

## COWBOY POETRY RODEO MONTROSE COLORADO USA



On a recent trip to the USA Dave “Prousty” Proust entered the National Cowboy Poetry Rodeo in Montrose Colorado, which he won.

He and the organiser Sam Jackson had been emailing each other for some time after Sam contacted him via his website. “My main concern was that the American’s wouldn’t understand my Aussie Accent, but Sam, via email, assured me that it would not be a problem. On our arrival in the States at our relatives in Philadelphia, I rang Sam and he couldn’t understand a word I said. I turned to my wife Therese and said “This is going to be a disaster.”

Thankfully the audience and judges could make out most of what he was saying and after the first day he had made it through to the finals in 4 of the 8 sections of the competition. His humorous poem “Surfie in The Outback” about a long haired surfie going to the outback and riding a Brahman bull by standing up and even hanging five was a big hit.

The Man from Snowy River, our wonderful Australian Classic was recited with amazing energy. “I knew I only had 6 minutes so I decided to take the audience and Judges on the ride of their lives” Prousty said, and it worked. Prousty ended the competition with two first place positions, one second place and he won the “shootout” a winner take all competition with a top score of 110.5.

He also took out the All Round Cowboy Poet Award for the most money won over the weekend. Not bad for a little Aussie battler!

The judging was very strict on the Cowboy content of the Cowboy Poetry, and Prousty was marked down heavily in several sections, not fitting their strict criteria (there has to be at least one horse), although the judges and the audience enjoyed the Aussie Bush Poetry very much. One of the sections was won by American Steve Porter who recited the Aussie Classic “The Pearl of Them All” (by Will Ogilvie) and did a great job.

“I had a great time and met some terrific people; from all over the states and even Canada, the Cowboy Poetry was a wonderful interlude during our American road trip’, commented Dave, “and we would love to go back again one day.” [www.prousty.com](http://www.prousty.com) 33 Boos Rd Forresters Beach NSW 2260 02 4384 5689.