

FIESTA ENDS TODAY ON NAUTICAL TACK



Procession of boats, on trailers, moves along Broadway as thousands of spectators watch Harbor Days Parade, feature of final Fiesta Del Pacifico weekend.



Msgr. George Rice blessed the leading boat in Harbor Days parade. He was assisted by altar boys Tom Schackel, left, and Robert Wallisch.

Throngs Turn Out For Harbor Days Parade, Boat Show

Surf Races, Water Ski Competition, Ship Tours Among Final Day's Events

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By E. G. MARTIN

Fiesta del Pacifico, San Diego's 33-day summer spectacle, will end today with the closing events centered around the city's harbor. An estimated 25,000 persons watched the Harbor Days 1956 parade along Broadway yesterday and additional thousands saw exhibitions and displays of Harbor Days—planned as the climax of the first annual Fiesta.

A free performance by the De Leon Aztec Dancers in the Civic Center's north parking lot at 8:30 p.m. today will complete the Harbor Days program and the Fiesta for this year.

Other events scheduled for today include a marathon boat race from Shelter Island to La Jolla and back, finals in speedboat and water ski championships, open house on Navy ships, Coast Guard displays and free boat trips around San Diego Harbor.

BLESSING OF BOATS

El Mercado, a marketplace of early California sponsored by the Old Town Kiwanis Club, will close with a ceremony at 7 p.m.

The parade had the blessing of the boats, or "La Bendicion de las Lanchas," as its theme. It began at 15th street and Broadway and traveled down Broadway with spectators lining the streets and curbs.

John Allen, president of the Junior Chamber of Commerce, which sponsors Harbor Days, said the turnout of 25,000 exceeded expectations. This was the sixth year of the Harbor Days celebrations.

Msgr. George M. Rice of St. Joseph's Cathedral, flanked by two altar boys, gave the leading boat in the parade the traditional sailor's blessing. Sitting on top of the 35-foot cabin cruiser drawn on a decorated trailer was Linda Lee Taylor, 16, Harbor Days Queen.

TROPHIES AWARDED

Each boat in the parade stopped briefly at the receiving stand in front of the county courthouse to receive a mariner's St. Christopher's medalion.

Later, at the official opening of Harbor Days at Shelter Island, five trophies were awarded to floats in the parade. They went to the Yacht Club Association, sweepstakes winner for its float of six small sailboats representing the six clubs here; the Inland Boat Club of San Bernardino, best original for its display of a cabin cruiser; the Santa Clara Cutups Club, best authentic float for its inboard speedboat float; Outboard

A THANK YOU TO MILITARY

The San Diego Chamber of Commerce Friday will honor military leaders who played a part in staging the Fiesta del Pacifico. They will be honored at a luncheon in the Ward Room of the U.S. Grant Hotel.

Graydon Hoffman, chairman of the chamber's armed services committee, said, "The significant roles played by the armed forces in 'The California Story,' the military parade, the historical parade and open houses is further evidence of the excellent, wholesome relationship existing between the civilian and service segments of San Diego."

Boating Club of San Diego, most comical float for its "Jonah and the Whale," and to the Koehler Kraft Co., most beautiful award for its leading boat, a cabin cruiser.

Mayor Dail and Port Director Bate were at the official opening ceremonies. At the same time the new outboard motorboat ramp at Shelter Island was dedicated.

VISIT CARRIER

The carrier Bennington was visited by 6,366 persons. Hundreds more attended open house at the Coast Guard Air Station and on tuna boats or went aboard other Navy vessels at the foot of Broadway.

The main attraction last night was the annual Parade of Lights, a colorful parade of boats decorated with colored lights and accompanied by water skiers carrying torches.

The vessels, led by the Navy yawl Saluda, sailed from the south end of Shelter Island and proceeded around the shoreline of the bay to near the Civic Center where they turned around for the return trip. Fireworks attracted many of the spectators later at the San Diego Speed Boat Club.

Popular with the crowd at Shelter Island was a performance of a Chaffee-Ski, a powered-water ski which is mounted like a motorcycle.



Winners in Miss Ocean Beach beauty contest hold trophies. They are, from left to right, Olivia Harris, first; Linda and Leona Hale, twins, third; and Ida Bolen, second. Queen will be crowned during Daz-o-Fun today.



Accepting awards for five prize-winning floats in parade were, left to right, James Bradfield, Queen Linda Lee Taylor, Harrison Amos, Eugene A. Smith and W. G. Fuson. Miss Taylor received award for Koehler Kraft Co.

CHOICE AT DAZ-O-FUN CARNIVAL

Point Loma High School Girl Chosen Miss Ocean Beach

Olivia Harris, 17, a Point Loma High School senior, yesterday was chosen Miss Ocean Beach in the beauty contest event of the annual Daz-O-Fun carnival. She will be crowned at 2 p.m. today by Louella Webb, last year's queen, in a ceremony at the carnival grounds, Newport avenue and Abbott street.

Olivia is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Oliver C. Harris of 2255 Seaside St. Judges chose her over 11 other entrants in

the contest. The contest was sponsored by the Veterans of Foreign Wars.

"I'm so excited I can't even see straight," Olivia said after winning her new title. "I've never been in a beauty contest before."

Today she will receive prizes including a diamond wrist watch, a modeling course and a trip for two to an Apple Valley resort.

Ida Bolen, 16, of 3549 Jennings St., won second place in

the beauty contest. The Hale twins, Leona and Linda, 16, of 4769 Narragansett Ave., won third place.

The three-day Daz-O-Fun celebration ends today with a concert by Ocean Beach School musicians at 3 p.m., the finals in a children's talent show at 4 p.m. and a square dance at 9 p.m.

Five finalists will present dance and musical acts in the children's talent show. They are selected from 12 contestants in the preliminaries yesterday.

Tonight's program will include entertainment by Ocean Beach dance and music groups and three prize awards. Exhibits and children's rides at the carnival grounds will close at 11 p.m.



Mayor Dail, left, Queen Linda Lee Taylor and Port Director Bate dedicate new outboard motorboat ramp at Shelter Island. The dedication followed official opening of Harbor Days in ceremonies on the island. Cove will permit launching of boats in calm water.

—San Diego Union Staff Photos