

Ellen Morris Bishop

Angelika Dietrich is the Chief Joseph Days official photographer. Her talent for shooting horses stems from both a lifetime of horsemanship and a love of photography.

Photographer **Angelika Dietrich** captures Chief Joseph Days

Ellen Morris Bishop Wallowa County Chieftain

hile you are thrilling to the bulls, broncs, barrels and bull doggers at the Chief Joseph Days Rodeo, you might also notice a slim, attractive blonde woman crouched at the arena fence. She'll be festooned with bulky professional cameras—at least two of them--and her attention will be riveted on rodeo action. That woman is Angelika Ursula Dietrich. She's among the best and fastest shooters of horses and rodeos in the west. Her images grace the Chief Joseph Days program, website, and promotional materials. Her photographs capture what is in her heart.

Dietrich was born in southern Germany. As a girl, she rode show jumpers, learning the balance and finesse of true horsemanship. She also acquired what she describes as a "budget 35mm" camera and began taking pictures. "I was 16," she said. "Nothing was automatic. I learned photography from scratch. When I wasn't sitting in the saddle at horse shows, I was down on the ground taking pictures. That's how I started out. A couple of years later I bought a Canon camera and I've been with Canon ever since."