

Cowboys lead rough life on road

Rodeo is more than a sport. It's also a lifestyle.

A professional rodeo cowboy doesn't get paid to compete—he pays for that privilege. He doesn't travel expense-free in a fully equipped bus or airplane he spends hours upon hours driving to the next event in a car that likely doubles as his home on the road. If he performs well, the paychecks he earns in the arena will equal the money he spent getting there.

It's a taxing lifestyle, to be sure, but one that is infinitely rewarding for those who choose to pursue it.

Rodeo is the only sport in the world to have developed from the skills required in a work situation, and even today it retains the fierce independence of the ranch hands of the 1800s who turned work into sport.

Independent as they are, few rodeo cowboys travel alone.

Most take advantage of the Professional Rodeo Cowboys Association's "buddy system," which allows up to four cowboys to enter rodeos as a group and request to compete during the same performance. By ensuring that they will compete on the same day, the cowboys can travel together and share expenses.

Most nationally ranked cowboys compete each year in 100-125 rodeos throughout the United States and Canada. Without the buddy system, it would be financially impossible for all but a few to travel so much without any guarantee of a paycheck.

Cowboys usually travel with someone else who competes in their events.

Timed-event contestants, as a rule, take longer to get from one rodeo to another—and therefore usually compete in fewer rodeos than the roughstock cowboys—because

they take their horses with them. Most "timies" drive pickup trucks and travel in pairs.

Occasionally, especially during the busy summer months, they hire someone to drive the horses or arrange to use other contestants' horses so they can fly to rodeos and save travel time.

Competitors in roughstock events usually travel four to a vehicle, and they often stop only long enough to compete. As soon as they've ridden, they all pile back in the car and head off to another rodeo.

Although the buddy system was devised to ease the financial strain of traveling, it has had the added effect of cultivating long-lasting friendships.

Cowboys who compete against one another are often each other's closest friends and most enthusiastic supporters.

Sweethearts to make second appearance



Adding dash and color to the parade and grand entries, the Coors Rodeo Sweethearts will return to Heppner this year. This Portland-based mounted drill team are flamboyant in their elegant outfits, dark colored horses and fast-paced drills.

These women specialize in rodeo grand entries and perform a variety of mounted drills set to music. Team members also assist in running back stock during performances as well as presenting sponsor flags and performing closing ceremonies.

Clowns return to Heppner

Rodeo Clowns T.C. Evans and Mike Gothum will make their first appearance at the Oregon Trail Pro Rodeo this year. However this will be their second trip to Heppner after performing here during the St. Patrick's Bull Bustin' held this

spring. Evans hails from Parma, Idaho and is the barrelman of this crowd-pleasing team. Bullfighter Gothum of Colville, Washington and his partner joined the PRCA ranks in 1993.

Wagons Ho to Morrow County

and to All the 4-H and FFA members participating in the Morrow County Fair

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Grain growers encouraged to enter crops in fair

Morrow County growers are encouraged to bring a sample of their crops in to the fair this year for exhibition. "The Commercial Crops exhibit at the Morrow County Fair is a great way to display and promote your products," said Bill Broderick, OSU Extension agent in Morrow County.

According to the 1994 Morrow County Fair Premium Book, grain exhibits should be at least a half a bushel, plus enough extra to allow for cleaning losses. Exhibits should be cleaned before submitting them this year.

All grain exhibits will be judged on uniformity, freedom from foreign material, soundness and on weight per bushel. Grasses and hay exhibits are welcome as well. Silage should be at least five pounds in a plastic bag. Grass exhibit size varies, depending on the intent

of the lot. Alfalfa hay exhibits require three bales produced during the current year in the county. Growers are required to submit core samples from the exhibit to be analyzed for moisture and crude protein.

Morrow County is one of the state's leading potato producers; and it only takes 10 pounds of spuds to make an exhibit. Potato producers are encouraged to get their entries in to the fair also.

Other possible commercial crops entries are field corn, watermelons, cantaloupe, apples, grapes, popcorn, berries, peas, beans, or any other crop raised in the county. Check the premium book for sample size, class and lot number.

Any grower with a question about commercial crops entries for the fair is encouraged to call Larry Palmer, crops superintendent.

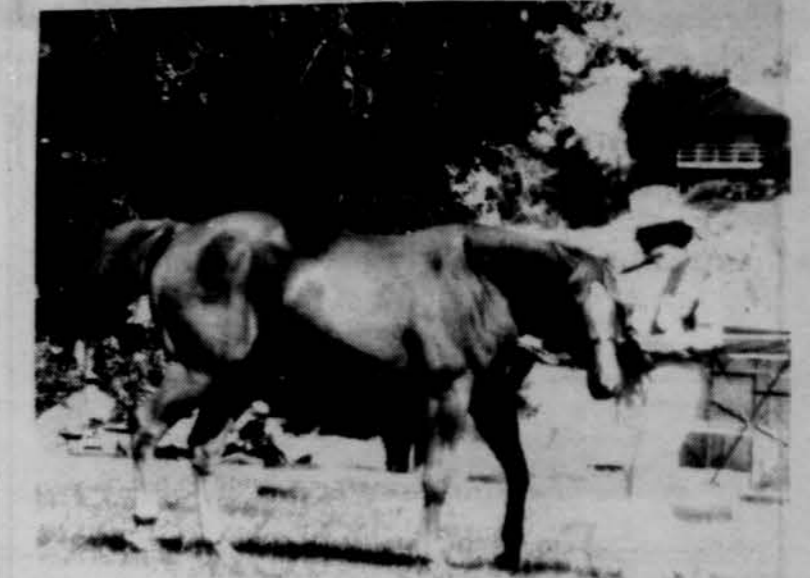


Miss Rodeo Oregon to make appearance



Kitty Sharp, 1994 Miss Rodeo Oregon, will be making appearances in Heppner during fair and rodeo week. Sharp will perform in the grand entries of the Friday night and Saturday afternoon PRCA performances. Miss Sharp, Prineville, will also appear in the Saturday morning downtown parade.

Horseshow held first Sun. in Aug.



The Morrow County 4-H horse show is held the first Sunday in August at the Morrow County Fair Grounds. This years show was Aug. 7.

The horse show is held before the fair begins so many times people don't know about it. The show runs all day and there is no charge to watch.

Morrow County Fair & Rodeo

WOW

Morrow County Rodeo Sun. Aug 20 1 p.m.

PRCA Rodeo Fri. & Sat. Aug 20 & 22

- * Talent Contest, 7 p.m. Wednesday, August 17
- * 4-H Fashion Revue 7 p.m. Thursday, August 18
- * Rodeo Dance, 9:30 p.m. Saturday, August 20

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