



October 16, 2009

NEWS RELEASE

Reinhardt reaches another final at Stampede's Cutting Horse Futurity

CALGARY -- You might be tempted to think that this is a cut-and-dried exercise for Doug Reinhardt. Think again.

Reinhardt, of Irricana, is the two-time defending champion in the Open Futurity class at the Calgary Stampede Cutting Horse Futurity presented by Wrangler. Now, the 44-year-old has qualified for his third straight Open Futurity final, slated for Saturday evening at the Stampede Corral, during this week's 29th annual edition of Canada's premier cutting event.

But, for what it's worth, Reinhardt hasn't divined some inner saddle secret.

"In this sport, you can throw your ego out the door," says Reinhardt. "You can be somebody one day, and the next minute you're nobody. One horse can be smokin' it, and the next horse can lose a cow or run off.

"Every year, when you think you've got it figured out and then you have one bad showing," adds Reinhardt with a laugh, "you'll think: 'Maybe I should go pump gas for a living.' "

The Stampede's annual Futurity event showcases the pure athleticism, instinct, agility and intelligence of the cutting horse. With horse-and-rider teams attempting to cut at least two, and most often three, individual cows out of a herd within 150 seconds, cutting has evolved into one of the most exciting equine events in North America. Contestants are evaluated by a panel of three judges and assessed a score based on the horse's instinctive reactions, the challenges made by the cows cut, and any errors in judgment made by the horse or rider.

This year's edition boasts a total prize purse of more than \$300,000 in seven categories, and has attracted 108 riders and 217 horses from as far away as Perth, Ont., and Weatherford, Texas.

The Stampede's Futurity event for young horses is separated into Open and Non-Pro rider categories — Open for horse trainers and professional riders; and Non-Pro for those who make no part of their income by training horses. Non-Pro entries can only ride horses owned by themselves or immediate family members. Equine age classes at this event include Futurity (three-year-olds), Derby (four-year-olds), and Classic Challenge (five- and six-year-olds). On the Non-Pro side, there's also the 7 Up class for horses aged seven years or older. A \$50,000 Limit Amateur Class, for those with National Cutting Horse Association earnings of less than \$50,000 as of Jan. 1, 2009, is also offered within Non-Pro division of each class.

Two years ago, Reinhardt rode CD Hickadu, owned by Edward Forner of Strathmore, Alta., to victory in Open Futurity, and placed second in the same category aboard My God Im Smart, owned by Dean Ness of Loughheed, Alta., for a total payday of nearly \$30,000. Last fall, he saddled up aboard Smart Dixie Kit, owned by Ken Christensen of Okotoks, Alta., taking home another red ribbon and a cheque for just over \$18,200.

Calgary Exhibition and Stampede Limited

Box 1060, Station M, Calgary, Alberta, Canada T2P 2K8 1.800.661.1260 T 403.261.0101 F 403.265.7197 www.calgarystampede.com



Reinhardt's return to the final this year is more a matter of happenstance than calculation. Reinhardt rode eight equines in a 59-entry field during Open Futurity's first and second go-rounds on Wednesday and Thursday, respectively, but qualified for Saturday's 19-team final on a steed he'd never seen before – Rio Sun Down, owned by John and Debbie Thomas of Spruce Grove, Alta.

"I just jumped on him here. Somebody else trained him, and they couldn't show him. I worked him twice, and went and showed him," remarks Reinhardt. "He's a nice-moving horse, and he darn sure wants to stay hooked to a cow. Sometimes it's better if you don't know all the imperfections; you just go show him.

"So far, so good," adds Reinhardt, who scored 209 and 210 with Rio Sun Down in the preliminaries. "The scores were average, nothing spectacular. Hopefully the best is yet to come."

Reinhardt, also a former champion at the Canadian Supreme show in Red Deer, learned his trade from former Canadian bull riding champion Jim Freeman and longtime trainer Roger Heintz. And it looks as though another Reinhardt generation may end up bamboozling bovines on a full-time basis.

Reinhardt's daughter Emma, 12, won the youth title at the 2008 Calgary Stampede cutting horse competition.

"To tell you the truth, you just put the kids on good horses, and the horses will teach them how to cut," says Reinhardt. "You can teach them how to sort a cow, and stay even, but the horses will teach them where to be. They look after those kids."

Finals for all three Open classes will be staged on Saturday evening, starting at 5 p.m., while the four Non-Pro finals are slated for Sunday, beginning at 1 p.m.

For more detailed schedule information, please visit www.stampedeagriculture.com

- 30 -

For more information, please contact:

Tracey Foster

Agriculture Event Coordinator

T 403.261.0127

C 403.462.3739

F 403.262.3067

E tfoster@calgarystampede.com

Todd Kimberley

Agriculture Media Writer

C 403.815.2752

F 403.262.3067

E tkimberley@calgarystampede.com

The Calgary Stampede is a volunteer-supported, not-for-profit community organization that preserves and promotes western heritage and values. The Stampede contributes to the quality of life in Calgary and southern Alberta through its world-renowned 10-day Stampede, year-round facilities, western events and several youth and agriculture programs. All revenue is reinvested into Calgary Stampede programs and facilities. For more about the Stampede, visit www.calgarystampede.com.