

## *Résultats d'un Val d'Oisien aux USA...*



Articles du 22 et 25 juin 2012 - American Paint Horse Association

« Felix Lejour is 'une etoile' with RR Morning Star.»

<http://ywcs.apha.com/news/jwoc/2012/2012/06/22/2012-novice-youth-reining-youth-reining-14-18>

## 2012 Novice Youth Reining & Youth Reining 14-18

by Tonya Ratliff-Garrison | June 22, 2012 - Story by Laura Stevens | Photo by Tonya Ratliff-Garrison  
| Paint Horse Journal | June 22, 2012



*Showing at his first AjPHA Youth World Championship Show, Felix Lejour won world titles in Novice Youth Reining and Youth Reining 14-18 on his 6-year-old sorrel overo mare RR Morning Star.*

***Felix Lejour is 'une etoile' with RR Morning Star.***

*In his first appearance at the AjPHA Youth World Championship Show, in the first class of the show, French native Felix Lejour won his first two buckles. For the past year, Felix has been living and riding in Brighton, Colorado, as an international exchange student. Riding his father's horse, RR Morning Star, Felix kicked off the show with a bang, securing wins in Novice Youth Reining and Youth Reining 14–18.*

**Q: Congratulations, Felix! How does it feel to win?**

**A:** It feels great; it's my first time. I don't know what to say. I'm pretty excited!

**Q: Tell us a little about your Novice go.**

**A:** During the pattern she was quiet but last night when I practiced she was very excited. Today she was way better.

**Q: What about your 14–18 run? Was it difficult showing twice in one day?**

**A:** I thought she would be better during the second class. That's how she usually is: the more she shows, the better she gets. But this time, she was better in the Novice than the 14–18. In the last class, she got a little excited. She was still good though. I think I tried to show a little more in the second class.

**Q: Your dad, APHA Professional Horseman Francois Lejour, owns this horse. Does that make your wins more special?**

**A:** I am blessed that he let me do this with his horse. He couldn't be here, he's in France. I got to talk to him after the Novice but now it's too late to call. I will talk to him tomorrow. I think he watched online though. It's because of him that I can do this. The trainer brought this mare from Maryland, so I was a little stressed about my classes. It's a lot of pressure for two classes, since she came 28 hours one way! I am very glad to be here.

**Q: What advice did your dad give you about your rides?**

**A:** Take it easy, don't stress and listen to my trainer!

**Q: Who helped you with this horse?**

**A:** Wayne LaFortune from Maryland. He trained her very well.

**Q: You showed "Star" in a National Reining Horse Association show earlier this summer. How does that compare to showing AjPHA?**

**A:** Here, they want you to show more. It's not only the speed and maneuvers and big stops—I think they want it to be very pretty and nice, too.

**Q: How will you celebrate?**

**A:** I don't know, but I'm going crazy!

**Q: How have you enjoyed your year in the United States?**

**A:** I lived with Karen Banister, I had a great, great year. They let me learn the hunter/jumpers. I want to thank my parents first, it's because of them that I can be here. I am very blessed. And Karen, who let me live with them and ride their horses. It was the best year I've ever had in my life!

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## World Champion Stats

**Horse:** RR Morning Star, 2006 sorrel overo mare

**Pedigree:** RR Star x Miss Gunnerpine

**Exhibitor:** Felix Lejour, Brighton, Colorado

**Owner:** Francois Lejour, Conflans-Sainte-Honorine, France

**Trainer:** Wayne LaFortune, Keymar, Maryland

**Breeder:** McQuay Stables Inc., Tioga, Texas

**Total Class Entries:** Novice Youth Reining-10, Youth Reining 14 to 18-12

**World Champion Prizes:** Gist buckle, courtesy of APHA; monogrammed jacket, courtesy of APHA and Tioga Territory; travel chair, courtesy of Paint Horse Journal; \$50 APHA General Store gift certificate, courtesy of APHA; and AjPHA letter jacket patch, courtesy of APHA.



