

# 2006 Stock Show



## ONLINE EXCLUSIVE

Be the fastest at our memory game, and you could win four tickets to the PRCA rodeo. [www.star-telegram.com](http://www.star-telegram.com)

## NUMBER OF THE DAY

# 126

**pounds:** The weight at which a pig is considered a hog. Between 40 and 120 pounds, swine are called feeder pigs. A hog is generally considered ready to be taken to market between 190 and 240 pounds.

## WORD OF THE DAY

**Freshenings:** When the dairy goat show gets going Sunday, judges may ask how long the females, or does, have been "fresh," or how long it's been producing milk. The milk would stop flowing when the kids grow up, so farmers have to keep breeding, or freshening, the goats.

## TRIVIA

**Proper dress required:** Competitors in the horse show performance classes, such as cutting and roping, must wear appropriate attire. According to the Stock Show's horses' premium list, "tennis shoes and loafers are not permitted" and the wearing of a hat is mandatory.

## ALL AMERICAN COWGIRL CHICKS

# Group's daring stunts help fight cancer

■ The 18-member, all-female equestrian drill team will ride in the grand entry of tonight's ranch rodeo at the Stock Show.

By **BEN TINSLEY**  
STAR-TELEGRAM STAFF WRITER

FORT WORTH — It's a challenge to be a trick rider for Trish Lynn and the All American Cowgirl Chicks.

There's already plenty of training — in some cases seven hours of horseback riding a day — for the rank-and-file members of the 18-member equestrian drill team. They're known for electrifying rodeo audiences with precision riding, fireworks and daring horseback stunts. They also raise money to help fight cancer.

Members who wish to go the extra mile to become trick riders push themselves to master acrobatics on

quarter horses — doing headstands or standing high in the saddle as the horses gallop at breakneck speed. Or spinning their bodies around saddle horns, also with the horses at high speed.

"It takes a lot of practice, and you really have to have a love for it," said Whitney Carter, 18, a trick rider who works on a ranch in Weatherford taking care of horses. "You have to work and practice all the time. I'll continue doing this as long as my body will let me."

The Weatherford group will ride in the grand entry of tonight's ranch rodeo, which starts at 7:30. Members also performed last night. This is their third year at the Fort Worth Stock Show. The group gives 100 performances a year, including 80 rodeos.

The group was created to help its

younger members develop life skills and principles while honing themselves into the best drill team possible, officials said. Members range in age from 13 to 48.

"These girls really know how to ride. They're athletes," said Guy Carter, husband of coach Trisha Carter.

The group has a "Ride for the Cure" program, through which it holds various fund-raisers, raising tens of thousands of dollars a year to fight cancer. They also visit cancer patients in hospitals and donate retired horses to help cancer patients.

It's important to help since many don't have insurance, Whitney Carter said.

"We ride for cancer," she said.

Whitney's sister, Sadie Carter, who at 13 is the group's youngest member, is a trick rider, too. She trains seven

hours a day, she said.

"I've been with horses all my life and now it's something that is part of me," Sadie said. "Sometimes I feel as if I were a horse."

Katherine Brown, 48, assistant coach and senior team member, has been with the group for its entire nine years.

The group was first steered toward cancer prevention by a 7-year-old boy who had jaw cancer about five years ago, Brown said. The boy needed financial help that the group provided.

The boy lost a eye, Brown said. But he lived.

ONLINE: [www.weatherfordcowgirlchicks.com](http://www.weatherfordcowgirlchicks.com)

Ben Tinsley, (817) 685-3821  
[btinsley@star-telegram.com](mailto:btinsley@star-telegram.com)



STAR-TELEGRAM/ROOGER MALLISON

All American Cowgirl Chicks members, from left, Haddon Norris, Katherine Brown and Sadie Carter check out the group's calendar Friday.