

# WYOMING TRADITIONS ATHLETICS

## RAGTIME COWBOY JOE

The familiar song of the University of Wyoming athletics teams is Ragtime Cowboy Joe. This song is performed by the band as UW teams enter the playing surface, following a score or big play, and to fire up the fans. The Cowboy and Cowgirl student-athletes traditionally sing this following each Wyoming victory.



## RAGTIME COWBOY JOE LYRICS

"He always sings raggy music to the cattle as he swings back and forward in the saddle, on a horse - a pretty good horse! He's got a syncopated gaiter, and you ought to hear the meter to the roar of his repeater; how they run - yes run! - when they hear that he's 'a-comin', 'cause the western folks all know, he's a high-falootin', rootin', tootin', son of a gun from ol' Wyoming, Ragtime Cowboy, Talk about your Cowboy, Ragtime Cowboy Joe."

## WILD BUNCH

The Wild Bunch is the official name for University of Wyoming student section. The Wild Bunch is one BIG fan club for all 17 NCAA Division I sports at the University of Wyoming. The Wild Bunch leads Wyoming fans in spirit, tradition and passion for Wyoming Athletics. Members of the Wild Bunch receive multiple benefits, and as a student at UW, the Wild Bunch is the best way to become involved in Wyoming Athletics.



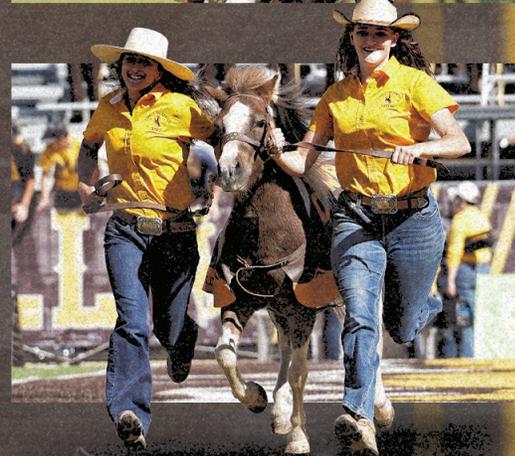
## COWBOY NICKNAME

The nickname "Cowboys" was applied to Wyoming athletic teams as early as 1891 - two years before the first official football game. The story is that the Wyoming pick-up football team appealed to a 220 pound cowpuncher, Fred Bush, for help in a game against the Cheyenne Soldiers, Bush signed up for a course or two and came out for the team. When he trotted onto the field decked out in a checkered shirt and Cowboy hat, someone yelled, "Hey, look at the Cowboy!" Since many of the members of the team were also ex-cowboys, the name stuck. When women's sports were added at UW, the nickname of Cowgirls was applied to those squads.



## COWBOY JOE PONY

Cowboy Joe is the official live mascot of the Cowboys and Cowgirls. He trots around War Memorial Stadium after each Cowboy touchdown, a tradition which started in 1950 when the Farthing Family of Cheyenne made a generous donation of a young pony to become Wyoming's mascot. Cowboy Joe also represents UW in parades around the region, appears in the Pepsi Pregame Zone on football game days and leads the band and team in the pre-game Cowboy Walk. This beautiful little pony is very popular with Cowboy and Cowgirl fans of all ages.



## SPIRIT SQUAD

The primary purpose of Wyoming's Spirit Squad is to support the Cowboys and Cowgirls, and to serve as public relations ambassadors for the University of Wyoming. The UW cheer squad works hard to get the crowd involved, lead cheers, entertain, and to boost the level of fan excitement and support to new extremes. In addition to their game-day involvement at UW Athletics' contests, Wyoming Spirit Squad members also make numerous appearances at university activities, functions, programs, and public events. Cowboy and Cowgirl sports are flying high and the Wyoming Spirit Squad are leading the way.



## PISTOL PETE

Pistol Pete is the UW mascot who works alongside the Wyoming Spirit Squad, encouraging the crowd and getting fans involved in the game.



## WESTERN THUNDER MARCHING BAND

The University of Wyoming Marching Band - "Western Thunder" - features musicians from nearly every major on campus, who perform for thousands of football fans each year at home and road Cowboy football games. The Wyoming Pep Band plays at numerous other UW sporting events.



## UW'S LOGO - STEAMBOAT

One of the nation's best, and most distinctive logos, the image on Wyoming's uniforms depicts a cowboy riding a bucking horse. This symbol has been a part of the University of Wyoming Athletics Department since the early 1920's, when UW Equipment Manger Deane Hunton obtained a photograph of a cowboy, Guy Holt, riding the world famous bucking horse Steamboat. Hunton had the photo made into a logo, which was then utilized by UW athletic teams. While there are differing opinions on exactly which horse and rider is depicted on all of UW's athletic uniforms today, it is the symbol that is important. The bucking horse and rider represents the toughness, and the never-say-die spirit that is Wyoming. A statue honoring the symbol called 'Fanning a Twister', was erected at the north entrance of UW's athletics facilities in 1991.



## BROWN & GOLD

The story behind the colors of the University of Wyoming dates back to 1895. In the spring of that year, the first ever UW Alumni Banquet was held. Decorations for the banquet included Brown-Eyed Susans, a flower native of Southeastern Wyoming. The Alumni were so impressed with the colors (brown and gold) and the beauty of the flowers that they decided to select these colors as the official school colors at UW.

