



# CATCH THIS KITTY

## Cricket Bar Futurity Finals



Jeff Adams, Owner  
Dee Keener, Trainer

Randy Wilson, Jockey  
Claremore, OK

September 14, 2019  
400 Yards :20.31

Purse \$33,437

BG Unleash The Beast (2nd)

Queen Corona Kisses (3rd)

\$8.80 \$3.00 \$2.60

COADY  
Photography  
Since 1962



The Appaloosa Horsemen, by Sonja Berry



On September 14th, 2019 at Will Rogers Downs gathered a dedicated group of horsemen. Horsemen that would compete their fast horses in the oldest all-Appaloosa horse race, the 400 yard Cricket Bars Futurity. Ten Appaloosas went to post. Here are the stories of the people and the special horses they love.

Jeff Adams is a well-known name in both the winners circle and in the show ring. In racing, Jeff has been the winning leader breeder and owner multiple years. At the 2019 Cricket Bars, Jeff once again proved he had what it takes. Jeff entered two fillies, Catch This Kitty and Kiss Me Bye. It was Catch This Kitty that would pour it on to out-distance her competitors and capture the trophy for Jeff. Kiss Me Bye was bumped by her stable mate and finished seventh.

Jeff shared his story, "I have owned Appaloosas for over 50 years and have been racing horses off and on since I was 14. One of my early race horses was "What's Up Ghost" by Ghost of Comanche out of the quarter horse mare Dina Doolin by Bill Doolin. He was an exceptional race horse.

I learned how to ride early on. As a kid, I showed in all classes, especially games classes. Probably one of my best friends as a kid was my gelding named "Pepsi T." by Beau Quavo's Pepsi and out of Tyee by Buttons B. He was a great competitor.

One of my proudest moments in the show ring was when I won the senior western pleasure class at the Appaloosa World Show in 2004 with Shes Good Looking."

Jeff discussed what he likes about his two Cricket Bars entries, "Probably the thing that I like best about these two fillies is that they all go back to the same mare, Perfect Intention, the all-time leading producer of Appaloosa race horses in history."

It takes trainers and jockeys to win, and the winning trainer was Dee Keener. Randy Wilson was the winning jockey and Gonzalo Valles Jr rode Kiss Me Bye.

Randy Wilson's parents were on hand to watch him ride Catch This Kitty for the win. It was a proud moment for all the connections.



Kiss Me Bye (Ivory James x Turnin Tricks)



Jeff Adams, breeder and owner of Catch This Kitty



Catch This Kitty (Ivory James x Turnin Tricks)



In the first post position was the speckled chestnut gelding, BG Unleash the Beast, bred by Becky Grant of Idaho, owned by Crystal Byers-Tucker of Texas. In an exciting race, “The Beast” broke first from the start and held the lead until the last 100 yards and was out run by Catch This Kitty.

Crystal shares her journey and how she came to own the horse that earned second place at the Cricket Bars.

“I bought my first Appaloosa from my uncle Mike Davis when I was 15. He was a race bred colt but was grey with no color that could not be raced. My uncle sold him to me for \$400 and let me pay him out. My horse’s name is SwiftNEasy Bull It. He is a 1988 model and just turned 31 years old in March. He is the one that got me hooked on the Appaloosas.

“I am relatively new to racing. I have only raced three horses over the last nine years; two horses I raised and one we bought. My mom and I enjoy the racing. My uncle Mike

ran Appaloosas off and on since the 1980’s I believe. He had some success with a stud named Jettin Easy by Easy Walt. He and I partnered on my home raised gelding CB First Episode. He was our first try with the racing. He is one I raised and bred. He was fast but we never had luck in our side.

“Our second race horse was the filly Coronasdrisinoft. She is out of the sire The Chocolate Rocket by Corona Cartel. I think we ran her once as a two year old, and two times as a three year old. I think she ran eighth all three times. We brought her home for barrel training and didn’t do much with her. As a fluke since she was already trained, we took her back as a five year old and she ran second her first out and won her second out at Remington. That year she had ten outs and she ran first second or third in eight out of her ten starts. We were hooked then.

