



(Far left) Longtime hatmaker John Milano received a Top Hand Award from WESA. (Left) Keynote speaker Johnny Campbell attracts attention.

Western Sizzle Sparks Denver Market

Continued interest in all things Western, which began about 18 months ago, has led to another near-record International Western/English Apparel and Equipment Market in Denver. According to the sponsors, Western and English Sales Association (WESA), this year's numbers will top last year, which was the largest market since the mid-'90s.

More than 2,500 retailers had registered through the first three days of the five-day event. For vendors, the mar-

ket was a sellout, with a waiting list of those who would have liked to exhibit. Excellent weather and a strong economy were credited for the success of the event.

Another upward trend during this year's market was the number of English products and apparel exhibitors.

Additional photos and information on the market may be found at www.tackntogs.com.

Industry in Focus continued on page 6



The annual WESA fashion show featured a variety of Western fashions, both traditional and nontraditional.