

THE RACER'S EDGE

Volume 3 Issue 10

Your Barrel Racing guide for all event listings and news across the west.

June 2009

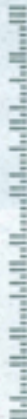
BLAZE at BARREL DAZE

Cindy Lane riding
Frenchies Lil Phoebe

INSIDE:
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Spring Run
BTM South Finals
Spring Fling -
Kuna, ID

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ACBRA News
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Bill Lawless Photography

A Gifted Pair..Hoffman and Banjo Seven

Written by Noel Cosca

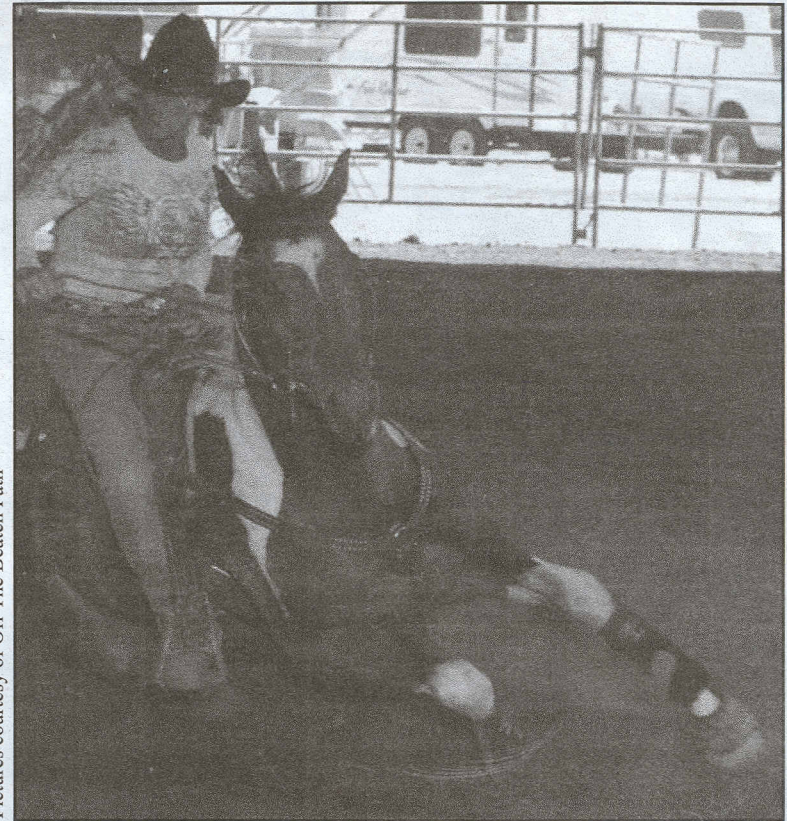
Cowgirls have to learn to ride under pressure, to achieve greatness a rider must become focused during competition. This is a learned experience and practice is key. I witnessed just such a ride a few weeks ago when a relatively unknown rider made an outstanding ride for that day and focused on making her four legged partner accomplish its important run without making any mistakes. While many cowgirls have the ability to make a great ride they often choke under pressure. Not so on this Sunday afternoon when Kelly Hoffman dug down and pulled one out of her hat running the fastest time of the weekend. Hoffman riding Banjo Seven stopped the clock at 14.942 in a Championship Round.

Being able to relax helps to focus and react in the moment with a more fluid and natural ride. This improves your chances of success. Hoffman's ride was fluid and she bested the field of top 20 best times of the weekend and won herself a beautiful hand tooled Dale Martin trophy saddle, along with many other prizes.

After Hoffman's ride, she simply said "this one's for pop's, this one's for pop's." Hoffman was referring to the owners' Terry (Pops) and Beverly Hoffman of Turlock,

California who bred and raised the running bred paint mare from their own stallion Mr Wiggy Joe which goes back to Olympia Joe a champion running paint horse and their APHA mare Lucky's Band by Band Bar Jet. This the seventh like breeding resulted in a beautiful brown and white paint mare, which is just five years old. Hoffman had been placing at the top of many jackpots lately but said that she "asked god to please let her win one for Pops," before she made the impressive winning run. Pops Hoffman has been in the hospital recently and the weight hung heavy on Kelly's shoulders. Whenever Banjo Seven is entered, Pops is always there to watch and cheer Kelly on. Kelly called Pops right after the run and he said "bout darn time that horse did something."

Hoffman knew how to control her reactions which helped her to relax for the ride and put things into perspective. Needless to say their run was beautiful to watch, bringing the crowd to their feet and providing everyone with a memory they will not soon forget.



Pictures courtesy of Off The Beaten Path