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For the Elk City Rodeo of Champions

RODEO THRILLS

Oklahomans, Texans among champions at the Elk City Rodeo

ELK CITY, OKLA. – (September 5, 2021) – After three nights and 25 bulls at the 83rd annual Elk City Rodeo, only three cowboys had made the eight-second buzzer, and an Oklahoman was at the top of the leaderboard.

Trevor Kastner, Roff, Okla., scored 87 points on the Beutler and Son bull Fake Friend to win the title and \$4,308.

He nearly didn't make the eight second buzzer, but prevailed in the end.

“I tried screwing him up at six seconds,” the six-time Wrangler National Finals Rodeo qualifier said. “I maybe over-rode him a little bit, but I put the brakes on.”

Whatever he did, it worked, even though errors can easily happen while riding bulls. “Those eight seconds go pretty fast but when you break it down, there are all kinds of mistakes you can make.”

Kastner, who is 33 years old, isn't rodeoing as much as he has in the past. He's staying closer to home to spend time with his wife, Kate, and their children, a daughter, McKenna, who is three years old, and a son, Korbin, who is one.

“I just eased around this year,” he said. “I've (rodeoed) enough to make a living but not be away from home near as much.”

Another Oklahoman won big in Elk City.

Shane Frey, Duncan, took home the steer wrestling championship with a 3.9 second run.

It's a much-needed win for the 29 year old man.

He's ranked twenty-first in the Prairie Circuit standings, the PRCA's designation of rodeos in Oklahoma, Kansas and Nebraska, and needs to be in the top twelve to compete at the Prairie Circuit Finals Rodeo in his hometown in October.

“It's been a mad scramble,” he said, of the race to make the circuit finals. “It's stressful but that makes it fun.”

In the saddle bronc riding, a Texas man claimed the title.

Jacobs Crawley, a two-time world champion, scored 84 points on the Beutler and Son horse Contemplation for the win and a check for \$2814.

The Stephenville, Texas cowboy has been injured much of the summer, having cracked two ribs at the Cody, Wyo. rodeo on July 4. The ribs are higher up, underneath his pectoral muscles, so they can't be wrapped. And they caused a lot of pain.

"I rode the whole month of July, gasping for air," Crawley said. "The first couple weeks were really hard, and then it got to where I could tolerate it."

Then, after the ribs had begun to heal, he hurt his right leg and it won't fully bend.

"This year's been unique," he said. "I've been hurt this summer a lot more than I've ever been. But it's been a blessing. I've spent more time with my family, so it's been great."

Crawley is married to Lauren; they have a three-year-old son and are expecting a daughter in November.

"That's why it's been good to be around, because three-year-olds are full of life and my pregnant wife needs some help." His family traveled with him this summer, with Crawley "turning out" – not competing at rodeos he had entered, due to his injuries.

The horse he rode, Contemplation, is a son to Commotion, the famous bucking horse that won the PRCA Horse of the Year award three times and is an inductee in the Pro Rodeo Hall of Fame. The Beutlers often leave Contemplation home in the summer months to breed mares, to continue the Commotion pedigree.

The number two barrel racer in the world won Elk City.

Shelley Morgan, Eustace, Texas, turned the barrels in a time of 15.90 seconds to win a check for \$1624.

She and her mare HR Fameskissandtell, "Kiss," nearly knocked over the first barrel; it teetered, but didn't fall.

"I did what you're not supposed to do," Morgan said. "I looked back at it."

But Kiss kept going. "She just made a good, nice, smooth run, what me and my husband (Rex) call a 'Kiss Run.' It's the same run, every time."

Kiss, who is a seven-year-old mare, is a special horse, having carried Morgan to the 2020 Wrangler National Finals Rodeo, and to her number two ranking this year. The Morgans have been careful to give Kiss plenty of time off this summer, including a three-week vacation prior to Elk City, which caused her to be "real fresh tonight," Morgan said. "She was frisky tonight, and feeling real good, so that makes me happy."

Kiss won't go to too many more rodeos before the 2021 Wrangler National Finals, which take place Dec. 2-11, to give her time off before Morgan competes for a world title.

Other champions include bareback rider AJ Ruth, Livermore, Calif. (82 points); tie-down roper Cody McCartney, Ottawa Lake, Mich. (9.2 seconds); and team ropers Brent Mibb, Pryor, Okla. and Blayne Horne, McAlester, Okla. (5.0 seconds).

