

# Local celebrity opens Embro Fair

EMBRO — It will be three days of fun-filled festivities beginning Saturday night for Embro residents.

That's when the annual Embro Fair gets under way.

The fair kicks off at 8 p.m. with a local variety show at the community centre, with a teen dance set for the dance hall.

Local celebrity Paul Matheson, Novice Canadian Dance Skating Gold Medalist, will be on hand to open the fair.

"This is the biggest fair ever," said Janice Martin, secretary-treasurer of the agricultural society.

Sunday festivities swing into full gear with the midway opening. Other events include a horseshoe pitching contest and an Embro Optimist Nintendo Super Mario Computer rally, both beginning at 1 p.m. At 1:30 p.m. there will be a baby show in the dance hall and a mini-tractor pull outside the centre, also at 1:30 p.m.

At 2 p.m. there will be tug-of-war and from 2:30-3:30 p.m. educational displays (with the theme of apples) take centre stage.

Monday should prove to be just as busy with a parade at 10:30 a.m. at Matheson Park making its way

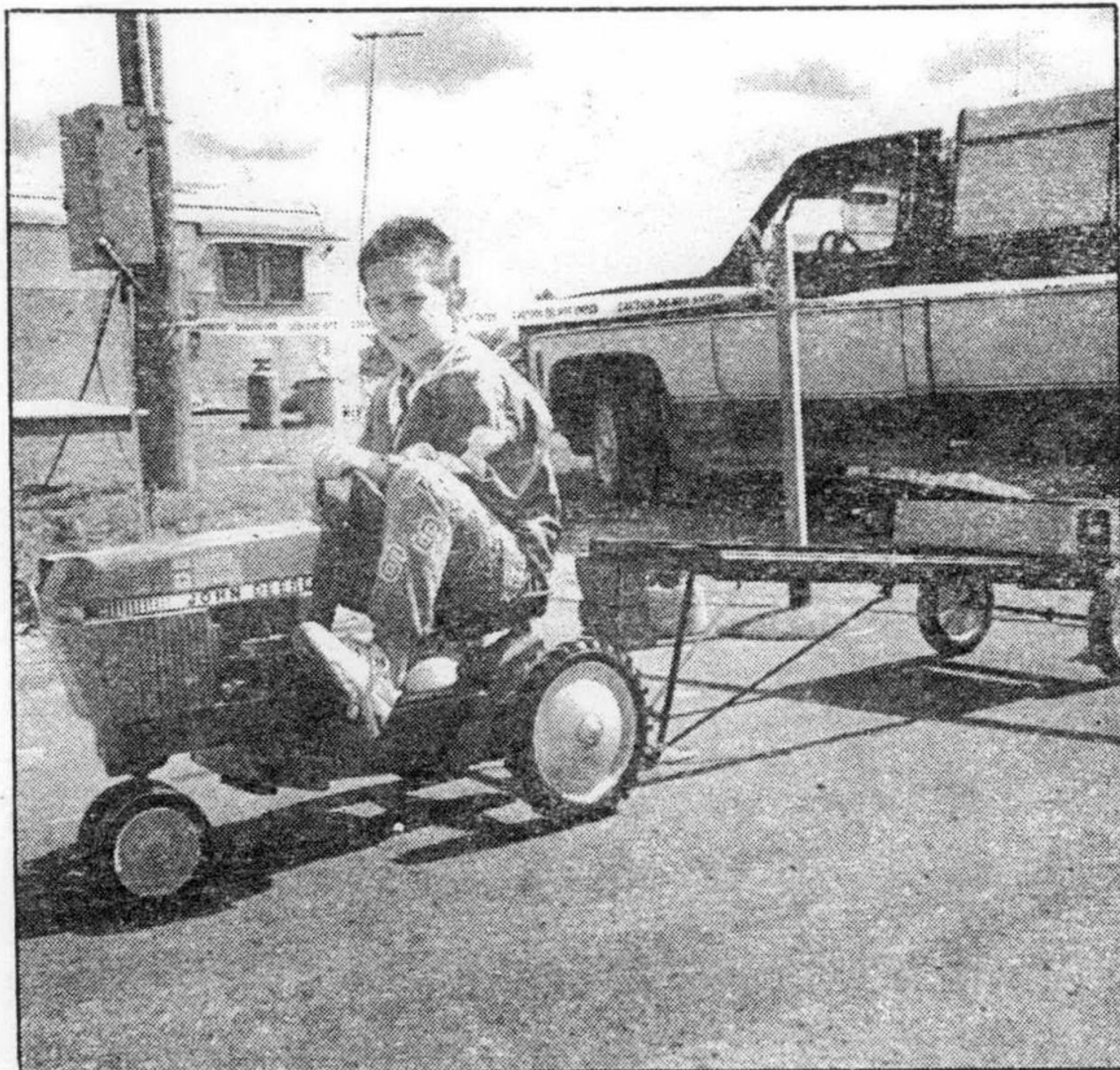
to the arena. Scheduled participants include the local figure skating club and minor hockey association with floats, antique tractors, Kindergarten to Grade 4 students, old cars and fair queens.

Other events include: various 4-H Club achievement days; heavy horse and pony show at 10 a.m.; a meal sponsored by the Holiday United Church Women in the dance hall; colored breed show at 12:30 p.m.; holstein show at 1 p.m. and apple cider, apple doll, apple butter and apple eating contests starting at 1:30 p.m. There will also be a girl guide tea table.

At 2 p.m. the Mayor of Zorra Showmanship competition will begin, with the Embro Open Dairy Showmanship competition starting at 3 p.m.

"I'm not sure exactly how old the fair is," said John Vanderhorn, vice-president of the Embro and Zorra Agricultural Society. "But it has been going on in some form or another for more than 100 years, in fact dating back to the late 1850s.

"Last year we had 2,000 guests and, with good weather, we're hoping to match or better that. It will be held regardless of whether it rains, because most of the activity is inside the centre."



Travis Bean prepares to haul a load in the tractor pull competition held at the Embro Fall Fair.

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Amanda Green (left) and Jennifer Shelly (centre) help Tim Cockle of the First Embro Scouts serve up the goodies at the snack bar at the Embro Fall Fair.



Emily Van Egdome (left) and Michelle Orr display some of the homemade crafts for sale at the Embro Fall Fair.