

For more information:  
Ruth Nicolaus  
(319) 321-2152  
For the Elk City Rodeo of Champions

## **RODEO FEVER**

*Cowgirl repeats as barrel racing winner;  
Okie bull rider is only man to make the 8 seconds*

**ELK CITY, OKLA.** – (September 4, 2022) – The number two barrel racer in the world came to Elk City, made a smoking fast run around the cloverleaf pattern at the Elk City Rodeo of Champions, and left as a repeat champion.

Dona Kay Rule, Minco, Okla., turned the pattern in 15.70 seconds to win the rodeo, held Sept. 2-4, for the second time.

Her run “felt really strong and fluid,” she said, giving credit to the rodeo committee for excellent ground conditions. “We appreciate the committee for making sure we felt comfortable” on the ground.

And she’s coming off of a hip replacement four months ago.

After having a hip replaced in late April, the cowgirl took off eight weeks to recuperate and was back to rodeo by late June, in time to keep her place in the top fifteen among the Women’s Pro Rodeo Association (WPRA) world standings.

The hip caused her pain and affected her riding as well. “I would turn the first barrel and I’d know, when I got to the second barrel, it was like there was an ice pick through my hip. It was miserable. I couldn’t get on or off” a horse, she said.

She was aboard the same horse that carried her to the victory lap in Elk City in 2018, when she tied for first with Randi Buchanan.

Valor, a thirteen-year-old gelding, is the 2019 AQHA Barrel Racing Horse of the Year. Elk City was the first rodeo she took him to, when she started the horse. “It was his first big-boy rodeo.”

Rule appreciates competing in Elk City. “The Beutler Brothers history in Elk City makes you feel good and makes you proud to be part of the history of it.”

In the bareback riding, a veteran of the sport made sure the young guys knew he could still out-ride them.

Three-time world champion Will Lowe rode the Beutler and Son horse Black Kat for 85 points and a win.

It was the third time he had drawn the mare, who is eighteen years old. “That horse has been as consistent as they come,” he said. “She’s strong and up in the air and kicking. It’s what you look for in a bucking horse. She’s just a phenomenal horse. I was really stoked to have her, and it worked.”

The thirty-nine-year-old isn’t rodeoing hard, “just easing around,” he said, “with not as much pressure or stress” as full-time competition.

“It’s always fun when you’re riding bucking horses.”

Only one man made the eight-second buzzer for all three nights of rodeo in Elk City.

Logan Hunter, Medford, Okla., rode the Beutler bull Black Panther for 82 points and the bull riding title.

The bull “came out (of the chute) to the left, followed the gate around, then came back to the right, into my hand. He tried to pull me down on the first corner, but I stayed in the middle and focused on finishing.”

Before this weekend, Hunter was ranked sixteenth in the Prairie Circuit, the rodeos in Oklahoma, Kansas and Nebraska.

But he earned more than \$10,000 for his eight seconds in Elk City, which will bump him into the top fifteen in the circuit; the top fifteen at the end of the rodeo season compete at the Prairie Circuit Finals Rodeo.

Like a lot of bull riders, injuries have plagued the twenty-seven year old. He’s shattered a kneecap and broken ribs and a finger, and lately, had surgery on an elbow which kept him out of competition for seven months.

He’s appreciative of his boss, Drew McFeeders, who allows him time off to rodeo. “He’s really good to me, and I appreciate him letting me do what I do.”

This is the third time Hunter has competed in Elk City.

Other champions at the 84<sup>th</sup> annual rodeo include steer wrestlers Jacob Edler, Alva, Okla. and Shayde Etherton, Borden, Ind. (3.7 seconds each); team ropers Tyler Hobert, Alva, Okla. and Chase Boekhaus, Rolla, Kan. (4.9 seconds); saddle bronc rider CoBurn Bradshaw, Beaver, Utah (83 points); and tie-down roper Carsyn Sunvison, McDade, Texas (7.9 seconds).

The rodeo hosted a Bullfighters Only (BFO) competition, with Connor Larrivee of Strathmore, Alberta, winning the competition.

