

Indiana State Show

Written by: Christa Conway

Pictures by: Puhl's Photography

Indiana

NBHA

State Championships

Kalah Welch Takes Top Honors Riding her 4 yr old standout, JM Alive And Perquix "Perk"



Story by: Christa Conway
Pictures by: Puhl's Photography

A Surprise Bonus at this year's Finals was a 2-Horse Bumper Pull Trailer Donated by Shadow Trailers of Indiana: Emma Gutzweiler, received her choice of \$1,000 or one year's use of this trailer:

This year's Indiana State Championship Finals was dominated by the ladies. Of the twelve Championship titles and Pro-Rider trophy saddles that were given, eleven went to the ladies! And the odds were in the ladies favor for the trailer...

Anticipation

The 2009 Indiana State Show started off on Wednesday July 8th with everyone getting settled into their stalls and camping areas for a long weekend of barrel racing. Anticipation was easy to sense as the competitors unloaded horses and bedded down stalls. People were unloading, working and chatting, most in their "barn work" attire after packing their gear and supplies and then making the trip to Edinburgh, Indiana (some came as far as from Tennessee.) There were many people "catching up" with friends they may not have seen since last year's State Show. It was a nice evening for that....a little work and a little play.....all with a little anticipation of things to come in the air.

Exhibition barrels held on Wednesday evening and Thursday morning gave all of the contestants a chance to work out the nerves and fine tune a bit before the competition started on Thursday afternoon.

The Facilities

The grounds at Edinburgh, Indiana's Hoosier Horse Park makes a great place to hold this annual event. The arena itself is covered, to provide consistent ground for the contestants, with open sides for those hot days and the entrance end has a nice supply of shade trees for competitors and spectators. The Park boasts plenty of barns for those choosing to stall their mounts and a shaded camping area for those who prefer to tie out. A nice sized practice arena makes it easy to limber up horses and riders before run time.

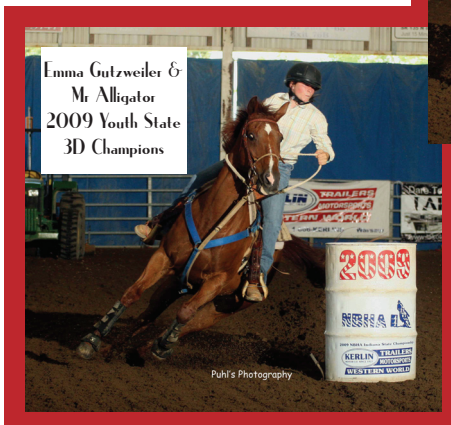
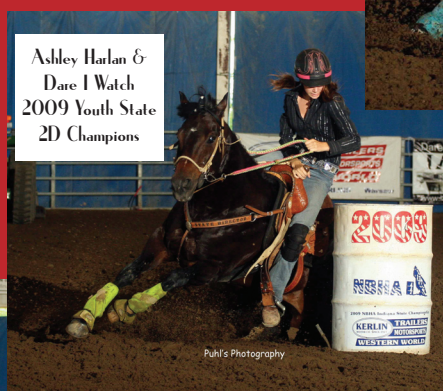
There were quite a few vendors for those in the mood to shop. If you needed anything from a saddle to a horse trailer (just in case you didn't win one!).... or bits to belts.....they were there for your convenience. And if you couldn't find what you needed there, a just a few miles down the road was the Outlet Mall Shopping Center at Edinburgh. (I know I made a trip there!)

Let's Get It Started

Thursday brought the opening ceremonies with a few fireworks, the National Anthem and a prayer. The surprise of a 2 Horse Bumper Pull trailer that was to be given away was revealed as it was driven into the arena as part of the grand entry. Shadow Trailers of Indiana donated a year's use of the 2 Horse trailer or \$1,000 to the winner of a drawing that would consist of all the Finals' saddle winners on Sunday. It was an exciting start to what would be a great first day of barrel racing and the first chance for competitors to race for part of over \$38,000 in prize money.

Youth-1st Go

The Youth 1st go was exciting. There were a total of 170 entries to run for the \$8,950 purse. There wasn't any dust outside the arena due to some passing rain storms, but when the dust had settled (so to speak,) Jennifer Lichtenbarger and her Great Lakes Regional Champion, Undniablya classic (by the Indiana stallion, Undniablydebonair) took the 1D's 1st position with a 15.100 worth \$221. In what turned out to be a battle all weekend, Cheyanna Patrick was second place on her mount, Global Bug.



just underwent surgery according to his brother, State Director, Bob Hess. Way to "Cowboy Up," Tom!

