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***September 26 entertainer announced
for 2009 Great Frederick Fair***

FREDERICK, MD — Blake Shelton will take center stage on the last night of the 2009 Great Frederick Fair, Saturday, Sept. 26. This star studded musical performer is among the entertainers that help make The Great Frederick Fair live up to its GREAT Ag-xpectations for grandstand entertainment. The 147th annual fair runs September 18-26.

Tickets for Shelton's show are \$40.00 for reserved track and \$35.00 for reserved grandstand seating. Phone or walk-up box office sales are being accepted from 8 a.m.-3:30 p.m. Wednesday's, Thursday's and Friday's at the fairgrounds box office at 797 East Patrick Street, Frederick, MD 21701, or call 301-695-3928.

With the success of his 2008 chart-topper "Home," Blake Shelton took a long career step forward. With the release of *Startin' Fires*, he leaps to a whole new level. "Home" took Shelton into new musical territory, stretching him vocally and stylistically, helping him expand his audience to include those who might have missed the more traditional approach he'd taken to that point. *Startin' Fires*, his fifth album, completes that journey, establishing him in the process as one of country music's most talented and versatile song stylists.

"This is something I've been wanting to do," he says, "exploring richer melodies and challenging myself as a singer." Perhaps nowhere is his success more evident than in the project's first single.

" 'She Wouldn't Be Gone' is definitely not the typical cut you'd hear on one of my albums," he

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says. "It's got a lot of minor chords and a unique melody for country music. Vocally, it's one of the tougher songs I'll ever sing and I love that. You have to have the right song and the right timing to do that, and 'Home' kind of opened the door for me."

Long-time fans will find that Shelton honors his roots as well. Long known for the way he wraps his rich baritone around both emotion-laden ballads like "Austin" and "The Baby" and light-hearted party anthems like "Some Beach" and "The More I Drink," he tackles songs about country life and attitudes with more joyful assurance than ever, bringing his personality to bear on the record as never before. "I think this album is probably more autobiographical than anything I've ever done," he says.

In addition to Shelton, the nightly grandstanding entertainment offers nine nights of top-notch entertainment, including: **Billy Ray Cyrus** on Saturday, Sept. 19. Tickets are \$35 for reserved track seats and \$30 each for reserved grandstand seating.

On Sunday, Sept. 20, legendary artists **Brenda Lee and Larry Gatlin and The Gatlin Brothers** take center stage at 7 p.m. Tickets are \$35 for reserved track seats and \$30 each for reserved grandstand seating.

The **popular tractor and truck pull** returns to the fair Monday, Sept. 21, beginning at 6:30 p.m. Tickets are \$20 each for all seats. Returning to the fair is one night of **Demolition Derby** beginning at 7 p.m. Tuesday, Sept. 22. Tickets for all seats are \$20 each.

For the second time at The Great Frederick Fair, **U.S. Freestyle Motorcycle Stunt Show** takes center track for unbelievable jumps and maneuvers at 7:30 p.m. Wednesday, Sept. 23. Tickets are \$20 for reserved grandstand.

For the first time performing at The Great Frederick Fair, **Foreigner**, will take center stage Thursday, Sept. 24, at 7:30 p.m. Reserved track seats are \$40 each, and reserved grandstand tickets are \$35.

Then on Friday, Sept. 25, **Josh Turner** also makes a first time appearance at The Great Frederick Fair to entertain fairgoers at 7:30 p.m. Show tickets are \$40 each for reserved track seats and \$35 for reserved grandstand.

For the first time in many years, The Great Frederick Fair is bringing back a car stunt show, provided by **Imperial Stunt Car Drivers** Saturday afternoon, Sept. 27 in front of the grandstand with show tickets at \$20 each.

The fair kicks off Friday, Sept. 18, with the fifth annual horse pull in front of the grandstand. Admission to this 5:30 p.m. event is free.

For more information on the 2009 entertainment lineup, go to the fair's website at www.thegreatfrederickfair.com.