

# Rodeo Excitement Hard to Match Anywhere in Field of Sports

Rodeo—the unique sport with unmatched excitement, embodies that primeval thrill of an athlete pitting his brain and skill against the cunning and strength of the animal. It has the spine-tingling element of true physical danger for the participant and the color of a fiesta. All of this is rolled into a thrilling, fast-moving package called "Rodeo"—America's top thrill sport and a piece of living history.

Rodeo, which means "round-up" in Spanish, had its beginning on the ranges of California, the Southwest and Mexico. The Mexican vaqueros were the first to throw off the cares of a long, hard day by competing with their compadres to see who could stay aboard an unbroken horse,

or best rope and tie a calf. The American cowboy who followed the vaquero on the scene was just as eager to prove his skill.

THE COWBOYS first competed among themselves, and then began challenging hands from the next ranch. Soon, the word that cowhands from neighboring ranches were going to compete with rope and horses attracted people from miles around.

The first town-sponsored rodeo is said to have occurred at Pecos, Texas, in 1883. That year the cowboys were invited into town to hold their contests on the main street. (Levi Strauss had already been making his blue cowboy pants for 3 years, at this time.) In 1888, the citizens of Prescott, Arizona, built a corral and

charged admission to "a cowboy celebration." Rodeo, as we know it today, was on its way.

Today, over 3,000 professional cowboys compete annually in more than 400 RCA rodeos throughout the country. Rodeo attendance approximates 15 million people each year.

## TOP COWHANDS travel much of the rodeo circuit, appearing in small towns and large throughout the country. Not many people realize that the cowboy pays entry fees, which may run into several thousands of dollars annually; for each event in which he participates. These fees are added to the prizes established for each event by the local rodeo management.

Today, rodeo is a truly organized sport carried on twelve months of the year. However, the men in the big hats and Levi's who compete for cash prizes are the heirs of a tradition and history that is as American as Plymouth Rock and Bunker Hill.

## Frank Turner Seeks Senior Cowboy Title

Frank Turner, Heppner old-timer whose cowboy days were at their peak in 1901 to 1904, is going to enter the rodeo parade Saturday, September 2, and hopes to win the title of "Senior Cowboy" in the event.

"If I am not the senior cowboy, I will be in the parade anyway," he declares.

Frank and Johnnie Kenny are the only surviving cowboys of the beginning of the century here, the time of such real "he-men" cowboys as the Jones boys—Gene and Newt, Ott Summers, Dave Presley, Mack Smith, Fred Crump, Guy Boyer, Henry Cannon and many others.

Among widows of those who have gone on are Josie Jones, Heppner; Clara Boyer, John Day; Mrs. Fred Crump, Yakima; and the former Mrs. Mack Smith, now Mrs. Letha Archer, Heppner.

Frank declares that Newt Jones certainly must have been one of the world's leading riders in the country in his time. He recalls one time that he and Newt were riding bucking horses by Willow creek at a spot that would be just about behind Frank's present home.

The horse carrying Newt made a lunge and splashed into a deep hole in the creek. Both horse and rider disappeared from sight. For a few moments Turner was fearful that his friend and horse were drowned for sure, but they came to the surface with Newt still in the saddle. He rode the horse out of the water and stayed on its back for another hour.

Turner will ride the Lowell Gribble's mare, Nancy, in the parade, accompanied by Barbara Gribble on her 2-year-old colt. Both will be with the Wranglers.

The aspirant for the senior cowboy title refused to divulge his age, but it will have to come out at the time of the parade.

Boxed typing paper reasonably priced at the Gazette-Times.



JOHN VAN BELLE of Outlook, Wn., is the man who furnishes stock for the Morrow county rodeo. He is pictured here astride Bruno, his pickup horse.

## John Van Belle Furnishes Stock

John Van Belle of Outlook, Wn., will furnish the stock for this year's Morrow county Rodeo—as he has done for the three previous years, Floyd Jones, rodeo board chairman, announces.

Included will be 50 horses, all saddle broncs; 12 Brahma bulls; 15 dogging steers; 15 head and heel steers; and 10 wild horses. Jones himself will furnish the cows and calves for the event.

Among the saddle broncs coming for the event will be the famous Blizzard, voted by members of the Northwest Rodeo association as the Bucking Horse of the Year in 1961.

Blizzard is due for action in the finals this year—for the unlucky rider that draws him. Last year he barely got a workout, disposing of his rider in a matter of a second or two.

## Eleven Win Titles As Roping Champs

One of the things that lend's particular interest to the Morrow county rodeo is the number of local men who take an active part, businessmen as well as ranchers—and combination rancher-businessmen.

An event in which they enjoy participating and which brings delight to the crowds is the Morrow County Amateur Calf Roping, started in 1950.

Names of the winners are well-known throughout the county. First to capture the title was W. O. George in 1950, followed by Archie Murchison in 1951. Don Greenup claimed the championship in 1952 and the present rodeo board chairman, Floyd Jones, was winner in 1953.

Following in order were Bob Gammell, 1954; Howard Bryant, 1955; Roice Fulleton, 1956; Don Evans, 1957; Nell Beamer, 1958; Rod Murray, 1959; and Ron Curran, 1960.

The 1961 champion in this event was Charles Daly. Who will be the winner at the 1962 rodeo?

Going with the honor of being the victor in the event is the beautiful handmade saddle, made by Hamley and Company, Pendleton, and presented by Kinzua Corporation. It is a valuable and cherished prize for the winner. This year's saddle is on display with other prizes in the Gilliam and Bisbee Hardware window.

Planning a wedding, anniversary, reception or special party? The Gazette-Times carries all forms of social announcements and invitations. Special orders filled promptly.

Morrow County

RODEO

September 1 and 2

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Let's all go to the  
RODEO

Heppner Hardware  
and ELECTRIC

## New State Highway Map Just Published

The Oregon State Highway Commission is now distributing its first completely new highway map in nearly 40 years. The new version will replace a map that has been in use, with yearly alterations, since 1924.

A sample of the new map was reviewed and approved in April of 1961, and actual work started four months later. All work was done by Highway Department personnel, with the exception of the color separation which was done by a commercial shop.

In all, 11 separate color drawings were necessary to show the various details including topography, parks, airports, fish hatcheries, cities and counties.

press this month, exactly one year from the start of the project. This first edition will fill the balance of the 1962 order of about 250,000 maps. The map will again be brought up to date prior to the start of printing on next year's edition.

Mr. and Mrs. Lawrence Stroh and family of Englevale, N. Dakota, were houseguests over the week-end at the home of Mrs. Stroh's brother and family, Mr. and Mrs. Nels Anderson. They stopped here while on a three-weeks trip through the south and on to Seattle for the World's Fair. Mr. Stroh is in the insurance business and Mrs. Stroh is a school teacher in Englevale.

## THERE'LL BE THRILLS AND SPILLS At The MORROW COUNTY RODEO



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MORROW COUNTY RODEO

SEPTEMBER 1 AND 2

WRANGLER HORSE SHOW—AUGUST 31

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Morrow County Rodeo

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