



MECKLENBURG COURT PROBATIONERS

...During field trip

26 Mecklenburg Court

Volunteers Battle The Rapids

By Susan Ellsworth
Post Staff Writer

in these kids that needs to be tapped," he said. The youths and volunteers can participate to

gether in free bowling, ice skating, roller skating, visits to cultural facilities and field trips.

Twenty-six Mecklenburg Court Volunteers and probationers battled the rapids during a field trip last weekend to the Natchala River on the Tennessee state line near Bryson City, North Carolina. Socially oriented, the annual field trip allowed the 11-15 year old juvenile offenders and the volunteers to share in the activities and exposed them to an unfamiliar environment.

This marks the third year for the field trip which is funded through the Mecklenburg Court Volunteer's budget, according to William Hoey, its executive director.

Activities included a three-hour raft excursion down the Natchala River, basketball, swimming and a picnic at the Blue Ridge Parkway.

Although this was the year's largest individual outing, Hoey pointed out that other activities exist and more volunteers are needed to participate in them.

While 55 youths, ages 6-25 already are matched with volunteers, 30 young male blacks need the guidance of adult male black volunteers.

"Kids are our future," Hoey began. "We need to find time to help young people."

Hoey said volunteers are asked to donate nine months, two hours a week listening to a youth and sharing his problems.

"Often there is no effective communication between the juvenile offenders and their parents or guardians, Hoey explained.

"These kids have low self-esteem...there is good

Debutante Ball

A "Get Acquainted Gathering" will be held for the perspective debutantes of the Delta Sigma Theta's Annual Debutante Ball, Saturday, September 20, 5 p.m. at the Wachovia Center on Tryon Street.

Young ladies who have already applied will be able to meet other participants.

Metrolina Fair Returns To

Old Fashioned Family Theme

Remember those unforgettable smells of popcorn, sawdust and cotton candy? You couldn't be anywhere else but at a fair. And the time has come again for those sensations and more to be aroused. If any event can do it, the Metrolina Fair and Exposition can.

From October 7-12 at 7100 Statesville Rd., the fair will return with an old fashioned family theme. The gates will open at 4 p.m. every day except Saturday and Sunday, October 11-12. On these days the fair will open as 12 noon.

This year the Metrolina Fair and Exposition returns to the idea of the Family Fair. The emphasis will be on participation. The livestock building will feature goats, sheep, horses, cows and all sorts of animals competing in their categories for ribbons and prizes. A building full of home-related items such as cakes, canned goods, flowers, 4-H exhibits, quilts and hand sewn items will

greet the fairgoer. Ribbons and prizes will denote the judge's opinion of which is best in each classification.

There will be many other categories of exhibits including Educational, Homemaking, Horticulture, Agriculture, Arts, Photography, Hobby, Crafts, Livestock and Contests.

All exhibit entries must be made on the fairgrounds between 8 a.m. and 10 p.m. Monday, October 6, and 8 a.m. and 12 noon on Tuesday, October 7 with exception of livestock. Call 704-596-4643 or 596-4645 for further information.

As in the past, the Metrolina Fair and Exposition invites the school children to be their guests. Tickets are being distributed through the schools for students' use. Tickets can be used for any day except Saturday and Sunday, providing all students arrive before 6:30 p.m.

Try to make it out to the fair this year, if there is no

way possible, remember the fair will probably be here for many ages. They have already been a part of our culture and heritage as far back as colonial times in this country, members of communities would gather together in the fall to celebrate the completion of another harvest.

The fair today is still a fun adventure, with eye-opening scenes, thrills of delight as well as knowledge to partake. The fairgrounds, located one and one-half miles north of the city limits on Statesville Rd. (US 21 N), is just waiting for big, medium, and small feet to trample the dust. Just take I-77 to the Sunset Rd. East exit, turn left on Sunset Rd. onto US 21 North. The fairgrounds is 1/2 of a mile on the right. Have fun!

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