

RODEO INFORMATION FOUNDATION
2929 West 19th Avenue
Denver, Colorado 80204

(303) 455-3270

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

10/7/68

DENVER, COLO. -- Tom Bews of Longview, Alberta, is a good example of the pressures being exerted by professional rodeo cowboys in the closing stages of the 1968 rodeo season, the Rodeo Cowboys Association said today.

Professional cowboys are riding hard to earn berths in the classic National Finals Rodeo in Oklahoma City, Okla., Nov. 30-Dec. 8, where more than \$70,000 and world championships are at stake. Only the top 15 cowboys in each event, based on money won during the year, can qualify for the Finals.

Last week Bews, 24, was ranked 17th in saddle bronc riding. Today he is 12th, following first-place wins at rodeos in Little Rock, Ark., and Waco, Tex., which both ended over the weekend. Bews now has \$8,143 for the season. The event leader, Shawn Davis of Whitehall, Mont., has \$18,443.

There were 261 entries at Waco and 135 at Little Rock, with combined prize money of \$27,587.

Glen Franklin, 31, House, N.M., continues to close in on his calf roping record of \$31,268, set last year. Franklin snared \$850 last weekend, giving him \$28,348 this year.

The nation's All Around Cowboy (winning the most in two or more events), Larry Mahan, 24, Brooks, Ore., was in the money at both rodeos, but emerged with only \$471 for his saddle and bareback bronc and bull riding efforts. His total this year is \$39,700, slightly behind his record-breaking pace of

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first add -- Rodeo Results

last year when he won \$51,996. Mahan was the first pro cowboy to win more than \$40,000 in two consecutive years (1966-'67) and will again exceed that mark, the R.C.A. said.

A tragedy marred competition at the two rodeos, the R.C.A. said, when four members of the rodeo fraternity were killed in a traffic accident near Hope, Ark., Oct. 1.

They were 10-year-old twin sisters Ann and Jan Lewis, their mother Rose, all of Sulphur, Okla., and Sissie Thurman, 34, Bryan, Tex. All but Jan died shortly after the accident, and Jan succumbed to injuries Monday morning.

Ann was leading in the race for the 1968 world barrel racing title, and might have been the youngest to claim the championship. This was her first year of competition.

Mrs. Thurman, wife of rodeo contestant Doug Thurman, was runnerup in Girls Rodeo Association barrel racing standings last year and was currently ranked second.

-- Event Winners --

Little Rock -- saddle bronc riding, Bews, \$493; bareback bronc, Paul Mayo, Grinnell, Ia., \$767; bull riding, John Dodds, Calgary, Alta., \$447; calf roping, Buttons Howard, Portales, N.M., \$1,084; steer wrestling, Blair Wills, Taber, Alta., \$1,004.

Waco -- saddle bronc, Bews, \$399; bareback bronc, Gary Tucker, Carlsbad, N.M., \$646; bull riding, (tie) Freddie Greer, Dallas, Tex., and Jerry Johnston, Weatherford, Tex., \$743 each; calf roping, Johnnie Hudson, Decatur, Tex., \$810; steer wrestling, Stan Neal, Lancaster, Calif., \$772.

CHAMPIONSHIP STANDINGS

ALL AROUND

1. Larry Mahan, Salem, Ore., \$39,700;
2. Jim Houston, Omaha, Neb., \$32,397;
3. Glen Franklin, House, N.M., \$28,563;
4. Paul Mayo, Grinnell, Iowa, \$27,092;
5. Bob Ragsdale, Chowchilla, Calif., \$25,642;
6. Jack Roddy, San Jose, Calif., \$23,408;
7. Shawn Davis, Whitehall, Mont., \$23,041;
8. Barry Burk, Duncan, Okla., \$22,872;
9. George Paul, Del Rio, Tex., \$21,689;
10. Dean Oliver, Boise, Ida., \$20,155;
11. Tony Haberer, Andrews, Tex., \$19,076;
12. Mark Schricker, Sutherlin, Ore., \$18,645;
13. Jim Bob Altizer, Del Rio, Tex., \$17,255;
14. Doug Brown, Silverton, Ore., \$16,071;
15. Anson Thurman, Fallon, Nev., \$16,036.

