

Transcription of interview with Scarlett Wilder

Interviewer: Jess Lamar Reece Holler

Date: September 20, 2018

Location: Delaware County Fairgrounds

Jess: So, if you would talk a little about your experience of being a parade marshal and how you got started in it?

Scarlett: Um, well. I'm a fourth-generation horseman. I've been doing the parade marshal for the past 2 years at the Meadows, our home track, for the Adios. This is my first year here for the Jug. My dad is actually a driver. He's Mike Wilder and Missy Rothus (sp?) has given me a great opportunity to be able to ride here, and to actually be able to use both of her horses and trust me enough to ride them since mine wasn't able to make it.

I've been coming to the Little Brown Jug for the past 3 years, I think, and I've loved every minute of it. We go to the Log Cabin to do the honoree sessions, we go to the auctions for New Vocations to benefit the retired standardbreds that are racing. And even my mom was in here on Monday paddocking one of our horses that was racing. So we're kind of in every aspect of it.

Jess: Wonderful. So when you are here for the racing, what is your job when you are out there?

Scarlett: When I'm out there, I'm basically the one out there who looks pretty. Courtney and Missy are the ones out there keeping the drivers safe. I go out. I go passed the crowds. I talk to people. I wave to people. And I basically just lead the horses onto the racetrack.

Jess: So when you come for the Little Brown Jug, do you stay here all week?

Scarlett: We have brought campers in the past. Just this year, we stopped because we sold our motorhome about two weeks before the Jug. So we had to get a hotel, but usually, yes, we would stay here.

Jess: Anything you want to share just about what this experience means for you, or maybe your favorite part of the Jug experience?

Scarlett: The Jug experience and even being the parade marshal in general is an unreal experience. Like a once-in-a-lifetime thing. There's hundreds of people who would love to do it. I'm honored that I get the opportunity from Missy to allow me to come out here and do it. It's like, you've got 45,000 fans over there or on the broadcast or watching it on TV who are watching you and you're the first one that comes out leading the horses. And some of the best horses in the country.

Jess: Scarlett, thank you so much. I'll let you get back to your job.