



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: Jennie Richmond and Bonner Cooper, Star of Texas Fair and Rodeo/Rodeo Austin

512.919.3000 phone

512.919.3005 fax

Jennie@RodeoAustin.com; Bonner@RodeoAustin.com

www.RodeoAustin.com

EDUCATION A PRIORITY FOR KNOWLES / RODEO RESULTS MARCH 15TH

Austin, Texas, March 16, 2010 – Blake Knowles, son of former National Finals Rodeo (NFR) Saddle Bronc Riding Average Winner and current ProRodeo commentator, Butch Knowles, grew up wanting to follow in his father's footsteps and ride saddle broncs. However, his father encouraged him to give several events a try, and as a result, Blake decided to compete in all six events in high school. Taking his father's advice paid off, as Blake soon outgrew the smaller frame often reserved for the roughstock cowboys and quickly began to make a name for himself in steer wrestling. After narrowly missing the NFR in 2008, Blake qualified for his first Wrangler National Finals Rodeo in 2009 and finished 13th in the World Standings.

Knowles is currently sitting in the top 35 in the 2010 World Steer Wrestling Standings and had the fastest run of the night at Rodeo Austin with a time of 4.2 seconds. The 27 year old cowboy could not personify Rodeo Austin's mission of *Promoting Youth Education - Preserving Western Heritage* any better. Although Blake grew up dreaming of competing in the NFR, he

(more)

EDUCATION A PRIORITY FOR KNOWLES / RODEO RESULTS MARCH 15TH (page 2)

never let rodeo come before his education. “Getting a degree was always the first priority,” said the young steer wrestler who has an Associates degree from Walla Walla Community College and a Bachelors degree in Marketing from Eastern Oregon University. “When I had to choose between school and rodeo, I chose school first,” he said. The talented cowboy is already paving the way for a great rodeo career, but feels that his education will ensure success long after his rodeoing days are over.

The March 15th ProRodeo Results are as follows:

Bareback Riding

1. TIE Jared Smith - 84 points
1. TIE Steven Dent - 84 points
3. Bobby Mote - 83 points
4. Tanner Aus - 82 points
5. TIE Jason Havens - 77 points
5. TIE Evan Jayne - 77 points
7. TIE Ryan Gray - 73 points
7. TIE Kyle Brennecke - 73 points

Steer Wrestling

1. Blake Knowles - 4.2 seconds
2. Glen Ray Clarke - 4.4 seconds
3. Casey Martin - 4.6 seconds
4. Cody Cassidy - 5.4 seconds
5. Curtis Cassidy - 14.5 seconds
6. Reagon Walker - 18.6 seconds

Team Roping

1. Derick Fleming / Marty Becker - 5.6 seconds
2. Waylon McCurley / J.W. Borrego - 6.7 seconds
3. Coleman Proctor / Caleb Twisselman - 10.6 seconds
4. Seth Gurney / K.C. Curtis - 13.4 seconds
5. Steve Purcella / Jhett Johnson - 16.0 seconds

Saddle Bronc Riding

1. JJ Elshere - 85 points
2. Cort Scheer - 76 points
3. TIE Jesse Bail - 73 points
3. TIE Tyler Corrington - 73 points
5. Jesse James Kirby - 71 points
6. Louie Brunson - 65 points
7. Chuck Schmidt - 63 points

(more)

EDUCATION A PRIORITY FOR KNOWLES / RODEO RESULTS MARCH 15TH (page 3)

Tie-Down Roping

1. Cody Owens - 8.7 seconds
2. Houston Hutto - 17.2 seconds
3. Josh Peek - 22.2 seconds

Barrel Racing

1. Sherry Cervi - 15.29 seconds
2. Jeanne Anderson - 15.33 seconds
3. Brenda Mays - 15.52 seconds
4. Kassie Mowry - 15.55 seconds
5. Danyelle Campbell - 15.75 seconds
6. Megan Williams 15.80 seconds
7. Sammi Bessert - 20.78 seconds
8. Brenda Seely 21.51 seconds

Bull Riding

1. Jesse Bail - 85 points
2. Clint Craig - 84 points
3. Beau Schroeder - 81 points
4. Howdy Cloud - 78 points
5. Brett Thompson - 73 points

The Star of Texas Fair and Rodeo, a 501(c) 3 non-profit organization, contributes over \$1.5 million annually to the youth of Texas with the help of over 2,000 volunteers, donors and sponsors. Through its acclaimed Livestock Show, Fair, and Rodeo, the Star of Texas continues to work towards the advancement of its mission, "Promoting Youth Education - Preserving Western Heritage." The Star of Texas delivers superior entertainment to the community while boasting an economic impact that exceeds \$54 million annually. Staying true to the official sport of Texas, the Star of Texas is proud to host the world's 6th largest indoor, regular season ProRodeo known as Rodeo Austin.