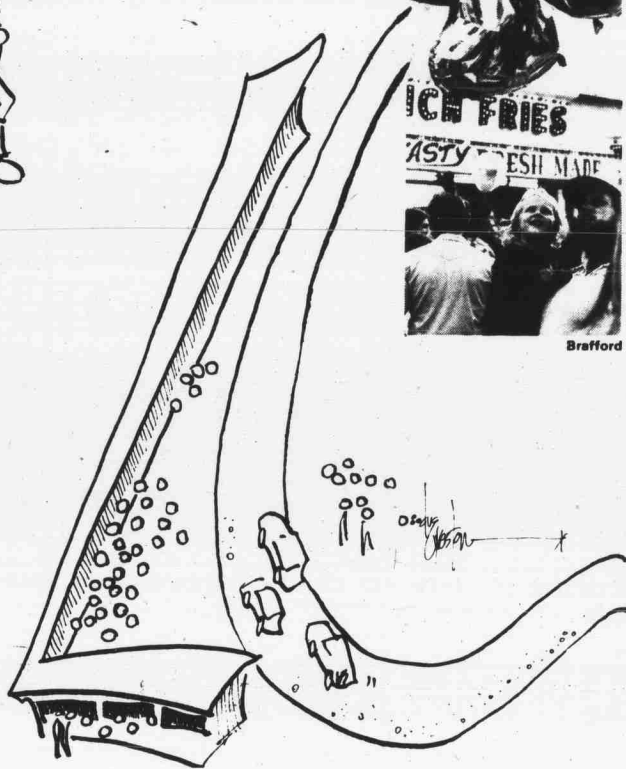
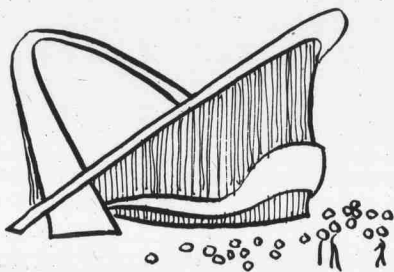


N.C. STATE FAIR

OLD FASHIONED
OCTOBER 22, 1980



Brafford



McNeill

Staff photos by Lynn McNeill and Linda Brafford

Graphics by Doug Weston



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Spinning lights and thrilling screams are abound

by Greg Lytle
Entertainment Writer

My first glimpse of the fair was a train unloading rides, creating quite a traffic jam.

Yes, the N.C. State Fair was in town and those 24 hour-a-day setups had begun.

Even though the opening was over a week away you could see rides on test runs.

The crowds were already gathering and several booths opened early.

This year's fair offered several new rides, ranging from the Tidal Wave, a large swinging boat, to the Astro Liner, a simulated spacecraft voyage.

Space specialty

The Astro Liner's major feature was its rolling motion which imitates that of a spaceship. The motion, which accompanied a film of a mythical space journey, was limited to rolling back and forth. This continual rolling became very repetitious after the initial lift of the nosecone of the craft.

You can't avoid the spook and funhouses. They seem to be everywhere. There are at least four spook houses and as many funhouses.

A good spook house can be a chilling treat, but this year's offering failed to provide the substance after whetting the appetite. The failures stem mainly from broken equipment, some of which is due to age.

The Super Loop takes the greatest courage of any ride in the fair. It consisted of a train on a large circular track. The train often stopped upside down, leaving the riders to hold on for dear life, due to a fear of certain catastrophe which would occur if they let go.

After getting off the ride you will wish you hadn't eaten before the ride. It is certainly not for the squeamish.

The excitement of the rides is

only complete at night when all of the lights are on and when the crowds swell. The action during the daylight pales in comparison to the evening.

The Himalaya, an old standard, was a calmer version of the roller coaster, pivoting around in a large tent with blaring music and colorful lighting effects.

The Polar Express was another version of the Himalaya ride. Both of these rides were extremely popular and long lines were seen even when the fair crowd was small.

For the roller coaster fans there was the Mark I, a scaled down version of the huge coasters seen in amusement parks. The smaller size did not effect the exhilarating ride, however.

One of the rides which continually drew people back the bumper cars. The cars provided enjoyment for all ages and allowed many people to alleviate the frustration which had built up from losing at the many games.

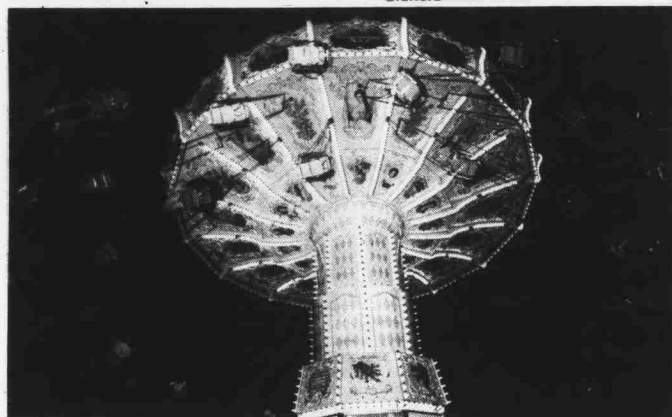
The Giant Wheel offered a spectacular view of the grounds and was perhaps one of the more sedate rides.

Another noteworthy ride was the Tilt-A-Whirl. This ride rotated in a circular motion and gave you most of the feeling of the Super Loop, but with a feeling of being strapped in by the tremendous gravitational pull which was exerted.

Be sure to bring plenty of money so you can ride the rides. Most of the major rides cost \$1 or \$1.20. Ride booklets can be purchased for \$5 for 20 tickets — most rides take 4 tickets.



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Rides for children of every age are available at the fair. Breathtaking thrills are the favorites of some dare-devils but many prefer down-to-earth excitement.

