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Laurelville Festival Draws Record Crowds

All previous records were broken Saturday night at the Laurelville centennial celebration as over 3,000 persons viewed the closing night's activities despite the wetness and threat of more rain.

The only activity during the day hampered by the rain was the pony pull contest which was cut short by a downpour. All other festivities went on as scheduled.

Prizes were awarded in four different categories in the beard judging.

Winners were Raymond Bigham, Laurelville, most distinguished; William Barnes, Rockbridge, most comical; Oppy Hartranft, Laurelville, neatest, and Bob Swepston, longest.

The main event of the day was the parade with over 36 units participating, 19 of which were fire equipment.

The Laurelville and Zane Trace high school bands and Adelphi community band took part as well as floats and queens from the Laurelville volunteer fire department, Circleville Pumpkin Show and Kingston's Geranium Festival.

Over 30 youths participated in the bicycle parade with awards presented in two classes.

Plans are already being made for next year's festival to be called the Old Times Firemen's Festival.

Hocking Sheriff Paul Hartman today expressed gratitude to his special deputies for their help during last week's centennial celebration at Laurelville.

Sheriff Hartman said the nine special deputies provided very efficient assistance, that there was no trouble whatsoever during the celebration which attracted big crowds into the community.

He said that without their help, his department could not have covered the celebration. He added that they certainly don't provide the assistance for the money earned — they are paid \$1 a year.

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Committee chairman, Sen. DE
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