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Sunday, Sept. 1, 1996

Hoopeston's only locally-owned daily news publication!

## Nostalgia is inspiration for 1996 Sweetcorn Festival logo

The nostalgia craze has hit Hoopeston's National Sweetcorn Festival.

This year's motto, "Keep on Shuckin'," and accompanying logo of an ear of corn with outstretched leg, are a take-off on "Keep on Truckin'" from the 1970s, said design creator Julie W. Smith.

Smith, a graphic artist/writer, is co-owner of Penn Street Productions, a Hoopeston-based multimedia design company.

The logo, emblazoned on everything from t-shirts to license plates, "just came to me as a play on words," Smith said.

Once the slogan hit her, Smith began using a computer drawing board and stylus to create the accompanying ear of corn. In Smith's design, the ear winks. "Why not?" Smith asked. "He's just having a good time."

It was her husband, George, who came up with the

finishing touch for the corn's outstretched leg. "George made me add the knobby knee," Smith said.

This is the second logo Smith has designed for a festival. In 1994, she created one ear of corn speaking to another saying "Comfidentially..."

Although the idea came quickly, designing the logo took slightly longer. "It took me over a week to do," Smith said. "I'm a perfectionist. I kept thinking this or that needed to be changed and then I'd think 'Nah, that doesn't look right.'"

Finally satisfied, Smith took it to festival chairman Bob Porth. Smith said Port hoped to combine the festival with an Olympic theme, but that challenge was not met. "I could not find a way to tie the Olympics to the Sweetcorn Festival," Smith said.

The logo was a labor of love. "I just like designing things," she said.



## Today's highlights

**The flea market**, always a popular event starts the day at 8 a.m. at McFerren Park. Park gates open at 9 a.m..

**Get your thrills** on the Midway! Children of all ages can enjoy the rides beginning at noon.

**Free, hot, buttered** sweet corn, ready to eat, will be served starting at noon.

**It don't mean a thing if** you ain't got that swing. Enjoy the Big Band sounds of "Starlighters." The group will perform free beginning at 2 p.m.

**There's plenty for** children to do today. A

children's fishing derby will be held at 1 p.m. at the park lagoon, followed by children's games from 2-4 p.m. The games are sponsored by McDonald's.

**Experience the crashes** as drivers try for the number one spot in the second of two demo derbies. Tonight's action begins at 6 p.m. in the McFerren Park annex.

**The finals** of the National Sweetheart Pageant gets underway at 7 p.m. in the McFerren Park Civic Center. A reception/dance will be held beginning at 10 p.m., also in the Civic Center.

See complete schedule on the other side

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# National Sweetcorn Festival Schedule of Events

## Sunday, Sept. 1

8 a.m. Flea Market Opens  
9 a.m. Gates Open (\$1 Admission)  
10 a.m. Horseshoe Pitching Contest - across from Annex  
Noon Midway Opens  
Display Area Opens  
Outside Entertainment - Jeff Bibik Magic Show  
Free Sweetcorn Served  
Art Show Opens - Girl Scout House  
1 p.m. Children's Fishing Derby  
1-4 p.m. Bingo - Legion Shelter  
2-4 p.m. Children's Games (sponsored by McDonald's)  
2 p.m. Outdoor Entertainment - "Starlighters" Big Band Music  
6 p.m. Demo Derby II - Annex  
7 p.m. National Sweetheart Pageant Finals

Civic Center  
10 p.m. Pageant Reception/Dance - Civic Center

## Monday, Sept. 2

8 a.m. Flea Market Opens  
9 a.m. Gates Open - (\$1 Admission)  
9:30 a.m. Antique Auto Show  
Display Area Opens  
11 a.m. Outdoor Entertainment - Chuck Field & Ziggy  
Noon Midway Opens  
Garden Tractor Pull - Annex  
Free Sweetcorn Served  
Beer Tent Opens  
1 p.m. Bingo - Legion Shelter  
Art Show Opens - Girl Scout House  
3 p.m. Dance in Beer Tent - "Willard Cratchloe"  
4 p.m. Bessie Bingo  
4-9 p.m. Ride Special - \$9

## Free entertainment sure to please festival crowds today

They say you can't get much for one dollar anymore, but those who pay their \$1 admission fee to the 53rd National Sweetcorn Festival will get more than their money's worth.

First, there's the free corn. Tons of it. Approximately 50 tons of it.

Cooked with an antique steam engine, the corn is done to perfection, then drenched in melted butter.

As if free corn isn't enough, there's the free entertainment.

Jeff Bibik, "Chicago's Comedy Conjurere," will perform at noon today.

Bibik is a full-time professional magician with more than 20 years' performance experience. He performed his first show at age 9, when he discovered people would pay him to perform.

Bibik worked his way through college performing at restaurants and kiddie birthday parties. He then spent two seasons performing for festivals and schools, and worked summers at amusement parks, resorts and comedy clubs.

Bibik then took his act on the road, er...sea,

working on cruise ships across the Caribbean. He is now in dry-dock in Chicago.

Also featured today is the Big Band sound of "Starlighters." The local group features Rossville's own Jay Seals as a member.

The group will perform at 2 p.m.

Other free entertainment today includes the art show at the Girl Scout House. Sponsored by the Hoopeston Art Association, the competition recognizes local artistic talent.

The entry judged best overall will receive \$50 and a rosette and 10 each of blue and red ribbons will be awarded. Those ribbons carry monetary awards of \$20 and \$10 respectively.

## Weather

Partly cloudy today. High in the mid 80s. Tonight, clear. Low near 60. Tomorrow, continued partly cloudy. High near 85, low near 65.

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