<http://ywcs.apha.com/news/jwoc/2012/2012/06/25/2012-novice-youth-hunt-seat-equitation-over-fences>

## 2012 Novice Youth Hunt Seat Equitation Over Fences

by Tonya Ratliff-Garrison | June 25, 2012 Story & Photo by Tonya Ratliff-Garrison | Paint Horse Journal | June 25, 2012



*Felix Lejour won his third Youth world championship, this time riding Indivisible in Novice Youth Hunt Seat Equitation Over Fences.*

### It's world championship No. 3 for Felix Lejour.

*On June 23, 19-year-old Frenchman Felix Lejour won back-to-back world championships in Novice Youth Reining and Youth Reining 14-18 riding his reining mare RR Morning Star. On June 25, instead of sporting a cowboy hat and fringed chaps, Felix returned to the John Justin Arena in an English riding helmet and breeches aboard his tall bay tobiano gelding Indivisible. Although it takes different horsemanship skills to ride the two disciplines, Felix proved he was up to the challenge, winning not only a reserve world championship in Youth Jumping but also a world title in Novice Youth Hunt Seat Equitation Over Fences. The Paint Horse Journal caught up with Felix after a long day of competing in seven classes.*

**Q: Congratulations, Felix! Tell me about your ride today in Novice Youth Equitation Over Fences.**

**Felix:** It was really good. The horse was really quiet.

**Q: What was your plan going into the arena this morning?**

**Felix:** Find a good spot because he's really good. I just had to find the right spot and put him right away on it. My job was to put him in the right place.

**Q: You now have three world championships and one reserve. Two of those world titles came from reining, which is a completely different discipline than what you did today. How are you able to succeed in both events?**

**Felix:** Reining is loose legs and put your leg in front for stopping. In English, I have to close my leg all of the time with my English horse and my posture needs to be nice on the English horse. It's really different.

**Q: So what world championship belt buckle will you wear?**

**Felix:** [laughs] That is a good question. I think the hunt seat equitation one. I practiced a lot for this.

**Q: Tell me about Indivisible. He must be tired having seven classes today, and he was also one of the horses used in the Youth World Games on Saturday.**

**Felix:** He's exhausted.

**Q: I bet you're exhausted too.**

**Felix:** Oh, yeah, I am too. I've been up since around 4 o'clock this morning.

**Q: So are you going out to celebrate now?**

**Felix:** Oh, yes, and eat, too. I want a steak!

**Q: Do you have any more classes here this week?**

**Felix:** I have showmanship tomorrow.

**Q: What do you think about your first Youth World Show so far?**

**Felix:** It's amazing! It's a great experience, something that people need to do.

**Q: Is there anyone you would like to thank, Felix?**

**Felix:** Oh, yes. I want to thank Karen Banister. She helped me a lot, a lot, a lot. And I have been staying with the Banister family for almost 10 months, and they are amazing. They help me a lot, a lot, a lot. It's because of them I have the opportunity to do this today.

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## World Champion Stats

**Horse:** Indivisible, 2002 bay tobiano gelding

**Pedigree:** Sacred Indian x Spanish Love (TB)

**Exhibitor:** Felix Lejour, Brighton, Colorado

**Owner:** Custom Made Horses/Ponies LLC, Brighton, Colorado

**Trainer:** Karen Banister, Brighton, Colorado

**Breeder:** Dale Rankin, Tuscola, Texas

**Total Class Entries:** 14

**World Champion Prizes:** Gist buckle, courtesy of APHA; monogrammed jacket, courtesy of APHA and Tioga Territory; travel chair, courtesy of Paint Horse Journal; \$50 APHA General Store gift certificate, courtesy of APHA; and AjPHA letter jacket patch, courtesy of APHA.

Written by Kelsey Pecsek

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Felix Lejour On Friday, June 22, at Will Rogers in Fort Worth, Texas, the reining and reined cow horse classes kicked off the American Junior Paint Horse Association Youth World Show. Reining began with the Novice 18 & Under and ended with the Youth 14-18. RR Morning Star (PT) and Felix Lejour grabbed both of those World Championships.

