

Motivational speaker returns to talk to FFA members



Courtesy of Amberley Snyder

Amberley Snyder will share her inspirational story with FFA members Thursday morning at this year's Spokane Ag Expo. She survived a devastating truck accident and still rides competitively in rodeos.

By **MATTHEW WEAVER**
Capital Press

You can't keep Amberley Snyder down.

In 2010 she was in a truck accident that left her without the use of her legs. She was back to riding horses in 18 months.

Today Snyder is a rodeo rider and motivational speaker. She competes in barrel racing and breakaway roping.

Snyder, who lives in Utah, was slated to speak to FFA students last year during the Spokane Ag Expo and Pacific Northwest Farm Forum, but snowy weather canceled most of the schools whose students were scheduled to attend. She wound up speaking to fewer students than anticipated.

"They were so great," Snyder told the Capital Press. "I was glad a few made it through the storm!"

Later last year, she had an accident while competing in rodeo, breaking her femur when her horse fell during a

barrel run. She is now back to competing.

She has also graduated with a master's degree in school counseling and plans to expand her speaking engagements and expects to continue to participate in rodeos.

"We all have our passions in life," Snyder said. "Mine is rodeo. No matter what life throws me I want to be on my horses doing what I love. I am truly grateful I still get to compete."

Snyder said she hopes her audiences leave "with a sense

of strength" to overcome the challenges they face.

"We all have our obstacles to face and I believe we all are capable of moving forward no matter what those are," she said.

Online

<http://www.amberleysnyder.org/>

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