



Lane County Fair Special



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Let's go to the fair



Adam Jones Emerald

Summer would not be complete without a visit to the fair. What could be more appealing than an elephant ear and a jaunt on the 'Octopus'?

Fun, food and festivities

All right — I admit it. I'm an Angeleno and have never seen a true county fair. Until now.

So, I decided it was high time to correct that situation, and get my rear off to the Lane County Fair. There are several aspects to the fair to titillate the senses.

The midway is nice — not too crowded, and full of the cool carnival games that now, since it's become a wholesome family affair, you can be moderately sure aren't rigged. All the favorites are present: ring-toss, Whac-a-Mole and the familiar shoot-the-water-into-the-clown's-mouth game.

There's even a BB gun shooting gallery.

The midway is also full of rides ranging from tame to fear-inducing. Everything from the Ferris wheel (two of

GUEST COMMENTARY

Pat Payne

them there) to bumper cars are part of the spectacle that is midway.

For the more whiplash inclined, there's a ride called the "El Nino," which apparently involves turning people upside down and spinning them in midair; however, I like my lunch right where it is.

And speaking of lunch, everyone's taste is accommodated at the food course. Vegetarian, Swedish and Oriental booths compete with good old hot dogs and cotton candy.

All the other attractions, however, can't hold a candle to the popularity of the Eugene Water & Electric Board's tent. Set up near the main food course, the tent is an oasis of free water inside the blistering asphalt desert that is the fairgrounds.

The lines stretch longer for this tent than for nearly every other attraction. Fairgoers queue up in the triple digit heat, carrying bottles, cups or anything else capable of carrying that ice-cold clear stuff.

One of the EWEB staffers at the booth said that the two 10-gallon cisterns that they had set up have to be refilled nearly every five minutes.

Some just relax and lounge under Turn to Fair, page 8

Relax at fair with quality food, music

When Morris Brown opened up his concession stands at the Lane County Fair 50 years ago, the common name for a corn dog was a "proto pup" and for cotton candy it was "fairy floss." Today, his two proto pup and fairy floss booths are like a relic, sitting in the corner of the food section at the fair with big, faded letters.



Jan Montry Reporter

But this year, "Brownie's" familiar face is missing. Unfortunately, Brown has cancer and is bound to a hospital bed, thus far unable to attend the event he has dedicated himself to.

Despite his ailing health, friends and family still have hope that he will be able to see the fair this year.

"It's his goal to make it to the fair for his 50th year," Brown's sister-in-law, Shirley Kinter, said.

Julie Rowse, who is helping with the tiny fairy floss stand, said

Brown is beloved in the community because he used to dress as a clown at his cotton candy and popcorn booth on Broadway.

"Anyone who has lived in Eugene and is at least 40 years old will say they went there as a kid," she said.

Let's hope Brown makes it to the fair this year because, despite the heat, the food selection is fantastic. The extreme temperatures are even benefiting food vendors because the only way for scorched fair patrons to cool off is to buy a snack and go sit in the shade.

No trip to the fair would be complete without elephant ears and funnel cakes. These two goodies can be found at "Pennsylvania Dutch" for funnel cakes and "Elefantorer" for elephant ears.

For a taste of the international, look no further than "Hawaiian Style Foods," "Jumbo Burritos," "Mission Mexican Restaurant," "Oriental Village & Rice House."

"The Doner Haus," a small booth in the outskirts of the vendor area, is one of the few European food stands. Serving "doners" with chicken or vegetables, this food is a delicious way to get a taste of Germany.

According to Theresa Bach, a worker at the stand, the recipe comes straight from Germany. Bach's brother brought it back to America after being a foreign exchange student. After returning, he opened the stand as a way to pay for college. To prolong the tradition, the stand often employs college students.

"We try to hire students going to college as a way for them to pay college loans," Bach said.

Food is fun to experiment with, but when the sun is beating down, a cold treat is all that matters. A few vendors are dedicated to this necessity, including "Dutch Girl Ice Cream," "Hawaiian Shave Ice" and "Ben & Jerry's Turn to Food and Music, page 9

Fair information

Schedule	
Tuesday through Thursday	11 a.m. to 10 p.m.
Friday and Saturday	1 a.m. to 11 p.m.
Sunday	11 a.m. to 8 p.m.
Daily admission	
General admission	
Ages 16 and older	\$8.00
Youth ages 6-15	\$6.00
Children ages 5 and younger	FREE
Concert tickets	
Evening concert reserved seats	\$10.50 to \$14.50
Standing room	FREE
Concert Schedule	

Thursday	America	3 p.m. to 4 p.m. Boardsports Skateboarding exhibition
Friday	Travis Tritt	4:30 p.m. to 5 p.m. Raw Edge Break Dance Squad
Saturday	Jamie O'Neal	5 p.m. to 7 p.m. A New Era Dance
Sunday	Foreigner	All day: Pepsi inflatable sports attractions
Daily sponsors		All day: rock climbing wall
Thursday	Wells Fargo Day	Friday
Friday	Bi-Mart Day	11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Pepsi Challenge 3x3 Basketball tournament
Saturday	Dari Mart Lochmead Day	1 p.m. to 2 p.m. Boardsports Skateboarding exhibition
Sunday	Register-Guard Family Day	3 p.m. to 4 p.m. Boardsports Skateboarding exhibition
Extreme Scene Schedule		5 p.m. to 6 p.m. KDUK karaoke
Thursday		All day: rock climbing wall
11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Pepsi Challenge 3x3 Basketball tournament		
1 p.m. to 2 p.m. Boardsports Skateboarding exhibition		

Saturday	11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Pepsi Challenge 3x3 Basketball tournament
1 p.m. to 2 p.m. Boardsports Skateboarding exhibition	
3 p.m. to 4 p.m. Boardsports Skateboarding exhibition	
4:30 p.m. to 5 p.m. Raw Edge Break Dance Squad	
All day: rock climbing wall	
Sunday	11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Pepsi Challenge 3x3 Basketball tournament
9 p.m. to 11 p.m. A New Era Dance	
For more information, visit www.atthefair.com .	

Source: Lane County Fair official program