

For Immediate Release
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World's Original Indoor Rodeo® Begins Final Run at Will Rogers Coliseum

by Johna Cravens
for the Fort Worth Stock Show & Rodeo

FORT WORTH, Texas (January 25, 2019)—The World's Original Indoor Rodeo® began its 29-performance run with fireworks and dramatic rodeo action as the event celebrates its final run in Will Rogers Coliseum.

The Fort Worth Stock Show & Rodeo, which began in 1896, held the first indoor rodeo in 1918 at Cowtown Coliseum on the north side of town. In 1944 the rodeo moved to the then-new Will Rogers Coliseum where it has remained for 76 years. When the new Dickies Arena, the only one in the nation that was planned first and foremost for rodeo, opens on the stock show grounds in late 2019, the rodeo will move there, and other horse and cattle events will be held in Will Rogers.

This week has been a bit nerve-wracking for bareback rider Casey Colletti of Pueblo, Colorado. The three-time National Finals Rodeo qualifier has been away from the arena since undergoing cervical spine fusion surgery in August. In December he was cleared to ride again by Dr. Andrew Dossett, the spine consultant for the Dallas Cowboys, Texas Rangers and Dallas Stars.

Colletti spent plenty of time getting back into rodeo shape by getting on a bucking machine, but he didn't climb on a live bronc until earlier this week in Denver. He's currently leading the second round there with 86.5 points and is tied for second overall. He'll be traveling back to Colorado on Sunday for the National Western Livestock Show and Rodeo's Championship Round.

"I'd be lying if I said I wasn't nervous," Colletti said of climbing on that first bronc. Less than a week later he climbed on Championship Pro Rodeo's horse King Thomas here and scored 85.5 points to take the early lead. He will compete again tomorrow morning at 10 a.m. If his total on two rides is among the top 10 overall, he'll be back at Will Rogers Coliseum for the championship round on Feb. 9.

Sterling Lambert of Fallon, Nevada, clocked a time of 3.9 seconds in the steer wrestling Friday night, which put him third in the first round. More than 130 steer wrestlers had already competed in the first round Thursday morning and Texan Brandon Harrison holds the lead with a time of 3.7.

Only one bull rider stayed atop his bull for the required eight seconds. Utah cowboy Dalan Duncan rode Western Rocket of the Rafter G Rodeo string to lead the round with a score of 82.5. Duncan also earned \$600 in day money as the only successful rider.

The World's Original Indoor Rodeo® continues Saturday with three performances at 10 a.m., 2 p.m. and 7:30 p.m. The 10 a.m. show will feature bareback, saddle bronc, bull riders and team ropers in their second round while steer wrestlers, tie-down ropers and barrel racers will still be in the first round. A whole new group of contestants will compete at 2 p.m.,

with the riding events and team ropers returning Saturday night for their second round while the other events stay in round one.

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FORT WORTH--- The following are unofficial results from Friday night's performance of the World's Original Indoor Rodeo® at the Fort Worth Stock Show & Rodeo, January 25, 2019. Note: The majority of the first-round competition in steer wrestling and tie-down roping was held Wednesday and Thursday mornings.

First Performance

Bareback Riding: 1, Casey Colletti, Pueblo, Colo., 85.5 points on Championship Pro Rodeo's King Thomas. 2, Tyler Johnson, Burneyville, Okla., 83.5. 3, Waylon Guy Bourgeois, Church Point, La., 79.5. 4, Wyatt Maines, Maple Creek, Sask, 76.5.

Steer Wrestling: 1, Sterling Lambert, Fallon, Nev., 3.9 seconds. 2, J.D. Struxness, Milan, Minn., 4.5. 3, Jay Williamson, Iowa, La., 5.6. 4, Lucas Brasfield, Bradley, Ark., 6.5.

Team Roping: 1, Jeff Flenniken, Caldwell, Idaho, and Jake Minor, Ellensburg, Wash., 5.0 seconds. 2, Garrett Rogers, Baker City, Ore., and Cesar de la Cruz, Tucson, Ariz., 5.8. 3, Riley Minor and Brady Minor, Ellensburg, Wash., 6.3. 4, Twister Glen Vinson, Hawley, Texas, and Michael Tash, Dinwiddie, Va., 7.2.

Saddle Bronc Riding: 1 (tie), Joey Sonnier III, New Iberia, La., on Championship Pro Rodeo's Wilboux and Sterling Crawley, Stephenville, Texas, on Championship Pro Rodeo's Night Hawk, 81.5 points. 3, Wyatt Casper, Pampa, Texas, 78. 4, Bradley Harter, Loranger, La., 77.

Tie-Down Roping: 1, Shad Mayfield, Clovis, N.M., 11.1 seconds. 2, Reno Gonzales, Scott, La., 11.2. 3, Wyatt Imus, Brenham, Texas, 12.2. 4, Justin Brinderhoff, Corrine, Utah, 12.7.

Barrel Racing: 1, Lesley Casper, Pampa, Texas, 16.74 seconds. 2, Jill Welsh, Parker, Ariz., 17.03. 3, Ashley Castleberry, Montgomery, Texas, 17.07. 4, J.J. Baldwin, Steamboat Springs, Colo., 17.11.

Bull Riding: (one ride) 1, Dalan Duncan, Ballard, Utah, 82.5 points on Rafter G Rodeo's Western Rocket.

Current Leaders

Bareback Riding: (first round) 1, Casey Colletti, Pueblo, Colo., 85.5 points on Championship Pro Rodeo's King Thomas. 2, Tyler Johnson, Burneyville, Okla., 83.5. 3, Waylon Guy Bourgeois, Church Point, La., 79.5. 4, Wyatt Maines, Maple Creek, Sask, 76.5.

Steer Wrestling: (first round) 1, Brandon Harrison, Port Arthur, Texas, 3.7 seconds. 2, Josh Clark, Warner, Okla., 3.8. 4 (tie), Sterling Lambert, Fallon, Nev.; Hunter Cure, Holliday, Texas; and Cody Cabral, Hilo, Hawaii, 3.9.

Team Roping: (first round) 1, Jeff Flenniken, Caldwell, Idaho, and Jake Minor, Ellensburg, Wash., 5.0 seconds. 2, Garrett Rogers, Baker City, Ore., and Cesar de la Cruz, Tucson, Ariz., 5.8. 3, Riley Minor and Brady Minor, Ellensburg, Wash., 6.3. 4, Twister Glen Vinson, Hawley, Texas, and Michael Tash, Dinwiddie, Va., 7.2.

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Tie-Down Roping: (first round) 1, Tuf Cooper, Decatur, Texas, 8.0 seconds. 2, Clif Cooper, Decatur, Texas, 8.2. 3, Tyson Durfey, Brock, Texas, and Marty Yates, Stephenville, Texas, 8.4.

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Bull Riding: (first round-one ride) 1, Dalan Duncan, Ballard, Utah, 82.5 points on Rafter G Rodeo's Western Rocket.