R.C.A. in '50; like many other riding veterans Dick suffers from a recurring shoulder injury which can often sideline him for weeks at a time.

Buell, Ralph **San Diego, Cal.**
Born April 29, 1930, 6'1" 180#; married, enters BB; total money '65 \$4,979; started his rodeo career in '49 on the University of Arizona rodeo team; among the top fifteen BB winners from '58 thru '62 when he won that year's championship, Ralph has confined his contesting to the west coast area since; finished among the top 30 BB winners in '65.

Burk, Barry **Comanche, Okla.**
Born Jan. 11, 1942, 6' 185#; married, enters CR, SW; total money '65 \$18,389; son of a famous roper, Dee Burk, Barry won five all-around cowboy titles in junior rodeo prepping for his pro rodeo career which began in '63; since that year Barry has collected nearly \$55,000 (\$54,935) and finished among the top fifteen winners in at least one of his events each season; he was 9th for the CR title in '65 and among the top 30 in SW; most everyone inside rodeo believes it's just a matter of time until Barry collects his first pro title; the dun gelding he rides in CR is one of the best in the business.

Burkholder, Jack **San Antonio, Tex.**
Born July 22, 1938, 5'7" 165#; married, enters CR, TR; total money '65, \$5,828; a high school teacher during winter months, Jack bolsters his income in the rodeo arena during summer months; national high school all-around champion in '54 he was inter-collegiate CR titlist in '57 and the all-around winner in '58.

Burnett, Boyce **Longmont, Colo.**
Born Aug. 26, 1934, 5'11" 170#; married, enters SB, BR; total money '65, \$4,397; born in upper New York state, Boyce migrated to the Dakotas in '52 where Casey Tibbs and Duane Howard got him started on a pro rodeo career; a fair hand with a lariat rope along with his riding ability, Boyce won't believe he's as good a cowboy as he really is; out for the first six months of '65 with torn knee ligaments Boyce started '66 at Odessa, Tex., wound up with three broken ribs when a bull hooked him, costing him another 6 weeks on the sidelines.

Buschbom, Jack **Page 5**

Bynum, James **Waxahachie, Tex.**
Born Sept. 15, 1924, 6'2" 245#; married, enters SW; total money '65 \$4,154; four time SW champion ('54, '58, '61, '63) James rodeos hard only during dry years when his cotton crop is small; '65 was a wet year, which made other steer wrestlers happy they didn't have to contend much with the big man who's been tough for the money the last 15 years.

C

Carroll, Dale **Galt, Cal.**
Born Nov. 15, 1938, 6' 185# married, enters CR, TR, SW; total money '65, \$4,906; a transplanted Texan, Dale joined the R.C.A. in '55, helped by veteran Ross Martin; before that Dale had won four saddles in Texas state high school rodeos; as a business sideline Dale manufactures stock trailer mats.

Chambliss, Hugh **Albuquerque, N.M.**
Born April 9, 1946, 5'10" 140#; single, enters SB, BB; total money '65, \$1,508; sporting a championship career in high school rodeo, he was New Mexico state all-around titlist and national SB champ in '64, Hugh joined the R.C.A. in July, '65 and is one of the newcomers the pros are watching; in the beginning Hugh was helped by his parents who bought him a practice bucking horse and by former Canadian George Aldoff; facing the top pros at Denver '66 Hugh placed deep in the SB average as a start for his first full season.

Charles, Jim **Oakdale, Cal.**
Born March 26, 1936, 5'11" 165#; married, enters BB, SW; total money '65, \$9,011; one of the best lightweight steer wrestlers in the game, Jim also wins steadily in BR; from '59 thru '63 he was among the top fifteen winners each season but missed in '65 winding up sixteenth for the year; started in the beginning by Harley May, Jim is a good businessman and has invested his winnings in California real estate.

Charters, Harry Jr. **Melba, Ida.**
Born April 16, 1925, 6'6" 250#; married, enters CR, SW, TR; total money '65, \$8,231; big Harry won the SW title and "rookie of the year" award in the same year, '59, and thru '65 had earned \$124,550; he finished among the top fifteen winners SW from '59 thru '64 and in CR as well in '60, '61, and '63; the heftiest hand in the game, Harry has three sons almost as big as he is; two of them, Tom and Dennis, are making their mark in high school rodeo.

Chartier, Dallas **Benkelman, Neb.**
Born April 16, 1940, 5'10" 150#; married, enters BR; total money '65, \$6,980; following in the footsteps of an older brother, Bob Chartier, Dallas joined the R.C.A. in '56; rodeos only part time,

quits the arena to break thoroughbred yearlings; raises game chickens for a hobby; finished '65 among the top 30 BR winners.

Clem, John **Buckeye, Ariz.**
Born Sept. 12, 1933, 6'2" 188#; married, enters CR, TR; total money '65, \$6,369; a successful cattle rancher John seldom leaves his home state to rodeo; proof of this, he entered only one out of Arizona in '65, at Pecos, Tex., finished 12th for the TR title anyway; was among the top fifteen in the event also in '59 and '64.

Clifford, Jim **Ribstone, Alta.**
Born Aug. 4, 1940, 5'8" 165#; single, enters SB, BB, BR, SW; total money '65, \$8,055; the Dominion's BB champ in '65, Jim has been one of the top hands north of the border for several years; he made the '65 Finals joining Malcolm Jones as the only two Canadian cowboys to qualify BB at the annual title playoffs; pulled leg muscles and re-injury to his riding hand kept Jim from improving his fifteenth place finish in the event's '66 title charts.

Cockrell, Lee **Panhandle, Tex.**
Born May 1, 1933, 6' 200#; married, enters CR; total money '65, \$11,165; intercollegiate CR champ in '54, Lee has been tough to beat ever since; a successful wheat and cattle rancher he also owns an indoor roping arena, western store, and trailer sales concern; despite these varied interests Lee finished 9th for the CR title in '65.

Collins, Larry **Wheatland, Wyo.**
Born June 8, 1939, 6' 190#; married, enters SB, BB, BR; total money '65, \$8,176; an R.C.A. member since '60, Larry never tried to rodeo hard until '64, one of the reasons, he has a good job as a power lineman; but winning \$7,900 that year convinced him he ought to hit the road more often; his '65 winnings are the best of his career so far.

Combs, Willard **Checotah, Okla.**
Born June 14, 1922, 6' 200#; married, enters SW; total money '65, \$5,909, putting him among the event's top 30 winners for the year; this was a drop for the man most cowboys consider dean of the event; SW champ in '57, Willard has been among the top ten winners SW, eight of the last thirteen years; a younger brother, Benny Combs, was SW champ in '55; and a son Tommy, 20, is now following in Willard's footsteps.

Corbin, Kelly **Delaware, Okla.**
Born Jan. 16, 1946, 6'4" 210#; single, enters CR, SR; total money '65, \$4,229; a second generation roper, his father is Earl Corbin; Kelly joined the R.C.A. in '64, wound up 4th for the SR title that season; the husky young man proved what he can do with a rope again in '65, finishing 3rd for the SR title; along with his dad, Kelly had another of the best coaches in the

game, former 6-time SR champion, Everett Shaw; Kelly is studying veterinary medicine at O.S.U.

Corwin, Bud **Acampo, Cal.**
Born June 10, 1934, 6'1" 180#; married, enters CR, TR; total money '65 \$5,967; on Cal Poly's rodeo team in '54 and '55, Bud joined the R.C.A. the next year prepped by veteran Buck Sorrells; the '65 season was Bud's best, dollar-wise.

Cox, Dickey **McKinney, Tex.**
Born July 12, 1939, 5'7" 160#; married, enters BR; total money '65, \$6,587; runner-up for the BR championship in '63 and sixth for the same crown in '64, Dickey breaks and trains cutting horses in addition to his contesting; finished among the top twenty BR winners in '65.

Curry, Bronc **Thousand Oaks, Cal.**
Born April 9, 1923, 6'3" 200#; married, enters TR, CR; total money '65, \$4,750; a transplanted Texan, Bronc already was a fine calf roper before he moved to the west coast and started dally roping; heeling for Arizona's Billy Darnell at the '65 Finals, Bronc and his partner won the average, setting an N.F.R. record of 100.6 seconds on their eight steers; Curry moved up to 12th in the year-end TR title charts; joined the R.C.A. in '46 at Amarillo, Tex.

D

Dancey, Dave **Newfoundland, N. J.**
Born March 11, 1941, 6'1" 170#; single, enters CR, SW; total money '65, \$2,529; upper New Jersey is unlikely cowboy country but Dave, born at Teaneck, was bitten by the rodeo bug at 18, coached in his events by Ed "Shadow" Muller, longtime R.C.A. member who had trekked east from his home territory, Oklahoma and Texas; Dancey joined the Association himself in '60, contests thru the South and East.

Darnell, Billy **Rodeo, N.M.**
Born Jan. 30, 1944, 5'11" 170#; married, enters CR, TR; total money '65, \$5,224; son of veteran roper, Fred Darnell, Billy grew up with a rope in his hand, and went to Toots Mansfield's CR school in '61 to learn the short cuts with a tie string; ranches with his dad along the Arizona-New Mexico state line.

Davis, Shawn **Kenna, N.M.**
Born Jan. 2, 1935, 6'3" 220#; married, enters CR, SR; total money '65, \$8,453; this is one of the smallest money hauls Sonny has come up with since he joined the R.C.A. at 15, the reason, he didn't travel much last season; SR champion in '64, with \$6,558, the most ever won in the event, Sonny also, until last year, had been one of the top 15 CR winners since '56; more people remember this big man's explosive runs than any

other roper in the sport; Sonny holds the record for money won CR at one rodeo, \$5,278 at Fort Worth in '59; operates cattle ranch with his number one fan, his dad, Red Davis.

Decker, Tater **Clayton, Okla.**
Born May 3, 1924, 6'1" 185#; married enters CR, SW; total money '65, \$4,411; one of the game's great veterans he has rodeoed full-time for twenty-five years—excepting an Army hitch in WWII—and until the last five seasons entered SB and BB events as well; augments income by working as arena pickup man while his wife, Jo, is a top rodeo secretary and designer of women's western fashions; the couple also raise and race quarterhorses.

Demaree, Norris **Billings, Mont.**
Born Nov. 8, 1933, 5'8" 160#; married, enters BB, SW; total money '65, \$5,633; got his cowboying start traveling with fellow Montanans, John and Benny Reynolds, after serving a 4-year Navy hitch during the Korean conflict; finished the '65 season among the top twenty-five winners in BB.

Dougherty, Jim **Sandia, Tex.**
Born Jan. 6, 1939, 5'10" 160#; married, enters CR, TR; total money '65, \$4,312; national high school calf roping champ in '56, Jim joined the R.C.A. in '61; Lamar Hinnant, Alice, Tex., rancher and roper, coached Jim in the beginning.

Douthitt, Buff **Ardmore, Okla.**
Born Oct. 29, 1924, 6'1" 200#; married, enters CR, SW; total money '65, \$4,135; ranch-raised, Buff's first idol was New Mexico's early-day rodeo champion, the late Bob Crosby; Buff, Tater Decker and Bill Rush started rodeoing together from the "land of enchantment state" about the same time, the early Forties.

Driver, Charley **Arcadia, Fla.**
Born Oct. 6, 1936, 6'1" 170#; married, enters SB, BB, BR; total money '65, \$3,746; joined the R.C.A. in '61, and contests in the South and East; his wife Dawn Margaret Driver, is trick rider and roper, and barrel racer.

Duce, Bob **Raymond, Alta.**
Born July 22, 1929, 5'8" 155#; married, enters BB; total money '65, \$3,514; Bob's cowboy career started in '45 as a youngster riding steers; four years later he won the Dominion's BB crown, repeated in '50, '51 and '52.

Dudley, Eldon **Perryton, Tex.**
Born Sept. 11, 1929, 6' 190#; married, enters CR, total money '65, \$3,915; a wheat and cattle rancher on 4,000 acres in the Texas Panhandle, Eldon was inter-collegiate CR champ back in '49, joining the R.C.A. in '57; his wife, Janet, is top barrel racer.

Dunaway, Dewey **Wichita Falls, Tex.**
Born Oct. 27, 1933, 6'1" 197#; married, enters SW, BB; total money '65, \$11,088;

started contesting on the west coast after joining the R.C.A. in '55; served as SW director in '64-65 and was among the event's top 15 winners in both '63 and '64; led for the SW title thru spring months in '65 then halted his contesting career in mid-summer to be near his ailing daughter; still wound up 7th for SW crown at year's end.

E

Edwards, John **Cheyenne, Wyo.**
Born Dec. 9, 1941, 6'1" 155#; single, enters BB; total money '65, \$10,468; this long-legged native of Rheinbeck, N.Y. has been termed one of the top BB newcomers of the last ten years; from riding calves and colts on his father's farm, John graduated to working on a dude ranch at Waverly, N.Y., picked up his rodeo ABC's there from the late, rodeo great, Mike Hastings, and joined the R.C.A. in '61; in '65, his best season to date John wound up ninth for the BB title.

Ehr, Sonny **Minot, N.D.**
Born Feb. 12, 1941, 6' 180#; single, enters CR, SW; total money '65, \$7,172; national high school CR champ in '59—unusual for a Northerner—Sonny got a CR diploma from Toots Mansfield's school at Big Spring, Tex, in '61; joined the R.C.A. that same year to mix contesting with studies at O.S.U. and the University of Arizona.

Eichelberger, Gerald Olney Spgs., Colo.
Born Jan. 21, 1941, 5'8" 155#; married, enters SB, CR, SW, TR; total money '65, \$4,658; ranch-raised, Gerald started in junior rodeos around home, joined the R.C.A. in '60; he and his father, Shields Eichelberger, raise quarterhorses and cattle 15 miles north of Fowler, Colo.; Gerald's wife, Pam, is barrel racer.

Eidson, Bob **Oakdale, Cal.**
Born May 21, 1938, 6' 161#; married, enters BB, BR, SW, TR; total money '65, \$3,410; joining the R.C.A. in the footsteps of an uncle, Ike Eidson, in '61 Bob was among the top 15 BB winners in '62, '63 and '64, the latter his best; in '65 the "coldest" season of his career, Bob's biggest single grab was \$537 BB at the Rose Bowl rodeo in Pasadena.

F

Farris, Bud **Las Cruces, N.M.**
Born No. 4, 1933, 6'2", 215#; single, enters CR, TR; total money '65, \$4,473; son of former CR great, Zeno Farris, Bud was on the New Mexico State College rodeo team, joining the R.C.A. in '58 after an army hitch in Germany; among top 15 CR winners in '63 and '64.

Farris, Lee **Page 7**
Feddersen, Bill **El Reno, Okla.**
Born June 16, 1927, 5'11" 165#; married, enters SB, SW; total money '65,

\$11,568; among top 15 SB winners six of the last seven seasons, Bill was 12th for that title in '65; first vice-president of the R.C.A., he joined the association in '47 and for the past eighteen months has conducted the game's school for judges along with his contesting; both "Good Times" and his wife, Donna, are ambassadors of goodwill for the sport.

Feddersen, Don **El Reno, Okla.**
Born July 18, 1929, 6'1" 196#; married, enters SW; total money '65, \$4,205; joining the R.C.A. in '55 after a college rodeo career at O.S.U., where he won the inter-collegiate SW crown in '53; Don was title runner-up SW in pro ranks in '59.

Ferreira, Frank Sr. **Fresno, Cal.**
Born Jan. 8, 1919, 5'11" 180#; married, enters TR; total money '65, \$2,534; joining the R.C.A. in '43, Frank for the next decade was one of the west coast threats in all roping events but has confined his contesting to TR for the last eight years; his son, Frank Jr., 23, also is a top California dally hand.

Fields, Melvin **Burkburnett, Tex.**
Born Aug. 2, 1938, 5'4" 140#; married, enters BR, SB; total money '65, \$5,034; Kansas state high school rodeo's all-around champ in '56, Melvin joined the R.C.A. in '59 coached by Oklahoma's Buck Rutherford; the '65 season was Melvin's first after a two-year stint in the armed forces.

Flanigan, Don **Danville, Cal.**
Born Aug. 17, 1934, 6' 170#; married, enters SB, BB; total money '65 \$4,788; Don's parents moved to the west coast from Oklahoma before their son was in his teens; Don learned his riding skills around Harry Rowell's famous cowboy headquarters in Dublin canyon near Hayward; joined the R.C.A. in '55, as a protege of current SW titlist, Harley May; appointed a vice-president of the R.C.A. in '64.

Forsberg, Ernest **Chatsworth, Cal.**
Born Feb. 20, 1943, 6'2" 200#; married, enters CR, TR; total money '65, \$10,651; after joining the R.C.A. in '62, Ernest made the top 15 winners list in CR first in '64; he finished 15th for the '65 CR title; helped in the beginning by two uncles, Jess and Harold Todd, both good ropers themselves.

Fort, Troy **Lovington, N.M.**
Born Dec. 8, 1917, 5'11" 175#; married, enters CR, SR; total money '65, \$796; CR champion in '48 and '49 riding the famous old sorrel, Baldy, Troy now devotes most of his contesting to SR and has been among the event's top 15 winners four of the last seven seasons; one of the greatest stylists ever with a calf rope, Troy helped two other New Mexico greats, Olin Young and Glen Franklin, get started; owns successful cattle ranch.

