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Visitors and competitors 'Go Hog Wild' at the Arapahoe County Fair *Record-crowds turn out to enjoy rodeo, demolition derby and high-flying dogs*

Aurora, Colo. --- More than 20,000 thrill-seekers went 'Hog Wild' at the 103rd Arapahoe County Fair last week. For five days, fairgoers enjoyed Extreme Canines stunt dog shows, live concerts, mutton bustin', carnival rides, rodeos and much more at the Arapahoe County Fairgrounds and Regional Park in Aurora.

Fans packed into the grandstands for the DDRA Demolition Derby on Sunday, which boasted 17 contestants in three different heats. Drivers crashed and splashed through the arena in a metal-mashing pursuit to be the last vehicle running.

Thanks to a relatively wet summer, this year's fireworks display on Friday night went off without a hitch and included a grand finale that could be seen for miles.

For many, the Arapahoe County Fair is more than a day of entertainment; it's a chance to be a part of a challenge. Whether folks come to show a sheep, ride a bronc, duel in the nationally-ranking arm-wrestling contest or enter their prize pastry in the citizen Open Class competition, it is those who participate in the fair who make it an annual success.

4-H exhibits increased this year with nearly 200 individual local youth competing for prize ribbons, belt buckles and cash premiums with their animals or general projects. Entries into the Open Class living art, floriculture and horticulture competitions by citizen hobbyists doubled over last year's contest.

In the coming weeks, the County will be evaluating what thrilled and what can be improved upon for next year's fair, which is scheduled for July 21 - 25, 2010.

Thanks to our 2009 fair sponsors: Waste Management, City of Aurora, City of Littleton, E-470, GO Toyota Scion, Potestio Brothers, Royal Crest Dairy, Sinton Dairy, Tagawa Gardens, Radio Disney, Wolf 92.5 FM, 99.5 the Mountain, Mix 100, Aurora Sentinel and The Villager.

If you are interested in sponsoring, volunteering or exhibiting at the 2010 Arapahoe County Fair, please visit www.arapahoecountyfair.com to learn more.

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To download photos click on the following link:
<ftp://www.co.arapahoe.co.us/Pub/CM/Photos/FairPhotos/>

Photo Captions:

Demolition Derby: Seventeen vehicles crashed and splashed in Sunday night's three demolition derby heats in pursuit of a \$6,000 prize purse.

SuperSlide: A father and son enjoy a sunset glide down the SuperSlide on Wednesday night.

Mutton Bustin: A young mutton buster makes it through eight seconds of wool-clinging fun on a sheep.

Petting Zoo: Three pint-sized fairgoers settle in with the piglets at the petting zoo.

Backseat Driver: A blind-folded citizen takes tractor-steering tips from his backseat driver in this fairgoer contest.