

CANADIAN PROFESSIONAL RODEO ASSOCIATION

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Tanner Milan and Eddie - A Powerful Partnership

Tanner Milan is on a heater, no doubt about it.

The two-time Canadian Steer Wrestling Champion is four for four to kick off the 2023 Canadian rodeo season after a weekend win at the Dawson Creek Spring Breakup with a 4.4 second run that netted \$2243 for the Milan bank account.

The BC victory comes on the heels of winning the final two performances of the Maple Leaf Circuit Finals last fall in Regina, SK then chalking up top spot at the Medicine Hat Broncs and Honky Tonks event one week ago. The sixteen time CFR qualifier now sits first overall in the Canadian standings with over \$8000 won in the still young season. His times over that four-win span are 3.6. 3.7, 4.1 and 4.4—which spells consistency, a quality that has been a hallmark of the brilliant Milan career.

"I don't remember ever having a start to the season like this, that's for sure," Milan acknowledged. Of his most recent success, the thirty-nine year-old from Cochrane said, "The steers were fresh there [at Dawson Creek] but mine had been run once for a no time so I had some good info on him. I got a good start and my brother Straws made a great haze and the steer was really good on the ground."

It was a busy week for the affable Canadian as he and Chelsea [Moore] welcomed their second son into the world on the 18th; Kesler, baby brother to Standon Milan.

After a slow winter south of the 49th parallel, which included an injured hamstring that kept him on the sidelines for a month, Milan was glad to see his fortunes turn at the spring Canadian rodeos, despite not being mounted on his main equine partner, Eddie. [With Eddie still south at the U.S. rodeos, Milan enjoyed his early season Canadian progress aboard Stephen Culling's horse, Bucky.]

Overall, however, the veteran was quick to attribute a major portion of his success to his bay horse, Eddie, the gelding he acquired in 2020 from Canadian bulldogging legend, Lee Laskosky.

"They'd been team roping and barrel racing on him and he'd only run about ten or fifteen steers but after the first steer I ran on him I knew he was special and I knew I had to own him."

Turns out Milan was right. From the 2022 Canadian Finals to the end of Red Bluff Rodeo (California) last week, cowboys had won over \$200,000 on Eddie with the number one ranked steer wrestler in the world, Dalton Massey, and outstanding Canadian dogger, Stephen Culling, along with Milan, padding their bank accounts on the gelding.

For now, the top bull dogger in Canada would like nothing more than to keep his winning streak going. "I want to ride it as long as I can."

Tanner Milan isn't the only rodeo athlete with the hot hand. The brothers Schmidt, Tate and Kagen, kept their stand-out streak going as well. Following up on a record setting (3.3 seconds) final run at the Maple Leaf Circuit Finals, the Barrhead team ropers were 3.8 seconds last week and 3.7 seconds



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in Dawson Creek this week (\$1750 each), making a trio of runs that borders on the unbelievable. Also at the timed event end of the arena, Erskine, Alberta tie down roper Murray Pole is enjoying a great start to the year. The CFR qualifier has two straight wins to his credit over the last two weekends (9.8 and 8.7) for a total of \$4500 to move to the lead in the standings.

And Camrose, Alberta bull rider, Coy Robbins, appears to be unstoppable, as he padded his lead at the top of the Canadian standings courtesy of an 87.5 point winning effort on the Calgary Stampede bull, 797 Night Walker, for \$1958.

For complete unofficial results go to <u>rodeocanada.com</u>

This week the Canadian Professional Rodeo Schedule sees rodeo athletes heading to Alberta's deep south with stops at Taber, AB April 28-29 and Kananaskis Rodeo (Coleman, AB) April 28-30.

ABOUT CANADIAN PROFESSIONAL RODEO ASSOCIATION (CPRA)

The Canadian Professional Rodeo Association with headquarters in Airdrie, Alberta is the official sanctioning body for Professional Rodeo in Canada. The CPRA approves 55 + events annually with a total payout exceeding \$6 million. The organization oversees the SMS Equipment Pro Tour Finale each fall in Armstrong, BC, holds their premiere event—the Canadian Finals Rodeo (CFR)—at Westerner Park in Red Deer, AB in early November and endorses the Maple Leaf Circuit Finals as part of Canadian Western Agribition in Regina, SK. For further details, please go to RodeoCanada.com Facebook and Instagram: @prorodeocanadaofficial | Twitter: @prorodeocanada

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