Franklin, Glen

Fredericks, Pete **Halliday, N.D.**
Born Aug. 17, 1936, 6' 175#; married; enters SB, BB; total money '65, \$4,405; Pete joined pro ranks after a championship career in high school and inter-collegiate rodeo; he attended both C.S.U. and North Dakota State College where he finished runner-up for the college all-around crown in both '57 and '58; he's been among the top fifteen winners in BB and SB three of the last five years, missed the standings chart in '65 by staying on the home ranch more than he ever had before.

Freeman, Riley **San Luis Obispo, Cal.**
Born March 12, 1938, 5'10" 175#; married; enters CR, SW; total money '65 \$4,778; another graduate of high school and college rodeo, capped by his capture of the national inter-collegiate SW crown in '60, Riley joined the R.C.A. in '64; contests mostly on the west coast.

Frost, Clyde **Randlett, Utah**
Born July 19, 1933, 5'8" 155#; married; enters BB, SB, SW; total money '65 \$10,056; this Colorado-born cowboy is building up a cattle spread in Uintah county 50 miles as the crow flies from the Colorado line; as a sideline he also operates a pack string for fishermen and hunters; one of the game's top three-event men he served four years as BB director resigning the post for '65.

Frost, Joe **Lapoint, Utah**
Born Dec. 19, 1937, 5'10" 147#; married; enters SB, BB; total money '65, \$10,175; ranch-raised, Joe started in junior rodeo around southern Colorado then followed brother Clyde into pro ranks; the '65 season was the best of his career so far; finished among the top thirty SB winners.

G

Garrison, Junior **Marlow, Okla.**
Born Feb. 5, 1938, 6', 170#; married; enters CR; total money '65, \$12,412; grew up in rodeo country, southern Oklahoma; Junior, whose correct handle is James, joined the R.C.A. in '62 with a background of several years in homestate rodeo competition; other ropers have compared his style of flanking calves to that of the current champion, Glen Franklin; with '65 his best year dollar-wise, Junior also finished among the top fifteen CR in '64; and by the first of March '66, was running second in the CR title standings with \$5,526 already in his pocket.

Garstad, Gid **Coronation, Alta.**
Born Nov. 11, 1936, 6'2", 190#; married; enters BR, SW; total money '65, \$8,900; one of the Dominion's top cow-

Page 7

boys for the last decade, Gid was Canadian BR champ in '58, '59, '64, and '65; ranch-raised, he joined the R.C.A. in '56 but wound up among the top fifteen BR winners in this country for the first time in '65; he finished tenth for the '65 BR championship.

Gilfillian, Derrel **Beaumont, Tex.**
Born July 28, 1934, 6', 165#; married; enters SB, BR; total money '65, \$4,223; a member of the R.C.A. since '50, he contests mostly in the southwest where he rates as one of the most consistent money winners in that territory.

Gist, Byron **Lakeside, Cal.**
Born Jan. 30, 1922, 5'10", 165#; married; enters TR; total money '65, \$3,176; manager of an ornamental iron works, Byron rodeos mostly on week-ends; one of his proudest accomplishments is helping his son Gary to the top in TR; he bought his son an R.C.A. card at the age of 12, making Gary the association's youngest contestant ever; among the top fifteen TR winners in both '62 and '64, Byron finished among the top 25 in '65.

Gist, Gary **Lakeside, Cal.**
Born Sept. 6, 1945, 5'10", 160#; single; enters TR, CR; total money '65, \$6,569; just reaching his peak, he was TR title runner-up in '64; the army got Gary last fall after he wound up ninth for the same crown still riding the 17-year-old sorrel gelding, Mark, that has carried Gary since the beginning of the young man's career; it's a good gamble the old horse will still be ready when Gary gets out of uniform.

Gladstone, Jim **Cardston, Alta.**
Born Nov. 18, 1942, 6'3", 175#; single; enters CR, SW; total money '65, \$3,854; ranch-raised, he contests mostly in Canada, when he can take time from the cattle spread he runs with his father, joined the R.C.A. in '61.

Glover, Dave **Durant, Okla.**
Born April 17, 1939, 5'5", 120#; single; enters BR; total money '65, \$10,641; although he joined the R.C.A. in '58, Dave never travelled hard until '64 when veteran Bill Williams convinced him he could win against the best; among the top fifteen BR winners that season he bounced up to seventh for the '65 title, the best year of his career so far.

Gomez, Jack **Reno, Nev.**
Born April 21, 1939, 5'11", 195#; married; enters TR, SW; total money '65, \$8,518; a second generation rodeo hand, he's the son of Stan Gomez, who quit contesting in the Mid-Fifties, Jack is as reckless as his dad was in the arena; this "charge 'em all" attitude has resulted in a broken ankle, damaged eye and torn knee ligaments, injuries which Jack considers minor; third for the TR title in '64, Jack dropped to 10th for the same crown in '65.

Goodspeed, Bobby **Highridge, Mo.**
Born Sept. 21, 1938, 5'11", 165#; married; enters CR; total money '65, \$9,155; son of one of the game's great ropers, Jess Goodspeed, Bobby won three junior rodeo crowns before joining the R.C.A. in '57; among the top fifteen CR winners three of the last seven years Bobby wound up 17th in CR standings for '65; nobody's faster on the ground on small cattle.

Gore, Les **Laramie, Wyo.**
Born March 26, 1925, 5'10", 170#; married; enters BB, SW; total money '65, \$11,384; ranch-raised, he was a member of the University of Wyoming rodeo team enrolling after a four year hitch in the Navy; his senior year, '50, Les was inter-collegiate BB Titlist and all-around cowboy champ to boot; a stock contractor for six years, Les traveled little outside of the Rocky Mountain region until '65 when he sold his bucking stock; wound up seventh for the BB title riding as well as he ever did.

Gottfriedson, Bob **Kamloops, B.C.**
Born Oct. 6, 1939, 5'7", 160#; married; enters SB, BR; total money '65, \$3,178; winning the amateur bronc riding at Calgary in '59 before joining the R.C.A. in '60, Bob was coached by veteran Ellie Lewis; most of Bob's contesting still is in his home territory.

Green, Joe **Sulphur, Okla.**
Born Aug. 9, 1936, 5'10", 160#; single; enters BR, SR; total money '65, \$3,633; among the top fifteen BR winners six of the last seven years, Joe joined the R.C.A. in '53; a one-event specialist until a couple of years ago, Joe was bitten by the SR bug; to learn the event he turned to the best in the business, veteran Everett Shaw; at Cheyenne '65, much to the surprise of the other 89 SR entries there, Joe waltzed off with a first go-round check of \$1,055; serves as BR director on the R.C.A. board.

Greer, Freddie **Mesquite, Tex.**
Born Dec. 29, 1939; 6'1", 170#; married; enters BB, BR; total money '65, \$4,206; a seven year veteran in pro ranks, he rodeos mostly in his home state but at the start of '66 he bounced into the top four national BR winners, aided by a \$1,128 chunk at Dallas.

H

Hade, Rolla **St. Louis, Mo.**
Born April 3, 1941, 5'10", 175#; single; enters CR, SW; total money '65, \$5,295; a high school rodeo contestant and later at McNeese State College, Lake Charles, La., he joined the R.C.A. in '63 and rodeos mostly in the Middle-west.

Hale, Billy **Page 8**

Haley, Nathan **Hanna, Okla.**
Born July 1, 1925, 6'1", 230#; married; enters SW; total money '65, \$8,094; a cattle rancher, he joined the R.C.A. in '59 and has been among the top fifteen SW four of the last seven years; finished 14th for the title in '65; in '59 he threw a steer in 2.9 seconds, coming close to the event's all time record, 2.2 seconds set two decades previously.

Hamilton, Billy **Page 9**
Hamilton, Choc **Phoenix, Ariz.**
Born Aug. 18, 1914, 5'11", 178#; married; enters TR; total money '65, \$3,384; former cattle rancher, now in the welding business, he is the father of the '64 TR champion, Billy Hamilton; and with Choc heeling they're the toughest family TR combo in Arizona; finished among the top 20 TR winners for '65.

Harlan, Bill **Bueyeros, N. M.**
Born Aug. 31, 1932, 5'10", 150#; married; enters SR; total money, '65 \$1,503; ranch-raised, he owns half interest in a 12,000 acre cattle spread with his father, Frank Harlan; Bill started out entering every event on the books; a broken pelvis bone and torn knee ligaments, suffered when a bronc fell on him put him out of the riding events for good but as Bill says, "I'm going to rope steers until I'm 60 and then switch to polo;" Bill finished 13th for the SR title in '65.

Hatcher, Phil **Okemah, Okla.**
Born Jan. 12, 1934, 5'11", 182#; married; enters CR, SW; total money '65, \$5,281; Phil's made a good living rodeoing since joining the R.C.A. in '53; cool headed and competent in both his events, he augments his income by shoeing other contestants horses and is one of the best arena pickup men around; among the top 15 SW winners in '62 he was elected a flag judge at the '65 N.F.R. in Oklahoma City.

Hatfield, Perry **Ray, Ariz.**
Born Dec. 1, 1937, 6', 190#; single; enters SB, BB, BR, SW; total money '65, \$8,546; a graduate of college rodeo, he joined the R.C.A. in '58; other contestants have felt for years Perry had the ability to win anywhere, especially in BB; a shoulder injury curtailed his traveling in '65 to the Rocky Mountain states.

Hawkins, John **Twain Harte, Cal.**
Born May 22, 1930, 5'7", 155#; married; enters BB; total money '65, \$5,946; other rodeo hands know him as one of the all time greats in his event although he won the BB championship only once, in '63; since joining the R.C.A. in '52, John has won \$145,978 and over the past decade, excepting 18 months on the sidelines with a shattered thigh, never finished a year worse than fourth for the BB title, until '65; last year he slowed his con-

testing to almost a crawl, took a job as a heavy equipment operator.

Hebb, Kurly **Fall River, Kans.**
Born Jan. 16, 1935, 6', 165#; married; enters SB; total money '65, \$8,199; started contesting in junior rodeo then joined the R.C.A. in '56; among top fifteen winners SB three of the last four years, he finished 13th for the '65 title; ranches on 1,680 acres, 70 miles east of Wichita where he raises Hereford cattle and quarter horses.

Heinen, Phil **Summerfield, Fla.**
Born July 11, 1939, 5'7", 145#; single; enters BB, BR; total money '65, \$14,214; former exercise boy on thoroughbred tracks, he joined the R.C.A. in '57; finishing 8th for the '65 BR title, and among the top 25 winners in BB, is the best year of his career so far.

Hennigh, Duane **Laverne, Okla.**
Born Feb. 7, 1930, 5'11", 177#; married; enters BB, BR, CR, SW; total money '65, \$6,217; one of the few equally dextrous in both riding and roping events, Duane contests to help expenses on his cattle spread southeast of Laverne; for that reason he seldom travels far from home but proved he can win anywhere by collecting BB riding at the Garden in New York in '55, and BR in Denver in '56.

Hill, Stub **Bisbee, Ariz.**
Born April 23, 1941, 5'7", 125# single; enters BR; total money '65, \$4,909; despite his parents' hope he'd be a musician—he still picks a guitar in fine fashion—Stub served an apprenticeship in jackpot rodeos around home then joined the R.C.A. in '59; finished among the top 30 BR winners in '65.

Hirdes, Les **Turlock, Cal.**
Born Sept. 21, 1923, 5'11", 205#; married; enters TR, CR; total money '65, \$6,522; an R.C.A. member since '45, Les owns a 220 acre dairy farm, contests mostly in his home state; among the top fifteen TR winners the last seven years, he was the event's champion in '63, winning \$13,266 that year to establish the TR money record for a single season; wound up seventh for the TR title in '65.

Hobdey, Daryl **Meridian, Ida.**
Born May 24, 1932, 5'11", 165#; married; enters BB, CR; total money '65, \$10,737; joining the R.C.A. in '55, he was 10th for the BB title in '60 then hit a prolonged cold streak which lasted until '65 when he finished 13th for the BB title; is a licensed farrier.

Holden, Clark **Cleburne, Tex.**
Born March 20, 1939, 6', 170#; single; enters SB; total money '65, \$3,423; born and raised in the unlikely cowboy country of Pottstown, Pa., he broke colts for his dad's livestock trading firm; when Clark first joined the R.C.A. in '55 he wore his boots on the wrong foot as a reminder to keep his toes turned out; this peculiar habit he's since discarded; was among the top fifteen winners SB in '61.

Holmes, Marvin **Pickens, Okla.**
Born Feb. 27, 1931, 5'5", 145# married; enters SB, BB, BR; total money '65, \$5,789; raised on a ranch, "Pick" joined the R.C.A. in '48; among the top fifteen SB winners in '60, he owns equal ability in his other two riding events; both in '64 and '65 he was sidelined by injuries in mid-season.

Hooper, Al **Fallon, Nev.**
Born April 28, 1917, 5'9", 165#; married; enters TR; total money '65, \$6,912; was in his mid-thirties before he ever started contesting, then won the TR championship at 44; among the top fifteen TR winners also in '60, '62 and '63, he was fourth for the championship in '65; an Oklahoman by birth, he is a custom butcher by trade.

Houston, Jim **Page 5**
Howard, Duane **Minnewaukan, N. D.**
Born Aug. 2, 1933, 6' 150#; married; enters BR; total money '65, \$3,266; one of the game's top two event threats from '55 thru '61, he suffered a serious head injury the latter year when a saddle bronc fell on him at Cheyenne; out of action until the spring of '64, Duane has competed only part-time since; operates a cattle ranch in partnership with his father.

Huddleston, Don **Page 8**
Hutchison, Lawrence **Calgary, Alta.**
Born Sept. 22, 1938, 5'10", 150#; single; enters BR; total money '65, \$5,220; Canada's BR champ in '57 the same year he joined the R.C.A.; among the top 15 BR winners in '63, he finished among the top 25 in the standings for '65; lives on his parent's stock farm and conducts BR school of instruction during spring months.

I

Isley, Mike **Salmon, Ida.**
Born Jan. 12, 1936, 5'11", 180#; married; enters SB, BB, SW; total money '65, \$7,931; raised in the same country that produced former riding champions Burel Mulkey and Pete Grubb, in the Thirties, Mike was a high school rodeo contestant and then joined the R.C.A. in '57 travelling with Neal Arave; among the top fifteen BB winners in '61 and '63; Mike didn't go much in '65.

Ivory, Jim **Redmond, Ore.**
Born July 11, 1942, 5'9", 170#; single; enters BB, BR; total money '65, \$4,826; Jim's great-uncle, Perry Ivory, was one of rodeo's early day bronc riding tops and an uncle, Buster Ivory, still a threat in the event, gave Jim the incentive to rodeo; started in high school rodeo, joined the R.C.A. in '62, finished among the top 30 BB winners in '65.

J

James, Lowell **Rapid City, S.D.**
Born Jan. 21, 1936, 5'9", 155#; married; enters BR, BB; total money '65, \$12,959; raised at Davie, Fla., not far from

Gulfstream Park racetrack, Lowell started galloping thoroughbred colts but in three years outgrew an exercise saddle; and turned to riding at nearby rodeos instead; joined the R.C.A. in '53 but never rodeoed outside of Florida until '55 when he moved to the Dakotas; his best season so far was '64 when he won \$15,268; finished 14th for the BB title and among the top 20 BR as well in '65.

Johnson, H. B. **Shreveport, La.**
Born Jan. 20, 1941, 6', 178#; single; enters BB, BR, SW; total money '65, \$6,755; graduate of high school and college rodeo competition, he joined the R.C.A. in '60; Guy Weeks helped him get started in pro ranks.

Johnson, Bernis **Cleburne, Tex.**
Born Sept. 19, 1932, 5'11", 165#; married enters BB, BR, SW; total money '65, \$9,005; this unheralded three-event cowboy has won over \$114,000 since '59, a fact overlooked by even his fellow contestants; injury in '65 kept him from keeping up his financial average; among the top fifteen winners BB in '59, '62, '63 and in BR in '61 and '62; Bernis is building up a 200 acre homeplace six miles south of Cleburne where he raises quarter horses; joined the R.C.A. in '47.

Johnson, Donnie **Cleburne, Tex.**
Born Aug. 29, 1937, 6', 175#; single; enters SW; total money '65, \$8,979; younger brother of Bernis who taught him the art of SW, Donnie joined the R.C.A. in '61 but never rodeoed full time until '64; made his first big score at the '65 Cheyenne Frontier Days, \$2,148; this tidy sum helped Donnie to record his best year dollar-wise and to land him 11th for the SW championship at the end of the season.

Jones, Jim D. **Akron, Colo.**
Born Oct. 17, 1928, 5'11", 180#; married; enters SB, BB, BR, CR, SW; total money '65, \$6,170; this stocky cowboy seldom makes the headlines but since '48 when he joined the R.C.A. Jim has made a steady living, except when halted by injuries, entering all five standard events; with a growing family to care for, he looks for money not glory, rodeos mostly along the east coast and middle western states; his wife Donna is a rodeo secretary.

Jones, John W. **San Luis Obispo, Cal.**
Born June 26, 1932, 5'11", 190#; married; enters CR TR, SW; total money '65, \$9,236; inside rodeo John W. rates with many cowboys as the best steer wrestler going down the road today even tho' he's never won a title yet; they point to John's fabulous run for the championship in '64, when he lost out by \$695 to C. R. Boucher, and his sweep of the '65 N.F.R. steer wrestling as clinchers for their opinion; his \$1,411 win total at the Finals put him in 14th place for the '65 SW title; John was rodeo's "rookie of the year" in '56.

