

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE *Thursday, April 8, 2010* 

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## **Clovis Ranch Rodeo to be Held Saturday, April 10**

## Now a Sanctioned Western States Ranch Rodeo Association Event

*(Clovis, California)*: The 10<sup>th</sup> Annual Clovis Ranch Rodeo will be held on Saturday, April 10 at the Clovis Rodeo grounds. Events will begin at 8:30 a.m. and entrance is free for spectators. The Ranch Rodeo event continues a month long celebration of activities leading up to the 96<sup>th</sup> Annual Clovis Rodeo April 22-25, 2010.

For the first time Clovis will be a sanctioned Western States Ranch Rodeo Association (WSRRA) event – giving our hardworking cowboys and cowgirls the added recognition they deserve. WSRRA is a newly formed association representing the western United States that gives the teams of cowboys and cowgirls the opportunity to compete at a higher level of ranch-hand rodeo events amongst the best of the best. Clovis will likely see teams on Saturday who have the intention of garnering points that will allow them to move on to the next level of competition where they will try for top honors amongst full time and part time working cowboys from major ranches throughout the West. Currently WSRRA has 25 sanctioned rodeos for this season.

The Ranch Rodeo is a competition between four-person teams of local cowboys and cowgirls. The best riders and their horses, compete against each other in the kind of ranching activities they must do every day on their working cattle ranch operations. Ranch Rodeo teams are required to compete in five judged and six timed events. The events include team branding, team doctoring, individual ranch horse, individual trail horse, ranch cutting, team roping and team sorting. Each team consists of four (4) riders who must use their same horse for the entire event.

Cowboys and cowgirls will be competing for more than \$16,000 in prizes including custom made saddles and silver bits. Major sponsors of the Clovis Ranch Rodeo include: McCaffrey Homes, George Porter, Clovis Rodeo Association, Merced Milling, Evans Feed, Vince Genco, Sam Habib, Greg Harlan, Bob Robinson, Ricotti Saddles, Blackstone Tire, Classic Equine, Steve Guitron, Ron Silva Reality, Bob Avila/Professional Choice, PLMA Madera, Troy Ford-DVM, Kevin Cantrelle and Hall Ag.

The Clovis Rodeo will open on Thursday, April 22 with the return of the PBR Bull Riding Touring Pro-Division. Friday night rodeo action will be followed by a concert for rodeo fans by rising country superstar, Jake Owen. Two days of rodeo activities continue through the weekend, along with the popular Clovis Rodeo parade on Saturday, April 24. Tickets are available by calling 559-299-5203 or visiting <u>www.clovisrodeo.com</u>. Ticket office hours are Monday through Saturday 9:00 a.m. –5:30 p.m.

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The all-volunteer, non-profit Clovis Rodeo Association (CRA) has 580 members. Approximately \$125,000 in proceeds from the Clovis Rodeo and related events coordinated by CRA members benefit local charities annually, including 4-H, FFA, Clovis Schools, Clovis Police Activities League, California High School Rodeo Foundation, Make-A-Wish Foundation, Break the Barriers, Boy Scouts of America, Clovis Community Hospital and the Central California Blood Center.