French Burlesque; a different sort of fun

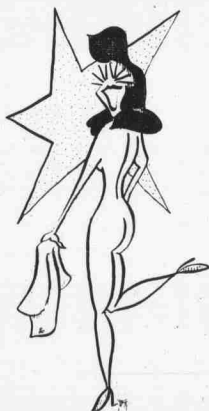
by Shannon Crowson
Entertainment Writer

So sue me. I thought I had gotten to the brave stage in my writing where no experience made me pale and quivering, including facing death, destruction or a bad movie or album. But this time I found that things went too far.

Located on the Midway at the N.C. State Fair, the French Casino Burlesque House is a different sort of pleasure house in the midst of the basically clean fun of the Himalaya (the puns are going to flow, I have a feeling), the elephant ride and the loop thing that goes upside down. However, after observing a young man throwing up during the ride, much to the extreme disgust of his girlfriend — their car was upside down at the time — I question the cleanliness.

Nevertheless, I think he at least owed her a massive stuffed

(See "In," page 5)



by C. J. Allen
Features Writer

"You weigh one hundred and ... I'm afraid to go any higher ... nine. Step up on the scale. 115. Rubber underwear! Take your prize. You weigh about two ton, oop, 210 ... can't get it anymore ... go get a prize. Won't be nothing left when I get done — three winners in a row." Bob Messer, a four-year veteran of the age-weight-month game, didn't have much luck guessing those two, but he did manage to guess correctly the next seven people who approached him.

Messer said he was "taught by my boss — one of the better ones."

Technician Photo Editor Lynn McNeill was traipsing up the Midway Friday night with an armload of toys — one of them a reward for fooling a guesser in the age game.

"I'm 13," McNeill said, laughing. Messer couldn't have been the guesser. He never loses by more than a year or a pound and a half.

On to the scene of a man whose body was jerking spasmodically above the heads of the onlookers. What? How can he? A bucking

bronco machine complete with strap for hanging on for dear life and mattresses laid (necessarily) around on the ground. The "cowboy," arm waving for balance, stayed on through the fury and stepped down declaring "Glad my mule don't do that!"

The next rider, a girl in a red Bama shirt hung on in a frenzy and came away yelling to her friends "Ha! you owe me ten dollars."

Johnny Picket, a resident of Murdoch Center in Butler, looked on delightedly from his

(See "Eight," page 6)

'You weigh about two ton...'

25-cent admission fee

by Beth Smith
Staff Writer

The first N.C. State Fair was founded in 1853 by the North Carolina Agricultural Society. It was held on a sixteen-acre tract of land located 10 blocks east of the Capitol Building, and the entrance fee was 25 cents per person. The charge for a carriage was one dollar and 50 cents for a buggy.

The first fair, considered highly successful with attendance between four and six thousand, produced a total of \$3,000 from receipts.

"Nearly every section of the state, and every industrial pursuit within its borders, were represented," stated an editorial in the Sunday October 22, 1853 edition of the *Raleigh Register*.

Owing to the turmoil and uncertainty during the Civil War and Reconstruction Period there was no state fair from 1860 to 1866.

By 1873, twenty years after its founding, the state fair had outgrown the original sixteen-acre site and it moved. The new home was a 55-acre "broom sage field" on Hillsborough Road. The Raleigh Little Theatre makes its home on this site now.

The Agricultural Society spent more than \$50,000 improving and developing these grounds.

Again in 1918 there was no fair. This time the culprits were World War I and an influenza epidemic.

In 1925 a State Fair Board was appointed by the governor of North Carolina in an answer to a request for help from the Agricultural Society. The Society disbanded and there was no fair in 1926 and 1927.

The state fair moved to its present location, a tract of land bordered by Hillsborough Street and Blue Ridge Road, in 1928. Governor J. Melville Broughton had convinced the N.C. legislature to give the 200 acres of land to the state fair.

In 1930 the state fair was put under the control of the Department of Agriculture where it remains today.

Dr. J.S. Dorton became manager of the state fair in 1937. The state fair showed a profit of more than \$8,000, and these profits were used for improvement of the grounds.

Entertainment came to the state fair in 1948 with the arrival of the James E. Strates Shows and Bascom Lamar Lunsford's Folk Festival.

In the late 1940s the General Assembly allocated funds for construction of a year-round facility to "serve agriculture, industry, commerce and the general welfare of the state."

The building was completed in 1952 and named the J.S. Dorton Arena. Because of its unique architectural design, the arena has won acclaim as one of the most significant structures of modern times.

The Village of Yesteryear, one of the most popular exhibits, especially among homemakers, was established in 1951 as an educational division of the state fair.

In January 1965 Arthur K. Pitzer was named manager of the state fair. Pitzer still holds the job.

Beginning in 1969 the state fair was extended to nine days.

In the early 1970s a program of special exhibits was initiated. The exhibits, which are changed from year to year, are housed in large, movable domes.

An estimated 250,000 people viewed the world's largest space-related educational exhibit at the 1972 state fair. (This year there will be two exhibits in the domes. One exhibit will concern the North Carolina Agricultural Extension Service. Another exhibit entitled "In The Works" will show training and job opportunities with state agencies.)

In 1974 for the first time free indoor entertainment was offered to fairgoers. The next year discounts were offered for admission and ride tickets purchased before the state fair opened.



The N.C. State Fair has grown significantly since its early days.

During the 1970s several permanent structures were erected on the fairgrounds. The Governor Kerr Scott Building came in 1972. The building is used as an exhibit hall during fair week.

The Jim Holshouser Buildings, crafts pavilion, went up in 1974. In 1975 the Jim Graham Livestock Building was added, followed by the Forestry Resources Center in 1976.

Land added in 1978 brought the fairgrounds to 344 total

acres. The fairgrounds and facilities undergo continuous improvement and expansion. Since the 1979 state fair \$70,000 has been spent on new paving, \$25,000 for painting Dorton Arena, \$20,000 to construct a storage building near the Scott Building and \$30,000 for electrical improvement.

"Place of Discovery" is the theme for this year's state fair. There's something for everyone state fair manager Pitzer said.

A fair with personality

by Kit Payne
Features Writer

Is she beauty or is she beast?