K

Kane, Larry **Havre, Mont.**

Born June 21, 1938, 5'5", 115#; single; enters SB; total money '65, \$7,643; ranch-raised, pint-sized Larry was "rookie of the year" in '60, three months after joining the R.C.A.; among the top fifteen SB winners that year and in '61, '62 and '63; '64 saw him at home helping on the parental cattle ranch more than in the arena; he went back to full-time competition in '65 to finish 16th in the SB title standings.

Kelley, Kenneth **Midlothian, Tex.**

Born Nov. 26, 1940, 5'8", 145#; married; enters CR; total money '65, \$2,666; a background of growing up around ropers, plus high school rodeo competition, pushed him into the R.C.A. in '61, traveling with Ronnye Sewalt; Kenneth is forced to overcome lack of poundage with speed on the ground; the first six weeks of '66 he won more (\$2,829) than he did all of '65.

Kennedy, Bob **Chowchilla, Cal.**

Born July 21, 1933, 6', 185#; married; enters CR, TR; total money '65 \$5,580; a college rodeo hand, he joined the R.C.A. in '54 but never left the west coast area until '61; finding a horse to equal his timing has always been a problem for Bob but when things do go right he's liable to beat anybody; Bob is a construction worker when he isn't contesting.

Koile, Jerry **Phoenix, Ariz.**

Born June 28, 1942, 6'4", 180#; married; enters CR, TR; total money '65 \$5,022; born in Terre Haute, Ind., Jerry's parents packed him off to Arizona when he was 14 months old; his dad, Paul, was a trotting horse man and an uncle, Bob Koile, a trainer, but Jerry's interest in things equine turned to roping horses; he had a practice arena and calves on the home place outside Phoenix; from neighboring jackpots to an R.C.A. permit, Jerry became a full-fledged member of the association in '63; finished among the top 30 CR winners in '65.

Kornell, Bill **Clarksville, Tex.**

Born March 13, 1944, 5'9", 145#; married; enters BB, BR; total money '65 \$9,313; the youngest ever to win a riding championship in pro rodeo, Bill earned the BR title and "rookie of the year" award both in '63; he proved his ability no fluke by notching runner-up spot for the '64 BR title; entering the bonds of matrimony and buying a place at the same time kept Bill off the rodeo trail much of '65 but he still managed to finish 9th in BR title standings.

L

Lancaster, Leonard Franklin **Midwest City, Okla.**

Born Oct. 30, 1933, 6'1", 180#; single; enters SB, BB, SW; total money '65, \$5,535; just sixteen when he joined the R.C.A. in '49; Leonard got a lot of his early schooling getting on rank stock working for Beutler Brothers; his rodeo career was interrupted by a hitch in the army with a tour of duty in Germany; one of the best liked cowboys in the game, Leonard wound up among the top 25 SB winners in '65.

Leffew, Gary **Santa Maria, Cal.**

Born Sept. 23, 1944, 5'9", 140#; single; enters BR; total money '65 \$4,058; a product of junior rodeo, Gary liked contesting well enough to buy his own practice stock to learn, he says, "where I was making mistakes"; joined the R.C.A. in '63; contests mainly on the west coast.

Lewis, Ellie **Okanagan Falls, B.C.**

Born Nov. 30, 1929, 5'10", 175#; married; enters SB, BB, SW; total money '65, \$7,917; Canada's SB champ in '53, he joined the R.C.A. that same year; any cowboy who enters as many events as Ellie is laying short odds against injury and he's had his share through the years; in '54 a bronc flipped in the chute at Phoenix and tore up a knee; and in '61, up among the top fifteen SB winners, he suffered broken vertebrae in his back when another horse turned upside down in the chute at the Cow Palace; he was among the top 20 SB winners in '65.

Linderman, Walt **Belfry, Mont.**

Born March 26, 1936, 6', 185#; married; enters BB, SW; total money '65, \$15,242; last of the famed Linderman clan of rodeo cowboys—there've been five—Walt started rodeoing in high school then joined the R.C.A. in '59; he is a nephew of the late Bill Linderman, pro rodeo's greatest money winner ever and patterned his style of contesting after the "King"; among the top 15 SW winners in '62, Walt finished 7th for the '65 title.

Loney, Ross **Denver, Colo.**

Born Dec. 1, 1939, 5'9", 150#; married; enters SB; total money '65, \$3,438; raised on a Montana ranch he learned his riding ABC's breaking colts; joining the R.C.A. in '63 he won the award as the season's top newcomer in SB.

Love, Neil **Grandview, Tex.**

Born June 2, 1932, 6', 175#; married; enters CR, SW, TR; total money '65, \$18,134; a graduate of college rodeo at Texas Tech; served a two year army hitch, '53-'55, in Korea; among the top 15 winners SW in '61 and '63 and in CR in '62 and '64, Neil finished 12th for the '65 CR title and among the top

20 in SW; a competent cowboy boot maker, Neil has another lucrative sideline, making tie strings for other ropers.

Luman, Ken **Page 9****Lyons, Larry** **Lima, Ohio**

Born Jan. 18, 1940, 5'11", 170#; single; enters BB, BR, SW; total money '65, \$9,265; raised in a state that produces few rodeo hands, Larry has won \$31,005 since joining the R.C.A. in the spring of '62; he still rodeos in the east and mid west; other cowboys think he ought to travel more; wound up among the top 25 money winners BR in '65; raises Doberman Pinschers as a hobby.

M

Madland, Jim **Tulare, Cal.**

Born June 3, 1935, 5'11", 175#; married; enters BR; total money '65, \$4,600; Jim's hero was an older brother Kenny fatally injured in the arena at Victorville, Cal., in the spring of '50; grief-stricken, Jimmy took his brother's riding gear and started climbing on anything that would buck; he contested full time for six years but now, field man for a west coast tractor concern, he rodeos mainly weekends, flies his own plane to most of them; finished among the top 30 BR winners in '65.

Mahan, Larry **Page 6****Mahaney, Johnny** **Rifle, Colo.**

Born Feb. 23, 1936, 5'8", 155#; married; enters BR, BB; total money '65, \$4,355; ranch-raised, he joined the R.C.A. in '63, graduating from state rodeo competition; still doesn't rodeo too far from home.

Malsam, Joey **Havre, Mont.**

Born Feb. 25, 1938, 5'11", 180#; married; enters SB, BB, SW; total money '65, \$4,175; joined the R.C.A. in '64 with a background of state rodeo competition; Larry Kane and Jack Bloxham helped him get started in pro ranks.

Manuel, Howard **Oconee, Ill.**

Born March 25, 1936, 5'11", 165#; married; enters SB, BB, SW; total money '65, \$7,442; joining the R.C.A. in '58, Howard spent the next two years in the army assigned to a cavalry unit at San Antonio to train jumpers; he and his wife Loretta, who is one of the nation's top barrel racers, have made rodeo a business together; Howard is also a good horseshoer; finished among the top 30 SB winners in '65.

Martin, Tex. **Meridian, Tex.**

Born Sept. 10, 1930, 5'9", 155#; married; enters SB, BB, BR, SW; total money '65, \$13,925; since '60 Tex has won \$96,949 as one of the game's top all-around men; joined the R.C.A. in '56 after a championship career in college rodeo at Sul Ross State where he

also earned a degree in education; but it wasn't until Freckles Brown convinced him he ought to travel more that his name started to appear in national standings; he was among the top 15 winners BB in '62 and '64, finished among the top 20 SB and BB in '65; lives on 790 acres in Bosque county, Texas.

Martinelli, Bill **Oakdale, Cal.**

Born March 4, 1935, 5'10", 150#; single; enters SB, BB; total money '65, \$10,855; starting as a bareback rider with John Hawkins as a coach, Bill joined the R.C.A. in '56; after an army hitch he added SB to his list of events and it turned out to be his best shot; Bill's been among the top 11 SB winners since '62, ended 6th for the title in '65; his dad, Marty Martinelli, is a well-known Los Angeles high school coach.

Mason, Walt **Las Vegas, Nev.**

Born Dec. 6, 1930, 6'1", 180#; single; enters BB; total money '65, \$9,693; born in South Dakota and raised in western Oregon where he started in local rodeos, Walt joined the R.C.A. in '53; other cowboys say he's one of the toughest of all to buck off; among the top 15 BB winners six of the last seven years, he finished 11th for the BB crown in '65.

May, Harley **Page 8****Maynard, Ralph** **Eagle Butte, S. D.**

Born Sept. 29, 1944, 5'9", 160#; single; enters SB; total money '65, \$9,819; ranch-raised, Ralph was South Dakota's high school bronc riding champ in '61 and '62, won the novice bronc riding at Cheyenne in '63 and then joined the R.C.A. in '64; winding up his second pro season at the '65 N.F.R., Ralph won two go-rounds and finished eighth in the year's SB title charts.

Mayo, Bob **Grinnell, Ia.**

Born June 15, 1944; 5'6", 135#; single; enters BB, BR; total money '65, \$4,437; younger brother of Paul and Don Mayo, Bob followed their footsteps into rodeo; first in Iowa state high school competition and then joining the R.C.A. in '63; like Paul, he was a state high school wrestling champ and attended college at Alamosa, Colo., on a wrestling scholarship; the '66 season will be Bob's second as a full time pro.

Mayo, Paul **Page 5****Meek, Junior** **Anson, Tex.**

Born April 4, 1936, 6'2", 195#; married; enters BR, CR, SW; total money '65, \$10,665; raised in rodeo country south of Fort Worth, joined the R.C.A. in '55; a top bullfighter and clown along with his competitive events, Junior finished among the top 20 SW winners in '65.

Mihalek, Jim **Broomfield, Colo.**

Born May 28, 1939, 5'7", 135#; single; enters BB; total money '65, \$5,924; raised around Pueblo, Colo., Jim started riding spoiled horses for his grand-

father, then won the Colorado state high school BB championship in '58; joined the R.C.A. in '60 traveling with Les Gore and Jim R. White; few outside the rodeo business knew of the wild-spurring, little man until '64 when he finished runner-up for the BB title; in '65 Jim who is a trader by nature, spent more time with his business ventures than he did in the arena but still finished among the top 20 BB winners; the start of '66 he jumped into the BB standings lead with \$3,482 won at Denver and Fort Worth.

Miliate, Andy **Lompoc, Cal.**

Born Jan. 8, 1935, 5'8", 160#; married; enters BB; total money '65, \$3,118; two west coast veterans, Larry Southard and Al Young, got Andy started riding bareback broncs while he was still in high school; rodeoing mainly on the west coast, Andy had his best year in '64 when he finished among the top fifteen winners despite the fact he lost the last two months of that year from a shoulder separation; joined the R.C.A. in '55.

Miles, Gene **Eugene, Ore.**

Born July 11, 1927, 6'1", 195#; married; enters SW; total money '65, \$3,526; if this red-haired veteran had ever decided to rodeo other than in the Northwest and California, he'd probably have a title buckle on the mantelpiece; since '45 when he joined the R.C.A., riding saddle broncs as a pupil of one of Oregon's early day top hands, George Nelson, Gene has stayed close to home base; proof he can run with the best are SW wins at Pendleton and Ellensburg, Lewiston and Walla Walla; maybe, balancing winnings against travel expenses over the years he's had the best go at that.

Minick, Billy **Medora, N. D.**

Born Jan. 10, 1939, 6', 175#; married; enters BR; total money '65, \$5,044; Texas state high school rodeo's all-around champ in '58, Billy, as he says "came from town"—Fort Worth, Tex.—and joined the R.C.A. in '59, his freshman year at McNeese State College. Lake Charles, La., where he enrolled on a rodeo scholarship; Joe Green and Bill Rinestine helped him get started on his pro career which was interrupted in '62 and '63 by an army hitch; Billy finished among the top 30 BR winners in '65.

Murphy, Gary **Scobey, Mont.**

Born April 20, 1943, 5'10", 165#; single; enters CR, TR, SW; total money '65, \$5,911; another cowboy who came up through high school and college rodeo ranks, Gary won SW championships in both scholastic groups, joined the R.C.A. in '62; he ropes right handed, ties calves southpaw style, an ambidextrous talent a lot of ropers wished they owned too; studying to become a veterinarian.

Mc

McBeth, John **Atlanta, Kan.**

Born Oct. 2, 1940, 5'7", 145#; married; enters SB, BB; total money '65 \$8,351; ranch-raised, he joined the R.C.A. in '63, finished 14th for the SB title in '65; before joining pro ranks John attended McNeese State College at Lake Charles, La., where he won honors in BB riding.

McCravey, Leonard **Memphis, Tex.**

Born Aug. 18, 1926, 5'7", 160#; single; enters BB; total money '65, \$6,169; this veteran whose rodeo career started back in '43 around hometown jackpots, has as many friends in the business as anyone; evidenced by the fact Leonard is the happy target of practical jokers most of the time he's on the road; some of these pranks would have ruined an ordinary disposition; among the top 15 BB winners in '63, Leonard was among the top 20 for '65, represents his event on the R.C.A. board of directors; joined the association in '47 after two years with the army in Japan.

McEntire, Clark **Kiowa, Okla.**

Born Nov. 30, 1927, 5'11", 220#; married; enters SR; total money '65, \$1,935; his father, John, was SR champion in '34 and Clark won the same crown in '57, '58 and '61; successful cattle rancher, Clark also finished among the top 15 winners in SR in '63 and '64; was 10th for the title in '65; joined the R.C.A. in '47.

McGinley, Terry **Keystone, Nebr.**

Born May 9, 1935, 5'8", 150#; single; enters SR; total money '65 \$1,734; brought up on the cattle ranch where he still lives, Terry raises as good a band of roping horse prospects as anyone in the Rocky Mountain region and rides his own products in competition; he joined the R.C.A. in '56 after competing on the C.S.U. rodeo team; finished 12th for the SR title in '65.

McLaughlin, Don **Ft. Collins, Colo.**

Born Oct. 24, 1927, 5'10", 160#; married; enters CR, TR, SR; total money '65 \$10,490; pro rodeo's biggest winner yet with a rope, \$277,237 from '47 thru '65; Don has been CR champion five times and twice SR titlist, the last time in '63; brought up in the sport he and a brother, Gene, were top trick ropers before reaching their 'teens; Don turned to contest roping in '46; rodeoing only part time, now Don runs a school for novice ropers; still finished among the top 25 CR winners for '65 and fourth in SR title standings.

McLean, Kenny **Okanagan Falls, B.C.**

Born May 17, 1939, 5'10", 160#; single; enters SB, CR, SW; total money '65 \$12,571; leaving the 300 acres in the scenic Okanagan valley where he was born has always been an effort for Kenny; the months he's contested hard since joining the R.C.A. in '58 won't

equal his age; even in '62 when Ken won the SB title he'd drive the long miles home instead of hanging 'round between rodeos; a fine athlete, he surprised the roping clan at Lewiston, Ida., last fall by winning the calf roping there with a sizzling 21.4 seconds on two calves, riding a horse he trained himself; among the top ten SB winners since '61 Kenny wound up 7th for the '65 title; other riders consider him one of the all time greats on saddle broncs.

McReynolds, Brandon **Andrews, Tex.**
Born Oct. 11, 1935, 5'8", 150#; married; enters SB; total money '65, \$3,783; a graduate of junior and college rodeo competition, joined the R.C.A. in '60; contests mainly in Texas and Oklahoma; serves as flank man for Elra and Jiggs Beutler's bucking string; finished among the top 30 SB winners in '65.

N

Nafzger, Carl **Clarksville, Tex.**
Born Aug. 29, 1941, 5'10", 150#; single; enters BB, BR; total money '65, \$9,032; with a background of high school and junior college rodeo, Carl joined the R.C.A. in '60; others recall there were a lot of bulls in every bucking string that drove his head in the ground when he started in pro ranks but they also remember Carl always wobbled to his feet under his own power before anyone could get to him; this brand of guttiness earned Carl respect from everybody in the sport; among the top 15 BR winners in '63 and '64 (he was third for the title in '63) Carl finished 14th for the '65 BR championship.

Nelson, Alvin **Sidney, Mont.**
Born April 5, 1934, 5'7", 145#; married; enters SB; total money '65, \$3,177; national high school rodeo champ in '52 in SB and BB, Alvin joined the R.C.A. in '53; he won the pro's SB championship in '57 then spent the next two years in the army, in Germany; he was SB title runner-up in '60, among the event's top 15 in '55, '56, '61, '62 and '64; in '65 Alvin stayed home working on his 300-head cow ranch along the Montana-North Dakota line and went to only four rodeos outside his home territory but at the start of '66 jumped to the front in title standings at Denver's National Western.

Nesmith, Tom **Sulphur, La.**
Born Jan. 28, 1935, 5'10", 185#; married; enters CR, SW; total money '65, \$6,424; when this 13-year veteran pumps himself up enough to leave the ranch he's building at Sulphur, he's usually the man to beat in both his events; Tom handles a rope like most cowboys wish they could and he can shape steers better than anyone his size; he rodeoed full-time for ten years and finished among the top 15 in both his events '59, '60 and '62; the latter

year he won the all-around championship and the SW title to boot; in '63 the last year he travelled hard he was third for the all-around championship; a leg fracture in '64 sidelined him most of that season, still hampered his action in '65.

Neuns, Ken **Bismarck, N.D.**
Born Feb. 16, 1942, 6', 170#; single; enters CR, SW; total money '65, \$5,280; another from college rodeo, Ken joined the R.C.A. in '62 on the advice of fellow Dakotans Jim and Tom Tescher.

Nolen, Jack **Sherman, Tex.**
Born July 10, 1931, 6'4", 208#; married; enters CR; total money '65, \$3,701; born and raised in the Oklahoma Osage country, Jack practiced with champion roper Shoat Webster, joined the R.C.A. in '59; his wife, Eva, is a top barrel racer; the couple raise cattle and registered horses on the outskirts of Sherman.

