

# NC State Fair opens Friday for 10-day run in Raleigh

BY ALAN HODGE  
Staff Writer

A long-standing Tar Heel tradition, the 133rd annual North Carolina State Fair will open its gates October 13 at 9 a.m. and run full blast until midnight October 22. The theme for this year's fair is "Farm Life, Wild Life."

A blend of agriculture, technology, education, arts and crafts, foods, and entertainment, the N.C. State Fair will see attendance figures exceed 700,000 visitors this year. Special guest at this year's State Fair 2000 will be N.C. Department of Agriculture Commissioner Jim Graham. Dubbed "The Sodfather," Graham has reigned over the fair for 37 years—longer than any other Agriculture Commissioner in the United States.

If you love livestock, then the State Fair is the place to see the best. No less than 12 horse shows and competitions are planned for the fair. Events will pay contestants a total of \$100,000 in prize monies. Breeds ranging from Appaloosa to Paso Fino will be represented. October 22 at 9 a.m., the James B. Hunt Horse Complex will also feature mules and donkeys going through their paces in halter, Western, English, and jumping divisions.

Cattle, sheep and hogs by the carload will also be on display at the fair. Each fair day will see livestock shows ranging from Performance Hog to Pygmy

goats in costumes doing their thing. Young fairgoers can even try their hand at cow milking at the fair. A milking booth set up by the N.C. State Animal Science Club will provide what for many kids will be a once in a lifetime experience.

Good food is synonymous with the State Fair. Besides display booths literally groaning with hundreds of homemade pies, cakes, jams, chow-chow, pickles and other goodies, the fair will be sponsoring a variety of competitions of amateur chefs. Also on the food scene, fairgoers will have their choice from dozens of vendors selling everything from roasted corn on the cob to fried turkey legs.

Making gourmet feasts out of everyday pantry stocks, cooks will be also vying for prizes in competitions such as National Best Spam recipe, Carolina's Cooking with Red Band Contest, and the N.C. Egg Association Perfect Pudding Contest.

Action is the keyword when it comes to entertainment at this year's N.C. State Fair. Acts that will have fans roaring include Khris Allen and his Bengal tigers, the Cargo Lifter hot air balloon demonstration, the auto demolition derby, bicycle stunt show, lumberjack show, giant robot, and Triple W pig races.

An important part of North Carolina history will be showcased at the State Fair. Located near Gate 2 at Dorton Arena, the First in Flight Commission will have a 1,600 square foot exhibit of two scale models of the

Wright brothers airplanes. Crafted by George Rohrbaugh of Manteo, the planes have wingspans of five feet and ten feet. Also on display will be a piece of cloth from the original Wright flyer.

Farm machinery will get its share of exposure at the State Fair. Besides displays of all the latest in modern farm equipment, antique tractors, combines, plowers, planters and other things will be on view. As an added bonus from days gone by, docents will be explaining how to use the equipment.

Elvis is coming to the State Fair! No, it's not old "swivel hips," but a Blue Green Macaw at the Circle C Petting Zoo that can talk and sing up a storm. Besides Elvis, fairgoers can rub their hands through the hair of a variety of animals, including goats, sheep, and a camel.

Flower lovers will have much to feast their eyes on at the State Fair. Drawing thousands of entries, the Flower Show will feature over 750 categories with prizes of more than \$31,000. Sponsored by Gardeners of Wake County, the show will fill the area near Heritage Village with a cascade of beautiful bouquets as well as more exotic and unusual varieties of plants.

Vegetable growers will be getting into the State Fair act. Competing for more than \$11,000 in prizes, cultivators will pour out a cornucopia of produce ranging from the state vegetable sweet potato to bok choy. An especially popular attraction at the vegetable stand is

## CONCERT

From 3B

be in concert October 21 during the All About Me Trade Show at the Kings Mountain Woman's Club.