“I saw “The Beast” in an ad on Facebook and really liked his look. He was a flashy red roan yearling with four white socks. I loved his breeding for the barrel pen with horses such as Darkelly and Proudest Effort in his pedigree. We shipped him down from Idaho and when he arrived we were really pleased. He was cute, cute! My favorite thing about the gelding is his huge heart and lots of try! He is a little guy standing only 14.2 and 900 lbs but I guess they say dynamite comes in small packages. He is also super smart and super sweet. Just an awesome individual.”

Trey Ellis and BWM Racing trained BG Unleash The Beast with the talented jockey Armando Ramirez Jr. handling the young gelding for the second place effort.

Jodee Rowe’s horse Call Sign Chaos had the second post position.

“I received my first Appaloosa in 1979. He was a solid Appaloosa gelding that Dr R..H. Dunham let me choose



BG Unleash The Beast (Takin The Cash x Proudest Prize)





Call Sign Chaos (Geneo JJ x Sunshine's Willea)

from his pasture of solid colts. The weanling was a dream come true for me, I was a horse-crazy girl that had been waiting ten years to have my very own horse.

"Our first race horse was Sunshine's Alpha in the early 80's."

From there, Jodee's father, Robert Rowe, built a dynasty under the name of Sunshine Ranch.

Jodee continues, "My favorite thing about our handsome two year old colt, Call Sign Chaos, barn name "Will", is that his sire, Geneo JJ, and his maternal grand sire, I Love Willie, raced against each other in 1985 where I love Willie bested Geneo JJ by a nose.

"For me the best part of Appaloosa racing is the history and tradition. We are a small group and our horses can be traced back to generations of amazing horses, owners and breeders."

The community Jodee talks about was exemplified when her young colt tried to leave the gate early and ended up scratched from the competition. All the owners and trainers present came over to Jodee to make sure her horse was alright and to offer their empathy and understanding. Juan Gomez trains for Jodee.

Michael Moss entered two horses in the Cricket Bars that he bred, raised and trained. In post position three was Allies Favorite Sign and from position nine ran the third place finisher Queen Corona's Kisses.

Michael shares, "My family has had Appaloosas my entire life because my grandpa started his breeding program in 1953. I did not have my first membership card and become an official owner until 2009.

"Believe it or not my family did not want me involved in horse racing growing up because they knew I would want to become a Jockey which is a very dangerous profession. They were always more comfortable allowing me to rodeo and pursue roping events instead. When my grandpa's health deteriorated due to Alzheimer's where he could no longer take care of his breeding program alone I began to get involved



Allies Favorite Sign (Second Painted Sign x Allies Apollo)



to help keep the legacy of his program going. Racing was in my blood.

“I applied for my first trainers license in 2010. The last time I had trained horses to ride or rope I was a kid. We didn’t have the money to buy finished horses so we had to make our own. I started first kicking the idea around about training rope horses since I was age 20. But it wasn’t until 2009 when I first took a job as a groom at the race track that I saw an opportunity for a person like myself who’s not afraid to work hard and be reliable. I saw that I actually could make a living working with horses. So the quest began.

“My favorite thing about my fillies is their personalities are all so easy going and they are super smart which makes training them a real pleasure. They seem to be pretty consistent with the effort they give in competition even when they aren’t the fastest horse in the race most times. It’s up to me as the trainer to place them at the right level of competition to be able to compete and keep them confident not throw them into races where they cannot be competitive which I believe can just rip their heart out time and time again. I’m hoping they all become great producers in the future.”

Michael Moss’s filly Queen’s Corona Kisses rallied for third place race ridden by Travis Cunningham. Allies Favorite Sign placing eighth, ridden by Cody Smith.



Queen Corona’s Kisses (Flying T KingOKings x Keegan’s Corona Kisses)

**Racing was in my blood.**



Linda Taylor entered Hesa DashingCrawfish from the 10th post position. Hesa DashingCrawfish came from the middle of the pack to earn fourth place.

Linda's entire family is involved in the Appaloosa show and racing industry. Her father was a trainer of Appaloosa horses starting in 1961. He trained for Jimmy Miller from Geary, OK. Linda shared, "Dad trained cutting horses and started training race horses on the side. He helped establish para-mutual betting at the tracks in 1985. Dad raced all over Oklahoma, Ada, Stroud, Apache, you name it. I used to help my dad get the horse ready when he was racing, but I was never a trainer myself."

Linda's pride in her father's accomplishments showed as she shared that her father raised Eye to Eye, a world champion Appaloosa out Mr Eye Opener.