Next year’s rodeo will be September 1-3, 2023.

Complete results follow. More information can be found at [www.elkcityrodeo.com](http://www.elkcityrodeo.com).

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#### Cutline:

Dona Kay Rule repeats as barrel racing champion at the Elk City Rodeo of Champions. The Minco, Okla. cowgirl is aboard her gelding Valor, a two-time AQHA Barrel Racing Horse of the Year. Photo by Terri Abrahamsen.

#### Results, Elk City Rodeo of Champions

September 2-4, 2022

#### Bareback Riding

1. Will Lowe, Amarillo, Texas; 85 points on Black Kat; 2. Zach Hibler, Wheeler, Texas 84.5; 3. Kade Sonnier, Carencro, La. 79; 4. Dakota Mendez, Grandview, Texas 73; 5. Brendon Crawley, Cisco, Texas 72; 6. Chad Rutherford, Itasca, Texas 50.

#### Steer Wrestling

1. (tie) Jacob Edler, Alva, Okla. and Shayde Etherton, Bordon, Ind. 3.7 seconds each; 3. (tie) Colt Honey, La Junta, Colo., Gus Franzen, Kearney, Neb. and Trey Green, Edgewood, Texas 4.2 each; 6. (tie) Paul Melvin, Paradise, Texas and Riley Duvall, Checotah, Okla. 4.4 each; 8. Cody Harmon, Dublin, Texas 4.5.

#### Team Roping

1. Tyler Hobert, Alva, Okla./Chase Boekhaus, Rolla, Kan. 4.9 seconds; 2. Casey Tew, Lipan, Texas/Will Woodfin, Stephenville, Texas 5.1; 3. Zach Kilgus, Stephenville, Texas/Jake Edwards, Ft. Ann, N.Y. 5.2; 4. (tie) Brett Christensen, Alva, Okla./Shannon Frascht, Alva, Okla. and Peyton Holliday, Chouteau, Okla./Kolton Good, Carter, Okla. 5.4 each; 6. Kooper Banum, Marlow, Okla./Gage Williams, Marlow, Okla. 5.8.

#### Saddle Bronc Riding

1. CoBurn Bradshaw, Milford, Utah 83 points on Shiver Me Timbers; 2. Gus Gaillard, Morse, Texas 82.5; 3. (tie) Parker Fleet, Axtell, Texas and Tyrel Larsen, Carnegie, Okla. 77.5 each; 5. Keene Justesen, Dublin, Texas 77; 6. (tie) Trent Burd, Madison, Kan. and Timothy Troyer, Weatherford, Okla. 76.5 each; 8. Hardy Braden, Welch, Okla. 76.

#### Tie Down Roping

1. Carsyn Sunvison, McDade, Texas 7.9 seconds; 2. Jake Booze, Miami, Texas 8.3; 3. Kallen Johnson, Amarillo, Texas 8.4; 4. Denton Oestmann, Alva, Okla. 8.7; 5. (tie) Clint Graves, Oxford, Kan., Dylan Hancock, San Angelo, Texas and Bryson Sechrist, Apache, Okla. 8.8 each; 8. Will Howell, Stillwater, Okla. 9.1.

#### Barrel Racing

1. Dona Kay Rule, Minco, Okla. 15.70 seconds; 2. Trinity Beaurais, Afton, Okla. 15.75; 3. (tie) Stephanie Fryar, Waco, Texas and Tammy Peterson, Cimarron, Kan. 15.97 each; 5. (tie) Cassidy Champlin, Pilot Point, Texas and Cayla Small, Afton, Okla. 16.00 each;

7. Tamara Reinhardt, Canadian, Texas 16.01; 8. Suzanne Brooks, Seminole, Okla. 16.04;  
9. Ivy Hurst, Springer, Okla. 16.06; 10. (tie) Jamie Chaffin, Burwell, Neb. and Natalie  
Bland, Boyd, Texas 16.13 each.

Bull Riding

1. Logan Hunter, Medford, Okla. 82 points on Black Panther; no other qualified rides.