The 2D was taken by Dennis Maddox and Firebot. The team earned \$127 for the 15.778. Thursday's 3D winner, Lisa Monroe, rode Ima Poco Dealer to a 16.239 and David Fisher claimed the 4D riding Coosa the Classic.

Cheyanna's parents, Gary and Cindy Patrick, train and race Thoroughbreds and Quarter Horses. Global Bug was one of their many successes on the

racetrack and has made a great transition to the barrel racing arena. Jennifer Lichtenbarger was 3rd on her other horse, Helens Fancy Star. In the 2D of the Youth on Thursday, it was Taylor Turner who wound up winning \$198 for a 15.604. The 3D was won by Sarah Hagan and Tyns Totall Eclipse with a 16.113. Rounding out the youth 1st go was the 4D winner of the day, Taylor Shulz riding Nino.

Senior-1st Go

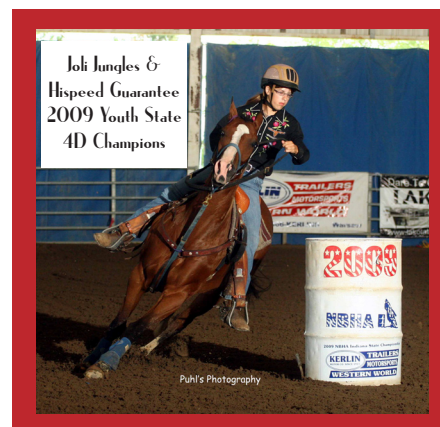
Once the Youth winners for the day had been called, the Senior's 1st go began. With 93 entries running for a total purse of \$5,104, it was the start of what would end up to be a tight race at the finish. Chuck Tolbert and What A Sharp Chick set the pace and continued their winning style of the past with a 15.233 that would earn a 1st go check worth \$149.50. Coming in second was Cindy Patrick riding dependable Global Bug who had just ran second in the Youth earlier on Thursday. Cindy ran a 15.433 that put her just ahead of 2008's Champion, Tom Hess on Rocky Vegas. Tom had

Hays Victory Eye Claims Friday

Friday was a day of Victory for Cheyanna Patrick and her mare, Hays Victory Eye. It seems the pair could do no wrong. Competing in both the 2nd go of the Youth and the 1st go of the Open, the team would run the fastest time of the day and take home both 1D 1st place checks given away on Friday for a nice days pay of \$709.

Friday Youth-2nd Go

The Youth ran their second go on Friday and all were hoping their run would be good enough to make the Finals on Sunday. The first 32 finalists had been named already and there were 32 more spots to fill. Some of the previous day's qualifiers opted to "turn out" for Friday's run, which left a few less to run. Cheyanna Patrick took her first win of the day with a fast time of 15.014 on her new mare, Hays Victory Eye. This added to the Patrick ladies' accumulated winning for the





Puhl's Photography

Saturday DeJaVue

Saturday's winners were mostly names that had been there at one time or another. From 2007 and 2008 Senior Champions to a former Open Champion....it seemed like we had been there before. There was even one case of a preview for what was to come on Sunday. One heartbreak was a knocked barrel with a 14.4 on the clock for Cheyanna Patrick in the Open. WOW!

Saturday was also "Tough Enough To Wear Pink" day in support of Wrangler Breast Cancer Awareness Program. I would be curious to know just how many people went through the alleyway wearing pink....I know there were A LOT!

Senior-2nd Go

The second go of the seniors started the dejavue with 2008 Champion Tom Hess and Rocky Vegas winning the 1D, shutting off the clock with a 15.260. Right behind the pair was 2007 1D and 2D Senior Champion, Sherry Oakerson on Bully's Flying Kyte. The 2D went to Dwight Witt who was getting a taste of a future event to come on Sunday. 3D honors were in the cards for Benny Lackey and 1st in the 4D for the day was Dennis Hildenbrand. Once the Seniors were finished, the finalist were determined and all but the "Free Rides" were posted.



