

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE *Thursday, April 26, 2012*

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Chad Besplug Takes Clovis' PBR Champion Title

(Clovis, California): Capacity crowds watched Professional Bull Ridings' Chad Besplug take home the title of champion on Julie Moreno's Bucking Bull, Charlie Bullware. The 87.5 ride wowed fans and kicked off the first day of the 98th Clovis Rodeo. A concert with American Idol season seven winner David Cook followed the PBR and only added to the excitement of the night kicking off rodeo weekend. PRCA Rodeo action continues beginning at 5:30 p.m. Friday night followed by a concert with country star Justin Moore. One ticket gets fans a full throttle PRCA Rodeo and a concert for just \$27.00.

The roster of bull riders competing at the Clovis Rodeo's PBR included 10 of the top 41 bull riders in the Built Ford Tough series with veterans Brendon Clark, Colby Yates, Travis Briscoe, Sean Willingham and Josh Koshel leading the pack. The bulls were equally famous in the draw tonight including fan favorites like Sue, Bring It, Curveball, Pretty Boy Blue, Yes Man and Zip Code.

The Clovis Rodeo Association opened the day in support of their community with the annual blood drive benefiting the Central California Blood Center. Recognized as the nation's largest one day blood drive, rodeo fans yet again exceed expectations with a new record of 1,071 pints, having done 1,011 pints in 2010.

The 98th Clovis Rodeo will continue through the weekend. Friday Nights PRCA Rodeo action will be followed by a concert with rising country star Justin Moore. Two more days of wild rodeo action will follow along with the popular Clovis Rodeo parade on Saturday, April 28. The Clovis Rodeo runs April 26-29.

All seats are reserved for each rodeo performance. Reserved ticket prices range from \$17.00 to \$27.00 and are available by calling 559-299-5203, visiting <u>www.clovisrodeo.com</u>, or at the rodeo ticket office located on the rodeo grounds between Bullard and Shaw in the heart of downtown Clovis 9-5:30 p.m. daily (M-Sat.). Parking at the rodeo grounds is free of charge.

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The all-volunteer, non-profit Clovis Rodeo Association (CRA) has 700 members. Approximately \$150,000 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.