SADDLE BRONCS

1. Shawn Davis, Whitehall, Mont., \$18,443;
2. Larry Mahan, Salem, Ore., \$14,876;
3. Bill Smith, Cody, Wyo., \$14,590;
4. Marty Wood, Diamond, Mo., \$10,596;
5. Mel Hyland, Port-Kells, B.C., \$9,853;
6. Ralph Maynard, Cody, Wyo., \$9,805;
7. Ivan Daines, Innisfail, Alta., \$9,135;
8. Ken McLean, Okanagan Falls, B.C., \$8,952;
9. John McBeth, Atlanta, Kans., \$8,556;
10. Hugh Chambliss, Albuquerque, N.M., \$8,360;
11. Larry Kane, Big Sandy, Mont., \$8,235;
12. Tom Bews, Longview, Alta., \$8,143;
13. Doug Brown, Silverton, Ore., \$7,522;
14. Bob Berger, Halstead, Kans., \$7,475;
15. Guy Weeks, Abilene, Tex., \$7,355;
16. Winston Bruce, Calgary, Alta., \$7,316;
17. John Ivory, Redmond, Ore., \$7,109;
18. Kurly Hebb, Fall River, Kans., \$5,915;
19. Dennis Reiners, Clara City, Minn., \$5,896;
20. Roy Rodewald, Craig, Colo., \$5,339.

BAREBACK BRONCS

1. Clyde Vamvoras, Burkburnett, Tex., \$22,980;
2. Jim Houston, Omaha, Neb., \$19,183;
3. Bob Mayo, Grinnell, Iowa, \$18,583;
4. Paul Mayo, Grinnell, Iowa, \$17,117;
5. Larry Mahan, Salem, Ore., \$14,603;
6. Gary Tucker, Carlsbad, N.M., \$12,901;
7. Royce Smith, Iona, Ida., \$10,942;
8. John Edwards, Red Lodge, Mont., \$10,440;
9. Jim Ivory, Pampa, Tex., \$8,890;
10. Ken Stanton, Weiser, Ida., \$7,399;
11. Jerry Coble, Rock Island, Tex., \$6,719;
12. Tony Haberer, Andrews, Tex., \$6,339;
13. Daryl Brown, Deer Park, Wash., \$6,230;
14. Dale Trotter, Sturgeon Heights, Alta., \$5,652;
15. Jim Clifford, Ribstone, Alta., \$5,176;
16. Harry Tompkins, Dublin, Tex., \$5,012;
17. Ron Koll, Wendell, Ida., \$4,918;
18. Phil Heinen, Ocala, Fla., \$4,684;
19. H.B. Johnson, Midlothian, Tex., \$4,114;
20. Happy Tegart, Calgary, Alta., \$3,915.

BULL RIDING

1. George Paul, Del Rio, Tex., \$19,860;
2. Myrtis Dightman, Houston, Tex., \$13,828;
3. Freckles Brown, Soper, Okla., \$13,553;
4. Tony Haberer, Andrews, Tex., \$12,737;
5. Gary Leffew, Santa Maria, Calif., \$12,048;
6. Bo Ashorn, Houston, Tex., \$11,511;
7. Bill Kornell, Clarksville, Tex., \$11,368;
8. Ronnie Rossen, Broadus, Mont., \$11,336;
9. Larry Mahan, Salem, Ore., \$9,904;
10. Red Doyal, Wayside, Tex., \$9,125;
11. Sandy Kirby, Woodstown, N.J., \$8,711;
12. Doug Brown, Silverton, Ore., \$8,525;
13. Dickie Cox, Rockwell, Tex., \$8,516;
14. Bill Stanton, Indian Valley, Ida., \$7,759;
15. Denny Wall, Kit Carson, Colo., \$7,688;
16. Paul Mayo, Grinnell, Iowa, \$7,319;
17. Dave Glover, Clarksville, Tex., \$7,039;
18. Larry Davis, Homedale, Ida., \$6,414;
19. Fred Greer, Dallas, Tex., \$6,102;
20. Ken Stanton, Weiser, Ida., \$5,836.

CALF ROPING

1. Glen Franklin, House, N.M., \$28,348; 2. Dean Oliver, Boise, Ida., \$18,466; 3. Barry Burk, Duncan, Okla., \$17,676; 4. Bob Ragsdale, Chowchilla, Calif., \$16,957; 5. Jim Bob Altizer, Del Rio, Tex., \$15,132; 6. Junior Garrison, Marlow, Okla., \$14,828; 7. Ernest Forsberg, Chatsworth, Calif., \$13,822; 8. Lee Cockrell, Panhandle, Tex., \$13,324; 9. Olin Young, Peralta, N.M., \$12,561; 10. Ron Sewalt, Chico, Tex., \$11,930; 11. Ernie Taylor, Hugo, Okla., \$11,877; 12. Ken Patterson, Fairview, Tenn., \$9,338; 13. Mark Schricker, Sutherlin, Ore., \$8,585; 14. Warren Wuthier, Banner, Wyo., \$8,228; 15. Anson Thurman, Fallon, Nev., \$7,092; 16. Morris Walker, Cotulla, Tex., \$7,983; 17. Sam Womack, Bridgeport, Tex., \$7,092; 18. Bob Hungate, Waco, Tex., \$6,999; 19. Bowie Wesley, Wildorado, Tex., \$6,701; 20. Bob Goodspeed, High Ridge, Mo., \$6,415.

