

# 2004 Shawville Fair Supplement

August 25, 2004

## FAIR BRIEFS

### Locals, Albertans bound to please music fans

Carolyn Dawn Johnson nominated for seven CCMA's; Emerson Drive leads pack with nine

By PAUL MCGEE  
Equity Editor

The Shawville Fair seems to have a knack for attracting the cream of the Canadian country music crop, staging, year after year, both top and rising stars of the genre.

This year is no exception. Shortly after the announcement that Carolyn Dawn Johnson signed on to headline this year's Shawville Fair, the Alberta native picked up seven nominations for the upcoming Canadian Country Music Awards to be held in Edmonton on Sept. 13.

The 34-year-old singer is short-listed in nearly every category she's eligible for: female artist of the year; single of the year; album of the year; song of the year; video of the year; producer of the year (with Dan Huff). Johnson is also nominated for the fans' choice award.

Riding a wave with her latest album, *Dress Rehearsal*, Johnson is showing signs of reaching her potential as a country music star. Already winner of the 2000 Music Row Magazine Songwriter of the Year, the CCMA Female Artist of the Year in 2001-02 and a Juno award, Johnson won the American Music Award's Favourite New Artist—Country last year.

Of course, Johnson isn't the only top country artist to hit the stage at the Fair this year. Johnson joins award-winner and repeat performer Michelle Wright, who put on a great show in 2000.

New this year is Emerson Drive, of Grand Prairie, AB, nominated for nine CCMA awards including Best Group or Duo and Video of the Year.

Also appearing this year are local favourites the Mick Armitage Band, who perform following the headliners Friday, Saturday and Sunday, as well as a gig in the beer tent Monday from 1-5 p.m.

The Town Pants, with Quyon's Virginia Schwartz on fiddle, perform Sunday afternoon along with Midnight Highway, of Renfrew, who open for Johnson, and a Willie Nelson Tribute. Returning is Valley favourite Ambush, who open for Wright on Friday.

### Security beefed up

In order to provide a safe and secure environment, the fair board has hired a Montreal security firm to patrol the grounds.

BEST Security will join the Pontiac MRC Sûreté du Québec and local security personnel to provide the utmost in safety and security for all visitors, the young and the elderly alike.

#### Safety first

"We realize that with the increasing number of visitors to the community, we have to ensure everyone's safety," fair board president Mavis Hanna said.

"We've never had an incident to date and we want to ensure that we never have an incident."

## Fair aims to harvest support for Canadian farmers

By PAUL MCGEE  
Equity Editor

SHAWVILLE — Visitors to the 148th Shawville Fair will have ample opportunity this year to learn about farming, particularly the current crisis caused by the discovery in May last year of a lone cow in Alberta infected with mad cow disease.

The Pontiac Agricultural Society's board of directors decided it was fitting to drum up support for the beleaguered industry by adopting the theme "Support Canadian Farmers" for this year's fair.

"Due to the difficult situation farmers are facing, the fair board chose the theme," said board president Mavis Hanna.

"We hope that with the amount of people that come to the fair, we can provide information that will draw public for farmers.

"We have to highlight to the general public the issues concerning farmers, to increase the awareness of farmers' issues."

Hanna said that making people aware of the tough times farmers are ploughing through may help the industry.

"It would be a benefit not only locally but regionally," she said.

Awareness of the current plight of the Canadian farmer will be amplified at the opening ceremonies Thursday, Sept. 2. Québec Minister of Agriculture Françoise Gauthier will be joined at the opening by UPA president Laurent Pellerin and the local agricultural groups such as the Pontiac Soil Club and the Holstein and beef clubs.

"We have invited many leaders of the local and regional agricultural groups," Hanna said.

The Canadian beef industry has taken a severe hit since the U.S. closed its border last year after the discovery of the disease. Since then, the Canadian cattle herd has grown by 6.5 per cent to an all-time high of 16.8 million head, an increase of more than one million head.

## WHO WILL WEAR THE CROWN?



These five young ladies are vying for the Miss Shawville Fair 2004 crown and THE EQUITY Rose Bowl. The winner gets the privilege of representing the Fair for the entire year. From the left: Natalie Ramsey, Shawville; Cindy Labine, Clarendon; Amanda McLachlin, Bristol; Samantha Twolan, Bristol.

## Dedicated Service Awards given to long-time fair volunteers

By LEAH MILLER  
Equity Reporter

SHAWVILLE — John Langford and Everett McDowell are this year's recipients of the Pontiac Agricultural Society's Dedicated Service Award.

"The award is based on recognizing people who have made a significant contribution to the fair over the years," said Ag Society president Mavis Hanna.

The award, now in its fourth year, will be given to recipients in the form of a plaque and gift at the opening ceremonies of the Shawville Fair in the arena Thursday, Sept. 2.

McDowell

McDowell first became a fair board director in 1951 after his father, Ag Society president John R. McDowell, died.

"It's in my blood," said McDowell of being part of the Shawville Fair.

He was the secretary-treasurer for 27 years and said he was quite surprised when he found out about the award.

"John (Langford) and I worked together for quite a few years," he said. "When you were a secretary for that long you get to work with quite a few presidents."

Langford

Langford has been involved with

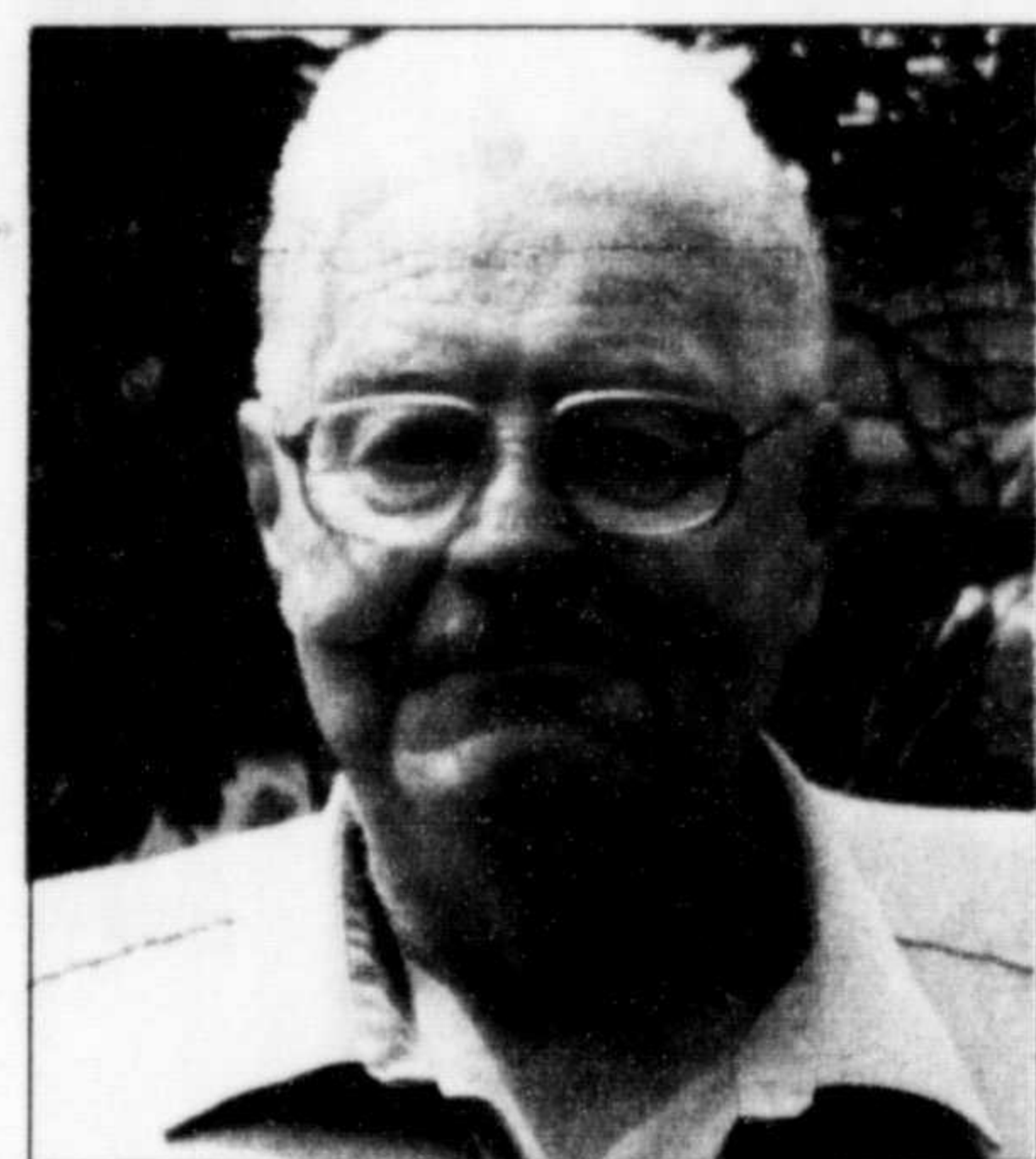
the Shawville Fair for 45 years.

