



THE Standardbred — JOURNAL —

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Houma Schaffner

Ozzy's
FAST GIRL

UPHA CLASSIC GRAND CHAMPION



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ON THE COVER



Our front cover features the UPHA Classic Grand Champion from the American Royal Show. Driven by Debbie Foley.

Cover photo courtesy Howard Schatzberg.

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Howard
Schotters
2021
SARAH

White Lie, 2021 American Royal
Roadster to Bike National Champion,
Shown by Deb Foley

Three-Peat for White Lie at the UPHA/American Royal National Championship

By Bob Funkhouser Photos Courtesy of Saddle Horse Report

THE ROADSTER DIVISION was on the rise at most major shows across the country this year, and the UPHA/American Royal National Championship in Kansas City did not disappoint. In one of the most exciting divisions of the show, one thing that stood out was the impact of the Mid-Ohio Memorial Trotting Sale on the division. The National Champion and UPHA Classic Grand Champion were among the stars who recently encountered the noted Standardbred sale.

UPHA/American Royal Roadster classes were large and competitive this year, the perfect combination to throw some sawdust in the turns and fight for the top spot at the other end of the ring.

When it comes to finding that open lane and making the most of her drive, Debbie Foley is among the best, and she put that on display with Reserve World's Champion White Lie (Muscle Massive x Hips Don't Lie), who was named the Roadster to Bike National Champion for the third year in a row. Foley once again achieved success behind Anthony Miller's unanimous winning entry, who was also the unanimous choice of the judges in the Open Roadster to Bike qualifier.

It has been a great season for this team as White Lie made victory passes in the Asheville Saddlebred Classic, Midwest Charity, Blue Ridge Classic, Shelbyville, and

American Saddlebred Horse Association of Virginia (ASHAV) Horse Shows in addition to these national championship titles. And that wasn't the only success of the Foley/Miller team.

"This horse is just wonderful," exclaimed Foley. "He's the nicest horse to fool with, day in and day out. He has a great temperament, [I] can't make him leave his feet, he trots the turns like [he's] supposed to, and he stands in the lineup. I can't say enough nice things about this horse."

The Roadster to Bike Reserve National Champion was announced as Money Mission. A son of Manofmanymissions, Money Mission was shown by Chad Cole for Brad Connell, who, a month earlier, won the Amateur qualifier and Amateur Roadster to Bike Reserve Grand Championship at ASHAV in Lexington, Virginia. Back in August, Cole and Money Mission were fourth in the USTA Roadster to Bike Classic at the World's Championship Horse Show.

Fifty Shades Freed capped his first year in the show ring as the Amateur Roadster to Bike National Champion. It was a long and successful season that began in March with a sweep of the Amateur Bike division with Rose Marie Wheeler. She again successfully maneuvered the entry of Sterling Equine Professionals to garner the roses and tricolor at the Royal to close out the season.



*Fifty Shades Freed,
shown by Rose Wheeler*

“Fifty Shades Freed made me respect and love Standardbreds,” said Wheeler. “The speed, patience, attitude, and thrill are wrapped into one horse. He stands out to me. Besides his gray coloring, he shows three different speeds, is bright, trots every turn, and stands.”

Evergreen Emperor, the Amateur Roadster to Bike Qualifying Winner, finished his week as the Reserve National Champion with Brad Connell, who made his debut drives. The Chad Cole-trained entry also had a good year, taking the Open and championship with Cole at Mane Event before heading to the Royal.

Part of one of the year’s greatest nights of showing, the UPHA Roadster to Bike Classic Grand Championship was held on Thursday night along with the other Classic championships, with more than \$169,000 paid out in prize money. Of that, \$13,005 was awarded in the Roadster Classic, where Ozzy’s Fast Girl (Ozzy Ozzy x Fast Fredericka) and Debbie Foley collected the top check of \$4,482 for owner Anthony Miller.

“This is a really nice mare,” said Foley. “Anthony bought her through the sale, and she’s just a three-year-old. We showed her this year, winning at Blue Ridge and the Kentucky Fall Classic, and we were second



*Money Mission,
shown by Chad Cole*

at Louisville in the USTA Classic. Now she's off to be a broodmare.