Ava is the daughter of MauDava Owens Morton of Gastonia, and Don Gladden of Fountain, SC, formerly of Kings Mountain. She is the granddaughter of Ruby Joy Gladden and Fred Owens and the late Martha Crawford Owens of Kings Mountain.

The Joyner's recently released a new CD, "You Can't Get There From Here."

Ava Joyner is a successful songwriter and recording artist. She travels with her husband, Eddy Joyner, performing original and jazz music. The Joyner's also have a recording and graphic art studio, Swift Rode Productions.

## Cherpak honored as Student Pathfinder

Syracuse University student Eddy Jo Cherpak of Kings Mountain was recently named a "Student Pathfinder" for the L.C. Smith College of Engineering and Computer Science for the 2000-2001 academic school year.

Student pathfinders help first-year students with the academic, social, cultural, and emotional transition from high school to college. Pathfinders must have a GPA of 2.5 to be considered for the post. They maintain their position with their advisees throughout the school year.

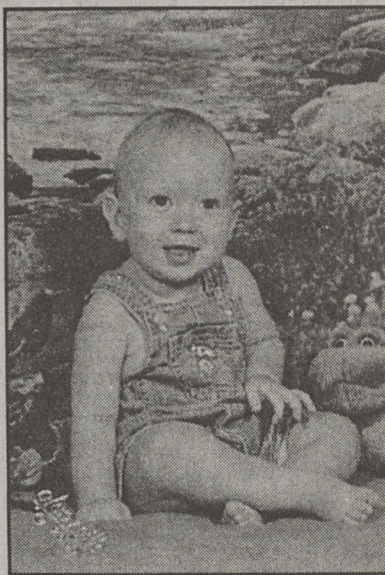
Cherpak is a sophomore majoring in chemical engineering.

## Bahati spotlights domestic violence

The Cleveland County Abuse Prevention Council, Inc. and Cleveland Community College will present Wambui Bahati's "I am Domestic Violence," Thursday, October 19 at 11 a.m. in the Cleveland Community College Auditorium. There is no admission charge for the performance

which is open to the public.

In her one-woman, half hour show, Bahati takes on the persona of domestic violence. She also characterizes men, women, and children whose lives have been touched by domestic violence.



