

# New recognition for familiar face

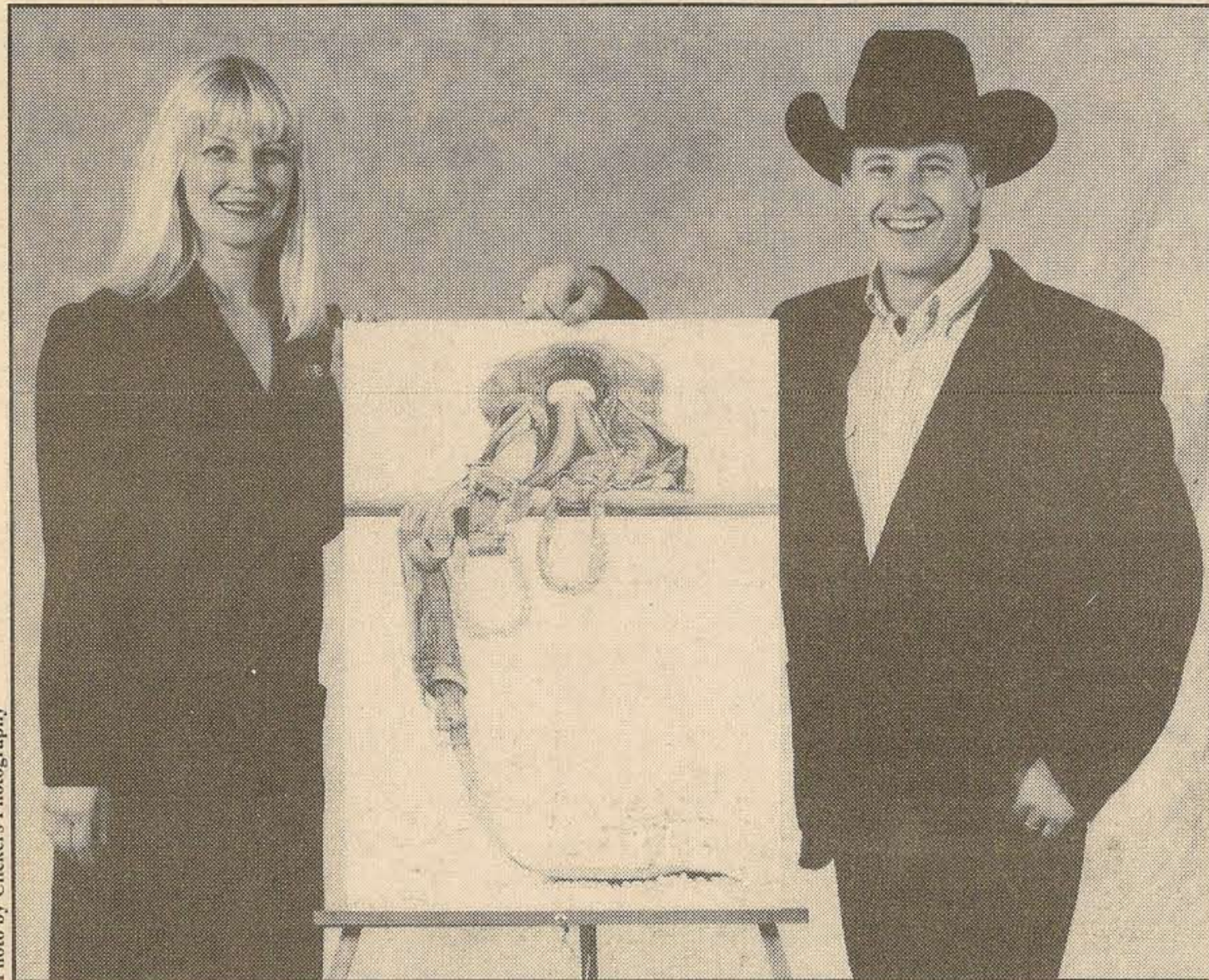


Photo by Clickers Photography

**Roxanne Martin presents champion Rod Hay with an original drawing**

**By Pamela Parker**

No doubt, many Rodeo fans have grown accustomed to seeing the little blonde with the big camera snapping away in the Rodeo arena and behind the chutes.

What some may not realize is that, aside from being a professional photographer, Roxanne Martin is also an accomplished artist. Martin uses the many photographs she takes as inspiration for the graphite drawings that former calf roping champion Bill Reeder calls, "portraits of character."

Graduating with an honours degree in Fine Arts from the University of Alberta, Martin began her career with a solo show at the Sub-Gallery in 1974. Since then, her

work has been highlighted at some of the finest galleries in Edmonton, and can be found in corporate and private collections throughout North America.

Closer to home, Martin has donated much of her work to Rodeo benefit causes. In 1992, she was commissioned by Fred Hay to do a graphite drawing of Clayton Hines which she titled, "Lowtone at Sundre." She then donated the piece to the Ranchman's benefit for the injured Hines, where it was purchased by the Hanna Pro Rodeo Association. A portion of the proceeds from 160 limited edition prints of the same drawing will also go to the Cowboy Benefit Fund.

In 1993, Martin completed another graphite drawing depicting Rodeo life,

"Surcingle and Glove." This piece was donated to the CPRA and awarded to the 1993 bareback champion, Darrell Cholach. In 1994, another of her pieces was awarded to saddle bronc champion, Rod Hay.

The artist plans to continue these donations, rotating between the major events of the Canadian Finals Rodeo.

