



## Pro Rodeo Canada

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### Hot Times on a Cold Night

Lindsay Sears has won two world championships and a Calgary Stampede title en route to her million dollar plus career to date. But one title has eluded the Canadian superstar barrel racer—the Canadian championship.

And while it's still early in the week, the Nanton, Alberta cowgirl looks like she wants to remedy that deficiency. She and Moe (backup horse to her amazing mare, Martha) were first into the Rexall Place arena in Thursday's (second) performance and posted a time of 14.547 to win for the second time in two nights. The \$22,000 plus she has won to date has moved Sears from 8<sup>th</sup> overall to second just \$7,000 behind season leader Carlee Pierce. And the back to back wins also have Sears atop the leader board in the average.

Sears was blazing on a night when the hot topic of conversation in the corridors and concourse of Rexall Place was...the weather. That and the road conditions. Old Man Winter paid a visit to the prairies of Alberta and Saskatchewan Wednesday (opening day of the Finals) and the resulting snow made getting to the CFR almost as big a challenge as riding one of the rank pen horses that were featured for night number two's Bareback and Saddle Bronc Riding.

With two nights in the books, several title races are already shaping up to be tighter than an American Presidential election. Speaking of Americans, twenty year-old bareback rider J. R. Vezain is also off to a sensational start at his first CFR. The Cowley, Wyoming hand put together an 85 on a Calgary Stampede stallion called Shadow Warrior and like Sears has back to back go round wins. Unfortunately for Vezain, the man he's chasing for the title, season leader and four time Canadian champion, Dusty Lavalley, has been second in both rounds which is keeping the talented Vezain at bay...for the moment.

Vezain's Thursday score was 85 points on a Calgary Stampede stallion called Shadow Warrior.

"I like to win so this has been a lot of fun so far," Vezain grinned. "And I'd like to keep it going a few weeks from now at the NFR as well."

The Las Vegas appearance will also be a first for the likable cowboy.

In the Steer Wrestling, Coleman Kohorst, whose dad Rick was a CFR qualifier is making the most of his first CFR experience. Kohorst was 3.9 to win round two in the doggin' and he's another guy who is poised make some serious noise before this CFR wraps up come Sunday. What's cool is that last

year, Kohorst ran the spare steers and keeps alive a tradition that sees the guy that runs the spares (a rule of rodeo) qualify for the next year's CFR.

The bronc riding was, in a word, tough!! Nine of the twelve finalists hit the ground prematurely as the Ponoka superstar Luke Butterfield is one of only three men to ride. He was 84.50 on Outlaw Buckers Calling Card to take over the overall lead for the moment.

Clay Ullery and Jeremy Buhler were 5.8 to win the round in Team Roping on a night the ropers struggled.

Ty Pozzobon of Merritt, B.C. nailed an 86.25 on Kesler's Double Dragon to win the round and maintain his overall lead in the title chase.

Long tall Al Bouchard of Scandia, AB put together an 8.2 second run to capture top honours in the Tie Down Roping.

Complete results—

**BAREBACK** 1 JR Vezain, Cowley WY, 85.00,; 2 Dusty LaValley, Bezanson AB, 83.00; 3 Clayton Bunney, Cessford AB, 82.50; 4 Matt Lait, Airdrie AB, 82.25; 5 Michael Solberg, Sunnynook AB, 78.50;

#### **Total Season Earnings**

1 Dusty LaValley, \$51,250.37; 2 JR Vezain, \$38,682.14; 3 Jake Voldt, \$27,355.18 ; 4 Matt Lait, \$23,101.80; 5 Jake Marshall, 23,092.42;

**STEER WRESTLING** 1 Coleman Kohorst, Okotoks AB, 3.9, ; 2/3 Zane Hankel, Red Cliff AB, 4.2,;

2/3 JD Hays, Rocky Mntn House AB, 4.2,; 4 Chason Floyd, Ludlow, SD, 4.4,; 5/5 Cody Cassidy, Donalds AB, 4.5; 5/5 Wyatt Smith, Rexburg ID, 4.5;

#### **Total Season Earnings**

1 Tanner Milan, \$32,201.53 ; 2 Zane Hankel, \$27,150.97; 3 Coleman Kohorst, Okotoks AB, \$26,296.06; 4 JD Hays \$23,125.78; 5 Cody Cassidy, \$21,499.89;

#### **NOVICE Bareback**

1 Jacob Stemo, Calgary AB, 78.00; 2 Kody Lamb, Sherwood Park AB, 73.00; 3 Dylan Bilton, Innisfail AB, 66.00;

#### **Total Season Earnings**

1 Dylan Bilton, \$7155.93 ; 2 Jacob Stemo, \$6240.23; 3 Kody Lamb, \$6135.97;

## **NOVICE Saddlebronc**

No qualified rides.

