

THE SHORT ROUND >>**>> with Sage Kimzey**

reigning world champion bull rider

■ DESCRIBE YOUR RODEO RIG.

We have a 24-foot motor home with three beds in it. It has a Mercedes diesel engine and runs great. It's absolutely perfect. There are usually three of us, but at the end of the year there were four and there are always guys catching rides. The regular crew is me, Brennon Eldred, and Tanner Bothwell. Pistol Robinson jumped in with us the end of the year.

■ WHAT'S YOUR GO-TO GAS STATION MEAL?

Subway. I always get the club sandwich, usually with nacho cheese Doritos and a Dr. Pepper.

■ QUOTE TO LIVE BY...

I don't really have a quote. I've just always wanted to be the best at anything I do. I stay motivated by working toward that all the time.

■ WHAT'S YOUR GUILTIEST PLEASURE?

Copenhagen snuff.

■ WHO'S YOUR ROLE MODEL?

I have so many role models. I've looked up to a lot of people through the years who have helped me get to where I am today, from Donnie Gay to Cody Custer to Gary Leffew. But if I had to pick just one, it would be my dad for sure.

■ WHO'S YOUR FAVORITE BULL OF ALL TIME?

Red Wolf, probably. There are a bunch of good ones, but if I could pick one bull to get on, that would be the one.

■ IF YOU WEREN'T A RODEO COWBOY, WHAT WOULD YOU BE DOING?

I'd most likely be helping out on the family ranch. Being a cowboy is all I've ever wanted to do or ever thought about doing. Fence fixing is not one of my favorite things to do, but I love every other part of ranching.

■ WHAT FAMOUS PERSON WOULD YOU WANT TO HAVE DINNER WITH?

Probably Clem McSpadden because he saw every stage of rodeo, from what it was way back in the day to where it is now.

■ IF MONEY WERE NO OBJECT, WHAT WOULD YOU DO?

I'd probably be a world traveler. I'd have a personal jet and fly everywhere with my favorite people. I'd like to experience different places and cultures.

■ NAME ONE THING ON YOUR BUCKET LIST THAT YOU DID THIS YEAR.

I don't really have a bucket list. Winning Pendleton, Calgary, and Houston



were definitely goals I set. Pendleton was awesome. You can just tell that the people who have paved the way for you to do what you do were there before you.

■ IF YOU COULD SEE ANYONE GET ON A BULL, WHO WOULD IT BE?

Probably Carrie Underwood, because she's not really a rodeo supporter and I think it would give her a different perspective if she tried to ride a bull. I would like her to understand that animals used in rodeo are just as much athletes as the competitors are.

Interview by Susan Kanode