"If you have a weak heart or are an expectant mother, don't come to see Konga, Queen of the Apes. Konga is held in her steel cage by electricity!"

A line forms. But if you prefer "beauty" to the beast, you stand in line at the next attraction: The French Casino which features Ruff Diamond, "a gem in the raw."

The Skyride passes overhead and an overweight man sells you french fries in a cone. A large St. Bernard is dragged through the crowd by an exhausted fair-goer who was lucky throwing darts. A child with cotton candy tangled in her hair watches it pass with wide-eyed envy.

There are old people, couples, infants, high-school lettermen by the dozens — all curious people, all milling in circles past the games, shows and rides that are the Midway.

The barkers practice psychology on the passers-by:

"Win this polar bear for your date: just \$1 for three tries."

"All you have to do to win is get three hoops over the bottle."

"Just \$1 — just three hoops. Just one miracle?"

You step carefully when you step off a whirling ride. Your balance is affected and your face is an olive cast, partly from the green neon lighting off the double Ferris wheel. Just as you stumble back into the crowd a foot-long hotdog smothered with

onions passes beneath your nose. Still you manage a smile because this is the state fair.

Above the screams from riders on the Tidal Wave you hear, "One thin dime, one-tenth of a dollar wins the Lucky Strike!"

Knowing the odds are probably 1,001-1, you are more attentive when a competitive barker calls out, "Tired of games of luck? Try a game of skill with Whack-A Mole!" Competitors, armed with rubber mallets, wrinkle their brows with concentration as they beat the little

plastic rodents popping out of their holes.

You hunt for the barbecue stand operated by your hometown's Civitans and buy a ham biscuit from a church of your denomination. As you rest your throbbing feet you begin hearing fireworks explode.

And as you watch the explosions glitter up the sky you hear, "See Anato, the anatomical wonder!"

"See the Human Dynamo; see the half-man/half-woman. See Seal, the seal man."

"Next show begins in 10 minutes — step right up."

Freakish deformities fill the freak show

by Stan Limmiatis
Entertainment Writer

Ah — the freak show. For the N.C. State Fair this year James E. Strates Shows contracted the William B. Sutton Circus Side Show. Begun 40 years ago by William B. Sutton, it is now run by Elsie S. Sutton, the only female proprietor in the business.

The Circus Side Show emcee is Tommy, the Pain-Proof Man, who lies on a bed of nails and lets beautiful girls walk on him. Other acts include Otis, The Frog Boy who, deformed into a frog-like squat, rolls a cigarette using

only his lips. There is also the Baby Lady, a tiny deformed lady.

Better parts of the show include Sandina the Rubber Girl and Prince Arthur, the world's smallest perfectly formed black midget. Prince Arthur is 3 feet 4 inches tall and 70 years old. He was a munchkin in the movie *The Wizard of Oz*.

Melvin Burkhardt is the Anatomical Wonder and a magician. He is an entertainer of no mean caliber. His puns and comebacks to unruly high-schoolers make the show even better.



One dollar or four orange tickets will let you drop your jaws in awe at the freaks in this show. Bradford

Burkhardt also drives nails and ice picks into his head.

For an extra 50 cents you can see special attraction Olga Hess, of the remake of *Freaks*, a movie to come out by 1982.

The William B. Sutton Circus Side Show is above average and, considering the fare, is put on in fairly good taste. If you like freak shows you will enjoy this one. If not it will not convert you.

Food so fresh it squeals when bitten

by Shannon Crowson
Entertainment Writer

If you have certain things in mind to see at the N.C. State Fair, by strategic walking you can avoid the Midway. You can avoid the rides, vegetable exhibits or horse show. But there's one inescapable fact: a smell that starts somewhere in the back of your head comes around to settle firmly your nose.



company sells nothing but icy gherkins, dill, kosher and kosher-dill pickles.

Another's the apple procession. You have your choice of a huge Stayman, Macintosh or Winesap apple, ranging in color from a good Burgundy wine to the rich yellow of an autumn maple leaf.

But seek out the exotic. There's a fruit-salad booth that also sells papaya juice and a non-alcoholic Pina Colada drink. Frozen bananas are available and more than one egg-roll booth has sprung up.

There's even some New York-style kabobs which are small skewers of marinated beef, onions and green peppers.

Dinner decision difficult

However, dinner time is the best, if not most difficult, time to decide on what it's going to be for supper. Anyone can grab a hot dog or hamburger but first-hand research is more of a treat for the weary nose and stomach confused by the mingled scents of fried, baked and barbecued.

The civic clubs' mini-restaurants are good: there are stacks of country-ham biscuits, fried chicken and fish and even spaghetti. But why miss the barbecued pork? Smothered in sauce and accompanied by a corn stick, it's an enduring state-fair favorite.

And as one vendor from the Apex Lion's Club yelled, it's "so fresh the pig squeals when you bite into it."



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Barkers announce specials at the area church booths.

And in a few unusual booths, there's grilled steaks and ribs, Italian sausages and beef teriyaki — all are meals fit for gastronomic kings.

It's the choices that are the tough part, but don't forget the money to buy it or the patience to eat it all.

Food is everywhere at the Statefair.

The majority is good. Kids keep their parents looking for loose change to purchase the usual circus-come-fair junk food, like the sugary nothingness of cotton-candy that looks like spider's webs or badly teased hair. It comes in regulation pink and pale Howard Johnson's turquoise, and vendors sell it like mad.

There are candy apples, either red, sticky and messy, or caramel nut-covered, sticky and messy.

The sweets extend to the not so common, like salt-water taffy — pulled and stretched into a moving glob by a machine — and mini-doughnuts and fried dough that delineate the telltale bakery smell of cinnamon and warmth across, through and under a turkey shoot and a ring-toss game.

