

Times-Herald

Laughter marks Day 1 of Dixon May Fair

By Kimberly K. Fu/The Reporter,

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DIXON -- Screaming with glee Thursday, Jasmine Calderon of Fairfield did several turns on the wild Freak Out ride before running happily into the arms of her aunt.

"Not scary," said the 7-year-old during the inaugural day of the Dixon May Fair. "I like the spinning."

Her aunt, Stella Allen of Fairfield, said she had accompanied the fearless youth on other rides like the Tornado.

"I figured I'd go with her on (some of them) and I thought, 'Oh, my gosh' and she's smiling and had her hands in the air," Allen recalled.

"The carousel's about my speed."

Next up, a leisurely stroll through some of the buildings to peruse the many exhibits.

Over by the Scrambler, which boasts three mechanical arms hoisting four cars on each, two teens giggled uncontrollably as they made their way off the ride to two other friends.

"It was really fun," said Kylie Courtney, 14, of Dixon. Her pal, fellow 14-year-old Dixon resident Rose Sweany, agreed, despite a slight issue.

"I'm afraid of heights," Rose admitted. "I just wanted to get this out of the way."

Friends and classmates Grant Galbraith and Savana Reynolds, also 14, said despite being terrified of some of the carnival rides they'd nonetheless get on them again. Because, they asked, why not?

"I want to go on the Gravitron," Kylie told her buddies. "But I heard it goes really fast."

And off the group went to the Gravitron.

Seven brave youths swung round and round on the Yo Yo as gobs more flew down the Super Slide or rode the Tilt-a-Whirl.

Meanwhile, at the Power Jump, a harness-wearing David Hillstrom III of Vacaville did flips and turns in midair. Nary a noise emanated from the 4-year-old, though he offered his family a plethora of brilliant smiles.

"He's had a dirt bike since he was 3. He has no fear," said his aunt, Bobbie Cordes of Vacaville. "Probably because he's around adults all the time."

Elsewhere on the fairgrounds, Solano County Sheriff's officials manned a fleet of vehicles, wine tasting featured vintages from GV Cellars and Tenbrink Winery, Ted Maciel serenaded fairgoers at the Main Gate and all kinds of activity happened in the livestock area.

The May Fair is set to run through Sunday, which is also Mother's Day.

Highlights of today's festivities include free admission for youths 12 and under plus \$2 off adult admission between 3-5 p.m. with the contribution of two canned goods for the Food Bank of Contra Costa and Solano.

The Hog Calling Contest is at 2:30 p.m. in the Swine Pavilion; the Cavy Show with guinea pigs in the Small Animal Barn; wine tasting from 4-7 p.m. featuring Rock Creek Vineyard, Vezer Family Vineyards and Ledgewood Creek Winery; and a kiddie milking contest at 6 p.m. in the Sheep Show Ring.

Tonight's big event is the Bull Riding event at 7 p.m., which requires a separate \$20 ticket, in the Coors Light Grandstand.

The fair runs from noon-11 p.m. today, 11 a.m.-11 p.m. Saturday and noon-11 p.m. Sunday.

For more information, go online to www.DixonMayFair.com.