

# BULLS: Area rider wins Corvette

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Clark was tempted out of almost-retirement for one last good go-round and a total score of 151 points. His final horse was a big, strong 4-year-old named Rock Creek out of the Shelley's Ranch Broncos outfit.

"It wasn't the best ride I've made," Clark said, "But the horse was strong. I had no idea I'd win, but I was trying for it."

It may have been Clark's last hurrah; he's planning on being a pick-up man as his kids ride in Junior Rodeo, now. "I'm finding that's as fun as riding broncs," he said.

What a way to go out.

Cole Rollins, of Redmond, took second, missing the car by three slim points.

High Desert Rough Stock bronc champ, Nightmoves, put in another winning round, too. The big gelding held his record for no-rides against a darn good cowboy and last

year's winner, Ryan Anderson, of Tonasket, Wash. Anderson held on for three-quarters of Nightmoves' bag-o-tricks, but the big black got him in the end. "The moves that he throws ... He's just not easy to ride," Anderson said. "It was an awesome ride — other than the face planting in the dirt at the end. That horse has all sorts of good moves."

River Stevenson out of Blackfoot, Idaho, won the bull riding money with a total on two rides of 148 points. He took home over \$2,000 in winnings, a silver buckle, and a free entry into next year's event. Here's hoping we see him back.

Our local boy, Cade Steen, of Joseph, put in a heck of an early ride on his bull, but didn't make the buzzer. Better luck next time Cade. It was a great ride to watch.

The event saw the highest number of mutton buster entries in its history and a local



Kathleen Ellyn/Chieftain

Brandon Clark of Baker won the coveted Corvette at the Mountain High Broncs and Bulls event, riding both broncs for a total of 151 points.

girl took home the top prize. Macy Dawson, of Wallowa, rode a big ram from the Krebs flock for a 63-point ride and

first place. Lilly Allred, of Emmet, Idaho, took second with 60 points.

The much-anticipated,

one-of-the-last-of-its-kind Wild Horse Race was absolute pandemonium. Which is what the fans and competitors

love. Seven (yes, really wild, right off the range) horses and seven teams of three (21 bronc wranglers) crammed the arena and when the dust finally settled after two rounds the Dakota Lyons team out of Pendleton took the win over the always-tough and often top-placed Jason Smith team out of Warm Springs.

Plenty of folks with more guts than brains entered either the Ring of Fire or \$100 The Hard Way events and nobody was seriously injured, though there were plenty of close calls and bodies flying through the air when the bulls came out of the gate.

The event committee issued a formal thank you to all of the contestants who came from all of the states, the fans who came and watched, the volunteers and committee people who got so grubby in the dust you couldn't recognize them anymore, and the sponsors who made the event happen.

## RODEO: Ranch Rodeo this weekend

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Your added fun starts at 2 p.m. at the rodeo grounds on Friday, June 26.

Saddle up your horse and you can be part of the free two-hour annual trail ride to the top of the moraine. Last year 38 riders braved iffy weather, but the weather looks good for this week.

When you get back you can eat a good beef dinner in the Thunder Room. Tickets (\$15 adults; \$7 for kids ages 5 to 10) can be purchased at the door for the 6 p.m. dinner, raffle and social.

Then, stick around for your chance to get really amped at the rodeo. This is where you tap your savings or pool with friends.

Following dinner, you'll have the opportunity to bid on your favorite ranch team in the Calcutta. If you win

the bid on a team, you'll share in their winnings and if they win ... you just might be able to afford the party you'll want to throw afterwards.

Most of the money these cowboys and cowgirls win will go into the school scholarship fund. But the winnings in the Calcutta can be substantial.

More importantly for you, having a team to cheer makes the main event that much more scream-worthy. Get into it!

The main event, you'll recall, is at 5 p.m., Saturday, June 27, in the Harley Tucker Memorial Arena at the CJD Rodeo Grounds. Tickets are available at the gate for \$6 adults, \$3 ages 5-10 years.

The teams this year are fairly even, all with top notch cowboys — from for-

mer National Finals Rodeo contestants to one old-timer in his mid-70s. He may just be the dark horse in this event. Watch out.

Teams signed up represent a good cross-section of the ranches in the county. Quail Run Ranch Team is back again along with Triple Creek Ranch, Fence Creek Ranch, Marr Flat Cattle Company, Circle P Ranch, Steen Ranch, Yost Quarter Horse Ranch, Jim Hite Ranch, Miller Ranch, Yost Ranch and newcomers Beau Botts Ranch and Probert Ranch.

Conspicuously absent is the Baremore Ranch Team. One of the wild and woolly Baremore boys fell off a roof and was hurt, so they are short-handed this year. They have consistently placed (and sometimes won) and will be missed.

## HAFER: Race for Cancer Awareness includes healthy buffet, water, awards

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The event includes a healthy buffet featuring fresh fruit, spa water, and healthy muffins, as well as door prizes, ribbons and awards for first-place finishers.

"We've been lucky and always had good weather," said Foundation board member Terry Jones, who will emcee the event.

Early registration is open until the end of the day on Wednesday, June 24. After that, same-day registration goes into effect, and racers can show up Saturday by 8 a.m. to register at the door.

The Amy Hafer Race is named in honor of 1989 Wallowa High School graduate Amy Hafer, who lost her battle with breast cancer in No-

vember 2007 at the age of 38. Local artist Tim Norman, an uncle of Amy Hafer, donates beautiful bronze dragonflies as a tribute to his niece who loved dragonflies, to first-place finishers.

The purpose of the event is to encourage everyone to make healthy lifestyle choices, including physical exercise and eating healthy food, and getting regular screenings so that cancer can be caught at its earliest stage.

Two local organizations are raising money through their own efforts to donate to Wallowa Memorial Hospital for low-income women to receive mammograms, and in some cases the follow-up appointment with a physician to receive a diagnosis. Chief Joseph Days Rodeo commit-

tee donates a portion of proceeds from its annual "Tough Enough to Wear Pink" Thursday night event; Soroptimist of Wallowa County also donates money each year. Also this year, high school senior Tiara Huffman organized her own fundraising campaign, "Go Pink or Go Home!" She'll be presenting a check to the Foundation to help support local cancer screenings.

The Amy Hafer Race is supported by many sponsors, including Bank of Eastern Oregon, Legacy Ford in La Grande, Viridian Management in Enterprise, and Winding Waters Clinic in Enterprise.

For more information, contact the Wallowa Valley Health Care Foundation at 541-426-1913.

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