Fudge is around in flavors like Heavenly Hash, peanut butter, raisin mocha and of course, chocolate. It's found mostly in exhibitors' buildings but judging from the lines at the counters,

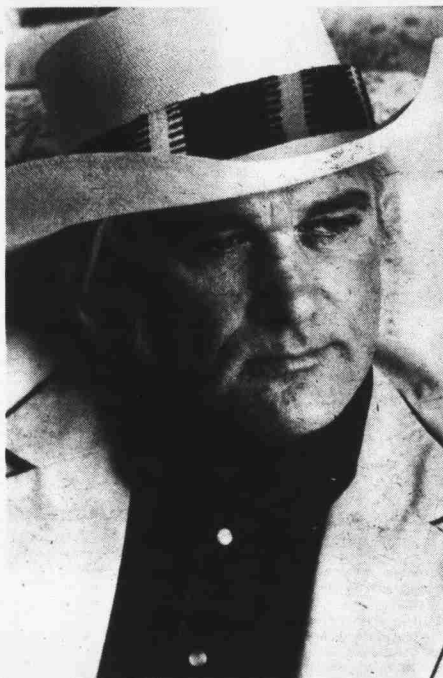
money's no object.

Sugary delight isn't hard to find and neither are snacks.

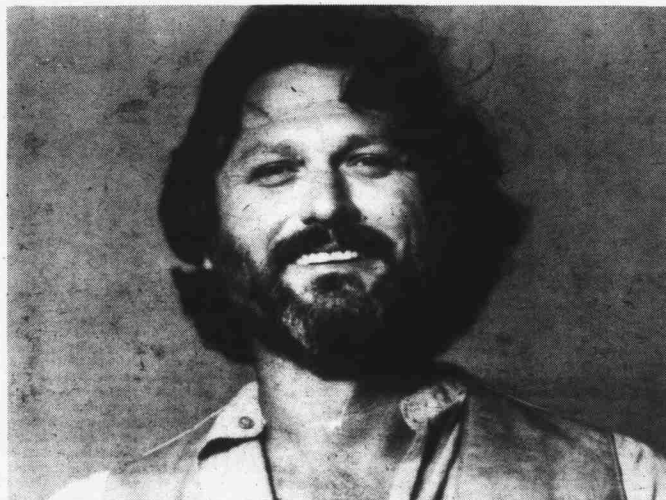
Hot french fries, salted, dipped in vinegar and placed in a Sno-Cone cup, make the rounds, as does corn on the cob and its adopted brother, the corn dog — one dipped in butter, the other swathed in mustard. And don't forget peanuts salted in the shell, boiled, parched and dry-roasted.

It's an election year, after all.

Free potato chips are here and there but the exhibitors' building holds two of the best. One pickle

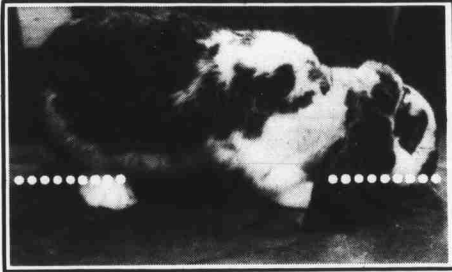


UPCOMING EVENTS



Charlie Rich, the Silver Fox (right), and Johnny Duncan (above) are two entertainers scheduled to perform in Dorton Arena later this week. Admission to the concerts is free with gate tickets. See page 8 for details and show dates and times.

Look again — you've probably missed something



McNeill

In the beginning... there was Burlesque

(Continued from page 2)

banana once they touched earth again. But as I see, I got off the subject, which is precisely what I intended to do.

Anyway, along with a willing friend I went to the burlesque show to get a feel for the place (oops) and just *what* it was that drew the crowds. I've been hearing about the girlie shows at the

what goes on. I understand the concept of toplessness and those heavy realities. But just go and see for myself? Forget it.

However, the idea of this type of diversion in the middle of the family atmosphere of the state fair, with smiling children riding brightly lit hydraulic toys — it didn't fit. For that matter, neither do freak shows, but since the 1800s they've been part of the history of fairs and traveling circuses.

So in quest of journalistic off-the-wallness, I bravely strode into the French Casino, self-assured and liberated, my dark glasses reflecting the sun's rays. Since it was a warm day my black coat was a little uncomfortable, but I lived with it.

There's something strange about two girls going into a girlie show. I'll be the first to admit it. You tend to spend the majority of your grief wondering what everyone who looks at you, as you pay for a ticket with pounding heart and sweaty palm, is really thinking. Can they tell I'm a woman?

I got the same feeling once before, when a group of women from a dormitory got together for a pornographic sojourn to Studio One theater for a Marilyn Chambers film. It's great to laugh about but it changes when you sit down for the show.

And we did. I knew what to expect, the relative tawdriness and definite lack of costumes in the show. There were some pasties and G-strings, like I expected. I wanted to laugh at one dancer sporting what I would call a pink wig — I remembered a Troll doll I had in 1969. Mostly, I looked at the saxophone player.

I also noticed that most of the dancers were not particularly young and I wondered if they had grandchildren. That's where the empathy, that gut instinct to ask questions of perfect strangers, comes in. In fact, chicken that I am, I recognize *what* the high-school boys snicker about.

So, in what started out to be a descriptive piece (oops) on girlie shows at the state fair comes down to a question.

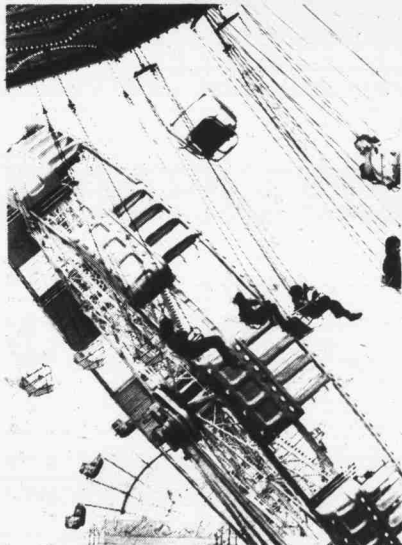
What are nice ladies like those doing in a place like this?



Funhouses contained a variety of spectacles!



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The highest State Fair skyline ever offered new heights to thrill fairgoers.



