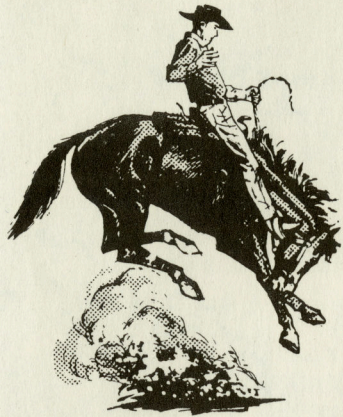


MUSTANG RODEO NEWS



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Cal Poly's National Championship Rodeo Team. left to right George Brown, Dennis Pleasant, Tom Ferguson, Bill Gibford (Mustang team ad-

visor), Bob Miller (Montana State University team advisor), Larry Ferguson, Melvin Dick, and Jerry Koile

Finals Victory

For local rodeo fans a 10-year-old dream became reality as the Mustang Rodeo Team corralled its second National Championship this past summer in Bozeman, Montana.

Coached by Animal Science Instructor Mr. Bill Gibford, the local boys piled up 477.5 points to squeak past the cowboys from Tarleton State College, Stephenville, Texas, by only 27.5 points.

Two members of the team brought home National titles. Melvin Dick, from Lakeview, Oregon, took the top honors in saddle bronc bareback events. San Martin roper, Tom Ferguson, won the National Ribbon Roping crown and the All-Round Championship for the five day contest.

The only bright spot for the girls team was the fast pigin' string work of goat tyer Sharon Meffan, as she won the National Championship in that event. She finished the first two go-rounds in second place, tied her finals goat in 12.7 which put her in second for the third go and three go average.

Miss Meffan carried enough points into the finals to win the National title.

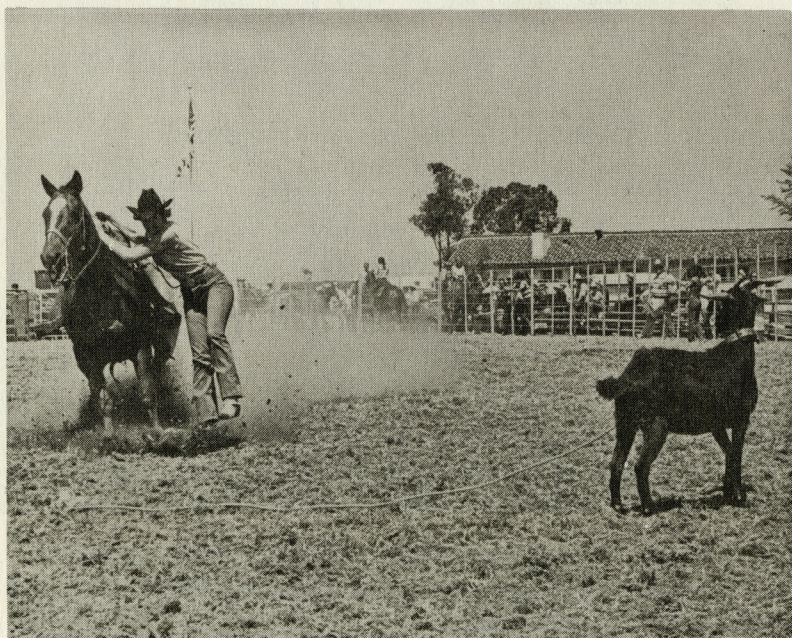
In the first go-round the Mustangs took a 22.5 point lead over Tarleton. In that go, Melvin Dick took second place in the bareback, but bucked off his saddle bronc. Dennis Plesant bucked off his saddle bronc and missed his bareback horse coming out of the chute. George Brown rode both his bareback and bull but did not place.

At the other end of the arena Larry Ferguson won the calf roping in 10.3, dogged his steer in 5.2 but took a 10 second penalty at the barrier and missed his ribbon roping steer. Then Tom Ferguson tied down a third in the calf roping, split third and fourth in the ribbon roping and failed to place in the bull doggin'. Jerry Koile had a fast time going in the calf roping until his calf got up and he failed to place in the ribbon roping.