O

Oliphant, Sonny **Okemah, Okla.**
Born Aug. 23, 1925, 6', 215#; married; enters SW; total money '65, \$7,485; raised in rodeo country, Sonny got his first practice steer wrestling on Buck Goodspeed's roping steers and survived this bone-bending apprenticeship in good shape, for Sonny is stronger than a bull; Willard Combs took him in tow later; Sonny joined the R.C.A. in '54, was among the top 15 SW winners in '60 and finished 16th for the '65 title.

Oliver, Dean **Pages 3 and 7**

P

Perkins, Bob **Boulder, Colo.**
Born July 13, 1937, 6'4", 205#; married; enters SW; total money '65, \$6,930; started in practice sessions in an arena he and others built at home in their spare time; but Bob says Harley May taught him the right moves in the spring of '59, three years after joining the R.C.A.; a stone mason by trade, Bob was among rodeo's top 15 SW winners in '60, '63 and '64, and among the top 20 in '65.

Peth, Buzz **Bow, Wash.**
Born March 5, 1937, 5'6", 175#; married; enters CR, SW, TR; total money '65, \$7,219; a younger brother of rodeo's most famous bull fighting clown, Wick Peth, Buzz was raised on his parents' cattle ranch in northwest Washington; his father bought a string of rodeo stock in the early '50's, gave Buzz his first real taste of competition; with 2,225 acres of permanent pasture and farm land to care for, Buzz can get to rodeos only on weekends; his friends avow he'd be in the title standings every year if he traveled further.

Peveto, Jerry **Orange, Tex.**
Born Nov. 12, 1939, 6'2", 210#; single; enters SW; total money '65, \$4,135; with a background of high school and college rodeo competition — graduating from Sam Houston State Teachers College, Huntsville, Tex. — Jerry joined the R.C.A. in '64; a school teacher during winter months he follows the Texas rodeo trail during summer vacation.

Pinneo, Bob **Litchfield, Cal.**
Born May 27, 1930, 5'11", 165#; married; enters TR; total money '65, \$4,020; a member of a clan who jackpot every weekend around Los Angeles for several years, Bob joined the R.C.A. in '64; raises quarterhorses for a hobby, sells motor cars as a business; finished 14th for the '65 TR title.

Plaughter, Wilbur **Clovis, Cal.**
Born March 13, 1922, 6'2", 220#; married; enters SW; total money '65, \$4,974; Wilbur joined the R.C.A. in '45 starting out as a bronc rider after coaching by veteran Perry Ivory, added steer wrestling to his events the next year; runner-up for the SW title in '58, he was among the top 15 SW winners in '59 and '62 as well; a top bull fighting clown, he owns 2,400 acres stocked with Hereford cattle near Clovis, California; finished among the top 30 SW winners in '65.

Potter, Mel **Tucson, Ariz.**
Born Jan. 2, 1935, 6'4", 175#; married; enters CR, TR, SW; total money '65, \$9,146; his rodeo career began at the University of Arizona where he won all-around cowboy honors in '54, '56 and '57; among the top 15 CR winners in '59 he was among the top 20 in '65; Mel's business interests are varied, he raises registered quarterhorses, owns partnership in a bucking string and shares with his father in the profits of a mink ranch and cranberry farm in Wisconsin.

Prather, Jim **Clairemont, Tex.**
Born Sept. 27, 1934, 5'8", 160#; single; enters SR, CR; total money '65, \$2,624; ranch raised, Jim grew interested in competitive roping while practicing with the '46 CR champion, Royce Sewalt, but he didn't join the R.C.A. until '65; winning the SR at Cheyenne sent him to the N.F.R. steer roping Finals at Vinita, Okla., where he finished 8th for the SR title; Jim spent '57-'59 as an army paratrooper in Germany.

Prather, Tim **Chico, Tex.**
Born June 17, 1940, 5'10", 175#; single; enters CR, SW; total money '65, \$7,748; with a background of high school and college rodeo—he attended North Texas State—Tim, like his older brother Jim, benefited by the tutoring of former CR champion Royce Sewalt; joining the R.C.A. in '64 he finished among the top 25 winners CR in '65.

R

Ragsdale, Bob **Chowchilla, Cal.**
Born Oct. 23, 1936, 5'11", 165#; married; enters CR, TR, SW; total money '65, \$17,982; born in Montana, Bob started in state high school rodeos, attended Toots Mansfield's roping school, then joined the R.C.A. in '60; a port-side roper he ties calves right handed; he's finished among the top 8 CR winners since '61 (he was 7th for the '65 CR title) which is a pretty fair batting average in anybody's league; Bob works hard at his roping, he moved to the west coast so that he could practice year round but there's few days during the year he's not on the road to a rodeo somewhere.

Raymond, Ron **Paulina, Ore.**
Born April 11, 1939, 5'10", 170#; single; enters SB, BR; total money '65, \$9,354; ranch-raised, he broke colts on the family's Oregon ranch then joined the R.C.A. in '59 and worked stock for Christensen Brother's rodeo string; he's been among the top 15 SB winners since '62, finishing 10th for that title in '65; Ron is a good judge of bucking horse prospects and his future plans include raising equines with that ingrained habit.

Reed, Ted **Sylmar, Cal.**
Born July 13, 1934, 5'11", 175#; married; enters SW; total money '65, \$6,188; forman for a west coast house moving firm, he rodeos mainly on weekends; joined the R.C.A. in '53 after a start in local rodeos in Washington state; finished among the top 20 SW winners for '65.

Reidhead, Dave **Scottsdale, Ariz.**
Born Nov. 1, 1942, 6', 160#; married; enters BB; total money '65 \$5,789; from junior rodeos in his home state, he joined the R.C.A. in '60, encouraged by fellow Arizonans, Terry Couch and Del Haverty; his father is a saddle maker and Dave is following parental footsteps by making BB riggings for other cowboys; finished among the top 25 BB winners in '65.

Reiners, Dennis **Clara City, Minn.**
Born Oct. 17, 1937; 5'8", 150#; single; enters SB, BB; total money '65, \$19,449; this cowboy's home base, of 1,358 souls, is only 69 miles from the Dakota state line so the fact Dennis is turning out to be one of the toughest two-event men in current competition doesn't seem so unusual as when you first hear of a bronc rider from "the land of the Swedes;" he joined the R.C.A. in '59 after competing in smaller rodeos in the Dakotas and has been improving each year since; among the top fifteen SB winners in '63 and '64, Dennis racked up his best year yet in '65 finishing 11th for the SB title and 7th for the BB crown; Dennis capped the season by winning the N.F.R. BB riding.

Reynolds, Benny **Dillon, Mont.**
Born March 5, 1936, 6'3", 195#; married; enters BB, SB, BR, CR, SW, TR; total money '65, \$9,256; since '58 this versatile hand has won \$182,671 in rodeo arenas across the country; among the game's top six money winners for seven years, he won the all-around championship in '61; a leg injury received when a bronc tried to jump the arena fence with Benny aboard, at a spring rodeo in '65, sidelined the raw-boned Montanan the rest of the year; he showed up at the Denver rodeo in January, '66 wearing a home-made iron brace to protect the still tender fracture; six weeks later he had won over \$3,400.

Robinson, Bob **Porterville, Cal.**
Born Sept. 13, 1931, 5'10", 175#; married; enters SB, BR; total money '65, \$6,995; a transplanted Canadian, Bob won the Dominion's SB crown in '56, then started rodeoing in the States where he was among the top 15 BR winners in '62 and '64; for the last two years he has been mixing contesting with study to become a dentist; and in the spring of '65 started a school of instruction for novice bronc and bull riders.

Rockabar, Rocky **Medicine Hat, Alta.**
Born June 20, 1933, 5'8", 185#; married; enters SB, BR, SW; total money '65, \$8,740; this genial Albertan, built like a small silo, took the direct route to learning by falling off a lot of stock before he got the hang of staying on board; he joined the R.C.A. in '59 but still contests mainly in the Dominion; finished among the top 25 winners BR in '65.

Roddy, Jack **San Jose, Cal.**
Born Oct. 3, 1937, 6'5", 200#; married; enters BB, SW, TR; total money '65, \$10,388; the late, Pete Dixon, helped Jack get started then Roddy went on to become N.I.R.A. steer wrestling and all-around champ in '59 while a student at Cal Poly; among the top SW winners in '62 Jack dropped out of the standings the next two seasons but caught fire in late August of '65 to wind up 10th for that championship; some evidence of the respect other rodeo hands have for the lanky cowboy was his election last year to the R.C.A. board as SW director; Jack started '66 on another hot streak, took the lead in SW standings after San Antonio in February.

Rodriguez, Jim Jr. **Page 9**
Rodriguez, John **Castroville, Cal.**
Born Feb. 3, 1944; 5'11", 230#; single; enters TR; total money '65, \$6,369; younger brother of the current TR champion, Jim Rodriguez Jr., John grew up around his dad's practice arena where he soaked up instruction from the many team roping greats who sharpened their own skills there; among the top 20 TR winners since '62 he finished 8th for the '65 tandem roping crown, the best year of his career so far.

Rogers, Jimmy **Tyler, Tex.**
Born Aug. 15, 1937, 5'11", 145#; married; enters SB, BB, BR; total money '65, \$3,896; graduating from Texas high school rodeo, Jimmy joined the R.C.A. in '56, coached by the great Jim Shoulders and Harry Tompkins; raises crossbred Brahma cattle.

Rossen, Ronnie **Page 6**

S

Samuels, Neil **Ft. Crook, Neb.**
Born April 29, 1934, 5'10", 175#; married; enters BB, SW; total money '65, \$4,145; a native Nebraskan, Neil joined the R.C.A. in '59 after a college rodeo career at Colorado State University, helped by Bob Schild and Ted Smalley; owning a fine gift of gab, Neil plans a future as a rodeo announcer.

Schild, Bob **Blackfoot, Ida.**
Born June 19, 1931, 5'11", 170#; married; enters SB, BB; total money '65, \$2,388; following a championship career in inter-collegiate rodeo, Bob joined the R.C.A. in '56, in recent years he has slowed his contesting to operate a successful saddle shop where he makes all kinds of riding equipment for other rodeo hands and donates a saddle to the top newcomer each season in the saddle bronc riding.

Schricker, Mark **Pages 7 and 8**

Scott, John Jr. **Miles City, Mont.**
Born Sept. 6, 1923, 5'8", 170#; married; enters SR; total money '65, \$1,201; a transplanted Texan, he joined the R.C.A. in '46 at Midland, Tex., coached by one of the top calf ropers of that era, Walton Poague; John already had behind him experience in homestate rodeos and 33 months in the Pacific theater in World War II; he was third for the SR title in '50; a graduate of Texas A. & M., John now runs cattle on 10,000 acres outside Billings and contests only during summer months; finished 15th for the SR title in '65.

Scudder, Pat **Dewey, Okla.**
Born Feb. 11, 1925, 6'3", 185#; married; enters SB, BR, SW; total money '65 \$2,763; after three years in the South Pacific with the Marines during World War II, Pat attended Southern Cal and the University of Nevada then joined the R.C.A. in '51; born in the Osage ranch country where he still lives he is the association's television coordinator and general manager of the N.F.R.

Seals, Bobby **Justin, Tex.**
Born Oct. 26, 1933, 5'8", 185#; married; enters CR; total money '65, \$6,602; riding one of the best CR horses in the game, himself, a sorrel mare named Molly, Bobby also trains roping horses for others and deals in livestock for another business sideline; finished among the top 25 calf ropers in '65.

Seely, Buzz **Roosevelt, Wash.**
Born June 8, 1939, 5'8", 155#; married; enters SB, BB; total money '65, \$13,608; graduating from home state rodeos where he started in '56 at Arlington, Ore., Buzz joined the R.C.A. in '64; in '65 Buzz scored his best season, finishing among the top 20 in both SB and BB.

Sewalt, Ronnye **Page 7**

Shammo, Vince **Las Vegas, Nev.**
Born Jan. 8, 1941, 6'1", 165#; single; enters SW, TR; total money '65, \$5,448; a native Arizonan, he grew up in Co-chise county where his dad, Gene, was a foreman for the Boquillas Cattle Company; Vince learned to "make a hand" early; veteran Harley May helped him get started steer wrestling along with Demar Thurman who "put me on good horses"; Vince's roping knowhow comes from his working cowboy background; finished among the top 30 SW winners in '65.

Shaw, Everett **Stonewall, Okla.**
Born June 7, 1908, 5'11", 185#; married; enters SR; total money '65, \$2,954; six-times SR champion, more titles in the event than anyone else has ever won, Shaw also owns an incredible record of consistency; over the last twenty years he has been out of the top five SR winners only five times and along with his title years was runner-up for the crown four times; the only charter member of the R.C.A., which started in '36, still contesting, Everett is a credit to the game he helped build; for twenty-three years he served as a director on the board gaining the respect and admiration of everyone he came in contact with; he resigned from the board in '63; a fine calf roper in his early years, Everett was fifth for the '65 SR title.

Sheppard, Bob **Page 6**

Shoulders, Jim **Henryetta, Okla.**
Born May 13, 1928, 5'11", 168#; married; enters BR, BB; total money '65 \$6,569; during his full-time rodeo years from '45 thru '60, Jim set competitive records that may never be equalled; he won 16 national championships, seven in bull riding, four in bareback bronc riding and five all-around cowboy titles; thru '65, for he still competes sporadically, he has earned \$436,569 in the arena; this over a two-decade span is topped only by the late Bill Linderman's \$443,013, collected in 25 years of cowboying; Jim's last title came in '59; owner of a bucking string, Jim also operates a 5,000 acre cattle ranch.

Smalley, Ted **Burkburnett, Tex.**
Born Dec. 10, 1930, 6', 185#; married; enters CR, SW; total money '65, \$6,468; a native of Colorado, he joined the R.C.A. in '48, travelled with Alamosa's Walt Alsbough; a hard-knocking competitor in his events, Ted weighs miles against money and picks the rodeos he enters during the season; but whenever

he does show up at the "big ones" he's always among the cowboys to beat; has served as a spokesman for the R.C.A. since '64.

Smith, Bill **Cody, Wyo.**

Smith, Dale **Chandler, Ariz.**
Born Feb. 6, 1928, 6', 180#; married; enters CR, TR, SR; total money '65, \$9,264; other ropers consider this native Arizonan the best all-around hand with a lariat rope; backing this opinion Dale is the only one yet twice finishing among the top 15 winners in SR, TR, and CR; he accomplished this feat in '59 and '60 and was among the top 15 in TR and CR, '61, '62 and '63; his arena earnings over the past 11 years total more than \$177,000; and since '62 he has been elected each year as president of the R.C.A.; he finished 11th for the TR title in '65.

Smith, Jimmy **Castle, Okla.**
Born Oct. 4, 1937, 6'1", 195#; single; enters SW; total money '65, \$5,485; raised in Okemah, due east of Oklahoma City, it was natural for Jim to become interested in rodeo; graduating from homestate competition he joined the R.C.A. in '63; finished among the top 30 winners SW in '65.

Snively, Joe **Page 9**

Stanton, Ken **Page 6**

Stanton, Bill **Amboy, Wash.**
Born April 22, 1940, 5'9", 160#; single; enters BR; total money '65, \$604; this is not a true financial picture for the elder brother of top two event threat, Kenny Stanton; from '63 until the first of '66 Bill was wearing army khaki and the dab of money he won in '65 came on weekend passes; at Houston, '66, Bill won more at that one rodeo (\$1,010) than he did all of '65; joined the R.C.A. in '61.

Steen, Jim **Glenns Ferry, Ida.**
Born Aug. 17, 1939, 5'9", 170#; married; enters SB, BR; total money '65, \$5,239; ranch-raised, he still lives on 2,980 acres stocked with Hereford cattle and grain crops; joined the R.C.A. via the permit route and earned the pro's "rookie of the year" award in '64; injury slowed his pace in '65; and at Denver in '66 a 1,630 lb. Charolais cross-bred bull drove Jim's head into a sheet iron exit gate fracturing the cowboy's cheek bones and sinuses; Jim was still on the sidelines in mid-March.

Strout, Hank **Selma, Ala.**
Born Dec. 8, 1942, 5'11", 180#; single; enters SB, BR, SW; total money '65, \$6,221; coached by another Alabama cowboy, Lawrence Hebing, Hank joined the R.C.A. in '62, still rodeos mostly in his home territory; interested in quarterhorses and leather craft; '65 was Hank's best season to date.

Sublette, Joel **Tucson, Ariz.**
Born Dec. 11, 1927, 6', 175#; married; enters BR, CR, SW; total money '65, \$6,103; a native Arizonan, Joel joined the R.C.A. in '48; with a small farm

and boarding stable to care for during winter months Joel leaves the desert country in early spring and heads for rodeos in the Pacific Northwest; among the top 15 BR winners in '64.

T

Taft, Chuck **Phoenix, Ariz.**
Born March 10, 1938, 5'10", 150#; single; enters CR, SW; total money '65, \$4,499; raised on a farm at Tomah, 40 miles east of La Crosse, Wis., Chuck started roping at local rodeos at eighteen, then migrated to Arizona and joined the R.C.A. in '59.

Taylor, Ernie **Hugo, Okla.**
Born Nov. 8, 1943, 5'10", 150#; single; enters CR, SW; total money '65, \$2,312; national junior rodeo's all-around cowboy in '63, Ernie joined the R.C.A. that same year, coached by veteran Todd Whatley and the late Lige Hammock; Jim plans to mix his contesting with school teaching in the future.

