

## **There's Country in the Air fair deemed a success by fair board**

Written by Kyle Arnoldy

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Despite cool temperatures at times and competing with a number of other nearby fairs and other events, Phillips County Fair board members are pleased with how well attended and received the 2013 Phillips County Fair was.

Heavy rain suspended county team roping Wednesday, July 24. The event was unable to finish as the rainfall persisted. The open roping portion of the night wasn't even started.

Animal weigh-ins and judging dominated much of Thursday's activities before wrapping up Friday afternoon. Thursday night also included a pitch tournament, which 12 people attended.

Friday saw a number of new events attract crowds at the Phillips County Fairgrounds. To the delight of many, a mud volleyball tournament was put on for the first time as part of the fair. Nine teams of four to five players competed on the mud court throughout the day. Action began at 9 a.m. and did not conclude until 3:30 p.m.

Fair board president Ron Thompson noted that the event was so well-received that it will likely be moved to the weekend next year to allow more people to participate. Another court may be added as well to speed up the tournament.

Homesteaders Park was home to the annual Friday night barbecue that kicked off a night full of activities. After roughly 400 people enjoyed their meals prepared by R&B Catering, many flocked to the fairgrounds for Family Fun Night and carnival fun.

Children were treated to three inflatable rides that were new to the fair this year. Purchased by the Heginbotham Trust, the inflatable slides and bounce house were popular throughout the weekend.

Thompson said the board would like to add another inflatable attraction every year if possible.

