

Mule Wins Extreme Cowboy Race



Submitted by Lori Montgomery
Photos by Charles E. Brooks

Willie was given to me in February of 1998. He had been an abused pulling mule. It took a very long time for Willie to start to trust me. I rode Willie everyday at our farm or we would go on a trail ride. I started going to the smaller shows in the summer of 1998. Willie was High Point English NASMA mule in 2001. In the winter of 2002 I broke my leg in fifteen pieces and Willie carried me safely trail riding. Willie also helped our grandson, Christopher Phillips learn to ride. Christopher and Willie also earned many high point titles.

Willie started the Craig Cameron Extreme Cowboy Races in April 2007 at The Equine Affaire in Columbus Ohio. He placed second out of 35 (34 horses- one mule). He won \$1,500.00 and a new saddle. That qualified us for the first ever Extreme Cowboy Race Championship in Kansas City in November 2007 at the Saddle and Sirloin Club. We finished out of the placing but had two great runs with fast times both days.

The next Extreme Cowboy Race we went to was in Cloverdale, Indiana, held at the new Crossroads Arena facility on March 13-16, 2008. Willie finished the first go round in first place. Then we started over and Willie finished first again. There were twenty-six horses and one mule. Willie received \$2,880.00 and some supplements.

We got home on Sunday and on Monday we got a call from Craig Cameron's wife Dalene. Willie was being invited to the invitational only Extreme Cowboy Race at Kansas City that was held in the end of March 2008 again at the Saddle and Sirloin Club. After the first go round Willie was in third place. The second go round Willie finished fifth getting beat out of the final four by only half a point. Willie gave his best and I was so proud of him. We won a new pair of Ariat boots for me.

Next came the Extreme Cowboy Race at the Equine Affaire in Ohio in April 2008. Again there were thirty-four horses and one mule. I went on the first day with the first twenty. Willie was



Lori and Willie jumping

once again in first. On the second day the other fifteen went Willie was then in second. Only ten and one wild card then came back. Willie came out in first once again. Willie was the only one that didn't have to come back for the second vet check because his heart rate was below the required limit right after the race.

We won \$2,000.00 a new saddle, bridle, breast collar, saddle pad, saddle

cover and some treats and supplements for Willie.

Craig Cameron bragged on Willie being the first ever mule to win an Extreme Cowboy Race. He said Willie could go home with him any time then gave Willie a big hug.

Willie is proof that with a little love and understanding a mule can be a great partner.

The last Extreme Cowboy Race that was held the end of March in Kansas City will be on TV in August on RFD TV.

Be sure and visit our website for more photos of the Extreme Cowboy Race at: www.montgomerymules.com



Lori and Willie plunging into the water at a water crossing

We want to say congratulations to Lori and "Willie" for the great accomplishments they've made together. We know how much time and hard work it takes to reach such a goal. We also want to thank Lori for representing the mule industry in such a good light for the world to see. Congratulations!

Ben and Neta Tennison