



Pro Rodeo Canada

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Big Paydays at Two Canadian Rodeo Weekend Stops

It's all about timing.

In the first week of March, bronc rider Rylan Geiger was working at home when a pile of pipe slid down on him... one week before he was scheduled to compete at Houston. When what he at first thought was just a hard hit didn't get better in the next couple of days, Geiger checked things out with the local doctor who told him the shoulder blade was cracked and that the cure was time off.

No Houston. No Camrose.

Geiger followed the doctors order and didn't return to action until a rough stock event a few weeks later and won a first and a third. Most importantly, the shoulder felt fine and Geiger knew he was once again ready for prime time.

And while the season is young, Geiger is, not surprisingly, happy with the early returns—back to back victories in Medicine Hat and Coleman (Kananaskis Pro Rodeo).

"I was pretty disappointed with my CFR last November so I really wanted to get things going early this year," Geiger stated. "I'm not really doing anything very different from before other than maybe my mental approach. I want it more (the Canadian championship) every time I don't get it."

Having two good Kesler horses early in the season is never a bad thing when you're trying to get your game back. "I didn't know my horse (Imperial Beach) in Medicine Hat but it turned out to be really good and then Boomerang, the one I had in Coleman I'd seen a jillion times so I figured that would be real nice and it was."

Geiger, who works as a welder in Brooks when he's not on the rodeo trail, posted an 82 score to take home \$888.68 for the Coleman win and took over the number one spot in the Canadian bronc riding standings.

Matt Lait who burns up the Canadian spring rodeos like the flame of a blowtorch was at it again in the Crowsnest Pass. Matching up with Starburst, the ten year old Kesler sorrel mare that has CFR and NFR credentials, Lait netted 84 points to win the Bareback Riding and \$977.60. Bull Rider Todd Chotowetz rounded out the rough stock winner's brigade with his 84.5 effort on Kesler Championship Rodeo's Double Dragon for a sizable \$1134.02 payoff. It was the second year in a row that winning ride was made on the six year old red and white outlaw.

In the timed events, veteran CFR tie down roper Murray Pole of Erskine blazed his way to the winner's circle with a 9.0 run to take home the first place cheque of \$1275.58 while on the other side of the box, steer wrestler Derric Laye of Cadogan smoked a run in 3.6 seconds to earn \$1578.60.

The lone first place cheque to head south of the 49th parallel went the way of barrel racer Shelly Anzick (Livingston, MT) who saw her 13.067 second run in the first performance hold up for a first place payday of \$1312.71.

In the Team Roping, a pair of CFR veterans, Klay White and Jeff Robson, combined for a smooth 5.6 to top the field and earn \$1322.11 each.

Connor Faucher of Calgary bested the steer riders with a 78 point ride for \$485.00 and in the Novice Saddle Bronc riding, Kale McKenzie of Rocky Mountain House was second in the first go and won the second go round (76 points) to take home a total of \$236.65. Eckville's Joel Rangen won the first go with a mark of 67 points for \$125.80.

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On the other side of the Rockies, the CPRA's Bull Riding elite gathered for the Kootenay Chrysler Bull-A-Rama in Trail BC. Event Chairman, Guy Thompson, was all smiles when it was over. "Nobody got hurt, we didn't have any re-rides and the crowds at both the Bull Riding and the dance were excellent," Thompson enthused.

Happiest of all on the competitor side was Cochrane's Stephen Turner. The four time All Around Champion of Canada put together a spectacular 87.5 ride on Outlaw Buckers' mega-tough Blue Zone in the short go to combine with an earlier 84.5 in the long go. His 172 total edged Australian newcomer Cory Waterson by one point and netted the 10 time CFR qualifier a tidy \$4679.60. For complete results see rodeocanada.com

Next CPRA action will take cowboys and cowgirls to Stavely, Alberta for three performances, May 9-11.

For more information,
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