STEER WRESTLING

1. Jack Roddy, San Jose, Calif., \$23,392; 2. Roy Duvall, Boynton, Okla., \$16,143; 3. Jim Houston, Omaha, Neb., \$13,213; 4. Billy Hale, Checotah, Okla., \$12,268; 5. Walt Linderman, Belfry, Mont., \$10,600; 6. J.W. Jones, Morro Bay, Calif., \$10,276; 7. Mark Schricker, Sutherlin, Ore., \$9,530; 8. Ed Galemba, Stratford, Conn., \$8,936; 9. Ben Bates, Burkburnett, Tex., \$8,701; 10. Bob Ragsdale, Chowchilla, Calif., \$8,439; 11. Jerry Peveto, Orange, Tex., \$7,382; 12. Jim Smith, Okemah, Okla., \$7,171; 13. Anson Thurman, Fallon, Nev., \$6,816; 14. Warren Wuthier, Banner, Wyo., \$6,701; 15. Gary Walker, Brentwood, Calif., \$6,351; 16. C.R. Boucher, Burkburnett, Tex., \$6,321; 17. John McAlester, Checotah, Okla., \$6,304; 18. Wilbur Plaugher, Fresno, Calif., \$5,849; 19. Neil Love, Grandview, Tex., \$5,757; 20. Tommy Combs, Checotah, Okla., \$5,750.

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

10/14/68

DENVER, COLO. -- Sonny Davis has won his third world championship, Glen Franklin has for the third time set a new event record, and Larry Mahan for the third time has won more than \$40,000 in one year.

Davis and Franklin are both from New Mexico, the Rodeo Cowboys Association said today.

Davis, 33, won the 1968 world steer roping title at the annual championships in McAlester, Okla., over the weekend. The nation's top 15 steer ropers competed for the title in the Oklahoma state prison rodeo arena.

Davis placed in the money on five of his six steers, winning three firsts and two thirds. It is believed the \$1,755 he pocketed was the most ever won in a steer roping finals. Davis finished the year with \$6,436, only \$122 short of the record he set in 1964.

Runnerup for the steer roping crown was last year's champion, Jim Bob Altizer, Del Rio, Tex.

Franklin, 32, won world calf roping crowns in 1965 and '67, setting an event record of \$31,268 last year, which was also the most ever garnered in any one event in a single season.

As of today, Franklin's 1968 winnings total \$31,897, with several large rodeos yet to be held this year.

Mahan, 24, Brooks, Ore., has won \$43,729 to date, becoming the first pro cowboy to pocket more than \$40,000

first add -- Rodeo Results

in three consecutive years. Last year he netted \$51,996, which shattered the old mark of \$43,381 set in 1956 by Oklahoma's Jim Shoulders. In 1966 Mahan earned \$40,358. He competes in saddle and bareback bronc riding and bull riding, and occassionally tries calf roping.

Clyde Vamvoras, 26, Burkburnett, Tex., is on the verge of winning his second consecutive bareback bronc riding title. He's collected \$24,154 this year and needs only \$1,319 to break the record of \$25,473, established in 1966 by Iowa's Paul Mayo.

Only six R.C.A.-sanctioned rodeos remain in the 1968 season, ranging from Raleigh, N.C., to St. Louis, Mo., and San Francisco, Calif. The California Cow Palace rodeo Oct. 25-Nov. 3 is the cut-off date for qualifying for the National Finals Rodeo in Oklahoma City, Okla., Nov. 30-Dec. 8, where only the top 15 cowboys in each event can compete.

About 250 entries will be received for Cow Palace action, with Finals berths and \$45,000 in prize money at stake. The Finals offers more than \$70,000, with dollar-points earned there counting toward world championships.

There will be more than 500 R.C.A.-approved rodeos this year, and prize money will again total more than \$3.6 million, the R.C.A. said.

CHAMPIONSHIP STANDINGS

ALL AROUND

1. Larry Mahan, Brooks, Ore., \$43,729;
2. Jim Houston, Omaha, Neb., \$33,148;
3. Glen Franklin, House, N.M., \$32,112;
4. Paul Mayo, Grinnell, Iowa, \$27,544;
5. Barry Burk, Duncan, Okla., \$27,308;
6. Bob Ragsdale, Chowchilla, Calif., \$26,497;
7. George Paul, Del Rio, Tex., \$26,065;
8. Jack Roddy, San Jose, Calif., \$26,042;
9. Shawn Davis, Whitehall, Mont., \$24,836;
10. Dean Oliver, Boise, Ida., \$20,841;
11. Mark Schricker, Sutherlin, Ore., \$20,741;
12. Tony Haberer, Andrews, Tex., \$19,714;
13. Jim Bob Altizer, Del Rio, Tex., \$19,180;
14. Doug Brown, Silverton, Ore., \$18,581;
15. Ken McLean, Okanagan Falls, B.C., \$17,317;
16. Anson Thurman, Fallon, Nev., \$16,899;
17. Warren Wuthier, Banner, Wyo., \$16,731;
18. Freckles Brown, Soper, Okla., \$15,960;
19. Ronnie Rossen, Broadus, Mont., \$15,757;
20. Myrtis Dightman, Houston, Tex., \$14,384.

