



Pro Rodeo Canada

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Young Guns Shoot Out the Lights in Bonnyville

Happy Birthday Kyle Lucas!

Lucas celebrated his 19th birthday in fine style on Sunday afternoon with a first place, 7.5 second run in Bonnyville. The victory was worth \$1,762 for the Carstairs cowboy, by far his biggest cheque of the young season. That will be enough to move him into top spot in the Canadian standings.

"I tried to phone about four guys about him but no one seemed to know what he was like," chuckled Lucas about his knowledge of the animal he'd drawn. "He was a little slower, stepped to the right and let me win."

It's Lucas' third cheque aboard his new 10 year-old horse, *Mort*.

"I bought him from Kevin Dunham. I started on him at Medicine Hat and I think I've placed in three of six rodeos so far. I've probably made more runs on him at rodeos than in the practice pen."

The win comes just a week after Lucas' traveling partner, Kirk Robinson, another young roping protégé, captured the Falkland championship.

"I think they're pretty excited when we phone after a win," says Lucas of the calls made to his dad, Joe and Robinson's dad, Larry, owners of a combined ten Canadian roping titles.

Bowden's Ky Marshall finished fifth in the roping in Bonnyville. It was his third timed event cheque which makes the 2011 Canadian Novice Bareback champion the first cowboy to qualify for the coveted Canadian All-Around title. Marshall was also second in the bareback to earn a total of \$1,924 for the weekend. Clayton Bunney won the bareback event with an 83.5 point ride on Shane Franklin's *Molly Brown*.

Other champions from the 26th annual Bonnyville Pro Rodeo included Millarville saddle bronc rider, Sam Kelts who was 85 on Franklin's *Scottish Lass* and Nanton bullrider, Beau Brooks, who on his second ride of the night posted an 87 point score to pick up \$1,420.

"The last one was a big black bull," began Brooks shortly after his third ride Saturday night. "I asked Shane what he was and he said 'Beau you need to get on him' so I went and hung my rope on him and it ended up working out good."

The top time in the steer wrestling came during the Friday slack as Ponoka's Trygve Pugh threw down his steer in a time of 3.3 seconds. In fact, four of the top five times came in the slack despite the rain and cold wind to open the rodeo. Pugh's first cheque of the season was worth \$2,151.

The best barrel racing run came on the final day as North Dakota's Britany Fleck posted just the second under-17 second run of the weekend. Her 16.668 edged out Sydni Blanchard for the top cheque worth \$1,500. Levi Simpson and John Robertson won the team roping with a time of 4.3 seconds. It was their second straight Bonnyville championship.

Zeke Thurston's 66-point ride was enough to win the novice saddle bronc buckle while Tanner Young was 75 to win the novice bareback.

Upcoming Rodeo Canada weekend action includes four Alberta stops: Grand Prairie, Leduc, Wildwood and Hand Hills.

For more information,
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