When the second go-round ended the Mustangs still held a 15 point lead with 217.5 points. Second place Sam Houston had



Melvin Dick



Sharon Gill

The Pres sez

On behalf of the Rodeo Team and Club I would like to take this opportunity to publicly thank all of our sponsors. Without your help it would be impossible to have a Rodeo Team and Club of such merit. In the rodeo world you, our sponsors, are the unsung heroes.

Sincerely,

Greg Riedel

Greg Riedel
Rodeo Club President

202.5 points and third place Tarleton had 195.5 points.

Only two Mustangs placed in the second go-round. Jerry Koile tied his calf in 10.7 for fourth place and Dennis Pleasant marked a 61 on his saddle bronc for a second place.

Riding into the finals with a slim 15 point lead insured the Mustangs of nothing. A total of 1800 points were a steak in the final go-round.

In order to gain the finals a cowboy must have finished in the top 10 in the first two go-rounds.

Poly sent only three cowboys to the final, Melvin Dick, Tom and brother Larry Ferguson.

In the bareback bronc riding, Melvin marked a 74 to win the go-round and the three-go average.

In the calf roping, Larry miss strung his calf, which cost him time and a possible placing.

At this point in the finals the Mustang's lead over second place Tarleton had slimed down to 7.5 points. Each school still had two chances to pick up valuable points.



Tom Ferguson

In the bull doggin', Tom Ferguson threw his steer faster than Tarleton's Kent Youngblood to turn back that threat.

Tom next won the three-go average in the ribbon roping, adding another 40 points to the Mustang score. These last few points put the Mustangs out of

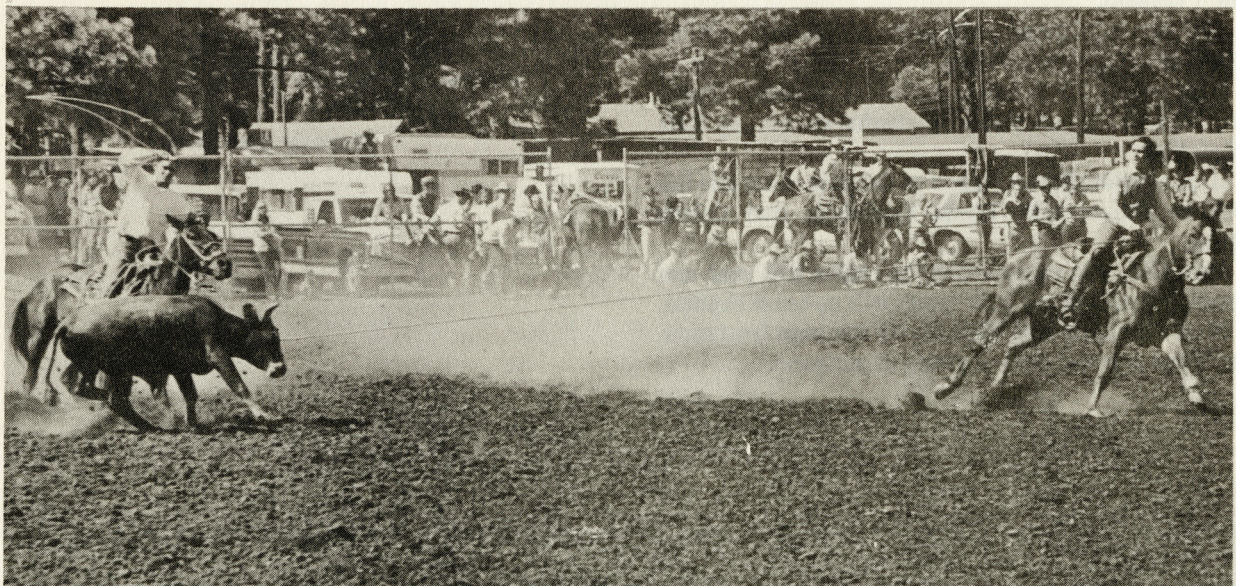
reach, even though Tarleton's Robert Anderson, tenth best bull rider at the finals, was the only

bull rider able to ride his bull to the buzzer.

