

Bull jumps rail, injures spectator in Edmonton

BY CURTIS STOCK, EDMONTON JOURNAL NOVEMBER 13, 2010



A bull broke loose and over the fence on Day 3 of the Canadian Finals Rodeo on Friday in Edmonton.

Photograph by: Brian Gavriloff

Edmonton - A woman was injured at the Canadian Finals Rodeo when a bull jumped over the railing and into the crowd on Friday at Rexall Place.

The woman was conscious but suffering from back pain and numbness in her legs.

If it wasn't for the actions of pickup man Gary Rempel, rodeo officials said it could have been a lot worse.

"He's a hero," Krista Burton of the Canadian Pro Rodeo Sports Medicine said of Rempel, who lassoed the bull by one horn as it was in full flight leaping into the crowd.

"If he hadn't roped the bull, that bull could have stampeded into who knows how many people," said Dave Shields Sr., a CFR official working the bull chutes.

"He probably saved a lot of lives."

The bull, Rewind, owned by the Big Stone Rodeo company had thrown his rider, Tanner Girlletz and then proceeded down to the far end of the arena when he suddenly leap the metal railing.

It is believed to be the first time it has happened at the Canadian Finals Rodeo.

"No idea why the bull jumped," said Shields. "I've never seen it happen."

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