She also counts among her accomplishments a drawing of Bill Kehler, commissioned by Skoal Inc. to honour the announcer, and a piece which commemorated the 40th anniversary of the Lea Park Rodeo Association. The artist's proofs of her Lea Park work were donated to the recent Jayson Keeley benefits held at Billy Bob's in Red Deer, and to the Ranchman's in Calgary.

What the average Rodeo fan may not know is that Martin is helping to bring western art, and indeed Rodeo, to venues where it might not otherwise have an audience. International Pipeline Limited in Sarnia, ON, acquired one of her pieces, "Warm-up," and the Alberta Art Foundation has another graphite drawing of hers, "Chinks."

In keeping with Martin's desire to continue bringing the character of Rodeo a wider appreciation, a

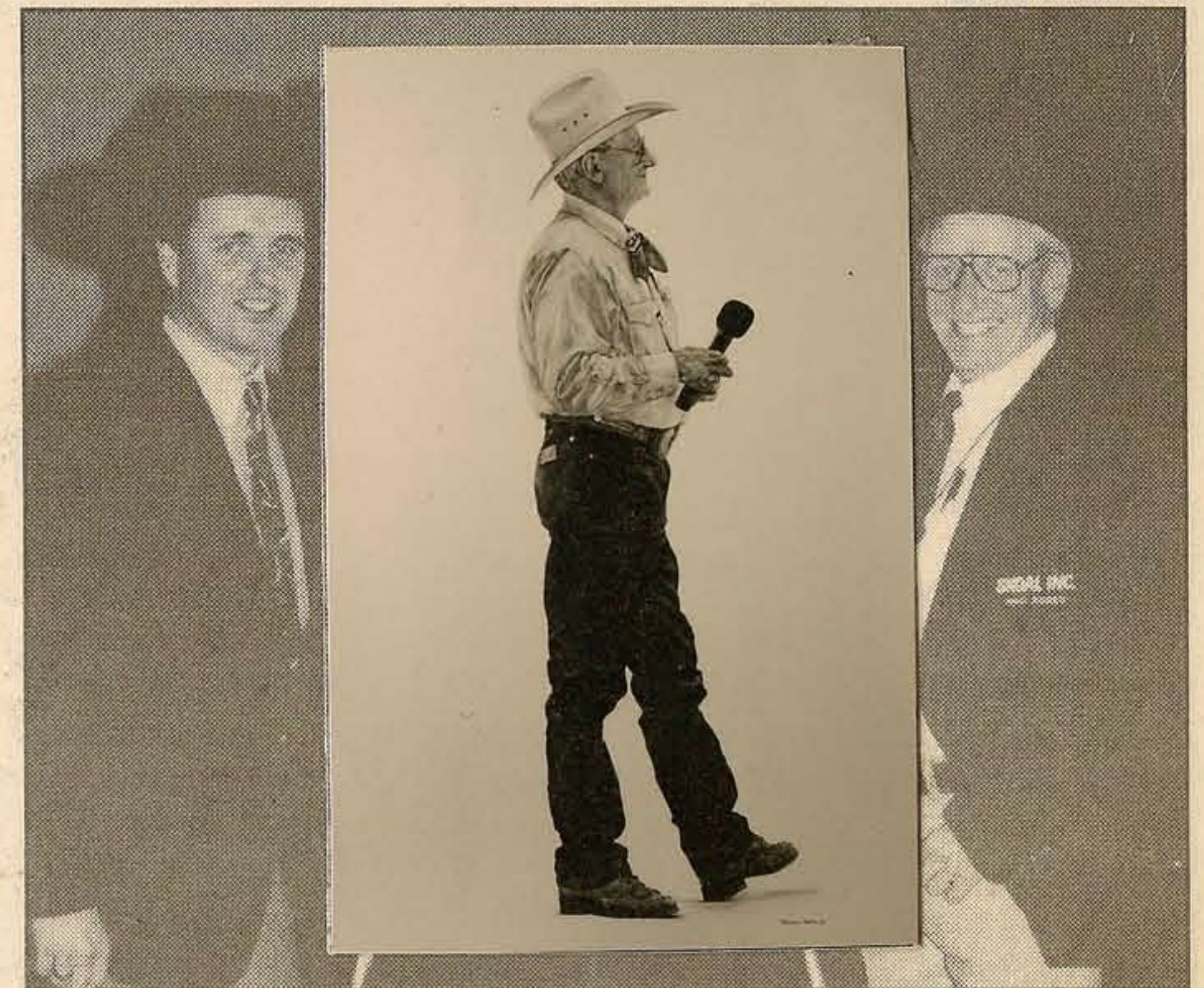
solo show is planned for her work to coincide with Cody Snyder's Bullbustin' in Edmonton this March. The show, at Electrum Design Studio, is scheduled to run from February 9 to March 11.

Electrum Design Studio is also planning another show during the CFR in November, from an idea conceived by Martin and the late cowboy and artist, Dan David. The original and promising premise of this show will include western and Rodeo artisans who produce not only the bronze sculptures usually associated with western art, but also hand-tooled saddles, spurs, bull ropes, etc.

It is the intention of the shows to give these art forms a wider audience — something that can only be good for both the art world and the sport of Rodeo.



Roxanne Martin Photo



**Skoyal Inc. donated a pencil sketch by Roxanne Martin to Bill Kehler for all that he has done for Skoyal Inc. and Rodeo throughout the years**