McNeill

The French Casino was the site for burlesque shows.

state fair since I was in high school here in Raleigh. Like The Keg Inc. or My Apartment Lounge, now defunct, I know

It's more than blisters and break-ins

by Mike Mahan
Features Editor

Old people, young people, small, tall, wide and thin people were sitting on steps, walls and benches, or walking, running or shuffling across the asphalt driveway leading toward a constantly crowded, noisy, sweet-sour-spicy-smelling conglomerate of tents, tractors, rides, slides, invisible dogs, shouting exhibitors, vibrating trailers and blaring speakers.

A woman lay on one of the low walls, motionless. She had stopped breathing.

"ONE ... TWO ... THREE ... FOUR ... FIVE," yelled a young man, kneeling over the lady who had placed the palms of his hands on her chest. He threw the weight of his body to the center of the woman's chest, above her heart, at every count. Three uniformed policemen stood nearby assisting the young man and his counterpart, who blew in to the woman's mouth, supplying needed oxygen.

A police car drove up through a gathering crowd.

"They're trying to get over here as fast as they can," yelled an officer, stepping out of the car.

A young girl and her boyfriend mingled into the increasing crowd and asked if the woman was pregnant.

A Red Cross nurse came running through the crowd of interested people at the same time an ambulance siren was heard above the normal noises heard at the fair.

The nurse whistled at the ambulance driver as he drove past the victim.

"Over here. Over here," she screamed.

The ambulance driver backed up, turned around and stopped 10 feet from the rescue effort. The nurse called for a stretcher, running to the back of the ambulance.

People were rushing like flies now to see the lady being carried to the ambulance in a stretcher.

"Stay clear," an officer said to the crowd of fair-goers.

"Comin' through," said

another Red Cross personnel man, driving a golf cart through the spreading people.

Scenes like this are infrequent, but possible, at the N.C. State Fair. That's part of the reason for the 220 paid sheriff's deputies, police officers, private security officers and 12-15 volunteer Red Cross personnel stationed throughout the fairgrounds.

The security officers are mostly involved with law enforcement, such as protection against pick-pockets and break-ins. W.C. Bartles, supervisor of state fair security, said, Bartles is stationed in one of two trailers located at opposite ends of the fairgrounds where officers relay messages to Bartles or other of-

ficers while patrolling the "50,000-person town."

"Midway (an area where most of the rides are located) is a hot spot because of the crowd," Bartles said from behind a small table he sat at inside a trailer. "It's kind of like sardines in a can almost."

Bartles said he was pleased with the way the fair was going. A power failure Friday at 7 p.m. caused Dorton Arena to be without full electricity for a half hour and other areas for one hour, and Bartles was "extremely pleased with the way it went."

"Our officers and the maintenance crew had flashlights and we had a couple of power

mikes so we told everyone to keep cool," Bartles said as a call came over the radio telling him the restrooms in Dorton Arena were out of order.

"Lose our lights one day and water the next. What's going to happen next?" Bartles said, smiling.

Though fair security responds to a few minor accidents, the Red Cross personnel take care of most of the accidents and sicknesses.

Jim Fouts, Red Cross supervisor, stood behind a counter behind a back door of the lounge building directing his volunteer nurses and aids. An obviously sick woman was escorted into the room by two nurses.

The woman held her arms over her stomach and pain filled her eyes as she passed by Fouts who was explaining that the fair's Red Cross members give out a lot of over-the-counter drugs and bandages for headaches, stomachaches and blisters besides keeping two ambulances from Emergency Medical Service available.

"People go out and buy some brand new shoes for the fair and wear them without any socks and they get blisters on their feet," Fouts said, laughing.

As for stomachaches, Fout suggested a good solid meal, "not junk food," to prevent that unpleasant nausea that can ruin a day at the fair.

Sweet, shiny apples wink at strollers-by

by Beth Smith
Staff Writer

North Carolina's heritage is largely agricultural. Agriculture currently plays a huge part in the state's culture and economics, and agricultural products and exhibits abound at the N.C. State Fair.

In the education building rows and rows of sweet-smelling, shiny apples wink at fair-goers as they stroll by.

Produce specialties

Trays of Irish potatoes bring to mind the french fries being peddled all over the fairgrounds. Cucumbers, tomatoes, corn, squash, eggplant, turnips and peppers add variety and color to the display.

Last but not least are the bright, orange pumpkins. A 204-pounder took the prize for largest pumpkin earning its exhibitor a \$15 prize. Total premiums offered this year in the horticulture division amount to more than \$4,000.

Just beyond the fruits and vegetables are the hofeybee exhibits. The booths are filled with

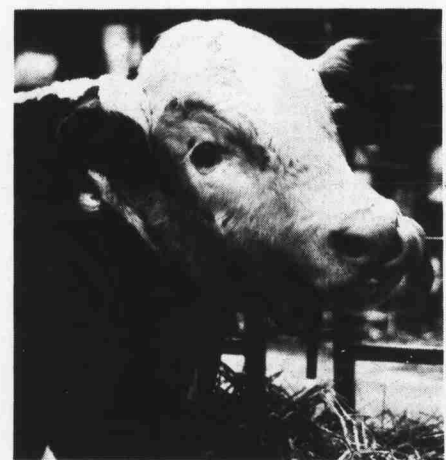
a variety of honey, beeswax, beeswax products and information about bees and the honey industry in North Carolina.

Honeybees are the official N.C. insect and in honor of these efficient little creatures Gov. Jim Hunt has declared Oct. 19-25 to be honeybee week in North Carolina. Just outside the exhibit hall is the "World's Largest Beehive" where people can watch bees at work.

During the fair the Jim Graham Building will be filled with animals of the bovine persuasion. Friday and Saturday about 172 junior exhibitors showed beef steers and heifers. Junior exhibitors must be residents of North Carolina and 21 or younger.

"Open" beef and dairy cattle shows are scheduled on various days during the fair to give spectators the opportunity to see a show regardless of the day they attend.

