

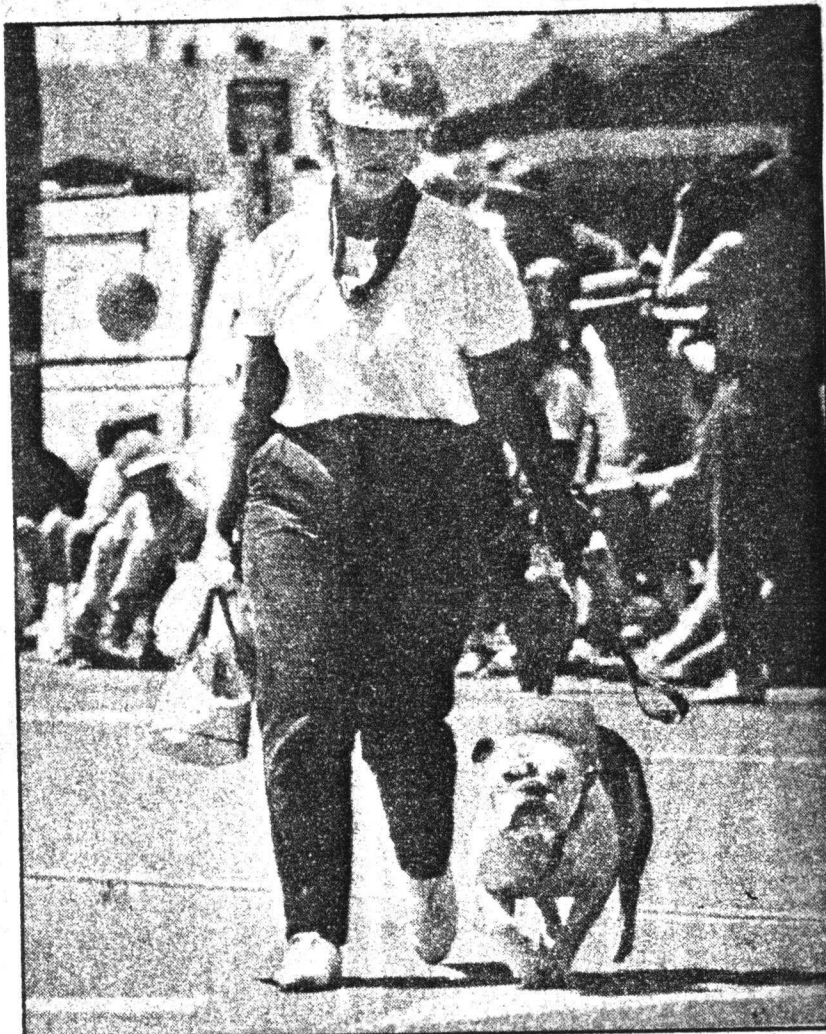
Small parade big on quality

Crowds flock back to Aptos celebration

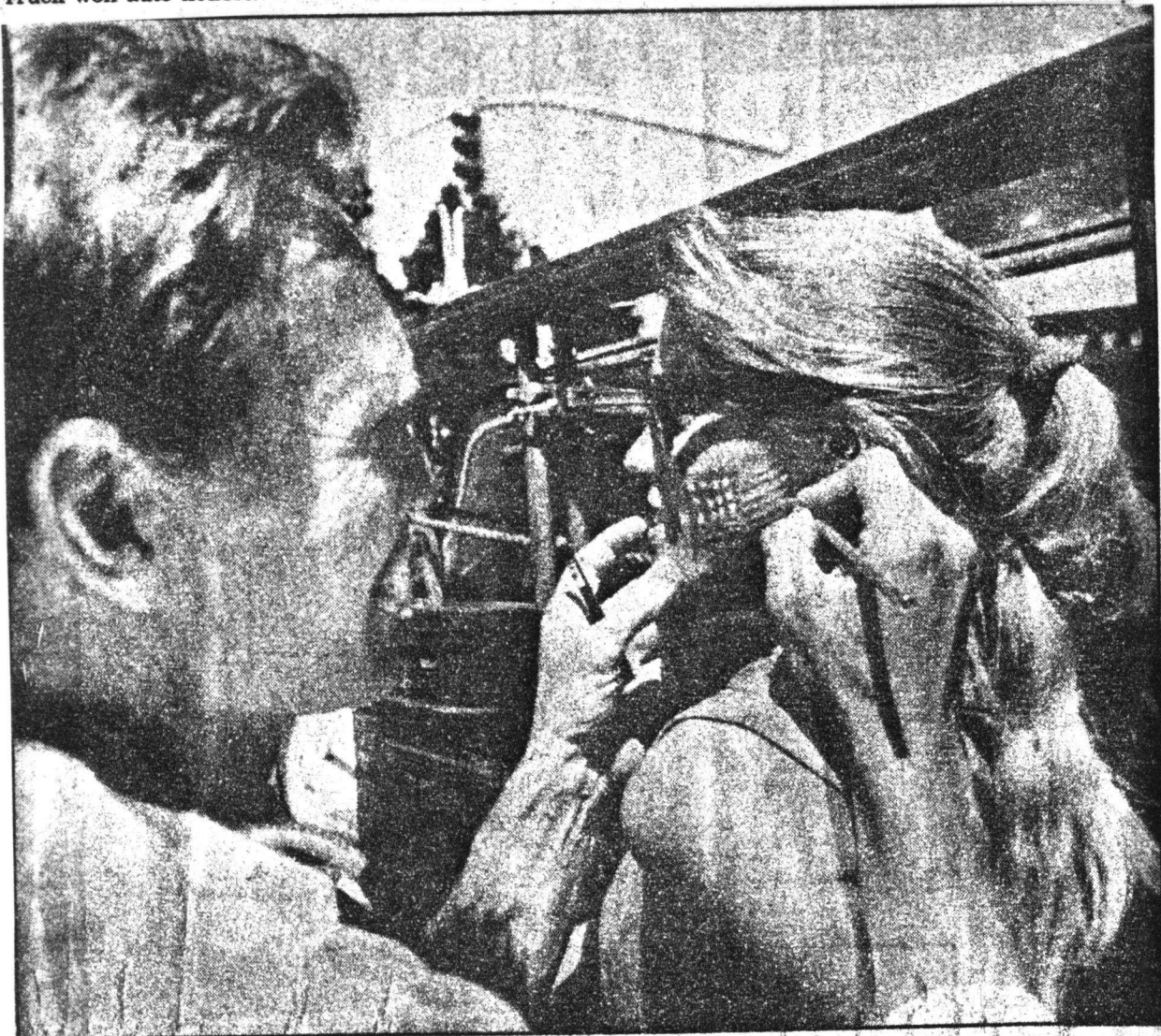
APTOS — Flashy antique cars rolled along. Teen-age Mutant Justice Turtles accompanied by a green Statue of Liberty promenaded, and a pygmy goat walked off with the prize for best pet at this year's annual World's Shortest Parade.

Stretching only one block through downtown Aptos, the parade again was long on quality if short on length, and thousands of locals gathered to applaud the entries as they paraded by.

Proud prize winners for costumes include Dave Love as Ronald Reagan/Richard Nixon in a Corvette, Dr. Moran as "The Little Engine That Could" and Lisa Cooper's "Costume Boat." The Cos Cob Fire Truck group, the Planning Department and Cruisin' Cousins nabbed prizes for best group; Andres Woodcock, Spirit DeGhetaldi and Pam Morison won prizes for best horse. Sharon Davy and Tinker the pygmy goat, Samantha Ralston and her dog, and the W. Highland White Terriers grabbed pet honors. The Dan McCarty Paints Band, Jennifer Bettencourt's Farming Float and Paul Braggin's Oil Barge won float honors; and Tony Martindale's 1912 L yellow Oldsmobile, Marlin Young's 1914 Model T Ford and George Olson's 1922 Model T Ford Truck won auto honors.



Parade entrants included old cars and old friends



Dan Coyro/Sentinel photos

Mike Thompson decorates Karyn Skemp's cheek with the stars and stripes.

Candy threatens parade

APTOS — The World's Shortest Parade could be jeopardized by the insistence of parade participants on throwing candy to the crowd.

The candy throwing grew to epidemic proportions in Wednesday's 29th annual parade, said parade organizer Lucile Aldrich. She said many parade participants ignored pleas by organizers and threw candy anyway. The California Vehicle Code prohibits throwing objects from moving vehicles.

Aldrich is worried that a child may be hurt by running into the street to collect the thrown candy. She says that if such an accident were to occur, parade organizers wouldn't be able to get insurance for the event.

A sign made by the Aptos Neighbors Association asking parade participants not to throw candy, posted at the formation area of the parade, was stolen.