SADDLE BRONCS

1. Shawn Davis, Whitehall, Mont., \$20,519;
2. Larry Mahan, Brooks, Ore., \$16,582;
3. Bill Smith, Cody, Wyo., \$15,792;
4. Tom Bews, Longview, Alta., \$11,643;
5. Ken McLean, Okanagan Falls, B.C., \$11,384;
6. Mel Hyland, Port-Kells, B.C., \$11,368;
7. Ralph Maynard, Cody, Wyo., \$10,966;
8. Marty Wood, Diamond, Mo., \$10,576;
9. John McBeth, Atlanta, Kans., \$10,205;
10. Ivan Daines, Innisfail, Alta., \$9,602;
11. Hugh Chambliss, Albuquerque, N.M., \$9,466;
12. Doug Brown, Silverton, Ore., \$9,306;
13. Kurly Hebb, Fall River, Kans., \$8,654;
14. Larry Kane, Big Sandy, Mont., \$8,438;
15. John Ivory, Redmond, Ore., \$8,302;
16. Winston Bruce, Calgary, Alta., \$8,230;
17. Bob Berger, Halstead, Kans., \$8,064;
18. Guy Weeks, Abilene, Tex., \$7,569;
19. Roy Rodewald, Craig, Colo., \$6,213;
20. Brandon McReynolds, Andrews, Tex., \$6,188.

BAREBACK BRONCS

1. Clyde Vamvoras, Burkburnett, Tex., \$24,154;
2. Bob Mayo, Grinnell, Iowa, \$20,386;
3. Jim Houston, Omaha, Neb., \$19,648;
4. Paul Mayo, Grinnell, Iowa, \$17,820;
5. Larry Mahan, Brooks, Ore., \$16,119;
6. Gary Tucker, Carlsbad, N.M., \$14,382;
7. John Edwards, Red Lodge, Mont., \$11,706;
8. Royce Smith, Iona, Ida., \$11,378;
9. Jim Ivory, Pampa, Tex., \$8,890;
10. Daryl Brown, Deer Park, Wash., \$7,868;
11. Ken Stanton, Weiser, Ida., \$7,856;
12. Jim Clifford, Ribstone, Alta., \$7,489;
13. Jerry Coble, Rock Island, Tex., \$7,278;
14. Dale Trotter, Sturgeon Heights, Alta., \$6,715;
15. Tony Haberer, Andrews, Tex., \$6,601;
16. Happy Tegart, Calgary, Alta., \$6,578;
17. Denny Wingate, Leon, Kans., \$6,193;
18. H.B. Johnson, Midlothian, Tex., \$6,075;
19. Rennie Koll, Wendell, Ida., \$5,627;
20. Harry Tompkins, Dublin, Tex., \$5,012.

BULL RIDING

1. George Paul, Del Rio, Tex., \$23,703;
2. Freckles Brown, Soper, Okla., \$15,395;
3. Myrtis Dightman, Houston, Tex., \$14,384;
4. Gary Leffew, Santa Maria, Calif., \$14,056;
5. Ronnie Rossen, Broadus, Mont., \$13,805;
6. Tony Haberer, Andrews, Tex., \$13,113;
7. Bill Kornell, Clarksville, Tex., \$12,500;
8. Bo Ashorn, Houston, Tex., \$11,948;
9. Larry Mahan, Brooks, Ore., \$10,670;
10. Red Doyal, Wayside, Tex., \$10,108;
11. Sandy Kirby, Woodstown, N.J., \$9,781;
12. Doug Brown, Silverton, Ore., \$9,250;
13. Denny Wall, Kit Carson, Colo., \$9,090;
14. Dickie Cox, Rockwell, Tex., \$8,798;
15. Bill Stanton, Indian Valley, Ida., \$8,690;
16. David Glover, Clarksville, Tex., \$8,589;
17. Paul Mayo, Grinnell, Iowa, \$7,652;
18. Larry Davis, Homedale, Ida., \$7,047;
19. Freddie Greer, Dallas, Tex., \$6,880;
20. Ron Bowman, Calera, Okla., \$6,328.

