



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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FUN FACTS AND FAIR STATISTICS FOR THE 2008 BIG FRESNO FAIR

Fresno, CA....October 13, 2008...The Big Fresno Fair, a thirteen-day event that caters to patrons from all ages and includes hundreds of vendors and exhibitors, plus a variety of attractions and entertainment, is the largest event in the Central Valley. The following information has been prepared as of Monday, October 13, 2008, and includes a snapshot of interesting and unique facts and statistics from the 2008 Big Fresno Fair.

The Big Fresno Fair hired 1048 employees for the months of September and October. In 2007, The Big Fresno Fair employed 948 people.

Brian I. Tatarian Grandstand - 11 days of Horse Racing at The Big Fresno Fair

- Up 44% in Out-of-State Handle
- Up 3% in Northern California plus Out-of-State Handle
- Down 2% in All Sources Live
- Averaged 8.2 horses per races
- 871 horses ran in 106 races and there was not one “breakdown” of a horse
- 726 horses were stabled during the Fair
- 106 races were completed from October 1st – 13th (excluding dark days, Monday, Oct. 6th and Tuesday, Oct. 7th)

Livestock Pavilion

- 1,600 animals were exhibited with more than 652 shown for auction at the 2008 Junior Livestock Auction held Saturday, October 11th
- Animals in the Livestock Pavilion used more than 2,100 bales of straw and ate more than 2,100 bags of feed
- Approximately 48 gallons of soap was utilized at hand washing stations

Crystal AG Ventureland

- 53 pregnant sheep were brought to the Fair and more than 80 lambs were born onsite
- Approximately 100 baby chicks were hatched during the Fair

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The Fair Education Program

This annual program draws students, teachers and parents from Fresno County Elementary School classrooms who take part in educational tours of the Fair. Young participants visit each exhibit building and they are taught about the rich agricultural history of The Big Fresno Fair while using an interactive and educational guide and having fun all at the same time.

- Approximately 31,000 Fresno County parents, teachers and students toured the Fair this year as part of the Fair Education Program

Home Arts Building

- More than 100 woodcarvings were created during the Fair
- More than 100 homemade quilts were entered for display
- There were 5 food contests: the Chili Cook Off, Fleishmann's Yeast Bake for the Cure Contest, Malt-O-Meal Recipe Contest, Hidden Valley Ranch Contest and BBQ Contest.
- There was an average of 4 demonstrations per day
- Exhibits were from communities throughout the Central Valley

Inside Kids' Town

- More than 12,000 crafts were made at Mary Lee's Make and Take Craft Center
- 48 All-Alaskan Pig races were run

Modern Marvels in the Central Valley

- 12 Valley inventions were showcased
- More than 50 historical photographs were used in the exhibit

Gem and Mineral Exhibit

- 1,150 pounds of polished rocks were handed out to children during the Fair Education Program
- More than \$3,600 in scholarships were awarded to Fresno State and Fresno City students

Gyros Food Stand

- 40 cases of pita bread were used
- 85 gallons of Tzatziki sauce was used
- This stand is family owned and operated by 5 staff members

SPCA

- More than 105 animals were adopted by Fair patrons.

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Educational Child Safety Center

- 4,000 children were ID'd and fingerprinted

Cotton Candy

- A total of 4,000 pounds of sugar was used to make cotton candy

Big Bubba's Bad BBQ

- Between 5,000 and 6,000 pounds of Tri-tip was sold

Hot Dog on a Stick

- 2,075 pounds of batter was used
- More than 11,000 pounds of regular corn dogs and 5,000 pounds of jumbo corn dogs were sold and eaten at the Fair

County Fair Cinnamon Rolls

- 30,000 pounds of flour was used
- 20,000 pounds of cinnamon sugar mixture was used
- 4,000 pounds of cream cheese was used

Jack Frost Ice

- An estimated 400,000 pounds of ice was used during the Fair

Chicken Charlie

- 700 pounds of frog legs were sold
- More than 3,000 pounds of chicken (250 pounds a day) was consumed
- 2,000 White Castle Sliders were made
- 1,000 deep fried Pop-Tarts were made
- 2,000 cans of deep fried Spam were made
- 4,000 deep fried Twinkies were made
- More than 1,000 deep fried avocados were made
- 6,000 kabobs were sold

Original Soft Rolled Tacos Since 1947

- Used more than 900 dozen corn tortillas

Papa Magdaleno's Coffee Stand

- 300 pounds of coffee was sold



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Too Cool Icee Stands

- 6,800 straws were used
- 170 gallons of syrup was used
- 3,400 refillable sports bottles were sold

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