

# Rodeo will feature clown, drill-team performance

By **Kayla Cornett**

*Colby Free Press*  
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The Kansas Professional Rodeo Association Rodeo is coming to Colby for the Thomas County Fair at 8 p.m. on Monday and Tuesday, July 30 and 31.

Clair Schrock, vice president of the Fair Board, said there will be slack after the first performance Monday night to sort out the competition, since too many cowboys have signed up for the performances.

He said they like to have about 10 contestants in an event, but can go up to 15, so if they have 20 register for an event, those extra five people are in the slack.

Schrock said the nine events of the rodeo will be seen first and the slack events after that.

"It will be 10:30 or 11 by the time we do slack," he said.

The nine events are bareback bronc riding, tie-down calf roping, ladies breakaway calf roping, saddle bronc riding, steer wrestling, team roping, ladies barrel racing, bull riding and 40-40 team roping.

Schrock said for the 40-40 team roping, riders have to be over 40 to enter.

He said registration for Mutton Bustin' will be held at 6 p.m. both nights at the chutes.

He said the stock contractor for the rodeo is J-J Rodeo Co. out of Lakin.

"This is the third year in a row for great stock and great cowboys and cowgirls," said Schrock.

During the performance Monday, the Rodeo queen and princess will be crowned. All of the contestants will be introduced to the crowd before the winners are announced, and the winners will be presented with their sashes and crowns.

Schrock said another highlight of the rodeo will be rodeo clown and funnyman Terry Tinney, who will be there both nights with his specialty acts and bull-fighting barrel.

On Tuesday, the Blazin' Saddles drill team will perform during the rodeo. Ashley Moser, coach of the team, said it has 12 members this year, 11 girls and one boy.

She said the team is a group of riders on horseback who practice riding maneuvers all summer, such as weaving in and out, circles and side-by-side.

Moser said all the riders match their clothing and the horses' tack, bridal reigns, breast collars and wraps on their legs match as well.

She said they will perform to music during the rodeo and will also be in the fair parade at 5:30 p.m. that day.

Moser said the team performs at other rodeos, too.

"We performed at Oakley and will perform both nights at Hoxie, which is this Friday and Saturday," she said.



KAYLA CORNETT/Colby Free Press

A rider tried to rope a calf during the rodeo last year at the Thomas County Free Fair.



Two men worked on releasing a calf from the piggin string during the rodeo at the county fair last year.

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