

Dogwood event opens with splash

By BARBARA KALFS
staff writer

PIKETON—Colorful rain-hats, gaily-decorated umbrellas and slickers were standard garb for opening day, Friday, at the fifth annual Dogwood Festival as waterskiers did not seem to dampen visitors' and participants' enthusiasm.

Despite intermittent downpours, the streets of Piketon were dotted with folks anxious to view the varied craft demonstrations and the quilt show. Civil War unit members from a several state area began arriving for their bivouac at the Pike County Fairgrounds, overlooking Pikeston.

Mrs. Mitchell Osborn and her apple-butler making family braved the showers and cooked her pioneer delicacy in an open kettle sheltered by a hastily contrived lean-to.

The weatherman predicted clear skies for today and Sunday. At 1 p.m. today, the Middle Street stage was the scene of a triple presentation. Andrew Frowin, Festival coordinator, and the Pike County Commissioners accepted the bicentennial flag.

Mayer Howard Galloway, the traditional dogwood sapling on behalf of the City of Waverly, and Ed McGee, Waverly North Elementary student, the \$25 savings bond grand prize for the best bicentennial poster.

The poster contest was open to all Pike County students in grades 4 through 8. McGee's entry was judged best of the five first place ribbon winners who included Fred Tackett and Sheila Roberts of Jasper Elementary, Paul Polard and Kelly Kalis of North.

Second place ribbons went to Mark Smith and Lorraine Parker of Jasper, Kathy Vance and Sandy Lindsay of Zahn's Corner Elementary, Gary Timlin of North, and third to Jackie Burchett of Stockdale Elementary. Kimberly Hewitt of North, Teresa Dunham of Zahn's Corner, Patrick King of Jasper and Carol Dyke of Waverly East.

One of tonight's events will be the All-Festival Select Band Concert, at Piketon High School auditorium. Western square dancing also is scheduled this evening at the Highway Equipment Co. parking lot.

The assembled Civil War units plan several events during the weekend, including drills and a mock battle following the 1 p.m. Sunday grand parade. Wilder Weirich, parade committee chairman, will be assisted by James Brashert, Emerson Letist, Dick Radford and volunteers from the Piketon Lions Club.

The parade will feature five bands, including the Adolph Community Band which was to present concerts today on village streets, the Waverly Junior and Senior High, Piketon High and Eastern High School Bands.

Miss Debbie Vulgamare of Jasper, Miss South Central Ohio in the Miss America competition, is to be grand marshal of the procession which will be led by representatives of Waverly, Piketon and Beaver police, the Pike County Sheriff's Department and Ohio State Highway Patrol.

Veterans of Piketon and Waverly will form the color guard.

Also featured in the parade will be vehicles from the Antique Automobile Club of Southern Ohio and the Tri-State Antique Automobile Club, floats from the Good Shepherd Manor, Salt Creek Festival, Kingston Geranium Festival, New Straitsville Moonshine Festival and Bainbridge Fall Festival of Leaves, Girl and Boy Scouts, the Pikettes, Royalettes, Circle of Wranglers and Dorsett Drill Team, Corvett Club of Southern Ohio, Piketon Fire Department, horse drawn vehicles and mounted units.

The April meeting of the South Central Ohio Preservation Society (SCOPS) will be held in the Piketon United Methodist Church following the parade.

Among innovations are a dog training and grooming show sponsored by the Daily Kennel of Pike County and a craft shop in the Old Country Store section of the Gen. Moore House, Festival headquarters.

The Chillicothe Gazette, Mound City Group National Monument and The Scoto Society have displays in the basement of the Piketon United Methodist Church. The Gazette's exhibit features a color slide program on production of a daily newspaper, five muzzle-loading rifles and pistols owned by the late Earl Whitworth, first Festival chairman, and literature about Ohio.

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