

Colorado Futurity Show

The 2010 Colorado Futurity, Oct. 27-31, was an exciting contest and offered over \$22,000 added money in the futurity, derby, bridle spectacular and horse show classes. Idaho cowboy Wade Reaney of New Plymouth, won the open futurity and \$2,000 novice futurity titles riding Lil Gritty Kitty for Double S Quarter Horses, Sylvan and Gail Seeley, Rexburg, Idaho.

"She is an awesome mare. I have had tough luck showing her. I didn't draw good cattle on her at Reno and the Idaho futurities. That's been aggravating because she is so trainable, really easy and quiet," said Reaney. As soon as Reaney collected his paychecks for \$5,378 at the show office, he was headed home for Halloween festivities with his family, wife Dinah and children Jesse, 7, and Jenna, 10 months.

Justin Lawrence brought a trailer full of talent to the futurity. He scored 435 points to tie Reaney for the open win riding Bettin Your Smart, a red roan stallion owned by Deb Brown and Larry Licking, Buffalo, SD. The pair also won the intermediate open futurity and were reserve champions in the 10-entry \$2,000 novice horse futurity. Lawrence was reserve champion in the intermediate open and placed third in the open futurity riding Robin Dangel's horse, This Cats Sticky. He earned \$7,136 in all.

EJ Laubscher dominated the 14-entry limited open division. He scored 428 points to win the futurity and place third in the \$2,000 novice horse division riding Pastels Diamond. He also placed third riding Glamors Bling Bling, both for owners Theron and Jane Johnson, Colby, Kans.

Betty Lou Valdez won the non pro futurity division by 8.5 points, the largest margin of the show. She won the non pro, amateur and Colorado owner/rider divisions. She scored 428.5 points and won the high scores in all 3 portions and all classes to earn nearly \$2,100 in all.

"It is so nice to come here and have him be good," said Valdez, riding her Royal Fletch gelding, Hickory Fletch. "I bought him from Bobby Lewis last March, and have known Bobby since I was a kid."

Valdez grew up in Las Cruces, NM, and went to work for Jack Kyle at age nineteen. "Bobby was Jack's horseshoer and Jack got him showing some rope horses back then."

Competition was tough in the derby division also, with the fence work score deciding the open champion. Mike Miller, Big Piney, Wyo., scored 146 points riding his roan mare Feathers And Cash to win the open title. He tied with Jim Cook to win the fence work high score, and tied with Kyle Trahern to place second in the herd work, earning 431 points and \$1,166 for the win.

"I try to show all mares and then keep them to breed," said Miller, who operates a historic ranch with his wife, Tara, and sons Wes and Will.

Kyle Trahern won the limited open derby and was reserve champion in the open riding his dependable bay gelding, MH Bold Intentions. EJ Laubscher was reserve champion in the limited open riding Haidas San Sonita for Theron and Jane Johnson.

Scores continued to be high in the 12-entry non pro derby. Ted Swanson, Wellington, CO, scored 426 points to win all 3 divisions, non pro, amateur and select classes riding his horse, Smokum Nicci. Mitch Guerrieri and Gay Bar Rooster marked 425 points for the reserve non pro and amateur titles. Pam Bailey was reserve champion in the 5-entry select derby class riding her mare, Quickinic Dual.

Rhoda Rein

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