



Pro Rodeo Canada

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Geiger Continues Winning Ways

In what was the busiest weekend of the 2013 Pro Rodeo Canada schedule so far, it was a familiar face who took home the lion's share of the cash. In fact, Rylan Geiger of Duchess, Alta., doubled his early season earnings, which was no easy task. The 23 year-old Geiger was already leading the Canadian saddle bronc standings going into the weekend with \$5,263. After victories in Leduc and Grande Prairie, that total has ballooned to \$10,713.

At the Grande Prairie Stompede, the fourth year pro spurred out an 85.5-point ride on Wayne Vold's prized horse, *Awesome* to win the top cheque worth \$3,429. He then rode Northcott's *Belle Star* for 84 points at the Leduc Black Gold Rodeo on Saturday night to earn another \$2,021.

With appearances at just eight rodeos so far this season, Geiger is already just over \$1,100 shy of what was needed to qualify for last year's CFR.

The busy weekend was also kind to Merritt, BC barrel racer, Katie Garthwaite. She won \$4,626 with victories in Leduc and Grande Prairie. Garthwaite, who wasn't listed in the top 15 of the CPRA standings before the weekend, is expected to be the #1 barrel racer in this week's standings. Rimbey, Alta.'s tie-down roper, Dean Edge was also a double winner with an 8.8-second run in Grande Prairie and a first place time of 8.7 seconds in Hand Hills. His take home pay equalled \$4,058.

Two-time world champion, Lee Graves has moved into top spot in the Canadian steer wrestling standings after picking up a \$2,178 cheque in Leduc. The Calgary bulldogger was 3.8 seconds during the final performance on Sunday afternoon to boost his season earnings to just under \$6,000. It was another step in Graves' return from 2 ½ years of injuries.

"I didn't want to leave because injuries dictated when I was done," offers the 42 year-old Graves. "I want to stop when I feel I want to. I want to be as competitive as the young guys and have fun doing it."

In Wildwood, Wyoming's Chet Johnson won his fourth Bronc Bustin' championship on the 10th anniversary of the bronc riding-only event. 8-time Canadian champion, Rod Hay, who won the inaugural rodeo back in 2004, is the only other cowboy to have won the title more than once.

"The first one (in 2006) was pretty amazing because it was one of my first years of really coming up here hard," recalled Johnson after a short round winning 84.5-point ride on Bar C 5's *Biff* on Saturday night. "But this being the 10th year, it's something else and just to be able to have four titles here is pretty overwhelming."

Other big winners from the weekend included tie-down roper Morgan Grant (\$3,556); bareback riders, Dusty LaValley (\$3,974) and Luke Creasy (\$3,086); team ropers, Clay Ullery and Ryley Warren (\$2,835 each) and steer rider Dawson Hay who won Grande Prairie, shared top spot at Hand Hills and picked up second at Wildwood for a total of \$1274.

Pro Rodeo Canada cowboys will make stops in Lea Park, Rocky Mountain House and Brooks from June 7-9.

For more information,

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