

Best Western Pleasure Trainer

Published 01/06/2010 - 5:57 a.m. CDT

Rusty Green

It's no secret that 2009 was a career-defining year for trainer Rusty Green. His domination in the western pleasure arena actually started in November of 2008 with his first ever World Championship title. That momentum carried well into 2009 where he enjoyed unparalleled success for high-profile clients on some of the best mounts in the biz. At all of the major circuits throughout the year, Rusty found himself leading out the lineup in just about every western pleasure class imaginable. In fact, his year-long accomplishments were too plentiful to list so we'll just focus on a couple...like maybe the World and Congress? Rusty finished out the year with huge wins on Steve and Susan Thompson's black mare, Certainly Inspired. The pair won the Congress Masters unanimously as well as the World Champion 2-Year-Old Western Pleasure title. Along the way, he built a first-class training facility in Pilot Point, TX and also took time out to marry fiancé Katie Goode in a beautiful wedding at the Ritz Carlton on Lake Las Vegas. Perhaps we need a new category for "Best Year to be Rusty Green"? No doubt, 2009 would win in a landslide.