"I remember my father took me to see the fair when I was eight," said Langford. "And I've just stayed there."

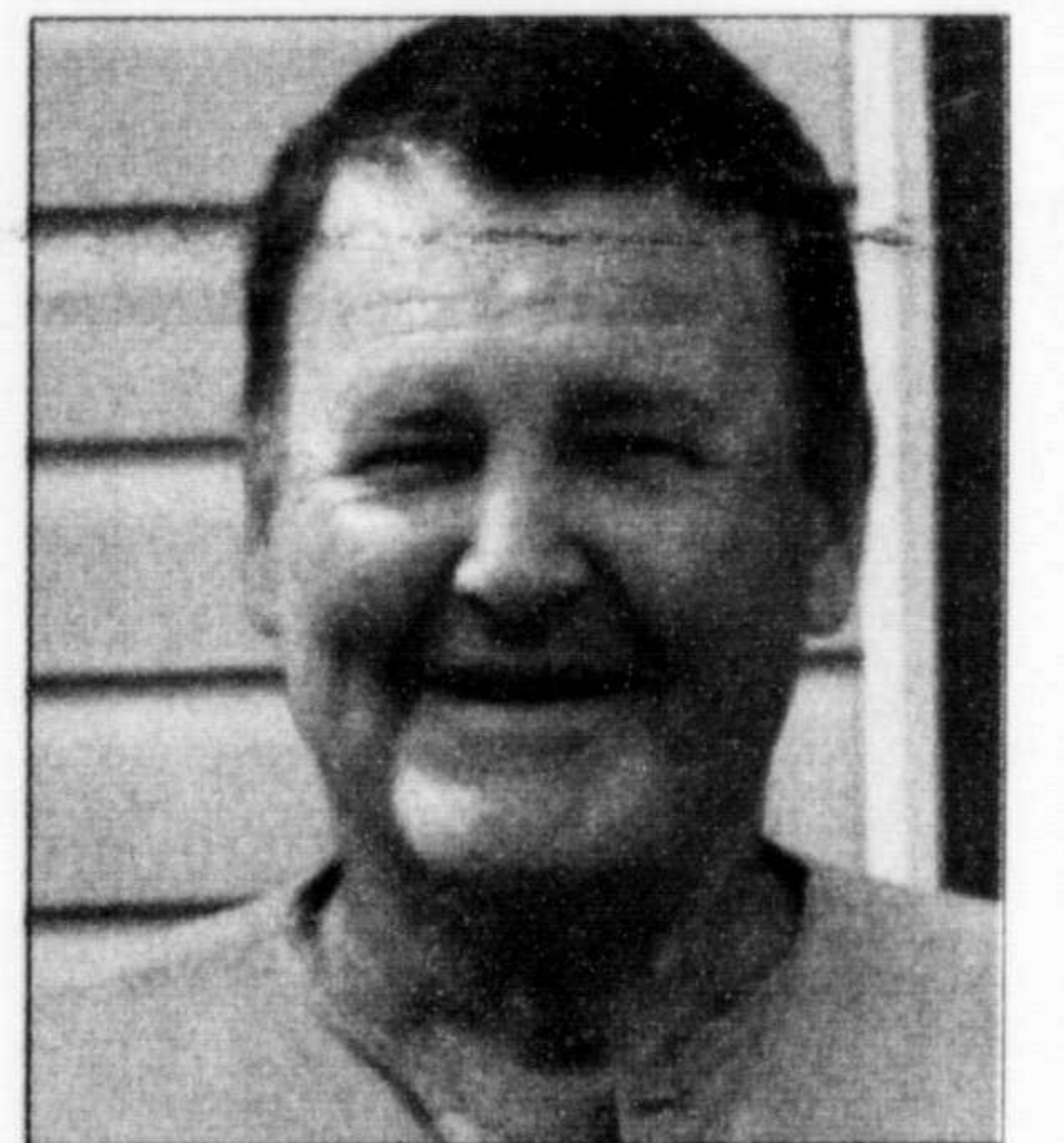
Langford first got involved as a flower and purebred chicken exhibitor.

Over the years, he worked his way up through all of the fair board positions, and became president of the Ag Society in 1982.

"It's great seeing how the fair has grown over all these years to what it is today," said Langford. "It's hard to believe it used to be a little country show."



Everett McDowell



John Langford



Michelle Wright performs Friday evening

## Michelle Wright' stuff for Fair

Singer says 'I don't want anyone sitting on their hands'

By PAUL MCGEE  
Equity Editor

NASHVILLE — Canadian country singer Michelle Wright says she is pumped up for her return visit to the Shawville Fair Friday, Sept. 3.

"We look forward to coming and playing at the Shawville Fair," an enthusiastic Wright told THE EQUITY via telephone from her Nashville home.

"Me and the boys, just give us a stage and we'll get up to play."

"The boys" are her travelling band of musicians that were with her at her last Fair appearance in 2000.

"We're just a family out there travelling together," she said.

Since 2000, Wright has been extremely busy, working on two new albums, writing a book and enjoying married life.

"That was awesome," Wright said of her wedding to Marco Convertino in Nashville two years ago. "Many of my Canadian friends in the music industry were there to wish me well."

Of the two new albums, one of is a departure from the usual for the veteran performer.

"I'm actually doing a Christmas record," she said.

She's also recording a new country

album, working with a long-time collaborator, Tony Hazeldon, who wrote her first big hit, *Take It Like A Man*, released in 1992.

"I've got six tracks for a new album," she said, adding that she's happy to be working with Hazeldon.

"We are finally getting together to do an album," she said.

Wright said she had to seek out songs for her new work.

