



Fiddle camp attracts musicians of all ages

— By Sheila Stogsdill

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GROVE, Okla. — More than 100 fiddle players gathered at center stage Sunday afternoon for the farewell jam session of the Jana Jae Fiddle Camp and Music Festival.

With a dozen fiddle players younger than 10, the group under the direction of Jae played favorites such as “Faded Love” and “The Tennessee Waltz.”

“This year we had two 5-year-old fiddle players and one 2 1/2-year-old, who will start formal lessons in the next few weeks,” said Kathleen Pixley, one of the festival organizers.

The three-day festival, presented with the assistance of the Oklahoma Arts Council and the National Endowment for the Arts, brought more than 100 musicians and 900 music lovers to Grove and the Grand Lake area over Labor Day weekend.

“It gets bigger and better every year,” said Wayne Graham, who’s been attending the festival for the past 10 years.

The amateur fiddle contest at Snider’s Camp had winners in five categories.

In the Pee Wee Division, Noah Bates, of West Fork, Ark., took top honors, with Gus Meadors, of Fort Smith, Ark., placing second.

In the Junior Division, Brent Fisher 9/2/07 note this is a double word per sheila Division, Brett Dudenhoeffer, of Marshfield, Mo., placed first; Sandra Coleman, of Tulsa, second place; and Annabelle Hall, of Fayetteville, Ark., placed third.

In the Junior Division, Emma Pendleton, of Tulsa, placed first; Douglas Thompson, of Rose, placed second; and Anna Allison, of Gordo, Ala., placed third.

In the Adult Division, Rachel Allison placed first and Katie Allison placed second. Both are from Gordo, Ala. Galon Keys, of Combs, Ark., placed third.

In the Open Division, Jake Duncan, of Jenks, placed first; Eric Dysart, of Disney, placed second; Michael Thompson, of Rose, placed third; and Marina Pendleton, of Tulsa, placed fourth.

Daytime fiddle workshops were part of the festival, with instructors demonstrating and teaching various music styles including Celtic, old-time and bluegrass.

High-tech

A new workshop, “Fiddlin’ with a Computer,” was offered this year. It included demonstrations on how to vary tempo and instrumentation, add additional instruments, record compact discs for practice sessions, and other computer techniques.

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Photos



Globe/Gary Crow Two-year-old Parker Fjeldsted, of Tulsa, shows Jana Jae his fiddling skills at the Jana Jae Fiddle Camp

and Music Festival on Saturday afternoon in Grove. Supported with the help of the Oklahoma Arts Council and the National Endowment for the Arts, the three-day festival brought more than 100 musicians and 900 music lovers to Grove and the Grand Lake area over Labor Day weekend.