

Activities Crowd Fair Agenda

Grandstand, Pavilion Sites Many Events Set In Fair Schedule

A four-day schedule of special events is planned to please and entertain fairgoers at the 1956 Douglas County Fair, Aug. 23-26.

Thursday morning, will begin with the judging of livestock, foods, community booths, land products, and farm crops. The remaining judging will be completed Friday and Saturday mornings.

The Ott and Ricketts Talent Contest will be run off each night of the fair with the finals held Sunday night. Red Reynolds, cowboy television star, will act as master of ceremonies during the entire contest. Every night at 6 p.m., fairgoers will witness an old-fashioned balloon ascension act. The balloon ascends and at a certain altitude the rider parachutes from the balloon.

Sheep dog trials will be held Friday afternoon in front of the grandstand. A giant free barbecue will be in front of the grandstand with the Governor, Elmo Smith as honored guest. The barbecue, sponsored by the Roseburg Lions Club, has been a feature of the fair for the past three years.

Fans will thrill to the horse races, which will take place both Saturday and Sunday afternoons. There will be special entertainment between races. The 4-H style revue will be held on Saturday afternoon. Following the revue is the junior livestock auction in the judging arena. Micro-midget racing is to be held Saturday and Sunday evenings in front of the grandstand.

The giant free barbecue will be Saturday. Once again fairgoers will feast on a thick slab of prime beef cradled in a monstrous bun, covered with a delicious barbecue sauce. Ice cream and soft drinks will be served.

The chef will again be Al Oliver from Corvallis. The Roseburg Lions Club will begin barbecuing the meat Friday evening so that all will be ready to go at 12:30 p.m. Saturday, Aug. 25, in front of the grandstand. The lady Lions will again serve this luncheon to hungry fairgoers.

An added feature to the feast will be Gov. Elmo Smith, who will preside as honored guest. He will speak in the pavilion on Saturday. He will be the second governor in the past three years to attend the fair. In 1954, the late Gov. Paul Patterson was here.

Two exciting days of horse racing have been planned as part of the entertainment at the fair. On Saturday at 2:30, horses from Seattle to San Francisco will line up at the starting gate for the first race of the day, announces racing secretary Harry Hueckler of Olalla.

Model airplanes will compete between races in a contest sponsored by Lester's Toy and Hobby Shop. Enthusiastic horse fans will view six races run Saturday the 25.

Sunday will be another day of top entertainment with post time at 1:30. For added enjoyment between races, the Umpqua Cutting and Roping Club is sponsoring a calf roping and cow cutting contest where cowboys will compete for cash prizes. These two days of horse racing promise to be a fore-runner of a full scale racing meet at the fair next year.

Alert and well-trained sheep dogs will compete at 2 p.m. Friday, at the fairgrounds in the fourth annual Douglas County Sheep Dog Trials.

A total of \$210 in prizes will be awarded at the trials this year. Entries are open to any working sheep dog. There is no entry fee. A maximum of eight dogs will be accepted, with preference to dogs entered in previous years.

The dog must fetch sheep from corner of arena, run them through a gate and then pen them. The dogs will work with approximately five sheep. All sheep used will be similar and none used twice.

The handler or owner of the dog may assist the dog in any way he desires. However, this will be taken into account in judging, and excess assistance will count against the dog owner. There will be three

judges, and their decisions will be final.

Judging will be based on judgment of the dog, obedience by the dog of signals from the handler, time to pen sheep, and assistance from the handler.

One of the fair's most popular features, the Ott and Ricketts talent show, will be presented again at the 1956 Fair.

Douglas County entertainers will compete for prizes in this fourth annual show. The first round of preliminaries will be held Thursday evening at 7:30 in the pavilion. This year the fair brings as master of ceremonies Red Reynolds, KVAL-TV cowboy star. He is known to everyone as the red-headed cowboy with his guitar.

Friday night at 7:30 winds up the preliminaries. The semi-finals will be staged Saturday evening. The big night is Sunday night at 7 p.m. when the finalists will vie for top awards.

Facilities are even better for the contest as the stage has been made larger, repainted and better lighting installed. There is no age limit or entry fee, the only requirement being residence in Douglas County.

Entries can now be made by applying in person at the Ott and Ricketts Music Store, corner of Jackson and Cass, Roseburg. Entries can be made either individually or by groups of four persons or less. A total of \$400 in cash prizes, as well as over \$2,000 in merchandise awards will be made. First prize will be \$100, plus merchandise.

Every contestant will be given some prize, states Contest Manager Chuck Ricketts. The separate categories which will be judged are dancing, instrumental, vocal (two age groups) and miscellaneous.

One of the special events at the 1956 fair will be the nightly flight of an old-fashioned hot air balloon. This is an event which is rarely seen these days and should

prove most exciting. The balloon will take to the air each night of the four-day fair at 6 p.m.

The balloon used is a big silk bag filled with hot air and handled by a skilled aerial artist during the ascent. Ralph Wiggins does a trapeze act while hanging from the balloon. Then by releasing his hold on the balloon, the aerial performer becomes a daring parachute jumper and makes a graceful descent. He usually lands safely, gathers his balloon and is ready for a trip to the sky again the following evening. This balloon event is free—there is no special admission charge made.

Micro-midget racing will be another new and special feature of the fair. This popular sport is played by upwards of 15 to 20 local men in their specially built racing cars, racing on a 1-10 mile oval in front of the fairgrounds stand.

First held indoors here in 1955 and again in the winter of 1956, micro-midget racing has become a popular spectator sport. Held outdoors for the first time in Roseburg this year at the fair, it should become a featured attraction.

Promoter of the event is Roseburg's Joe Cole, popular racing announcer. Cole points out that the midget features can go 70 miles an hour down the highway. Because of the turns on the track however, viewers will see them race at 35 and 40 miles an hour. According to Cole, though, 40 mph, when your seat is only two inches off the ground, is like a 150 miles in a normal car.

Races will be held Saturday and Sunday evenings with a full racing program to start at 8 p.m. each night. Box seats are available in the grandstand and with the increased lighting facilities in the arena, this will be a first-class show, promises Cole.

The first census on record was made in 3,800 B. C. by the Babylonians, says the National Geographical Society.

Fair Schedule

THURSDAY, AUGUST 23

9:00 a.m. Judging, all divisions.
2:30 p.m. Horse performance classes, grandstand.

6:00 p.m. Balloon ascension, grandstand.

7:30 p.m. Talent contest, first section, pavilion.

FRIDAY, AUGUST 24

9:00 a.m. Judging, all divisions.

2:00 p.m. Sheep dog trials, grandstand.

6:00 p.m. Balloon ascension, grandstand.

7:30 p.m. Talent contest, second section, pavilion.

SATURDAY, AUGUST 25

9:00 a.m. Judging.

12:30 p.m. Free barbecue, grandstand.

2:00 p.m. Gov. Elmo Smith, pavilion.

2:30 p.m. Horse races, grandstand.

7:30 p.m. Talent contest, first section, pavilion.

8:00 p.m. Micromidget racing, grandstand.

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2:30 p.m. 4-H style revue, pavilion.

3:00 p.m. Junior Livestock auction, judging arena.

6:00 p.m. Balloon ascension, grandstand.

7:30 p.m. Talent contest, semifinals, pavilion.

8:00 p.m. Micromidget racing, grandstand.

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