first add - - Championship Standings

CALF ROPING

1. Glen Franklin, House, N.M., \$31,897; 2. Barry Burk, Duncan, Okla., \$21,236; 3. Dean Oliver, Boise, Ida., \$19,152; 4. Junior Garrison, Marlow, Okla., \$18,006; 5. Bob Ragsdale, Chowchilla, Calif., \$17,422; 6. Jim Bob Altizer, Del Rio, Tex., \$15,434; 7. Lee Cockrell, Panhandle, Tex., \$15,218; 8. Ernest Forsberg, Chatsworth, Calif., \$13,790; 9. Ronnye Sewalt, Chico, Tex., \$13,726; 10. Olin Young, Peralta, N.M., \$12,907; 11. Ernie Taylor, Hugo, Okla., \$12,544; 12. Bobby Goodspeed, High Ridge, Mo., \$10,120; 13. Kenny Patterson, Fairview, Tex., \$9,727; 14. Mark Schricker, Sutherlin, Ore., \$9,148; 15. Warren Wuthier, Banner, Wyo., \$9,038; 16. Anson Thurman, Fallon, Nev., \$8,279; 17. Sam Womack, Bridgeport, Tex., \$8,238; 18. Morris Walker, Cotulla, Tex., \$7,982; 19. Bobby Hungate, Waco, Tex., \$7,885; 20. Bowie Wesley, Wildorado, Tex., \$7,325.

STEER WRESTLING

1. Jack Roddy, San Jose, Calif., \$25,833; 2. Roy Duvall, Boynton, Okla., \$17,234; 3. Billy Hale, Checotah, Okla., \$13,534; 4. Jim Houston, Omaha, Neb., \$13,500; 5. John W. Jones, Morro Bay, Calif., \$11,817; 6. Walt Linderman, Belfry, Mont., \$11,653; 7. Mark Schricker, Sutherlin, Ore., \$11,063; 8. Ben Bates, Burkburnett, Tex., \$9,648; 9. Ed Galemba, Stratford, Conn., \$9,026; 10. Bob Ragsdale, Chowchilla, Calif., \$8,649; 11. Gary Walker, Brentwood, Calif., \$7,689; 12. Jerry Peveto, Orange Tex., \$7,673; 13. Warren Wuthier, Banner, Wyo., \$7,535; 14. Anson Thurman, Fallon, Nev., \$7,341; 15. C. R. Boucher, Burkburnett, Tex., \$7,328; 16. Jimmy Smith, Okemah, Okla., \$7,172; 17. John McAlester, Checotah, Okla., \$7,042; 18. Leon Bauerle, Kyle, Tex., \$6,593; 19. Benny Combs, Checotah, Okla., \$6,585; 20. Wilbur Plaughter, Fresno, Calif., \$6,593.

TEAM ROPING

1. Art Arnold, Buckeye, Ariz., \$12,043; 2. Joe Glenn, Phoenix, Ariz., \$10,159; 3. Jerald Camarillo, Oakdale, Calif., \$7,872; 4. John J. Miller, Pawhuska, Okla., \$7,416; 5. Jim Rodriguez, Jr., Shandon, Calif., \$5,377; 6. Ken Luman, Merced, Calif., \$5,349; 7. John Paboojian, Fowler, Calif., \$4,413; 8. Junior Muzio, Fresno, Calif., \$4,388; 9. Jack Rasco, San Diego, Calif., \$4,299; 10. Frank Ferriera, Jr., Fresno, Calif., \$4,289; 11. Bill Darnell, Rodeo, N.M., \$4,198; 12. Ace Berry, Oakdale, Calif., \$4,030; 13. Jim Watson, Shafter, Calif., \$3,959; 14. Dan Branco, Chowchilla, Calif., \$3,523; 15. Bucky Bradford, Tucson, Ariz., \$3,417; 16. Dale Smith, Chandler, Ariz., \$3,386; 17. Gary Waller, Fresno, Calif., \$3,270; 18. Leo Camarillo, Donald, Ore., \$3,037; 19. Les Hirdes, Turlock, Calif., \$3,034; 20. Ron Goodrich, Chowchilla, Calif., \$3,016.

STEER ROPING

1. Sonny Davis, Kenna, N.M., \$6,436; 2. Jim Bob Altizer, Del Rio, Tex., \$3,747; 3. Nick Harris, Gillete, Wyo., \$3,428; 4. Glen Nutter, Thedford, Neb., \$2,750; 5. Harry Lynn, So. Coffeyville, Okla., \$2,731; 6. Bowie Wesley, Wildorado, Tex., \$2,288; 7. Jim Baker, Casper, Wyo., \$2,210; 8. Eddie Becker, Ashby, Nebr., \$2,150; 9. Sonny Worrell, Altcona, Kans., \$2,071; 10. Allen Keller, Olathe, Colo., \$2,068; 11. John Dalton, Cheyenne, Wyo., \$2,055; 12. Bob Isenberger, Gillete, Wyo., \$2,029; 13. Jim Prather, Post, Tex., \$1,987; 14. Tim Prather, Post, Tex., \$1,945; 15. Olin Young, Peralta, N.M., \$1,458.

MR. NEWSMAN:


The 1968 rodeo season is drawing to a close; only the National Finals remains on the calendar.

The Finals will be held Nov. 30-Dec. 8 in Oklahoma City. I am going there this Friday (eight days before the start), and if I can assist you in special coverage, I can be reached at the Sheraton-Oklahoma Hotel. And of course, I'll see a number of you there.

