HOOF PRINTS

AMERICAN QUARTER HORSE HISTORY

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WEATHER: AMARILLO, TX SUNNY AND SWINDY

Rodeos and Races

The sport of rodeo has been around since the early days of cattle work and ranching. It originated in Spain and Mexico when vaqueros had to test their skills to maintain cattle and horse herds for general prosperity. The sport grew as they began to challenge others' skills to see who was the best or the fastest at particular work.



The first rodeo sport competition occurred after the Civil War and was held in Cheyenne, Wyoming in 1872. The sport grew and was often combined with Wild West Shows such as those hosted by Buffalo Bill and Annie Oakley. This caused crowds of spectators to gather for the fun filled events and the sport of rodeo grew around the world.

The most prominent rodeo events tested the speed and agility of cowboys and cowgirls and their horses. Each contestant was pushed to the limits both mentally and physically.

Unlike rodeos and eventing, the sport of horse racing had been around for centuries and only grew more prominent as America was settled and developed. Horse races were often run down the middle of town on the main street or in level fields.



Race horses were a huge business and owners showed them for conformation or build to perfect breeding for speed and endurance. Official tracks were built around the country to house spectators and horse owners that had been bitten by the racing bug. Large amounts of property and cash exchanged hands on a regular basis due to race outcomes. Thus, breeders were always trying to create a faster and more prominent horse. The art of breeding was perfected in the quarter mile with the development of the American Quarter Horse.

In 1960, this man begins training horses and wins the All American futurity eight times. _____



What famous brand is under the Hall of Fame Medallion in the Grand Hall?

The American Quarter Horse Association was formed in _____ and began the registry for the fastest breed for quarter mile racing and the legacy for the most versatile horse in the world. The American Quarter Horse registry is the largest in the world and has over 5 million horses registered in 95 countries and over 280,000 members from 86 countries as of today. Many of the AQHA members regularly partake in rodeos, races, eventing, and shows.



did Baby Doll Combs excel in?	More people began to have an interest in the new events brought about from the earlier methods of cavalry training and cross entered their American Quarter Horses who also competed in rodeo events. They knew these horses could excel in many different activities. The new branch of organized eventing included the realm of jumping, the art of dressage, and cross country racing. These different sports were brought from England and other countries in the 1800's but did not become prominent or recognized sports in America until the early 1900's. Draw your favorite horse event here.
What did Gordon Hannigan do for a living?	
In 1966 Dale Wilkinson wins what?	
Special Effort was the first horse to win what?	In 1964, Make It Do was foaled. He has a photo made in front of what Hall of Champions? Race horses have special shoes they were to keep traction on the track. What is the name of the person that shoes horses for a living?
This race horse was named after the big box we store cold foods in. What year was he inducted in to the Hall	Horses that perform must be great athletes, eat properly and drink plenty of water. How much water should a horse drink each day? What was your favorite exhibit? Use the space below to make a sketch of your favorite exhibit to help you remember it! Title:
of Fame? Who invented the closed electrical starting gate and introduced it to horse racing?	

What rodeo event