

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## Guymon Pioneer Days Rodeo Where Champions Play the First Weekend in May

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# Thomas scores the round lead

GUYMON, Okla. – Jason Thomas is ready to return home.

Thomas makes his living on the rodeo trail, a pathway that takes ProRodeo cowboys down a winding path that crisscrosses North America. On Saturday night during the third performance of the Guymon Pioneer Days Rodeo, he put on quite a show and can return to Benton, Ark., on a high note.

“I’ve been in California for a month, so I’m ready to go home for a while before we head out for the summer,” said Thomas, who posted a 3.6-second run to take the third-round lead in steer wrestling. “I had a really good steer today; Jason Lahr ran that steer and was 4.3, and Stan (Branco) came back and was 4.5.

“I was 12<sup>th</sup>-13<sup>th</sup> coming back, so I knew I had to run at it for the round and try to place in the average.”

Pioneer Days Rodeo features three go-rounds in team roping, tie-down roping and steer wrestling, with money paid in each round and for the top cumulative times in the three-round aggregate. Thomas sits fourth with a total time of 16.2 seconds; if that holds, he’ll likely collect another good check out of the Oklahoma Panhandle.

“This is the best winter I’ve ever had,” he said, noting that he started competing full time two seasons ago after competing at Panola Community College in Carthage, Texas, and McNeese State University in Lake Charles, La.

Thomas has considerable support for his business, from his primary mount, Frosty, to his traveling partner, 2013 world champion Hunter Cure.

“I’ve had Frosty since the ninth grade,” he said of the 17-year-old gelding. “He was my heeling horse and the first horse I ever hazed on when I was about 13, so I’ve had him a long time.

“It’s been a big help for me to go with Hunter. I feel better about my situations. You can’t pay for that kind of knowledge and help going up and down the road.”

While Thomas has been flourishing through the early part of the season, bareback rider Ty Breuer of Mandan, N.D., is just getting back to business. The 2013 Wrangler National Finals Rodeo qualifier suffered a broken back at Denver nearly four months ago and has been on the sideline since then. His ride Saturday was the first since January.

It worked out pretty well, too. Breuer matched moves with Pete Carr’s Classic Pro Rodeo’s Good Time Charlie for 87 points to take the bareback riding lead.

“Anytime you can get along with one of the best horses around, it’s a big confidence booster,” he said. “I knew that horse would just be good. That’s the perfect horse to come back on.”

### Guymon (Okla.) Pioneer Days Rodeo April 27-May 3

#### Results through the first performance

**Bareback riding leaders:** 1. Ty Breuer, 87 points on Pete Carr’s Classic Pro Rodeo’s Good Time Charlie; 2. (tie) Zachariah Phillips and Tim O’Connell, 85 each; 4. Wes Stevenson, 81; 5. Mason Clements, 80; 6. (tie) Devan Reilly, Richmond Champion and Joe Gunderson, 78.

**Team roping: Third round leaders:** 1. Brian Dunning/Jesse Jolly, 6.6 seconds; 2. A.J. Fuchs/Sloan Hendley, 6.7; 3. (tie) Clayton Hass/Logan Medlin and Luke Brown and Kollin VonAhn, 6.8; 5. Colby Lovell/Kory Koontz, 7.1;

6. (tie) Turtle Powell/Dakota Kirchenschlager and Calvin Brevik/Wade Masters, 7.2; 8. Jake Cooper/Tyler McKnight, 7.5;. **Aggregate leaders:** 1. Colby Lovell/Kory Koontz, 20.1 seconds on three runs; 2. Jake Cooper/Tyler McKnight, 21.0; 3. Calvin Brevik/Wade Masters, 22.6; 4. Anthony Lucia, 24.1; 5. A.J. Fuchs/Sloan Hendley, 24.2; 6. Jess Tierney/Jace Crabb, 24.6; 7. Turtle Powell/ Dakota Kirckenschlager, 26.3; 8. Jason Arndt/Chad Mathes, 26.8.

