



N.C. Mountain State Fair: lines, livestock, and rides



Photo courtesy of Clarion Staff

Students and locals tour the NC Mountain State Fair

by Zack Harding
Arts & Life Editor

The North Carolina Mountain State Fair was recently held at the W.N.C. Agricultural Center, and all reports seem to indicate that the event was definitely a fun-filled fanfare.

Fairs in the South are wondrous events where the candy apple and corn-dog huts are located immediately next to the goat and horse petting zoos. Yes, we can hear the lovely urban sounds of Britney Spears and Ludicrous blasting from the glowing rides, and travel just a few feet to find ourselves in the midst of a greased pig-catching contest, or maybe a chicken race, who knows?

The fair was not necessarily a great family event, as the crowds and long lines are generally filled with loud, foul-mouthed, cigarette-smoking teenagers who greedily slip into the slightest openings—but hey, that’s life. If you could get past the barnyard smells and the noisy teeny-boppers, you might still have had a genuinely good time.

There was a wide selection of rides, from the obligatory and gentle children’s tea-pot to the more daredevil-influenced “Cyclops” and “The Zipper.” Those two, in particular, were very fun for the thrill-seeking type. This year marked the first appearance of the dropping elevator ride, which was efficiently hosed off at

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Debate Society holds open forum for Constitution Day

by BJ Wanlund
Staff Writer

On Tuesday, the Brevard College Debate Society hosted an open forum in honor of Constitution Day.

First, Dr. Ralph Hamlett, associate professor of political science, outlined the finer points of the United States Constitution. Then, the resolution, “The President of the United States should adhere to constitutionally delegated powers in declarations of wars” was opened for debate.

Michael Spradlin gave the opening statement in favor of the resolution, touching upon the War Powers Act of 1973 and the Constitutional backing of the declaration of war, including the balance of power between Congress and the President.

Ryan Fiffick presented the opening statement against the resolution, highlighting the belief that Congress essentially handed the power to declare war over to President Bush in October of 2002, in what we’ve termed “The War on Terror.” Fiffick continued to emphasize that it was not President Bush who violated Constitutional law, but the U.S. Congress.

Next, the floor was open for discussion.

Everyone seemed to agree with Fiffick on the point that the balance of power was tipped over to the President in 2002. However, the power of the Constitution was too strong in the end, and the audience started siding with the affirmative.

After an hour of extremely heated debate, followed by subdued voting, the resolution was upheld by a vote of 9-3.



Since 2005, institutions that receive federal funding have been required to implement programs honoring the United States Constitution into their curriculums during the week of Sept. 17, the date in which the document was signed 219 years ago.

This is the second year that the BC Debate Society has hosted an open forum in honor of Constitution Day.

The Constitution Day debate was the first of a number of open forums that the BC Debate Society will host throughout the semester. ■

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