

Barrel racer makes her first National Finals

Jessica Bruised Head had a great rodeo season this year. She won at Klamath Falls, at Nespelem, Wash., and at Wadsworth, Nevada, among other rodeos. Her focus is on barrel racing.

At first she and her family were thinking the season had ended after her last regional rodeo. Then, some days ago they were at home when a friend noticed a new post on Facebook.

The announcement was that Jessica had qualified to compete in the Indian National Finals Rodeo.

They had to confirm the information, because it was a shock. After all, only two girls from the Northwest Region—Oregon, California, Idaho and Washington—would qualify for the Junior Barrel Racing Finals.

They double-checked, and sure enough Jessica is one of the two. At that point there was much cheering and hugs and celebrating. The Indian National Finals Rodeo is coming up Nov. 3-7 in Las Vegas.

Jessica, who goes by JB, is the daughter of Sammy and Clint Bruised Head. She is 12, and attends the Warm Springs Eagle Academy. Besides rodeo, she plays volleyball for the Eagles. She wants to go to college, and may want to become a veterinarian, or an actress.

JB has been to the National Finals Rodeo before, as both her parents compete in rodeos, including at the INFR.

But this will be Jessica's



Jessica "JB" Bruised Head



Courtesy Linda Warren Larson.

first time riding in the Finals. She will be competing against 50 to 60 other girls from the U.S. and Canada in the Junior Barrel Races.

Jessica has been riding horses since she was about 6. The horse she rides for barrel racing is named Diane, a horse that the Bruised Heads have had for close to 20 years. "She's still got it," Jessica says of Diane.

Jessica rides every day, and practices barrel racing about four times a week. She and her family live at Wolfe Pointe, where they've set up a rodeo arena.

Jessica also competes in the Junior Breakaway events at rodeos. She even rode a bull one time, staying on for 2 seconds. That will be the last time Jessica tries rough-stock riding, says Sammy Bruised Head.

There is a rodeo tradition in the family. Clint has won many rodeo awards, and his father Pete Bruised Head is a legendary Hall of Fame rodeo rider in both Canada and the U.S. Sammy will be in the Ladies Breakaway at the INFR.

Pete Bruised Head will be making the trip from his home in Canada to Las Vegas to watch his granddaughter compete in the Finals. Jessica dedicates her first-ever Indian National Finals Rodeo event to her grandpa Pete and her grandpa Kenny Allen.

JB, barrel racing at the county rodeo arena.

Coming up for Halloween

Warm Springs Recreation will host Trunk or Treat on Halloween evening.

This will be behind the community center. There will be awards for best decorated trunks.

Trunk or Treat will be from 4-6 p.m. Call 541-553-3243 to sign up.

At ECE

The Early Childhood Education center is asking for Halloween candy donations for their annual Pumpkin Parade, set for Friday, October 30.

Donations of any packaged, nut-free candy can be dropped off at the ECE front desk.



Jayson Smith/Spilyay

It was pumpkin carving time at the Community Center, hosted by Recreation.

Zombie Walk on Friday

The Diabetes Prevention Program and the Community Wellness Center are inviting you to a Zombie Walk this Friday, Oct. 30. The walk starts at 12 p.m. at the Community Center walk path.

Zombie t-shirts go to the first 70 adult walkers. The community costume contest will follow in the Community Center social hall. Costume categories: Best Disney Villain, Scariest, Best Homemade, and more.

Business news update

Indianpreneurship Participants (current and past),

Okay, now that you've had some time to yourself in your business planning efforts since completing the Indianpreneurship workshop I want to share upcoming events here on the Rez.

First, Service Core of Retired Executives (SCORE) will be at the Warm Springs Tribal Credit Enterprise conference room this Wednesday, October 28, at 5:30 p.m.

SCORE will share with the current Indianpreneurship participants, and you are welcome to attend and speak with one of the SCORE counselors.

If you haven't already set

a time to meet with a counselor and are ready to move forward with your business planning efforts, then this is the ideal time to do so.

Second, the Warm Springs Community Action Team is hosting a business summit on Monday, November 16 from 1 to 3 p.m. in the WSCAT conference room.

They will be brainstorming ideas on how to simplify getting into and doing business with the Confederated Tribes of Warm Springs and its enterprises.

Other topics include the cooperative business model, business associations and the Warm Springs Outdoor market for 2016 and beyond.

Additionally, this summit will serve to begin planning for, or envisioning our business environment in the year 2065.

Finally, as the president of the Warm Springs Area Chamber of Commerce, I encourage you to take this opportunity to actively participate in an organization committed to private business creation here in the Warm Springs community.

Gerald J. Danzuka, Small Business and Credit Coach, 541-553-3148.

Or e-mail: Gerald@wscat.net

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