

ROUGHSTOCK: Landingham riding without pressure, ties for 2nd in go

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By winning the long round, Smith earned himself a \$4,469 paycheck, which moves him to over \$87,000 earnings this season — clinching a spot in his first career World National Finals Rodeo in his third year on the PRCA tour.

“I feel like a little kid at Christmas right now,” Smith said. “I have my dad with me here (in Pendleton) and we’ll go celebrate this tonight for sure.”

Also securing spots in the short go on Friday were Cody Miller (Parma, Idaho) and Ednei Caminhas (Denton, Texas). Miller was the first rider out of the chutes for Friday’s performance and set the pace with a 77.5 point ride on Four Star Rodeo’s Hot Rod.

“(The bull) felt really good today. He faked one way and then went the other way and then jumped a few times and then came back around again,” Miller said. “It threw me off a bit, normally he just fakes one way and keeps going the other way.”

As smooth as Miller’s ride was, his dismount was not as he landed awkwardly on the ground. He lost a key piece of equipment on the fall as well, as his trusty cowboy hat was smashed by his bull.

“Now I just gotta go buy a new cowboy hat and come back for the short round tomorrow,” Miller said.

Caminhas was back riding on Friday after a re-ride option that was handed out to him after Thursday, when his foot got caught on the chute gate as soon as it opened and he was bucked off. Caminhas was diagnosed with a high ankle sprain, and was wearing walking boot for most of the day Friday, but toughed it out and squeezed back into his regular boot and made his qualifying ride.

Bull riding
First go payouts — 1. (tie) Garrett Smith, on Flying Diamond Rodeo’s Dam Straight, and Chase Robbins, on Sankey Pro Rodeo & Robinson Bulls’ Delco, 86 points, \$4,469 each; 3. Brady Portenier, 85.5, \$2,867; 4. (tie) Jeffrey Remagos, Roscoe Jarboe and Dakota Louis, 84.5, \$1,292 each; 7. Sage Kinzey, 83, \$675; 8. Clayton Savage, 82, \$506.

BAREBACK RIDING
When R.C. Landingham made the trip to the Pendleton Round-Up for the past few years, he did so with tremendous pressure on his shoulders as he was on the bubble of the NFR cutoff line and needing some big money in the last



R.C. Landingham catches air Friday and scores 83.5 points to win Friday’s round of bareback at the Pendleton Round-Up.

Staff photo by Kathy Aney

Bareback riding
First go payouts — 1. Tim O’Connell, 88 points on Sankey Pro Rodeo & Robinson Bulls’ Sozo, \$5,666; 2. (tie) R.C. Landingham and Richmond Champion, 83.5, \$3,777 each; 4. Blake Smith, 83, \$2,077; 5. Tyler Scales, 82, \$1,322; 6. (tie) J.R. Vezain and Caleb Bennett, 81.5, \$850 each; 8. Jessy Davis, 80.5, \$567.

SADDLE BRONC
For most of his childhood, Ryder Wright heard hundreds of stories about the Pendleton Round-Up.

He had heard about the atmosphere, he had heard about the large arena and raucous crowds, and of course he knew plenty about the famous grass infield.

And the 18-year-old, who is the youngest professional bronc rider in the famous rodeo Wright family, remembers when his father Cody won the Round-Up in 2010 and then his uncles Jake (2013) and Spencer (2015) winning as well and knowing he couldn’t wait to compete there himself.

On Friday, Ryder finally got to check the Round-Up off his list. The PRCA rookie rode Four Star Rodeo’s Chucky to an 81 point ride and clinched himself a spot in Saturday’s finals.

“It’s awesome here and it’s everything I could have ever imagined,” Wright said. “I knew I had a good horse and I really wanted to make the short round here.”

Wright was in need of a good performance at the Round-Up as he sits on the outside looking in at No. 17 in the world standings — trailing 15th place by nearly \$4,000. He earned \$248 for his placing in the long round, but knows he needs a an even better ride on Saturday to boost himself in the standings.

Canadian cowboy Luke Butterfield from Ponoka, Alberta won Friday’s performance with an 82 on Burch Rodeo’s Professional Lunatic. The score placed him in a four-way-tie for third place in the long round standings and a \$1,654 payday with Clay Stremier, Jake Wright and Clay Elliott.

Defending Round-Up champion Spencer Wright competed on Friday as well, but scored 74 points on Calgary’s Warped Logic and fell short of the short go cutoff.

Saddle bronc
First go payouts — 1. Cody DeMoss, 87.5 points on Korkow Rodeo’s Duck But-ter, \$4,961; 2. Jesse Wright, 85, \$3,803; 3. (tie) Luke Butterfield, Clay Stremier, Jake Wright and Clay Elliott, 82, \$1,654 each; 7. Jacobs Crawley, 81.5, \$661; 8. (tie) Ryder Wright and Zeke Thurston, 81, \$248 each.

few weeks to make it.

