



NEWS RELEASE

OKLAHOMA STATE FAIR, INC.
MEDIA RELATIONS DEPARTMENT
P.O. BOX 74943
OKLAHOMA CITY, OKLAHOMA 73147
PHONE: (405) 948-6700
FAX: (405) 948-6828
www.okstatefair.com - www.okstatefairpark.com



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For Immediate Release:

STATE FAIR PARK CLOSES OUT ANOTHER SUCCESSFUL YEAR

The 2008 horse show season came to a close at State Fair Park during the month of December. State Fair Park continues to offer the finest equine facilities in the nation, attracting the top horse shows around, thus maintaining the title of "Horse Show Capital of the World."

The National Reining Horse Association Futurity & Adequan® North American Affiliate Championship Show ran November 27 through December 6. The 10-day event was a world-class production featuring the most elite reiners competing for nearly \$2 million in cash and prize awards. Winning the NRHA Open Futurity Division was Shining N Sassy, ridden by Tim McQuay and owned and bred by Carol Rose Quarter Horses, of Gainesville, Texas. The winner took home a check for \$150,000, as well as a host of other prizes. The NRHA show drew 51,303 spectators and participants from all over the world, generating over \$12 million in direct spending into the Oklahoma City economy.

Also featured in December was the 23rd Annual World Barrel Racing Futurity, Sweepstakes and Derby. It took place at State Fair Park, beginning December 9 and running through December 13. Of the hundreds of barrel futurities held each year throughout the United States, the Oklahoma City event heads the list, with their added purse money of \$100,000. In addition to the prize money, winners also received horse blankets and trophies. This show drew over 24,000 spectators and participants and had a direct spending impact of over \$5.6 million on Oklahoma City.

In all, State Fair Park played host to 15 events during the month of December. In addition to the horse shows, the other events included the Family Expectations Holiday Party, the Indian Territory Australian Shepherd Dog Show, the Oklahoma City Train Show, the Quad Graphics Children's Christmas Party, a Motorcycle Swap Meet, a Toyota Vehicle Launch, the ONG Children's Holiday Party, the Oklahoma City Collecton Auto Auction, the R.K. Gun Show, a Buchanan's Vintage Market, the Salvation Army Christmas Toy Distribution, the Athletes First Basketball Classic and the Oklahoma City Gun Show. All told, there were 92,568 people present during the 269 event days held at State Fair Park, generating over \$19 million in direct spending into the Oklahoma City economy.

For more information regarding the December events, or any upcoming months, please contact the Fair Park Office at (405) 948-6704. You may also obtain information by contacting us at

www.okstatefairpark.com on the Internet. InFAIRmation, the official newsletter of the Oklahoma State Fair® and State Fair Park, is now available as a free on-line publication. Subscribe by visiting us at www.okstatefair.com and clicking on the “newsletter subscriber” link.

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Contact: J. Scott Munz at (405) 948-6700 or smunz@okstatefair.com