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CONTACT: Alfreda Sebasto 559-285-1237

Mark Thompson 559-299-8838

TICKET OFFICE ONLY: 559-299-5203

Countdown to Clovis Rodeo Continues with Queen Competition and Kowboy Kids

Clovis Rodeo is April 23 – 26, 2009

(Clovis, California): The community of Clovis continues their countdown to the 95th Annual Clovis Rodeo April 23 – 26 with the competition for the coveted title of Rodeo Queen to be held on Saturday, April 18. On Sunday, April 19 children interested in learning what it takes to be a cowboy or a cowgirl get the chance to show off at Kowboy Kids Day at the Sierra Vista Mall.

There are seven ladies competing for the title of Clovis Rodeo Queen and the opportunity to represent the traditional western rodeo values that are a big part of the Clovis community's heritage. Candidates must not only show their horsemanship skills, but their scholastic skills and community involvement. Candidates are graded on their scholastic achievement, poise, showmanship, interview skills and horsemanship. The winning candidate will accept her title on Saturday, April 25 from reigning queen Markie Marie Battaglia in the arena at 12:30 p.m. before the rodeo performance begins. The 2009 Miss Clovis Rodeo will go on to represent the Clovis Rodeo at events and rodeos throughout the year.

The 2009 Miss Clovis Rodeo will also receive more than \$3,000 in scholarship funds towards her education and numerous gifts donated by the many generous sponsors of the competition. The 2009 candidates are: Sarah Friesen (Atwater), Mindy Kathleen Garrison (Visalia), Crystal Gremminger (Clovis), Brittany Hart (Madera), Caitlin Lookabaugh (Clovis), Cinda Mattrocce (Madera) and Brittany Slaton (Hollister).

Kowboy Kids Day will take place on Sunday, April 19 at the Sierra Vista Mall in Clovis from 1:00 to 3:00 p.m. There will be kids rodeo events and competitions for the best-dressed cowboy and cowgirl. Participants will have the opportunity to win tickets to the Clovis Rodeo to be held April 23 – 26, 2009.

Weekend schedule is as follows:

Saturday, April 18 Queen's Horsemanship Competition (Arena) 8:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m. Queen's Banquet (Rodeo Hall) 5:30 p.m. – 8:30 p.m.

Sunday, April 19 Kowboy Kids Day at Sierra Vista Mall 1:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.

The Clovis Rodeo will open on Thursday, April 23 with the return of the USST PBR Bull Riding Challenger Tour. The Friday night rodeo action will be followed by a concert for rodeo fans with multi-platinum country performing group, LONESTAR. Two days of rodeo activities will continue through the weekend, along with the popular Clovis Rodeo parade on Saturday, April 25. 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.