

Family Tradition Continues When Hit Maker's Son Takes Stage Saturday Evening At Ottawa

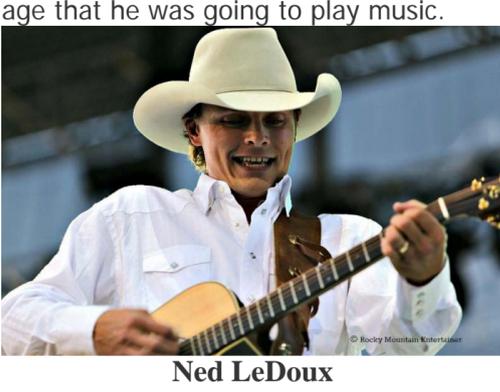
There'll likely be bit of an eerie shadow feeling yet an all refreshing glow when curtains open Saturday evening at Ottawa.

"For one night only, country singer Ned LeDoux, son of the legendary Chris LeDoux, will entertain for a show in the Ottawa Memorial Auditorium, September 2, 7 o'clock," announced Tiffany Evans, auditorium director and show coordinator.

The show is being advertised extensively on WIBW, Country Legends 106.9 and The BIG 94.5 Country and promoted on WibwNewsNow and the Kansas Agriculture Network.

"In country music, a last name like LeDoux casts a big, storied and bittersweet shadow, but it's one Ned LeDoux doesn't mind standing in one bit," Evans insisted.

Having been a drummer in his dad Chris' band Western Underground since 1998, the younger LeDoux knew from an early age that he was going to play music.



Ned LeDoux

"Once I got the taste of the road, and being in front of a crowd and just the sound of it was freedom," Ned said.

When his dad passed away in 2005 from cancer, Ned continued to tour with his father's band to keep the musical spirit of world champion rodeo

cowboy-hit maker Chris LeDoux alive.

"This drove Ned to pick up the guitar and try his hand at some of his dad's songs," according to Evans.

"It started with 'Rodeo Man,' and before long Ned had a whole catalogue of his father's early hits ready to play," Evans said.

When the other band members heard Ned's voice, he soon found himself front and center singing at the shows. Stepping out from behind the drums stirred something inside of Ned that he hadn't felt before.

"It's a different kind of rush, getting up with a guitar and standing behind a microphone...shoot I'm getting butterflies thinking about it right now," Ned said.

The timing was right for Ned to pick up a guitar and belt out "Western Skies." It's now been 12 years since Chris LeDoux passed, and audiences always want to hear something new along with the traditional.

Ned LeDoux has boxes of song ideas his dad never finished and has dug through those for inspiration.

"I kind of stick with what dad used to do, but bring my own stuff to the table," he said

In July 2015, Ned traveled to Nashville with some of those unfinished songs and met up with Mac McAnally to put that inspiration to work.

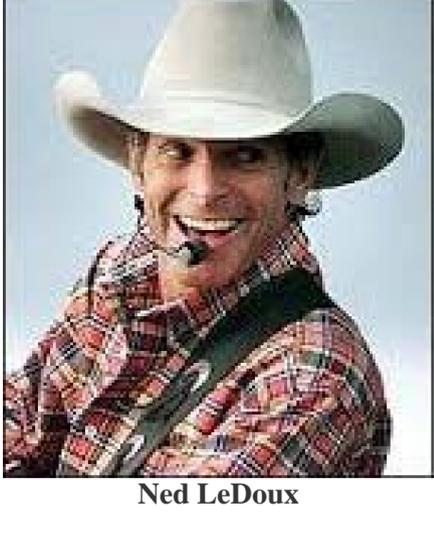
"Mac produced Chris' last two studio records and wrote his hit 'Horsepower.' So, the collaboration with Ned was a natural fit and lead to the first new Chris LeDoux co-write in nearly two decades," Evans explained.

Ned's latest song "Brother Highway" is about all the time he has spent on the road touring with various bands since his days in high school. "I don't even need a road map anymore, the highway and I are like brothers," he claimed.

"Desiring to write songs about what he knows, Ned wants to keep the themes simple and harken back to the sound of good ole country music, but with an edge," Evans said.

Eventually, Ned LeDoux plans to release an album of new material and include a few of his dad's songs re-recorded in his own style as a tribute.

Recently, Ned has been steadily touring and opening for acts like Toby Keith, Chris Janson and Randy Houser.



Ned LeDoux

Yet, now that he is in front of the mic, Ned has a new goal. "There's an age group who doesn't know who Chris LeDoux is, and I just want to keep his name out there," Ned said.

"I want to reintroduce Dad to people who've maybe heard of him, but didn't know what he did. Just carry on his legacy and carry on his music and at the same time show them what I can do."

At Ottawa, the audience is guaranteed to hear "This Cowboy's Hat", the song most requested by his fans and a request Ned says he's most honored to oblige, according to Evans.

