

An American flag is shown waving in the wind against a bright, hazy sunset background. The flag's red and white stripes and blue field with stars are clearly visible. The sun is low on the horizon, creating a strong glow and casting long shadows.

RODEO

Magazine

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Hello Friends




It has certainly been an unusual year so far. Rodeo, as a sport, has taken a strange turn, one we are not accustomed to making. Rodeo dates have been moved and some shows have been canceled. Like you, we miss our friends and our routines, but there is goodness to be found in each day.

Our animals are healthy and happy, albeit a bit bored as they relax, enjoy the sunshine and graze in the ranch pastures. Our friends have reached out to ensure we are all well, as we have in turn reached out to others to check on their well being. There is still good in people, there is still beauty to be found around us, each day brings joy as we continue to grow by sharing and caring.

Adversity is nothing new to Americans, we will persevere. The sun will come out tomorrow and things will get better. Keep riding toward the brighter days that lie ahead. Cowboy up, we'll see you soon!

Cotton Rosser

Reno Rosser



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RODEO

Magazine

Table of Contents

Special Features

Hello Friends	pg 2
Rodeo Events	pg 14
World Champions	pg 14

Stories

Legend of Pro Rodeo	pg 6
Flying U Rodeo Trail	pg 36

Extras

King of the Old Rodeo	pg 12
Rodeo Word Search	pg 38
Western Word Scramble ..	pg 42

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Matt Cohen

Trick Rider Madison MacDonald
presents *Old Glory* at the
Ute Stampede Rodeo - Nephi UT

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2019 LEGEND OF RODEO COTTON ROSSER



The South Point Grand Ballroom in Las Vegas, Nevada was the scene of the 12th Annual Wrangler Gold Buckle Gala held on December 2, 2019. A highlight of the evening was the presentation of the 2019 Legend of Pro Rodeo award to Cotton Rosser.

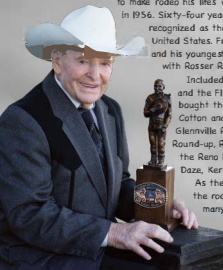
In 2006, the Pro Rodeo Hall of Fame and Museum created an award that would be called Legend of Pro Rodeo. This coveted honor is awarded to a rodeo cowboy who has devoted their life to rodeo, even after their career in rodeo is over. Rosser is the 14th individual to earn this distinction. Past winners include: Keith Martin 2018; Michael Gaughan 2017; Neal Gay 2016; Mel Potter 2015; Benny Binion 2014; Donny Gay 2013; Dean Oliver 2012; Shawn Davis 2011; Larry Mahan 2010; Harry Vold 2009; Clem McSpadden 2008; Jim Shoulders 2007 and Jake Barnes 2006.

Cotton joined the P. R. C. A in 1947. During his career as a competitor, he competed in all of rodeo's standard events. Rosser first hit the rodeo trail while in his teens. He continued to rodeo in college as a member of the rodeo team at Cal Poly University, San Luis Obispo. When his college days were over, he continued on as a pro. As a professional rodeo cowboy Cotton would go on to win numerous buckles, saddles and trophies. He is especially proud of winning the All Around Cowboy title at the 1951 Grand National Rodeo in San Francisco.

Cotton was enjoying a successful career as a rodeo contestant when a serious accident at his Marysville, California ranch changed the course of his life. Making lemons out of lemonade he chose to make rodeo his life's work when he purchased the Flying U Rodeo Company in 1956. Sixty-four years later in 2020, the Flying U Rodeo Company is recognized as the oldest continuing rodeo livestock company in the United States. From their Marysville, California headquarters Cotton and his youngest son Reno, work as a team to run the Flying U along with Rosser Rodeo Productions to produce over 50 rodeos annually.

Included in their rodeo line-up are five rodeos that Cotton and the Flying U Rodeo Company have appeared at since he bought the business in 1956. At the time of the 2019 Gala, Cotton and the Flying U had provided stock for 63 years to the Glennville Rodeo Round-up, Glennville, California; the Red Bluff Round-up, Red Bluff, California; the Ute Stampede, Nephi, Utah; the Reno Rodeo, Reno, Nevada and The Whiskey Flat Wild West Daze, Kernville, California.

