

12th Annual Franklin County Folk Festival



The Fort Creek dancers, a favorite, open Folk Festival for eleventh successive year.



Riders in the Sky, first timers at festival, perform western/cowboy songs.



Mendenhall takes festival limelight.

THE IMPORTANCE OF OUR ROOTS

By Linda Floyd

Why do the town of Louisburg and Louisburg College celebrate "The Franklin County Folk Festival"? The answer is easy. We do it to celebrate our customs. Where else but the South can you find square dancing, banjo playing and fried chicken? In New Orleans they have their jazz bands and Shrimp Gumbo. When you hear of New York you think of discos, Broadway plays, and pollution. But when someone says "The South" or North Carolina, you think Bluegrass, country music and clean air.

That is the importance of having and celebrating a folk festival each year, to get in touch with our Southern roots. It is also a time to show the people of the United States that the southern people are not just some dumb people locked away in mountain cabins. It is a time to show them we have talents in music and dance; that we are talented at what we are known for, and enjoy ourselves while we do it. We are friendly people and we speak to people when we meet them on the streets. We do not have to have fear of the passer-by mugging us.

The Franklin County Folk Festival is an important way for us to show our heritage and I am glad Louisburg celebrates this. By having this Folk Festival, young and old can get in touch with their Southern roots and be content afterwards knowing we have much to be proud of!



Bill Monroe-founder of bluegrass



The Balsam Gap Boys-back to defend festival championship.



Tossed Salad, made up of local talent, will return to the festival.