

RICE, RICE, AND MORE RICE

Students celebrate the longstanding tradition of the Rice Festival



For the past twenty-three years around the end of April, excitement stirs in the heart of Walterboro. The Rice Festival has been a longstanding tradition to which everyone looks forward.

The week began with the annual Miss Rice Festival pageant naming junior Leslie Thomas as the winner. The Rice Festival carnival ran throughout the fun-filled weekend. On Thursday, the Taste of Walterboro gave residents a chance to sample a variety of homecooked lowcountry cuisines.

Friday was a chance for local groups to show off their talent. The WHS Chorus was one of the performers. Beginning Singers sang a variety of songs including "A Whole New World" and "Hero." The Singers and Spring Musical Group displayed a glimpse of their musical "The Music Man."

"Performing our play at the Rice Festival gave me a chance to prepare for our production," commented Margaret Dresher.



The festival gives the community a chance to socialize in a relaxed, jovial, and hospitable atmosphere.
Jessie Becker

Let me whisper in your ear. Sophomores Bubba Crosby and Moya Moberly walk around downtown. They were often seen together, and both participated in the chorus's production of The Music Man.



The street dance and fireworks display ended a long hot day.

Beginning bright and early Saturday morning, many locals participated in the Wachovia 5K Rice Run and Walk.

"I have participated in the Rice Run for 19 years, and this year I finished first place in my age group," Mrs. Pat Rhodes laughs. "Although my overall place was not as high, I know I can out-run anyone in this school."

Following the run, the parade attracted a younger generation. Around lunchtime, Hargo Hill was the place to be to cheer on the Soap Box Derby contestants.

Throughout the day, local performers gave tired people a chance to sit down and watch the performers. Downtown participants included Ilona's School of Dance and Walterboro Karate.

Whatever the weather, there was sure to be a big crowd at every event. No matter how much fun was had, there was always next year to anticipate.

-Ellyn Sanders

Just a ray of color. Sophomore Jennifer Frezner gets her hand painted by a local church group. Jennifer was a member of the Beginning Singers.