

Queen Mackenzie Carr earns crown at Columbia County Fair & Rodeo



Although it rained part of the time during the Columbia County Fair and Rodeo, those who attended found there were many ways to enjoy the fair. Above, the giant slide was enjoyed by these fair goers.



Pictured from left to right: Princess Molly McCarter of Scappoose, Princess Katie Van Winkle of Warren, Queen Mackenzie Carr of Vernonia. See story on page 11. Photo courtesy of Creekside Studios.

The 2008 Columbia County Fair and Rodeo Court was announced July 21 during the final night of the NPRA Rodeo at the 2007 Columbia County Fair & Rodeo, in front of a standing room only crowd.

Mackenzie Carr, a 17 year old from Vernonia, currently a 2007 Princess, was announced as the 2008 Queen, winning

the categories of horsemanship, speech, knowledge, personality, and photogenic.

2008 Princesses are Molly McCarter of Scappoose, who won the appearance category, and Katie VanWinkle of Warren who won the MRO Spirit Award. First runner-up and winner of the herdsmanship award was Alishea Jones of Rainier.

Also participating was Alyssa Louthan, who won the sales and congeniality awards. The pageant was held Friday during the fair and consisted of horsemanship, written rodeo and horse knowledge test, modeling, speech, and a mock TV interview. The new court will begin its reign on January 1, 2008, with the official coronation taking place at the Columbia County Fairgrounds on Saturday, January 5. The public is invited to the ceremonies.

During competition, Carr said, "The great American sport of rodeo was built on the character, pride, and hard work of many men and women. It's still symbolized today by these admirable qualities. I'd be honored to represent the true grit tradition we call rodeo as a member of the 2008 Columbia County Rodeo Court."

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