



Wasco County Fair '78

At the Wasco County fair held August 25-26-27 in Tygh Valley, local residents participated in a variety of events. Even the kids had their day.

The day before the whole event got underway, locals were setting up tepees in the Indian encampment grounds while Romagene Jo, with assistance from others, was laying out displays of Indian artifacts in the exhibit hall.

Truck racks banged and rattled as horsemen arrived with their stock for the rodeo and races. The rodeo provided the most thrills for everyone who was at the fair. The rodeo stock furnished by Ross Avery of Redmond, Oregon gave the cow-

boys a run for their money. It is considered one of the finest strings in the northwest.

The bulls were especially outstanding as they finished 25 to the cowboys 5. Avery's bulls are some of the finest and toughest around today.

Leland Tom, a young and upcoming cowboy from Warm Springs, won the novice saddle bronc riding championship. This is for a cowboy who had not won more than \$300 in that event.

The competition was very good as young cowboys from all over the northwest were trying for that title. Leland also entered the open bareback competition and rode his mount on the first night where he scored a 59

marking. Some thought that he should have received a much higher score. The horse was one of the more outstanding bucking horses in the Avery string.

Ol' Jazzy Wewa done it again as he won the wildcow milking both days and a pile of loot. He was full of smiles all the way home and looking forward to the next rodeo. He also said, "Still hanging in there."

Marita Johnson of Warm Springs who is currently the leader in the Western State Indian Rodeo Association barrel race event, entered the barrel race at the fair. However, it was not learned just how she did.

Marita, very competitive in that event, should earn a bid to participate in the National Finals Indian Rodeo which will be held in the Salt Palace in Salt Lake City, Utah, November 24-25.

Another local gal, Vest Johnson, made her run also. Vesta, a very young girl, is just starting competitively in the barrel race and has been doing quite well for herself this year. She has enthusiasm and determination and that's what it takes.

Katherine Heath, a veteran barrel racer, has done some riding from the chutes from time to time in the cowriding and occasionally in the bareback. She made her run at the barrels during the first performance of the two-day show.

Delford "Dot" Johnson went bursting into the rodeo arena from the calf roping chutes. Unfortunately he had some bad luck and failed to rope his calf. Just recently Delford helped to arrange a calf roping school here at the rodeo arena.

decorated with Indian blankets and beadwork. They participate each year at the fair.

There were several others who had floats which provided plenty of color for the parade. The spectators were very receptive to their entrance.

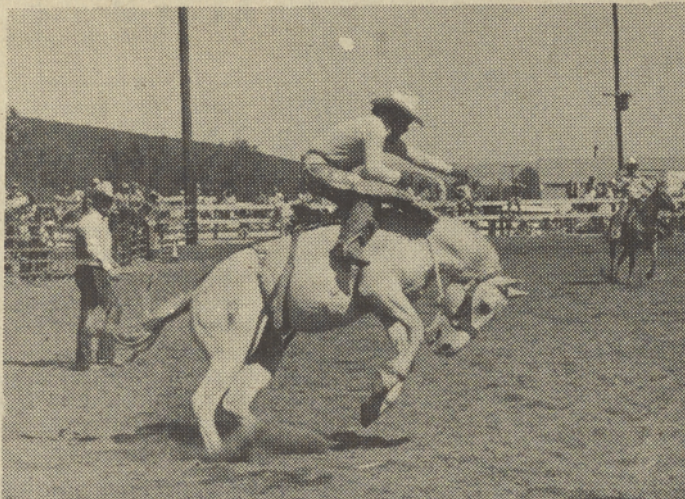
Each year at the fair excitement is proved on the race track as horsemen select certain types of races and run for the money. This year there were four different types of races on the track at various intervals during each performance. The first was the quarter-mile. This race is short and fast. Usually the quarter horses run in this race since they are bred for short but fast races.

