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For Immediate Release:

***Randy Paul Wins SWRHA Novice Horse Open on Darlins Not Painted***

***Flis Sassella Tops Novice Horse Non Pro with Twilight Rooster***

The Southwest Reining Horse Association Futurity, held at the historic Hardy Murphy Coliseum in Ardmore, Oklahoma, began Tuesday, October 21, with the Novice Horse Open and Novice Horse Non Pro Classes.

When Randy Paul decided to enter the Cinder Lakes Ranch \$10,000 Added Open on Darlins Not Painted, he had never shown the mare before, so he opted for a little practice beforehand. “I decided I would enter the Novice Horse Open, just to see how she was going to act and show with me,” he noted.

It turned out to be a lucrative decision, as the 148.5 score easily clinched the Championship. “I still made her wait for me, but I couldn’t fault her. She did everything the way she was supposed to,” said the Scottsdale, Arizona, trainer.

Along with a check for \$1,479, the win also garnered a CR Morrison trophy, and a prized Cruisin’ Cooler from Ames Quarter Horses.

Although Paul hadn’t shown Darlins Not Painted personally, he has been around for much of the mare’s career, as she has been successfully shown by his wife, Andi. The pair

earned back-to-back Intermediate Non Pro Championships at the prestigious National Reining Breeders Classic in 2007 and 2008.

Six-year-old Darlins Not Painted is by Smokin Chic Olena and out of Mi Hollywood Darlin.

Earning the Reserve title in the Novice Horse Open was Nathan Piper riding Another Chic Star, owned by Jim Grice. Another Chic Star, by Smart Chic Olena and out of Almost Starlight, marked a score of 147. The win was worth \$900, and also a saddle pad from Kyle Tack.

The Novice Horse Non Pro title went to Flis Carey Sassella and her horse Twilight Rooster, by Roosters Wrangler out of Not Too Shiny. The score of 145.5 secured the Championship, a CR Morrison trophy, a Cruizin' Cooler, and \$613.

Competing with pattern 2, the run was close to perfect, when, before the last spin, disaster struck. "I lost one of my reins," noted the Marietta, Oklahoma resident. "Luckily we were standing still, and I was able to reach down and get it. Tadpole (Twilight Rooster) just stood there for me, and we could finish the run."

Sassella and four-year-old Tadpole have had success in the Hardy Murphy Coliseum. Last year they placed second in the Intermediate Non Pro Futurity, and finished fourth in the Non Pro. They also went on to make the Non Pro Finals at the National Reining Horse Association Futurity.

Sassella plans to continue showing Tadpole lightly. "I would like to go to some of the Derbies on him, so we're just going to show pretty lightly. He's done for the week now," she said.

Jordan Donnelly, of Aubrey, Texas, rode her horse Chexable to the Novice Horse Non Pro Reserve Championship with a 143.5. That score earned Donnelly \$421 and a saddle pad from Kyle Tack. Chexable is by Inwhizable and out of Megarita Chex.

Built in 1937, the historic Hardy Murphy Coliseum has been a mainstay as an Ardmore tourist attraction. Primarily designed to host horse and livestock shows, recent renovations to the facility have given it the flexibility to host even more events. Along with the space upgrades that allow the facility to stall 500 horses, the addition of air conditioning provides Hardy Murphy with the competitive ability to attract national and regional events. The renovations have resulted in a premier competitive equine facility.

For more information on the Southwest Reining Horse Association Futurity, or to inquire about the SWRHA, please call 580-759-2572, or visit [www.swrha.com](http://www.swrha.com).