Cattle are housed in the Jim Graham Building during the shows. Spectators can walk through and view the animals. Most of the livestock have signs



The smell of food at the fair has this cow licking his lips in frustration.

Brafford

on their pens naming their breed, owner and home.

From the Kelly Building, adjacent to the Jim Graham Building, come the squeals and grunts of porkers of various breeds, sizes and sexes. These pigs are clean

as a whistle and wallow in straw and wood shavings, not mud.

The swine shows were held Monday and Tuesday.

Thirty-seven exhibitors come (See "Bugs," page 7)

'Eight-rings-eight-chances, you-do-it'

(Continued from page 2)

wheelchair. Asked about the fair Pickett replied, "It was something. I enjoyed it to myself."

An array of people shuffled across the Midway. "Carneys," the Midway game operators, opened huge boxes filled with furry creatures and hung them up in the "joints" where the games are housed. They looked out over the passing throng of baseball and cowboy hats, bearded and cover-girl candy-apple munchers and chose their next "marks."

Eighteen-year-old Patricia Thomas, an agent traveling with James E. Strates Shows and working with the apple-dart game, looked to catch a mark: "Win your girlfriend a prize," Thomas said.

Over the mike the manager of the joint droned,

"One-ring-on-the-bottle, eight-rings-eight-chances, you-do-it-now-you-play-now, get-a-couple-free-rings, your-choice-when-you-win, one-ring-get-a-choice-all-giant-prizes." Above dangled silver-and-gold raccoons, panthers, leopards and polar bears.

"We have about 20 winners a day," Thomas said.

Perched atop a wall, six wide-mouthed women yawned. The marks throw softballs and fed their faces or put two balls through the red lips and were rewarded with stars and

donkeys, squirrels and beavers.

Denny Walters threw a soft ball. Emily Atkinson stood behind him with the bounty. "He's won everywhere except one place," Atkinson said. Walters handed her another dog. Walters and Atkinson, from Durham, had spent \$20 and expected to spend \$10 more.

"This is how they make all their money - fools like us," said one young man as he threw another softball. Three to four thousand critters a day are won and it takes about two tries to win one, according to the elderly gentleman manning the booth.

Jerry Poteat, from Lenoir, carting twin teddy bears from the milk-jug joint, said the secret is to "backhand it. Six tries ... and about \$3." His date carried evidence of other successes. Hula hoops were slung over St.

Bernards, plastic balls cracked plates, grinding machinery moaned, little people clambered up and tumbled down from the Indian rope ladder, and the "ride jocks" loaded the Skyride.

"I love traveling, meeting people, climbing up on top of those towers in the rain - they're slick," Larry Cook, a five-year Strates employee, said, securing two kids into the Skyride and then sending them reeling over the lights and din of the crowd.

Ten Mickey Mouses opened their mouths to the onslaught of 10 water pistols, balloons blew up, bells clanged. "S..." Somebody has to lose.

BB machine guns, blat-tatt-tatted as sharpshooters shot out stars and walked away dejectedly, holding the card with "one red corner left."



Art exhibit features excellent variety of styles

by Greg Lytle
Entertainment Writer

The N.C. State Fair's art and photography exhibition and contest consisted of three divisions: students, amateur and professional. The works varied widely, from surrealism to classic landscapes.

In the student division, the field consisted of six entries from each area high school. The winning entry was a surrealist painting with an upraised arm in the center and a mushroom cloud in one corner.

A notable entry from Broughton High School was a classic farm scene including a barn with a wagon loaded with produce.

Many of the watercolors used subtle blends of color and showed an excellent grasp of the techniques of wet-on-wet and wet-on-dry. There were several significant examples of pasta and some using tactile techniques.

One pair of entries worth mentioning was a set of abstract paintings comprised wholly of single color lines. The first was an outline rendering of a rock climber; the other was an example of a solo figure repelling off a cliff, also in outline fashion. Still lifes are the staples of an artist

and one perfect example was an oriental still life which pictured an oriental flowerpot, teapot and printed shirt.

An art exhibit doesn't seem complete without a healthy dose of seascapes and this one is no exception. The blue ribbon-winning

picture showed a quiet bay complete with docks and was done predominantly in grays to represent an overcast sky. The second-place entry, also a watercolor, showed several ships anchored at a dock in a hazy mist.

Cabbages and a pitcher were

combined in one still-life to create a striking watercolor.

The best-in-the-show award went to a portrait of a boy stand-

ding against a wall. The work was highly commended by judges for its strong use of light and shadow and its brush techniques.

Even Bugs Bunny would be so proud

(Continued from page 6)

peted for \$1,225 in premiums in the domestic rabbit department. Rabbits with floppy ears and erect ears, with brown, grey and black stripes, and with spots and speckles peer at spectators. A white Angora with eyes that are concealed by long fluffy hair seems to be a favorite.

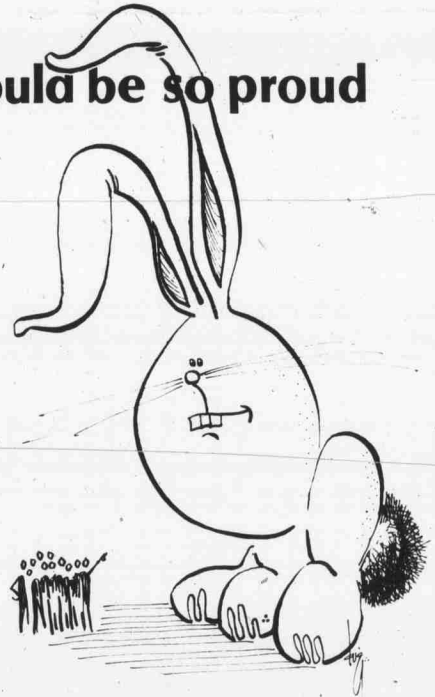
Barnyard friends

Just a few yards down from the rabbit barn is the Children's Barnyard, a favorite with children of all ages.