As the 91 year old Cotton continues to ride horseback into the rodeo arena during his rodeos, he won't be dwelling on his many awards and past achievements. Instead, his mind will be on giving the audience a show filled with patriotism and pageantry they will remember for many years to come!





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Since 1956 Cotton has provided stock for
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the Whiskey Flat Wild West Daze and The Reno Rodeo

*Committee members from Nephi, Glennville and Red Bluff rodeos stopped by to congratulate
Cotton during the 12th Annual Wrangler Gold Buckle Gala*

*Ute Stampede
Committee*



*Glennville Rodeo Round-Up
Committee*



*Red Bluff Round-Up
Committee*



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Taylor McNair, Miss Rodeo America and
Reno Rosser are on hand As Cotton
accepts the 2019 Legend of Pro Rodeo Award

Joining Cotton in Las Vegas following the
awards ceremony were several family
members

(back row) son Lee, daughter-in-law Bonnie,
daughter Cindy, daughter-in-law Nicole,
granddaughter Linsay, grand daughter-in-law
Katie, wife Karin, & daughter Katharine
(front row) son Reno, grandson Levi & Cotton





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King Of The Old Rodeo

By Kurt Rumens & Dave Dane

Broke Down In Barstow
Rained Out In Reno
In Salinas I Lost Half My Crew
This Diamond Reo
Is Haulin' The Rough Stock
On The Road For The Ol' Flying U

A Long Way Home & It's Lonely
Turn My Collar Up To The Wind
Hank On The 8 Track
A Cold Cup Of Coffee
My Diesel Winds Down In This Town
There's Ghosts In The Grandstand
I Feel Them Watching
At The First Light Of Day
Jose Feeds The Hay
To The Bulls, Horses & Steers

The Cowboys Are Comin'
With Fire In Their Eyes
As they Picture Their Next Go-Round
Hands Over Our Hearts
When Old Glory Flies
Before Hoofs Are Driven
Into The Ground

The Man On The Horse Is My Hero
He's The King Of The Old Rodeo
He Sits Deep In His Saddle
Hat Tips To The Crowd
Today Will Be One Hell Of A Show

Team Ropers, Bronc Riders
Give Their All
Great Rides & Wrecks Mark The Day
Hot Sun & Strong Winds
Make & Break Dreams
As The Seconds Tick Slowly Away

I Wouldn't Change A Thing If I Could
But I Thank The Good Lord Above
I've Made Millions Of Friends
That Is My Jackpot
My Work Has Been A Labor Of Love

I've Had Such A Great Life
Lovin' My Third Wife &
The Kids That Bear My Last Name
When The Final Call Comes
I'll Join Shoulders & Tibbs In Heaven
We're All Still In The Game

The Man On The Horse Is My Hero
He's The King Of The Old Rodeo
He Sits Deep In His Saddle
Hat Tips To The Crowd
Today Will Be One Hell Of A Show

As The Boys Unload All The Gear





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All Around Cowboy



Considered the ultimate award a seriously contesting rodeo cowboy can achieve, the World Champion All Around Cowboy title is certainly the brass ring in the sport of professional rodeo. A contestant must be versatile (a multi-event threat) and extremely talented. He must also earn a minimum of \$3,000 in each of two or more events to be a contender for the world's greatest cowboy title.

Traditional rodeo competition is divided into two event types - roughstock, or judged events, and timed events, where the cowboy races the clock. Last year the All Around title returned to the roughstock end of the arena for the first time in over two decades, last won by Ty Murray in 1998.

After a Rookie season, that was nothing short of amazing, Stetson Wright of Milford, UT left Las Vegas, NV as the first Rookie to capture the PRCA World Champion All Around Cowboy title.

Wright, who competes in both the Saddle

Bronc riding event and the Bull riding event, entered the NFR as the year-end leader in the All Around race. Qualifying in just one event, bull riding, he held off all challengers to maintain his lead throughout the week.

Stetson also proved that Saddle Bronc riding is not the only rodeo skill the Wright family possesses. The son, brother and nephew of multiple World Champion Saddle Bronc riders, Stetson Wright carried on the family tradition of striking gold at the World's Richest Rodeo.



Photos: Matt Cohen



World Champion All-Around Cowboy

Stetson Wright
Milford, UT

2019 Earnings
\$297,923

World Titles
2019



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Bareback Riding

Bareback Riding is the newest of rodeo's riding events and one that did not originate from ranch work. A competitive event in the early 20th Century, it became a common event at the majority of officially sanctioned rodeos in the 1950's.

