

# SPORTS&RECREATION

## Local riders take on Newport rodeo

### Sullivan wins barrel event

NEWPORT — Several Okanogan County riders competed in the July 17 Newport Rough Stock Rodeo, with Amy Sullivan, Okanogan, winning the barrel racing event.

Sullivan was the Washington Barrel Racing Association's reserve open champion in 2020.

Lacey Ralston, Okanogan, placed second in barrels at Newport

Steve Maupin, Tonasket, placed third in ranch bronc.

Pro-West rodeo results

Bareback — 1, Aaron Buckley, \$403.92. 2, Duke Hanson, \$269.28.

Saddle bronc — 1, Austin Krogh, \$673.20.

Bull riding — 1, Colton Schneiderman, \$1,057.32. 2, Hubba Hagerly, \$704.88.

Newport also had a Professional Rodeo Cowboys Association-sanctioned rodeo June 25-26 in Newport.

PRCA results

Bareback — Fran Orozco-Marchand, no score.

Saddle bronc — Fran Orozco-Marchand, no score.

Bull riding — Tanner White, no time.

Fran Orozco-Marchand, no score.



Lacey Ralston, Okanogan, rushes down the final stretch during the barrel racing event July 17 in Newport.

MADDIE TIMM

## Okanogan Country: A piece of pedaling heaven

BICYCLISTS CAN FIND pedaling heaven in Okanogan Country

Bicyclists of all ages will find pedaling heaven on Okanogan Country's miles upon miles of scenic country roads, quiet forest routes and exciting, single-track trails.

You can pedal along hillsides covered in beautiful spring flowers, enjoy the warm summer sun, thrill to the brilliance of fall colors or take your fat-tire bike along groomed tracks in winter.

Drink in snow-covered peaks, enjoy a quiet tour along cool, forested roads or trek along paved roads under wide, blue skies.

Take a break from driving and spend an afternoon pedaling on paved or gravel county roads or take an entire day exploring the region's vast beauty.



DEE CAMP | *The Chronicle*

Riders pause along Highway 20 before making the final eastward push to Washington Pass.

Mountain biking is allowed on most national forest trails and roads — however, some areas are closed to visitors temporarily because of fire danger.

It's best to check with the appropriate agency — U.S. Forest Service, state Department of Natural Resources, National Park Service and state Department of Fish and Wildlife among them — to make sure your desired area is open.

Okanogan and Ferry counties are part of U.S. Bicycle Route 10, which travels along Highway 20 between Anacortes in western Washington and the Idaho border in Pend Oreille County. The 400-mile-long route is AASHTO-recognized.

Some popular local routes include:

- Twisp River Trail. Full of

variety, fun and interesting scenery, this single-track trail parallels the Twisp River.

- Lightning Creek. The 16-mile ride around Lightning Creek Ridge in the Methow Valley offers a mix of forest road and little-used trail.
- Goat Wall. The 28-mile, Mazama-area route has nearly 3,500 feet of altitude gain, Cascade views and a wild downhill run back to the valley floor.

- Sun Mountain. Extensive cross country ski trails also serve as perfect routes for mountain biking.
- Mid-valley loop. For folks who enjoy road riding, the loop runs north from Okanogan to the flats west of town and into Riverside for a nice pedal to Omak and back to Okanogan.
- Oroville-Nighthawk. Start in Oroville and head west along the Similkameen River to

Nighthawk. From there, pedal along Palmer Lake to Loomis, then take a speedy downhill ride back to the Okanogan Valley before heading up the east side of the Okanogan River and back to Oroville.

- Sherman Trail No. 12. The 1.14-mile, beginner-level trail takes a steady but not difficult climb to the Kettle Crest in Ferry County, traveling through a forested area broken up by

two meadows.

From Sherman Pass take Road 2040 for 2.5 miles. Cross the south fork of the San Poil River and turn right on Road 65, then drive two miles to the trailhead. The trail is open to hikers, bikers and horse riders.

- Deer Creek Summit South Loop Trail. Bikers will see views of the Kettle Crest and Kettle River Valley from this 5.5-mile ride along Kettle Crest

No. 13 trail and Forest Service Road No. 455.

From Republic, take Highway 21 to Curlew and Road 602 east to Boulder Deer Creek Summit. The trail is open for hikers, bikers, horse riders and cross country skiers.

- Ferry County Rail Trail. The former railroad bed runs north-south from just north of Republic almost to the Canadian border.



FERRY COUNTY RAIL TRAIL PARTNERS

The Ferry County Rail Trail, on an abandoned railroad bed, is a favorite of cyclists.



SOPHIE DANISON | *Special to The Chronicle*

Pipestone Canyon, in the Methow Valley, offers a secluded ride.