

Calendar of Rodeo Events

Thursday

Charlie Daniels & The Oak Ridge Boys, Bally's Las Vegas, 10 p.m., through Dec. 13. Tickets: \$38.50.

49th Annual PRCA Convention & Trade Show, Riviera Hotel, Rooms E-H, 10 a.m.-3 p.m. through Friday.

NFR Cowboy Christmas Gift Show, Cashman Field Center, 10 a.m.-5 p.m., through Dec. 9. Tickets: Free.

40th Anniversary Miss Rodeo America Luncheon, Flamingo Hilton Hotel, Silver State Ballroom, noon-1:30 p.m. Tickets: sold at door.

PRCA Convention and Contract Personnel Awards Banquet, Riviera Hotel, Rooms A-B, 6 p.m., no host reception: 7 p.m., banquet. Tickets: available at the PRCA Convention.

Hoedown Showdown, Fremont Street Experience, Downtown Hoedown, 6-10 p.m.

Friday

Reba McEntire, MGM Grand Garden Arena, 8 p.m. Tickets: \$20-\$50.

Merle Haggard, Sahara Hotel, 11 p.m. Tickets: \$35.75.

Miller Stockman Fashion Show, Cashman Field Center, NFR Cowboy Christmas Gift Show, noon-12:30 p.m. Tickets: free.

Miss Rodeo America Contestant Introductions, Cashman Field Center, NFR Cowboy Christmas

Neal McCoy rides into Sam's Town

BY DYLAN SHIELDS
STAFF WRITER

Yes, the National Finals Rodeo is coming back to town.

One of the many country singers that will help get Las Vegas into that country spirit is Neal McCoy, performing at the Ponderosa Room at Sam's Town Hotel and Gambling Hall Dec. 2-5.

Though already a successful artist in the country recording scene with two number one singles and his gold album, *No Doubt*

About It, McCoy's goal in show business is to be an all-around professional entertainer. He likes to involve the crowd with his outrageous on-stage antics. Energetic and unpredictable is how fans have described the show.

"I'm not real good at holding back," Neal admitted, "I like to stir things up in the audience. I like to make 'em laugh, think, and even cry. I want them to leave after the show physically and emotionally drained, but happy. That's the way I feel after every show."

McCoy's latest album features many bright, expressive

songs that display his diverse musical interests.

A brand of country rock mixed up with some R&B and even a little country rap is his style, all of which explode in his live shows. Neal crouches, prances, criss-crosses across the stage and occasionally ventures into the crowd with every ounce of energy he can muster.

All tickets for the show are \$22.50 and can be reserved at the players' services booth at Sam's Town or by calling 456-7777, ext. 1420.

Alabama, Mirage Hotel & Casino, 10:30 p.m. through Dec. 9. Tickets: \$49.75.

Pro Rodeo League of Women fashion show & luncheon, Gold Coast Hotel & Casino Grand Ballroom, 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. Tickets: available at the casino cage. All proceeds to benefit the Justin Cowboy Crisis Fund.

NFR—Seventh Performance, Wrangler Bullfight Finals, crowning of World Champion Bullfighter, T&M, 6:45-9:30 p.m.

Friday, Dec. 8

9th Annual Copenhagen Skoal Spurs & Spikes Golf Invitational, Sheraton Desert Inn Golf and Country Club, 9:30 a.m. shotgun start, by invitation only.

NFR—Eighth Performance, T&M, 6:45-9 p.m.

Saturday, Dec. 9

Miller Stockman Fashion Show, Cashman Field Center, NFR Cowboy Christmas Gift Show, 12:30-1 p.m. Tickets: free.

NFR—Ninth Performance, T&M, 6:45-9 p.m.

Sunday, Dec. 10

NFR Finals Rodeo—Tenth Performance, T & M, 11:45 a.m. to 3 p.m.

1995 PRCA World Champions Awards Banquet, Caesars Palace Hotel, Convention Area, 5:30 p.m., no host bar; 6:30 p.m., dinner. Tickets: \$50 person, available at the T&M Center.

