

VOLUNTEERS HELP THE RODEO ARENA LOOK ITS BEST

Joe Faretta and David Bothum remove a broken fence board at the Farm-City Pro Rodeo Arena. Faretta has volunteered with the rodeo for more than 12 years.

STAFF PHOTO
BY GARY L. WEST



By **JADE McDOWELL**
Staff Writer

Every Tuesday and Thursday in the weeks leading up to the Farm-City Pro Rodeo, volunteers gather at the fairgrounds to give the rodeo arena a little bit of TLC.

They paint boards, pull weeds, grease hinges and whatever else needs to be done to put the arena and surrounding grounds in top shape by the time opening night arrives.

Of course, it's not all hard work — the group has a habit of starting the evening with a cold

beer and a bit of friendly ribbing before getting down to business. But that's part of the attraction.

"The guys you work with all have their heart in it," volunteer Frank Rossi said. "That's what it's all about. It's a great group of people."

He said he started volunteering for the rodeo about six years ago. He enjoys the camaraderie and is proud to support a quality rodeo.

Volunteers spruce up the grounds during the month before the rodeo, plus take tickets and help with parking during the event.



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