"Mommie, Daddy, look!" came a cry from one youngster. This year's barnyard includes a pony, a pair of mules, an Angus calf, goats, sheep, rabbits, baby pigs, chickens, turkeys, ducks, geese, peacocks, quail and guinea fowl. Down the street from the bar-

nyard is the exhibit of antique farm machinery. Fair-goers can examine old plows, fertilizer distributors, cultivators, corn planters and cotton planters. A horse-drawn manure spreader, circa 1900, was on exhibit alongside an 1837 McCormick reaper. With this reaper a two-man crew could harvest six to eight acres a day.

Daily horse shows are held just behind exhibits of new farming equipment. The state fair expects over 1,500 horses to be entered in various classes of the N.C. State Fair Horse Show Oct. 17-25. The horse show includes divisions for quarter horses, appaloosas, Arabians, half-Arabians, palominos, draft horses, hunters, American Saddle horses, Morgans, harness ponies and Tennessee walking horses.



Fancy dolls in black lace

by Greg Lytle
Entertainment Writer

The prize-winning entries in the N.C. State Fair's crafts and hobbies exhibits ranged from macramé to pottery.

One excellent entry in the doll category was a stuffed black-lace doll which obviously required much painstaking work to create.

Another blue-ribbon winner was a gingerbread house —

made of real gingerbread, of course — and bordered by a fence made of striped candy canes.

In the pottery category, a matched set of brown ceramic pieces — mug, bowl and plate — captured first place.

In the miscellaneous category, an interesting gray ashtray was judged to be a top entry. A ceramic elephant also received a blue ribbon.

A carved duck was another prize-winning entry. A carved replica of the State wolf head was also awarded first place.

Christmas may seem far away, but the entries in the decorations category were obviously not completed in haste. A glass star received one of the blue ribbons and a red-and-white stuffed Santa received the other.

The most noteworthy of the plaques which were exhibited was one that incorporated a cover from a telephone book from several years ago. The cover depicts the history of the telephone. The plaque's blue ribbon was well deserved.

You've got to see the blue lamp with a cut-away view of the Nativity scene. It's complete with depictions of Mary, Joseph and baby Jesus.

A pair of matching Egyptian head statues won a blue ribbon. Excellent examples of bead work were also in evidence. A religious piece won first prize.

One interesting work displayed a figure of Abraham Lincoln in a rocking chair. The piece included ceramic head and hands, leather shoes and a miniature black suit.

Macramé items proliferated throughout the crafts exhibit and spilled over into the photography exhibit in another building. Among the prize-winning entries were a two-color striped handbag, manager figures, Christmas trees and hanging shelves.

The crafts area was rounded out by an exhibition of tin work using recycled tin cans and exhibits by the Amish who sold meat, cheese and fudge and by the Pennsylvania Dutch who sold handmade signs and plaques.

One big pumpkin

by Pam Smith
Features Writer

The members of a State vegetable-production class were guided through a cornucopia of



Chinese bitter melon is a fair special. **Bratford**

some of North Carolina's finest produce at the state fair's horticultural exhibit.

The categories of produce included apples from Haywood County, pears, persimmons, pecans, black walnuts, hickory nuts, Chinese chestnuts, muscadine grapes, eggplant,

cucumbers, tomatoes, turnips, sweet and hot peppers, Irish potatoes, sweet potatoes and pumpkins.

The premiums offered for top grade produce total \$4,000, noted guide Melvin Kolbe, professor of horticultural science at State and superintendent of the horticulture exhibit. Produce is judged for condition, trueness to variety type and uniformity of size and color.

One pumpkin he showed the class weighed 204 pounds and captured the first-place premium for largest, best-conditioned pumpkin. (Who says the Great Pumpkin does not exist?)

North Carolina grows one-third of all sweet potatoes produced in America; both fresh market and canning sweet potatoes were represented.

The apples in the bushel displays were carefully scrutinized by the judges, as is all the produce at the fair. The judges looked for such defects as russeting, apple scab and bitter pits. Out of 16 entries 10 were awarded premiums. The apples arrived Tuesday, the displays were assembled Wednesday and Thursday, and judging was held Thursday.

Off in the Village of Yesteryear ...

by Pam Smith
Features Writer

In the northwestern section of the N.C. State Fairgrounds near the Village of Yesteryear is the flower show. You know you've found it when you see the masses of colorful mums: 1,000, to be exact.

The mums were planted by the show's sponsor, the Wake County Men's Garden Club. Flower show director Garland Avent emphasized that the flower show would be fresh and brilliant in color whether fair-goers visited the exhibits the first day or the last.

"One stigma we are trying to erase is the idea that unless people see the flower show the first day of the fair, the flowers have wilted and have lost some of their brilliance," Avent said. "We have new, fresh flowers and plants coming to the flower show

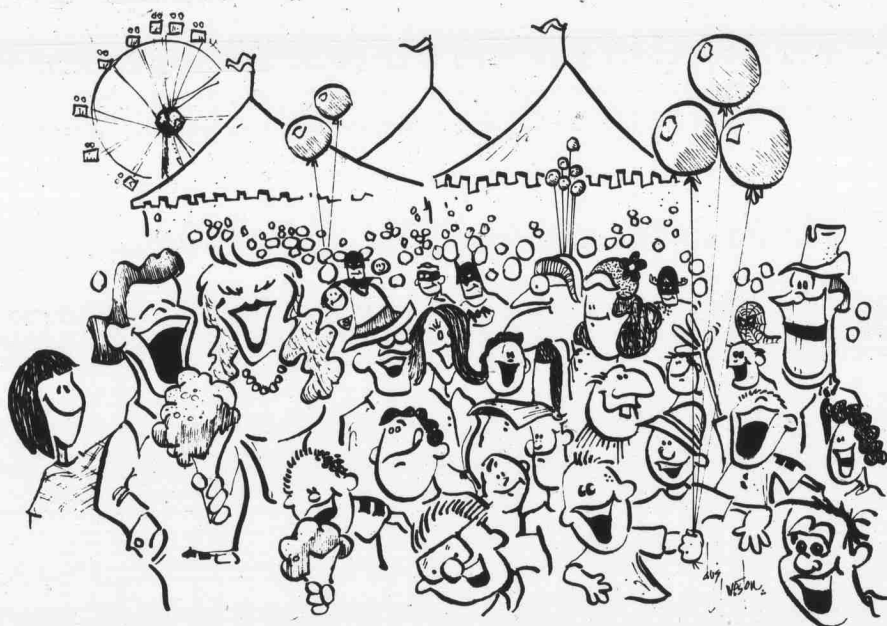
daily so this will not be a problem."