Teague, Bill **Crane, Tex.**
Born May 22, 1932, 5'8", 175#; married; enters CR, TR; total money '65 \$3,674; backgrounded by high school and college rodeo competition—he was the N.I.R.A. team roping champion in '54 and runner-up for the CR crown in '53, '54 and '55 while attending Hardin-Simmons University, Bill graduated with a degree in education; now, during winter months, he teaches typing, shorthand and bookkeeping at Crane High School, then hits the rodeo trail during vacation weeks.

Tescher, Jim **Medora, N.D.**
Born Aug. 15, 1929, 5'10", 185#; married; enters SB, SW; total money '65, \$9,993; another North Dakota great, Casey Tibbs, once remarked "There's no tellin' how far the Teschers could go if they weren't plagued with common sense;" Tibbs was referring to the fact Jim and his older brother Tom, have always considered their ranches more important than the rodeo arena; Jim and his wife Loretta, and their four children, live on a 2,320 acre cattle and quarterhorse spread along the west bank of the Little Missouri River and only once since '45, when he joined the R.C.A., has Jim really tried for a title; this was in '64 when he missed winning the SB crown by \$571; in '65 he dropped back to his normal routine of seldom leaving his ranch but finished 10th for the SB title anyway.

Thomas, Ron **Whiting, Ia.**
Born Oct. 22, 1942, 5'11", 160#, single; enters BR; total money '65, \$3,849; with a championship career in both high school and inter-collegiate rodeo, Ron joined the R.C.A. in '63; some of the first bucking stock he ever got on were his dad's beef cattle on the family's 500-acre farm.

Thurman, Anson **Fallon, Nev.**
Born Sept. 11, 1936, 5'11", 178#; single; enters CR, SW, TR; total money '65, \$8,250; Anson picked up his rodeo

ABC's in local jackpots around Los Angeles, then joined the R.C.A. in '59; knee ligaments torn steer wrestling at Denver early in '65 hampered him all the rest of the season; finished among the top 15 SW winners in '62.

Thurman, Demar **Fallon, Nev.**
Born March 19, 1938, 5'8", 175#; married; enters SW; total money '65, \$10,383; Demar started his rodeo career in much the same manner as his older brother, Anson, but concentrated on SW after joining the R.C.A.; built like a rock wall, Demar may be the most under-rated steer wrestler in the game; those who watch for the perfect run say he makes as many as anyone on all kinds of cattle; among the top 15 SW winners four of the last five years Demar was 8th for the '65 SW championship.

Thurman, Doug **Bryan, Tex.**
Born Feb. 2, 1933, 5'9"; 175#; married; enters BB; total money '65, \$5,732; ranch-raised, Doug joined the R.C.A. in '56; he and his wife, Sissy Thurman, who is a top barrel racer, own a 600-acre spread of crops and cattle which they use as homebase for their rodeoing; among the top 15 BB winners in '61 and '64, Doug wound up among the event's top 25 winners in '65; Mrs. Thurman was 7th for the G.R.A. barrel racing crown, won \$3,071.

Tibbets, Zane **Duncan, Okla.**
Born Sept. 16, 1935, 6'1", 145#; married; enters CR; total money '65, \$2,547; joined the R.C.A. in '63 after a career in local rodeos; helped into pro ranks by Freckles Brown and Ted Smalley, Zane trains roping horses as a sideline to his own contesting; his wife, Katherine, rides the cloverleaf, barrel racing pattern.

Tompkins, Harry **Dublin, Tex.**
Born Oct. 5, 1927, 5'9", 152#; married; enters BB, BR; total money '65, \$20,357; this cowboy's career rivals fiction for he came out of upper New York state to become one of the game's legendary figures; his extraordinary balance and coordination first drew the attention of an early day rodeo great, the late Mike Hastings, while the pair worked on a dude ranch at Waverly, N.Y.; from riding steers on Sunday afternoons for ranch guests, Harry won his first BR championship in '48 with less than eighteen months actual arena experience; wearing the BR crown again in '49 and '50, he was runner-up in '51, then captured the AA cowboy championship in '52 along with both BR and BB titles; five of the next seven seasons Harry never dropped below 7th place in overall winnings then nailed his second AA title, and his fifth BR crown, in '60; travel-weary, for the next four years he contested only sporadically, then hit the road again in '65 to finish 10th for the AA crown, riding with the same, easy grace that has been his trademark in the arena for seventeen years.

Torricellas, Louis **Eugene, Ore.**
Born March 1, 1931, 5'10", 175#; married; enters CR, TR, SW; total money '65, \$4,158; from junior rodeos in western Oregon, he joined the R.C.A. in '56, still contests mainly in the Pacific Northwest during spring and summer months; also breaks and trains colts.

Tumlinson, Monroe **Lampasas, Tex.**
Born May 31, 1928, 6'1", 180#; married; enters CR, SW, TR; total money '65, \$5,967; this native Texan remembers walking 35 miles from the home place to Crystal City, Tex., to watch his first rodeo at the age of twelve; even at that tender age he'd been breaking colts for pay, for two years; horses and rodeos have been Monroe's life ever since; a fine horseman, he came out in the spring of '65 riding a sorrel paint gelding—the kind they call a "one-man horse"—that works like a charm for Monroe; typical of the sort this pro is, in the Astrodome at Houston in March, '66, working as an arena pickup man, Monroe caught a fall that tore shoulder muscles on his roping arm; two nights later he and the snorty pinto made a 12.5 second run to win the go-round and third in the average, worth a total of \$3,075; Monroe joined the R.C.A. in '44; finished among top 12 CR winners in '59.

Tyree, Tommy **Oakdale, Cal.**
Born Oct. 3, 1946, 5'8", 140#; single; enters SB; total money '65, \$1,445; veterans are watching this Arizona-born young man who only started contesting full-time in mid-season of '65; ranch-raised, he is the son of Joe Tyree who rode broncos himself fifteen years ago; helped at the start by his dad and another Arizonan, Dave Ericson, Tommy was riding the "rough string" on Nevada ranches at 16, then enrolled for a session of Jim Shoulders riding school before taking a fling at pro competition.

V

Vamvoras, Clyde **Page 5**

Vayro, Ted **Taber, Alta.**
Born April 30, 1936, 5'11", 165#; single; enters BB; total money '65, \$5,377; another of the Dominion's top riders, Ted bought a practice horse to perfect his timing them joined the R.C.A. in '59, "hailed" at the start by another Canadian cowboy, Bud Van Cleave; i.e., Ted's entry fees were paid by his mentor for a percentage of what Ted could win.

Vold, Wayne **DeWinton, Alta.**
Born March 3, 1945, 5'10", 160#; married; enters SB; total money '65, \$7,677; his father, Harry Vold, is one of Canada's leading stock contractors; Wayne grew up in the arena watching Marty Wood and Winston Bruce ride their way to the top; the Dominion's top money winner on saddle broncs himself in '65, Wayne finished fifteenth for the national championship in '65; other bronc riders feel he needs only more experience to "go all the way"; joined the R.C.A. in '60.

W

Walker, Enoch **Page 4**
Walker, Richard **Cotulla, Tex.**

Born Oct. 11, 1943, 5'10", 165#; single; enters CR; total money '65, \$3,677; national high school rodeo's CR champ in '61, Richard joined the R.C.A. the following year along with an older brother, Morris; ranch-raised on his family's 1,600-acre spread south of Cotulla, Richard finished among the top 15 CR winners in '63 and '64; the latter was his best financial year in pro ranks, with \$11,366.

Wall, Denny **Miles City, Mont.**
Born Feb. 7, 1944, 5'7", 140#; single; enters BR, SB, BB; total money '65, \$8,960; after a championship career in high school and college rodeo, Denny joined the R.C.A. in '62 helped along at the start by Ronnie Rossen and Dean Armstrong; a brother, Doug Wall, also is an R.C.A. member; at the '65 Finals, Denny gave spectators proof of veteran Jack Buschbom's previous declaration that "this little guy has talent to burn"; in his first try at the collection of the country's rankest bucking bulls, Denny rode six of the eight he drew, wound up second in the average behind winner Rossen, who managed to qualify on seven head; Denny ended up 14th for the '65 BR title, in the year-end standings.

Warren, Corky **Ft. Collins, Colo.**
Born Dec. 15, 1937, 6', 180#; married; enters CR, SW; total money '65, \$3,336; raised on a Nebraska ranch, he joined the R.C.A. in '57 while attending Colorado State University; a real roping addict, he claims constant practice the only key to success in the event but thinks Sonny Davis, who seldom practices, the toughest roper on the road.

Watson, Jim **Shafter, Cal.**
Born Dec. 3, 1945, 5'11", 160#; single; enters TR, CR; total money '65, \$2,429; when Jim first evidenced interest in roping his dad, Don Watson, encouraged the youngster but Jim remembers a lot of enforced practice sessions under parental coaching; joining the R.C.A. in '64, Jim's future plans include a degree in veterinary medicine.

Webster, Shoaht **Lenapah, Okla.**
Born Jan. 23, 1925, 5'9", 180#; married; enters SR; total money '65, \$1,802; a successful cattle rancher, Shoaht devotes little time anymore to rodeo but you can still find him at most of the steer roping contests during summer months; this has been his favorite event always, even when he was one of the game's top calf ropers and steer wrestlers during the Fifties; four times SR champion since '49, he has been out of the high five SR winners only four seasons since, a record of consistency which adds clarity to the general opinion he is the SR stylist of them all; finishing 11th for the '65 SR championship, Shoaht joined the R.C.A. in '42.

Williams, George **Boulder, Colo.**

Born May 7, 1932, 6'4", 190#; single; enters SB; total money '65, \$5,186; born in Texas and raised in Oklahoma, George joined the R.C.A. in '49 to become the game's most travelled contestant; he's competed in Mexico City, Havana, Hawaii, Japan, Australia, and Belgium; returning from his junket "down under" he touched down for short stays in a half dozen other countries; a painful hip injury received when a bronc somersaulted on him in September of '65 resulted in his becoming editor of Rodeo Sports News, the R.C.A. bi-monthly trade journal; with a natural talent for cartooning, George's drawings enliven the pages of his paper.

Willis, Dan **Page 33**

Willuweit, Jerry **Quinn, S. D.**

Born Aug. 7, 1943, 5'11", 155#; single; enters SB, BB, BR; total money '65, \$2,210; a graduate of junior and high school rodeo competition and owning a diploma from Jack Buschbom's college of rodeo knowledge; Jerry and a brother, Jim, were ranch-raised in the Dakotas; Jerry joined the R.C.A. in '64 after spending two years in permit ranks.

Wilson, Bob **Eldora, Ia.**

Born Oct. 10, 1925, 6'1", 173#; married; enters CR; total money '65, \$2,360; joining the R.C.A. in '50, Bob started out riding broncs and wrestling steers along with his calf roping; veterans Jack Wade, Wayne and Skeets Duna-fon helped him in the beginning; trains and sells roping horses as a side-line to his contesting.

Wilson, Don L. **Buffalo, Wyo.**

Born Aug. 6, 1930, 5'9", 145#; married; enters SB, BB; total money '65, \$2,610; joined the R.C.A. in '48, then spent four years with the navy in the South Pacific; both Don and his younger brother Fred, consider bareback bronc riding their best event; Don was among the top 15 BB winners in '59 but he claims winning the BB riding at Calgary's Stampede in '57 is the highlight of his career.

Wingate, Denny **Miles City, Mont.**

Born July 16, 1940, 5'10", 165#; single; enters BB; total money '65, \$5,525; a native of Atlanta, Ga., Denny wanted to cowboy from childhood; at college he got a chance to get on practice stock and enter local rodeos; Clyde Vamvoras counseled Denny to join the R.C.A. in '62 at Lake Charles, La., and then helped the newcomer improve his riding; one thing Denny still has trouble with is hangin' up in the riggin'; at St. Louis in '63 a bareback horse made three trips around the arena, dragging Denny before a well placed kick jerked him loose; and at Denver in '66, Denny spent nearly as long a span before he came loose, uninjured.

Weeks, Billy **Abilene, Tex.**

Born Jan. 15, 1926, 5'7", 158#; married; enters SB, BB; total money '65, \$4,190; raised on a ranch, he entered his first rodeo at the age of eight in a kid's calf riding contest; Billy joined the R.C.A. in '47 and contested full-time into the late '50's; a part-time oil field worker now; he's a cousin of Guy Weeks.

Weeks, Guy **Abilene, Tex.**

Born Jan. 3, 1932, 5'11", 160#; married; enters SB, BB, CR; total money '65, \$9,540; champion SB in '63, Guy has won a total of \$271,527 since joining the R.C.A. in '49; a race-rider on both thoroughbred and quarter horse tracks before he got too heavy, Guy has been considered pro rodeo's top roper-rider combination for the past ten years; among the top 15 BB winners in '59 and '61, Guy placed among the top 15 in SB five of the last seven years as well; ended up among the top 20 SB winners in '65.

Wegner, Bob **Page 6**

Wiley, Bob **Porterville, Calif.**

Born Nov. 18, 1936, 6'1", 200#; married; enters CR, TR; total money '65, \$15,623; runner-up for the CR title in '63, fifth in '64 and sixth in '65, Bob was a fine athlete in high school and junior college; he could run the hundred in 9.9 seconds and Rafer Johnson remembers Bob as a fullback who "liked to hear the leather pop;" other ropers claim Bob is as fast on the ground as anyone and when he gets his hands on a calf the rest can be a blur of speed; during '65 Bob spent much of the season campaigning for the sheriff's nomination in his home county; joined the R.C.A. in '57.

Wise, Jim **Loveland, Colo.**

Born July 24, 1934, 5'7", 160#; married; enters SB; total money '65, \$2,438; with the desire since childhood to cowboy, Jim joined the R.C.A. in '55; among the top 20 SB winners in '59 and '61, Jim has been plagued by injuries, among them pulled shoulder ligaments and a broken leg; Wyoming's Les Gore helped Jim at the beginning of his pro career; the saddle bronc riding clan elected Jim their director on the R.C.A. board in the spring of '66.

Womack, Sam **Boonsville, Tex.**

Born July 25, 1945, 5'10", 160#; married; enters CR; total money '65, \$5,818; joined the R.C.A. in '64, traveling with Ron Sewalt whose father, Royce Sewalt, has helped a lot of the current crop of calf ropers get started in pro ranks; tapped off right, Sam can get away from his tie string as fast as anyone in the business; his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Thurman Womack, raise Angus cattle on acreage outside Boonsville.

Wood, Marty **Page 4**

Worrell, Sonny **Altoona, Kans.**

Born Aug. 24, 1936, 5'8", 167#; married; enters CR, SW, SR; total money

'65, \$12,719; ranch-raised, a graduate of college rodeo at Oklahoma State University, he has been among the top fifteen CR winners five of the last six years, finished 14th for the '65 CR title; was also among the top 15 SR winners in '60 and '61; joined the R.C.A. in '58 coached by such top ropers as Don McLaughlin, Royce Sewalt and Shoat Webster; his wife, Sue, is only daughter of 6-time SR champion, Everett Shaw; they met in college and are building a cattle ranch of their own.

Wright, Jackie **Dayville, Ore.**

Born June 9, 1932, 5'10", 170#; married; enters SB, BB; total money '65, \$13,210; raised in cowboy country along the famed John Day river in central Oregon, Jackie rode colts to rural school, entered his first rodeo at 16, then joined the R.C.A. in '52 coached by veteran Sonny Tureman; injured in a logging accident he was out for three years and then came back in '63; 8th for the BB championship in '64, he finished 6th in '65; Jackie is one of those the other cowboys always watch in action.

Wuthier, Warren **Las Vegas, Nev.**

Born 1935, 6'3", 190#; single; enters CR, SW; total money '65, \$14,026; ranch-raised around Douglas, Wyo., he never tried rodeoing until his early twenties, a time most contestants are reaching their peak; coached by northern ropers, Irv Alderson and Herb Doenz, he joined the R.C.A. in '60, finished among the top CR winners in '62; among the top 20 CR winners and top 25 SW, in '65.

Wyatt, Walt **Bakersfield, Cal.**

Born March 31, 1939, 6'1", 230#; single; enters SW; total money '65, \$10,359; raised in the farm and ranch country in the lower San Joaquin valley, Walt joined the R.C.A. in '55, at 17; 5th for the '64 SW championship, he was 9th in '65; like a lot of rodeo cowboys, Walt was a fine athlete in other sports, played on the East high school grid team at Bakersfield; he got a lot of his early practice SW on his father's dairy cattle.

Y

Young, Olin **Peralta, N.M.**

Born Sept. 11, 1936, 6', 170#; married; enters CR, SR; total money '65, \$14,499; his dad, Paul Young, taught Olin the ingrained horsemanship which, along with great roping ability, has marked his career; nobody takes care of a horse or rides one to cattle better; out of the top five CR winners only twice in the last seven years, Olin is the only three-time winner of the rugged 8-head Finals roping, first in '59, again in '63 and '64; finished eighth for the '65 CR crown.

Prize Money

A rodeo's prize money payoff actually is a combination of the purse money put up by that rodeo's committee and entry fees paid by each cowboy who is competing there.

This total is divided in established percentages based on the number of go-rounds at that rodeo. (To define a go-round, this is when each contestant has competed on one head of stock, comparable to tournament golfers being paid after each eighteen holes.)

The number of go-rounds decided upon is a simple matter of arithmetic; the number of entries in an event versus the number of performances to be held. For example, Denver's National Western, in January, has eighteen performances in nine days. The entry log for five events is nearly 400, and two head of stock are given. During summer months, a two-day rodeo may give the same number of stock, to a much smaller entry list. The rodeo committee and their stock contractor normally determine how many go-rounds are to be held.

