Crawfish Festival Expected To Attract Many Visitors

BREAUX BRIDGE — Thousands of visitors will converge on the Crawfish Capital of the World this Saturday and Sunday to feast on the tasty crustaceans, drink beer, dance and enjoy the contests and other activities planned for the annual Breaux Bridge Crawfish Festival.

Governor-elect Edwin Edwards, a special guest of the event, will act as parade marshal for the Queen's Parade. Other attractions include carnival rides and booths, crawfish eating and peeling contests and crawfish races, a beauty contest, a special presentation by National Guard special forces, and the fais-do-do with that good French music.

Saturday At 10 a.m.
French music will kick off the festivities at 10 a.m. Saturday at the mile-long festival grounds just north of town at the end of Refinery Street. A baby contest is the next event at 10:15 a.m. The preliminary crawfish race, expected to draw contestants from far-flung areas of the state, follows at 10:30 a.m. and the special forces will demonstrate rappelling from hovering helicopters beginning at 11 a.m. At noon, boiled crawfish will be sold at the festival grounds.

At 1 p.m. Saturday, the ladies' crawfish peeling contest will be staged at the grounds, appropriately followed by the crawfish eating contest at 2 p.m. The record for this event was set by Andrew Thevenet of Breaux Bridge who ate 33 pounds. The band will strike up again at 2:05 p.m. and the special forces will be sliding out of helicopters again at 3 p.m. By 4 p.m., the crawfish eating contest will be finished and the awards presented.

Sunday Events
Sunday will begin, however, with the fais-do-do at 10 a.m. at the festival grounds, followed by the finals of the crawfish races at 10:30 a.m. At 11 a.m., the special forces will again demonstrate the technique of rappelling from a helicopter. Boiled crawfish will be served at noon Sunday at the grounds and the grounds will be closed at 6 p.m.

“We invite everyone to enjoy our festival and to come out to Breaux Bridge during the weekend,” said Robert Les Domingues, president of the Breaux Bridge Crawfish Festival Association. “We will have plenty of good crawfish to eat, prepared in just about any manner you like.” He said camp grounds will be available near the festival site.

The highlight of Sunday’s activities will be the Queen's Parade, beginning at 2 p.m. The parade route will follow Main Street from the southeast side of town to the northwest. The Queen's Parade will be followed by a horse and buggy parade.

Queen's Coronation
The coronation of Queen Crustacean will be at 7:30 p.m. Saturday in the National Guard Armory. The festival grounds will be closed at 11 p.m. All events Saturday, except the coronation of the queen will take place at the festival grounds. There will be no street dancing at all during the festival.