If you do not get the desired wire service results, please let your bureau chief know. Go-round results will be filed daily with both the AP and UPI in Oklahoma City.

In early December, we will send "hometown" releases to the news media in the home area of each of the 84 Finalists. They will highlight each cowboy's attainments during the year. We tried this last year for the first time, and your responses indicated we should continue.

The Radio Corporation of America (RCA) has advised that "RCA" is a copyrighted trademark, and has requested that the Rodeo Cowboys Association refrain from using it. In releases from this office, we have been careful to use periods when referring to our R.C.A. To oblige the Radio Corporation, we shall try to avoid using R.C.A. initials, and will substitute "association," e.g., "...association-sanctioned rodeos."

Sincerely,

Gordon Hanson

NATIONAL FINALS RODEO

RODEO INFORMATION FOUNDATION
2929 West 19th Avenue
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

11/18/68

OKLAHOMA CITY, OKLA. -- The big red and white bull was ready. He seemed to relish his position in the chute and the action ahead. He had good reason.

For this was Tornado, a Brahma and Hereford cross -- a Braford -- and his status was undisputed. A monster of muscle and a master in the professional rodeo arena, Tornado had never been ridden in some 250 attempts. He had taken on the best riders in Canada and the United States, and he had whipped them all.

Now it was the 1967 National Finals Rodeo in Oklahoma City, and Tornado waited for the gate to swing open.

But the cowboy who had drawn Tornado for this ride was a master, too. He was Freckles Brown, and at age 46 was pro rodeo's oldest riding contestant. Freckles had taken a broken neck in stride on his way to the 1962 world bull riding championship, and now, five years later, he entered the Finals in seventh place for the crown.

This was a classic encounter: the skillful veteran whose brimming good humor is outweighed only by his genuine warmth, and a bull with the disposition of a runaway freight train who had never been conquered.

The crowd hushed as the chute swung wide and the pair exploded as one from the box. Freckles was "with" the bull from the first jump out; he scrambled and he hustled, and

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first add -- national finals stock

the big brute twisted and pitched. These Finals fans know their rodeo, and they realized what was happening. Tornado was at his best, but Mr. Brown was unsinkable. The little man from the Oklahoma ranch country was winning.

Then the eight-second whistle sounded and the ride was over. Freckles loosened his hand from the rope, jumped free and ran for the fence. The voice of the people seemed like the call of the wild, and Freckles elatedly doffed his hat to the roaring ovation. And as Paul Harvey wrote later: "...if only for a little while, manly men were back in style."

That was a year ago. Now the 10th annual National Finals Rodeo is approaching with its same elements of action and drama. It will be held for the fourth consecutive year in Oklahoma City on Nov. 30-Dec. 8.

Only the top 15 cowboys in each of six events, based on money won during the year, can compete in the Finals, where \$71,250 and world championships are at stake.

Because they are the best, only the most outstanding bucking bulls and saddle and bareback broncs in the United States and Canada are chosen for Finals competition. There were 650 animals nominated for NFR action early this year by the stock contractors who own them. The list was reduced recently by the Rodeo Cowboys Association board of directors to 210 highly touted animals -- 70 each of saddle and bareback broncs and bulls -- selected from the strings of 27 contractors. They will arrive in Oklahoma City by private truck from points as distant as New Jersey, Florida, Wash-

second add -- National Finals stock

ington, Canada and California. Each animal will carry a minimum \$500 insurance policy.

There will be animals such as the great saddle bronc, Descent, who for the third consecutive year has been named pro rodeo's Bucking Horse of the Year; and Three Bars, a Canadian horse voted the best bareback bronc in the 1967 NFR; and great bulls like Missoula, named the best at last year's Finals, and his stablemate, Wilfred, the best at the 1966 NFR.

NFR stock will consume some 75 tons of hay and 40 tons of grain while they are in Oklahoma. Buster Ivory of Pampa, Tex., again the livestock superintendent, will cater to the dietary needs of each animal according to the dictates of the owners.

When the top contestants challenge the proven animals, the action becomes classic.

As a sports editor last year wrote: "The National Finals Rodeo experiences an electrifying moment each time the chute opens. There is no more dramatic sport on earth."

NATIONAL FINALS RODEO

RODEO INFORMATION FOUNDATION
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

11/25/68

OKLAHOMA CITY, OKLA. -- The 84 cowboys who have qualified for the 1968 National Finals Rodeo here have won a combined \$1,078,623 in rodeo arenas this year, the Rodeo Cowboys Association said today.

Larry Mahan, 24, Brooks, Ore., pro rodeo's great All Around Cowboy, leads the list of 84 American and Canadian cowboys who will compete in the 10th annual NFR, scheduled for nine performances beginning Saturday (Nov. 30) and ending Sunday (Dec. 8).

