

Timberrrrrrrr!

Loggers and logger-watchers turn out for Albany timber fest

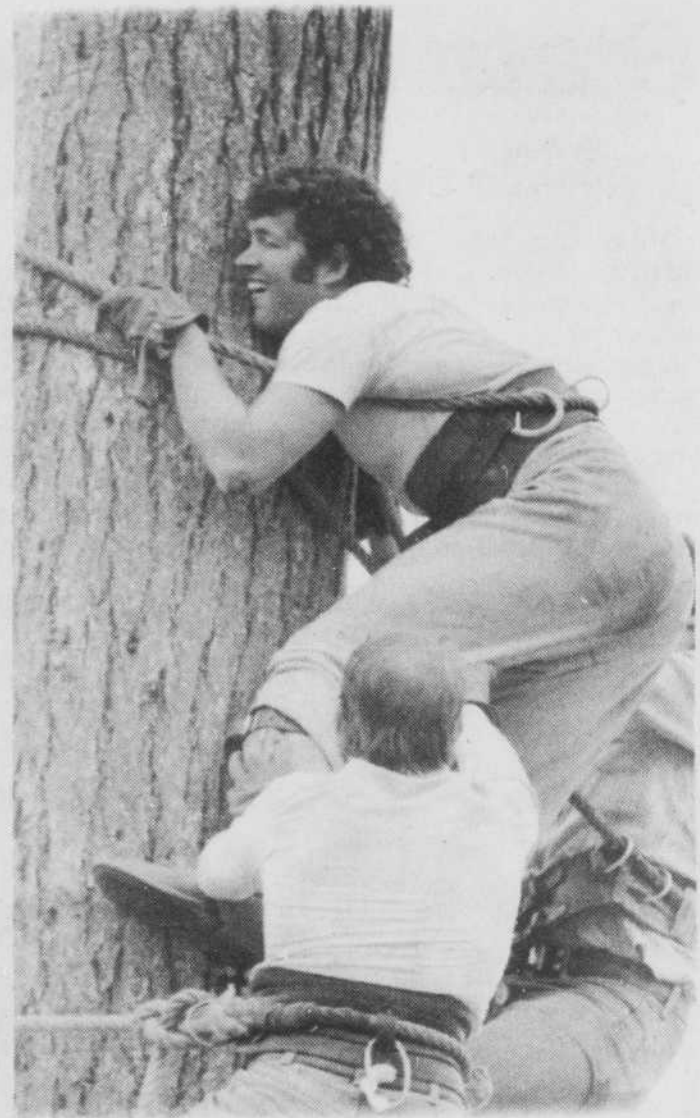
Amid buzzing chainsaws and splashing log rollers, a Fourth of July weekend crowd roared approval for both winners and losers at the Albany World Championship Timber Carnival.

About 15,000 people joined a national TV sports crew and a myriad of local newspeople Saturday to watch wood-chopping, tree-climbing, log-rolling and other traditional logging sports.

But camaraderie overpowered competition in one of the most dangerous events, tree-topping. Steve Bartow (top right), a logger from Grants Pass, lost his plant atop a 100-foot wooden spar and fell 80 feet before he was able to catch himself with his safety belt.

As Bartow hung by his safety belt, a score of loggers ran to give assistance, dropping their axes and saws behind them.

A determined Bartow later returned from Albany General Hospital to climb again, with a dislocated shoulder, a bandaged arm and friction burns. **Photos by Dennis Tachibana**



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