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LA FIESTA DE LOS VAQUEROS

Texan Brazile wins all-around buckle

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The 2007 all-around rodeo champion walked away with two more titles for his collection on the final day of the 83rd Tucson Rodeo on Sunday.

Trevor Brazile, who has competed at the rodeo since 1998, took the tie-down roping event and the rodeo's all-around buckle, given to the cowboy who competed well in more than one event.

Brazile competed in the team roping competition earlier in the week.

This was the third year in a row in which he won the tie-down event.

"It feels good, especially in front of a turnout like there was today," Brazile said. "There wasn't a seat

left in the house; it was awesome. Fans always turn out for the rodeo in Tucson, and it's a lot of fun to compete."

Brazile won the rodeo triple crown in 2007 after winning titles in tie down, steer roping and the all-around.

At 31, the Texas native is already a five-time all-around champion and has qualified for the National Finals Rodeo 14 times in various events. In January, he was inducted into the Texas Cowboy Hall of Fame.

All of this with just 12 years in the Professional Rodeo Cowboys Association field.

Even with his stellar career and amazing 2007 season, he looks to improve more this season.

"(I just want) to have a blast and win more than I have won in the past," Brazile said. "I mean, everyone wants to be better than they were the year before, and I have a little harder road ahead of me than most."

The champions at this year's Tucson Rodeo:

All-around: Brazile, Decatur, Texas

Bareback riding: Tom McFarland, Wickenburg, \$7,403

Steer wrestling: Dean McIntyre, Wickenburg, \$8,173

Saddle bronc riding: Billy Etbauer, Edmond, Okla., \$9,526

Tie-Down roping: Brazile, \$6,047

Team roping: Speed Williams, Deleon, Texas, and Allen Bach, Weatherford, Texas, \$4,966 each

Barrel racing: Lindz Sears, Ropesville, Texas, \$6,979

Bull riding: Douglas Duncan, Alvin, Texas, \$6,944

Clown ends career

After protecting riders from bucking broncos and angry bulls, a veteran rodeo clown will put away the face paint for good.

Jeff Franks, 29, finished his career in Tucson on Sunday, marking the end of a 16-year tenure.

"Well, there are good things and bad things about it," Franks said. "It's kind of heartbreaking knowing you will never do it again."

Franks, a Fort Worth, Texas, native, said he got a job offer he couldn't refuse, and the timing made this his final event.