"I haven't done much songwriting on this record," she said. "I didn't like what I was writing, I wasn't focussed. The feeling I had was that I wasn't writing anything interesting. I found I was more drawn to what people were writing."

Wright said changing her producer helped get the latest effort into the studio.

"Frankly, it wasn't working out," she said. "Writing became a bit convoluted and confused. I wasn't hitting the mark."

Her search for songs took Wright across the Nashville club scene where she heard many songs that caught her attention.

"I found a song called *Something Wild*," she said. "Many of us women, in our dating lives, are attracted to the 'wild guy.' Some of my male friends

say the same thing about some of the women they've been attracted to.

"There's something really intriguing about it."

Wright found another song, *My Give A Damn Is Broken* that was quick to register with her musical sensibilities.

"Right away, I jumped on that one," she said.

She's also keen on another song Hazeldon penned for her album, *I Don't Want To Be That Strong*.

"In this women's liberated world, we're all very strong," she said, "not showing any weakness, or being vulnerable."

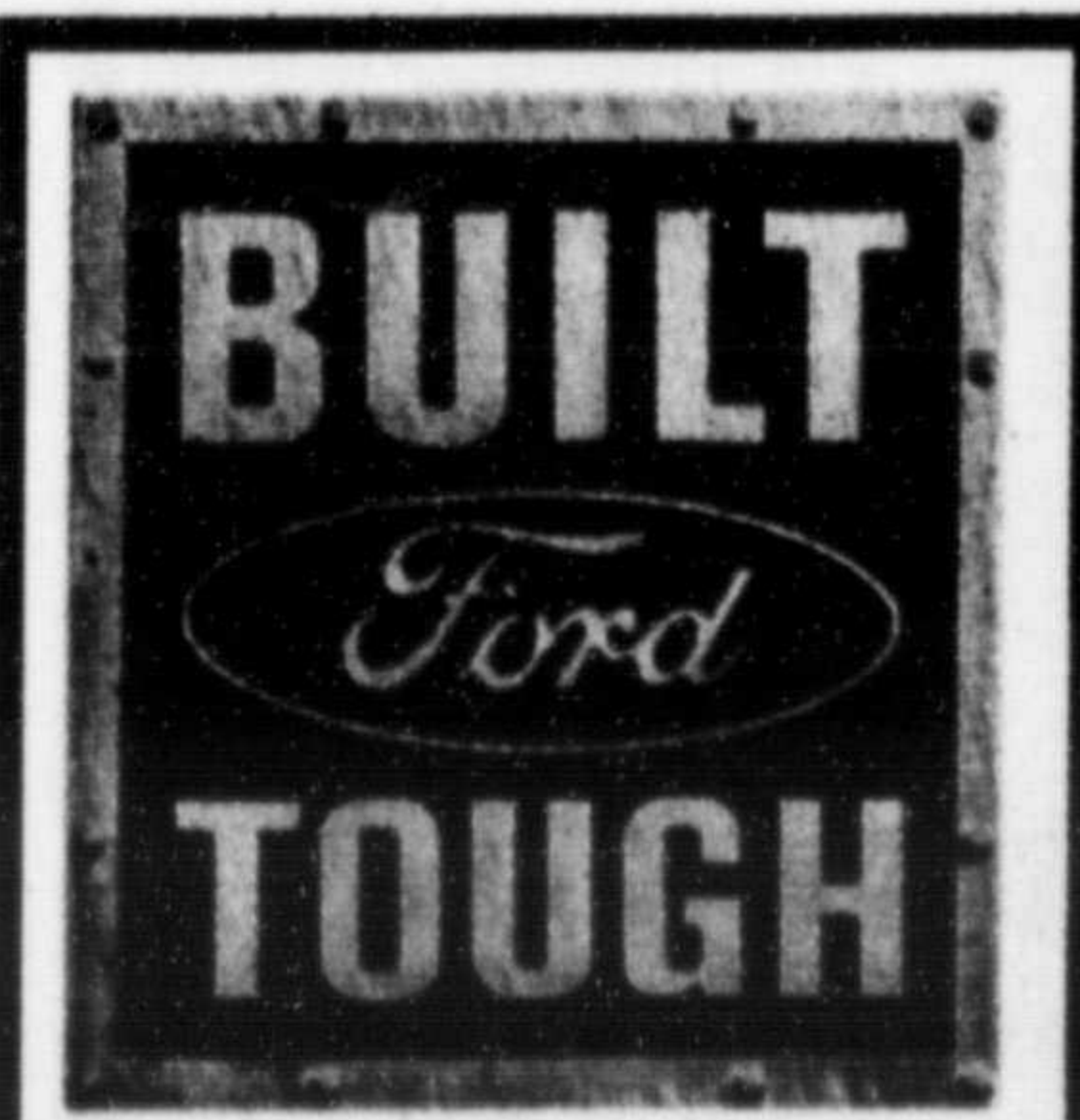
"However, it's nice to have someone to lean on, to share your weaknesses with."

The audience at this year's Fair is sure to hear some of her new stuff mixed in with the past hits.

"I've been fortunate to have a few more hits since the last time," she said, citing *Your Love, I Surrender*, and *Shut Up And Kiss Me* as some of the fan favourites she'll perform.

"The audience can enjoy themselves and sing along," she said.

"It's such a buzz to be up there. I don't want anyone sitting on their hands."



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## 2004 Pontiac Agricultural Society Directors



Paul McGee, EQUITY PHOTO

Front row, from the left: Beryl Smart; Donald Lavallée; Mavis Hanna; Eason Russell; Lynn Lang; Joan Rusenstrom; George Coles. Second row, from the left: Versel Campbell; Jack Lang; Scott McCagg; Elwin Lang; Dan Egan; Joyce McCagg; Barrie Drummond; Angela Sally; Robert Howard. Back row, from the left: Heather Grant; Cory Greer; Scott Stephens; Ralph Lang; Cindy Smiley; Diane Drummond; Nancy Tubman; André Dulude. Missing are: Robbie Beck; Joan Brown; Jim Crawford; Harry Dale; Ken Drummond; Andrew Simms; Kelly Tanner.

## Exhibitors 'backbone of the fair'

Welcome exhibitors to the 148th edition of the Shawville Fair, Regional Fair of Western Quebec. The Board of Directors is delighted by the support and confidence which you have placed in the Shawville Fair. The exhibitors are the backbone of the fair plus the essential ingredient in the success of an agricultural fair. Thanks to the excellent support of the local and regional livestock and non-livestock exhibitors for maintaining and continuing to exceed the highest standards.

The Board of Directors is pleased by the encouragement which we continue to receive from our exhibitors and will endeavor to maintain the traditional classes

that are the trademark of the Shawville Fair while diversifying through new divisions and classes.

This year, 2004, the Board has chosen the theme "Support Canadian Farmers". We were proud to support a license plate campaign which is featured on the cover of the exhibitor book. Through this campaign we are hoping to bring awareness to the communities, both local and regional, of the need to support Canadian farmers.

The ability of an agricultural event such as the Shawville Fair to survive 148 years is dependent on a number of critical factors, each equally important. The quality and quantity of livestock, horticultural and

homecraft exhibits is key. Also, the extreme care with which the past Boards have steered the Fair. Their forward thinking has allowed the Fair to be successful and maintain the longevity of 148 years. The Fair has been in the forefront of preserving cultural and social values, while representing our agricultural roots.

