

HAPPY TRAILS: A REPORT FROM THE RODEO ROAD



**By Mackenzie Carr
2011 Miss Rodeo
Oregon
Howdy!**

In my last article I gave you a preview of my schedule for June, and boy was it the epitome of busy!

I spent the 9th and 10th in Union, Oregon at the Eastern Oregon Livestock Show and Rodeo. I had the opportunity to sign a lot of autographs at the PBR Thursday night, attend the queen's luncheon, ride in the parade, and run-in at the rodeo on Friday afternoon. Thank you to the EOLS court and Heidi Denton for all of your hospitality. I am so glad I was able to attend.

After driving home from Union on Friday night, I was up bright and early in Portland getting ready to ride in the Portland Grand Floral Parade. Thank you to everyone who came and helped, especially to Ben and Lisa Edgar of Vernonia Florist for donating my beautiful flowers. Pedro and I won our division for the third time and even received honorable mention for the Vern Hulit Award for Excellence in Preparation and Presentation. Everyone looked absolutely amazing this year and I am so thankful I had the opportunity to ride in the parade again.

forward to the competition in August. The last event taking place on Sunday the 12th was my 21st birthday. Thank you to everyone for the birthday wishes. I couldn't have picked a better place to spend my birthday than Sisters.



Riding in the Crooked River Round Up in Prineville.

Once Sisters was over, I packed my bags and headed to Reno, Nevada for the Reno Rodeo. I spent the week with Miss Rodeo Nevada, Miss Rodeo Florida, Miss Rodeo California, and

Miss Rodeo Idaho; we had such a good time watching the rodeo and riding in the parade. The opening ceremonies were amazing to see. Each night a man parachuted into the arena with the American Flag flying from his chute. It was simply breathtaking. I also had the opportunity to watch the Bob Feist Invitational Team Roping. There were

100 teams competing and the winning team won over \$100,000. The stakes were high and the level of competition was even higher. Thank you again to Patsy Ulch and the Reno Rodeo Committee for having me. It was such a treat to be able to attend your rodeo.

Once home from Reno, I hit the road traveling to Prineville, Oregon for

the Crooked River Round Up. This trip was quite entertaining. It began with what was supposed to be a cattle drive through downtown Prineville, but in actuality was a cattle chase. The steers were running so fast we couldn't catch up to them. They found their way into multiple backyards, a few storefronts, and even into the stands in the fairground's indoor arena. I'm sure we were quite a site! Also creating many laughs, was my borrowed horse George aka Jorgé, trying to buck me off during the rodeo. I really think I should have entered the saddle bronc riding! This 17 hand, big black horse had all four feet off the ground and was going to town! The announcer gave me a score of 82. Amorita Anstett and the Crooked River Board were such great hosts and I am very appreciative of their kindness. Lastly, a HUGE thank you to the Loft-ness' for opening their home and hosting my mom, my horse, and me.

Fourth of July weekend is known as Cowboy Christmas because there are so many rodeos and cowboys have multiple opportunities to earn a large amount of money. I attended three



Mackenzie and Pedro won their division for the third time in the Portland Grand Floral Parade.

different rodeos during Cowboy Christmas. I began with the St. Paul Rodeo on July 1st, headed to Molalla on the 2nd, down to the Eugene Pro Rodeo on the 3rd, and finished with the St. Paul Rodeo and Parade on the fourth of July. The weather was beautiful, the rodeos were great, and the crowds were huge. Thank you very much to the St. Paul Rodeo Court and Board, Molalla Rodeo, and Eugene Rodeo for having me. I appreciate your hospitality and kindness.

The rest of July will be quite busy as well. I'll be in Elgin, Oregon July 9th - 10th, Colorado Springs, Colorado the 12th - 17th, Cheyenne, Wyoming July 21st - 25th, and rounding out the month in Joseph, Oregon the 26th - 30th.

Until next time.



Mackenzie in the Reno Rodeo Parade.

Once the parade was over, off I drove to Sisters, Oregon for the Sisters Rodeo. I attended the Saturday night and Sunday afternoon performances; packing flags and clearing the arena of cattle. On June 12th, the Miss Rodeo Oregon Pre-Pageant Orientation took place at Sisters High School. All of the contestants looked beautiful and I am looking

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