

HAPPY TRAILS: A REPORT FROM THE RODEO ROAD



**By Mackenzie Carr
Miss Rodeo Oregon**

Hello again!

The remainder of my July schedule was jam packed with many fond memories. I attended the Elgin Stampede in Elgin, Oregon July 7th through the 10th. While there, I helped out at the rodeo, rode in the Parade, and dressed up as an outlaw for the Kid's Parade. I had such a great time

The following week found me in Colorado Springs, Colorado. The week started off with a Special Kids Rodeo at the Pro Rodeo Hall of Fame where I was able to help kids compete in the goat ribbon race. The next day the other state queens and I rode the Cog's Railway train to the top of Pike's Peak where we enjoyed a high altitude fudge covered doughnut. If you ever make it to Colorado, the doughnuts at the end of the train ride are a must! That evening we attended the Pike's Peak or Bust Rodeo, helping out with the Mutton Busting.



Dressed as outlaws for the Kid's Parade in Elgin, OR with the Stampede Court.

and thoroughly enjoyed the sunshine that Eastern Oregon had to offer. Thank you again to the Stampede Court, Kelly Baker, and the Elgin Stampede Board for having me.

My little buddy Jeremy was crowned the winner with a 93 point ride. We were up bright and early the next morning for a tour of the Air Force Academy. Our tour guide Tommy gave us the rundown of all of the initiations that the freshmen go through; including serving all of the upper classmen at lunchtime. On Saturday July 16th, I had the privilege of attending the ProRodeo Hall of Fame Inductions. This year's inductees included PRCA Chairman of the Board Keith Martin, three-time World Champion Burel Mulkey, two-time World Champion Bareback rider Lan LaJeunesse, trick rider/roper J.W. Stoker, South Dakotan rodeo the Deadwood Days of '76, and



Mackenzie with Jeremy, the winner of Colorado Springs Mutton Busting

the late three-time PRCA Bucking Horse of the Year War Paint. It was an honor to witness such a prestigious group become inducted into the Hall of Fame. Thank you to Tom Greiner and Becky Littrel for all of your help and kindness throughout my stay in Colorado.

I came home from Colorado Springs for a few days, only to fly to Cheyenne, Wyoming three days later. While in Cheyenne, I rode in the parade, signed autographs at local businesses, and attended the Daddy of 'Em All Cheyenne Frontier Days. Here I performed the famous "fly-bys." Needless to say, it was AWESOME! Snip, the horse I rode was the fastest of the bunch. We were treated once again, by getting to see Thompson Square, Mark Chestnut, and Jason Aldean in concert. They all put on a great show and I hope to see them in concert again. On my last day in Cheyenne, I was put to work feeding five thousand people at the Kiwanis Pancake Feed. I was told that the turnout was down this year and that they normally

feed 15 thousand! To put this in perspective, the pancake batter was mixed in cement trucks and each person received four pancakes a piece! Overall, it was an amazing trip. Thank you to Arlene Kensinger and the Ohde's for all of their hospitality.

Landing at the airport Monday night at 7:00 PM, I was off at 8:00 AM the next morning for the Chief Joseph Days Rodeo in Joseph, Oregon.

The Chief Joseph Court and I attended numerous community events promoting the rodeo. We rode around in the rodeo's stagecoach through the Wallowa Lake campground inviting people out for the rodeo, spoke at a Rotary Meeting, and even dressed up as fairies for the Kid's Parade. I had told the girls that I'd be happy wearing any outfit other than spandex pants, leg warmers, and side ponytails like a prior Miss Rodeo Oregon had worn for the parade.



Mackenzie dressed as a fairy for the Kid's Parade in Joseph, OR.

They respected my request, but I was NOT expecting a fairy suit! The weekend's weather was simply gorgeous and I am hoping to make another trip to that side of the state very soon. Thank you again to Vixen Barney for housing my mom, my horse Pedro, and myself all week. I am so appreciative of your kindness.

In August I can be found at the Deschutes County Fair and Rodeo in Redmond, Oregon, the Klamath Falls Rodeo, the 2012 Miss Rodeo Oregon Pageant and Canby Rodeo in Canby, Oregon, and the Grant County Fair and Rodeo in John Day, Oregon. I also attended the Vernonia Logging Show during Jamboree—hopefully you had a chance to stop by and say hello!

Until next time.

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