

Two Events Highlight Canadian Professional Rodeo Weekend

Canadian Professional Rodeo Association
Airdrie, Alberta

For immediate release

Coleman, Alberta/ Trail, BC (April 30, 2012)

Zane Lambert has never qualified for the Canadian Finals Rodeo. But back to back first place finishes over the last two weekends might change all of that. The Manitoba bull rider posted an 85.5 score on Kesler Championship Rodeo's Double Dragon to split first with veteran Scott Schiffner at Kananaskis Pro Rodeo this past weekend. (\$872./each)

"It's great to get off to a good start," Lambert commented, "But I need to keep it going – especially at the bigger rodeos. I've had good starts to the season before but wasn't able to maintain the consistency you need to get to the Finals." The six time PBR Canada qualifier had seen Double Dragon the week before when Beau Brooks had him at Medicine Hat. "I knew he went to the right and would be a nice match-up for me. I was really fortunate to draw two outstanding Kesler bulls at both of these rodeos. That's the other thing you need... when you get bulls you can score high on, you have to do things right."

Another cowboy with a goal to turn things around this year is Big Valley, Alberta's Jeremy Harden. The former Canadian All Around titlist slammed his steer in 3.7 seconds at Coleman to take home the first place cheque of \$1600. Harden is hoping to stay healthy for the entire season... which has not been the case in recent campaigns. He edged out several time CFR qualifier Baillie Milan who posted a 3.9 (\$1391) and Cooper Trotz who was competing at his first professional rodeo and in his hometown. Trotz' 4.0 seconds flat was good for third and a cheque of \$1183.

Other Kananaskis/Coleman winners included three time Canadian Champion Dustin Flundra of Pincher Creek who captured top honours in the bronc riding with an 84 point ride on Kesler Rodeo's Poker Star – good for \$872. Dallas Nitschke's 83 was good for second spot.

Jesse Finnerty of Duchess was the top gun in the tie down roping with a 9.3 second run, earning him \$1362. Riley Warren continued his early season success with a 9.7 and \$1184, second place cheque.

Brownfield, Alberta's Luke Creasy was the bareback riding champion with an 81.5 score on Kesler Championship Rodeo's Touch of Frost (\$1000). Matt Lait's 80.5 earned him second place and \$750., continuing the hot streak Lait has enjoyed with two seconds and a first in three rodeos to date.

Ramona Nash of Drayton Valley posted the fastest time in the barrel race with a 13.142 to earn her the top cheque of \$1461. CFR qualifier Lauren Byrne of Okotoks was right behind Nash with a 13.172 (\$1251) while Adel Hansen picked up third place earnings of \$1043. for her 13.248 second run.

Southern Alberta team ropers, Cole Bevans and Hayes McRae, combined to post a 5.1 second run for \$1227. each and a 1/10 of a second margin of victory over Kolton Schmidt and Tyrel Flewelling.

The novice saddle bronc title went to Layton Green of Meeting Creek, AB while Claresholm's Griffin Smeltzer topped the field in the junior steer riding.

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It was a Turner-fest at the Kootenay Chrysler Bull-A-Rama in Trail, B.C. on Saturday night. Brothers, Jody and Steven, shared top honours in the long go with each posting 85 scores – Jody on Outlaw Bucker's Joe Smoe and Steven on Outlaw Bucker's Alberta Premium. In the short go, Jody, 2003 Canadian Champion, posted an 88 on Franklin's Hands Off to edge his sibling by two points for the overall title with a 173 total on two. The win earned the champion just over \$5100. and vaulted him to the early lead in the CPRA bull riding season standings.

Look for more Canadian Professional Rodeo Association action at Stavely, Alberta May 10-12.

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