

FEATURE

Food and fun

Family Fun Fest draws crowd

Members of the Charleston AFB community turned out by the thousands to enjoy the Year of the Family 2000 Family Fun Fest held last week near the Base Theater/swimming pool area. The event featured food, games, giveaways, live music, swimming and plenty of ATWIND pieces for those who attended the picnic.

Activities for children were a big draw and included a Velcro wall, bungee run, Adrenaline Rush, a space walk and a clown show. Many units on base offered food or games as a fundraiser for their booster clubs. To beat the heat, children's movies were shown inside the theater.

The picnic went off without a hitch, despite stifling humidity and a brief rain shower.

"We estimate about 2,000 people were there," said Wendy Varhegyi, marketing director for the 437th Services Squadron.

According to Varhegyi, sponsors of the picnic were Sprint, USAA and Earthlink, who had representatives on hand to provide giveaways to all picnic-goers. Other ATWIND sponsors included the Ford Motor Company, Nikon, LifeFitness, U.S. Airways, Compaq, AMF and Coca-Cola. Local sponsors at the picnic included Palmetto Ford, who provided a Windstar and Focus for display, the Base Exchange and Heritage Trust Federal Credit Union. (Compiled by Staff Sgt. Michael Duhe)

photos by Staff Sgt. Michael Duhe



Members of DeKanibles perform to the crowd. The band played a mix of hits from the 50's to the present.



Staff Sgt. Andrew Rodier

Four-year-old Jena Solorzano plays in a sprinkler near the swimming pool.



T.J. McDonnell climbs on "The Adrenaline Rush."



Kayla Davis poses with Charlie the RiverDog.



1st Lt. Dawn Welborn paints a smiley face on Jordan Walker's face.



Senior Master Sgt. Bruce Blodgett, 437th Supply Squadron first sergeant, throws a baseball at the dunk tank target. The dunk tank was an especially popular attraction at last week's picnic, with officers and enlisted alike taking their turn on the seat. Col. Rusty Findley, 437th Airlift Wing commander, was one of many who "took a dip."