



Photo by Sam Vestal

Bryan Fleming, of Salinas, a long-time exhibitor at the fair, clips his Suffolk lamb in preparation for the livestock judging as sons Jonathon and Ryan enjoy the scenery.

Flowers, fun, sun in great profusion at the county fair

By CANDACE ATKINS

Spicy hot apples, helium balloons, heart-stopping rides, woolly lambs, excited kids and sunshine — the Santa Cruz County Fair is underway.

On Tuesday, "Fiesta de la Tierra — Festival of the Earth," started a six-day run. This is the 41st annual county fair, and thousands of local residents and their guests are expected to attend.

"Last year, there were more than 63,000 paid admissions," said Edie Thayer, publicity chairman for the fair. "We

expect even more this year. Our fair is bigger and better, and naturally, the crowds will be larger."

Nationally, local fair attendance has been lower in 1982 than in previous years, Mrs. Thayer said. She scoffed at the thought of Santa Cruz County Fair's attendance being down.

"We plan to have more people than ever attend the fair," she said. "We expect our attendance to be up, of course."

General admission is \$3.50, \$1.25 for children age 5-11, and children

under age 5 are admitted free.

Entertainment, demonstrations and exhibits are included in the fair admission price.

There are several large parking areas at the fairgrounds, with shuttle busses to the gate. There is no charge for parking.

The Santa Cruz Metropolitan Transit District will also have express buses to the fair, leaving at 30 minutes past the hour from Main and Beach streets in Watsonville. Return buses will depart the fairgrounds every hour on the hour.

Thursday at the fair

Thursday is "Kids' Day" at the Santa Cruz County Fair. Children under age 12 will be admitted at no charge.

8 a.m. — Senior division breeding swine, arena 1.

8 a.m. — 4-H horsemanship, showmanship, main arena.

10 a.m. — Fair Opens.

ALL DAY — Plant sale, floriculture building.

10 a.m. — Sheepshearing and horse-shoeing demonstration, playhouse stage.

12-2 p.m. — Signing singers, J.J. Crosetti Hall.

12 p.m. — 4-H, FFA tug-of-war, race track.

12 p.m. — FFA, 4-H swine showmanship and market classes, arena 1.

1 p.m. — 4-H Western, pony and English Equitation, Western and pony pleasure, team horsemanship.

2 p.m. — Gymboree, playhouse stage.

2 p.m. — Dehydrating food, com-

tion, floriculture building. Repeats at 4 p.m.

2-4 p.m. — Advanced office work education demonstration, J.J. Crosetti Hall.

3 p.m. — Isle of Skye, playhouse stage.

4-8 p.m. — Forestry and Landscape Management demonstration, J.J. Crosetti Hall.

5 p.m. — Musica'es Cultura, playhouse stage.

6:30 p.m. — California Rescue Dogs, amphitheater lawn.

7 p.m. — Horse show: steer daubing, two-man relay, hurry scurry race, Washington pole bending, barrel race, cowhide race, rescue race.

8 p.m. — Skip Towne and The City Limits, amphitheater stage.

8-10 p.m. — Emergency medical technology education demonstration, J.J. Crosetti Hall.

9 p.m. — Emmy Lou Harris and The Hot Band, amphitheater stage. 11 p.m.