

OF THE EXCITING AZALEA FESTIVAL!



Perhaps the most delightful event to most of the crowds is the annual parade. It lasts nearly three hours and no one is ever seen leaving before its over. Always a spectacular occasion, this year's was again, "the best ever."

There might have been a touch of an Air Force theme for this year's parade. It was led by the AF Band from Shaw Air Force Base and the Parade Marshall was Lt. Gen. George Boylan. And there was a formation flyover to officially launch the whole affair.

The Festival's finale was the Air Show featuring the Thunderbirds and the U. S. Army Golden Knights, an official parachuting team.

The spectators numbered well over 200,000. Dressed in mini-skirts, maxi-coats, hoods, scarves, pull-overs and over-coats they lined the air field ten deep to listen to the screeches and wines and watch the thrilling movements overhead.

"Gee's . . . golly's and wahoo's," said with both in-drawn and expelled breaths, greeted the fantastic displays of skill over the Azalea City.

"BRACKEN'S WORLD" sent one of its stars, via Piedmont of course, to Wilmington as Queen Azalea XXIII. Miss Karen Jensen, who reigned over all the festival activities is shown here as she waved good-bye to thousands of fans who came to see her off.



AN OUTSTANDING HIGHLIGHT of the Festival is the annual parade of celebrities. Piedmont's Nancy Dalton was on the same float as Miss Sun Fun - Terry Robertson. They are shown here waving to fans.



NANCY WAS INTRODUCED to the Variety Show audience by M.C. Harvey Hudson. Hudson has been a guest celebrity and M.C. at every Azalea Festival since its beginning 23 years ago. He is manager of WLEE radio in Richmond, Virginia.



"HERE COME THE BRIDES" star Karen Carlson arrived in Wilmington with her husband David Soul. The Piedmont stewardess at left is Julia Hoffstetter of Atlanta. Beth Hall is the stewardess just inside the door.