



**STATE OF MISSISSIPPI
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COMMERCE**

ANDY GIPSON
COMMISSIONER

MEDIA ADVISORY

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: February 10, 2026

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What: 61st Dixie National Livestock Show and Rodeo

When: Wednesday, February 11, and Thursday, February 12

Where: Mississippi State Fairgrounds

Schedule of 61st Annual Dixie National Livestock Show and Rodeo Events Taking Place Tomorrow, Wednesday, February 11, and Thursday, February 12

STATE FAIRGROUNDS, Miss. – Commissioner of Agriculture and Commerce Andy Gipson invites everyone to attend the 61st annual Dixie National Livestock Show and Rodeo and announces the schedule of events taking place tomorrow, Wednesday, February 11, and Thursday, February 12. All events take place on the Mississippi State Fairgrounds.

The **Equestrians with Disabilities Horse Show** continues tomorrow inside the Kirk Fordice Equine Center. This unique show gives people with cognitive or physical challenges the opportunity to compete in showing an American Quarter Horse. Competitors range in age from teenagers to adults over 50.

Over 1,000 4-H and FFA exhibitors from across the state are competing in this year's Dixie National Junior Round-Up. The annual **Sale of Junior Champions** will be held Thursday, February 12, in the Trade Mart following a press conference previewing the auction, as well as the Dixie National Rodeo. The Junior Round-Up participants winning Champion and Reserve Champion for their market animals will have the opportunity to sell their livestock at this highlight event. Last year, \$591,287 was raised and 41 scholarships were awarded to 4-H and FFA students during the 2025 Sale of Junior Champions.

Scheduled Activities & Events for Wednesday, February 11, 2026:

- 9:00 a.m. – 4-H Jr. Rabbit Show - Barns 6, 7 and 8
- 9:00 a.m. – Equestrians with Disabilities Horse Show - Equine Center

Scheduled Activities & Events for Thursday, February 12, 2026:

- 10:00 a.m. – Sale of Junior Champions Press Conference - Trade Mart Atrium
- 10:00 a.m. – Sale of Junior Champions Reception - Trade Mart Hall B
- 11:00 a.m. – Welcome/Presentation of Scholarships at Sale of Junior Champions - Trade Mart Hall C
- 11:00 a.m. – Sale of Junior Champions - Trade Mart Hall C
- 1:00 p.m. – Wagon Train arrives - Equine Center

In conjunction with the nationwide America250 celebrations, this year's Dixie National will take on a special patriotic focus. Events of the 61st Dixie National Livestock Show and Rodeo run through Sunday, February 22, 2026. The Dixie National Rodeo, the largest rodeo east of the Mississippi River, takes place Friday, February 13, through Saturday, February 21, inside the Mississippi Coliseum at the State Fairgrounds.

Rodeo Entertainment:

- Friday, February 13, at 7:00 p.m. – Ole 60
- Saturday, February 14, at 2:00 p.m. and 7:00 p.m. – Bayker Blankenship
- Sunday, February 15, at 2:00 p.m. – Joe Nichols
- Wednesday, February 18, at 7:00 p.m. – Tanya Tucker
- Thursday, February 19, at 7:00 p.m. – Waylon Wyatt
- Friday, February 20, at 7:00 p.m. – Muscadine Bloodline
- Saturday, February 21, at 2:00 p.m. and 7:00 p.m. – Mark Chesnutt

To purchase tickets to the Dixie National Rodeo, visit www.ticketmaster.com/search?q=dixie+national+rodeo online or the Coliseum Box Office in-person. For more information on the Dixie National Livestock Show and Rodeo, visit www.dixienational.org and follow the Dixie National Livestock Show & Rodeo on Facebook, Instagram and X.

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Photo attached.



Yesterday, during the Legislative Livestock Showdown, 4-H and FFA youth had the chance to partner with their local legislators in the show ring. The 2026 winners were Representative Troy Smith of District 84, led by Amelia Williams with the Newton County 4-H, and Senator Neal Whaley of District 10, led by Zane Clark with the Tippah County 4-H. Senator Whaley and 4-Her Clark were also named this year's overall Supreme Champions!

MEDIA NOTE:

A designated Media Room will be available to local/state newspapers, tv stations and print and broadcasting media for the Dixie National Rodeo, which takes place February 13-15 and 18-21. Media will have access to live updates/stats from each rodeo performance, current leaderboard information and exclusive one-on-one interviews with rodeo competitors and entertainers. The media room, or Gray Room, is located on the south side of the Coliseum. To enter the Coliseum, simply show your work ID badge at the doors. Enter the Coliseum through the glass doors on the south side and take an immediate right. The media room will be on your right. The room is easily visible and will be labeled MEDIA ROOM.

Media passes will be distributed in the Media Room for those who want to get b-roll footage inside the Coliseum arena. You will be directed to the reserved section designated for your camera crews. We will bring cowboys/clowns/queens/etc. to the media room for interviews. If there are specific people that you would like to interview for a story, let us know ahead of time and we will work to make those happen.

Immediately following each rodeo performance, a rodeo announcer will be in the Media Room to provide a Rodeo Recap to the media.

If members of the media would like to request interviews regarding Dixie National Livestock Show and Rodeo events, please contact Hannah East at hannahe@mdac.ms.gov or (662) 816-3230.