



LONSOWERS OF GEM, driving his Scottish Highland ox team, was one of 129 entries at the Ox Roast parade in Herndon on Saturday. They placed second in the horse category.

# Crowd enjoys ox roast

By MARY LOU OLSON

The streets of Herndon were lively Saturday as the town's population swelled with nearly 3,000 as former residents and friends returned to help the town celebrate its 125th birthday with the traditional ox roast.

Sponsoring the weekend celebration was the Herndon Chamber of Commerce. The Herndon High School Alumni Banquet, at St. Mary's Auditorium on Friday evening, kicked off weekend events. Cynthia Buk of Atwood served the meal, and 251 reservations were made.

Helen (Ketterl) Kleidosty and Elsie (Thiringer) Macfee, both of Atwood, members of the Class of 1934, were honored as the oldest anniversary class. A trivia game included prizes of Herndon memorabilia.

Alumni officers are Julie (Hutfler) Hafner, president; Charlene (Brown) Sharp, vice president; and Lawrence Wendelin, secretary-treasurer.

The streets were lined with spectators, who relaxed and enjoyed the 129 entries parade down Main Street.

There were tractors, floats, horses, old-fashioned buggies, cars, bicycles, and more.

By Monday, the streets were nearly bare and the floats were gone. The town was back to its usual population of 120 or so.

Other activities entertained young and old throughout the day. Winners of the 3-on-3 basketball tournament were Justin and Jacob Marintzer, Cody Fisher and Quinten Schmitz, with Jim, Daniel and Jeffrey Riener coming in second.

Ron Leitner's NC+, pushed by Dan, Jeff and John Riener and Robb Leitner, with Jim Riener as sitter, captured top honors at the outhouse races. Roger Prideaux won the cow patty bingo competition.

Herndon ox roast drawing winners were Becky Lang, digital camera; Isaiah Lang, \$200 savings bond; Deb Unger and Tara Votapka, 50 pound bundle of ground beef; and Julia Wilkins and Jean Ann Leitner, 25-pound bundle of ground beef.

The pit-cooked beef, with Don Solko as head chef, was served at noon in the City Park, while the Herndon Go-Getters 4-H Club served seniors at the Senior Citizens building.

A Memory Haus in the former pizza building included old-fashioned skills, demonstrations, crafts, souvenirs and commemorative stamps, and the crowd enjoyed a 30-minute movie of the history of Herndon in the former Leinwetter building.

Games kept all ages entertained during the afternoon and music was provided by Harlan Palmer's Band and the Prairie Statesmen Barber-shop Singers of McCook. "Rendezvous" played for a street dance in the evening and fireworks at midnight, provided by Ron Beims, were fired by the Atwood Ambassadors to climax the day's activities.

Parade winners included: **Children:** Nicolette Nemeth, first; Cub Scouts of Atwood, second; Herndon bicycle decorating contest, third.

**Just for Fun:** Red Hat Ladies of Atwood, first; Lloyd Harden, minicombo, second; Gerry Nemeth, Beavers last homecoming king and queen float, third.

**Antique Autos:** Harry Wigner, 1924 Model T truck, first; Jim Tongish, 1971 Nova SS, second; Joe Samson Sr., 1914 Model T Touring Car, third.

**Antique Tractors:** Riener Farms, 830 John Deere, first; Riener Farms, 830 John Deere, second; Riener Farms, 830 John Deere, third.

**Church and Civic:** Herndon PRIDE, first; Herndon Go-Getters 4-H, second; Lyle Worthy, 1967 Isis Temple of Salina convertible, third.

**Business:** Farmers Bank and Trust of Atwood, first; C.W. Beamgard, old tow truck, second; Tongish Auto Mart, 1994 Dodge Viper, third.

**Horses:** Lawrence Wendelin, buggy, first; Lon Sowers, oxen, second; Danny and Ernie Wicke, two horses and colt, third.