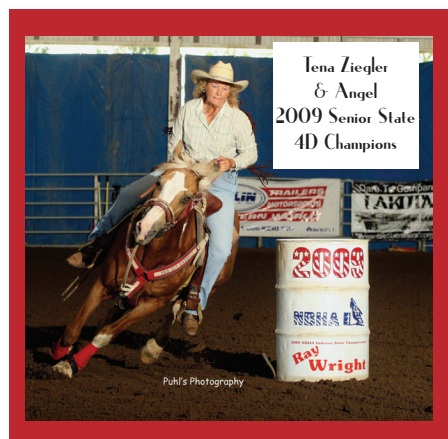
Puhl's Photography

Dwight Witt &
Rocket To A Winner
2009 Senior State
2D Champions

weekend. Second place in the 1D was Sydney Chapman riding Blushing With Talent. Third in the 1D was past Teen World Champion and IN State Champion, Clint Van Volkenburgh riding Sonechos Red Ryder. Clint also won the 2D riding his paint horse, Candes Treasure. The 3D winner for Friday was Mallory Tolin riding BJ Bugle Boy for a prize of \$151 and the 4D check for 1st went to Elizabeth Streetman for her 17.016.

Open-1st Go

Once the final placings for Youth were determined, the Open's 1st go was ready to get underway. There were a total of 383 entries competing for a total purse of \$24,086! It was an exciting start with a 14.988, the first 14 of the weekend, being ran by Beth Marsh riding her super nice Jets Payday son, Dun Got Paid ("Dusty.") Beth and Dusty ran in draw 21, so they had a long while to wait and see where that would land them. Beth and Dusty's time held until Cheyanna and her little mare once again set the pace at draw 118, running a scorching 14.753. That 14.7 would hold and Beth's 14.9 would wind up second with Chuck Tolbert being the only other one to break the 14 second barrier for third place on What A Sharp Chick. The 2D Open 1st go winner was Ronda Casey on her homegrown gelding, Another shot of Scotch,



Puhl's Photography

Iena Ziegler
& Angel
2009 Senior State
4D Champions

also sired by Undniablydebonair, who stands at Ronda and her husband Tye's Athletic Style Ranch in Plymouth, Indiana. The 3D went to Kyle Miller riding Money Man Go and 4D honors and \$265 went to Alexis Adair for her 16.761 on CC Jet Baby.

Open-2nd Go

Our Open 2nd go proved to be a tough battle for the 1D. Four of the top five placings were either former or future 1D Champions. Billy Hatzman showed us all the fastest

path around the three cans for the day, riding Record a Blue Doc to a time of 14.925 worth \$458. Right behind Billy were Chuck Tolbert, Trevor Pruitt, Jennifer Lichtenbarger and Kalah Welch. What a tough bunch of barrel racers! The 2D Had some familiar names from this year and years past as well. Cindy Patrick and Global Bug were 1st, while Angie Cunningham, Ronda Casey, Kayla Cunningham and Darrin Hornberger rounded out the top five in the 2D. Valerie Daunhauer took home 1st in the 3D and Kayla Taylor topped the 4D for Saturday.

All In All Done?

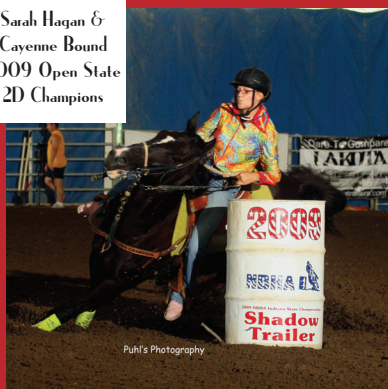
Once the last horse ran shut the timer off on Saturday, it was a matter of minutes before the final qualifiers were posted. Indiana NBHA offered a chance at a "Free Ride to the Finals." Anyone wishing to be in a drawing (\$20 opt in fee) at a chance to get just



Puhl's Photography

Debby Keiser &
Iololototrek
2009 Senior State
3D Champions

Sarah Hagan &
Cayenne Bound
2009 Open State
2D Champions



Brenda Mager
& Ashes
2009 Open State
3D Champions



Kayla Taylor &
Dis Pies A Jewel
2009 Open State
4D Champions



that....a Free Ride to the Finals had to sign up at check-in to be eligible. This option proved successful for one lucky person in 2008 that went on to win a saddle and a championship. The lucky names were drawn out and compared to those already qualified and once these names were drawn, the finalists were posted and then the draws for Sunday were to follow.