COLBY HUGHES

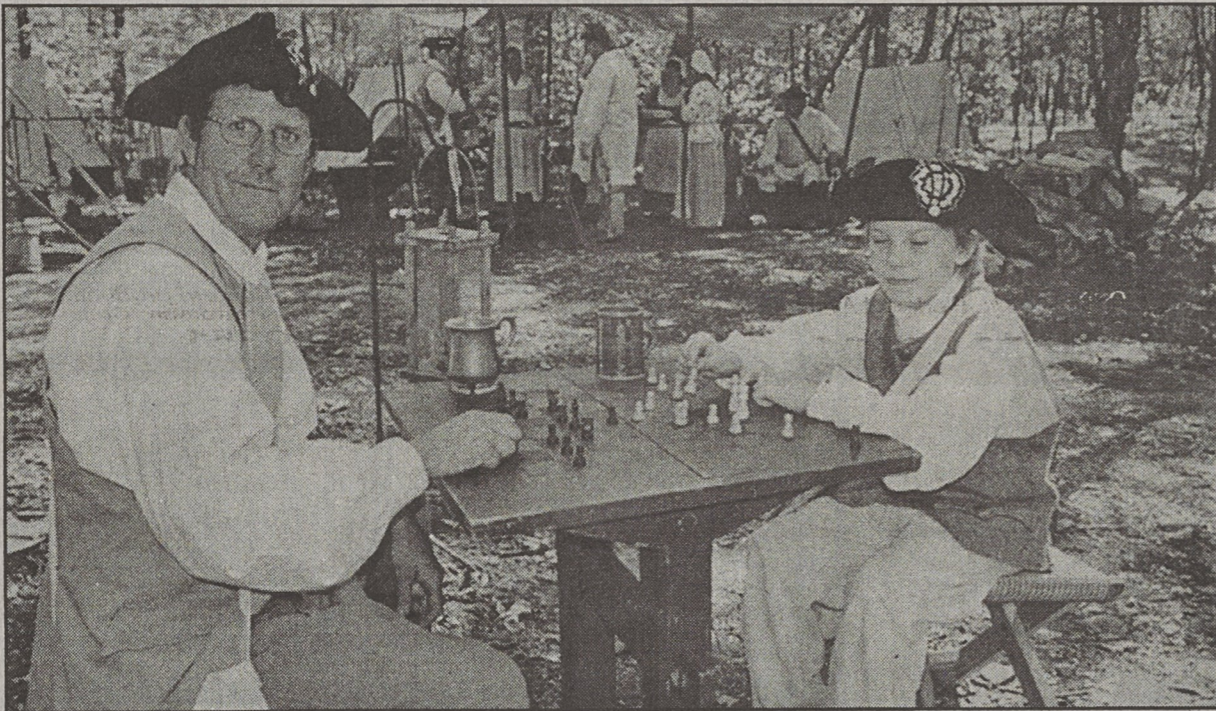
## Colby Hughes notes birthday

Colby Stephen Hughes, son of Jason and Val Hughes of Kings Mountain, was one year old October 6. He celebrated September 30 with a Baby Mickey party. Hot dogs and hamburgers were served.

Guests included Jack and Tanner Hoyle, Richard, Chris and Joey Smart, Chan and K.C. Champion, Landry Crawford, Cameron Whestine, Maci and Matt Shepard, Bandon Craft, Austin and Spencer Causby, Josh Bryant, Lauren Campbell, Brandon Damell, Jessica Dulin, McKinley Smith, D.J. Smith, and other family and friends.

Grandparents are Ronnie and the late Diane Smart, and Diane and the late Dan Hughes, all of Kings Mountain.

Great-grandparents are Odell and the late Ruth Smart of Kings Mountain, the late Mae and Willard Price of Bessemer City, Berniece and the late Claude Hughes of Cramerton, and the late Phillip and Annie belle Hollifield of Kings Mountain.

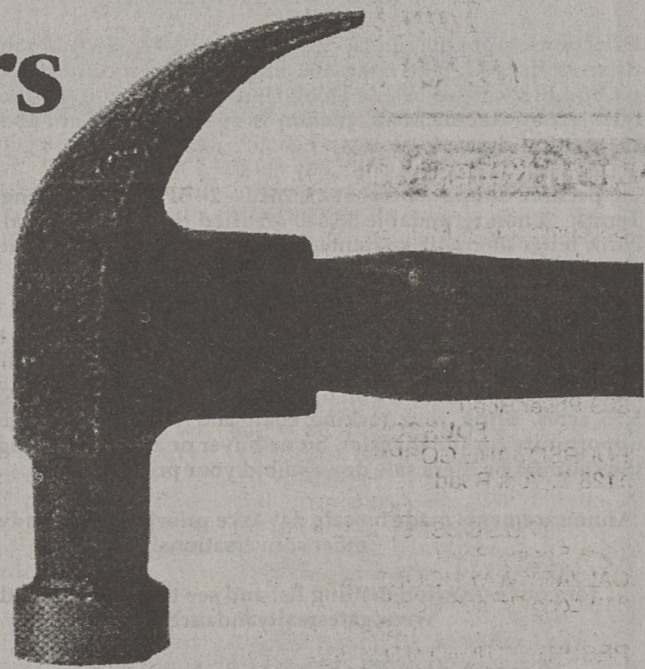


ALAN HODGE/THE HERALD

Revolutionary War reenactors David Gamble (left) and son Chris Gamble came to Kings Mountain National Military Park on Saturday for the 220th anniversary of the battle. The boys call Climax, North Carolina home.

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