I am pleased to once again thank the Board of Directors and their families for their tireless support of the Shawville Fair. Their enthusiasm is overwhelming and should be acknowledged by all. The Directors spend countless hours developing, planning and implementing a Fair that the whole community can enjoy and be proud of.

The Board thanks you, the Exhibitor for your support and welcomes new exhibitors with enthusiasm. With your continued support, the fair will further develop into a more integral part of both rural and urban communities, meeting the requirement and expectations of both.

In conclusion, I extend to you and your family every success.

I look forward to seeing you again this year and for many years to come. Health, prosperity and happiness always.

Sincerely,

Mavis J. Hanna,

President

## From yesterday ...



R.W. Hodgins, president of the 1950 Shawville fair enjoys a treat with young friends Bill McKinley and David Wilson.

## Honour roll of past presidents

- William Clarke, 1856
  - John Young, 1901-02
  - Dr. Alexander, 1903
  - William Hodgins, 1909
  - F. W. Thomas, 1926
  - John Horner, 1927
  - H.G. Young, 1930-31
  - W.H. Corrigan, 1933
  - Lorne Armstrong, 1940
  - J.R. McDowell, 1942-43
  - Hursty Hodgins, 1944-46
  - Lee A. Hodgins, 1950-51
  - Arthur Dagg, 1952-54
  - Vertal Smiley, 1955, 1960
  - J. Arthur Kilgour, 1961-62
  - Basil Quail, 1963-65
  - Dr. Roland Armitage, 1966
  - George Pirie, 1967-68
  - Sidney Sheppard, 1969
  - Clifton Dale, 1970-72
  - Robert Younge, 1973-74
  - Clarence Knox 1975-76
  - Philip Thompson, 1977-78
  - Dalton Hodgins, 1979
  - Nellis Stewart, 1980
  - Kenneth L. Kilgour, 1981
  - John Langford, 1982
  - George Coles, 1983-84
  - Elwyn Lang, 1985-86
  - Lucille Hodgins, 1987-88
  - Paul Bretzlaff, 1989
  - Edgar Schwartz, 1990-92
  - Ronald Hodgins, 1993-94
  - Mavis Hanna, 1995-present
- (Some names of presidents are missing. If you know who they are, contact the paper at 647-2204.)

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A giant chicken opts for a hug from a fairgoer at last year's Shawville Fair.

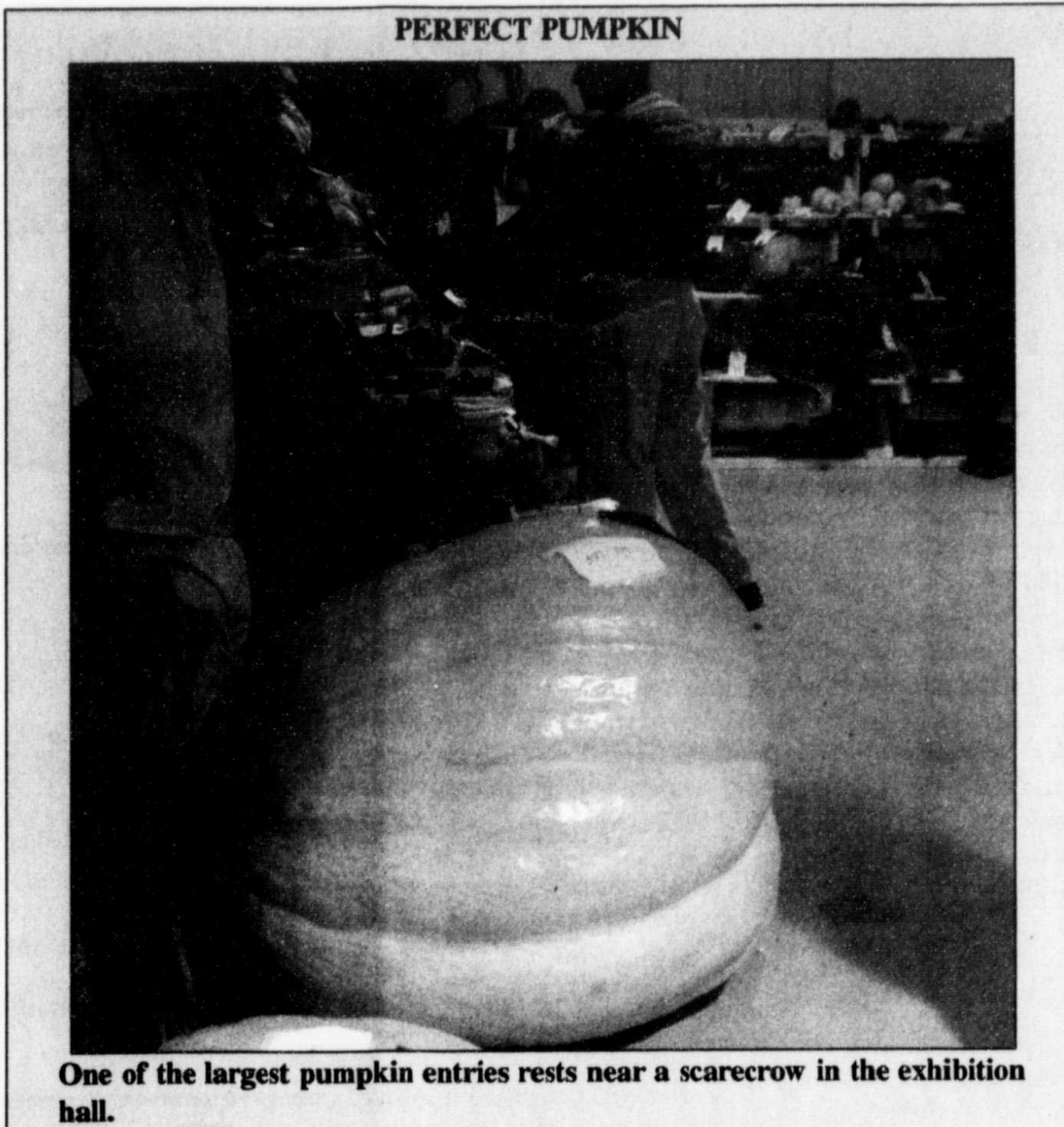
## Agriculture awareness program back again this year

By LEAH MILLER  
Equity Reporter  
SHAWVILLE — Shawville Fair's agricultural awareness program, a morning where students can learn about agriculture, will be making a full-fledged comeback this year.

"Last year the kids weren't in school yet," said Diane Drummond, Agricultural Society director of the fair's school visit.

units. Students then receive 4-H club memorabilia and other information. The tours are free to the students and what was taught at the fair becomes part of a school project. The tours finish up at noon in time for students to head back to the school for lunch.

Every year the charity auction chooses a different charity to donate to, and this year it will be for the Pontiac Health Centre hospital's palliative care unit. The auction is held in the arena after the steer sale on the Friday night of the fair weekend. Last year the charity



One of the largest pumpkin entries rests near a scarecrow in the exhibition hall.

## Charity auction supported by local Pontiac community

By LEAH MILLER  
Equity Reporter  
SHAWVILLE — The Shawville Fair's charity auction is where you need to be if you are looking for a steal on some homemade goods while helping out a great cause at the same time.

