



**For Immediate Release
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**Friends of the Sioux Empire Fair
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“Friends of the Sioux Empire Fair” Starts with a Bang!

SIOUX FALLS, SD – The W.H. Lyon Fairgrounds were jammed recently as bargain hunters crowded into the Friends of the Fair Rummage Sale to pour over computers, clothes, coffee cups, shoes, skis, stuffed animals and just about anything else you can imagine. The Rummage Sale succeeded in raising over \$13,000 for the Friends of the Sioux Empire Fair, including a challenge grant from Sunshine Foods.

"We had community support like I never thought possible," said Ron Wieman, Fair Association Chairman. "Within one-and-a-half hours, we were down to less than 50 percent of our items."

"The Fair has given us so much, we hope our gift to the Sioux Empire Fair will encourage other businesses in the area to join us and give back," said Brent Bosch, speaking for donor Sunshine Food Stores. "What brings a community together better than our Fair?"

The Friends of the Fair is a nonprofit group formed to help support the Sioux Empire Fair. "We will be able to make much needed changes and repairs on buildings. This money will go a very long way," said Acting Fair Manager, Trygve Fredrickson.

All remaining rummage sale items will be donated to charity.

The Sioux Empire Fair is the largest fair in the state of South Dakota and has drawn nearly seven million visitors over its 70-year history. As in the past, the Fair will take place at the W.H. Lyon Fairgrounds in Sioux Falls. Dates are August 11th through August 16th, 2009.

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