



TUG-O-WAR — Several kids lined up to try and stop the small steam engine during the annual event at the Tri-State Antique Engine and Thresher Show.



LEARNING TO DO LAUNDRY — (left) Janice Churchwell shows children how the laundry was done in earlier years. (top) Lori Janicke helps Thresher Queen Millie Glasco with her sash.

Times staff photos by Casey McCormick

2007 Cheyenne County fair begins

By Karen Krien

The 2007 Cheyenne County Fair has begun.

"Our fair is the best fair in the tri-state area," said Dick Bursch, fair board president.

"We have put together some of the best shows for all four nights of the fair," said Clay Zimbleman, fair board member.

The 4-H and open class displays, projects and livestock are already at the fairgrounds and most have been judged. The home-owned carnival is running and children can hardly wait to climb on the octopus or the airplanes.

Fair board members have spent several hot days getting the grounds ready for the fair. The members of the Amusement Authority have spent months getting equipment ready and painted, and stocking the prize booth. The carnival opens at 7 p.m. each evening and 4 p.m. on Saturdays. The key is, the carnival is run by volunteers.

The 4-H'ers, who have spent months preparing their livestock and other projects, can relax and enjoy the fair although, many will still be seen carrying water and cleaning up the livestock areas and others will be working in the food booths found in the 4-H building. On Friday, starting at 6, they will bring in a little money when the Pre-

mium Sale begins in the small indoor arena.

The judging of 4-H Fashion Review, Life-Skills and Clothing Construction and Fiber Arts was held Monday morning. The Fashion Review for the public was held that evening at the Cheyenne Theater.

The 4-H Dog Show took place early Tuesday morning. That afternoon, in the courthouse, the 4-H foods judging was held and later, people were able to buy some delicious cookies, cakes, breads and other items at the food sale.

Wednesday morning found 4-H'ers participating in the horse show in front of the grandstand. Rabbits, poultry, vegetables, plants and flowers were judged along with woodwork, welding, small engines and bugs. That evening, the Kid's Rodeo was held starting at 6:30 in front of the grandstand. Later, at 8 p.m., the Adult Ranch Rodeo was held.

Thursday evening

On Thursday evening, the team sorting, barrel racing and team roping will start at 7 p.m. in the grandstand arena.

Gary Cooper, chairman, said there was quite a little interest in the team sorting competition. There will be 10 head of cattle in arena, each with a number. There will be three members on a team and when

they cross the start line, a number will be called and the team will have to bring three back in order.

"We are hoping for 10 to 12 teams in the team sorting and 20 to 25 teams in the three-head-progressive-on-one roping competition.

Friday evening

Friday evening grandstand entertainment will be the lawn mower races. Mr. Zimbleman, chairman,

said he is expecting the competition to be good and a number of racers have already entered. The course will be twisted and have turns. Most of the lawn mowers will be traveling at a top speed of 23 to 24 miles per hour.

In between the heats, there will be four-wheeler exhibition races.

Saturday evening

Saturday evening is the demoli-

tion derby. See related article for more information.

Thursday

4-H swine show - 8 a.m.
4-H sheep show - 11 a.m.
4-H Goat show - noon.
Rocketry judging - 2 p.m.
Team sorting, barrel racing and team roping, grandstand - 7 p.m.

Friday

4-H/FFA beef show - 8 a.m.

Bucket calf show - 10 a.m.
Open class cow/calf show - 12:30 p.m.

Round Robin - 2 p.m.
Entries for lawn mower race - 5 p.m.

Premium Sale - 6 p.m.
Lawn mower racing, grandstand - 8 p.m.

See related article for Saturday's fair activities.

Home-owned carnival is in full swing

By Karen Krien

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The Cheyenne County Amusement Authority is celebrating its 26th year of operating one of the best home-owned carnivals in the area. The carnival opens at 7 p.m. on Wednesday, Thursday and Friday and closes each night at 11. On Saturday, the engines start up at 4 p.m. and don't shut down until midnight.

When the Authority began, they wanted to keep the prices "affordable" so everyone could enjoy the rides and play games. That low price was 25 cents for children and 50 cents for adult rides and most of the games were 25 cents. That same low price stands today.

Where else can a kid have fun all evening on \$5 and go home with a

toy from the prize stand?

The volunteers who run the carnival each year are the reason prices can stay the same. Some volunteers are there year after year, while other volunteers may be visiting relatives or are former residents who bring their family back for the fair. Some look at the job as a responsibility while others thoroughly enjoy doing it.

Each year, the money raised is used for upkeep of the equipment, to purchase prizes for the next year's fair and to pay insurance.

Insurance costs around \$4,000 for the few days the carnival is operating. Prizes are the big expense ranging from \$5,000 to \$7,000. The extra money earned is put aside to cover a major expense or

to buy another ride.

Prizes vary from fun water guns, jewelry and balls, to stuffed animals, just to name a few. They can be purchased with tokens won at the game booths.

Carnival rides include: the Ferris wheel, tubs, twister, scrambler and two octopuses. This year, there will be no "wet" octopus — last year, one ride featured water thrown at riders... while it was cool, the Authority members decided it wasn't appropriate. Kids rides include: the merry-go-round, kiddy cars, airplanes and swings.

Games often change from year to year but there is always the Duck Pond, Plinko, Pop Ring, Basketball Toss, Ric-a-Sha, Bingo and the Quarter Dozer. Sometimes there are



new games and then, there may be an old game brought back.

Members needed

The Amusement Authority is always looking for members. Anyone interested in becoming a member should contact members: Greg and Susie Walz, Sam Miller, Bill Ehrman, Bill Wilger, Bill and Geri Lampe, Ken and DeEtta Knorr, Royce Gienger, Randy and Charlene Wieck and Ericka Wieck.