

Mile High Night Sale Grosses \$1.1 Million

The Mile High Night Sale on Jan. 17 was one for the record books. The stadium floor of the National Western Stock Show (NWSS) welcomed the Mile High Night National Hereford Sale back with a grander red carpet this year.

To the astonishment of those who witnessed this sale, it exceeded the inaugural sale held last year on the Denver showing floor.

The final gavel claimed a total gross of \$1,106,650. The outstanding averages broke out as follows: 38.5 live lots averaged \$22,894, seven bulls commanded a \$55,043 average, 31.5 females paraded the ring at \$15,749 per female, five flushes earned a \$10,550 average and 12 embryos completed the sale averages at \$3,000 per embryo. The above averages did not include the two Hereford Youth Foundation of America (HYFA) females that grossed \$136,500.

The crowd was a record-setting one with some saying it was the largest crowd they'd ever seen at a cattle sale. An estimated 5,000 people were in attendance.

Topping the sale at \$110,000 was Lot 15, consigned by Kolt Cattle Co., Seward, Neb. She is an April 2013 daughter of Golden Oak Outcross 18U and out of the R Sweet Red Wine 039 donor matron. Knapper Cattle Co., Kingman, Ind., took home this prospect.



The second high seller was Lot 13, a quarter semen interest on Churchill Stud 3134A. He is a Jan. 30, 2013, son of KJ HVH 33N Redeem 485T ET and out of Churchill Lady 002X ET. Churchill Cattle Co., Manhattan, Mont., a longtime consignor to the Mile High Night Sale, watched Harrison Cattle Co, Arapaho, Okla.,

and the Stud Syndicate, Manhattan, Mont., bid \$100,000 for this outstanding bull calf.

The influence of R Sweet Red Wine 039 was witnessed again in the sale to the tune of \$82,500. Lot 22, Chez Strawberry Wine ET 204Z, a Sept. 9, 2012, daughter of CRR About Time 743, was consigned by Trent Ray, Abingdon, Ill. Strawberry Wine was named reserve champion polled female at the NWSS and reserve grand champion polled female at the 2013 Junior National Hereford Expo. The trio of Kolt Cattle, Seward, Neb.; Dylan Evans, Lebo, Kan.; and Hirschfeld Farms, Benedict, Neb., teamed together to claim half-interest in this female.

Lowderman Cattle Co., Macomb, Ill., and Coyote Ridge Ranch, LaSalle, Colo., consigned Lot 38, CRR 109 Catalyst 385, a March 19, 2013, son of CRR 719 Catapult 109. The Catalyst Syndicate, Macomb, Ill., vaulted to a bid of \$74,000 to claim a share of this outstanding herd bull prospect.

Buck Cattle Co., Madill, Okla., led Lot 2 through the ring and exited with a \$40,000 bid. BK Zeus 12Z, a Sept. 10, 2012, son of CRR About Time 743, was selected by Belle Point Ranch, Lavaca, Ark. Thanks go to Dave McMahan, Belle Point Ranch, for his continued support of HYFA by claiming Lot 19 for \$11,500.





Lot 16, pick of the 2014 heifer calves from NJW Polled Herefords, Sheridan, Wyo., brought \$35,000. This consignment has been a popular lot for the Mile High Night Sale for many years. Pablo Martin y Herrera, Buenos Aires, Argentina, placed the high bid this year at \$35,000.

Rounding out the high sellers also at \$35,000 was Lot 23, MCC Amy A582, a March 7, 2013, daughter of LCX Unleashed Keepsake 1110 ET. McInnis Cattle Co., May, Texas, consigned this popular lady that was selected by Derek Humphrey, Dixon, Ill.

The Mile High Night Sale featured 32 lots that sold for \$10,000 or more, and 10 of the lots gathered \$30,000 or

more. This does not include the two HYFA lots that sold for \$125,000 and \$11,500 respectively (see Page 59).

The pictures of this event portray a huge story that is the pride of Hereford enthusiasts attending the Denver show.

Many thanks go to the numerous people who make this sale a reality. The bare showring was converted into the sale arena in a short span of an hour and a half. This transformation included rolling the showring, setting 400 chairs, assembling four eight-head carousels, building the sale ring, getting the sound system set, constructing 120 feet of 12-foot curtain, putting down wood shavings for the sale cattle, hanging stall cards for each

of the sale consignments, staging the sale consignments and completing many other chores. Thank you to the American Hereford Association (AHA) board of directors, the National Junior Hereford Association board, the Pennsylvania crew, many AHA members, the NWSS crew and the AHA staff for making it happen. Thanks also go to Jerry Piguet and his son, Neil, for their sale ring expertise. The consignors who brought the good ones are to be congratulated and thanked for making this sale a monumental event.

— Joe Rickabaugh, AHA director of field management and seedstock marketing

Thank you, Eddie and Ruth

The Mile High Night Sale began in 2003 under the direction of National Cattle Services, Eddie and Ruth Sims, in conjunction with Stout Auction Services, Stanley Stout. With the untimely passing of Stanley in 2006, National Cattle Services took the reins of this event and have made it the envy of Denver today.

“They have brought this sale out of the dust to the level of envy among all breeds in Denver,” says Joe Rickabaugh, American Hereford Association director of seedstock marketing.

During this year’s sale, Eddie announced he would be retiring after this sale.

“We thank Eddie and Ruth for their superior direction and management of this sale for 12 years,” Joe adds. “It is a spectacle that all Hereford breeders can be proud of.”

National Cattle Services was established in 1968. Through the years, the couple has managed purebred cattle sales across the U.S. and Canada. The Sims family has also been active in



the Hereford business since 1979 with all three of their children participating in Hereford youth activities and now their grandchildren.

Ruth and Eddie have also been instrumental in the success of the Hereford Youth Foundation of America (HYFA) fundraising events including “Music on the Mountain” and “The Harvest.” Ruth currently serves as HYFA vice president. **HW**



Eddie Sims was recognized during the Mile High Night Sale for his contributions to the event. Pictured (l to r) are: Joe Rickabaugh, AHA director of seedstock marketing; Sims; and AHA Board Members Steve Lambert and Keith Fawcett.

Mile High Night Sale Results

Year	Lots	Sale average	High-selling lot
2003	23.25	\$11,316	\$42,000
2004	19.16	\$10,391	\$50,000
2005	28.50	\$10,565	\$55,500
2006	25.00	\$15,486	\$105,000
2007	22.16	\$16,805	\$58,000
2008	28.25	\$25,426	\$122,500
2009	28.35	\$12,624	\$57,500
2010	36.83	\$10,762	\$38,750
2011	30.38	\$12,855	\$69,000
2012	21.41	\$15,413	\$62,500
2013	28.42	\$19,805	\$120,000
2014	38.50	\$22,894	\$110,000