Next year's rodeo will be September 3-5, 2021.

Complete results follow. More information can be found at www.elkcityrodeo.com.

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Cutlines:

Shelley Morgan stands with her mare Kiss; the duo won the 2021 Elk City Rodeo with a time of 15.90 seconds. Morgan, Eustace, Texas, is ranked second in the world standings.

Bareback rider AJ Ruth won his event at the 2021 Elk City Rodeo with a score of 82 points.

Oklahoma cowboy Trevor Kastner, a six-time National Finals Rodeo qualifier, won the bull riding at the Elk City Rodeo.

Results, Elk City Rodeo of Champions, sponsored by Lucky Star Casino

September 3-5, 2021

All-Around Champion: Paul David Tierney, Oklahoma City, Oklahoma

Bareback Riding

1. AJ Ruth, Livermore, Calif. 82 points on Black Kat; 2. Anthony Thomas, Houston, Texas 81; 3. Mark Kreder, Collinsville, Okla. 80.5; 4. Tim Murphy, Cleveland, Texas 79.5; 5. Chad Rutherford, Hillsboro, Texas 78.5.

Steer Wrestling

1. Shane Frey, Duncan, Okla. 3.9 seconds; 2. Tucker Alberts, Pleasanton, KS 4.0; 3. RY Clark, Morse, Texas 4.1; 4. Jeff Richardson, Kearney, Neb. 4.5; 5. Laramie Warren, Adair, Okla. 4.6; 6. Richard Coats, Hastings, Neb. 4.9; 7. (tie) Trey Green, Kilgore, Texas and Sam Powers, Sonora, Texas 5.1 each.

Team Roping

1. Brent Mibb, Pryor, Okla./Blayne Horne, McAlester, Okla. 5.0 seconds each; 2. Bubba Buckaloo, Kingston, Okla./Rowdy Jones, Tupelo, Okla. 5.2; 3. Tyler Hobert, Clearwater, Kan./Chase Boekhaus, Rolla, Kan. 5.5; 4. Paul David Tierney, Oklahoma City, Okla./Tanner Braden, Dewey, Okla. 5.7; 5. Peyton Holliday, Chouteau, Okla./Kolton Good, Carter, Okla. 5.8; 6. Nick Becker, Garden City, Kan./Kingston Chang, Dodge City, Kan. 7.0.

Saddle Bronc Riding

1. Jacobs Crawley, Stephenville, Texas 84 points on Contemplation; 2. Sam Martin, Goodwell, Okla. 80.5; 3. Tanner Hayes, Elkhart, Kan. 78.5; 4. (tie) Locky Sheppard, Snyder, Texas and Weston Patterson, Waverly, Kan. 77 each; 6. Colt Cunningham, Rose, Okla. 71; 7. Damian Brennan, Snyder, Texas 70; 8. Ean Price, Leedey, Okla. 69.

Tie Down Roping

1. Cody McCartney, Ottawa Lake, Mich. 9.2 seconds; 2. Jake Booze, Miami, Texas 9.4; 3. Cash Hooper, Carlsbad, N.M. 9.6; 4. Luke Potter, Maple City, Kan. 9.8; 5. Zack Kirkpatrick, Crosbyton, Texas 9.9; 6. Cole Bailey, Okmulgee, Okla. 10.0; 7. Hagen Houck, Henrietta, Texas 10.1; 8. Ryan Thibodeaux, Stephenville, Texas 10.4.

Barrel Racing

1. Shelley Morgan, Eustace, Texas 15.90 seconds; 2. Kortni McConnell, Hereford, Texas 15.99; 3. Leslie Smalygo, Skiatook, Okla. 16.00; 4. (tie) Randi Holliday, Chouteau, Okla. and Wenda Johnson, Pawhuska, Okla. 16.05 each; 6. Michelle Darling, Medford, Okla. 16.06; 7. Sadie Wolaver, Weatherford, Okla. 16.15; 8. Taylor Johnson, Bucyrus, Kan. 16.20; 9. Kenna McNeill, Stillwater, Okla. and Tamara Reinhardt, Canadian, Texas 16.21 each.

Bull Riding

1. Trevor Kastner, Roff, Okla. 87 points on Fake Friend; 2. Tristen Hutchings, Inkom, Idaho 80; 3. Jesse Hopper, Mangum, Okla. 71; no other qualified rides.