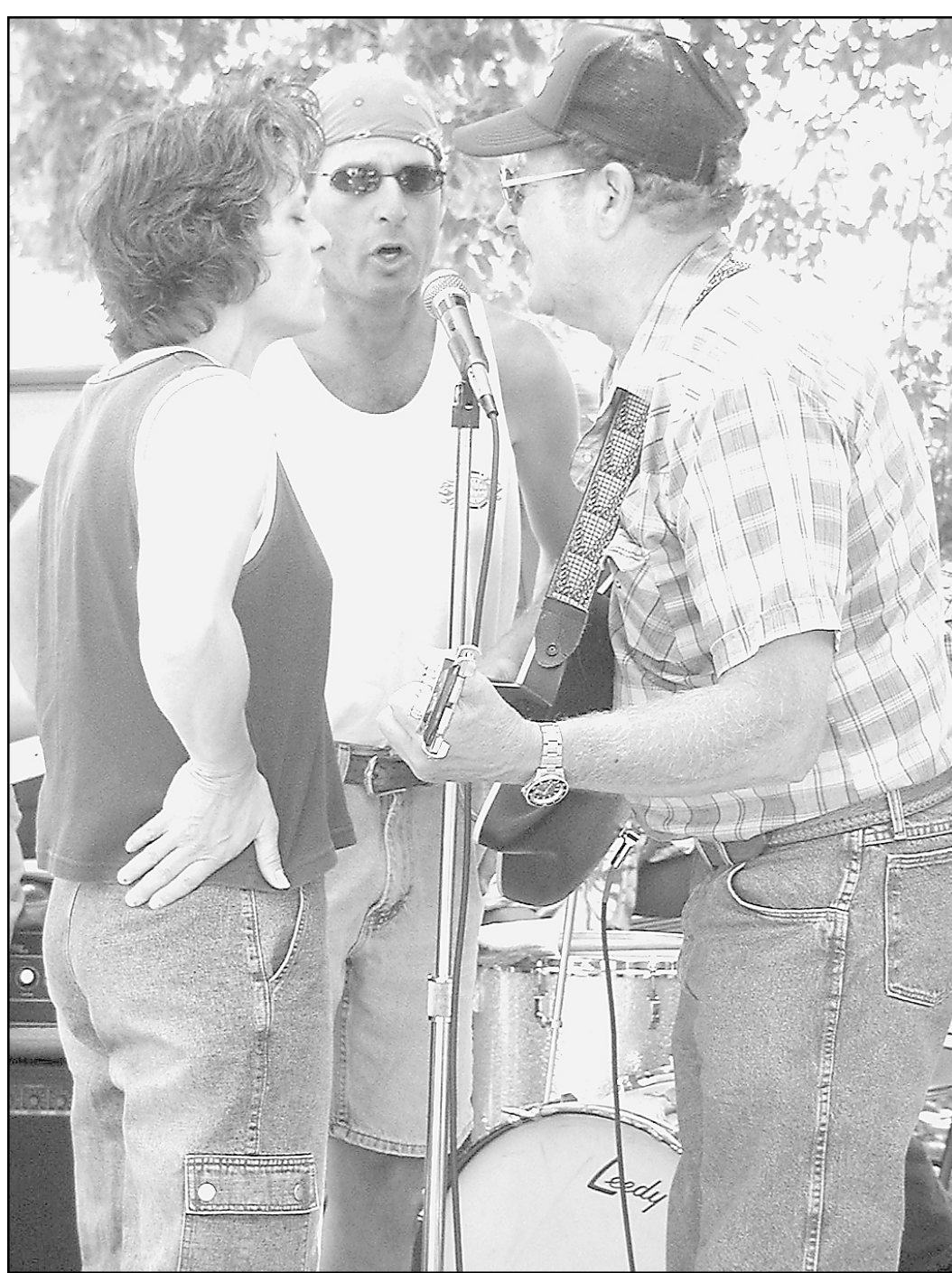
The Rev. Edward A. Puff, a former pastor of Immanuel United Church of Christ in Herndon, spoke at morning worship services on Sunday.

He served his first assignment in Herndon after graduating from Union Theological Seminary in New York in 1939.

Chamber president Peach Beims said, "Everything went very well; all committees came out in full force, there were no accidents, everyone had fun and it was a wonderful weekend."



DRIVING THE 1924 MODEL T ROADSTER, owned by her father-in-law, Joe Samson Sr. of Ludell, was Kayla (Unger) Samson. His 1914 Model T touring car placed third in the antique auto entries. Later, members of Harlan Palmer's Band (left) entertained the crowd in the Herndon City Park.



Herald staff photos by Kimberly Brandt