

Jake Gorrell & Smooth N Cash Win Holy Cow Performance Horses \$25,000 Added Open Bridle Spectacular



Jake Gorrell with Smooth N Cash and the gelding's owners, Don and Bonnie Roloff of Roloff Ranch, Temecula, Calif.

The National Reined Cow Horse Association's most impressive equine athletes, the bridle horses, shined brighter than the lights of the Las Vegas strip at the South Point Equestrian Center, as the competition wrapped up in the \$25,000-added Holy Cow Performance Horses Open Bridle Spectacular at the South Point Equestrian Center.

Hanford, Calif., horseman Jake Gorrell and Smooth N Cash won the \$15,375 Championship paycheck by a wide 10-point margin. They scored a total 666 on three events (221 herd/217 rein/228 cow), and had the high score in both the herd and the rein work.

Gorrell also won a Gist buckle and a C.R. Morrison Trophy from the NRCHA and a \$50 gift certificate and cooler tote bag sponsored by San Juan Ranch, a division of Santa Cruz Animal Health.

"I knew he would do well, but when he got a 228 down the fence - that was incredible," Bonnie Roloff, Smooth N Cash's owner, said. "He's quite special. We've had him since he was a 2-year-old, and we've been with Jake that long."

Grinning from ear to ear, Gorrell described the considerable talents of the 2005 gelding, known around the barn as "Gadget," who he has trained from the beginning.

"He's so much fun in the herd work, and fence works like that - you just can't beat 'em. That's what this is all about - these great horses, and this one is as good as they get," Gorrell said. "We made the finals at the Snaffle Bit Futurity and every other major event, and he's been a World's Greatest Horseman finalist three times. He's just awesome."

Gorrell thanked the Roloffs and Holy Cow Performance Horses for their generous sponsorship.

"To be able to pick up a check like this makes it all worthwhile, and it keeps good people like the Roloffs in the game," he said. "I have the greatest clients in the world, by far!"

Some of the Holy Cow Performance Horses added money returned to them in the form of the Reserve Championship check, won by the Holy Cow-owned entry, Hes Shinettes CD (CD Olena x Sheza Shinette x Shining Spark). Jake Telford piloted the 2007 stallion to a 656 combined score (208 herd/221 rein/227 cow), earning \$12,813.



Open Hackamore Champion

Chris Dawson, Jacksboro, Texas, piloted BFR Igniting Sparks (Shining Spark x Sliden Wright By x Smart Little Lena), owned by Beechfork Ranch, to the Open Hackamore championship. The palomino stallion marked identical 220.5 scores in the rein and cow work for a 441 total and a \$2,772 payday. The win also came with a C.R. Morrison Trophy and a gift certificate and cooler bag sponsored by San Juan Ranch, a division of Santa Cruz Animal Health.

BFR Igniting Sparks, known as "Tex" around the barn, was trained by leading cow horse and cutting horse professional Boyd Rice. Dawson shows the stallion when Rice has a conflict with major National Cutting Horse Association events. Their first trip to the show pen together was the American Quarter Horse Association World Championship show last fall, and the

NRCHA Stakes was the second time for the pair to show.

"We showed in the Stakes but had some bad luck. He caught a front foot going down the fence and nearly fell on his noggin," Dawson said. "He's fun. Riding behind Boyd is pretty easy. I'm glad I was able to win the hackamore on him. I don't want to lose that job! It's a pretty good gig. Boyd gives me about a month to get used to him. its nice to have that much time. sometimes when you catch ride one you're just getting on them and shooting from the hip. I got to build a little rapport with him," Dawson said.

The champion horseman has another reason to celebrate: he and his girlfriend, fellow professional trainer Sarah Winters, became engaged last Wednesday, the night before they left for Las Vegas. The couple has not officially set a date, although Dawson said the wedding is likely to happen "soon."



Non Pro Hackamore Champion

National Reined Cow Horse Association Million-Dollar Rider Jake Telford regularly makes headlines for his wins, but it was his wife, Jessie's, turn to shine in Las Vegas. The Caldwell, Idaho, cowgirl won the Non Pro Hackamore Championship riding Vicariously Thru Her (Taris Judge x Smart Little Judy).

Reined cow horse professional Wade Meador originally trained the 2010 mare, and the Telfords purchased her through last year's NRCHA Snaffle Bit Futurity Performance Horse Sale.

Telford scored a 418.5 (206.5 rein/212 cow), earning \$1,050. She also collected a CR Morrison Trophy from the NRCHA and a gift certificate and cooler tote bag sponsored by San

Juan Ranch, a division of Santa Cruz Animal Health.

"I'm excited about getting back in the NRCHA show pen," said Telford, who is also an avid barrel racer. "I felt good about the way my mare worked for me today. She's an excellent fence horse and I was happy with our run. I also want to thank my husband for his help in getting us prepared."



Limited Open Bridle Champion

There was another reason for the Telford crew to celebrate at the NRCHA Stakes: Assistant trainer Jason Gay won the Limited Open Bridle Championship aboard Roosters Hickory (Gallo Del Cielo x Okie Paul Hickory), owned by Richard and Liz Willett.

Gay and Roosters Hickory scored a combined 430 (213 rein/217 cow), earning \$1,350.

The Championship also came with a C.R. Morrison Trophy and product from NRCHA Corporate Partner Platinum Performance



Limited Open Hackamore Champion

The Limited Open Hackamore Champion was Ed John, riding Nics Shiney Dresser (Nic It In The Bud x Shiney And Dressy), owned by Dallan Jeppesen. Their combined 422.5 score (214 rein/208.5 cow) earned \$1,375.

The win also came with a CR Morrison Trophy from the NRCHA and product from NRCHA Corporate Partner Platinum Performance.

"She was good in the reining. She's a solid all-around horse i was really pleased with our reining run. She's a great, great fence horse and she was fixing to be really big. When we went to get our second circle, the cow just fell in front of us and it was right in our way and she had to kind of jump over it. I was sick because i knew we had it won until that happened. But we got lucky and things worked out and I'm super happy," John said.

He has worked as an assistant trainer to NRCHA Snaffle Bit Futurity Champion Zane Davis for the past year and a half. Prior to that, he spent almost five years at Wagonhound Land and Livestock.

"I want to thank the Lord. He has given me a lot of opportunities in my life. I also want to thank Zane and thank Dallan Jeppesen and his family for letting me ride their great mare."



Non Pro Two Rein Champion

Shawn Renshaw, Pismo Beach, Calif., won the Non Pro Two Rein Championship aboard Gennys Prize (Smokums Prize x Genuinely Perfect).

Renshaw piloted the gelding, who he owns with his wife, Kim, to a 437 composite (218 rein/219 cow), earning \$1,104. The Championship also came with a C.R. Morrison Trophy from the NRCHA and a gift certificate and cooler tote bag from San Juan Ranch, a division of Santa Cruz Animal Health.