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Ticket Sales Ahead of Last Year for the 98th Clovis Rodeo

(Clovis, California): Ticket sales are exceeding expectations for the 98th Annual Clovis Rodeo scheduled to take place April 26-29. The addition of a Thursday night concert with American Idol winner David Cook, country superstar Justin Moore in concert after the rodeo Friday night and the anticipation of seeing world champion cowboys compete for the best 8-second thrill ride are generating fan excitement for the annual event.

"Our Association is looking forward to putting on a great rodeo for our guests," said Ron Dunbar, president of the Clovis Rodeo Association. "We have fans coming from all over the country and Canada to see American Idol winner David Cook and country superstar Justin Moore in concert, along with some great Clovis Rodeo action by some of the best cowboys in the sport."

Often a stop for World Champion Cowboys who proudly wear the gold buckle the 2012 Clovis Rodeo will host more than 500 cowboys and cowgirls to take a qualifying run at what they do best. Look for some of the biggest names in rodeo next week, including the Cooper brothers in the tie down event, Wright brothers in the Saddle Bronc and two California boys leading the Steer Wrestling event, Ethan Thouvenell (Napa, CA) and Billy Bugening (Ferndale, CA).

This weekend look for the competition to continue amongst three very qualified young ladies for the title of **Miss Clovis Rodeo in the horsemanship competition Saturday morning (April 21) from 8:00 – 10:00 a.m.** at the Clovis Rodeo arena. The ladies vying for the opportunity to represent 98 years of rodeo tradition are Christine Fox from Pleasanton, Leah Harron from Springville and Hollie Kuccera from Atherton, California. The annual Clovis **Rodeo Queens Banquet will follow Saturday night April 21 at 5:30 p.m.**

Not to be outdone **Cowboy Kids Day** for all buckaroos between the ages of 2 and 10 years takes place center court at **Sierra Vista Mall on Sunday, April 22 from 1:00 – 3:00 p.m.** There will be stick pony races, barrel jumping and kids all dressed up in their best western attire competing for prizes.

The 98th Clovis Rodeo will open on Thursday, April 26 with the PBR Touring Pro-Division followed by a concert with David Cook. 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 continue along with the popular Clovis Rodeo parade on Saturday, April 28 and the rodeo finals on Sunday. 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-for-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.