

## Local demolition derby offers pick-a-date opportunity

Friendships built at event full of destruction

REBECCA SEXTON  
STAFF WRITER

In a demolition derby, several cars are put in an arena. Then drivers intentionally ram the other vehicles, and the last vehicle operational wins.

"It's total destruction of cars," said event organizer John Shrout. "You destroy automobiles. You run until the last man is standing."

The 4th annual Fall Brawl Demolition Derby is 7 p.m. Saturday at the Grant County 4-H Fairgrounds. The gates open at 4 p.m. General grandstand admission is \$7. Kids ages 6-12 are \$3 and children 5 and under are free. A Pit Pass can be purchased for \$10.

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"The pit pass gets you in the pits and up close to the action," Shrout said.

Several Taylor students are going to the Demolition Derby for a pick-a-date.

The fourth floor of Samuel Morris residence hall, known as "Penthouse," is going for their first time.

"I have never been to the one in Marion, but I have been to several at home,

in Kentucky, and they are a lot of fun," said sophomore Andrew Whitworth, who pitched the idea for the Penthouse pick-a-date. "I thought it sounded like a great idea for a pick-a-date because it's great entertainment and it's perfect for a large group of people to go to. It will be a unique experience for those who have never been to something like this before, that's for sure."

Last year, about 1,000 people watched 65 vehicles enter in the derby.

"They are just regular passenger cars and passenger trucks," Shrout said. "They just go in and modify them to run the derbies. The trucks are mainly four-wheel-drive Chevy trucks. We have a variety of a lot of different vehicles."

There are five classes of demolition derbies, one class of trucks and four classes of minis.

The Fall Brawl derby features trucks, powder puff auto cross, a firemen challenge, youth auto cross, mini stock, youth minis, mini mods and adult auto cross.

First place is a \$500 prize in the mini classes and \$850 in the truck classes.

"We are trying to get local volunteer fire departments involved," Shrout said.

"We have two right now. By the weekend, we hope to have three or four fire departments involved."

Shrout says fire departments compete for a trophy like everyone else, but they compete against themselves.



Scenes of destruction at past Fall Brawl Demolition Derby

Photographs by John Shrout

## Marion revs up for motorcycle rally

Annual event features food, music, celebrates origin of motorcycle nickname "hog"

REBECCA SEXTON  
STAFF WRITER

Main Street Marion presents the Hog Daze Motorcycle Rally this weekend to celebrate Marion's motorcycle history that began with a hog.

The historical motorcycle rally honors the 1920 Marion International Motorcycle Race winners who celebrated by taking a live pig for an unprecedented Harley victory lap.

The team thus received the nickname "The Hog Boys," which led to the association of large motorcycles with the term "hog," according to the Hog Daze website.

This heritage names Marion the "Home of the Hog," and Wild Pig statue art has been placed throughout downtown Marion as the town prepares for a heritage-packed weekend.

The festivities

begin 5 p.m. Friday in downtown Marion with live music

accompanied by food and vendors, featuring Dickey James and the Blue Flames. Tickets cost

a one-time fee of \$5, and all proceeds benefit non-profit organizations.

Adventurous attendees can even enjoy a free ride on the mechanical hog

— but only on Friday. "It's like a mechanical bull," said Aletha Dunston,

President of Main Street Marion and event coordinator. The mechanical hog is sponsored by God's House Church.

Festivities continue at noon Saturday with all-day music, field events, a hog roast, a potato-eating contest and the Cincinnati band Lost State of Franklin.

The third annual Chasing Trail motorcycle ride begins at 1 p.m. Bikers travel the original five-mile 1919-1920 racecourse that makes one lap and then returns to the event. The cost is \$10 per rider and all proceeds benefit the Disabled American Veterans.

Last year, the motorcycle-lined streets attracted almost 3,000 people to Hog Daze, and Main Street Marion received an award for the 2011 Indiana Main Street Best Downtown Special Event for their Hog Daze festival.

Camping and RV spaces are available for the weekend. The Hotel Marion is also offering special rates for the rally.

"Last year we saw riders from 14 states, Canada and more than 80 cities in Indiana," Dunston said in a press release. "This is a great opportunity to show off our city and downtown to a new group of visitors and potential investors."

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## WEEKLY FORECAST

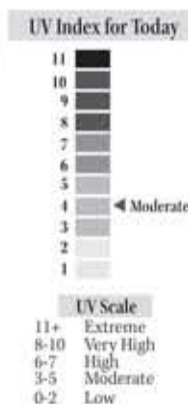
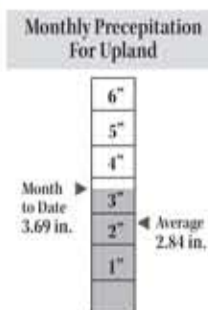
### Weather Facts

- Lightning sets about 10,000 forest fires every year in the United States.

- In one day a hurricane can release enough energy to supply all of the nation's electrical needs for about six months.

### Today In History

1989 - Hurricane Hugo makes its' destructive landfall on the South Carolina Coast. Winds are 135 mph. There are 21 U.S. fatalities, 28 in the Caribbean and \$10 billion in damage.



### Farmers Almanac Weekly Weather



Today	Saturday	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday
68° 49°	61° 39°	61° 38°	65° 46°	74° 53°	72° 54°	72° 52°
PM T-showers 80% chance of rain	Few Showers 30% chance of rain	Mostly Sunny w0% chance of rain	Sunny 0% chance of rain	Partly Cloudy 20% chance of rain	AM Clouds / PM Sun 10% chance of rain	Partly Cloudy 20% chance of rain
Waning Crescent	First Quarter	Waxing Gibbous	Waxing Gibbous	Waxing Gibbous	Waxing Gibbous	Waxing Gibbous