



**SOUTH DAKOTA DEPARTMENT OF
AGRICULTURE**
NEWS RELEASE



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Red Wilk Construction Tuff Hedeman Bull Bash Joins State Fair Grandstand Lineup

HURON, S.D. – The Red Wilk Construction Tuff Hedeman Bull Bash is the latest addition to the SD State Fair grandstand lineup. The bull bash will kick off the State Fair on Channel Seeds Preview Day Wednesday, Aug. 29, and the opening day of the fair on Thursday, Aug. 30.

“Four-time World Champion bull rider and Pro Rodeo Hall of Famer Tuff Hedeman produces bull riding events that thrill audiences with his two-hour adrenaline rush entertainment style punctuated with the two things he knows fans want to see – great rides and high scores,” said state fair director Peggy Besch.

Hedeman announced in March the formation of the Tuff Hedeman Bull Riding Tour, which includes Hedeman's annual tour stops in El Paso, Las Vegas, Bossier City and Fort Worth.

"At this point in my life, it's best for my family to be solely responsible for my destiny. My original goals have not changed since 1992. I'm still committed to producing bull riding events that give each bull rider entered the chance to win first and make sure the fans at every event are getting more than expected," said Hedeman.

Hedeman made the decision to go out on his own after serving for a combined 23 years as the former head of the two nationally organized professional bull riding organizations (PBR and CBR) since his retirement as a rider from the sport in 1999.

“The bull bash is a big part of the State Fair and we’re thrilled to host the Tuff Hedeman Bull Riding Tour to celebrate the grandstand’s 100th year,” said Besch.

Pre-sale on tickets will begin June 4 for backrest holders, followed by Friends of the Fair ticket sales on June 7. General public ticket sales will begin June 11.

The 2018 South Dakota State Fair will run from Thursday, Aug. 30 through Monday, Sept. 3. Channel Seeds Preview Day will be Wednesday, Aug. 29. This year’s theme is “Experience the Magic.” For more information on State Fair events, contact the Fair office at 800.529.0900, visit www.sdstatefair.com or find them on Facebook or Twitter.

Agriculture is a major contributor to South Dakota’s economy, generating \$25.6 billion in annual economic activity and employing over 115,000 South Dakotans. The South Dakota Department of Agriculture’s mission is to promote, protect and preserve South Dakota agriculture for today and tomorrow. Visit us online at sdda.sd.gov or find us on Facebook, Instagram and Twitter.