But when Landingham mounted his horse for his bareback run during Friday’s performance, that pressure was nowhere to be seen. Currently sitting No. 5 in the world standings, Landingham had already locked up a spot in the NFR and was happy to just go out and have fun riding a horse.

“It was definitely way less pressure on me,” he said. “I’ve done alright here in the past ... but to come here this year and not have to worry about thatt and just get on and have fun was really nice.”

When his turn came, Landingham got on Korkow’s Bambino Vold and tamed him enough for an 83.5 point ride, which placed him tied for second in the long round and gave him a \$3,777 payday.

“I saw (Bambino Vold) last week in Puyallup (Washington) ... he had a good ride and today I thought he might stall out a bit and not get on the grass,” Landingham said, “but he barely made it there and then covered some ground.”

Landingham’s traveling partner, Minden, Nevada cowboy Grant Denny, also competed on Friday, but did not have the same luck. Denny took on Calgary



Staff photo by E.J. Harris

Luke Butterfield of Ponoka, AB, Canada, rides Profes-sional Lunatic for 82 points in saddle bronc riding Fri-day at the Pendleton Round-Up.

Stampede’s Xrated Dancer, and turned in a qualifying ride for mediocre 69 points, but it was the action afterwards that caught everyone’s attention.

After the horn sounded at the completion of the ride, Xrated Dancer kept taking Denny toward the South grandstand as the pickup men chased closely, where it then pulled up short of the dirt track, lost its footing and proceeded to roll over on top of Denny. The horse then got back up quickly and then started dragging Denny for a short distance, who’s hand was still stuck in his riggin, resulting in many sympa-thetic ‘Oohs’ and ‘ahhs’ from

the crowd. “When the horse fell down it dazed me for a second and then he rolled over me and I was still kind of dazed,” Denny said afterwards.

Denny was checked out by trainers in the infield immedi-ately following the event, but believed he was okay — at least at first. Then as more riders were going the pain flared up and began getting more and more intense and soon realized he needed further medical attention.

“It didn’t feel that bad to be honest, but then the more I walked back the more and more it hurt,” he said. “And then soon after it was hurting

TIMED EVENTS: Practice runs pay off for Santos at his first Round-Up

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stock was out. She let me ride sheep and that was it.”

Davis and Mitchell, who is from Williams, California were heading straight out for Albuquerque, New Mexico as they attempt to squeeze a little more money out of the 2016 season, but won’t be able to track near as much as the riders that qualified for today’s short-go.

Also making that list out of Friday’s performance were Coleman Proctor and Billie Jack Saebens. Their 6.5 was the second-quickest time of the day, and although the team has yet to win any money in Pendleton, the PRCA’s No. 18 header and No. 14 heeler lead the aggregate with 13.2 seconds on two. There’s little room for error, though, and first out in today’s final performance will be Aaron Macy and Evan Arnold with 14.8 on two.

Team roping
First go payouts — 1. Aaron Macy/Evan Arnold, 6.0 seconds, \$4,347 each; 2. Bryce Palmer/Monty Joe Petska, 5.5, \$3,780; 3. Blake Teixeira/C.J. DeForest Jr., 5.6, \$3,213; 4. Ryan Reed/Dalton Pearce, 5.9, \$2,646; 5. Blaine Vick/York Gill, 6.1, \$2,079; 6. David Temple/Tee Jay Brown, 6.2, \$1,512; 7. Jake Cooper/Tyler McKnight, 6.3, \$945; 8. (tie) Shane Erickson/Andy Carlson and Joel Bach/Kory Kooz, 6.5, \$189 each.
Second go payouts — T1, Cody Snow/Dugan Kelly and Austin Stafford/Daeton Stafford, 5.3 seconds, \$4,063.62 each; T3, Jake Stanley/Bucky Campbell and Ralph Williams/Thomas Smith, 5.5, \$2,929.59 each; 5. Jeff Fleniken/Tommy Fleniken Jr., 5.7, \$2,079.06 each; T6, Spencer Mitche-ll/Justin Davis and Chant DeForest/Bronc Boehlein and Taylor White/Jason Minor, 6.0, \$945.03 each.

Aggregate leaders — 1, Coleman Proctor/Billie Jack Saebens, 13.2 seconds on two; 2, Jordan Tye/Ryan Powell, 13.4/2; 3, Bryce Palmer/Monty Joe Petska, 13.6/2; 4, Garrett Rogers/Jake Minor, 13.7/2; 5, J.R. Dees/Matt Zancanella, 14.1/2; 6, Shane Erickson/Andy Carlson, 14.3/2; T7, Cody Snow/Dugan Kelly and David Temple/Tee Jay Brown, 14.4/2; 9, Shawn Bird/Ryan Zurcher, 14.7/2; 10, Aaron Macy/Evan Arnold, 14.8/2.