Today bareback riding is one of seven standard rodeo events. It appears wild and reckless to fans; however, bareback riders are highly conditioned athletes who ride for eight seconds using an association approved rigging with one hand holding a suitcase-like handle. The contestant must mark the horse out by keeping his spurs over the point of the animal's shoulders during the first jump out of the chute. He then spurs from the horse's shoulders toward the rigging with each jump the animal makes.

A controlled spurring action, aboard a wildly gyrating horse, for a long eight-second ride places a great deal of strain on the cowboy's riding arm. This physically demanding event is exciting to watch and each year the athletic ability of cowboys and horses gets increasingly better.

Strength, balance, skill and determination will earn a cowboy contestant high scores from the judges. The highest recorded score for bareback riding is shared by four cowboys at 94 points. While not listed among the record scorers, the earnings Clayton Biglow accumulated in 2019 stands as single-season event record.



Photo: Matt Cohen



World Champion Bareback Rider

**Clayton Biglow
Clements, CA**

**2019 Earnings -
\$425,843**

**World Titles -
2019**

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Steer Wrestling



Photo: Matt Cohen

Rodeo's Steer Wrestling is commonly referred to as the big man's event. While it is true that steer wrestlers are often bigger than most other rodeo contestants; skill and timing are also clear factors in winning or losing in this event.

The cowboy starts from behind a barrier, in place to give the steer a head start. Breaking the barrier results in 10 seconds being added to the total time. His partner, a non-competing rider, known as a Hazer, comes from the other side of the chute and has no barrier. The Hazer keeps the steer running straight as the contestant drops from his horse to the back of the animal. He wraps his arms around the steer's horns and brings it to the ground. All four legs must be facing the same direction when the field judge drops the flag. This feat of leverage, strength and timing is more amazing when one realizes the steer often weighs more than double the cowboy's body weight. Hazers generally receive 25% of a successful cowboy's winnings.

Steer Wrestling, also known as bulldogging, has been around since the 1890's and it's said Bill Pickett was the first cowboy to perform it. The fastest recorded time in the Steer Wrestling event is 2.2 seconds set in 1930. Oral Zumwalt was the cowboy and although he did not come from behind a barrier he set a high bar. A rapid 2.4 seconds is recognized as the fastest time with the cowboy coming from behind a barrier. Ty Erickson led the standings entering the NFR and held off the competition for his first World Championship.

World Champion Steer Wrestler

Ty Erickson
Helena, MT

2019 Earnings -
\$234,491

World titles -
2019



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Tie Down Roping

A natural off-shoot of ranch work, tie down roping can be traced back to the old west. Ranchers turned everyday work into a contest to see who was able to rope and tie calves the quickest; and that grew into one of today's standard rodeo events.

As with rodeo's other timed events, a Tie Down roper starts his run from behind a barrier. Stretched across the front of the roping chute, the barrier allows the calf a head start. A five second penalty will be assessed for a broken barrier.

After roping the calf, the cowboy dismounts, flanks the calf from a standing position and ties any three legs with his piggin' string. The calf then must stay tied for six seconds after the contestant returns to his horse, remounts and loosens the rope. If the calf gets loose before the field flag judge stops his watch the cowboy is disqualified.

It is a catch-as-catch-can event, so any loop is legal. Timing, strength, athleticism, quick reflexes, and a well trained horse are the cowboy's most valuable tools. Because it is a timed event, the win goes to the fastest overall time.

Rookie of the Year Haven Meged came from behind to capture his first World Title at the NFR in 2019. His first trip to the National Finals also resulted in Meged placing in five of the ten go-rounds. That performance also pushed him to the top of the average with a time of 85.7 seconds on 10 head.

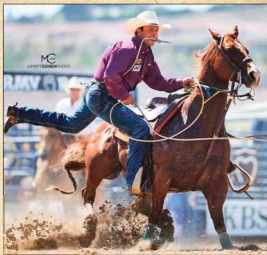


PHOTO: NICK LARSEN



PRCA Media Photo

World Champion Tie Down Roper

Haven Meged
Miles City, MT

2019 Earnings -
\$ 246,013

World Titles -
2019

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Team Roping Heading



Photo: Matt Cohen

Team Roping is another rodeo event that naturally evolved from ranch work. When two cowboys would rope a steer or calf for branding or doctoring they would not need to dismount and wrestle the animal to the ground when roping as a team. One rider would rope the head and his partner would rope the heels, stretching the steer between them.