After the pre-determined number of go-rounds are completed and paid off, the highest total markings—in riding events—and the lowest total times—in roping and steer wrestling events—result in another and final payoff, called "the average."

When prize money for each go-round comes to less than \$2,000 only four places are paid, in percentages of 40, 30, 20 and 10 percent. And this rule applies to the average as well.

If, however, the go-round total is \$2,000 or more, six places must be paid, split in the following percentages: 29, 24, 19, 14, 9 and 5. Again this also applies to the average.

With only two go-rounds held, go-rounds and average are equal in money; but for three go-rounds, the average payoff rises to once and one half that in each go-round; in four go-rounds, the average is pushed to twice the amount of each go-round; and with five or more go-rounds, the average must total three times the amount in a go-round.

Perhaps an indicator of the ever-increasing number who are taking up rodeo for either a profession or weekend hobby, for the past two years total entry fees each season have exceeded total purse money by more than \$200,000.

Permit Holders

Since '57 the Rodeo Cowboys Association has had its own apprentice system. The embryo rider or roper, by purchasing a permit card, is given the chance to try his hand at big-time competition before actually joining pro ranks.

One of the association's primary rules is that no full-fledged member may compete in any but R.C.A.-sanctioned rodeos.

The permit-holder is allowed to enter so-called amateur contests along with those R.C.A. rodeos willing to accept permits until he has won \$1,000 in the latter company. At that time his special status is forfeit. He must decide whether to join the association or revert back to the novice category.

The apprentice system has worked. During 1965, 3,290 permits were issued as against 3,205 full membership cards, and until this year permits cost \$10 each.

(A new member still pays \$50 for his first year in the R.C.A., \$35 annually thereafter; of the latter \$28 goes for insurance. Each policy calls for a maximum of \$1,200 per injury in the arena, with a \$5,000 fatality clause.)

At the start of '66, to further regulate R.C.A. membership, the association adopted a rule limiting new members to only those who have won the thousand-dollar maximum in permit ranks.

In addition, cost of a permit was upped to \$20, a hike that by mid-March had caused such applications to drop less than a third in number from '65 figures at the same period.

Rodeo Officials

Those who judge rodeo events must be R.C.A. members in good standing and active contestants themselves. Where purse money is \$1,000 or over, per event, judges must be approved by the Association. A judge's decision is final. Later proved in error, he can be denied further judging jobs. Wages run from \$25 to \$100 per day, depending on the size of the rodeo.

RIDING judges draw all stock to be ridden. Identified by number, animals for each event are selected lottery fashion, i.e., rider's name is called then a number picked sight unseen from the total, usually held high in a hat over the judge's head.

Marking rides, judges post themselves on either side of the chute gate, allowing animal and rider to come out between them. Action is marked separately; figures used are 1 to 25 on the rider's action, 1 to 25 on the animal's antics. The four markings are totaled for the score.

FLAG judges monitor time events (steer wrestling and all roping). Stock is drawn the same way as riding events. Time is taken between flags, one judge at the starting scoreline, the other in the field.

Line judge decides legality of the start, field judge signals completion of the tie or thrown steer, as case may be. In roping events, field judge must allow six seconds after signaling for time, to see if tie holds. If animal kicks free in that period, roper gets no time.

The same men may serve as judges in both riding and time events.

TIMERS are experienced members of the R.C.A. or a rodeo committee. In riding events, stop watches start on the animal's first jump from the chute, are halted at pre-determined 8 to 10 seconds. Time events are decided between flags. No less than two timers may be used.

THE ARENA director is responsible for over-all operation of arena events. He may be anyone the rodeo committee decides capable for the job.

ARENA secretaries are an important cog in rodeo operation. Like judges at any rodeo with \$1,000 purse money, or more, per event, they must be approved by the R.C.A. Among manifold duties are accepting contestant entries and fees, posting the draw (no one may compete on the same animal twice at any rodeo) and figuring prize money payoffs. They also are available to news media for any needed information.

Rodeos by State, '65

	Total Purse
Alabama—2	\$ 4,500
Arizona—10	46,300
Arkansas—6	32,500
California—57	163,130
Colorado—40	107,445
Florida—7	17,000
Georgia—2	3,000
Hawaii—1	5,500
Idaho—15	50,870
Illinois—8	20,400
Indiana—1	7,000
Iowa—10	33,100
Kansas—12	33,600
Kentucky—2	6,500
Louisiana—9	32,530
Minnesota—12	13,750
Missouri—9	45,000
Montana—42	75,000
Nebraska—12	43,750
New Jersey—15	8,500
New Mexico—7	31,280
New York—11	5,450
North Dakota—16	22,900
Oklahoma—20	68,375
Oregon—15	67,725
Pennsylvania—4	9,125
South Dakota—12	37,850
Tennessee—2	12,750
Texas—59	241,187
Utah—16	48,525
Vermont—2	2,000
Virginia—1	2,000
Washington—20	61,750
West Virginia—1	2,000
Wisconsin—13	22,625
Wyoming—9	48,150
Canada	
Alberta—33	89,750
British Columbia—8	13,775
Manitoba—4	8,150
Ontario—2	12,800
Saskatchewan—10	14,575

Saddle Bronc Riding

Identity of the first man to tangle with a bucking horse is hidden in history but saddle bronc riding is the cornerstone of all rodeo competition. Experience and "know-how" are paramount in this event where rules are strictly in favor of the animal.

Equipment

Saddles are uniform in design. They must comply with measurements set forth by the R.C.A. One rein is used, usually of braided Manila, some 6 feet long and an inch and a half thick. It is fastened to the bucking horse halter. Spurs are short-shanked, with dull rowels. Chaps are of light leather, snugged tight around the thigh.

Rules

A rider is disqualified for:

1. Failing to keep spurs over the animal's shoulder points until first jump out of the chute is completed. (Called "starting" the horse.)
2. Touching animal or equipment with free hand during the ride.
3. Losing a stirrup.
4. Bucking off before official end of the ride. (Length of the ride may be 8 or 10 seconds. Choice is the stock contractor's, usually based on size of the arena.)

How They Ride

Leaving the chute, the rider tries at once to find "timing" with the bronc's action. Properly executed, his spurred feet fall into rhythmic stride, going to the animal's shoulders as it kicks high behind, moving back toward the saddle's cantle as the bronc jumps.

Some common causes of buck-offs are: too long a rein, letting rider back up on the cantle and then thrown forward; too short a rein, pulling him over the horse's head; a spurred foot catching momentarily in the animal's shoulder, which levers him off on the side the spur hangs up.

Bareback Riding

This is the youngest of rodeo's three standard riding contests. Developed in the arena, it has no actual tie-in with workaday ranch duties. Since becoming a requirement at all R.C.A.-approved rodeos some twenty years ago, bareback bronc riding now is one of the game's most populated events.

Same rules of disqualifications as used in saddle bronc riding, with exception of rule No. 3 (losing a stirrup).

How They Ride

Higher and wilder a bareback rider spurs, the better his marking by the judges. Feet forward at all times, in contrast to saddle bronc riding style, rider clings close against the rigging

handhold, tries to keep legs flailing in time with the bronc's jumps. A strong hand and fine sense of balance are needed to keep from being jerked back away from the handhold, a situation that generally leads to a buck-off.

Equipment

Instead of saddles, a double-thick leather pad, called a rigging, is cinched on the bronc's back. No stirrups or rein are used. Slightly off-center at the top of the rigging is a leather handhold. Bareback riders like the one-hand hold snug-fitting as possible for better grip. Spurs and a glove are only other riding gear needed, but chaps often are worn, similar to those used in saddle bronc riding.

Bull Riding

Serious injury occurs more often in this event than any other in rodeo. Capable of savage, sustained bucking, cross-bred Brahma bulls first were introduced into the arena, circa 1921. Fast and powerful, most of them weigh over 1,500 pounds. The loose-hided animals add injury to insult by trying to gore or trample a fallen rider. They are dangerous, as well, in the chute where their leaning weight can easily break a rider's legs.

Equipment

Woven with a single handhold, a flat-braided length of manila rope about an inch and a quarter in width is used—noose fashion around the bull—set just behind the animal's shoulders. A weighted bell also is attached to the rope, which allows it to fall free when the ride is completed. Tightly strapped spurs and a riding glove complete necessary gear. Chaps of the "shot-gun" variety, so-called for their close-fitting length, are sometimes worn.

Rules

More leniency is shown than in saddle and bareback bronc riding. A bull rider is not required to spur his mount but may receive additional credit from the judges if he does so; in the air when official end of the ride is signaled, but still holding some part of his rope, rider still rates a qualifying mark.

Disqualification comes from hitting the ground before the eight-second ride is completed; failing to have bell attached to his rope; for touching his mount with the free hand at anytime during the ride.

How They Ride

Some cowboys claim a Brahma bull can buck anybody off, anytime they turn on full power. One thing for certain, the snuffy slack-hided animals devise more spine-rattling action in the arena than any other breed of bovine

yet. Staying in the middle of one calls for balance and a strong riding arm.

If possible, the rider stays seated close up on his rope handhold, legs held slightly forward clutching the bull's rib cage. Slipping back off the rope, thus straightening your riding arm, the bull's power will jerk your hand loose, usually the next jump.

Spinning bulls are considered more hazardous to ride than those who buck straightaway. There is more danger of being trampled or butted if a rider falls to the inside of the whirling animal.

Since the bulls fight a man on horseback just as eagerly as one on foot—unlike saddle and bareback broncs—no pickup men are used. Instead a rider dismounts on his own, depends on the bull-baiting clown to keep the animal's attention while he gets out of range.

Calf Roping

A coordinated effort of horse and rider, against time, calf roping has been honed to such high competitive polish usually only tenths of a second divide the winners.

Since every phase of a roper's actions are planned to coincide with his mount, any disruption of the pattern costs precious seconds. A solid, true-working horse is valuable property. Today such an animal commands a four-figure price tag.

Equipment

Lariat ropes, generally about 25 feet long and three-eighths of an inch thick, are tied at one end to the saddle horn, the other end forming the catch loop. If he misses the first throw, roper may use a second rope coiled ready on the saddle. He is allowed only two throws. Missing with both he must retire with no time.

A slimmer 6-foot length of rope, usually tucked in the roper's belt, is used to tie the calf. Horse gear, i.e. saddle, bridle, etc., are roper's own selection.

Rules

The event calls for two or more timekeepers, field flag judge and scoreline flag judge. Length of score (headstart) given calf depends on arena's size. Roper remains behind a barrier until calf crosses scoreline. Breaking through the barrier adds 10 seconds to roper's time.

Calves used may not average over 350 pounds. After the catch, roper must throw calf by hand, cross any three legs for the tie, then signal for time by raising his hands. Field judge then passes on the tie.

Things to Watch

Long, tedious hours of practice and schooling go into this action you see in the arena. More than the roper, watch the horse, rating the speed of the calf, stopping on cue, then backing fast to keep the rope taut as the roper runs to his quarry. How well the horse carries out these hard-taught maneuvers is the difference between wins and losses. Calf-roping mounts may be any bloodlines but because of their natural, early speed, quarter horses are used more than any other. Most important requisite, though, is heart.

Steer Wrestling

Developed in the rodeo arena, steer wrestling like bareback bronc riding, never was a part of ranch work. Its origin, more than forty years ago, is laid at the door of a Negro cowboy, Bill Pickett, while working in a Wild West show.

With time taken between flags, steer wrestling is a series of practiced moves beginning as a contestant, aided by another mounted cowboy called "the hazer," leaps from a running horse to the steer's horns, bringing the animal to a halt and then wrestling it to the ground.

Equipment

Other than a steer wrestling mount and the hazer, whose duty is to keep the steer running straight as possible, none is needed. The hazer is paid an eighth of what the steer wrestler may win. Many cowboys own a "team," i.e., both steer wrestling mount and hazing horse, get a fourth for their use, serving also as hazer.

Rules

Officials are two or more timekeepers, a field and scoreline judge. Contestant waits, with hazer posted on opposite side of the release gate, until steer crosses designated scoreline. Breaking barrier adds 10-second penalty. Steer must be on its feet before being wrestled down. Running falls do not count. Steer is to be flat on its side, all four legs extended, before official time is given.

Things to Watch

Where a steer wrestler's feet hit the ground after taking hold of the steer is a key to further action. A good steer wrestling horse sweeps on by, leaving the cowboy's legs extended at a 45-degree angle to the steer's path. Bringing the animal around in an arc, at the top of the swing, the steer wrestler reaches for the right horn tip, using his left hand in additional leverage under the steer's jaw. Off-

balance momentum, plus upturned head, causes the steer to literally throw himself.

Team Roping

Catching cattle by the horns and hind feet has been a simple way to doctor injuries or brand since early range days. Rodeo's version is a speeded-up contest against time. Highly popular in California, Arizona and Nevada rodeos, with bankers, doctors and dentists, among ardent competitors, team roping is not one of the sport's standard events.

There are two styles of team roping. One is the west coast pattern, of taking a turn of the rope around the saddle horn after making a catch. This is called dally roping. The other, termed Arizona style, calls for lariat ropes tied to the saddle horn. Each style follows different rules.

Equipment

Both team roping styles require fast handling mounts. Saddles and bridles are the ropers' own choice. Ropes, some 28 feet long, are used. Dally roping saddles usually have a higher horn to facilitate turns with the catch rope.

Dally Roping Rules

Two or more timekeepers, a field and scoreline flag judge are used. Steer is given designated start with both ropers behind a barrier. Breaking the barrier is an automatic 10-second penalty. Heel roper is assessed a 5-second fine if he catches only one hind foot. A total of three throws are allowed. Ropers must face their horses toward steer with ropes taut for official time.

Team Tying Rules

Same officials and starting rules as in dally roping. No penalty assessed for picking up front foot in head loop or for snaring only one hind foot in heel loop. After catches are made, head roper dismounts and ties steer's hind legs above the ankle joint with a short length of twisted rope, raising his hands, after completing a double knot, to signify time.

Things to Watch

Head ropers place their roped quarry in position most advantageous for the heeler's throw. Snaring hind feet on a jumping, twisting steer must be timed to precision. Dally ropers run the ever present danger of losing fingers in the slipping turns of the rope around the saddle horn.

Steer Roping

Tying down the big steers single-handed against time—calling for more scientific skill perhaps than any other roping contest—is one of rodeo's original events. In recent years, however, it has been dropped by most rodeos. Some felt it too rough for the uninitiated and the event cannot be held except in out-size arenas.

Cheyenne Frontier Days and the Pendleton Roundup are two of the major rodeos left where the events' top hands gather each season.

Properly executed, a mounted roper snares the running steer's horns, laying the rope's slack over the steer's right hip. Then, angling his mount to the left as the rope tightens, the steer is spun to the ground. While his mount leans into the rope, keeping the steer prone, roper runs back on foot to group and tie any three legs.

Equipment

Lariat ropes are twisted nylon, about 28 feet long and virtually unbreakable. Tie string is longer and heavier than those used in calf roping. Saddle, bridle, etc., are roper's own choice.

Rules

Two or more timekeepers, field and scoreline flag judges are the officials. Steer is given designated headstart while roper waits behind barrier. Breaking the barrier is a 10-second penalty. Steer must remain tied until approved by field flag judge. Only clean catch of steer's horns is allowed. Two throws permitted.

Things to Watch

Steer horses are specially trained. They must be fast, and strong enough to withstand the steer's weight on the end of the rope. An important part of their training is to stop pulling, at once, on command. The horses learn this through practice runs, made with a heavy log used to simulate a steer's poundage.

Wild Horse Race—An added event, R.C.A. approved but with no championship award. Teams of three cowboys, on foot, try to saddle unbroken mustangs in the arena. One team member then tries to ride animal across given scoreline.

Wild Cow Milking—Another added event with no R.C.A. title award. Against time, two cowboys attempt to get at least one drop of milk from the cow into a small-neck bottle, then deliver it across designated line.

Steer Decorating—The Canadian variation of steer wrestling. Contestant jumps from his running horse on the steer, placing an elastic band on the animal's horn instead of wrestling the steer to the ground. The event is not seen at rodeos in this country.

The Rodeo Cowboys Association

Founded in 1936, with sixty-one names on its charter, the R.C.A. now encompasses over 3,000 members and more than 500 rodeos held annually across the United States and Canada. Administering a professional sport which in the last thirteen years has distributed nearly forty million dollars (\$39,616,943) in prize money alone, the association covers all three segments of rodeo: contestants, stock contractors and rodeo committees.

Executive body of the R.C.A. is a thirteen-man board; president, two vice-presidents, eight directors, a stock contractors' representative and a secretary-treasurer. With the exception of the latter—the only salaried member—and the two vice-presidents, all are elected from, and by, the association's membership. The trio of appointees are picked by the board itself.

To handle its business affairs which run the gamut from complaints on a cowboy's conduct in the arena to negotiating for national television cover-

age, five meetings a year are scheduled, starting each January in Denver, home of the association's national offices. Meeting also during the convention in Colorado's capital city are the R.C.A.'s related agencies, the Rodeo Foundation, an advisory group, the Rodeo Information Commission, which aids individual rodeos with publicity, and the National Finals Rodeo Commission. The latter supervises production of the sport's "world series" which names champion cowboys at the end of the year.