France native, Lejour, who has been living in Brighton, Colo., as a foreign exchange student, piloted his father Francois' 2006 sorrel overo mare (RR Star [PT] x Miss Gunnerpine [PT] x Colonels Smoking Gun [Gunner]), bred by McQuay Stables Inc., Tioga, Texas, to a pair of 208.5 scores in the Novice Youth Reining 18 & Under and the Youth Reining 14-18.

RR Morning Star (PT), who is trained by Wayne LaFortune, Keymar, Md., has an **Equi-Stat** record of more than \$16,000.

The Reserve Champion in the Novice Youth division, marking a 199.5, was Alison Kampmann, Millstadt, Ill., aboard her 1997 grullo gelding Im Jac Frost (PT) (Q T Poco Streke [PT] x Co Jackies Glo x Mr Barbie Cody Jac), bred by Don Tolva, Hinsdale, Ill.

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In the Youth 14-18 division, a 206 earned Kimmy Ferrante, Somis, Calif., the Reserve title aboard her 2001 bay tobiano gelding Oaks Choice (PT) (HB Instant Choice [PT] x Peppys Live Oak x Doc's Oak), bred by Finley and Delores Nevin, Wichita, Kan.

## Youth Reining 13 & Under

Written by Kelsey Pecsek

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For the third year in a row, Rylee Justus, Larkspur, Colo., and Diamond Gun (PT) earned the World Championship in Youth Reining 13 & Under. They bested the field of nine with a winning 204.5 score.

Diamond Gun (PT) (Like A Diamond [PT] x A Little Cunshy [PT] x Colonels Smoking Gun [Gunner]), owned by RMJ Ranch, Larkspur, and bred by Frederick Gillespie, Dublin, Texas, just returned to the show pen from a tendon injury.

Justus expressed how happy she was with her 2005 sorrel overo gelding after her class, but she didn't have much time to rest. She and her third-place finisher in the class, Bright Lil Gun (PT) (Colonels Lil Gun x Miss Bright Doc [PT] x Exclusively Ours), are headed to Oklahoma City, Okla., for the National Reining Horse Association Derby.

Missing the top by only one point, John Cunningham, Stonewall, La., was named the Reserve Champion with Cougarazzle Dazzle (PT) (Cougarand x Imagine A Story [PT] x Story Creek), bred by Bob and Glory Ann Kurtz, Boyd, Texas.

## Limited Youth Working Cow Horse

After garnering a Reserve title in reining earlier in the day, Kimmy Ferrante, Somis, Calif., returned that night to win a World Championship in the Limited Youth Working Cow Horse. She marked a composite 424.5 with her gelding Oaks Choice (PT) (HB Instant Choice [PT] x Peppys Live Oak x Doc's Oak), bred by Finley and Delores Nevin, Wichita, Kan.

With around \$10,000 in reined cow horse earnings, Ferrante was excited to land her first World title her first time showing at the AjPHA Youth World Show. Just one class later, she earned a second Reserve Championship in the Working Cow Horse 18 & Under division.

Young John Cunningham, coached from the sidelines by Tom Neel, rode Smokeys June Bug (PT) (Smokey Bar Leo [PT] x May Dial Trouble x Dial Jester), owned by Joe Cunningham and bred by Linda and Bruce Stenerson, Bonsall, Calif., to another second-place finish.

Written by Kelsey Pecsek

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## Youth Working Cow Horse 18 & Under

Sarah Grider did it once again. The reined cow horse competitor from Quitman, Texas, took the Champion title in Youth Working Cow Horse 18 & Under for the fifth consecutive year aboard No Con Doc Com (PT).

The 2000 sorrel tobiano gelding (No Controversy [PT] x Tari x Hickoryote), owned and trained by her father, Walter, and bred by Joe Menefee, Ruston, La., has carried his rider to many wins at Paint shows, reined cow horse events and in 4-H since she was a young teen.

Next year will be Grider's last year of eligibility in the Youth class, and she said she plans to return to defend her title one last time if she can. [Mac os software dowanload](#)