



The Krymsun Kruzer and his Superhorse connections.

2009 Featherlite Superhorse is The Krymsun Kruzer

SUPERHORSE MEANS SPECIAL.

And Gerri Leigh Pratt knew she had something special on her hands with The Krymsun Kruzer, so she and AQHA Professional Horseman Vicky Holt of Argyle, Texas, crafted a plan for the 5-year-old stallion, with the Featherlite Superhorse title as their goal.

Step 1: Qualify “Leroy” for the AQHA World Championship Show in seven events.

“We hired some of the best riders and drivers for him (in each event), and they all fell in love with him after the first few times they were around him,” Vicky said. “We’ve hired each one to do their event, and I let them go and practice (at the World Show) during the week, and they all got their time and what they needed to do to prepare properly for each class, and they did a great job.”

Step 2: Take it one class at a time.

“One day, he had four events,” Vicky said. “That was really hard. They were back to back, but he came through and did really well. He was very strong, even to his last class.”

Step 3: Collect the awards. Leroy’s first trophy was his world championship in junior working hunter with AQHA Professional Horseman Linda Crothers. He then placed third in junior pleasure driving with Brian Holmes and was reserve world champion in junior hunter hack, again with Linda.

Those three placings earned Leroy the Most Valuable Horse award in the English category.

“I feel so fortunate to be part of this horse’s life and career,” Gerri Leigh said after that award was announced. “I’ve had some very fabulous horses in my life, but I’m not so sure I’ve had one this nice: his demeanor and athletic ability, his way of going, his look, his presence.”

Step 4: Continue showing – because there are more classes to handle.

“On each event, I’ll work a little stronger on (his weakest point) during the week,” Vicky said. “It just seems like every time you get on him, he gets better, and I think that’s how he is in most all events.”

Leroy placed fifth in performance halter stallions with Ted Turner Jr., 15th in junior western riding with Vicky and fourth in junior hunter under saddle, again with Vicky.

“I love him to death,” Gerri Leigh said. “He’s a special horse and he’s so cool.”

Step 5: Become Featherlite Superhorse and collect the \$25,000 voucher toward the purchase of a Featherlite trailer. Canter around the coliseum with Vicky aboard bareback and show your manners.

Step 6: Retire to stud.

“I’m just so proud to be part of his life and have him in mine,” Gerri Leigh said. “He’s going to North Carolina to be a stallion. This is his last show. What else could we win? Superhorse is Superhorse.”

– By Larri Jo Starkey

WINNING WORDS

“I’d have to say that the third in the (amateur) western riding was a really big accomplishment for me; behind Harley D Zip (and Kristina Papendick) and Majestic Scotch (and Jeffrey Johns), who are the greatest western riders ever, and I was right there behind them on my little 4-year-old mare.”

–Sharnai Thompson, Pilot Point, Texas, rode *Sleepin In The Rain* in the class. She also won amateur western pleasure with the mare, and amateur pleasure driving and amateur hunter under saddle on *Hot Ones Only*.

“I’m very privileged to ride Quarter Horses, to ride reiners and do it for a living. So the glass for me is always half-full.”

–AQHA Professional Horseman Casey Hinton, Whitesboro, Texas, after winning the senior reining with *Smarty Starlight*.

“I’ve been coming here for years but never in a million years did I think I’d be on the inside. I’ve always just been a spectator.”

–Adrienne Staple, Ames, Iowa, whose horse, *Remarkable Can*, won the world championship in amateur and open performance halter geldings.

“If you just rope the steer, drag him through the loop, and I’ll clean up the mess afterward.”

–AQHA Professional Horseman Jay Wadhams’ advice to David Williams, Ord, Nebraska, who won amateur heading with *Whos Miss Larkin*.

