

# Sorghum...from Page 1A

On Sunday morning, the Sorghum Mill was crushing and cooking one last time for festival goers before the contests began at 1 p.m. just in time for the post-church crowd to begin rolling in.

John Nix and the Country Cousins headlined Sunday's musical acts while Flatline, Curtis Blackwell and the Dixie Bluegrass Boys,

Georgia Highlanders, Hazzard Life, Carolina Moonshiners, and the Atlanta Puppet Show filled the bill.

"I really enjoyed the puppet show and all the neat crafts that they have," said 11-year old Keera Smart. "I liked all the contests, especially the log sawing and pole climbing."

According to local musician and active member of the Union County Historical Society, Don Byers, the Sorghum Festival and the Historical Society go together like a hand and a glove.

"When the Sorghum

Festival first started I had moved away from Blairsville," Byers said. "But I'm glad to be back and be a part of the Historical Society."

"The festival is one of the great traditions in Union County and it has been around for a long time," he said. "It has a deep, rich history here in Union County and I think this festival even predates the Historical Society."

Since the festival outgrew the old Fort Sorghum in downtown, it has since moved to Meeks Park where the staff are happy to host

Union County's most famous gathering.

"We start getting the park ready a few weeks in advance and we're honored to be a part of an event like the Sorghum Festival," said Union County Recreation Department's Duff Conley. "We manicure everything, clear the creek banks up, and prepare the ball fields for all the additional parking we will need."

"We just do whatever needs to be done to make sure this festival is accommodating to everyone who attends," he said.