**Steer roping: Fifth round leaders:** 1. Brodie Poppino, 11.3 seconds; 2. Rocky Patterson, 11.8; 3. (tie) Chance Kelton and Will Gasperson, 12.2; 5. Thomas Smith, 13.1; 6. Jess Tierney, 13.4; 4. Shay Good, 13.6; 5. Scott Snedecor, 14.3; 6. Wade Shoemaker, 15.0; no other qualified times. **Aggregate leaders:** 1. Tuf Cooper, 106.9 seconds on five runs; 2. Brodie Poppino, 64.0 seconds on four runs; 3. Scott Snedecor, 68.8; 4. Chance Kelton, 69.6; 5. Jess Tierney, 74.4; 6. Will Gasperson, 87.4.

**Saddle bronc riding leaders:** 1. Taos Muncy on Powder River Rodeo's Miss Chestnut, 88 points; 2. Isaac Diaz, 85; 3. (tie) Dalton Davis and Allen Boore, 83; 5. Bradley Harter, 81; 6(tie) Tyler Corrington, Wade Sundell and Jace Angus, 78; 4. (tie) Chet Johnson, Cort Scheer, and Zeke Thurston, 77; 5. Jade Blackwell and Tyrel Larson, 76; 6. Chase Bennett, 75; 7. Chanse Darling, 73; 8. Casey Maddox, 70.

**Steer wrestling: Third round leaders:** 1. Jason Thomas, 3.6 seconds; 2. Wade Sumpter, 3.9; 3. (tie) Michael Bates Jr. and Blake Mindemann, 4.6 each; 5. Forest Sainsbury, 4.7; 6. Sean Mulligan, 4.8; 7. (tie) Stan Branco and Laine Herl, 4.9. **Aggregate leaders:** 1. Stan Branco, 13.9 seconds on three runs; 2. Hunter Lewis, 15.7; 3. Laine Herl, 16.0; 4. Jason Thomas, 16.2; 5. Blake Mindemann, 16.6; 6. Brad Johnson, 19.0; 7. Forest Sainsbury, 19.4; 6. Chance E. Howard, 20.1.

**Tie-down roping: Third round leaders:** 1. Michael Otero, 7.3 seconds; 2. Cade Swor, 7.4; 3. Shane Hanchey, 7.9; 4. Cody Quaney, 8.0; 5. (tie) Sterling Smith and Will Howell, 8.3; 7. Trey Young, 8.8; 8. Cory Solomon, 9.1.

**Aggregate leaders:** 1. Shane Hanchey, 24.8 seconds on three runs; 2. (tie) Cory Solomon, Sterling Smith and Michael Otero, 26.0 each; 5. Jake Pratt, 26.5; 6. Blane Cox, 27.5; 7. Will Howell, 27.6; 8. Cade Swor, 27.7.

**Barrel racing: Second round leaders:** 1. Paige Conrado, 16.93 seconds; 2. Heather Clayton, 16.94; 3. Britta O'Keeffe, 17.10; 4. Mary Walker, 17.12; 5. (tie) Laura Kennedy and Carley Richardson, 17.19; 7. Sammi Bessert, 17.23; 8. Ivy Conrado, 17.24; 9. Brittany Pozzi, 17.25; 10. Fallon Taylor, 17.29. **Aggregate leaders:** 1. Mary Walker, 34.13 seconds on two runs; 2. Paige Conrado, 34.27; 3. Britta O'Keeffe, 34.48; 4. Brittany Pozzi, 34.52; 5. Sammi Bessert, 34.53; 6. Ivy Conrado, 34.70; 7. Emily Holton, 34.73; 8. Jaime Hinton, 34.74; 9. Chelsey Kleinvackter, 34.75; 10. Sidney Forrest, 34.79.

**Bull riding leaders:** 1. Trevor Kastner, 86 points on Pete Carr's Classic Pro Rodeo's Sazerac; 2. Sage Kimzey, 86; 3. Brett Stall, 84; 4. (tie) Chris McCombs and Bryce Barrios, 83 each; 6. Josh Koschel, 82; 7. Scottie Knapp, 80; 8. Tanner Bothwell, 79.