Today, the Header starts from behind a barrier, meant to give the steer a head start. A broken barrier adds 10 seconds to the total time. There are three legal head catches - around the neck, around the head and one-horn, or around both horns - all other catches will result in "no time" for the team.

After the Header makes his catch, he dallies or wraps his rope around the saddle horn and turns his horse so the Heeler can get into position. The steer's direction must be changed before the heel loop is thrown. If the heel loop is thrown before a change in direction a "crossfire" occurs and the team is disqualified. The steer must be standing when roped by both its head and heels. Official time stops when both horses are facing, front feet on the ground with both ropes stretched tight. Clay Smith entered the NFR as the reigning World Champion Header and proved last year's win was no accident, claiming his second consecutive title.

World Champion Team Roper - Heading

Clay Smith
Broken Bow, OK

2019 Earnings
\$268,820

World Titles
2019
2018



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Team Roping

Heeling



Photo: Matt Cohen

Team Roping is the only rodeo event where human partners, working as a team, earn equal money when they win. A ranch inspired event, team roping features a header and a heeler. It is the job of the Heeler to rope the steer's two hind legs; one leg will result in a five-second penalty. Once both legs are securely in the Heeler's loop, he dallies his rope around the saddle horn as the two team members face off with ropes taut.

Although the Heeler does not ride from behind a barrier, timing and teamwork are the hallmarks of successful cowboy teams in this event. Most often teams rope together throughout the season and head into the National Finals with identical monies won. Sometimes cowboys get together at different times or attend a different number of rodeos and the amount won by each team member may differ at the year's end. This was the case for Wesley Thorp in 2019. His partner, Cody Snow, finished second for the world title. However, the duo had an amazing NFR and won the Average with 43.8 secondson eight head. The money earned in Las Vegas catapulted Thorp to the top of the standings.



World Champion Team Roper - Heeling

Wesley Thorp
Throckmorton, TX

2019 Earnings -
\$249,180

World Titles -
2019

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Saddle Bronc

Known as rodeo's classic event, Saddle Bronc riding is a real crowd favorite.

Although it appears deceptively easy, in reality it is a difficult event to master.

As the animal leaves the chute the contestant must keep his feet over the point of the horse's shoulders for the first jump (known as a mark out); he then will begin a rhythmic spurring motion - front to back - as the horse bucks.

The horse is judged on its bucking style and power. The cowboy is judged on how well he is able to keep his form and maintain spurring action as the bronc dives and bucks for eight seconds.

The cowboy holds a buck rein in one hand and his free hand is held aloft. Disqualification occurs when a rider fails to ride for the mandatory eight seconds, he misses the horse out, or touches himself or the bronc with his freehand. A hornless, association approved saddle is used by all competitors.

A total of 50 points may be awarded for both the horse and rider totaling 100 points. The highest recorded saddle bronc score in professional rodeo is 95 points; shared by two Canadian cowboys - Doug Vold (1979) and Glen O'Neill (1996). Zeke Thurston, another Canadian rider, entered the IFR in second place, but walked away with another World Championship after 10 rounds of competition.



Photo: Matt Cohen



PRCA Media Photo

World Champion Saddle Bronc Rider

Zeke Thurston
Big Valley, AB

2019 Earnings -
\$347,055

World Champion Titles -
2019
2016



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Barrel Racing

Seventy-two years ago the WPRA (Women's Professional Rodeo Association) was formed by a group of women who wanted to promote and advance the cause of cowgirls competing in professional rodeo. Today Barrel Racing, rodeo's original ladies event, is a fan favorite that combines talented women, athletic horses and speed.

The cloverleaf pattern, established in 1948 as the official barrel race pattern, consists of two rights and a left turn, or two left turns and a right. Five seconds will be added to the final time for each barrel that is knocked over. If a rider fails to complete the pattern she will be disqualified.

