

WELCOME TO THE.....

Alpenstrasse

1980 *Solving case of the mystery runner*



Kellie Johnson



The 16th annual Alpenfest featured the selection of Jim Mongeau as the first Buergermeister, or honorary mayor of the Alpine Village.

A special Herald Times Buergermeister tabloid reported Mongeau was the Alpenfest chairman every year except one since 1968. The newspaper chooses the Buergermeister.

A Herald Times editorial on July 17 said of Mongeau, "As a high school teacher and coach, his enthusiasm has buoyed many students. The same kind of positive reinforcement has helped Alpenfest through the years, though he would not take much credit".

Mongeau said in an interview that everybody says it is him doing the good job, but noted he doesn't have to keep track of many events because of the many volunteers handling them.

Kellie Johnson, daughter of Bill and Bev Johnson, performed royally to become the Alpenfest queen. First runner-up was Teresa Ann Kitchen.

For the first time, the queen named this year ruled over the

festivities of Alpenfest.

In years past, the queen's pageant was held during Alpenfest and the previous year's queen reigned during the celebration.

An estimated 30,000 spectators were on hand for the Alpenfest Grand Parade. Gordon Everett was the Grand Marshal and Glen's Market won the prize for most original float.

Jaws II, an unlimited class raft, won the Otsego Lake raft competition, in a race that was postponed one week due to inclement weather.

The annual Alpine Festival Run attracted 378 entrants and was won by former Gaylord resident Larry Fisher.

A "mystery runner" clouded the results of the women competing in the race. The mystery woman's number was on the record as having won the race, but no one could be found who had seen her run. The official winner was declared to be Marti Bissinger of Lansing.

The Alpine Center was the honored industry at the Alpenfest Honors Luncheon held at Hidden Valley.

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