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State Media Release

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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CIF STATE TRACK AND FIELD CHAMPIONSHIPS PRESENTED BY FARMERS TO BE CONTESTED IN CLOVIS THROUGH 2011

ALAMEDA – Veterans Memorial Stadium, on the campus of Buchanan High School in Clovis, will serve as the home for the CIF State Track and Field Championships Presented by Farmers for the next three years, 2009-2011, the CIF Executive Committee has announced.

The Fresno/Clovis area is no stranger to hosting CIF State championship events. This will not be the first time the CIF State Track and Field Championships have been held in this community as it was contested locally in 1915 (Fresno High School); 1931, 1940, 1947 (Visalia High School) and 1935 (Ratliffe Stadium, Fresno). In addition, Fresno's Woodward Park has been the site for the CIF State Cross Country Championships since the event's inception in 1987, and the 1987 State Wrestling Championships took place at Selland Arena in Fresno.

“The CIF is pleased to bring another state championship event to the Fresno/Clovis area,” said CIF Executive Director Marie M. Ishida. “We are appreciative and thankful that the Clovis Unified School District and the Fresno Sports Council have long realized the community and financial benefit of hosting CIF championship events and understand the internal workings that go on behind the scenes in order to put on the premier high school track and field event in the nation. Their support allows us to keep our ticket prices low and reasonable for students and families.”

The venue features a Mondo Super X Track, installed in Spring 2007, as well as colored relay zones, hurdles marked on track and staggered starting lines around three turns. In addition, the scoreboard will display event results as well as real-time timing of running events. Veterans Memorial Stadium features more than 8,500 permanent stadium seats and additional seating will be added to bring the capacity to more than 12,000.

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CIF Track Championships Move to Clovis

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The selection of Veterans Memorial Stadium marks the first time the state track and field championships will be held at a high school site since 1973 when the event took place at Woodland High School, and only the second time since 1947 that a high school venue has been used.

“CIF’s selection of Clovis Unified to host this premier event is a tremendous honor not only for our district, but also for the entire Fresno/Clovis and Central California community,” said Clovis Unified Superintendent Terry Bradley, Ed.D. “The fact that, for the first time in 36 years, a statewide committee selected a high school stadium to host the event is a reflection of the importance our community places on providing outstanding facilities for our students. We look forward to the opportunity to provide a world-class experience to California’s student-athletes, their coaches and their families.”

The 2009 CIF State Track and Field Championships are scheduled to take place Friday-Saturday, June 5-6, 2009.

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