Every year the charity auction chooses a different charity to donate to, and this year it will be for the Pontiac Health Centre hospital's palliative care unit.

The auction is held in the arena after the steer sale on the Friday night of the fair weekend. Last year the charity

auction raised \$3,687 for the Pontiac day centre bus fund. The Agriculture Society and the charity auction's director, Cindy Smiley, are still collecting donations for the auction. "It's easy to get so many items because this is a very generous com-

munity," said Smiley. Articles that are auctioned off are all sorts of handmade items like jams, quilts, artwork, craft ware or wood work. The average number of articles auctioned off during the evening is 20 to 30, but last year there were 47 items ranging from \$20 to \$400.

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"A lot of children don't know where milk or eggs come from."

—Diane Drummond, Agricultural Society director

Because the 2003 fair fell on the weekend before school started, the awareness program was open to the general public.

But luckily this year, school starts before the fair opens, and it will give students from Dr. S.E. McDowell Elementary School an opportunity to research the fair.

"About 150 McDowell students in grades four to six walk to the fair on Friday morning," said Drummond.

"Then they will break up into groups with leaders and visit different speakers."

Drummond said the fair board has yet to determine who the three speakers will be, but they will all explain different areas of agriculture and how it works.

"A lot of children don't know where milk or eggs come from," said Drummond of how valuable the program is for these kids.

"They see flour in a bag in the store but have no idea how it got there."

After the tours, the groups meet at the entrance to the fair and listen to another key speaker.

In the past the speakers have been RCMP officers or police and their canine

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<b>FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 3</b>	9:00 am Gates Open 9:00 am - 11 pm Monalee Petting Farm 9:30 am Agricultural Awareness Morning 10:00 am - 10 pm Exhibition Hall/Handicraft Exhibits 10:30 am Heavy Judging 12:00 pm Model Train Display in Lobby to 8:00 pm 12:00 pm Beauce Carnaval - Midway Open Beer Garden Open 1:00 pm Local 4H Achievement Day 1:30 pm - 9:00 pm Pontiac Museum Open 1:30 pm Maine Anjou & Limousin - Beef Show 5:00 pm - 8:00 pm Bingo 6:30 pm Heavy Horse Show Bandaloni - One Man Band The King's Kids Puppet Show 7:00 pm - 1:00 am Entertainment: • Ambush • MICHELLE WRIGHT • Mick Armitage Band 8:00 pm Steer Auction 9:00 pm Charity Auction in Arena proceeds to Palliative Care Unit of PCH
<b>FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 4</b>	8:00 am Gates Open 9:00 am - 11 pm Monalee Petting Farm 9:30 am Regional 4H Judging 10:00 am Western Horse Show 10:00 am - 10 pm Exhibition Hall/Handicraft Exhibits 11:00 am Beauce Carnaval - Midway Open Beer Garden Open 12:00 pm Model Train Display in Lobby to 8:00 pm 12:30 pm Pet Show 1:00 pm Regional 4H Show Horse Show Continues The King's Kids Puppets Roseloes - Clown Bandaloni - One Man Band Hear the Avul Ring Ash Circle Fire Performers Craft and Cooking Demos Free Children's Pony Rides 1:00 pm - 9:00 pm Pontiac Museum Open 1:00 pm - 5:00 pm Entertainment: • D.W. James • Gospel Music sponsored by Pontiac Clergy Association 2:00 pm - 8:00 pm Bingo 4:00 pm Directors' Showmanship in Arena Invitation Fun Event - Charolais, Simmental & Hereford - Beef Show 7:00 pm Holstein - Dairy Show 7:00 pm - 1:00 am Entertainment: • D.W. James • EMERSON DRIVE • Mick Armitage Band
<b>SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 5</b>	8:00 am Gates Open 9:00 am - 11 pm Monalee Petting Farm 10:00 am - 10 pm Exhibition Hall/Handicraft Exhibits 10:00 am Light Horse Show 12:00 pm Model Train Display in Lobby to 8:00 pm 12:00 pm Beer Garden Open 1:00 pm Horse Drawing 1:00 pm - 5:00 pm Entertainment: • Willie Nelson Tribute • Midnight Highway • The Town Pants 1:00 pm - 8:00 pm Bingo 1:30 pm - 9:00 pm Pontiac Museum Open 1:30 pm Amprior - McNab Pipes & Drums Bandaloni - One Man Band Convieu Dancers The King's Kids Puppets Ash Circle Fire Performers Roseloes - Clown Free Children's Pony Rides Ladysmith Oktoberfest Dancers Craft and Cooking Demos 4:00 pm Cattle Exhibit Closes 7:00 pm Rodeo Penning Competition in Arena 7:00 pm - 12:00 am Entertainment: • Midnight Highway • CAROLYN DAWN JOHNSON • Mick Armitage Band
<b>MON., SEPT. 6</b>	CATTLE EXHIBITS CLOSED - HORSE SHOW ONLY 8:00 am Gates Open 9:00 am English Horse Show 10:00 am - 2 pm Exhibition Hall/Handicraft Exhibits 11:00 am Beauce Carnaval - Midway Open Pontiac Firemen's Challenge Beer Garden Open 12:00 pm ATV Pull 2:00 pm The King's Kids Puppet Show 1:00 pm Demolition Derby 1:00 pm - 5:00 pm Entertainment: • Mick Armitage Band 1:00 pm - 4:00 pm Pontiac Museum Open

# SHAWVILLE FAIR

SEPT. 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 2004

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Schedule subject to change without notice.

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**THE TOWN PANTS**  
**MICK ARMITAGE BAND**

Shawville, Quebec is located 45 minutes from Ottawa or 25 minutes from Renfrew, Ontario.

REFLECTIONS: 121 YEARS OF NEWS

The Way We Were

COMPILED BY HEATHER ALBERTI DICKSON, PUBLISHER

25 Years Ago

September 5, 1979  
**Fair:** Miss Shawville Fair 1979 is Debbie Morrison who was the Entertainment Hostess. Runner up was Lynn Harty representing Heavy Horses. Miss Shawville Fair 1978 Nancy presented the tiara and Pontiac Printshop trophy after the speeches which this year were of extremely high quality.

The Holstein herd of Mountholm Farm in Bristol, owned by Don Evelyn and John Duff was selected as this year's best at the Black and White Show of the Shawville Fair.

The Honourable Walter Baker, deputy Prime Minister officially opened the Shawville Fair Friday evening.

50 Years Ago

September 30, 1954

**Fair:** The evening horse shows under the flood lights in the show ring were a big attraction at Shawville Fair last week. Thursday night after Albert Quesnel won first and second place with his Shetland ponies and Hillis Graham took first place for a pair of express horses hitched the crowd in the stands thrilled to the sight of the annual Calf parade when youngsters from all over the county paraded their prize animals in the horse ring. After the Calf Parade the show proceeded with Emerson Cotie taking first for his high stepers. Liberman and Campbell, winning first for four horse tandem. Bob Cundell, Walter Kilgour, Arnold Dobson and Larry Hynes taking first, second, third and fourth for roadsters and Eric Vadneau of Otter lake taking the trophy donated by Forest Inn Hotel, Bryson for best performing pony. The carriage team

class was next won by two of Frank Ryan's fine carriage horses with second going to Eric Vadneau. Lawson Corrigan took first, followed by Alex Davis and W Sparling in the single general purpose class; Eric Vadneau won first and third, Roy Churchill taking second in the single high stepping 14-2 and under class, and the show wound up for Thursday night with Reuben Harris, Bob Cundell, Walter Kilgour and Arnold Dobson taking prizes in that order for single roadster.