TIE-DOWN ROPING
The grass infield at the Pendleton Round-Up can serve as a mighty effective deterrent for some ropers, who would rather stick to the dirt they know than tangle with the uncertain.



Steer wres-tler Jace Melvin, of Fort Pierre, South Dakota, turns in a 5.8-second run Friday at the Pendleton Round-Up.

Staff photo by Kathy Aney

Not PRCA rookie Taylor Santos, who couldn’t wait for his first runs in Pendleton, where he felt right at home despite owning an address in Creston, California.

“Everybody’s always talking about how scary it was and we’ve done a lot of day work out on the grass and stuff,” said Santos, who enjoys traditional ranch work anytime he can get it. “Out here on the grass you can’t really play it safe. It seems like that’s when bad stuff happens. So you’ve kind of got to just be aggressive and rope like you’re out in the pasture doctoring yearling.”

It turns out that’s exactly how Santos prepared for his first Round-Up, where his time of 10.6 seconds was the fastest of Friday’s perfor-mance and earned him a spot in the short-go with 20.5 on two. A good friend just happened to have a herd of longhorns in the area, and so Santos did what he does best.

“He had 35 cows with 35 calves on them, and I knew we needed to ween them,” he said. “So we went out there

on the grass up there near the pasture and roped out there on the grass, so kind of got a little pre-game for it.”

Santos said the Round-Up’s ties to the real west make it the most prestigious rodeo he could win.

“To me this is the cowboy rodeo right here. Whenever I go to people’s houses to day work or rope, you know, we’re out there roping cattle on grass,” he said. “This is the only rodeo that I’ve seen that ropes cattle on grass, so it means the world.”

Brad Goodrich’s 9.4 from Thursday held up to win the second go, and Chase Williams comes into today’s short-go with the aggregate lead at 18.9 on two. Adam Gray enters in the 12th hole with 22.7/2.

Tie-down roping
First go payouts — 1. Shank Edwards, 8.4 seconds, \$4,111; 2. Blane Cox, 8.6, \$3,575; 3. Ty Holly, 8.7, \$3,039; 4. Paul David Tierney, 8.8, \$2,503; 5. J.C. Malone, 9.0, \$1,966; 6. Chase Williams, 9.1, \$1,430; 7. (tie) Shane Hanchey, Jake Pratt and Riley Pruitt, 9.2, \$417 each.
Second go payouts — 1, Brad Goodrich, 9.4 seconds, \$4,111.48; 2, Chase Williams, 9.8, \$3,575.20; T3, Jesse Clark and Sterling Smith, 9.9, \$2,770.78 each; 5, Shane Erickson, 10.0, \$1,966.36; 6, Adam Gray, 10.1, \$1,430.08; T7, Austin Barstow and Tyler Prcin, 10.4, \$625.66 each.

STEER WRESTLING
Jace Melvin and Calder Johnston each took two runs down the banked dirt track and onto the grass to domi-nate Friday’s steer wrestling. The first time it was Melvin hazing for Johnston for a 6.9 that went to the head of the section. Then the South Dakota bulldoggers switched horses and Melvin took his steer down in 5.8 to lead the day and place seventh in the second round for \$880.52.

“I’m riding my best friend’s horse, and he was hazing for me. He did a great job, the horse worked great,” said Melvin, of Fort Pierre. “The steer came out and was trying, came a little to the left. I just rode around him and tried to be aggressive catching him.”

Melvin, who missed on his first run and was just looking for round money, said his friendship with

Johnston isn’t why he chose him to haze.

“You don’t have to know them well, you just have to know they’re good,” he said.

His draw wasn’t ideal, but it was one Melvin was confi-dent he could work with.

“They’d been a seven (seconds) and a nine on him, and then a no-time, so I knew he was catchable,” he said. “I knew I could have a chance if I bulldogged good today I could maybe have a chance to win money.”

Johnston came up just two-tenths of second shy of a short-go berth.

Blake Knowles of Heppner also came just two-tenths from a short-go berth when he went for 8.2 to give him 14.2 on two.

Nick Guy will come into today’s round with the time to beat of 10.5 on two.

