Fine acts scheduled

Everyone a winner at talent show

GERALDINE TIB-BITS is setting up the talent show for this year's festival. The show has six acts registered so far and drew nearly 700 people last year.

What's a festival without a hometown talent show?

Usually that show ends up a conglomeration of local talent with amateur tap dancers, singers and 11year-old magicians vying for that coveted first place

trophy. And the cute little kid who warms everyone's heart with her equally cute song usually comes out on top, right? Wrong, at least at Cass

City's Fourth of July Festi-When local entertainers

hit the stage in front of the grandstands at 7 p.m. Friday there will be just entertainment, not competition, according to the variety show's coordinator Geraldine Tibbits.

Everyone who participates will get a \$10 gift certificate to be redeemed at any Chamber of Commerce business.

There is no judging because the teachers, who are sponsoring the event, felt it would not be fair after looking at the variety of talent

¹ We had some amateurs and then there were some that were just real pros,' Mrs. Tibbits said. Six acts will presently be appearing in the show and there is room for more, she

Although there was a signup deadline, Mrs. Tibbits said a latecomer could probably find a spot in the show providing there are not already too many signed up. They would also have to

audition and prove their act to be "legitimate," she added. Everyone had to audition.

A five-teacher committee looked over the acts before they were accepted into the show. By legitimate, Mrs. Tibbits explained the acts must be organized and fit for

a family audience. She said the arrangement would be similar to last year. The stage will be furnished and sound system will be available for acts requiring recorded music

There is no admission charge. Since the show will take place in the early evening no stage lighting will be required.

Mrs. Tibbits said she hopes the show will run as smoothly as last year when problems arose but were smoothed out with a minimum of backstage shuffling.

One performer cancelled at the last moment but another, who had already

performed, was ready to take her place and the show went on.

Publicity and prizes are

paid for out of the Teacher's to chip in with the festival.

"We just want the com-Association fund, Mrs. Tib- munity to know that the bits explained, as their part teachers care and are involved also." she said





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Belly floppers prepare! Swim competition is back again

er contest is back!

Last year gut-slamming proved to be one of the most popular events in the poolsides contests so it, and the other events from last year, will make a return performance, according to Mike Richards, coordinator for the competition Though other contests

went over well, they did not appear to have the grueling competitiveness present with the belly smacker event, said one pool staffer on hand for the contest last

"We had a couple kids out there going at it in head to head competition, wiping themselves out, over and over again

For readers who have

years, a belly smacker is a quasi-dive in which the participant arcs out over the parallel to the pool and hits ball) stomach. Though sometimes grueling, it is a brave man (or woman) who can hold forth with the claim of

making the loudest splash. In addition to the belly smacker contest, which winds up the competition, eight other events will be featured in the swimming meets at the Fourth of July Festival, Richards said.

screw swim, underwater and 10 kilometer races.

Toughen up those stom- missed out on poolside frol- swim, water-running race, achs kids. The belly smack- icking for the past few two-person race, innertube race and disc-diving compe-

Before the belly smacker water but, rather than neat- ordeal, splashers can warm ly cutting the surface, stays up in the Pineapple (cannoncompetition. This the water flat with his event is also geared toward achieving the loudest splash and highest trail of water.

> Prizes will be awarded to contestants in three categories, Richards said. The breakdown is 10 and under. 11-14 and 15-20. Everyone is invited to participate.

Following the contests. which should conclude at 3 p.m., a free-swim period will The contests begin at 1 be available. At 5:30 the pool p.m. at the pool for kids will only be open for those through age 20. Other events who wish to cool off after are an obstacle course, cork- running in the Pacesetter 5



No suspense

A HIGH DIVE could lead to a big splash which will be the main objective of some events such as the belly flop contest in the July 4 swim meet to take place Friday afternoon.

George and Royeen Heins will be king and queen



VICKI PATRICK tried to get more people interested in the festival King and Queen contest but most backed out at the last minute.

Usually a contest is won by one contestant moving past the others until they are in the top spot. Not so with the Fourth of July Festival King and Queen competi-

George and Royeen Heins. sponsored by the Lions Club, apparently won the honor before the crowning ceremony even started when the other three couples in the race backed out, one by one. And the dwindling number

of participants has contest coordinator Vicki Patrick disappointed with the whole looked like a good,

interesting idea. I don't know what went wrong," she said. Originally four couples

had been sponsored by various organizations to compete for an expense-paid trip to the Holiday Inn in Traverse City. Mr. and Mrs. James Bauer, Mr. and Mrs. Ron Ouvry and Dr. and Mrs. Edwin Fritz along with the Heins had been selected to

compete. However, for reasons Mrs. Patrick does not quite understand, they all pulled out of the competition.

thought it was silly or what." At any rate, the Heins will probably be awarded the mitted Wednesday.

trip at the crowning ceremony following the parade Friday and the king and queen contest will fade out of the picture for future festi-

Mrs. Patrick suggested that next year the festival might have the familiar queen contest where just girls compete.

She added they had tried a couples contest in order to do something different from what she termed the "same old Bean Queen-type thing." The couples were to have

been campaigning since May 23 by placing canisters labeled with their names in stores. Each penny dropped in a canister was good for was to help pay for the trip.

Mrs. Patrick said she started checking with contestants when she saw only one couple's canisters around town. She then discovered two couples had pulled out of the running. The last couple to drop from the race came as a complete surprise

"I just wish they would have told me," she said. Last year, only two couples participated in the "I don't know if they event but she thought the small turnout was due to lack of publicity.

"I guess not." she ad-



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