

HAPPY TRAILS: A REPORT FROM THE RODEO ROAD

By Mackenzie Carr
Miss Rodeo Oregon 2011



Hello again!
I began August with the Deschutes County Fair and Rodeo on August 3rd and 4th. It was so nice to see the many familiar faces of my 2009 NPRA family, including my "Uncle" Randy Amis. I rode out in the arena in a hummer limo with longhorns on the front of it. Also packed inside with me were multiple ranch bareback riders and the only woman roughstock rider to fill her PRCA card, Kayla Mussel. Thank you again to the rodeo board for having me, I thoroughly enjoyed myself.

I left Redmond Thursday evening and headed to Klamath Falls for the Great NW Pro Rodeo over the 5th and 6th. I spent the weekend with my very good friends Announcer Scott Allen, Barrelman JJ Harrison, and sound man Jason Buchanan. JJ even performed his fat suit act on my horse while we were there. Pedro tried to pop it by biting the butt-end of the fat suit. The crowd of course found this very funny! Thank you to the GNWPR board and committee for having me. I am glad I was able to help in the promotion of your rodeo. Early Sunday morning, I was found driving back to Vernonia from Klamath Falls for the Logging Show during the Vernonia Friendship Jamboree. I sang the National Anthem and helped hand out awards. It was so nice to be back home for at least a portion of the Jamboree festivities. Thank you to all those who donated for next year's logging show!



Mackenzie singing the National Anthem at the 2011 Vernonia Logging Show.

On August 16th I headed down to Canby for the Canby Rodeo and Clackamas County Fair and the 2012 Miss Rodeo Oregon Pageant. Kicking off the week's events was the Canby Rodeo Trap Shoot. All of the cowboys, rodeo personnel, and princess Haley from the Canby Rodeo Court competed in the shoot. It was a ton of fun watching the guys shoot trap and seeing Haley beat a good portion of them! Also taking place was the rodeo each night, where I helped clear the arena of cattle, pack sponsor flags, and pick up the fallen little kids in the boot race. During the 2012 MRO pageant, I acted as hostess for the contestants and their families and went through some of the interviews as

practice for Miss Rodeo America. I had such a wonderful time with the Canby Court, the three MRO contestants, and the pageant judges. Thank you to everyone for their hard work and congratulations to Shelby Ross Miss Rodeo Oregon 2012!

After Canby, I was off to the East side of the state again for the Grant County Fair and Rodeo in John Day. I spent August 26th and 27th at the rodeo with

my mom, grandma, sister, and of course my horse Pedro. Despite the extremely hot weather and some minor setbacks, I had a great time with my family. Thank you to John and Charlene Morris for having me!

The next big thing on my schedule is the Pendleton Round Up. I along with 4 other state rodeo queens will be making appearances around town on September 13th and would love it if you stopped and said hello! After the Round Up, I only have two more events before I make the trek to Las Vegas to compete for Miss Rodeo America 2012. I will be at the NPRA Finals in Prineville September 23rd and 24th and the Columbia River Circuit Finals in Redmond November 11th and 12th. Hope to see you there!

Until next time.



Mackenzie & Pedro during horsemanship at the 2012 Miss Rodeo Oregon Pageant.



Mackenzie with the visiting rodeo royalty at the 2012 Miss Rodeo Oregon Pageant.

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Columbia County Hires New Emergency Management Director

The Columbia County Board of Commissioners is pleased to announce that Peter Tassoni will be the County's new Emergency Management Director. His first day of work will be September 19, 2011.

Tassoni will manage the Emergency Management Department and supervise the work of two County staff emergency management professionals and a variety of community volunteers.

Tassoni will integrate the work of the Department through the Homeland Security Emergency Management Council that advises the Board of Commissioners. In addition, he will support the liaison relationship with the Portland Regional Urban Areas Securities Initiative.

Tassoni has an interesting and varied background. Most recently, he has spent a number of years in the State of Washington Military Department Emergency Management Division. His latest role has been in coordination of the Homeland Security Grant Programs for the State of Washington and local entities.

Tassoni is an avid outdoorsman, with biking and hiking as two of his favorite pursuits. He is a published author of a hiking guide for Southern Utah. We look forward to seeing his energy working on behalf of the citizens of Columbia County.