The winning of the National Championship capped a year

long drive which saw the Mustangs win 7 of the 8 rodeos in

the region and finish with over 1000 point lead.



Tom and Larry Ferguson

The Best Are Busy

This fall will be the busiest fall in the history the West Coast Region, four rodeos are tentively scheduled.

The first of these rodeos will be October 17 and 18 hosted by Modesto J.C. at the Turlock Fair Grounds. this will be Modesto's first try at hosting a rodeo and the team hopes it will be successful.

The team next travels to Chico State College on October 24 and 25. This is also a new rodeo for the region.

Then with the close hauls behind them the team heads out of state for Prescott, Arizona, on October 31 and November 1.

Just as soon as the boys get back from Prescott they **just have time to back their bags for Tucson, Arizona, November 7 and 8.**

At present these are the only rodeos scheduled for the fall quarter, it's enough along with school.

Returning to compete for the Mustangs are four members of last year's championship team.

Heading the roster is Melvin Dick, holder of two National titles. The Lakeview, Oregon, boy works the rough stock events and at times he may be seen at the timed event end of the arena.

Next on the list is a boy from San Martin who also holds a National title. Tom Ferguson, champion ribbon roper, works the timed events and is a tough competitor.

Larry Ferguson, Tom's older brother, will be working all of the timed events again this year

Completing the timed event half of the team will be Jerry Koile, a tough competitor and point getter from San Luis Obispo.

Two new members to the team will be Bill Freeman and Jeff Hay.

Freeman, from Baker, Oregon, will be working both rough stock and timed events along with the duties of team captain.

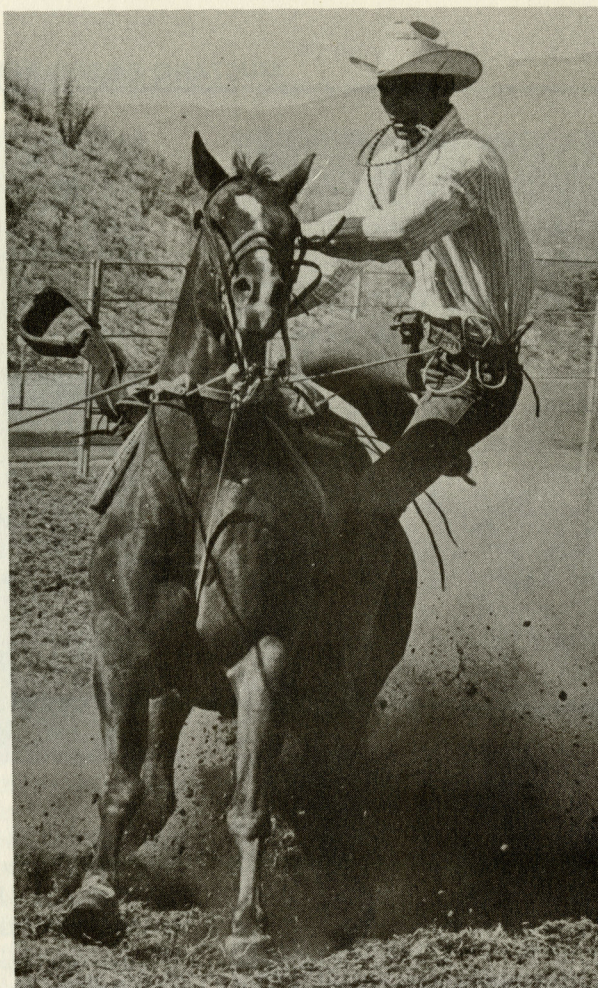
Hay, from California, will be giving the bulls a whirl along with bareback riding.

Last year's girl's team, including National Champion Sharon Meffan, either graduated or used up their eligibility.

Representing the Mustangs on the girls team this fall will be Sharon Gill, Linda Stockdale, and Coleen Simas.

Miss Gill, who competed in the region last year and finished fourth in the goat tying, will be team captain.

Miss Stockdale and Miss Simas are both freshman, but have a great deal of rodeo experience.



Jerry Koile

Photos and text by

Barney Guzenske