

THE RUNDOWN

SEPTEMBER

20-October 4
NRCHA Snaffle Bit Futurity
Reno, Nevada

OCTOBER

1-3
NRCHA Snaffle Bit Futurity Sales
Reno, Nevada

1-6
Scottsdale Classic
Scottsdale, Arizona

2-3
30th Annual Fall Consignment Sale
Shawnee, Oklahoma

2-25
All American Quarter Horse Congress
Columbus, Ohio

16
Jim Vangilder's Rock Creek Ranch Dispersal Sale
Weatherford, Texas

17
Legacy Reining Breeders Sale
Aubrey, Texas

20-25
SWRHA Reining Futurity
Ardmore, Oklahoma

NOVEMBER

6-21
AQHA World Championship Show
Oklahoma City

14-15
AQHA World Championship Show Sale
Oklahoma City

21-December 13
NCHA Futurity & World Finals
Fort Worth, Texas

26-December 5
NRHA Futurity
Oklahoma City

DECEMBER

3-5
NRHA Futurity Sales

5-13
NCHA Futurity Sales
Fort Worth, Texas

REASONS TO RIDE

Nineteen-year-old Kristin Spencer of Tioga, Texas, qualified again for the cutting at the 2009 Ford AQHYA World Championship Show with her mare Ima Cuttin Monkey. They won the reserve world championship in 2007, and Kristin was eager for another shot at the gold trophy to finish out her youth competition career. But July 26, five days before the show started July 31, she was given another reason to want to do well. Her mother's cousin, Deputy Sheriff Marvin Williams, was killed in the line of duty in Seminole, Oklahoma, attempting to serve an arrest warrant. "My mom was real close to him," Kristin said. "It was hard just watching how my mom reacted."

Kristin and Ima Cuttin Monkey qualified for the August 1 finals with a 216, the third-highest score. Her parents weren't able to watch her because they were at Marvin's funeral. However, Kristin carried on and wrote on her qualifier bio form: "It has been a tough week, but I ride for glory of God and in memory of Marvin Williams."

She rode sixth in the herd and was having a great go until she lost her third cow. She couldn't help the tears as she unwrapped the mare's boots.

"I felt very confident in my mare," Kristin said. "But it fell apart. I was hoping to go out of youth with a bang. I wanted to be able to honor him, too, for my family. That still happened, but I wanted it to be a little bigger, I guess. I wanted to do it for my parents, actually."



CHRISTINE HAMILTON

REINERS TURN COWMEN

At the Southwest Reined Cow Horse Association Kalpower Futurity & Derby on August 22, reiners tried their hand at reined cow horse. A packed house watched as crowd favorite Abby Mixon and Bald N Shiney marked the high score of 150. However, \$3 million National Reining Horse Association rider Tim McQuay came in shortly to tie her, riding Lyle Lovett's Smart Shinetta. The two reiners had a work-off and Tim came out on top. Next year's event will be team-oriented, with reiners and cutters, doing both rein and cow work.

RIDE OF A LIFETIME

Shining Spark is 20 years old and hasn't been ridden in eight years. However, that all changed August 1 when Carol Rose's friends, Bobby Hawkins, brought his granddaughter, Robin, out. It was the wish of Bobby's wife, Georgette, to see Robin ride "Shiner" some day.



PHOTO COURTESY OF CAROL ROSE

PENNIES FOR PUKES

On Facebook, non-pro reiner Ronald Thompson of Whitesboro, Texas, posted this:

"I called my congressman this morning and asked if we could have a 'Pennies for Pukes' program (similar to 'Cash for Clunkers'). I have a few ponies here that are obviously not worth what I paid for them, so I think Uncle Sam needs to come to our rescue, too. What do you guys think?"