“Robert Hershberger and that bunch are doing a great job with the sale, and [they] are really giving the Road Horse division a boost. Between the nice horses coming out of that sale and...the tide turning out here this week with the Bike division going back to the Standardbred horse, I see the Roadster division growing.”

A daughter of Cisco Hall, Revved N Ready already had two World's Champion titles under her back pad: the Mare Stake and the USTA Classic. She came into Kansas City with a new owner/trainer team (Denise Johnson/Matt Schuckert) and put on another world-class show to garner Reserve Grand Champion honors in the UPHA Classic Championship.

A check for \$3,362 went with the Reserve streamers. Scooter Scheurich has been part of the developing road horses' movement and was a previous winner of this class. He was third this year with Shameless, the

same prize they were awarded at the USTA Classic in Louisville. This son of Conway Hall and Naughty Girl has represented Cascade Stables in the winner's circle at Gasparilla Charity, Pro-Am Benefit, and Midwest Charity. This shows the depth of the Royal's UPHA Classic Grand Championship.

The remaining ribbons went to Pharaoh with Michael Buchanan at the whip, High Express and Monroe Yoder, Money Mission with Chad Cole, Reese Richey and She's Outta Sight, and Wheels Up with Steven Yoder.

Rose Marie Wheeler has been comfortable in silks for a while, but she's having a blast with the road horses prepared by Sterling Equine Professions. Her success this week also included The General Lee's sweep of the Roadster Under Saddle ranks. The chestnut is all show horse and comes with a big motor. He has carried several riders to the winner's circle, with Wheeler being his latest.



STOCK

WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP
HORSE SHOW

WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP
HORSE SHOW

WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP
HORSE SHOW

WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP
HORSE SHOW

WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP
HORSE SHOW

*Ozzie's Fast Girl,
shown by Debbie Foley*



*Revved and Ready,
shown by Matt Shuckert*



Live Wire captured the red ribbon in the first round of Under Saddle competition with Monroe Yoder before Katie Rich took the reins and scored the Reserve National Championship title with Leon Yoder's mount.

"I have always loved watching the Road Horse classes, the Bike and Saddle. Since I was seven, I counted down the days till I was old enough to show a Road Horse," said Rose Marie Wheeler, who won both the Under Saddle and Amateur Bike national championships. "Roadsters give me a much different thrill than showing saddle seat or show pleasure driving. It's like taking the gaited stake and condensing it to a four-minute class.

"Every division in the show ring takes a different skill set. The road horse division has similarities to road ponies and five-gaited horses. The three biggest differences are ring placement, driving or riding through a turn, and the horse's attitude. Roadsters don't win classes from showmanship like a three-gaited or five-gaited class. Instead, [riders] position themselves behind or in front of...competitors to fully be able to show [their] horse on the rail. Saddle seat uses turns to slow down, collect, etc. A good road horse should be able to continue through the turns without slowing down."

Wheeler continued, "Road horses' attitudes are far different from Saddlebreds, Morgans, and Hackneys; road horses separate work (show time) from play. General and Christian become puppies with the tack off. When the tack is on, they see the ring and take in the surroundings differently.

"Even if a road horse is simple to drive, knowing how to show a road horse is an art, truly. Positioning, reaction time, and ring awareness are very important. The challenge of perfecting riding and driving a road horse is intriguing and exhilarating."

What a way to wrap up the season. This group of road horses added to the prestige of the National Championship Horse Show with heart-pounding performances, which is among the best adrenaline rushes for those who are fortunate enough to be holding the lines. *TSJ*

{Editor's Note: Bob Funkhouser is the Executive Editor of Saddle Horse Report, a weekly tabloid covering the show horse industry, including roadsters, Morgans, Hackneys, American Saddlebreds, Dutch Harness Horses, and Friesians. www.saddlehorsereport.com}



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WHITE LIE

AMERICAN ROYAL GRAND CHAMPION

WHITE LIE