

Port Angeles riders place at event

CONGRATULATIONS TO PENINSULA Junior Rodeo Association's new Queen **Kynzie Hensricks** and Princess **Shelby Heyers**. The two will represent our local junior rodeo association at regional rodeos and events for 2009.

Judging the royalty try-outs were former Miss Rodeo USA 1993 and national representative of the International Professional Rodeo Association **Karen Pitman**, with local judges **Cyndi Ulin** and **Shellie Torrence**.

High school equestrians

Local Washington state high school equestrian teams competed last weekend in Spanaway at their second of three district meets.

I have to say I think the parents have just as much fun as the kids.

I didn't hang out as much with the parents because I had a cold; however, the warmth and enthusiasm shown by the parents of both teams was outstanding.

I do not cook well at all, so I was more than a bit envious of all the luscious smells drifting my way from all the home-cooked meals by PA moms simmering away at their camp site.

I'm quite sure they would have been happy to share with me, but I didn't want to share my cold with anyone.

We brought two horses for my niece, **Brooke Stromberg**, to compete on.

Her regular games horse, Lacey, and for the first time Lacey's son, Indy, now 6, performed in drill team and cow events.

This was Brooke's first time trying cow events.

Lending a hand

We were using Indy because he's always been a calm and steady boy, whereas Lacy tends to be flighty and easily stressed. This was Indy's first time being kept overnight in a stall at a show.

I never dreamed there would be a problem.

Well, there I was Saturday morning happily snapping photos at events inside the arena when I got a call I was needed back at the barn because Indy was hurt.

It seems when Brooke led Lacey out of her stall to saddle up (and went out of Indy's sight) he panicked and tried to jump over the stall gate.

PENINSULA HORSEPLAY

Karen Griffiths



Apparently, he got hung up with only his front legs over. He was kicking and struggling to get off, breaking the top

hinge and then falling on his face and left side.

By the time I got there, he was standing up, breathing heavily, with his inside right groin area and three of his legs scrapped and bleeding.

Vet tech **Molly Dickson** happened to be there and gave Indy a shot to calm him down (when a horse is stressed he can easily get colic).

Molly and I worried Indy might have cracked a rib, so I placed an emergency call to the local vet.

When the vet got there, she checked him out thoroughly and, thankfully, couldn't find any signs of cracked ribs or internal injuries.

I was in a state of shock myself so can't remember everyone's names, but I do thank everyone who stepped forward to help, especially **Paige Witherow** for lending her talented "cow" horse to Brooke for steer daubing.

Paige doesn't compete in that event but was pleased when her horse helped Brooke place fourth in that event.

And thanks to **Clara Duncan** for loaning her horse, Spats, for cow sorting.

I'm certain Spats helped Brooke and team mate **Ashley Priddy** win first place.

Incidentally, Spats is the son of Molly's horse, Cimarron, and was her son, **Nick Dickenson's** rodeo horse for a few years.

PA riders' placings

In my previous column, I listed Sequim's top 10 placings from the first meet. at Elma on March 6 to 8.

Here is Port Angeles teams' placings. They were coached by **Nancy McCaleb**:

■ **Timed Events**
Steer daubing — **Garth McCaleb**, third.

Breakaway roping — **Witherow**, first.

Individual flags — **Witherow**, 10th

Figure 8 — **Witherow**, fourth



KAREN GRIFFITHS/PENINSULA DAILY NEWS

Newly elected Peninsula Junior Rodeo royalty are Princess Shelby Heyers, left, and Queen Kynzie Hendricks, right, an eighth-grader at Stevens Middle School, with Karen Pitman, former Miss Rodeo USA 1993 and national representative of the International Professional Rodeo Association.

■ Performance events

Showmanship — **Suzanne Heistand**, fourth; **Haley Hodgin**, seventh; **Gabby Fors**, ninth; and **Darian Rentas**, ninth.

Hunt seat equitation — **Alice Bradford**, first; Heistand, eighth; Hodgin, 10th; and Fors, 10th.

Hunt seat equitation over fences — **Bradford**, second.