However, you will see more than flowers and exotic plants if you visit the show. Several area garden clubs have assembled small outdoor display gardens. These display gardens offer a wealth of ideas on the decoration of patios, decks, walks and yards.

Demonstrations and informative activities are scheduled for each day of the nine-day fair. Saturday, experts demonstrated the arts of flower-arranging and bonsai. The men's garden club also set up an information booth at the entrance to the exhibit area.

When you tour the greenhouse, be wary of the N.C. Botanical Garden exhibit. This year the exhibit contains native insectivorous plants, which have ingenious pitfalls and traps for capturing prey and then decomposing it.

THE STATE FAIR IS FOR EVERYONE!



For nine days out of each year the N.C. State Fair attracts more people than the populations of the state's three largest cities combined. Every October over 600,000 persons attend the fair's concerts, exhibits, activities and amusements.

The largest crowd ever to attend the nine-day event came in 1978 when 662,529 people from throughout the world attended. The state fair is the largest nine-day agricultural fair in America.

Fair-attendance figures for the last 10 years are as follows:

1979	640,079
1978	662,529
1977	609,624
1976	587,263
1975	615,588
1974	547,405
1973	588,206
1972	581,715
1971	484,066
1970	532,857
1969	514,992

This year the fair officials have seen some of the largest crowds ever. Estimates for Saturday's attendance exceeded 100,000, according to C. S. Kidd of the Fairgrounds administrative staff. That is the largest crowd ever to attend the fair on a Saturday. Kidd feels the absence of a football game in the area was a major contributing factor in the crowd size.

Estimates are made of the fair attendance with the aid of a for-

mula which proportionally accounts for the number of children under twelve and citizens over 65; both groups are admitted free and are not counted individually in gate admittance.

Entertainment Director Barbara Williams said Dorton Arena held standing room only crowds to see the performers each night. Admission to the Arena shows is free with the purchase of entrance onto the fairgrounds.

Complete schedule of remaining State Fair events

Wednesday, Oct. 22		Thursday, Oct. 23		Friday, Oct. 24		Saturday, Oct. 25	
10:00 a.m.	State Fair Opening Ceremony	10:00 a.m.	State Fair Opening Ceremony	10:00 a.m.	State Fair Opening Ceremony	10:00 a.m.	State Fair Opening Ceremony
11:00 a.m.	State Fair Opening Ceremony	11:00 a.m.	State Fair Opening Ceremony	11:00 a.m.	State Fair Opening Ceremony	11:00 a.m.	State Fair Opening Ceremony
12:00 p.m.	State Fair Opening Ceremony	12:00 p.m.	State Fair Opening Ceremony	12:00 p.m.	State Fair Opening Ceremony	12:00 p.m.	State Fair Opening Ceremony
1:00 p.m.	State Fair Opening Ceremony	1:00 p.m.	State Fair Opening Ceremony	1:00 p.m.	State Fair Opening Ceremony	1:00 p.m.	State Fair Opening Ceremony
2:00 p.m.	State Fair Opening Ceremony	2:00 p.m.	State Fair Opening Ceremony	2:00 p.m.	State Fair Opening Ceremony	2:00 p.m.	State Fair Opening Ceremony
3:00 p.m.	State Fair Opening Ceremony	3:00 p.m.	State Fair Opening Ceremony	3:00 p.m.	State Fair Opening Ceremony	3:00 p.m.	State Fair Opening Ceremony
4:00 p.m.	State Fair Opening Ceremony	4:00 p.m.	State Fair Opening Ceremony	4:00 p.m.	State Fair Opening Ceremony	4:00 p.m.	State Fair Opening Ceremony
5:00 p.m.	State Fair Opening Ceremony	5:00 p.m.	State Fair Opening Ceremony	5:00 p.m.	State Fair Opening Ceremony	5:00 p.m.	State Fair Opening Ceremony
6:00 p.m.	State Fair Opening Ceremony	6:00 p.m.	State Fair Opening Ceremony	6:00 p.m.	State Fair Opening Ceremony	6:00 p.m.	State Fair Opening Ceremony
7:00 p.m.	State Fair Opening Ceremony	7:00 p.m.	State Fair Opening Ceremony	7:00 p.m.	State Fair Opening Ceremony	7:00 p.m.	State Fair Opening Ceremony
8:00 p.m.	State Fair Opening Ceremony	8:00 p.m.	State Fair Opening Ceremony	8:00 p.m.	State Fair Opening Ceremony	8:00 p.m.	State Fair Opening Ceremony
9:00 p.m.	State Fair Opening Ceremony	9:00 p.m.	State Fair Opening Ceremony	9:00 p.m.	State Fair Opening Ceremony	9:00 p.m.	State Fair Opening Ceremony
10:00 p.m.	State Fair Opening Ceremony	10:00 p.m.	State Fair Opening Ceremony	10:00 p.m.	State Fair Opening Ceremony	10:00 p.m.	State Fair Opening Ceremony
11:00 p.m.	State Fair Opening Ceremony	11:00 p.m.	State Fair Opening Ceremony	11:00 p.m.	State Fair Opening Ceremony	11:00 p.m.	State Fair Opening Ceremony
12:00 a.m.	State Fair Opening Ceremony	12:00 a.m.	State Fair Opening Ceremony	12:00 a.m.	State Fair Opening Ceremony	12:00 a.m.	State Fair Opening Ceremony