### **Total Season Earnings**

1 Layton Green, \$9589.49 ; 2 Cole Neely, \$6012.55 ; 3 Lane Watt, \$2826.28 ;

**Boys STEER RIDING** 1 Kagen Schmidt, Barrhead AB, 78.50; 2 Cole Aykroyd, Wainwright AB, 73.00; 3 Logan Bieber, Claresholm AB, 71.00;

### **Total Season Earnings**

1 Kagen Schmidt, \$8147.91; 2 Griffin Smeltzer, \$5,888.08; 3 Logan Bieber, \$5,439.66;

**TEAM ROPING** 1 Clay Ullery, Two Hills AB & Jeremy Buhler, Arrowwood AB,;, 5.8; 2 Marty Lillico, Stettler AB, & Spencer Rutherford, Merritt BC,;, 6.4; 3 Brett McCarroll, Camrose AB, & Kevin Schreiner, Medicine Hat AB,;, 6.8; 4 Jeff Robson, Airdrie AB, & Klay Whyte, Airdrie AB,;, 7.5; 5 Steele DePaoli, Longview AB, & Chad Johnson, Del Bonita AB, 14.4;

### **Total Season Earnings Header**

1 Dustin Bird, \$20,275.63; 2 Levi Simpson, \$16,914.80 3 Clay Ullery, \$16,138.72; 4 Roland McFadden, \$14,446.43; 5 Jeff Robson, \$12,979.54;

### **Total Season Earnings Heeler**

1 Paul Eaves, \$19,831.91; 2 Jeremy Buhler, \$17,201.22; 3 John Robertson, \$16,914.79; 4 Klay Whyte \$12,979.54; 5 Chad Johnson, \$12,841.99;

## **SADDLE BRONC**

1 Luke Butterfield, Ponoka AB, 84.50,; 2 Tyler Corrington, Guymon OK, 81.25,; 3 Justin Meston, Tees AB, 64.00,;

### **Total Season Earnings**

1 Luke Butterfield, \$53,542.64; 2 Rylan Geiger, \$39,548.07 ; 3 Dustin Flundra, \$35,543.14 ; 4 Jim Berry, \$32,114.83; 5 Sam Kelts, \$31,919.52;

**TIE-DOWN ROPING** 1 Alwin Bouchard, Scandia AB, 8.2; 2 Riley Warren, Stettler AB, 8.3,; 3/4 Clint Robinson, Spanish Fork UT, 8.5. 3/4 Murray Pole, Erskine AB, 8.5,; 5/5 Joshua Peak, Pueblo CO, 9.3; 5/5 Shane Haanchey, Sulphur LA, 9.3;

### **Total Season Earnings**

1 Shane Hanchey, \$36,627.36; 2 Murray Pole, \$27,563.36; 3 Clif Cooper, \$26,862.22; 4 Alwin Bouchard, \$26,266.33.; 5 Curtis Cassidy, \$24,602.50;

**LADIES BARREL RACING** 1 Lindsay Sears, Nanton AB, 14.547,; 2 Carlee Rae Pierce, Stephenville TX, 14.611; 3 Nancy Csabay, Taber AB, 14.630,; 4 Cranna Roberts, Lacombe AB, 14.695,; 5 Lisa Lockhart, Oelrichs SD, 14.711,;

**Total Season Earnings**

1 Carlee Rae Pierce, \$43,488.89; 2 Lindsay Sears, \$36,496.45; 3 Cranna Roberts, \$28,250.39; 4 Leanne Rust, \$28,187.64; 5 Lisa Lockhart, \$23,890.65;

**BULL RIDING** 1 Ty Pozzobon, Merritt BC, 86.25; 2 Chad Besplug, Claresholm AB, 85.00; 3 Devon Mezei, Big Valley AB, 84.75,; 4/5 Jody Turner, Cochrane AB, 84.50; 4/5 Tyler Pankewitz, Ponoka AB, 84.50;

**Total Season Earnings**

1 Ty Pozzobon, \$45,297.69 ; 2 Jody Turner, \$39,228.46 ; 3 Dakota Buttar, \$37,897.80 4 Scott Schiffner, \$33,280.57 ; 5 Chad Besplug, \$33,180.03;

*For more information,*  
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