Speed is an important trait in a barrel horse, but it is certainly not the only one cowgirls want. Characteristics such as agility, coordination, attitude and strength are being bred into horses as barrel racers look for that special animal ready to become half of a winning team. Hailey Kinsel-Lockwood and her partner Sister continue to be a dominant force in the event. Steadily increasing prize money and well-bred, well-trained horses have provided an opportunity for today's professional cowgirl to earn as much as today's cowboys.



Photo: Matt Cohen



World Champion Barrel Racer

Hailey Kinsel-Lockwood
Cotulla, TX

**2019 Earnings -
\$290,020**

**World Titles -
2019
2018**

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Bull Riding

Bull riding! In the mind of many fans rodeo's almost always save the best event for last.

It didn't evolve from ranch work, but it has long been a competition between man and bull. Using only a rope around the bulls girth, the cowboy puts one hand inside a handle on top of the bull rope, raises his free hand and nods for his ride.

The ride must last the standard eight seconds for the rider to score. There is not a 'mark out' requirement, but if the free hand touches the animal or the rider a disqualification results.

Judges score the bull and cowboy a total of 50 points each. The bulls judged on its strength and ability to maintain its momentum throughout the eight second ride. Perfection is in the eye of the beholder, and while scores can be high, a perfect 100 has only been officially recorded once. Wade Leslie reached that pinnacle in 1991.

Reigning World Champion Sage Kimzey made history last year winning six consecutive Bull Riding titles. His Rookie year, 2014, saw him win his first championship and each year since he has added another Gold Buckle to his collection.

With a personal goal to be the first man to earn nine World Championships in a single event, Sage Kimzey is already two-thirds of the way there.



Photo: Yoko Kobayashi



PRCA Media Photo

World Champion Bull Rider

Sage Kimzey
Strong City, OH

2019 F
\$425,843

World Titles :
2019 2018
2017 2016
2015 2014

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Breakaway Roping



Photo: Matt Cohen

Breakaway Roping has long been a Women's, Youth and Collegiate Rodeo event for girls (as well as boys) and women. The rider comes from behind a barrier with 10-seconds assessed for leaving too early. Unlike tie down roping the rider doesn't dismount and tie the calf after catching it. They stay mounted, pitch their slack and when the calf reaches the end of the rope, which is secured with a piece of string, it 'breaks away' from the saddle horn. A flag is tied to the end of the rope and when the Judge sees the flag break free time is stopped. The fastest time wins and sub-three second runs are needed to win most contests.

In the past few years this event has been seen at an increasing number of professional rodeos. It is another venue for women to demonstrate their skill and talent with a rope. Women have been able to Team Rope in the past, but breakaway roping allows women to compete individually in a roping event. Breakaway Roping has also allowed women to vie for and win the All-Around title at rodeos where it is featured.

Breakaway Roping is gaining in popularity as a featured pro rodeo event. It is fast, easy to understand and provides women with added arena time.



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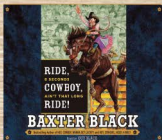
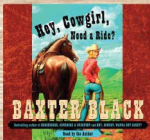
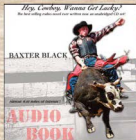


(not Larry Mahan)

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"Rodeoing is a lot like the stunt business, you gotta learn to fall off horses and onto your head. I was pretty good at both."

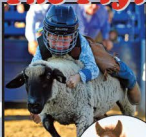
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ARIAT

The Flying U Rodeo Trail



Ordinarily we would be well on our way down the Flying U Rodeo Trail, but this year our trail has taken a detour. The detour may not be of our choosing, but we are managing to navigate it. However, with this route there are things from past years that we miss.

We miss showing you our baby colts, the product of our own 'born to buck' rodeo breeding program. As they run around the arena at their mother's side bucking and kicking, you see how healthy and happy they are.

We miss the next generation of contestants featured during the evening Mutton Busting event. Kids experience the western world when they climb aboard their woolly mount and burst into the arena as family and friends cheer them on.

We miss the Contract Personnel - bullfighters, clowns, barrelmen, speciality acts (dress and comedy) and of course no performance is complete without the Flying Cowboyz.