The "world series" of pro rodeo pits the top 15 money winners in each of six events against a select list of 210 bucking broncs and bulls chosen from the strings of 27 stock contractors.

Four of the 84 Finalists have qualified in two events, while the slightly-built Mahan has qualified in three for the third consecutive year.

Mahan competes in saddle and bareback bronc riding and bull riding. His pre-Finals winnings this year total \$46,668; he won \$51,996 in 1967 and \$40,358 in 1966.

Nineteen states and two Canadian provinces will be represented in the Finals, led by California with 18 entries and Texas with 16.

Cowboys contested at 520 rodeos sanctioned by the

-- more --

first add -- pre-Finals wrapup

association this year, with total prize money again exceeding \$3.6 million.

Money won at the NFR will be added to the Finalists' yearly winnings to determine world championships. The six Finals events offer \$71,250 in prize money.

Additionally, the Girls Rodeo Association will conduct its barrel racing run-offs here, with \$5,500 up for grabs.

PRE-FINALS LEADERS

Mahan will win All Around Cowboy honors again this year; Omaha's Jim Houston, 27, is second with winnings of \$35,156 to date.

Shawn Davis, 27, Whitehall, Mont., pro rodeo's fashion plate bachelor, will claim his third world saddle bronc riding crown this year.

Clyde Vamvoras, 26, Burkburnett, Tex., is expected to win his second consecutive bareback bronc riding title, and he may set an event record at the Finals.

George Paul, 21, Del Rio, Tex., in only his second full year as a pro, has won \$25,768 in bull riding and has nearly cinched that championship.

Glen Franklin, 32, House, N.M., has snared \$31,896 in calf roping this year, already bettering the record \$31,268 he won in 1967.

Jack Roddy, 31, San Jose, Calif., leads in steer wrestling with pre-Finals earnings of \$28,686.

second add -- pre-Finals wrapup

Art Arnold, 28, Buckeye, Ariz., runnerup for the 1967 team roping crown, enters the Finals in the lead for that crown, while the 1967 champion, Joe Glenn, 54, Phoenix, Ariz., is second. The title will be decided at the Finals.

NATIONAL FINALS ENTRIES

ALL AROUND

1. Larry Mahan, Brooks, Ore., \$46,668;
2. Jim Houston, Omaha, Neb., \$35,156;
3. Glen Franklin, House, N.M., \$32,111;
4. Barry Burk, Duncan, Okla., \$30,531;
5. Jack Roddy, San Jose, Calif., \$28,895;
6. George Paul, Del Rio, Tex., \$28,688;
7. Paul Mayo, Grinnell, Ia., \$28,260;
8. Bob Ragsdale, Chowchilla, Calif., \$27,652;
9. Shawn Davis, Whitehall, Mont., \$25,663;
10. Mark Schricker, Sutherlin, Ore., \$21,802;
11. Dean Oliver, Boise, Ida., \$20,841;
12. Tony Haberer, Andrews, Tex., \$20,219;
13. Warren Wuthier, Banner, Wyo., \$19,190;
14. Doug Brown, Silverton, Ore., \$18,831;
15. Jim Bob Altizer, Del Rio, Tex., \$18,029.

SADDLE BRONC

1. Shawn Davis, Whitehall, Mont., \$21,346;
2. Larry Mahan, Brook, Ore., \$18,195;
3. Bill Smith, Cody, Wyo., \$15,974;
4. Mel Hyland, Port Kells, B.C., \$13,028;
5. Tom Bews, Longview, Alta., \$11,822;
6. Kenny McLean, Okanagan Falls, B.C., \$11,687;
7. Ralph Maynard, Cody, Wyo., \$11,111;
8. John McBeth, Atlanta, Kans., \$11,088;
9. Marty Wood, Diamond, Mo., \$10,576;
10. Ivan Daines, Innisfail, Alta., \$9,933;
11. Hugh Chambliss, Albuquerque, N.M., \$9,785;
12. Doug Brown, Silverton, Ore., \$9,556;
13. Kurly Hebb, Fall River, Kans., \$9,316;
14. John Ivory, Redmond, Ore., \$9,041;
15. Guy Weeks, Abilene, Tex., \$8,732;
16. Larry Kane, Big Sandy, Mont., \$8,438;
17. Winston Bruce, Calgary, Alta., \$8,298; (Brown and Wood will not contend due to injuries).

