

Local News

NATIONAL FINALS RODEO

Corrington finishes 9th in world standings



Tyler Corrington of Hastings is pictured during a ride at the National Finals Rodeo in Las Vegas last week. PHOTOS COURTESY OF DAVID SYEMORE OF LONE S PHOTOS

by Gretchen Kirchmann
Special to the Star Gazette

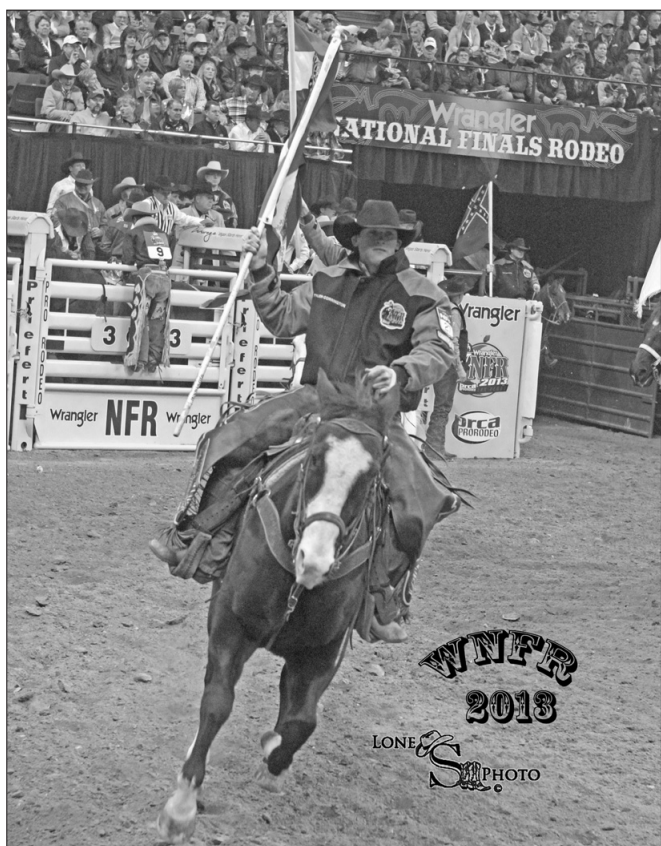
Tyler Corrington of Hastings ends his 2013 Saddle Bronc Riding season with \$130,679 after the National Finals Rodeo.

"It's great to be back, missed it last year," he said. "It drives a guy to get back here."

The 27-year-old was the sole Minnesota contestant to compete among the 115 contestants in Las Vegas. Nightly he carried in the Minnesota flag. Las Vegas is a game of numbers and he was redundant with wearing 27 on his back. By finishing within the top 10 in the World Standings, Corrington automatically qualifies for The American in Dallas, Tex., in March 2014. The largest payout in rodeo history is being produced by RFDTV.

The first two nights Corrington bucked off and came back in the 3 go round to win second place on Cool Runnings for \$14,723.56. Prior to the Go Round 3 Tyler said, "Cool Runnings is a good draw and I am excited to have him." Taking the momentum from the previous night, Tyler collected a second check on the horse, Tipped Off with 82.50 earning \$11,117.79.

At halftime Tyler again came back in the 5 Go Round and split 5/6 place with Bradley Harter. The Minnesotan rode Kool Toddy for 83 points worth a paycheck of \$3,906.25. Being consistent with paychecks the 6 Go Round, Tyler Corrington rode Cat Power for 80 points and cashed another check for \$3,004.81. In the remaining four Go Rounds, 7, 8, 9, and 10 Tyler was bucked off by the horses Killer Bee, Look Again,



Tyler Corrington is pictured carrying the Minnesota state flag before a night of competition. He was the only competitor from Minnesota at the meet.

Spur Strap and Lunatic Party.

A bunch of friends arrived on Friday, Dec. 13, to party and watch Corrington ride. The group of friends had mad dash tickets and were scattered throughout the Thomas & Mack Arena. Tyler will take a few weeks off and spend the holidays with his family before hitting the rodeo trail again.

Corrington is the second saddle bronc rider from Minnesota to qualify for the NFR. Todd Hipsag, originally from Big Lake,

qualified for the NFR in 1997 (13th in final world standings), 1998 (14th) and 2001 (13th). Hipsag was the 1989 Minnesota High School Rodeo State Champion in Saddle Bronc Riding. The other Minnesota NFR qualifiers are bull riding brothers Charlie (1981) and Paul Wiederholt (1983) and bull rider Brett Stall (2012) along with women's barrel racer Jane Meech Melby (2011, 2013).

BRIEFS

Community asked to take Black Dirt survey

Help decide the future of Black Dirt Theater Company in Hastings. The community can participate in a short 12-question on-line survey.

People can click onto the Black Dirt website at www.BlackDirtTheater.com and click the "Black Dirt Survey" link on the right of the page.

The company's next production will be "Steel Magnolias," set for the end of January and first part of February. Tickets for the production are available now. Six women are the lead actors in the production which focus on the bond among the women. The focal point is Truvy's Beauty Parlor and the women who gather there.

A New Year's Eve gala, also a fundraiser for Black Dirt Theater, is scheduled for the banquet room above Premier Bank. There will be food, champagne, wine, and beer. Throughout the evening there will comedy improv, games. Ticket prices

are \$30 per person. They are available now.

Visit the Black Dirt Theater Company web site for ticket information.

Author David Page at library

If you have been intrigued by the writing and times of Earnest Hemingway and F. Scott Fitzgerald, Hastings Prescott Area Arts Council (HPAAC) and Pleasant Hill Library will be hosting author David Page at 6:30 p.m. Tuesday, January 7, at Pleasant Hill Library. Page is a nationally recognized authority on F. Scott Fitzgerald and Earnest Hemingway, and is currently on staff at Inver Hills College. He has recently published a book of Fitzgerald's journals through the University of Minnesota Press. This event is open to the public and there is no admission.

Lions hold fundraiser

It's back on! The Hastings Lions Club will hold a fundraiser from 5 p.m. to 8 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 19, at Culver's Restaurant. Members will assist customers after they place their orders. The club receives a portion of the proceeds during the three hours.

Snowshoes and S'mores is Dec. 22

The Hastings Area YMCA is sponsoring Snowshoes and S'mores, an afternoon of winter fun from 12:30 p.m. to 2:30 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 22, at Camp Spring Lake. The camp is located off of Pine Bend Trail (it is not Schaar's Bluff).

Bring the family and snow gear. Snowshoes will be available to try and s'mores will be made by the fire.

The afternoon is for all ages and is free.

Contact Melissa Jackson at 651-319-8024 for more information.

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