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**Saturday, Aug. 17**

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**Patriotism mixes with corn in logo for 59th annual festival**

The 59th National Sweetcorn Festival has a decidedly patriotic theme.

"Corn Patriot" is the banner for this year's event, sponsored by the Hoopeston Jaycees.

Coming up with a logo to use for the festival was not easy. "They've been doing it for so many years that they pretty much used up all the corn things," said festival chairman Dean Grimes.

It is the festival chairman who, either alone or through a committee, comes up with an idea for a logo. "It's hard to come up with something brand, brand new that hasn't been spun off before," he said.

Grimes and Gilbert Warner wanted a design that combined corn with a patriotic motif. "Everyone's trying to focus a little more on patriotism right now since 9/11," Grimes said. "We wanted to do something patriotic and that's what it evolved into."

The logo was designed by Brian Pierce of Hoopeston, who also designed last year's logo.

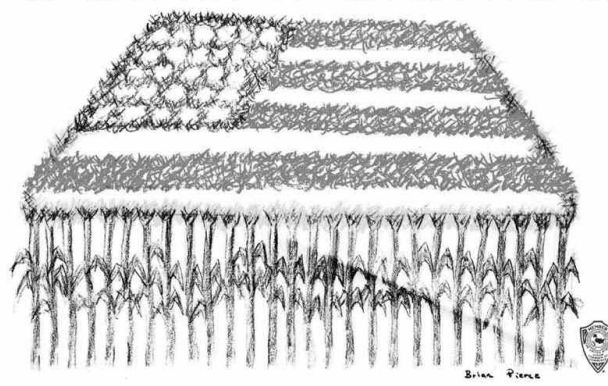
The "Corn Patriot" design will adorn everything from t-shirts, buttons and coffee mugs to print advertising for the festival.

This year's festival will be a combination of new things and familiar attractions, Grimes said.

One new attraction will be the band Big Giant Head. The band, which played at this year's Firemen's Ball, will play in the beer tent from 9 p.m. to midnight Friday.

**59th National Sweetcorn Festival**

**Corn Patriot**



The logo for the 59th annual National Sweetcorn Festival

And, for the first time, the beer tent will be open Sunday afternoon. That change was prompted when the Hoopeston City Council earlier this year approved Sunday alcohol sales.

Those who have a hankering to ride in big vehicles will be able to satisfy that urge with monster truck rides in the park annex. The new attraction will be available Saturday, Sunday and Monday.

Returning to the festival this year will be x-Krush (formerly Krush). The

band will play from 8 p.m. to midnight Saturday. "They will bring a nice crowd with them," Grimes said.

Many favorite attractions will return for the 59th festival, including the Hoopeston Art Association art show, truck and tractor pulls, demo derbies, the Hooterville Iron car show, Rob Thompson Magic Show, Starlighters Big Band, bingo and the National Sweetheart Pageant.

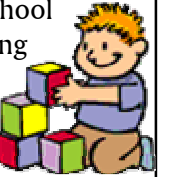
Of course no festival would be complete without sweet corn and there will be plenty on hand. The Jaycees have ordered about 30 tons of the vegetable from northern Illinois. The tonnage is up slightly from nearly 29 tons ordered last year, Grimes said.

Admission to the festival is \$2 per day but pass booklets are available for \$5, a \$5 savings on admission. Booklets are available at Jerry's IGA, the Hoopeston Multi Agency and the Hoopeston Chamber of Commerce office.

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**Theme: "Corn Patriot"**

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Just the Facts at (217) 283-9348.

A list of all participating yards will  
be published in Just the Facts  
prior to voting on Aug. 29

For more information, call 283-9348.

Mostly sunny today. High 88. Tonight, mostly clear.  
Low 68. Tomorrow, chance of rain. High 88, low 68.  
For current weather conditions, call the **Hoopeston  
Weather Line** at **(217) 283-6221**.