It's Finals Day!

Sunday started off bright and early with church service provided by Vernon and Donna Charles (Donna is District 02's Director.) There was a very nice size crowd for a 7:30 AM service and Donna gave a great message for those who attended. It wasn't long until at 8:45 all of the Youth Short Go Qualifiers were called into the arena for a short recognition ceremony. What a nice way to encourage the Youth riders. I am sure that there were some that were nervous, but they will remember that moment for a long time.

Youth Short Go - It's Not Over 'Til It's Over

What an exciting Short Go for the Youth! It came down to the 1st go and 2nd go winners battling it out. And to be honest, when Cheyanna Patrick ran a scorching time of 14.786, I think most people thought it was all over. But not 13 year old Jennifer Lichtenbarger. She knows what it's like to never give up. Jennifer battles with Cystic Fibrosis, a genetic disorder known to be an inherited disease of the secretory glands. One of the symptoms of this disorder is coughing/shortness of breath due to an inflammation of the lungs. Jen has to take breathing treatments everyday because of this condition and has to work her riding schedule around her treatments. Jen loves her horses and the bond she has with her mare, Classy, shows what kind of commitment she has made to them. Undeniably a classic and Jennifer were determined to give it their best shot and did they ever. The duo posted the fastest time of the entire event with a 14.691 claiming the 1D title, \$441.34 and a Pro-Rider saddle. Jen has owned Classy since she was a yearling. Tye and Ronda Casey helped Jen start her on barrels and Jen has done most of the finishing, with a trip to the Casey's every now and then. Cheyanna Patrick's awesome time held on for the Reserve Title and was the only one in the 1st Division with Jennifer besides Jennifer's other horse, Helen's Fancy Star who ran 3rd with a 15.156.

The 2D Champion for the Youth was 14 year old Ashley Harlan. Ashley rode her family's horse, Dare I Watch, to a 15.245 for her trophy saddle and \$264. Ashley rode a total of five horses in the

Youth this year. Her whole family rides and competes at shows in Indiana all summer. She is planning on going to the NBHA Youth World with this horse this year.

Emma Gutzweiler, 14 years old, claimed the 3D spot with her horse named Mr Alligator. "Gator" is 16 years old and Emma has been riding him for five years, she has been running barrels for four. She competes in NBHA and NPBA events. Emma has had a good year, she also won the 3D at the NBHA Great Lakes Regional in May. She is the only one in her family that barrel races, but her whole family enjoys riding horses. She won \$202 and a saddle.

The 4D Youth Title went to Joli Jungles and her horse Hispeed Guaranteed. Joli has ridden "Cali" for just a few months, but has been riding for 7 years. Her mom, dad and sister ride and compete as well. Joli received a trophy saddle and \$171.

Senior Short Go - Butler Did It and Debby Brown Did It Again

The Senior Finals was a close one. It was stacked with past champions and some tough newcomers to the division. The short go proved to be tight when it was all over. Debby Brown, who won the title twice before riding her dad, Jim Pitcock's horse, Te Elite, was offered her daughter, Christa Conway's horse, Butler Did It, for the State Show this year. Debby accepted and got to ride "Butler" a few times in the weeks leading up to the State Show. Debby couldn't make it to run in the 1st go, so had to make her 2nd go run count to make the finals. They ran a respectful 5th in the 2nd go to get the job done. The finals was nerve-racking for Debby, who was the 3rd to run. She said she does like to run early to put the pressure on the others. The team posted a 15.241 that held through the remaining finalists and was good enough to earn them the title, saddle and a check for \$185. A close second was Cindy Patrick on Global Bug for the reserve title, Joe Mongosa was 3rd, Tom Hess 4th and Cindy Toll was 5th.

The 2D was won by the only gentleman to be seen carrying a saddle out of the winner's circle this year. Dwight Witt rode Rocket To A Winner to a 15.794 for a Championship title, a Pro-Rider saddle and \$169. Dwight said he has owned this horse for 6 years. They make a great team. Reserve 2D went to Wayne Stapleton and Jaguars Leader.

Debby Keiser rode Tolosetotrek to a 3D title. Debby said she

bought “T” about 9 years ago from Mel Daniels and didn’t start running barrels on him until 2004. Up until then she had trial ridden him and just “let him be a horse.” Debby and “T” ran a 16.261 worth \$137 and a new saddle.