75 Years Ago

October 3, 1929

**Fair news: One of the best: Fine weather brings record attendance:**

According to the top line on the cover of this year's prize list, CPAS No. 1 celebrated its 73rd anniversary with the splendid exhibition of Friday and Saturday last. Friday was a banner day in the point of attendance, considering that in addition to the paid admissions, which totalled over \$600.00 it was "free day" for the children, who were not slow to take advantage of the courtesy thus extended to them by the Society.

It was a great outing for the kids who were present in the hundreds and the thrills provided by an up-to-date merry-go-round formed no small part of their enjoyment. A midway of more extensive proportions than usual, took care of any surplus coin that visitors were encumbered with and activities in that behalf at times were brisk, as the afternoon wore on.

More favorable weather could not have been desired, and the day was otherwise perfect barring the clouds of dust that arose from the race track. Never before were so many autos parked within the grounds, yet these repre-

sent only a portion of those who brought people to the big fair. Something not in evidence during the last few days, was the large number of people who passed through the gates during the morning hours. Of the late years, it has been the custom to put off fair going till the afternoons, but Friday's turn-out had a semblance of the old time methods - before the advent of the horseless carriage - when fair goers breakfasted by candle light in order to reach their objective at an early hour.

100 Years Ago

September 23, 1904

**Annual exhibition again an unqualified success:**

The 48th annual exhibition of Ag S No. 1 held on Friday last, takes rank among the best of the long list of exhibitions, which forms the record of Pontiac's pioneer society. In some respects - those perhaps in which a discerning public are chiefly interested - it outclassed most if not all of its predecessors. In this age of general advancement, this is nothing more than we should expect. People naturally look for improvement year by year and if their expectations fail of realization, there is disappointment and dissatisfaction. In matters of this kind there should be no room for retrogression, and the only excuse for that undesirable condition is a general laxity of attention to those interests in which the weal of a community or an organization is bound up.

In these days of catchy weather, and when success so much depends on a "fine day," the society had abundant reasons for self-congratulation this year on the character of the article which Old Probes served up. The morning broke with every indication of a favor-

able day. There was nothing to hinder people from coming out - in fact Dame Nature extended a general invitation to every body to abandon the cares and foils of the farm, the workshop, the household, and come and help make the fair a success, and they came.

**Fair:** The following is the judges' report of field crops in Ag. Society No. 1 competition, this year:

Wheat: Robert Ralph; James Letts, Henry McDowell; James B Hodgins and Robert McDowell (equal)

Oats: James Carswell; Robert Ralph; Thomas McDowell and Hugh Young, equal

Peas: Malcolm Leroy; William McDowell; James Cunningham

Barley: Joseph Sly; Alex Elliott sr; James Cunningham

Seed Corn: Alex Bean; Malcolm Leroy; James Letts

Fodder Corn: Robert Ralph; William McDowell; James Pendergrast

Bean: Alex Bean; L A Smart; William A Armstrong

Potatoes: Peter Dumas; Lewis Cuthbertson; Truman Draper

Swede Turnips: Pete Dumas; Fred Weigandt; Thomas McDowell

Mangold: F Weigandt sr; Alex Bean; James Cunningham

Sugar Beets: Alex Bean; Fred Weigandt, sr

Carrots: Alex Bean; Pete Dumas; George Cuthbertson

Garden of Vegetables: F Weigandt, sr; Alex Bean; William A Armstrong.

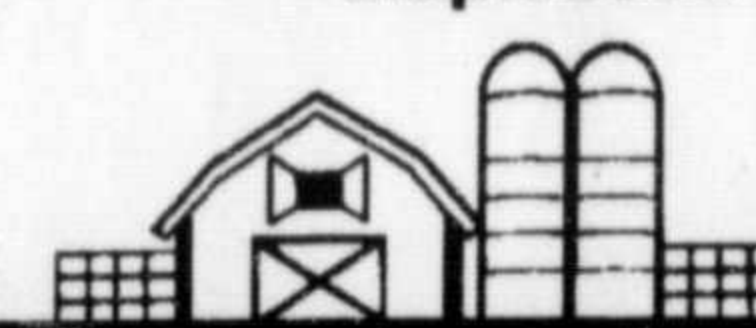
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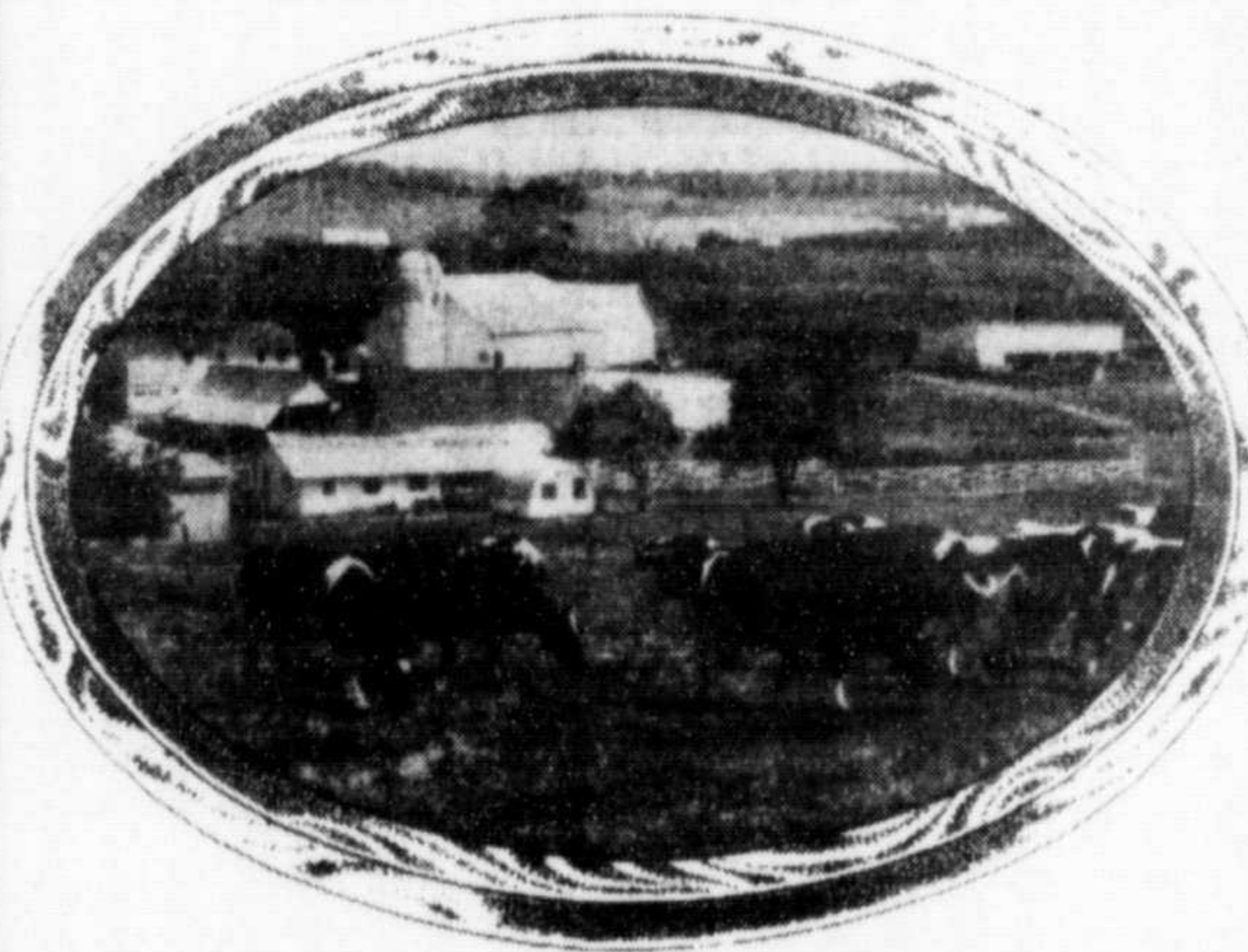
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Demolition derby crashes to the end

By LEAH MILLER  
 Equity Reporter

SHAWVILLE — The demolition derby, one of the most popular events at the Shawville Fair, could leave you waiting awhile before it ends.

