CROWD OF 87,000 ATTENDS OPENING OF RICE FESTIVAL

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Advocate State Editor

CROWLEY — A crowd of 87,000 attended the 29th Annual International Rice Festival held here Oct. 16th-
18th. The event, which has become one of the most popular in the state, featured a variety of activities, including a parade, fireworks, and rice cooking contests.

Highlighting the event was the grand rice-cooking contest, where the best cooks from across the state gathered to show off their skills. The contest was judged by a panel of experts, including local chefs and food critics, who evaluated the dishes based on flavor, presentation, and originality.

The grand champion was announced on Saturday night, with Mrs. J. W. Clark taking the top prize for her dish, "Rice and Beans." Mrs. Clark's dish was a traditional Louisiana staple, with a healthy dose of creativity thrown in.

In addition to the grand champion, several other winners were announced throughout the weekend. The best appetizer, best side dish, and best dessert were also awarded, with winners receiving prizes ranging from cash to gift baskets.

The festival also included a parade, where floats and dancers entertained the crowd. Fireworks lit up the sky at nightfall, adding to the festive atmosphere.

Overall, the festival was a huge success, with visitors from all over the state and even from across the country attending to celebrate the rich culture and traditions of rice farming in Louisiana.