

Soap Box races To Be Featured Here Weekly

Event To Be Held Each Wednesday Evening At 7

The Village of Argyle has been swept off its feet by a new and novel undertaking by the small fry that to snow under all other activities and is growing by leaps and bounds. Never before has anything created such interest of large and small and due to this fact it was deemed advisable for local businessmen and law enforcement branches, to step in and keep the affair under control. The soap box racers, on their own initiative started assembling their units about the middle of last week and by Saturday evening, when they made their first public appearance there were more than a dozen entered. The group had additional entries Sunday afternoon when another race was staged, and it was all this time that the older folks decided that it was growing to such proportions that it rated the attention of more than the participants.

On Monday afternoon a meeting of several of the business men was held and a committee named to handle the show and make arrangements for rules, prizes etc. The group to operate as the Argyle Soap Box Committee, includes, J.A. McGinnity, president; Joe Itoni, Secretary; Vernus Nelson, Jr., treasurer; Victory Ostby, official starter; Albert Goepfert, official timer; and Howard Schellenger, official judge.

Treasurer Vernus (Yug) Nelson, Jr. and Lawrence James were designated as a committee to collect prize money for merchandise prizes each week and according to the response they received from all contacted, the races can be held each Wednesday night all through the month of August without any financial difficulty. Other contributors will be given an opportunity to kick in weekly in coin boxes set up at the boot of the hill each week where the races will be held.

Rules call for a home made racers

(sic), with wheels not over 12 inches in diameter, and each machine must carry a number plainly visible to the judge. Each child entering the race must have a written permit from his or her parents, to be handed to the



Doug Watson with the soapbox he and his dad built

judge before the race. Races will be run every Wednesday evening thru the month of August starting at 7 p.m. and prizes will be awarded for best time, novelty and feature race. The races will be divided into two brackets, 10 and under, and 10 to 16. The above rules may be altered by the committee at a later date if deemed advisable. Entrants are limited to the Argyle trading area.

The first official race was run off last night with 17 racers entered, and a large and enthusiastic crowd on the sidelines. There were five regular races and the three winners in each race were placed in the feature race which climaxed the event for the evening.

In the first race Billy Goepfert was first; Gary Penniston, 2nd; and Van Steiner, 3rd. In the second race Kaspar Berget was 1st; Art Stauffacher, 2nd; and Douglas Watson 3rd.

In the following races which included those 11 years and over, the winners were as follows:

First race: Izzy Penniston, 1st; Roger Bright, 2nd; Joey Andrews, 3rd. Second race, Chas Anderson, 1st; G. (Gary) Stauffacher, 2nd; and Phillip

Johnson, 3rd. In the novelty race, D. (David) Penniston, 1st; R. (Robert) Erickson, 2nd; and Mike Morgan, 3rd.

In the final and feature race, which include the top three from all other races, Billy Goepfert was 1st; G. (Gary) Stauffacher, 2nd; Phillip Johnson, 3rd; Chas Anderson, 4th; and Douglas Watson, 5th. The next race will be held Wednesday evening, June 23, starting at 7 p.m. and an invitation is extended to all rural children in the Argyle trading area to participate if they wish.

Your Memories Needed

Hopefully this article from the *Atlas* has rekindled memories some of you had stored away in the back of your mind. We would like to run a more personal article about the races in the Fall issue but need your help. If you have any stories to tell, or images to share, please contact: Doug Watson, P.O. Box 15, Scandinavia, WI 54977. dwatson@tds.net. All images will be returned to you, and copies provided to Historic Argyle, Inc.



Quilt Raffle

Historic Argyle will sponsor a raffle for this queen size quilt. Raffle tickets will be available from Historic Argyle members and areas businesses in Argyle. The raffle drawing will take place on July 28, 2019, at the conclusion of the First Brigade Band Concert at Argyle's Legion Park.