Gift Show, 1-2 p.m. Tickets: free.

National Finals Rodeo—First Performance, Thomas & Mack Center, 6:45-9 p.m.

NFR Go-Round Buckle Presentations, Gold Coast Hotel, Western Dance Hall, 11-11:30 p.m., through Dec. 9.

Saturday

Miss Rodeo America Pageant Coronation, performance and luncheon, Flamingo Hilton Hotel Showroom, 11:30 a.m. to 2 p.m. Tickets: available at the door (reservations recommended).

NFR—Second Performance, T&M, 6:45-9 p.m.

Sunday

Miss Rodeo America Pageant Awards Breakfast, Flamingo Hilton Hotel, Silver State Ballroom, 7:30-9 a.m. Tickets: available at door.

NFR—Third Performance, T&M, 6:45-9 p.m.

Monday

PRCA Exceptional Rodeo, T&M, 10 a.m. to noon. Tickets: free.

NFR—Fourth Performance, Wrangler Bullfights, T&M, 6:45-9:30 p.m.

Tuesday

NFR—Fifth Performance, Wrangler Bullfights, T&M, 6:45-9:30 p.m.

Wednesday

Randy Travis, MGM Grand Hotel Hollywood Theatre, 10 p.m. Wednesday and Thursday, 8 & 11 p.m. Friday. Tickets: \$51.50.

Bucking Horse & Bull Sale, T & M, 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Tickets: available at the door, through Dec. 7.

NFR—Sixth Performance, Wrangler Bullfights, T&M, 6:45-9:30 p.m.

Justin Boots vs. Wrangler Jeans & Shirts, Celebrity Blackjack Challenge, Rio Suite Hotel & Casino, midnight.

Thursday, Dec. 7

Brooks & Dunn, Caesars Palace Circus Maximus, 11 p.m. through Dec. 10. Tickets: \$65.

Calendar of Events

Thursday

"She Loves Me," Dept. of Theatre Arts, Judy Bayley Theatre, 8 p.m. through Saturday and Dec. 6-9; 2 p.m. on Dec. 3 and 10. Admission: \$5-8, students with valid ID are free. Group rates available for 20 or more. For info: 895-3801.

Saturday

A Winter Choral Celebration, featuring the University Singers, Chamber Chorale, Varsity Men's Glee Club and the Women's Chorus, Artemus W. Ham Concert Hall, 8 p.m. Admission: \$6 adults, \$4 for students, seniors and military. For info: 895-3801.

Sunday

The Dallas Brass Band presents a Christmas celebration, Artemus W. Ham Hall, 2 p.m. Admission: \$18-\$21. For info: 895-3801.

Tuesday

Chamber Music Southwest presents Americana, featuring a trio of flute, oboe and piano, Black Box Theatre, 8 p.m. Admission: \$8. For info: 895-3801.

Friday, Dec. 8

Las Vegas Marimba Quartet celebrate the 20th anniversary of Artemus W. Ham Hall with a Christmas concert, Ham Hall, 8 p.m. Admission: free. For info: 895-3801.

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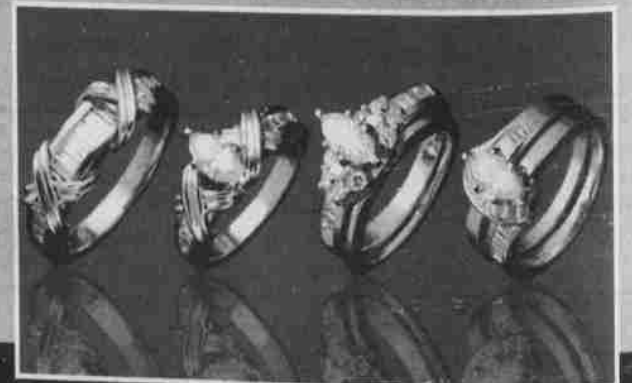
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