



## NEWS RELEASE

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# The best of the blueberries

By Shirley Luna  
Festival volunteer

NACOGDOCHES - The competition at the Blueberry Festival was just as hot as the weather, as competitors squared off for contests in cooking, eating and a variety of other activities.

In the food competitions, Tina Kennedy took first place for ice cream and third place for cobbler. Rachel Payne won second place for her ice cream, and Fonda Martin earned the third place prize for ice cream. In the cobbler category, Melva Smith was the first-place winner, and Bridget Martin took second. Winners of the Brookshire Brothers Pie Contest were Achaia Martin, 1st place; Melody Arnold, 2nd place; and Kelly Flores, 3rd place.

Winners of the Blueberry 42 Tourney, now sanctioned by the 42 International Players Association and the National 42 Players Association, were Zane Adams and Ryan Ferden, 1st place; Patti Penney and Clifton Jones, 2nd place; and Lee McIntyre and Mac Samford, 3rd place.

Winners of the Blue Shoes horse-shoe throwing competition were Sid Chandler and Donny Jones, 1st place; and Jack Caudle and Matt Roberts, 2nd place. In the in-ground washer competition, Ed Williams and William Williams took 1st place with Shilpan Patel and Brian Lawrence placing second. The winners of the board washer competition were Chuy Bocanegra and Jeremy Rocha, 1st place; and Glen Hays and James Sanchez, 2nd place.

Other winners were:

Blue Threads Costume Contest

1st place Olivia Payne, age 2; McKenae Stone, age 2; and Abigail Strange, age 3.

### True Blue Pet Parade

First place winners were Rylee Blacksher, most unique; Sandra Jacobs, best costume; and Stacie McCarren, cutest. McCarren also took third place honors for most unique. Second place winners were Darla Adams, most unique; Aimee Stone, cutest; and Darla Adams, best costume. Debbie Blackwell took third place for cutest costume, and Amanda Scarber received third place honors for best costume.

### Pie Eating Contest

Age 12 and under: 1st place, Victoria Davis, Mason Hardy and Gary Livingston; 2nd place, Christopher Hickman, Simian Martin and Joseph Singletary; and 3rd place Taylor Jacobs, Julia Timme and Siah Martin.

Adults: 1st place, Jerry Nwoswocha, Amber Pierce and Bryan Elliot; 2nd place, Brenda Fruge, Aaron Holm and Brendon Flaunery; 3rd place, Jerry Alexander, Joyce Collins and Matt Keifer.

Honorary festival chairman Bob Dunn said he was pleased with the turnout.

"We had a great crowd," Dunn said. "The line for pancakes stretched all the way to the Commercial Bank parking lot, and they were still serving pancakes at 11 o'clock this morning. We were so happy to have all the vendors here; it was an eclectic group."