BAREBACK BRONCS

1. Clyde Vamvoras, Burkburnett, Tex., \$24,984;
2. Bob Mayo, Grinnell, Ia., \$21,424;
3. Jim Houston, Omaha, Neb., \$20,349;
4. Paul Mayo, Grinnell, Ia., \$17,980;
5. Larry Mahan, Brooks, Ore., \$16,856;
6. Gary Tucker, Carlsbad, N.M., \$16,722;
9. Royce Smith, Iona, Ida., \$11,924;
8. John Edwards, Red Lodge, Mont., \$11,706;
9. Jim Ivory, Pampa, Tex., \$9,760;
10. Ken Stanton, Weiser, Ida., \$8,967;
11. Daryl Brown, Deer Park, Wash., \$8,255;
12. Jim Clifford, Ribstone, Alta., \$7,709;
13. Jerry Coble, Rock Island, Tex., \$7,278;
14. Dale Trotter, Suturgeon Heights, Alta., \$7,135;
15. Ronnie Koll, Wendell, Ida., \$7,036.

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Third add -- pre-finals wrapup

BULL RIDING

1. George Paul, Del Rio, Tex., \$25,768;
 2. Freckles Brown, Soper, Okla., \$15,395;
 3. Gary Leffew, Santa Maria, Calif., \$15,167;
 4. Myrtis Dightman, Houston, Tex., \$14,912;
 5. Ronnie Rossen, Broadus, Mont., \$13,805;
 6. Tony Haberer, Andrews, Tex., \$13,504;
 7. Bill Kornell, Clarksville, Tex., \$12,824;
 8. Bo Ashorn, Houston, Tex., \$12,252;
 9. Larry Mahan, Brooks, Ore., \$11,258;
 10. Red Doyal, Wayside, Tex., \$10,369;
 11. Bill Stanton, Indian Valley, Ida., \$9,966;
 12. Sandy Kirby, Woodstown, N.J., \$9,838;
 13. Doug Brown, Silverton, Ore., \$9,250;
 14. Denny Wall, Kit Carson, Colo., \$9,090;
 15. Dickie Cox, Rockwell, Tex., \$8,798;
 16. David Glover, Clarksville, Tex., \$8,589;
- (Doug Brown will not contend due to injuries).

CALF ROPING

1. Glen Franklin, House, N.M., \$31,896;
2. Barry Burk, Duncan, Okla., \$23,582;
3. Junior Garrison, Marlow, Okla., \$19,759;
4. Dean Oliver, Boise, Ida., \$19,152;
5. Bob Ragsdale, Chowchilla, Calif., \$18,577;
6. Ernest Forsberg, Chatsworth, Calif., \$15,993;
7. Jim Bob Altizer, Del Rio, Tex., \$15,434;
8. Lee Cockrell, Panhandle, Tex., \$15,218;
9. Ronnye Sewalt, Chico, Tex., \$14,217;
10. Ernie Taylor, Hugo, Okla., \$12,941;
11. Olin Young, Peralta, N.M., \$12,907;
12. Warren Wuthier, Banner, Wyo., \$10,855;
13. Kenny Patterson, Fairview, Tenn., \$10,808;
14. Buttons Howard, Portales, N.M., \$10,326;
15. Bobby Goodspeed, High Ridge, Mo., \$10,243.

STEER WRESTLING

1. Jack Roddy, San Jose, Calif., \$28,686;
2. Roy Duvall, Boynton, Okla., \$17,384;
3. Billy Hale, Checotah, Okla., \$15,379;
4. Jim Houston, Omaha, Neb., \$14,807;
5. John W. Jones, Morro Bay, Calif., \$12,707;
6. Walt Linderman, Belfry, Mont., \$11,653;
7. Mark Schricker, Sutherlin, Ore., \$11,063;
8. Ben Bates, Burkburnett, Tex., \$9,747;
9. Ed Galemba, Stratford, Conn., \$9,026;
10. Bob Ragsdale, Chowchilla, Calif., \$8,649;
11. Warren Wuthier, Banner, Wyo., \$8,178;
12. Gary Walker, Brentwood, Calif., \$8,076;
13. C.R. Boucher, Burkburnett, Tex., \$7,956;
14. Jerry Peveto, Orange, Tex., \$7,673;
15. Anson Thurman, Fallon, Nev., \$7,390.

TEAM ROPING

1. Art Arnold, Buckeye, Ariz., \$12,386;
2. Joe Glenn, Phoenix, Ariz., \$10,227;
3. Jerold Camarillo, Oakdale, Calif., \$7,872;
4. John Miller, Pawhuska, Okla., \$7,567;
5. Jim Rodriguez Jr., Shandon, Calif., \$5,514;
6. Ken Luman, Merced, Calif., \$5,486;
7. Junior Muzio, Fresno, Calif., \$4,632;
8. Jim Watson, Shafter, Calif., \$4,625;
9. Frank Ferriera Jr., Fresno, Calif., \$4,532;
10. John Paboojian, Fowler, Calif., \$4,413;
11. Bill Darnell, Rodeo, N.M., \$4,336;
12. Jack Rasco, San Diego, Calif., \$4,299;
13. Ace Berry, Oakdale, Calif., \$4,101;
14. Gary Waller, Fresno, Calif., \$3,750;
15. Dan Branco, Chowchilla, Calif., \$3,735.