However, his personal favorite song to sing is "You Can't Tell Me We Ain't Got It All." Evans said, "It's the first original song Ned co-wrote with his dad and seems to pick up right where Chris left off.

"Thankfully there is more to come as the 'new voice' carries on the LeDoux sound," Evans said.

Tickets and information for the show on September 2, at Ottawa, are available at ottawamunicipalauditorium.ticketfly.com.

Event Champions Crowned Climax To Eastern Kansas Pro Rodeo Series

Organizers have proclaimed the Eastern Kansas Pro Rodeo Series an "overwhelming success."

The Linn County Fair & Rodeo, Mound City; the Inter-State Fair & Rodeo, Coffeyville; and the Eureka Pro Rodeo Association, Eureka, again joined together for the series, said John Teagarden, La Cygne, who was instrumental in organizational efforts.

"Goal of the series is a joint effort to raise awareness of the three rodeos among contestants and spectators with the primary purpose of increasing both entries and attendance," Teagarden said.

Advertised on WIBW, Country Legends 106.9, The BIG 94.5 Country and promoted on WibwNewsNow and the Kansas Agriculture Network, the Eastern Kansas Pro Series affiliate rodeo associations annually produce the three largest professional rodeos in eastern Kansas.

"Collectively, the three rodeo associations produced eight Professional Rodeo Cowboys Association (PRCA) sanctioned rodeo performances in a nine-day period, August 11-19," Teagarden related.

Professional rodeo contestants from 11 states competed at all three rodeos to remain eligible for series awards.

"Series winners were determined with completion of the rodeos at Coffeyville and Eureka on August 19," Teagarden pointed out.

"Located in the southeast quadrant of Kansas, the rodeos are approximately 100 miles from each other in a triangle," Teagarden noted.

The winning contestants in each rodeo event who competed at the three rodeos received a Maynard trophy buckle. Reserve winners were awarded Moore-Maker engraved knives.

Sponsors of the rodeo series include Cleaver Farm & Home, Chanute; Twin Motors Ford, Iola; and Better Horses Radio.

David Gillespie, Iola, won the commemorative engraved pocket knife in a drawing among rodeo fans that attended at least one rodeo performance in each of the three communities.

"Cooler than normal August weather plus joint promotion efforts boosted attendance at all three rodeos over last year," Teagarden verified.

Event winners include:

Bareback Riding---Champion: Jared Keylon, two-time National Finals Rodeo

qualifier from Uniontown, first at Mound City; fourth at Coffeyville; and fourth at Eureka. Reserve: Anthony Thomas, a native of Australia now living in Palestine, Texas, third at Coffeyville; tied for second at Eureka.

Saddle Bronc Riding---Champion: Kirk Nelson, Branson, Missouri, first at Mound City, and competed at Coffeyville and Eureka. Reserve: Hardy Braden, currently ranked fifth in PRCA world standings from Welch, Oklahoma, first at Coffeyville, 82 points; first at Eureka, 87 points.

Bull Riding---Champion: Brett Custer, Elk City, Oklahoma, second at Coffeyville. Reserve: Cody Ballard, native of Australia now living in Goodwell, Oklahoma, third at Coffeyville.

Steer Wrestling---Champion: Jake Johnson, Mound City, second at Mound City; tied for seventh at Eureka. Reserve: Jeff Miller, Blue Mound, first at Mound City.

Tie-Down Roping---Champion: Sam Nave, Stephenville, Texas, third at Mound City; third at Eureka; fourth in first go-round and fourth in second go-round at Coffeyville. Reserve: Jeff Miller, Blue Mound, first at Mound City; fourth in second go-round and fifth in the average at Coffeyville.

Team Roping---Champions: Adam Rose, Willard, Missouri, and J. W. Beck, Merville, Iowa, first at both Mound City and Coffeyville; third at Eureka. Reserve: Andrew Ward, Edmond, Oklahoma, and Reagan Ward, Edmond, Oklahoma, eighth at Mound City; second in first go-round and second in average at Coffeyville.

Girls Barrel Race---Champion: Cheyenne Schnelle, Golden City, Missouri, second at Mound City; seventh at Coffeyville; first at Eureka. Reserve: Lacinda Rose, Willard, Missouri, third at Mound City; fourth at Eureka.



Hardy Braden_ Welch_ Oklahoma_ marked 87 points on United Pro Rodeo_s Big Valley winning the 2017 Eureka Pro Rodeo_ one of three rodeos in the Eastern Kansas Pro Rodeo Series_ Photo by Debra S. Vogt_

Padre Says:

"The best thing about the future is that it only comes one day at a time."

Frank J. Buchman
Marketing Consultant

Direct: 785-228-7259 Cell: 785-499-3063

E-mail: frank.buchman@wibwradio.com
Website: www.frankjbuchman.com

PO Box 1818
1210 SW Executive Drive, Topeka, Kansas 66615