The demolition derby begins at 1 p.m. on Monday behind the arena in the horse ring surrounded by cement barriers.

"We normally try to be done by 5 p.m.," said fair director Scott McCagg. "But I don't think we were done last year until 8 p.m."

The derby is like a bumper car ride except participants wear helmets and drive real cars.

Last year, the fair signed up 85 cars, which is double the average, that smashed

each other until there was only one left running.

A new part of this year's derby is that organizers are trying to get drivers to register ahead of time.

"They usually just register when they get in," said McCagg. "This makes it easier."

A driver can compete in three categories—mini-, mid- and full-sized vehicles.

The derby is known to take a long time to finish because of the drivers' strategies.

"Some cars work in teams to hit other cars until they are the only ones left," said McCagg.

Others tend to wait behind broken down cars until close to the end. That way they have an advantage because

their car is less destroyed.

But McCagg said the rules try to prevent that from happening.

"They only have three minutes before they have to make contact with another car," he said. "We want it to

run fair so that everyone has an equal chance."

Even though there is no time limit to the derby, McCagg said he is glad to do it.

"It makes for a good show."



With no set time limit, the demolition derby is a fan favourite.

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## Best of fair inside exhibition hall

By LEAH MILLER  
Equity Reporter  
SHAWVILLE — Proving that close competition doesn't just take place outside in the steer rings or in the arena, but it also happens inside the exhibition hall in the handicraft, baking and horticulture contests.

"The prizes are all monetary," said director and Agricultural Society secretary Beryl Smart. "But it varies with class."

The handicrafts are on display from 10 a.m. to 10 p.m. each day in the hall while

events like craft and baking demonstrations take place.

This year, Robin Hood Flour is sponsoring baking contests in both the adult and children's classes.

The adult class is the Robin Hood Flour Best Loaf Cake Contest and children 12 and under can compete in the Best Homemade Squares or Bars in the Beginners Best Lunchbox Snack Contest.

Some helpful hints for competitors are to display freshly baked goods instead of frozen, to follow all

instructions, be prepared to submit the recipe, and to look underneath loaf cakes to check if they burnt.

In the baking division there are 59 classes to compete in with winnings of up to \$10 in each class.

Other divisions in the food section are contests in preserves and pickles, honey, maple products, eggs, wine and beer.

In the handicraft section there are competitions in quilts, kitchen accessories, accessories, traditional handicrafts, art work, folk art, tole painting, heritage crafts, machine or handsewn articles, hand knits, weaving, spinning, basketry, photography and penmanship.

There are many handicraft classes that children under 16 and schools can compete in as well.

In the horticulture section, Ag Society members can compete in cut flowers, potted plants and display arrangements.

The scarecrow contest is always a fair favourite, as well as the produce division competitions which include classes like garden vegetables, fruits, herbs, seed, corn and field crops.

All entries must be in on Wednesday, Sept. 1 between 7 and 10 p.m. Only Ag Society members can enter and there is only one entry allowed per class.

When members drop off their first entry, they will trade their fair pass for a green bracelet that will grant access to the grounds from Thursday to Monday.

Judging is done on Thursday morning starting at 9 a.m.

"We have eight judges who work all day," said Lynn Lang, handicraft and culinary arts director. "Thirty volunteer ladies gather, record and display the handicraft and baking entries, in time for the hall to open at 7 p.m. Thursday night."

All articles are covered in



A couple take a peek at some homegrown vegetables on display in the exhibition hall.

plastic to keep them safe and clean and the hall has two volunteers who circulate the displays and answer questions.

**Demonstrations**  
All demonstrations take place on Saturday and Sunday from 12:30 to 3:30 p.m. in the exhibition hall.

- Laura Palmer Thomas from Cedar Creek Farm on fish farming.
- Roxanne Acres Pare on scrapbooking techniques and supplies.
- Beth Martineau Tubman from Feel Good — Look Good in Shawville on nail care and manicure tips.
- Sher Moscaliuk on the equipment, technique and talent needed for pottery

production. picked up on Monday, Sept. 6 between 3 and 4 p.m.



The firemen's challenge lets Pontiac's fire departments put their skills to the test.



Part of the firemen's challenge is completing the course wearing complete gear. This can add 30 kilograms to their original weight.

## Challenge brings best out of local firefighters

By LEAH MILLER  
Equity Reporter  
SHAWVILLE — Testing their strength and endurance, municipal fire departments across the Pontiac will compete in the Firemen's Challenge Monday at the Shawville Fair.

The challenge begins at 11 a.m. when firefighting teams gather to compete for the seventh annual Bill Black Memorial Trophy.

Black was the fire chief of the Shawville-Clarendon Fire Department who died of a heart attack on April 28, 1998. All the municipal fire departments in the Pontiac are invited to participate in the challenge.

"We usually sign up seven or eight teams," said Agricultural Society president Mavis Hanna. "But this year we are hoping for more."

During the challenge, competitors complete tests based on fighting fires while wearing full firefighting gear. The gear can add up to 30 kilograms to their normal weight.

Some of the events in the challenge include running through a line of tires, rolling up a rubber fire hose, and pulling a water-pressurized hose 24 metres to shoot at a target before dragging it back.

This year a new event has been added to the challenge. Firefighters have to hammer a

heavy piece of welded metal across a finish line.