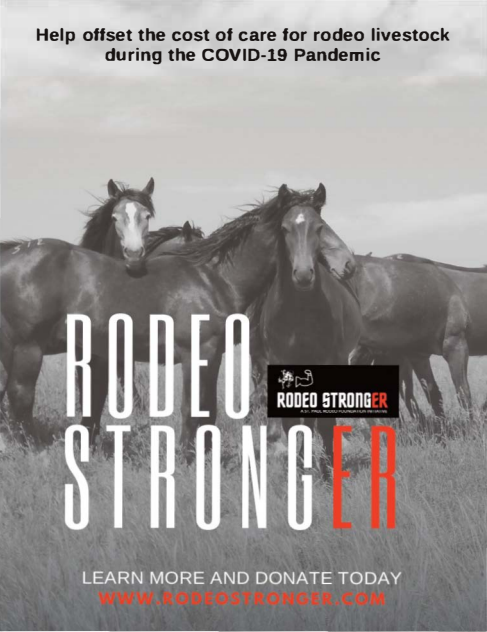
We miss the longtime crew members, family members really, that look forward to our annual stops near their towns. We look forward to catching up with them and working beside them each year. They work inside the arena and behind the scenes to keep the action flowing.

We miss visiting your town, seeing you in the grandstands, at the parades and at the pancake breakfasts and every other event your celebration hosts.

We miss 'old glory' waving in the breeze, we miss the roar of the crowd when a truly spectacular ride has been made, the cheers as cowgirls run the cloverleaf pattern or the collective gasp when a rider bites the dust. This is what makes Rodeo America's finest family entertainment. Look for a Flying U or Rosser Rodeo Production coming again to a town near you.



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WORD SEARCH

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 N R O D E O S R D O C Y H N B R L S
 I I M A E C O W B O Y H N B R L S
 T E A M R O P E R T A W O R E K G O M R
 U J C G B R O V E S O L T C R O P N
 G A L F N O W R I F R E U C R P U O
 N A R D O P W R B A R B R L M A K T
 I T U J R E G H B A R B R L M A K T
 Y P X S O I A C R E Q H O L E C T
 L M S A E U R E P D N O F D C L C T
 F P N D Z E L A I A R R A L T S I O
 E R O D E O T R H S J U D G E S O P C
 E D E P M A T S E L L I V S Y R A M
 F A M I L Y F U N E R T A I N M E Y
 S T O O B A R I D E E M C O W B O Y



Search for hidden words
forward, backward,
up, down and diagonally.



BARREL RACE
 TEAM ROPER
 BULL RIDER
 LATIGO
 RODEO
 COWBOY
 COWGIRL
 RIDE EM COWBOY

HAZER
 FLYING U
 SPUR
 HORSE
 PICKUP MAN
 MARYSVILLE STAMPEDE
 JUDGE
 SCORE

ROPE
 HOOVES
 FAMILY FUN
 COTTON ROSSER
 RIDE
 RODEOS ROCK
 BOOTS
 BUCK

Photos: Phil Dayle



Study for Windows to the West, 1919, by Willam Hurler. Willam Hurler Papers, Dickinson Research Center, BC2010.008.

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Western Word Scramble

Unscramble The Following Rodeo Words

1. KERBNIRRBRA _____
2. GFUBLILSTREH _____
3. LGOWRICS _____
4. IYMAFLMATNIENREITNE _____
5. ARLBRE ERCA _____
6. LAL RUNODA WCOBYO _____
7. ODROR LTARI _____
8. ORBAKUCO _____
9. NOTUMT GNSUTBI _____
10. ODEOR CIATNO _____

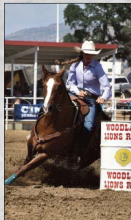


Photo: Mike Flauto

ANSWERS: 1. Broken Barrel 2. Burlinghams 3. Cowgirls 4. Pearly Entertainment 5. Barrel Race 6. All Around Cowboy 7. Rodeo Tail 8. Buckaroo 9. Mutton Bustin' 10. Rodeo Action

Fill In The Missing Letters To Spell Rodeo Words



Photo: Matt Cohen

1. B _ C K _ N _ B _ O _ C
2. F L _ _ N _ U R _ _ E O
3. H _ R _ _ S
4. R _ D _ O C _ _ B _ Y
5. S _ _ D L _ S



Photo: Yoko Kobayashi



Photo: Yoko Kobayashi



ANSWERS: 1. Bucking Bronc 2. Flying U Rodeo 3. Horses 4. Rodeo Cowboy 5. Saddle

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