

'We're one of the top mo

RODEO continued from front page

Special Event Board are Vice Chair Duke Kimsey, Opal Hale, Bob Duncan and Cheryl Kidwell.

Stampede crowds during the two-day event were about 10 percent larger this year, said Lyon, a nine-year leader of the rodeo board. He attributed better attendance to increased outreach and noted that more fans printed out their tickets online this year. Rodeo fans came from the east side of Portland and as far north as Astoria.

Speakers reaching the far end of the Rodeo Grounds and into the bleachers start an afternoon of rock 'n' roll and country music. All the rested horses in the sun begin moving to the ring, where the sunbathing is over. The competition begins.

The Stampede started at 1 p.m. Saturday and Sunday, July 19-20, though on Friday night, the overflow — those who could not be accommodated on Saturday and Sunday — competed for the same prizes, only without the crowds.

Of 15 sponsors this year, Boyd's Coffee has been part of the Stampede, earlier called the Grand Ronde Rodeo, as far back as 1996, said Lyon.

Other sponsors were Bill Mattecheck and Associates, Blue Star Gas, Capitol Auto Group, Grand Ronde Food and Fuel Co., Hays Companies, Hofenbredl Timber, Allann Brothers Coffee, Ray Drayton Septic, Dan Kauffman Excavating, Doris Rose CPA, Rice Furniture, Innovative Care Management, Food Services of America, Frito Lay, 1



Sammy Jo Cardoza competes in the barrel racing competition during the 2014 Spirit Mountain Stampede held at Spirit Mountain Rodeo Grounds on Sunday, July 20.

Day Signs, Columbia Distributing, Wells Fargo Bank, Walter E. Nelson Co., Pepsi and Spirit Mountain Casino.

The Grand Ronde Rodeo was first held on the casino's grounds. At least one cowboy thought it would

be a good idea to take it back. Northwest Professional Rodeo Association champ Sam Willis said he would like to see it held again at the casino to take advantage of the extra traffic.

Willis, one leg in a cast owing to "a freak accident that you could not repeat," has been healing for two of a six-week recovery period. His daughters, Stevie Rae Willis and Sammy Jo Cardoza, represented the family in breakaway roping and barrel racing events.

The Willises make their living traveling the rodeo circuit from spring to autumn each year. They take the winter off at their ranch in Terrebonne, near Redmond.

The family's life at rodeos also was documented in their 2012 reality series, "Stompin' Ground."

"It's a good little rodeo," said Wil-

lis, on the fan side of the fence for a change. "They do a good job."

"We're one of the top money events in the NPRA," said Lyon. "The bucking bulls will rate right up there with the big boys like Pendleton and St. Paul."

The bulls were so good that this is the first year in Lyon's memory when nobody reached the minimum eight seconds required to place in the bull riding competition.

Fifteen sponsors, and another five who advertised in the program booklet, pony up more than \$13,000 for the \$60,000 event. The number of sponsors has been consistent over recent years, said Lyon.

"My goal is to get our income from sponsors and other supporters to about 60 percent of our total cost," Lyon said.

Announcer this year was Scott Al-

Spirit Mountain Stampede results

Bareback

1. Nick Gutzwiller, 75 pts., \$864.
2. Tony Buckman and Kyle Bounds, 74 pts., \$540 each.

Saddle bronc

1. Kade McLean and Cooper Dewitt, 77 pts., \$744.12 each.
3. Jacob Stacy and T.B. Hannan, 72 pts., \$463.32 each.

Tie-down roping

1. Ricky Canton, 7.5 seconds, \$1,192.32.
2. Ty Holly, 8.2 seconds, \$1,036.80.
3. Travis Eller, 8.5 seconds, \$881.28.

Steer Wrestling

1. Dalton Massey, 4.3 seconds, \$1,141.44.
2. Taylor Gregg and Cody McCleary, 4.6 seconds, \$864.24 each.

Team roping

1. Michael & Anthony Calmelat, 4.9 seconds, \$1,238.88.
2. Garret Rogers & Brent Falon, 5.8 seconds, \$1,025.28.
3. Buck McCay & Dace Woods, 6.1 seconds, \$811.68.

Breakaway

1. Jennifer Forhman, 2.2 seconds, \$1,126.08.
2. Shay Jones, 2.4 seconds, \$979.20.
3. Desi Dotson, 2.6 seconds, \$832, 32.

Barrel racing

1. Lacey Stovner, 16.82 seconds, \$1,104.
2. Sam Boone, 16.89 seconds, \$960.
3. Stevie Rae Willis, 16.9 seconds, \$816.



Children, including Cheyenne Simmons, chase a calf to get the hoop around its neck during the Kids Ring Toss event of the 2014 Spirit Mountain Stampede held at Spirit Mountain Rodeo Grounds on Sunday, July 20.