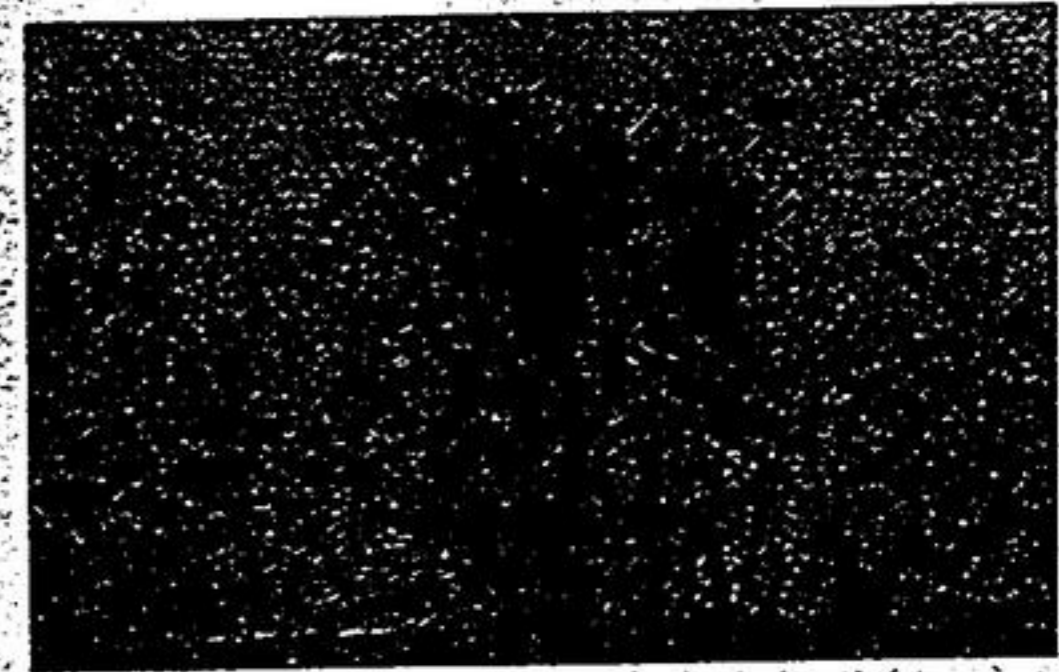


Stouffville Sun-Tribune

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PLAYING WITH FIRE



STAFF PHOTO/SJOERD WITTEVEN

Juggler Craig Douglas does his act at the Markham Fair Friday. The 161st fair continues through tomorrow at the McCowan Road fairgrounds. Today's highlights include a baby contest, the Hell Drivers, fiddlers contest and fire-works. For more information, go to markhamfair.ca

It's all about weather at 161st Markham Fair

BY JIM MASON
Staff Writer

Dave Morrison is keeping his fingers crossed and watching the Weather Network, when he's not looking at the sky.

It's all about the weather at the Markham Fair.

The 161st edition of Canada's largest four-day agricultural fair opened Thursday and rolled into last night's program with warm temperatures and large throngs gracing the McCowan Road fairgrounds.

Fair executives who have suffered through rainy four-day week-

ends know what a difference bad weather can make for the largely outdoor event.

"The forecast looks real good and we've had a real good turnout so far," said Mr. Morrison, general manager of the fair. "It looks like one of the better fairs."

Fair president Lynne Harrington

is hoping for a four-day record 100,000 visitors.

The bleachers were jammed for Thursday's always-popular demolition derby, featuring a minivan class for the first time. Hundreds of students on field trips filled the grounds Friday.

Those going through the turn-

stiles today can take in everything from the sweetness of the baby show to the speed of the Hell Drivers stunt team.

Tomorrow, it's pig, duck and horse races, a spelling bee and children's tractor pull.

And another full day of sunny skies, if Dave Morrison gets his way.

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