



**STATE OF MISSISSIPPI
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COMMERCE**

CINDY HYDE-SMITH
COMMISSIONER

PRESS RELEASE

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Dixie National Livestock Show and Rodeo a Success

Another successful Dixie National Rodeo concluded Wednesday night at the Mississippi Coliseum. This seven-day event, which included eight performances, was enjoyed by more than 40,000 spectators. The total attendance for the rodeo and the livestock shows is expected to reach more than 70,000. The Dixie National Livestock Show and Rodeo generates an economic impact of more than \$20 million annually. According to Billy Orr, Director of the Mississippi Fair Commission, the 47th Annual Dixie National Livestock Show and Rodeo has been a success with rodeo attendance up from last year and with a record number of junior livestock exhibitors.

One of the highlight events of the Dixie National Livestock Show and Rodeo each year is the Sale of Junior Champions. This year, forty-four livestock animals were sold for a record \$299,352.50 surpassing the old record by more than \$20,000. Commissioner of Agriculture, Cindy Hyde-Smith adds, "The 2012 Dixie National Livestock Show and Rodeo has been a tremendous success. The events held in conjunction with the Dixie National provide fun-filled, family entertainment, and the livestock events provide youth with a great way to display their talents. We are proud to host such a wonderful event here in Mississippi that attracts so many to our state."

Although the 2012 Dixie National Rodeo has ended, those craving more action can attend the Dixie National Quarter Horse Show which will run through Sunday, February 19. The Dixie National Quarter Horse Show is the largest of its kind in the South and the third largest in the United States.

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