

# Local cowboys, cowgirls heading to Finals Rodeo

Warm Springs is sending seven cowboys and cowgirls to the Indian National Finals Rodeo.

The Finals Rodeo will be held Nov. 11-14 in Las Vegas, as representatives of the Western States Indian Rodeo Association, Region II of the Indian National Finals Rodeo (INFR). Justin Tom has qualified for the tenth time to the INFR in the team roping event and will be roping with his year-end winning partner Cody Barney from Klamath Falls.

Tom is also the 2009 All Around Cowboy for the Western States Region. He is the son of Lee and Cheryl Tom and the favorite uncle to Brinley.

Mike Holyan qualified in the

team roping and calf roping events, and was runner up in the All Around competition.

Holyan will be roping with Ed Harry from Wadsworth, Nev. Holyan also won the year-end standings in calf roping, and was runner up to Cody Barney in the heading standings.

Going in two events will give Holyan an opportunity to compete in the All Around competition.

He is married to Warm Springs tribal member Liana Tom-Holyan.

Jenna Johnson has qualified for the third year in a row in the ladies breakaway roping as the year end winner.

Johnson has done well each year that she has gone. This



Justin Tom



Mike Holyan



Jenna Johnson



Weston Heath



Bradford Heath



Sammy Bruised Head



Clint Bruised Head

could be the year she brings home the championship.

Johnson is the daughter of Jodel Johnson and Reynolds Allen. Her number one supporters are her grandmother and grandfather, Marita and Delford Johnson, and her aunt and uncle Shana and Clarence.

Weston and Bradford Heath, brothers and the sons of Sonya Heath, have both qualified in the

bull riding.

Since they graduated from high school, it has been one or the other that qualifies. But this year they have both made it.

Weston has also qualified in the saddle bronc riding, giving him a shot at the All Around as well.

Bradford qualified through the Tour standings, which means he is one of the top ten

Native American bull riders in the nation.

Clinton and Sammy Bruised Head, husband and wife, have qualified also, Clint in the bull dogging and Sammy in the ladies breakaway.

Sammy was the sudden death winner at the Regional Finals Rodeo held in Tygh Ridge last month, and Clinton is taking the second place spot for the year-

end standings.

Sammy is the daughter of Kenny and Frances Allen.

Warm Springs is truly cowboy and cowgirl country, and we should all be proud.

Don't be afraid to acknowledge these professional rodeo contestants: Wish them luck or better yet, head to Vegas and cheer them on.

## Chee competing in IIFR pageant

Cory Rose Chee is competing to become Miss International Indian Finals Rodeo 2009-2010.

The International Indian Finals Rodeo Queen will represent the IIFR at rodeos and other events throughout the West.

The IIFR rodeo will be held in Farmington, New Mexico on Oct. 22-25.

The Queens Pageant begins October 21 with attendance at an opening reception.

Cory is from Purdy Rock, New Mexico and is affiliated with the Confederated Tribes of Warm Springs, Yakama



Cory Rose Chee

Cory, 18, is daughter of Lena Mitts-Chee and Herman Chee.

Last year Cory was crowned Miss Rodeo of the American Indian Rodeo Cowboys Association, the oldest organized Indian rodeo association.

If Cory wins the pageant in Farmington, she will be an ambassador for the IIFR organization at local and regional rodeos. The winner also receives a trophy saddle.

Besides rodeo, Cory likes running cross country, playing basketball, and helping little kids.

Nation, and the Navajo Indians of the Black Streak Wood people clan.

## Hoops tourney in Nevada benefits youth

The Chester Smith Memorial Basketball Tournament is set for Nov. 20-22 in Yerington, Nev.

The fifth annual tourney is sponsored by the families of Chester Smith.

The tournament enables the family to provide a scholarship for a graduating senior from

Yerington High School.

Last year's recipient was awarded a \$3,000 scholarship and is presently attending college in the San Diego area.

The coed division for youth consists of three categories: first-third, fourth-sixth and seventh-eighth grade. The cost of

the entry fee is \$150, payable by cashier's check, money order or cash to Chester Smith (CSM) Memorial Tournament.

For more information about the tournament, please call (775) 463-3275 and ask for Ron or (775) 463-2350 / (775) 230-8383 and ask for Debra.

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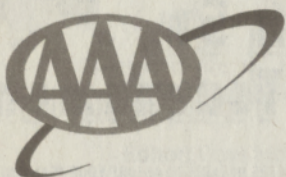


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