

Rodeo Masbateno Festival

Department of Agriculture Secretary Proceso "Procy" J. Alcala, together with the National Dairy Authority Administrator Grace J. Cenas, the Bureau of Animal Industry Executive Director Efren Nuestro and National Irrigation Authority Administrator Antonio S. Nangel, attended the opening of the Rodeo Masbateno Festival held last April 9, 2012 in Masbate City. The other dignitaries that attended the event were Senator Antonio Trillanes, Masbate Governor Rizalina Seachon-Lanete, Cebu Governor Gwen Garcia, and mayors and congressmen from Masbate and Cebu. Rodeo Masbate is an annual event that showcases skills in livestock handling which has been vigorously celebrated by Masbatenos since 1993.

The festivities began with a Grand Horse Parade that started at 7am where the participants awed the crowd with an array of exciting horse riding skills and singing and dance numbers. The Opening program was conducted at the Masbate Grandstand Oval. One of the memorable moments of the opening program was the lighting of the symbolic torch signifying the opening of the Rodeo Masbateno 2012 by Masbate Governor Rizalina Seachon-Lanete and the Rodeo Masbate Inc. President, Judge Manuel Sese, who rode in a horse despite the rain, with a torch which he passed to the governor. The provincial employees donning cowboy suits also gave an adorable dance performance for the crowd.

The actual rodeo events started in the afternoon where 45 teams of professionals and students from all over the country competed in bull whipping, load carrying relay, cattle wrestling on foot, cattle wrestling from horseback, cattle lassoing from horseback, carambola (2 and 4 persons), casting down and the most awaited bull riding event.