After the quarter mile, the races start to lengthen out to a half, and then the three-quarter-mile races. The final race for the day is a relay race. One of the highlights at any county fair, these consist of a team with three horses, the rider, two helpers,

and one to stop the incoming horse and rider. The rider dismounts, boards the next, makes the entire round and changes mounts for the final round. In this race anything can happen, especially during the exchange in front of the grandstand. There are times where a rider has a comfortable lead but can't make the change in time and loses his position and sometimes the race.

Horsemen participating in this year's events were Jacob Frank, Vernon Spino, Zeke Scott, Delvis Heath and Claude Puckett. All had very good horses and each race could have gone any way.

As the fair is winding down and nearing the end of another year's annual event, the guys have had a rough day in the rodeo arena. They become a little thirsty from all the dust and hard work during the hot day and decide to venture to the cage to socialize a little before departing for another year. "WHY NOT?"



Leland Tom winning the Novice saddle bronc riding at Tygh Valley.

Pinenut Festival Rodeo

The Schurz rodeo Association from Schurz, Nevada has planned their annual Pinenut festival rodeo, to be held September 16 and 17. The rodeo is sanctioned by the Western States Indian rodeo Association, one of the eight nationally recognized rodeo associations across the United States and Canada.

The standard events featured in this years rodeo, include Bareback, Saddle Bronc, Bullriding, Steer Wrestling, Calf Roping, Cow Milking, Team Roping, and Barrel Racing. The entry fee in each event will be \$30.00, which includes a five dollar stock charge which will not be applicable to barrel racing. Each standard event will have a \$250 added purse.

The Bullriding will be limited to 50 riders, and Saddle Bronc

and Bareback will be limited to thirty riders each. There will be no limits in Calf Roping, Team Roping, Barrel Racing, Steer Wrestling, and Cow Milking. In all the timed events there will be two go's, except in the Cow Milking which will be one 'go'.

This year a top-hand saddle will be awarded to the contestant who places in a rough stock event and a roping event. Steer Wrestling will be considered a rough stock event.

Books open Monday September 11 at 8:00 a.m. and close Wednesday September 13 at 8:00 p.m. Call Mary Williams, Rodeo Secretary at (702) 575-4798 between 8:00 a.m. and 8:00 p.m. only. Mailed entries can be sent to Rodeo Secretary, Box 132, Schurz, Nevada, 89427. Entries have to be postmarked no later than September 12.

Before there is any action in the rodeo arena there is the grand entry where all the riders file into the arena. Several locals dressed in Indian Regalia were among the other riders in the grand entry. They were led by Sub-Chief of the Confederated Tribes, Delvis "Bullneck" Heath. Several young Indian girls rode and they were all dressed in colorful buckskin dresses.

Herb Stwyer had his float all decked out with blankets and beaded bags. He sang and drummed while little tots did some war dancing on the back of his pickup. The Mitchell family, very well known throughout the northwest, had their float all



Jeff Crowder in the Bullriding.

Little Guys Football

The Little Guys football practice will start Monday, September 11, at the Community Center, according to Lyle Rhoan, Activities Coordinator, with the issuing of equipment and lockers.

Lyle Rhoan, who is also a coach, said that physicals are required before the come out for the team, which is open to 6-14 year olds. According to Lyle, fourteen year olds may go out

later in the season. No games are scheduled yet because "we have to work around everyone else's schedule" said Rhoan. The first game will be sometime in October.

Lyle said he would like to see more volunteer work and encourages people to come out and help coach or be a line marker, or referee, or help in anyway they can.

SPORTS QUIZ

- (1) "What team does Joe Ferguson Quarterback?"
- (2) "Isaac Curtis of the Cincinnati Bengals, what position does he play?"
- (3) "Steve Schubert is a punt return specialist, what team does he play for?"
- (4) "Lynn Dickey is the quarterback of what team?"
- (5) "Who is the quarterback for the New England Patriots?"
- (6) "Who is the quarterback for the New England Patriots?"