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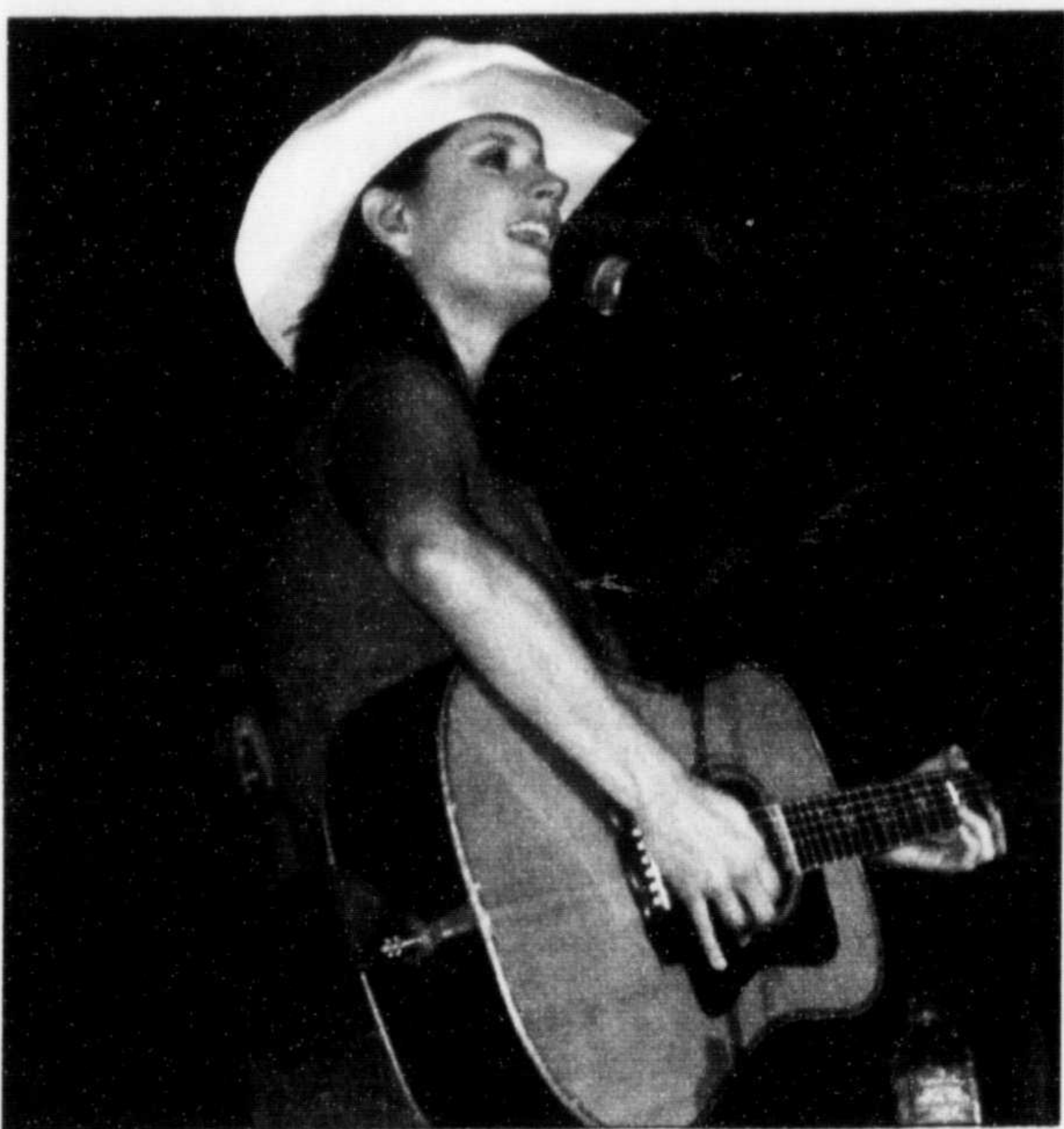
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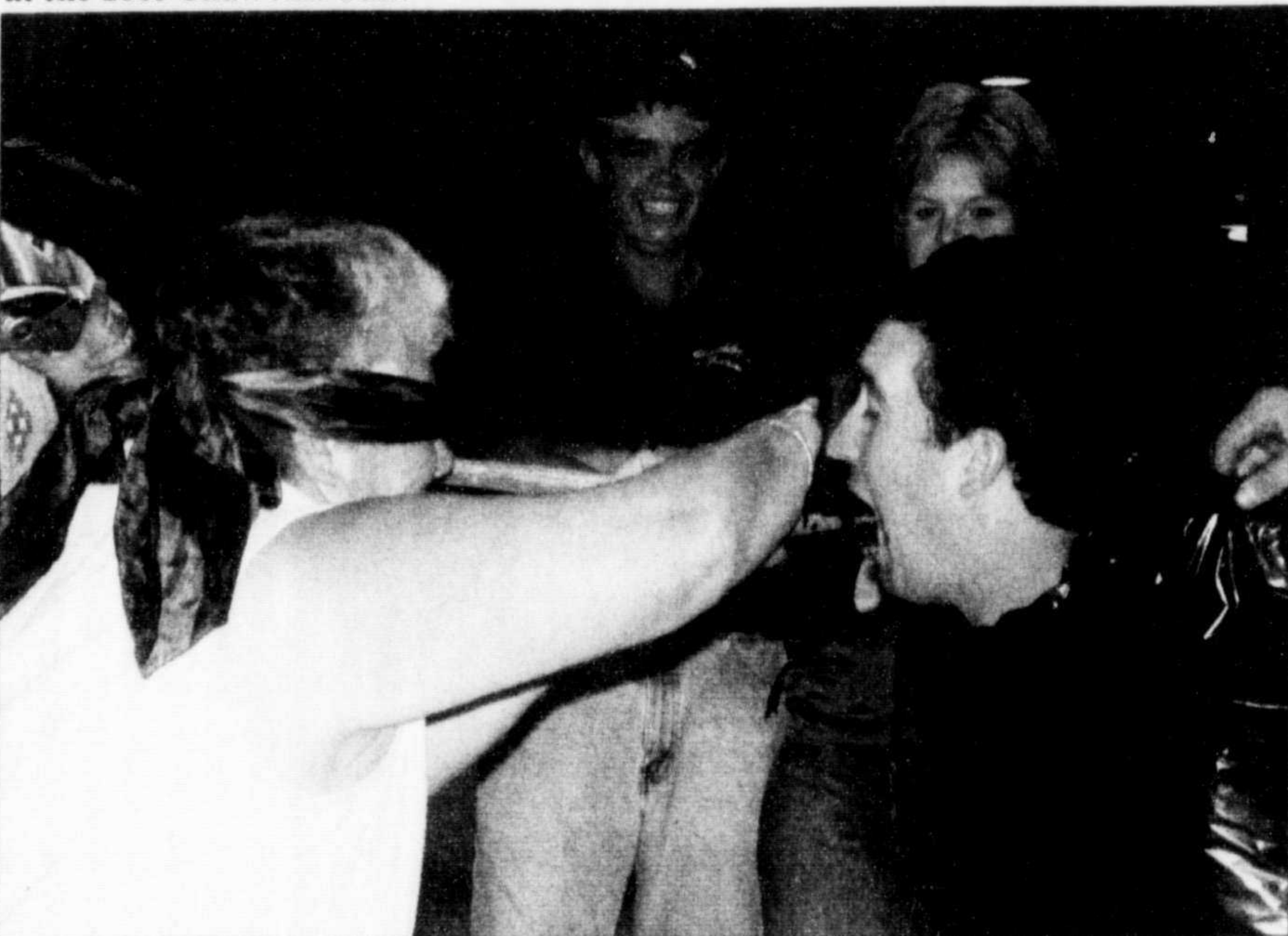
# 2003 Fair Snapshots



Terri Clark won over many hearts the night she played at the 2003 Shawville Fair.



Erin Dittburner, the 2002 Miss Shawville Fair, drapes a sash over the 2003 first runner up who was Jennifer Dale.



The Shawville Arena was home to many games and fun during the fair, like this blind-folded feeding game.



Harry Dale, the heavy horse show director, pins a ribbon on a winning horse.



The ATV pull is a noisy and exciting competition. This year's pull starts at noon on Monday, Sept. 6 behind the arena.

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