During routine weeks of what now is a 12-month season, the secretary-treasurer becomes responsible for the board's directives being carried out. Roped to desk and chair in the Denver office with the board competing for a livelihood at rodeos scattered across the country, this can become no mean task. He'll spend long hours phoning for a quorum's decision on things that pop up unexpectedly because rodeo is pop-

ulated with many unversed in business procedure.

Three decades ago the association started as a contestants' brotherhood. Their aim was standard rules, experienced judges and adequate prize money. But their sport then was a series of unrelated contests. Rodeos were—and still are—organized and underwritten by volunteer businessmen who contribute their time to the community. With a living to earn in other fields there was little left for organization beyond their own rodeo. So the cowboys, the only fulltime pros in the game, had the task virtually shoved in their laps.

Yet, despite representing all three sides of rodeo, all of whom naturally are shooting their best stick, the R.C.A. board has been able to keep things in balance. The last three years, '63, '64, and '65 have been record seasons, pointing up the fact that despite isolated jangles rodeo has been far-sighted enough to go for the deal which helped the most people.

Rodeo Stock Contractors

Without stock contractors there'd be no rodeo. For the completely uninitiated to understand this man's role let's take the hypothetical town of Larkspur. A civic-minded group decide to put on a rodeo. If this same group had decided to get into minor league ball or horse racing there'd be plenty of experienced personnel specifically trained to handle every detail but in rodeo, aside from the stock contractor, professionals are almost non-existent. Those who qualify as such are running some of the country's major rodeos on a full-time basis and most of them grew with their own contest.

Getting back to Larkspur. The first thing the interested parties would do, would be to get in touch with the Rodeo Cowboys Association's national headquarters in Denver, for a list of the fifty-five stock contractors on file there, all of whom are members in good standing with the association.

Aside from the natural qualification of experience in the sport, an R.C.A. stock contractor is required to own an abundance of bucking stock—the minimum is 55 head—and to give the Association other concrete evidence of being able to conduct a full-scale rodeo. In the majority of cases, the contractor the Larkspur committee selects would help them with dates, number of performances and the amount of the purse money. These three items must be approved by the R.C.A. before any further steps are taken. Larkspur, being a new rodeo, will get the Denver office's whole-hearted cooperation to get things rolling.

Most stock contractors are former contestants. They're an unusual clan. Aware they'll never challenge Paul Getty for the "richest man in the world" title, they stay with rodeo for the simple reason it's the most enjoyable way of making a living they know.

Stock contractors take on rodeos in several different ways: as a package deal where they will not only furnish the stock but everything, from pre-rodeo publicity, office help, contract acts such as the bullfighting clowns, parade horses, the prize money and the myriad other details which are far more complicated than appears on the surface. The contractor will do this for a lump sum, or he will furnish the bucking stock alone for a percentage of the gate. The thinking behind his gamble is getting another rodeo started.

Toward a successful rodeo the contractor can't do anything about the weather or the accessibility of the grounds but in his hands rest the two important items, a fast-moving run-off of events and bucking animals that will "hurl cowboys out of the arena." These two things alone represent a big investment in experience, effort and hard

cash. He must have top chute help, a scouting system to locate new bucking prospects, comparable to a major league ball club's bird dogs, and be willing to pay through the nose for such replacements in his bucking string.

In attire and personality there is a polar difference in stock contractors. Some go resplendent in diamonds with everything but their socks tailored; others can be mistaken for their chute help. But the one requisite all of them have, in varying degree, is their diplomacy and patience with rodeo committees.

Rodeo Committees

In most cases rodeo committees are made up of volunteers, usually members of civic or fraternal organizations. The fact these men can be successful in their capture of the elusive entertainment dollar is remarkable.

To return once again to hypothetical Larkspur, a small group of enthusiasts, working on their own time, will have to lure people away from their television sets and compete, as well, with other sports events in the area. On top of this they are handicapped by a limited budget, and are selling a sport with which they not only are unfamiliar, but the potential market isn't saturated with spectator identification as would be the case if they were promoting baseball or racing.

To help counteract this situation, the R.C.A., in '55, established a service bureau, called the Rodeo Information Commission, that will send Larkspur publicity material explaining rodeo events, action pictures, a reference yearbook, and, on request, supply film clips for their local TV stations. In addition, these press kits include pictures and cutlines on the stock contractor and his bucking stock.

Another service item is, through travel plans filled out by the cowboys, some of those who plan to compete at Larkspur will be known in advance. A story, with available pictures of these contestants will be forwarded to the committee's publicity chairman and local news media. The use to which the material is put depends entirely on the time and effort expended by the p.r. man on the job. But he can always get hold of the Denver bureau if he needs further help.

As soon as Larkspur's rodeo is approved by the R.C.A., its dates, number of performances, size of the purse, the stock contractor being used, and the name of the committee secretary, all are published in Rodeo Sports News, a bi-monthly newspaper which could be termed the sport's trade journal.

Currently edited by George Williams, 33, a top saddle bronc rider himself, the RSN, through its listing of upcoming rodeos, serves both as periodical and tour guide for members. Also when Larkspur's rodeo is over, complete results of the competition will be published.

It is amazing how many Larkspurs have taken the old fairgrounds or built a plant of their own—many is the embryo rodeo which started indoors—and built it into a community classic. In the Denver office there are healthy signs the Association's efforts—through the Sports News, the R.I.C.'s weekly releases on big winners, its continuing drive for exposure in all media, along with specific aids to individual rodeos—have attained a great measure of success. But, in the final analysis, success or failure of the operation in its entirety hinges on the committees, how much time and effort is put forth in promoting their rodeo, be it the hard-bitten pros or the enthusiastic newcomers who grow beards for their "Frontier Days."

What Rodeo Can Do for a Town

A committee's effort is not entirely benevolence. Rodeo to the touring foreigner is the leading sport on his agenda of things to see. The long established rodeos, such as Cheyenne, which started in 1897, Pendleton, going back to 1910, and Salinas, established a year later, are the peak of the surrounding community's year. Accommodations must be reserved weeks in advance.

Tucson's annual rodeo, held over Washington's birthday, shows clearing house receipts well in excess of the week before Christmas, as does Colorado Springs, whose rodeo is in early August.

If mythical Larkspur could be compared to the Fourth of July rodeo in Saratoga, Wyo., which owns up to a thousand population and is a good ninety miles from the nearest town of any size, its fifteen merchants would be banking \$16,000 more the following Monday than they do any other day in the year. The highly successful Phoenix, Ariz., rodeo handled by the JayCees, hikes local retail sales some 14.2 percent beside raising funds for the civic group's youth projects.

While no one yet has attempted a full-scale study of a town's benefits, the community at large—service stations, laundries and the less obvious tradesmen—would be surprised at the debt it owes its rodeo committee, if such a check were ever made.

The Top Ten Rodeo Payoffs, '65 (And Event Winners)

FORT WORTH, TEXAS

Jan. 29-Feb. 7 Prize Money—\$78,787
Saddle Bronc—Enoch Walker, Cody, Wyo.

Bareback—Harry Tompkins, Dublin, Tex.

Bull Riding—Ken Stanton, Weiser, Ida.

Calf Roping—Glen Franklin, House, N. M.

Steer Wrestling—Sonny Oliphant, Okemah, Okla.

HOUSTON, TEXAS

Feb. 24-March 7 Prize Money—\$70,437
Saddle Bronc—Kenny McLean, Okanagan Falls, B. C.

Bareback—Paul Mayo, Grinnell, Ia.
Bull Riding—Billy Hand, Loxahatchee, Fla.

Calf Roping—Olin Young, Peralta, N. M.

Steer Wrestling—Billy Hale, Checotah, Okla.

CHEYENNE, WYOMING

July 27-Aug. 1 Prize Money—\$68,567
Saddle Bronc—Jim Tescher, Medora, N. D.

Bareback—Jackie Wright, Dayville, Ore.

Bull Riding—Ronnie Rossen, Broadus, Mont.

Calf Roping—Jack Burkholder, San Antonio, Tex., Bud Smith, Del Rio, Tex., a tie.

Steer Wrestling—Harley May, Oakdale, Calif.

Steer Roping—Jim Prather, Clairemont, Tex.

DENVER, COLORADO

Jan. 15-23 Prize Money—\$61,700
Saddle Bronc—Shawn Davis, Whitehall, Mont.

Bareback—Benny Reynolds, Dillon, Mont.

Bull Riding—Jim Charles, Oakdale, Calif.

Calf Roping—Glen Franklin, House, N. M.

Steer Wrestling—Jim Houston, Omaha, Neb., Vince Shammo, Oakdale, Calif., a tie.

SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS

Feb. 12-21 Prize Money—\$55,787
Saddle Bronc—Kenny McLean, Okanagan Falls, B. C.

Bareback—Jim Houston, Omaha, Neb.

Bull Riding—Ken Stanton, Weiser, Ida.

Calf Roping—Glen Franklin, House, N. M.

Steer Wrestling—Mark Schricker, Sutherlin, Ore.

SALINAS, CALIFORNIA

July 15-18 Prize Money—\$52,820
Saddle Bronc—Bill Martinelli, Oakdale, Calif.

Bareback—Jack Buschbom, Modesto, S. D.

Bull Riding—Hank Abbie, Rumsey, Alta.

Calf Roping—Olin Young, Peralta, N. M.

Steer Wrestling—Harley May, Oakdale, Calif.

Team Roping—Byron Gist and Gary Gist, Lakeside, Calif.

CALGARY, ALBERTA

July 5-10 Prize Money—\$49,352
Saddle Bronc—Wayne Vold, DeWinton, Alta.

Bareback—Jim Clifford, Ribstone, Alta.

Bull Riding—Gid Garstad, Coronation, Alta.

Calf Roping—Lee Farris, Sebastopol, Calif.

Steer Wrestling—Arnold Haraga, Skiff, Alta.

PENDLETON, OREGON

September 15-18 Prize Money—\$48,247
Saddle Bronc—Shawn Davis, Whitehall, Mont.

Bareback—Jackie Wright, Dayville, Ore.

Bull Riding—Gid Garstad, Coronation, Alta., Paul Mayo, Grinnell, Ia., a tie.

Calf Roping—Bud Corwin, Acampo, Calif.

Steer Wrestling—Bill Linderman, Denver, Colo.

Steer Roping—Everett Shaw, Stone-wall, Okla.

SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA

Oct. 29-Nov. 7 Prize Money—\$47,721
Saddle Bronc—Ronnie Raymond, Paulina, Ore.

Bareback—Jim Houston, Omaha, Neb.

Bull Riding—Dan Willis, West, Tex.

Calf Roping—Lee Cockrell, Panhandle, Tex.

Steer Wrestling—Wilbur Plaughter, Clovis, Calif.

PHOENIX, ARIZONA

March 11-14 Prize Money—\$47,154
Saddle Bronc—Winston Bruce, Cochran, Alta.

Bareback—Daryl Hobdey, Meridian, Ida.

Calf Roping—Mel Potter, Tucson, Ariz.

Steer Wrestling—Walter Wyatt, Bak-ersfield, Calif.

Team Roping—Bill Hamilton, Phoenix, Ariz., and John Clem, Buckeye, Ariz.

The National Finals Rodeo

The '65 Finals, held Dec. 4-11 in the Oklahoma City fairgrounds coliseum under joint sponsorship of the National Cowboy Hall of Fame and the Chamber of Commerce, was the most successful in the series 7-year history; and the '66 edition of the eight-day tilt which names the year's national champions of professional rodeo will go December 3-10 at the same site.

Unique, in that it is the only rodeo ever produced through the united efforts of all three segments of the sport, i.e., committeemen, stock contractors and contestants, the NFR's successful tenure is a tribute to these men's untiring zeal.

Rodeo had long wanted a world series. Nine years ago conversation was turned into concrete planning which resulted in the first National Finals Rodeo, held at Dallas, Tex. Behind this simple statement were myriad details far more complex than would first be imagined.

The first step was to create a commission not only in a position to speak for the different groups in rodeo but they would have the experience and talent to get something as big as this off the ground with nothing comparable in the past to use as a reference. Also the basic concept of what the Finals was to accomplish for the entire sport had to be constantly considered by the commission in its decisions.

The Finals were to benefit rodeo in its entirety by bringing national attention to the sport in general, and particularly to the crowning of its annual champions. It had been decided the top

fifteen money winners in the seven major events were to compete against each other for the titles. (The limitations of an indoor arena necessitated holding the steer roping Finals separately and the first three team roping Finals also were held in outdoor locations.)

Another ambition was to indoctrinate a given locality with rodeo at its best and to leave another successful rodeo in the Finals wake. The commission made it clear the Finals was to be straight contest without the additional frills of screen personalities, arena acts or anything outside of actual cowboy competition.

In retrospect, these targets have been hit. As an example, bucking stock has received the recognition cowboys always have felt was their due. Since rodeo's inception, a good bucking horse or bull owned a reputation spread usually by word of mouth. Through a complicated system of stock selection, bareback broncs, saddle broncs and bulls were chosen from all over the United States and Canada, and their records printed in the NFR program. For the first time spectators could dope out an event. The commission realized there would be cheaper ways of putting on a rodeo but the original thought, to have the best stock available, proved their theory; newspapermen and photographers talk about bucking animals with the knowledge and familiarity heard around the paddock.

Equal time, trouble and money has been put into the selection of calves and steers for the timed events. First, more than needed are put on feed,

and then the R.C.A. director for the event, whittles the bunch to uniformity in size and weight.

At first, it was feared the cowboys' attitude toward competitive pressure might rob the Finals of the underlying tension so discernible in some other major sports events. In spite of it being against their philosophy, "it's just another rodeo," after the first year, cowboys were the first to admit it was a classic. Since then, toward the end of a season making the Finals has become an obsession. Many a guy in twentieth place knocks himself out physically and financially to take a crack at the \$65,000 in prize money.

After three years at Dallas — '59 through '61—under aegis of the state fair of Texas, the Finals moved to the Sports Arena in Los Angeles, where, according to the NFR by-laws, 1964 wound up its three-year term there. At both cities the crowds were far more enthusiastic than anyone had dared hope for. For the first two years there were ten performances and each performance is a go-round at the Finals; in other words, a contestant gets a head of stock each performance. Ironically, rodeo over-matched itself. Bull riders and bronc riders were walking wounded. So, from the third Finals on, performances were cut to eight.

Aside from giving rodeo a shot in the arm on the national level, the Finals have become a climactic spectacle for those close to the sport, well worth the work and worry. Proof of this is the ever increasing number of box seats bought well in advance by aficionados from all over North America.

NFR Winners

Saddle Bronc Riding

1959—Jim Tescher, Medora, N. D.
1960—Enoch Walker, Cody, Wyo.
1961—Alvin Nelson, Sidney, Mont.
1962—Alvin Nelson, Sidney, Mont.
1963—Jim Tescher, Medora, N. D.
1964—Ken McLean, Okanagan Falls, B. C.
1965—Bill Martinelli, Oakdale, Calif.

Bareback Bronc Riding

1959—Jack Buschbom, Mobridge, S. D.
1960—Benny Reynolds, Dillon, Mont.
1961—Jack Buschbom, Mobridge, S. D.
1962—John Hawkins, Twain Harte, Calif.
1963—John Hawkins, Twain Harte, Calif.
1964—Jack Buschbom, Mobridge, S. D.
1965—Dennis Reiners, Clara City, Minn.

Bull Riding

1959—Jim Shoulders, Henryetta, Okla.
1960—Duane Howard, Minnewaukan, N. D.
1961—Bernis Johnson, Cleburne, Tex.
1962—Bob Robinson, Porterville, Calif.
1963—Leo Brown, Czar, Alta.

1964—Bob Wegner, Auburn, Wash.
Ron Rossen, Broadus, Mont. (tie)
1965—Ron Rossen, Broadus, Mont.

Calf Roping

1959—Olin Young, Albuquerque, N. M.
1960—Don McLaughlin, Ft. Collins, Colo.
1961—Dean Oliver, Boise, Ida.
1962—Olin Young, Albuquerque, N. M.
1963—Olin Young, Albuquerque, N. M.
1964—Jim Bob Altizer, Del Rio, Tex.
1965—Jim Bob Altizer, Del Rio, Tex.

Steer Wrestling

1959—Willard Combs, Checotah, Okla.
1960—Harley May, Oakdale, Calif.
1961—C. R. Boucher, Burkburnett, Tex.
1962—Mark Schricker, Sutherlin, Ore.
1963—Billy Hale, Checotah, Okla.
1964—Billy Hale, Checotah, Okla.
1965—John W. Jones, San Luis Obispo, Calif.

Team Roping

1959—Jim Rodriguez, Jr., San Luis Obispo, Calif., Gene Rambo, Shandon, Calif.
1960—Jim Rodriguez, Jr., San Luis Obispo, Calif., Gene Rambo, Shandon, Calif.
1961—Sam Edmondson, Fresno, Calif., R. D. Rutledge, Tulare, Calif.
1962—Les Hirdes, Turlock, Calif., Julius Boschi, Patterson, Calif.
1963—Les Hirdes, Turlock, Calif., Al Hooper, Reno, Nev.
1964—Byron Gist, Lakeside, Calif., Gary Gist, Lakeside, Calif.
1965—Bronc Curry, Thousand Oaks, Calif., Billy Darnell, Rodeo, N.M.

Single Steer Roping

1959—Jim Snively Sr., Pawhuska, Okla.
1960—Don McLaughlin, Ft. Collins, Colo.
1961—Joe Snively, Pawhuska, Okla.
1962—Everett Shaw, Stonewall, Okla.
1963—Glenn Nutter, Thedford, Neb.
1964—Don McLaughlin, Ft. Collins, Colo.
1965—Sonney Wright, Alto, N. M.