Stock seat equitation — Heistand, fourth; Hodgin, fifth; and Rentas, 10th.

Reining — **Rentas**, third; and Heistand, fourth.

Dressage — **Keely Gustin**, fourth; **Bradford**, sixth; and **Gabbi Devlin**, ninth.

Working rancher — **Hodgin**, fourth; and **Fors** fourth.

Trail — **Bradford**, seventh; and **Fors**, seventh.

■ Team events

Team Canadian flags — **Witherow**, **Hodgin**, **Rentas** and **McCaleb**, seventh.

Working pairs — **Witherow** and **Hodgin**, first; and **Rentas** and **Heistand**, fifth.

Drill working fours — **Witherow**, **Hodgin**, **Rentas** and **Heistand**, third.

In-hand obstacle relay — **McCaleb**, **Witherow**,

Hodgin and **Heistand**, fourth; **Chelsea Littlejohn**, **Marissa Wilson**, **Rentas**, sixth; and **Brad-**

ford, **Devlin**, **Fors** and **Gustin**, seventh.

Events

■ **Tonight, 6:30 p.m.** — Arab club meeting at Julie and Greg Poor's house.

■ **March 28, Saturday, 10 a.m. rideout** — BCH Peninsula and Buckhorn Range joint chapter ride at Sandy Lake Shore Road.

The parking is rather limited so horse-pooling is a wise choice, if possible. Generally, there is a potluck afterwards.

For more information, contact ride host and coordinator **Jeff Chapman** at bbbranch@olympus.net.

Directions from Port Angeles and Sequim: East on U.S. Highway 101. Turn right onto Highway 104 for about 6 miles. Turn right onto Sandy Shore Lake Road for 1 mile to the parking area.

■ **March 29, May 3, June 21, Aug. 2 and Sept 6** — OPZ show dates at Baker Stables, 164 Four Winds Road.

For more information, e-mail krystal@olypen.com.

■ **Third Wednesday of month, 7 p.m.** — OPZ meetings, Baker Stables Clubhouse, 164 Four Winds Road.

Annual potluck before March zone meeting.

Everyone is encouraged to bring \$1 to help support the zone.

■ **April 4, Saturday** — Third Annual Jefferson County Senior Roam and Ride schooling show at Jefferson County Fairgrounds hosted by Jefferson County 4-H Horse Project Youth for all adults of 18 and older.

Performance classes start at 10 a.m. and Western games will follow in the afternoon.

Classes are \$5 each for performance and \$4.

Proceeds benefit 4-H Horse Project Youth of Jefferson County.

Show forms available at most Feed and Tack Stores and at Washington State University in Port Hadlock.

For more information, phone **Ashley Govia** at 360-301-4103.

■ **April 17, Friday, 9 a.m.** — BCH Peninsula Chapter's annual Olympic National Park Mule Barn Day at the Elwha Whiskey Bend Road mule corral.

Learn packing and backcountry skills from the people who make packing their way of life.

This year **Larry Lack** is inviting other trail user groups to participate.

There will be packing

demonstrations, LNT presentation and chili dog lunch provided by the Peninsula chapter.

Wear your long johns because it's usually very cold.

For more information, phone Betsy Wyatt at 360-457-3102 or e-mail sbwyatt@olypen.com.

■ **April 19, Sunday, 9 a.m.** — Baker Stable Schooling show.

For more information, visit www.bakerstablespa.net

■ **April 25-26, Saturday and Sunday** — Jefferson County Fairgrounds, WSA System B performance show during the Jeffco Expo.

The show will be co-approved Canal Zone and American Paint Horse Association and Olympic Peninsula Zone.

The show will have English and Trail on Saturday and Western Classes on Sunday.

Karen Griffiths' column, Peninsula Horse Play, appears every other Wednesday.

If you have a horse event, clinic or seminar you would like listed, please e-mail Griffiths at horseplay.kbg@olympus.net at least two weeks in advance. You can also write Griffiths at PDN, P.O. Box 1330, Port Angeles, WA 98362.