



# PRESS RELEASE

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

February 27, 2005

**What:** Greeley Stampede, the World's Largest 4<sup>th</sup> of July Rodeo and Western Celebration, featuring Country Concerts, Pro Rodeos, Demolition Derby, Western Art Show, Televised Parade, Carnival and Western Fun.

**When:** June 23- July 4, 2006

**Where:** Island Grove Regional Park- Greeley, Colorado

**Why:** To celebrate Colorado's western heritage and our nation's independence

**More info:** [www.GreeleyStampede.org](http://www.GreeleyStampede.org), 800-982-BULL, [rodeo@GreeleyStampede.org](mailto:rodeo@GreeleyStampede.org)

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## Sugarland completes the Stars & Spurs Package

Completing the 2006 Stampede Stars & Spurs Package is one of country music's hottest groups, Sugarland. Sugarland will headline the July 2 concert with special guest Darryl Worley.

The Atlanta-based group, Sugarland has been generating a lot of buzz with their major-label debut, *Twice the Speed of Life*. They won the "Breakthrough New Artist" award at the American Music Awards in November and were recently nominated for "Best New Artist" by the Grammys. The band has also been nominated for three Country Music Awards (CMA) awards, including one for "Single of the Year," for their hit, "Baby Girl."

It's no surprise that successful singer/songwriters with years of experience can make an album filled with solid, intelligent music. But even the members of Sugarland themselves are slightly shocked by how fresh sounding and unfailingly optimistic the songs they make together are.

Within minutes of getting together, the group clicked, creating something completely different than anything any of them had done before. The songs are rootsy and lyrically sophisticated, but still catchy and accessible. Somehow these niche artists have found themselves making mass-appeal country music. Four months after getting together, Sugarland played their first gig and were astounded by the audience reaction. By their fourth gig, they were selling out 1000 seat venues. Two weeks later, they signed a contract with Mercury Records.

The passion and optimism of the new group courses throughout their debut album, *Twice The Speed of Life*. Declaring strength without deteriorating into stridency, the songs are a celebration of all that life has in store and finding the silver lining even in the darkest clouds. "Baby Girl," the first single, serves up a struggling singer who's "so broke that it ain't funny." But she has

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big dreams and the certainty that she'll reach them. "Something More" throbs with the dream of breaking away to experience something bigger, deeper and more exciting. The fed up housewife in "Down In Mississippi (Up to No Good)" gets mad that the dirty dishes and clothes are left for her to take care of, but finds relief by grabbing some girlfriends for a guilt-free spree away from home. Rather than looking for an escape, "Small Town Jericho," details the wonder and beauty of down-home folks and everyday life in a tiny hometown. In "Stand Back Up," the languorous ballad that closes the album, singer Jennifer Nettles dares someone to hurt her because no matter how far she's pushed down, she will always stand back up.

Opening for Sugarland will be one of country music's most gifted songwriters, Darryl Worley. Worley reached number one with his hit "I Miss My Friend" in 2002. Since then, he has had such hits as "Have You Forgotten," "If Something Should Happen" & "Awful, Beautiful Life." Worley was nominated for the Horizon Award by the CMA and was given the Key to the City (Jackson, Tennessee) in 2003.

The Sugarland concert will be a part of the Stampede Stars & Spurs package along with the Trisha Yearwood concert on July 1. The Stampede Stars & Spurs package is a great way to see two amazing concerts and a Stampede Pro Rodeo for one unbelievable price. Package prices start at only \$47. Individual Stars & Spurs concert tickets are also available for \$25-41.

### **Corral West/Wrangler Entertainment on the K99 Free Stage**

Everyday during the 12-day celebration from 6-8pm & 10-12am, the Greeley Stampede offers free entertainment on the K99 Free Stage. Set to perform, as part of the Corral West/Wrangler Entertainment, will be Ryan Shupe & the Rubberband on June 23, Western Underground on June 24 and more acts to be named at a later date.

Prior to the Gretchen Wilson concert on June 23, Ryan Shupe & the Rubberband will be rocking on the K99 Free Stage. The title of "Dream Big," the first single from Ryan Shupe & the RubberBand, could also be the group's motto. "Our songs are a celebration of life," Shupe said. "A lot of our songs are hopeful, overall. There are some sad songs, but you come away from them seeing the positive side. That's the spirit of the RubberBand."

On June 24, Western Underground will be performing on the K99 Free Stage at 6pm. Western Underground was the sound behind Chris Ledoux's famous rodeo rock and roll until his death in March 2005. They have continued to perform with one new addition to the band. Dustin Evans joins Western Underground to cover the majority of vocals. A long time friend, and frequent opening act for Chris, and the band, Dustin brings his own energy into the mix and adds some great songs also. The show is full of the energetic music of Chris LeDoux and new music from Western Underground.

### **Corral West/Wrangler Entertainment on the K99 Free Stage** (more to be announced)

Friday, June 23	6pm
<b>Ryan Shupe &amp; the RubberBand</b>	
Saturday, June 24	6pm
<b>Western Underground</b>	

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## 2006 Stampede Concert Series

Friday, June 23                   8pm  
    **Gretchen Wilson with special guest Blake Shelton**  
Saturday, June 24               8pm  
    **Alan Jackson with special guest Miranda Lambert**  
Saturday, July 1                8pm  
    **Trisha Yearwood with special guest to be announced**  
Sunday, July 2                 8pm  
    **Sugarland with special guest Darryl Worley**  
Tuesday, July 4                8pm  
    **Big & Rich with special guest Cowboy Troy**

One of the top Pro Rodeos in the world will again be featured at this year's Stampede, which annually draws all the top rodeo athletes in the world to Greeley. Stampede Pro Rodeos begin on June 27 and run daily through July 4, wrapping up with the Coors Stampede Finals.

Other events featured at this year's Stampede include the ever popular Demolition Derby, the Western Art Exhibit & Sale, televised 4<sup>th</sup> of July Parade, Corral West/Wrangler Entertainment on the K99 Free Stage, Beer Garden and much, much more.

### **Tickets on Sale!**

The Stampede Box Office is located in Island Grove Regional Park and is open from 8am-4pm. Ticket purchasers can also buy tickets by calling the Stampede Box Office at 970-356-BULL (locally) or 800-982-BULL (nationally), or through TicketsWest in any Colorado King Soopers Stores, or online at [www.GreeleyStampede.org](http://www.GreeleyStampede.org).

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The Greeley Stampede Media Packet is found online at [www.GreeleyStampede.org](http://www.GreeleyStampede.org). Click on News/Media, then Media Kit. You will be prompted to enter an email address in order to access all the information about this year's concert line-up and event. Thanks.