

Polish your sunglasses: The Cody Stampede—Wyoming’s annual Fourth of July blowout—coincides with Big Horn Gallery’s “One Hundred Years of Cowboys” show, and the razzle-dazzle guarantees to blind the naked eye. Big Horn’s show happens July 3–15, 1990, and represents 40 artists, including **Victoria Adams**, **William Stuart**, **Jeremiah Watt** and **Chester Hape**.

Owners of **Victoria Adams’** (right) wearable art are proud to sport her hand-engraved jewelry and three-piece buckle sets. Educated at the San Francisco Art Institute and the Revere School of Metal-smithing, Adams custom-made this elaborate buckle set (\$1,800) in sterling silver and gold with black star sapphires, garnets and onyx.

No problem if by day a dogie steps on the foot of a woman wearing a pair of **William Stuart’s** (far right) lace-up work/dress boots (\$375). By nightfall she can smooth down the French-waxed, durable leather and be two-steppin’ in style. A past apprentice of master leatherworker John Weinkauf, Stuart makes men’s and women’s lace-up and pull-on boots one pair at a time and designs his own scrolled stitching patterns.

One cowboy judges another by his gear ... so you’re “to be reckoned with” if



you’re wearing silver spurs with raised scrolls and matching straps (\$1,650) by **Jeremiah Watt** (below). A professional saddlemaker and silversmith, Watt apprenticed at Chuck Stormes Saddlery in Calgary, Canada, and then taught himself how to make one-of-a-kind spurs, bridle bits and saddle silver to complement his one-of-a-kind saddles.

After years of apprenticeship to saddlemakers in Sheridan, WY, **Chester Hape** (left) went solo. As a custom-builder of saddles (\$3,600–\$4,550), Hape says, “I pride myself on making finely tooled show saddles,” adding that his goal has been to turn the craft of fine leatherwork into a recognized art form. The Professional Rodeo Cowboys Association obviously agrees: Each year from 1976 through 1989 the PRCA chose Hape to build nine championship saddles as trophies in each sanctioned event and for World Champion. **SWA**