Linda currently breeds, races and shows her horses. Her son Gary Walker trains race horses full time. Linda proudly shared that her son trained Hesa DashingCrawfish.

The red gelding's dam, Dashing Cleta, was the 1997 Cricket Bars winner and national championship that year.

Her favorite thing about her colt is his personality.

Justine Klaiber rides the gelding. The concentration on their faces immortalized as both their tongues are out.



Hesa DashingCrawfish (The Crawfish x Dashing Cleta)





Sparkle In Your Eye (Been Chased x Twinkle In Your Eye)

Dr. John V. White Jr. entered Sparkle In Your Eye from the 4th post position. Trained by Mallory Norton and ridden by Cody Wainscott, Sparkle In Your Eye broke well from the gate and ran in third position for the first 300 yards, she fell back a bit to earn 5th place.

Dr. White shared his journey in Appaloosa history. "I started in Appaloosas in 1961 with a good Hunter Under Saddle mare named Amelia Shirley. I showed this mare in green, junior and open hunter over fences as a young man. She hooked me on Appaloosas."

It is from her that he learned his superior riding and training skills.

Later, Dr. White joined the Army which put him in the Texas area, deep in horse racing country. His love of horses introduced him to racing Appaloosas. The exposure lead him to breed, raise and train

his young horses to race. After he had them galloping well, he sent them to a trainer to get broke at the gate and to finish their racing training. Dr. White is modest about his skills, but his record speaks for itself.

In 2011 Dr White was inducted to the Appaloosa racing Hall of Fame for his success of breeding more than 25 stakes winners. His most recognized mare is Won A Queen, who is the grand dam of the filly Sparkle in your Eye.

Dr. White said, "What I like best about my two year old filly is her disposition and her breeding. Her dam, Twinkle in Your Eye, was a multiple stakes placed filly and placed second in the 1998 Cricket Bars."



Jana Harrison started the gelding No Radar from the 8th post position. When asked about her history with Appaloosa racing, Jana shares, “I have owned Appaloosa’s since 2005.

“I got my start in racing when I became acquainted with Gary Vaughan who owned Appaloosa running horses. I caught the racing bug and purchased Sure Nuff Fast and her foal G I Jana. Sure Nuff Fast is now in the Appaloosa racing Hall of Fame and G I Jana was a multiple racing champion in ApHC and OAR winning \$100K in her racing career.

“My favorite thing about No Radar is his conformation and his attitude. Although his racing career so far has not been stellar due to injuries, I am



No Radar (Wagon Tales x G I Jana)



Talk About Jessy (Jess Special x Quacked Bag)

confident he has what it takes to be a winner.”

No Radar was trained by Dee Keener and ridden by Daniel Torres for a 6th place finish.

Garner Mattingly started the filly Talk About Jessy from the fifth position. The blanketed chestnut filly is by the Appaloosa Jess Special out of the thoroughbred mare, Quacked Bag who earned over \$73k on the track, by a Grade 1 stakes placed sire, Bag.

Garner has been working with Appaloosas for about fifty-five years and was the past president of the OAR.

Like many, he was first exposed to Appaloosas in the show ring earning acclaim at the National level. He was friends with L. K. Rutherford who started the Cricket Bars Futurity when pari-mutuel racing was first approved. Garner breeds and trains his horses. Garner shares, “What I like best about my filly is that she is a big, nice filly. Her thoroughbred dam is by a Grade 1 Stakes Placed horse that descends from the great Mr. Prospector.”

Talk About Jessy was bumped hard coming out of the gate on the right then bumped on the left and did not regain her stride. She finished ninth ridden by Bryan Ernst.





Thank you to the OAR directors that worked hard to put on the Cricket Bars Futurity. Without their volunteer efforts, the race would not be held. Jacquie Rae, Ray Vargas and Alfred Chandler stand before the beautiful trophy table.

1. OAR Trophy Table
2. OAR Banner
3. Jacquie Vulgamore, OAR Treasurer, Raymond Vargas, Alfred Chandler
4. Walt Brandhorst and Linda Taylor
5. Juan Gomez, Jodee Rowe and daughter Pearl
6. Wayne Moss, father of Michael Moss and Shari Burger's parents
7. E. Bruce Miller, 2018 Cricket Bars winning owner