

LOCAL

Memorial Day weekend

5-26-00

Fly-in set to take flight

Fly-In

By ANDRIA BQRBA
Sentinel staff writer

WATSONVILLE — If you are planning on attending the 36th annual Watsonville Fly-In and Air Show, take the advice of one of the event's organizers.

"Bring a hat and wear lots of sunscreen," publicist Dave Brockmann said.

While last year, dreary skies shrouded the event, which runs the Friday through Sunday of Memorial Day weekend, mostly sunny skies are predicted this year.

Forecasters at the National Weather Service office in Monterey are expecting mostly sunny skies all weekend, with high temperatures in the mid-'70s and a touch of morning low clouds burning off by noon each day.

Brockmann called last year's show a success despite the weather and a new group of sponsors.

The San Martin-based "Wings of History" group had sponsored the show for years, but pulled out last year to hold a bigger event at Moffett Field in Mountain View. Though the event's future was in question, new sponsors stepped forward. The local show now is run by the Pajaro Valley Chamber of Commerce, Experimental Aircraft Association Chapter 119 and the International Association of Women Pilots, better known as the Monterey Bay 99s.

This year, that group is being joined by corporate sponsors Network Alchemy, Digital Dynamics and Coca Cola Bottling Co. of Salinas.

Also new this year are some of the visiting planes: a World War II B-17 bomber, a Heinkel He-111 "Blitz Bomber," a Lockheed Constellation and a number of hot-air balloons.

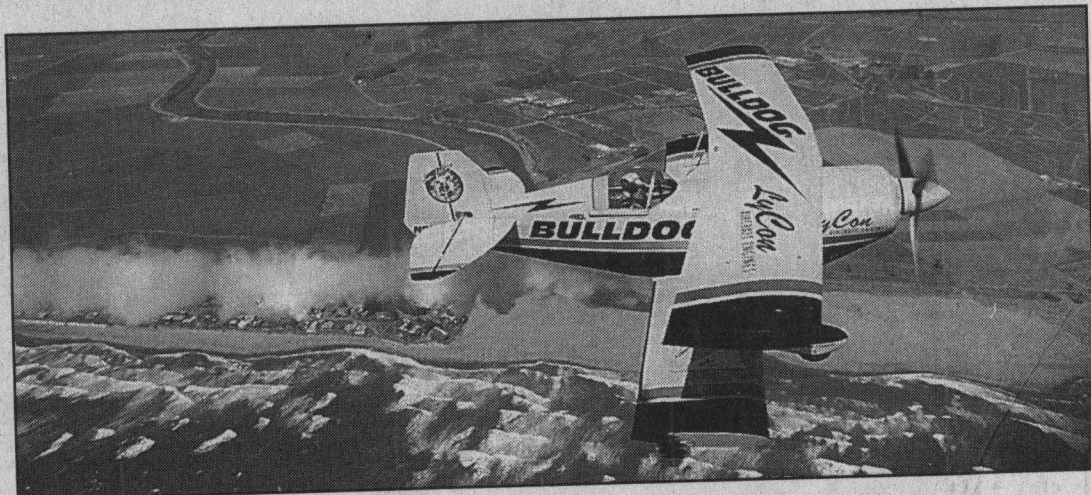
The airshow opens at noon today, and kicks off a weekend full of Memorial Day activities — not to mention the summer season.

On tap today at the fly-in is a spaghetti dinner at 5 p.m., a salute to Memorial Day at dusk, a sneak preview of airshow performances at 7:50 p.m., and a fireworks show at 9 p.m. Admission today is \$4 for adults, \$3 for children and seniors.

The fly-in is open 7 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday and Sunday. Admission at the show is \$8 for adults, \$4 for kids and seniors.



Bill Lovejoy/Sentinel photos



A stunt pilot, left, leaves a trail of smoke high above the Pajaro River during a tune-up flight Thursday for the annual Watsonville Fly-In and Air Show. Above, a pair of Showcopters fly in formation over Aptos. The helicopters will perform aerial stunts as part of the show.

Numerous activities on tap for weekend

● **36th annual Watsonville Fly-In and Air Show.** Aviation booths, antique aircraft, air show performers. Gates open at noon today, with fireworks at dusk; Saturday and Sunday 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. \$3-\$8, kids under 6 free. 763-5600.

● **16th annual Santa Cruz Longboard Union/Hotline Invitational Surf Contest:** More than 300 surfers from 14 different clubs will compete 6 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday and 7 a.m. to 5 p.m. Sunday, Lighthouse Point on West Cliff Drive, Santa Cruz.

● **12th annual Felton Remembers Parade:** Sponsored by the Felton Business Association. 10 a.m. Saturday. Highway 9, entrance to Henry Cowell State Park.

● **Felton Family Fun Festival:** To benefit San Lorenzo Valley High School football programs. With carnival game booths, live music, food and crafts. Saturday following the parade. Covered Bridge Park.

● **11th annual Boulder Creek Art Wine & Music Festival:** With live music on two stages, more than 200 booths and entertainment for all ages. Free. From 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. Saturday-Monday. Downtown Boulder Creek.

● **19th annual Civil War Battles & Encampment:** Complete with cavalry charges and musket fire. 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Saturday and Sunday, 10 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. Monday, \$1, plus \$5 for parking. Roaring Camp Railroads, In Felton, six miles north of Santa Cruz. Call 335-4484.

● **8th annual Santa Cruz Blues Festival:** With headliners Boz Scaggs and Clarence "Gatemouth" Brown. Starting at 10 a.m. Saturday and Sunday, \$18-\$45 one day/\$30-\$80 two days. Aptos Village Park.

● **Memorial Day Party:** With I.M.U. plus the Firebirds. At 4:30 p.m. Sunday. No Cover. Ages 21-plus. Henfling's Tavern, 9450 Highway 9, Ben Lomond. Call: 335-1642.