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American Bucking Bull Legend 329 Houdini Dead at Age 19

PUEBLO, **Colo.** (**May 7**, **2010**) -The bucking bull industry suffered an enormous and historical loss last night when the industry's most influential and prolific sire 329 Houdini died. The bigtime producer's sons have brought more hours of bucking action to PBR fans than any other animal of the American Bucking Bull breed.

The bull, owned by Gene Baker of Homestead Genetics, made big news in the industry when he was purchased from Monty Samford by Gene and Lyndal Hurst for an astounding \$100,000 back in 2002. Houdini is credited with producing a long list of high-profile ABBI (American Bucking Bull, Inc.) and PBR buckers.

Baker reflected on Houdini's beginning and eventual legacy. "I was very proud when I first bought him. At the time he was known as a great futurity sire. But I knew, if I could get his semen out there to good females, it would really promote him as a sire at all levels. It was about him and his promotion as a sire from the beginning. There really was something special about him and I was really proud of him, especially these last few years for also having a son win the Classic, a son be PRCA Bucking Bull of the Year and a son win Bull of the WNFR."

Among the bulls Houdini produced that have risen to popularity and fame are Ravenscroft/Boyd-Floyd's Black Pearl, Robinson/Beutler & McNeeley's Voodoo Child, Lightning C's Copp Hou, D&H CattleCo.'s 88 Super Duty (aka Best Shot), Tom Teague's Nightlife, J.W. Hart's Life of the Party, Boyd-Floyd & Cunningham's Tightrope, Diamond S bull Voodoo Magic, Flying U's Bring It, Moody-RiceCattle Co.'s Wildlife, Accomazzo & Moody-Rice's Ground Zero, Hebert's Handsome Jack and impressive newcomer Iron Horse from Circle T Ranch and Rodeo.

Houdini lived to see 19 years come and go before departing. The Ronnie Roach bred bovine packed super-charged genetics via his sire 161 White Sports Coat and his dam CP6. Houdini was the ultimate paternal powerhouse when it came to achieving success in both line-breeding and out-crossing methods of reproduction. While no official number has been compiled yet, his offspring are estimated to have won well over a million dollars, multiple World titles and generated an enormous amount of money through sales and subsequent generations of money earners.

He is the only American Bucking Bull to sire an ABBI World Champion Classic bull (Black Pearl), an ABBI World Champion Futurity bull (Copp Hou), two ABBI American Heritage Champions (Dr. Hou and Last Call), two ABBI Breeders Cup Champions (Black Pearl and Hippy Music), ABBI Wild Card Champ (Copp Hou), a RSR Futurity World Champion (Lightening Jack), a PRCA Bucking Bull of the Year (Voodoo Child) and a WNFR Bull of the Finals (Bring It).

With no signs of distress or discomfort besides a lack of appetite on Wednesday, Houdini simply laid down Thursday night, drifted off to an eternal sleep and left behind the most extensive genetic legacy in American Bucking Bull history.

ABBI is dedicated to unifying, developing and promoting the bucking bull industry through pedigree preservation; enhancement and promotion of bucking bull ownership, breeding, and welfare; and development of programs and events showcasing the world's finest bucking bull stock. The ABBI is registry set up to record and preserve the pedigrees of the world's premier bucking bull livestock. ABBI is structured to promote participation by those with the biggest stake in the bucking bull industry-the owners, breeders and trainers of the world's greatest bucking bulls. The ABBI provides an environment where bucking bull breeders can introduce and foster the growth of young bucking bulls, ensuring the finest animal athletes are available to compete at selected PBR Built Ford Tough and Challenger Tour events.