

Fair corrals far-flung talents

Country singer Campbell, sea lions, roving T. rex among year's attractions

The North Idaho Fair has highlights that are quintessentially Idaho – rodeo, demolition derby, country singer Craig Campbell – and some that are not, including acrobatic sea lions and a live shark encounter.

The five-day fair in Coeur d'Alene starts Wednesday. Campbell, who is working on his third studio album, will headline the opening night arena concert, complete with fireworks, at 7 p.m. The Georgia-raised performer's hits include "Family Man," "Fish," "When I Get It," "Outta My Head" and "Keep Them Kisses Comin'."

Professional rodeo will follow on the next four days, including "extreme" bull riding Thursday at 6:30 p.m. A draft horse show and pull is set for Aug. 28, and the fair wraps up with the ever-popular demolition derby Aug. 30 at 6 p.m.

Here are other highlights of next week's fair:

- Chicks-n-Chaps women-only rodeo clinic Aug. 28 in the grandstands clubhouse. Proceeds benefit local people with breast cancer and the Fair & Rodeo Foundation.
- Sea lion splash: Balancing balls, shooting hoops, dancing and flipping are a few of the acrobatic moves these sea mammals will perform three times daily.
- Live shark encounter: Trained professionals interact with live sharks and entertain with stunts three to four times daily.
- T. rex encounter: This 10-foot-tall, 16-foot-long dinosaur will roam the fairgrounds and pose for photos.
- Lady Houdini performs the water torture cell escape.
- Richard Barker presents his hypnosis act.
- Cecil the Magician performs tricks and illusions.
- Idaho native Matt Sorenson creates art from spray cans, plates, knives and flames.
- The Cute as a Bug Petting Zoo includes a mini zebu African cow, dwarf goats, pot belly pig, rabbits, tortoises, donkey, llama, sheep and wallabies.
- Farm to Table Park: Learn how one cow can produce over 200,000 glasses of milk in its lifetime, and how the products we eat each day make it to our table.

If you go

When: Wednesday through Aug. 30

Where: Kootenai County Fairgrounds, corner of Government Way and Kathleen Avenue,
Coeur d'Alene

Admission: General (ages 13-59), \$10; seniors (60 and older) and youth (6-12), \$7; kids 5 and younger, free. Parking: \$5 per vehicle. Tickets to the Craig Campbell concert are \$16, available through the fair office or [website](#). Fair admission is not included in the concert ticket price.

Info: northidahofair.com or on Facebook