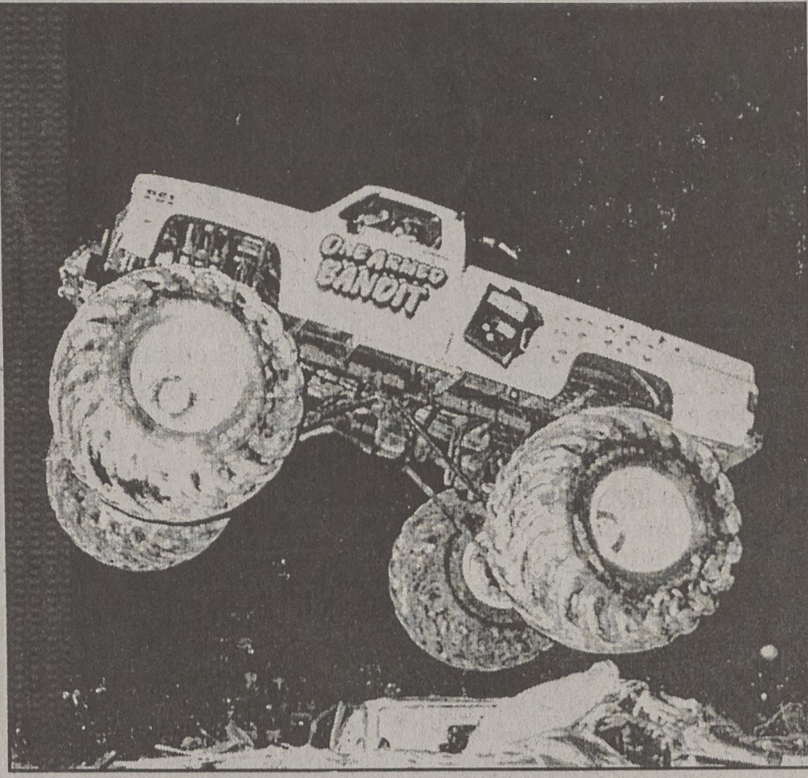


Fair Time

Thousands expected for annual Cleveland County event September 28-October 7



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Motor Madness will be just one of many spectacular attractions at this year's Cleveland County Fair. Featuring monster trucks and motorcycles performing death-defying stunts, Motor Madness will be performing as the Grandstand show on October 2nd and 3rd at 7 p.m.

The Cleveland County Fair is on its way. When the gates open Thursday, September 28, North Carolina's largest county fair will once again see tens of thousands of folks enjoy rides, food, amusements, entertainment and exhibits until the closing date of October 7. Fair organizers predict that last year's attendance of 175,000 will be exceeded.

This year's theme for the Cleveland County Fair is "Goodness Grows in North Carolina" and is dedicated to the 750 companies statewide who are represented by the N.C. Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services. These companies produce 4,400 food products and 7,500 nursery products. With over \$100 million in sales last year, these companies continue to help se-

cur agriculture as North Carolina's leading industry. Tuesday, October 3 will see a special ceremony in the newly refurbished Weathers Arena to honor the "Goodness Grows in North Carolina" program.

This year's fair will feature over 6,000 exhibits, 2000 exhibitors, over \$100,000 in premiums, music, food of every description, horticulture, livestock, arts, crafts, and the 25th annual appearance of the Reithoffer Midway Show. Entry day for exhibitors is Wednesday, September 27 from 9 a.m. until 8 p.m.

The official Opening Day Ceremony for the 76th annual Cleveland County Fair is 5 p.m. on Thursday, September 28 at the Grandstand on the fairgrounds. The gates open at 2

p.m. on both Thursday, both Fridays, Monday and Wednesday. Gates open at 9 a.m. on both Saturdays, at 10 a.m. on Sunday, and 11 a.m. on Tuesday. The exhibit halls close at 10 p.m. Gates close at 11 p.m. every night. On Sunday, October 1, the fair will host an interdenominational church service on the Grandstand. Gates will open at 10 a.m. that day for the 11 a.m. service. Also on Sunday, anyone bringing a church bulletin from their own church dated October 1, will be admitted free until 1:30 p.m.

Regular fair admission is \$6 for adults, \$5 for seniors age 60+, and \$2 for children age six through 12. Under six and over 75 are admitted free. Advance sale tickets are available through September 27 from par-

ticipating local merchants and at the fair office. Advance sale prices are \$5 for adults and \$1 for children. Early attendees can enter the fairgrounds both Saturdays from 9 a.m. until 10 a.m. for \$2. Monday, October 2 is Grandparents and Ladies of

All Ages day. All who qualify are admitted for \$3 all day.

This year, Reithoffer Midway Shows marks their 104th year of operation. Opening days and weekends, armbands valid for overall ride admission can be purchased. Armband days are Thursday, September 28 from 4 p.m. until closing; Saturday, September 30, and Saturday October 7 from 10 a.m. until 2 p.m. (ride until 4 p.m.); and Sunday, October 1, from noon until 5:30 p.m. (ride until 7 p.m.). The price of an armband is \$13. Advance ride tickets are available from participating area merchants and the fair office. Eighteen dollars in ride tickets can be purchased in advance for \$10 through September 27. Advance armbands- good only on designated armband days- are also offered for \$10 each in advance.

Monday through Thursday, October 2 through 5, are Fair School Days. All Cleveland County school children are given one free gate admission on these days and a discount coupon for any day of the fair. On Fair School Days, the number of ride tickets charged per ride on the midway will be reduced by one from 3 p.m. until 9 p.m. On Wednesday and Thursday mornings, October 4 and 5, special programs for young children and nursing home residents are planned, beginning at 9 a.m.

The year 2000 is bringing some changes for Weathers Arena. It has been improved and refurbished. This year it will host many of the music and entertainment shows formerly presented on the midway stage. The Grandstand will once again be alive with the roar of motors and cheers of the crowd. Motor Madness is the Grandstand feature this year, bringing Monster Trucks and Motorcycle Daredevil thrills on October 2 and 3. The midway will also feature Circo Garcia. Clowns and entertainers will include Circo Garcia, Nancy Roth, Dick Haines, and Leon Jacobs. The Triple W Racing Pigs and the Dale Earnhardt, Jr. race car are other features.

For more information, call the Cleveland County fair office at 487-0651.

Gospel singing set at Midview Baptist

New Creations will be in concert Sunday, Sept. 17 at 2 p.m. at Midview Baptist Church, Kings Mountain.

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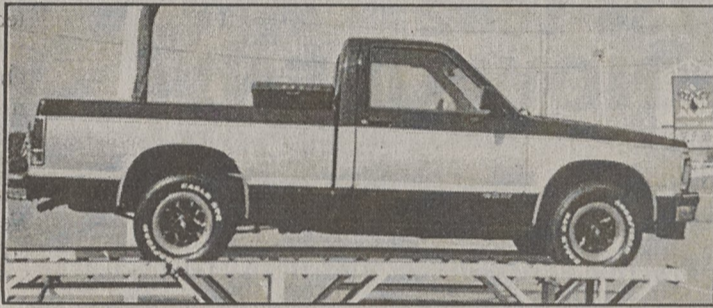
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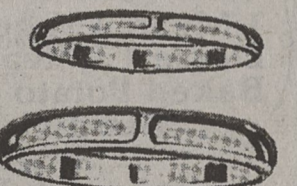
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