Steer wrestling
First go payouts — 1. Newt Novich, 5.0 seconds, \$4,050; 2. (tie) Dakota Eldridge, Riley Krassin and J.D. Strunness, 5.5, \$2,994 each; 5. Jesse Brown, 5.6, \$1,937; 6. Nick Guy, 5.7, \$1,409; 7. Olin Hannum, 5.8, \$981; 8. Trevor Knowles, 5.9, \$352.
Second go payouts — 1, Nick Guy, 4.8 seconds, \$4,050.43; 2, Brandon Christensen, 5.2, \$3,522.11; 3, Andy Weldon, 5.3, \$2,993.79; 4, Chance Gartner, 5.5, \$2,465.47; 5, Timmy Sparing, 5.6, \$1,937.16; 6, Justin Shaffer, 5.7, \$1,408.84; 7, Jace Melvin, 5.8, \$880.52; T8, Jason Thomas and Olin Hannum, 5.9, \$176.10 each.
Aggregate leaders — 1, Nick Guy, 10.5 seconds on two; 2, Olin Hannum, 11.7/2; T3, Chance Gartner and Dakota Eldridge, 12.0/2; 5, J.D. Strunness, 12.2/2; 6, Justin Shaffer, 12.4/2; 7, Jason Thomas, 12.6/2; 8, K.C. Jones, 12.7/2; 9, Riley Krassin, 13.0/2; 10, Timmy Sparing, 13.2/2; 11, Straws Milan, 13.9/2; 12, Billy Bugenig, 14.0/2.

STEER ROPING
Defending champion Brent Lewis won his second round of the week with an 11.5-second time in Friday’s performance that brought his Round-Up total to \$7,332.95. He’ll have a chance to win a whole lot more today as he takes nearly a five-second cushion over gold card steer roper Guy Allen in the aggregate.

Another strong run would earn the Pinon, New Mexico cowboy his second-straight steer roping title in Pendleton.

Lewis wasn’t the only roper to come out of Friday’s section with a short-go berth. Will McBride of Ogallala, Nebraska was 14.1 to give him 30.8 on two and fifth in the aggregate.

Pendleton’s Ky Rosen-burg had a 16.5 and Athena’s Tygh Campbell was 17.8 on Friday, but neither men had a time from the first round to pair those with.

Steer roping
First go payouts — 1. Brent Lewis, 12.1 seconds, \$3,790; 2. Jason Stewart, 12.2, \$3,296; 3. Cody Lee, 12.4, \$2,801; 4. Chet Herren, 13.3, \$2,307; 5. Howdy McGinn, 13.6, \$1,813; 6. Dakota Kirchenschlager, 13.7, \$1,318; 7. Scott Stickley, 14.3, \$824; 8. Guy Allen, 14.7, \$330.
Second go payouts — T1, Brent Lewis and Jason Evans, 11.5 seconds, \$3,542.95; 3. Corey Ross, 13.2, \$2,801.40; 4, Guy Allen, 13.4, \$2,307.03; 5, Vin Fisher Jr., 13.5, \$1,812.67; 6, Ryan Rochlitz, 13.6, \$1,318.30; 7. Brodie Poppino, 13.8, \$823.94; 8, Will McBride, 14.1, \$1,329.57
Aggregate leaders — 1, Brent Lewis, 23.6 second on two; 2, Guy Allen, 28.1/2; 3, Ryan Rochlitz, 29.6/2; 4, Brodie Poppino, 30.7/2; 5, Will McBride, 30.8/2; 6, J.D. Yates, 31.6/2; 7, Scott Stickley, 32.9/2; 8, Troy Tillard, 33.1/2; 9, Jess Tierney, 33.7/2; 10, Ike Sankey, 42.2/2; 11, Howdy McGinn, 42.3/2; 12, Worm Shipley, 43.3/2.

BARREL RACING
Stevi Hillman’s 29.64 seconds from Monday’s slack made it all the way through the week in the top spot after none of Friday’s barrel racers were able to crack the top 12.

Tanya Robinson of Caldwell, Idaho had the fastest time of the day at 30.84, and she was the only rider to post a competitive time.

Mindy Goemmer holds the final spot in the short-go at 30.59. Jordan Minor and Nellie Miller were tied for 12th with 30.59 but were cut from the short-go.

Barrel racing
First go payouts — 1. Stevi Hillman, 29.64 seconds, \$4,915; 40; 2. Kimmie Well, 29.77, \$4,213.20; 3. Teri Bangert, 29.85, \$3,511; 4. Pamela Capper, 30.02; \$3,042.87; 5. Jana Bean, 30.28, \$2,187.52; 6. Darby Fox, 30.29, \$1,872.43; 7. Carmel Wright, 30.31, \$1,404.40; 8. Sydni Blanchard, 30.33, \$936.26; 9. Cayla Melby, 30.39, \$702.20; 10, Paige Willis, 30.45, \$468.13; 11, Mindy Goemmer, 30.48.
Leaders — 1. Stevi Hillman, 29.64 seconds; 2. Kimmie Well, 29.77; 3. Teri Bangert, 29.85; 4. Pamela Capper, 30.02; 5. Jana Bean, 30.28; 6. Darby Fox, 30.29; 7. Carmel Wright, 30.31; 8. Sydni Blanchard, 30.33; 9. Cayla Melby, 30.39; 10, Paige Willis, 30.45; 11, Mindy Goemmer, 30.48.