Rookie of the Year

To the newcomer who wins the most money during his freshman year in pro ranks goes the "rookie" crown. The 1965 recipient, slender, soft-spoken, Dan Willis, of West, Tex., was a popular choice.

Born May 13, 1941, Dan grew up around livestock on his parent's place at West, due north of Waco on U.S. 77. It was natural for the 6'2", 150-pounder to gravitate into rodeo. Starting in high school, Dan mixed local rodeo competition with training cutting horses until joining the R.C.A. He admits now rodeoing is interfering somewhat with keeping his stable full of prospective "cutters."

The fact this quiet Texan is polite, doesn't mean he lacks intestinal fortitude. His manners mask a tough competitor. During '65 he shrugged off a broken nose, at Mangum, Okla., in May, a fractured cheekbone in late September, to make a Snapper Garrison rush at the close of the season, jumping from eighteenth place to tenth in the bull riding standings by winning the Cow Palace.

Down at the Finals, Dan was packed out cold after his third bull stepped squarely on his head. But he was back for the action the next night, with his scalp neatly hemstitched and his usual grin. His '65 money total was \$7,994.



Past Rookie Awards

1964—Jim Steen, a 5'9", 170-pounder from Glenns Ferry, Ida., for finishing among the top fifteen winners in bull riding, his first full pro season. Born Aug. 17, 1939, Jim also enters SB, BB and SW. Two-year total in pro ranks, \$14,325. Injured at Denver, in BR, at the start of '66.

1963—Bill Kornell, at 19, won both the rookie crown and the bull riding championship; the second cowboy in rodeo's history to accomplish such a feat. Bill got his start around practice arenas in Palm Springs, Calif., joined the R.C.A. in '61 while still a high school student. He now lives at Clarksville, Tex.

1962—Jim Houston, 22, Omaha, Neb., for his winning ability on bareback

broncs. A star end on Omaha's Tech High grid team, Jim got his riding start during summer vacations around Cody, Wyo. He finished ninth for the BB championship in '62, 8th in '63.

1961—Ken McLean, 25, Okanagan Falls, B. C., for finishing 4th for the SB championship, winning \$14,640. He went on to win the '62 SB title; finished 10th SB standings in '63.

1960—Larry Kane, 25, Big Sandy, Mont., for finishing among the top 15 SB riders three months after turning pro. He was 6th for the SB title in '61; 4th in '62; fifth in '63.

1959—Harry Charters Jr., 38, Melba, Ida., also won the SW title in his first pro year, and a total \$24,930.

1958—Benny Reynolds, 28, Dillon, Mont., for all-around cowboy ability, winning \$26,450 in four events his first pro season. AA champion in '61.

1957—Bob A. Robinson, 30, Tuttle, Ida., for all-around cowboy ability in riding and roping events. Second for AA championship in '60, earning \$29,213 that season, he won the SW title in a cliffhanger finish with veteran Harley May.

1956—John W. Jones, 31, San Luis Obispo, Calif., for finishing 5th in SW title standings. A husky 200-pounder, who also excels in calf roping, he won a total of \$8,342 in '61, finishing 13th for the SW title that year and in '62 also; was 11th in SW standings in '63.

Bucking Horse of the Year

Because cowboys have sincere respect and admiration for an honest bucking animal—a fact in direct opposition to the opinion of some that rodeo stock are ill-treated pariahs — the season's fifteen leading money winners among the saddle bronc fraternity vote on the horse they felt bucked best during the year.

Horses, like contestants, have hot and cold years. The season of '65 saw Harry Knight's shoulder-dropping sorrel gelding, Jake, now 14 years old, win the award for the second time in the animal's 10-year career. (His first award came in 1960.)

Purchased, along with 29 other prospects for an overall \$3,000 at the Miles City, Mont., bucking horse auction in '55, Jake, a half-thoroughbred, was a nervous, "washy" animal, and Knight spent some weary months teaching his charge to save "the Sunday punch" 'til the chute gates opened.

Runner-up for the '65 bucking horse award, whose only tangible reward is a silver-embossed halter from Rodeo Sports News, was Little Nell, a roan mare, owned by Christensen Brothers, Eugene, Ore.

Other Years

1964—Wanda Dee, an 18-year-old palomino mare, and the first of her gender to be so honored; owned by the Calgary Stampede Association. An "honest" bucking horse for nine years, the 1,300-lb. equine beat out two other veterans of the game, Kelsey's, John Doe, and the Big Bend's sorrel gelding, Trail's End, for the award.

1963—Big John, a 1,400-lb. bay gelding, from the Harry Knight string, came off a farm in Saskatoon Sask., as part of a work team. He found his way into the rodeo arena after his teammate turned out to be a balker. Big John is the second bronc to win the bucking horse award more than once; the other, Christensen Brothers' War Paint.

1962—Big John, owned by Harry Knight, Fowler, Colo.

1961—Jesse James, 1,100-pound palomino gelding, owned by Hoss Inman, of Lamar, Colo., who paid a record \$2,200 for the animal in the fall of '60. Raised in the Dakotas, Jesse is the popular conception of an outlaw bronc. Untractable and dangerous to a man on foot, he can be led from horseback.

1960—Jake, a sorrel gelding, owned by Harry Knight, and noted for his

twisting, shoulder-dropping style. Purchased in '56 along with 30 other broncs at the annual Miles City, Mont., bucking horse auction. The lot cost a total of \$3,000.

1959—Trail's End, 1,200-pound sorrel gelding, owned by the Zumwalt Rodeo Company, of Missoula, Mont. Raised in the Bitter Root mountain country, Trail's End bucks his best in a building arena where he uses the walls, much as a pitcher uses his "brush back" throw, to loosen a rider. Subject of a sports documentary by Life's Marshall Smith in '62.

1958—Knight's Joker, and Christensen Brothers War Paint tied for the honor, Joker contracted lockjaw en route home from the Ft. Madison, Ia., rodeo that fall, which proved fatal.

1957—War Paint, a bay and white gelding, purchased off the Klamath Indian reservation in '51, was famous for his dive out of the chute, a move that served to loosen his rider for the jolting action to follow. Few cowboys weathered the storm; still bucking in '64.

1956—War Paint, owned by Hank and Bob Christensen, of Eugene, Ore., won the first bucking horse of the year award and the silver mounted halter awarded by Rodeo Sports News.

The Rodeo Game

People are interested in a bit of history, yet rodeo's origin has few authenticated dates and places. When two or more trail herds gathered near a railroad it was only natural that the cowboys competed in the skills by which they made their living. Because their life was lonely and the days were filled with little else than working cattle and breaking horses a man's pride in his ability grew out of proportion. This one trait still exists.

From impromptu contests, often on a cleared area within sight of the false-fronted buildings of the town, the sport grew. A cowboy is a gambler by nature and through the long, hard pull—from the first unorganized competitions to the present well-run contests governed by legislation of the Rodeo Cowboys Association—the cowboys have never wanted to decrease the element of gamble.

There are no guarantees or any expenses paid. On top of this each cowboy pays an entry fee to enter an event, sometimes as high as a hundred dollars, and lives on what he can win. He competes in a sport which he runs himself by his right to vote for a director—in each of the events he works—who will be on the R.C.A.'s administrative board. Everything has been done by the board to even competition, yet any move to lift the element of gamble in the professional cowboy's career—such as subsidy—has been vetoed.

As all entry fees are added to the purses put up by the rodeos themselves, the ever increasing amount of the payoff proves there are still those left who put their own independence above everything else.

Some of the bigger rodeos have celebrated their sixty-eighth annual contest and the names of the first winners, and some of the more famous bucking stock, strike notes of remembrance in the shadows of memories. This book lists the champions for the last thirty-six years—not long compared to the records in other sports—but before most active contestants were born.

Rodeo's setting has changed. The grandstands and the grounds are different. But the cowboys are the same men who risked their necks gladly when one trail herd met another to prove, often to their best friend, that they were as good as any hand in the territory. In this respect rodeo has a history, and in this respect it's unchanged.

A question which always arises when only a hundred rodeo hands win a five figure amount during a season is how

does the lower echelon get by? If any sport is comparable to rodeo it is golf. Both games have a relatively few big winners compared to the number who enter. But in both there's the man who is more concerned with taking the biggest part of a dollar home. He's not a headliner but in these sports his kind get their hands on a surprising amount of the payoff.

Also golfers and cowboys work deals in their events whereby two men will share expenses and split their winnings for a better chance to stay on the road.

Although rodeo doesn't pay off as many places as golf it does have several dividends. When every cowboy entered in an event has had his first head of stock a go-round is completed. If the go-round is worth \$2,000 or over, six monies are paid; if less than \$2,000 only four share the wealth. If they are given a second head of stock there's another go-round payoff. And then the man with the best score, or lowest aggregate in the timed events, wins "the average." This payoff also has four or six places, again dependent on the amount of prize money involved.

So, in reality, a cowboy's hopes have mathematical reason to stay alive. Many a youngster starting out just scratches along until he's able to win something; and his ability to even show up at the rodeo amazes everybody, except those who've lent him money or hauled him. But surviving a starvation route like this makes for a tougher competitor.

Why do they do it? Fathoming the reasons which launch careers would be like explaining thought processes that led to remembering a forgotten name. To an ambition in the embryonic stages rodeo may offer more appeal than other sports. Yet cowboys, normally easy subjects to interview, become tongue-tied when they try to pinpoint why they made up their minds to rodeo.

All top athletes have their adrenal glands pumped up by competition. With this, admitted or not, men want to do something others can't do or don't dare to. Rodeo does answer this appeal. And it also answers the reception to challenge which can become an obsession; such as standing on the highest point over the swimming hole until you work up enough courage to jump. Many a cowboy admits trying some rogue when there was no one around to cheer. Not

only is this dangerous but it proves that for many a challenge is irresistible.

When there is no sponsoring help along the way—such as Golden Gloves or Police Athletic League—the caliber athlete who emerges successful in rodeo must rank as the most persistent and dedicated in today's sports.

Comparable to a little leaguer finally making good in the majors, today's professional cowboy has a chance to be brought up in the sport and many of the current top hands got their start in junior rodeo.

Like their counterpart in baseball, these diminutive contestants—often ten-year-olds who with their big hats remind one of a piece of cracker being moved by an ant—try to make every move with the studied polish and class of their idols. From junior rodeo many go on to national high school competition.

Inter-collegiate rodeo is getting bigger. The N.I.R.A. started at Alpine, Tex., in '49, now has fifty-six member colleges.

Besides this, a number of rodeo schools are flourishing; until the advent of these odd-ball institutes of learning a beginner was hard put to find practice, especially in the riding events. Now, instead of paying an entry fee to get their heads driven into the dirt, students can get on lots of practice stock under the critical eye of former world champions in the different events.

Many of today's top-flight pros own backgrounds formed with as much as twelve years of rodeo while they tried to balance the sport against getting an education. Many hit "the big time" with as solid a schooling in the fundamentals as athletes have in other pro sports.

Until 1957 a new member in the Rodeo Cowboys Association had to jump directly into professional ranks and his dues were the same as the next guy. The permit system was started and the youngster—similar to giving the apprentice jockey a pull in the weights until he's ridden a given number of winners—was allowed to work rodeos that accepted permits until he'd won a thousand dollars.

Oddly enough, at times one of rodeo's biggest problems is having too many cowboys. Yet the influx of contestants has brought a far more knowledgeable spectator to the grandstand; friends

and relatives of participants have been exposed to the sport and no longer can the writer be of the opinion his copy will have few critics because mass readership is lulled by ignorance.

Media exposure made the most intricate play in professional football common conversation on any street corner. By the same token the rodeo fan is no longer a freak. He's after the same authentic coverage as the baseball, football or basketball buff.

Cowboys, given striped vests and pencils, are entrusted with the awarding of as much as eighty thousand dollars at one rodeo. Professional contestants are convinced only a man who has competed in the last year is in the position to handle the responsibilities of judging.

Actually he's out there with only his own opinion, governed by the Rodeo Cowboys Association's rule book, as to how well a man rode an animal—he evaluates this from 1 to 25 points on his scorecard—and he's got nothing but his own knowledge honed by personal experience, to decide how hard the animal bucked, another 1 to 25 marking.

It would be foolish to claim this hasn't been one of the touchiest areas in professional rodeo. When you're giving a bunch of money away you're only going to make the winners happy. Yet, oddly enough, in spite of the sport having its quota of human nature, this type of jurisdiction has worked well.

The R.C.A.'s board of directors screen applicants for judging jobs for those rodeos which offer a thousand dollars or more per event. On top of this, in 1965 the association started a judging school using slow motion movies, blown-up illustrations and miniature models of chutes and barriers to standardize a judge's vital decisions.

Because the R.C.A. board limits the number of rodeos a cowboy may judge during a season there is no such thing as the professional official. Wages run from \$25 to \$100 per day depending on the size of the rodeo. It is a consensus of opinion among contestants themselves which rates a judge.

The depth of friendship in rodeo is novel. The common denominator of danger, and luck in the draw, causes rodeo hands to be battling those two elements rather than the other guys entered. Companionship, tempered by long hours spent battling a car down the endless highways and killing the boring hours between relatively short moments of actual competition, is the biggest inducement for staying in the game.

Ford Frick's edict that it was bad for baseball to have opposing players fraternize on the diamond would never work in rodeo. An umpire calls a tough decision on a ball player but his honesty isn't strained by the thought he'll be piling in the same car late that night

and grinding out a thousand miles, perhaps with a stopover at the disappointed athlete's homeplace. Cowboys feel regardless of the personal angle a man is either honest or he isn't.

Watching a rodeo usually gives the less knowledgeable the feeling they've witnessed the most objectionable animals in the world, ones that should have been exterminated. This couldn't be farther from the truth. From some strange passage of American mythology the cowboy riding a bronc to a standstill, both flecked with blood, is an ingrained image. Again this is a ranking misconception. In actual fact, rodeo stock's value is climbing faster than General Motors.

Bucking horses are becoming increasingly harder to find. And their value is soaring by leaps and bounds. As much as \$4,350 was paid for a proven animal in the last three years. The agricultural switch from draft horses to machinery snuffed out the biggest source of good bucking horses; the ideal cross for them was work blood, giving the size and weight, and the thoroughbred sire whose supposed function was to foster riding horses. Regardless of the parties involved in these unscheduled matings the infusion of class is a consistent part of a good bucking horse's background.

And the unintentional explosive mishap—a lazy hay-hand who tried to ride from the field to the barn and found himself upside down and being dragged—could have been responsible for the turning point in an equine career. The spoiled horse, tractable in the chutes, saves his Sunday punch until the chute gate opens. On the other hand some wild horses exhaust themselves fighting confinement. This is not to imply getting down on the average bucking horse is like crawling into bed; some would just as soon as not turn a back somersault when he feels a rider's weight. The instinct to buck is deeply ingrained in some horses.

Good bucking bulls are easier to come by. Yet their value as such far exceeds their market price. Recently the estate of a stock contractor sold the bull string for an over \$800 average. Bulls bat a much better percentage against cowboys than do the broncs; Jim Shoulders' big, Bradford cross, Tornado, has over 150 cowboys' scalps on his belt and has yet to be ridden.

Consider the scarcity of this stock, and the cowboys' dependency on an animal's bucking ability to win him money, explodes the myth of conquered animals. In reality the bucking stock is the most pampered bunch of hair-covered bandits around today. On the average they work only ten minutes a year. They are such a valuable commodity that regardless of the varying degrees of affection for an animal in a stock contractor's mind he's going to do everything he can to protect his investment.

Hints for the Media

The physical layout of some outdoor rodeos isn't too handy for a reporter assigned to cover the action. The front and back sides of the chutes are hard to get around and usually the stand where the timers and announcer hold forth becomes crowded for working room. Naturally some established rodeos have great facilities for the press but there are a few hints which might help the scribe assigned to the new rodeo whose budget hasn't allowed it to build press facilities. Often someone is assigned about the time rodeo committeemen are galloping around in the usual welter of last minute crises and the relationship gets off to a bad start. By rule, an R.C.A. rodeo is required to list the arena secretary's phone number with the local telephone office and her phone must be attended for at least the six hours prior to entry closing time.

The encroaching characters—namely, cowboys in distant phone booths fighting the busy signal—make it hard to get through during that period. So, it might be advisable to get hold of the rodeo's p.r. chairman; he'll turn himself inside out to help. Both the stock contractor and announcer will do everything they can do to help as well. They know when a go-round will be over which will erase the confusing pitfall of the difference between the announced high marking during a performance and the actual go-round winner. Many a hard-working scribe has been disenchanted at the outset because of this first, natural mistake.

More times than not, a contesting cowboy will be working for the stock contractor. He knows the individual animals and a vast majority of the top hands competing. He's a good source of information; sports writers say cowboys as a group are more helpful than any other athletes they've worked with. However, a cowboy won't butt in; they hear a newsman ask an un-answered question of a third party but they're not going to voice the solution unless requested to do so personally. A writer used to more publicity-minded sports can get the erroneous impression cowboys are un-cooperative. They're not, they're simply hesitant to intrude.

At a ball game if a guy hits a homer the p. a. system in the press box quickly blasts this was so-and-so's umpteenth round-tripper of the season, his 'nth hit off that pitcher and might further embroider the data with career totals to date. In rodeo the go-round might be won by a cowboy who had lost the last three or four encounters with the same animal. The cowboys could be the only ones who know that.

Rodeo, by leaps and bounds, is getting easier to cover. But even where it remains a tough assignment, the writer who gets with the right people will find it more interesting, and much better copy, than he ever expected.



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