Tena Ziegler’s family surprised her by showing up at the State Show this year...and they all got a nice surprise when Tena won her 11th saddle (her first NBHA saddle) by winning the 4D. Tena’s mare, Angel has been a dependable mount for 10 years now. Tena and her family have been showing horses for over 35 years. She hauled for several years with her daughter, Tracy.

Open Short Go - Consistency

It all came down to this.....consistency. Two very young ladies riding two four year old mares. Who would think that that combination would bring to mind consistency?

Kalah Welch summed it up when I asked her to tell me about her mare,”Perk.”

She is just a really sweet and calm mare, we make a great team and she has been consistent for me all year.
~Kalah Welch

Perk proved just that for Kalah, though there was no average involved, the mare got better each trip. After placing 6th in the 1st go with a 15.077 and 5th in the 2nd go with a 15.046, the team came in with a 14.708 their last trip through.....what a way to be consistent! That consistency paid off pretty well with a Pro-Rider trophy saddle and \$610. Kalah has owned the 4 year old mare for a little over a year and trained her herself. She did say that there was a little luck involved - *back to the dejavue* - Kalah runs Perk in the same headstall/bit that Darrin Hornberger used on his great mare Cashin the Policy. (The very same one....take a look at the picture for those of you who remember seeing that one in the winners circle a few times!) And Kalah says she is not giving it back! Can’t say as I blame her.

Reserve Open 1D champion title went to the Jennifer Lichtenbarger and Undniablyaclassic. They have proven themselves worthy all weekend and never fail to please the crowd. A 14.886 was worth \$458 to add to the prize pot for Jen’s trip home. Third place went to another young lady, Kayla Cunningham riding her pony...yes, pony, Trapper. Trapper shut the clock off at 14.923.

Sarah Hagan and Cayenne Bound wrapped three to win the 2D Title and a Pro Rider trophy saddle to take home. Their time of 15.225 also earned them a check for \$546. Reserve 2D winner was Ronda Casey, speaking of consistency, Ronda was consistent all weekend, qualifying two horses to the finals. She and Anothershot ofScotch ran a 15.252 to earn \$410. Ronda and Tye Casey should be proud of the showing the their stallion’s (Undniablydebonair) prodigy at this year’s Indiana State Show. A 1D title for Undniablyaclassic and a reserve 2D title for Anothershot ofScotch.

The 3D title was a nail biter for Brenda Mager and David Williams. It came down to a run-off. The two had ran identical times and with only one trophy saddle, the money could be split, but the run off would determine who got the saddle and the title. When it was all said and done, Brenda Mager got to claim victory, while David



Williams would have to settle for a reserve title.

Brenda was riding her gelding, Shes, who she has owned for about 3 years. She competes at rodeos with her husband Randy. Brenda was a former High School Rodeo Champ and Indiana High School Rodeo Queen.

David Williams has been showing barrel horses all of his life and competes at barrel races across Indiana and surrounding states with his longtime girlfriend, Michelle Wagner.

The 4D title this year was claimed by Kayla Taylor riding her horse “Jewels.” Kayla is 15 years old and only started riding horses and running barrels 3 years ago. She has had lots of support from her family and friends. Kayla wins a trophy saddle and \$353.

A Trailer? I won A Trailer?

Emma Gutzweiler was ecstatic to have her name drawn from the Finals saddle winner’s names. She had already won a trophy saddle, some cash and State title....then they told her she had won a trailer! Thanks to Shadow Trailers of Indiana, Emma had the choice of using the 2 Horse Bumper pull, slant load aluminum trailer for one year or \$1,000. Emma chose the money. A good decision, I believe, since I hear she was planning a trip to Mississippi for the Youth World. That should help cover some fuel and expenses and take a little pressure off of Emma to win down there. But, I would think she has a pretty good track record. She has won two titles (Regional and State) and a horse-trailer in the past three month! Hopefully her winning streak continues.

Until Next Year - Thanks For The Memories

Another Indiana State Championship Show in the books. Another year until we feel the anticipation and excitement of a possible championship. Another year until we get to catch up with those friends we once a year at this gathering.

Until then....thank the sponsors...they SUPPORT THE SPORT....without them, not possible. Check out the [mediamondranch](http://mediamondranch.com) website for information. See page 35 for a full list of results.

