

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE Saturday, April 10 2010

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Clovis Ranch Rodeo Today - Rodeo Grounds

(*Clovis, California*): The 10th Annual Clovis Ranch Rodeo will be held today 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 96th Annual Clovis Rodeo April 22-25, 2010.

The event 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. Each team is 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 from throughout the Central Valley 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 2009 championship team of John Smith, Carl Gould, Bill Garlic and Buster Berna will be returning to defend their title and their luck at winning a third championship saddle at the event. Tim Burk and his two-time championship team from Squaw Valley will also be ready to compete Saturday and their luck at a coveted third championship saddle.

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 www.clovisrodeo.com. 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.