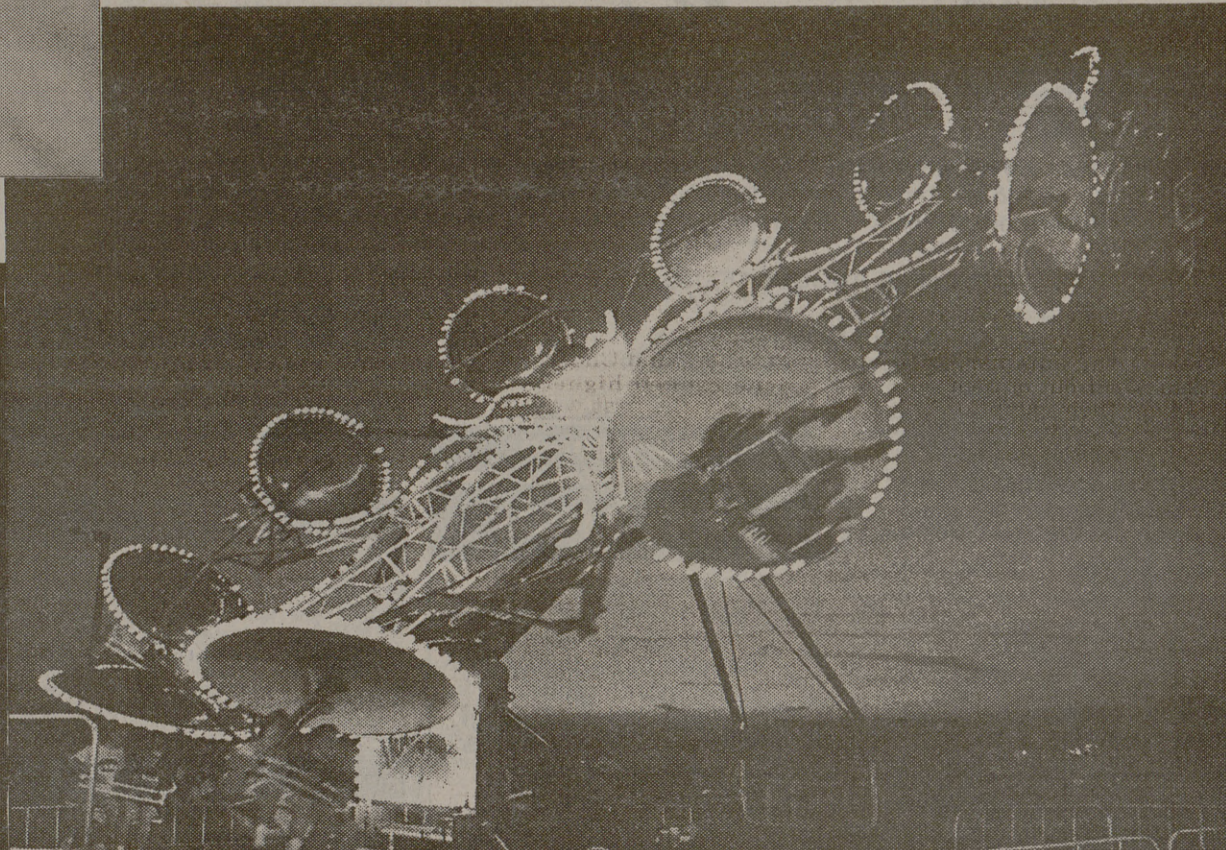


Above: Powerboat drivers from the U.S. and Mexico competed in time trials Saturday to get to Sunday's finals on Lake Bryan as part of the Southern Professional Outboard Racing Tour. (photo by Stew Milne)  
Right: Balloons launch from the Post Oak Mall parking lot Thursday morning to kick off the fourth annual Brazos Valley Balloon Classic, which lasted until Sunday evening. (photo by William Harrison)



# By way of the breeze

Above: Bubbles Beard of Baton Rouge, L.A., pilots her balloon, "Tiger Pause," during Thursday morning's practice flight. Due to the cloudy weather, the balloons had to remain below 600 feet. (photo by Stew Milne)

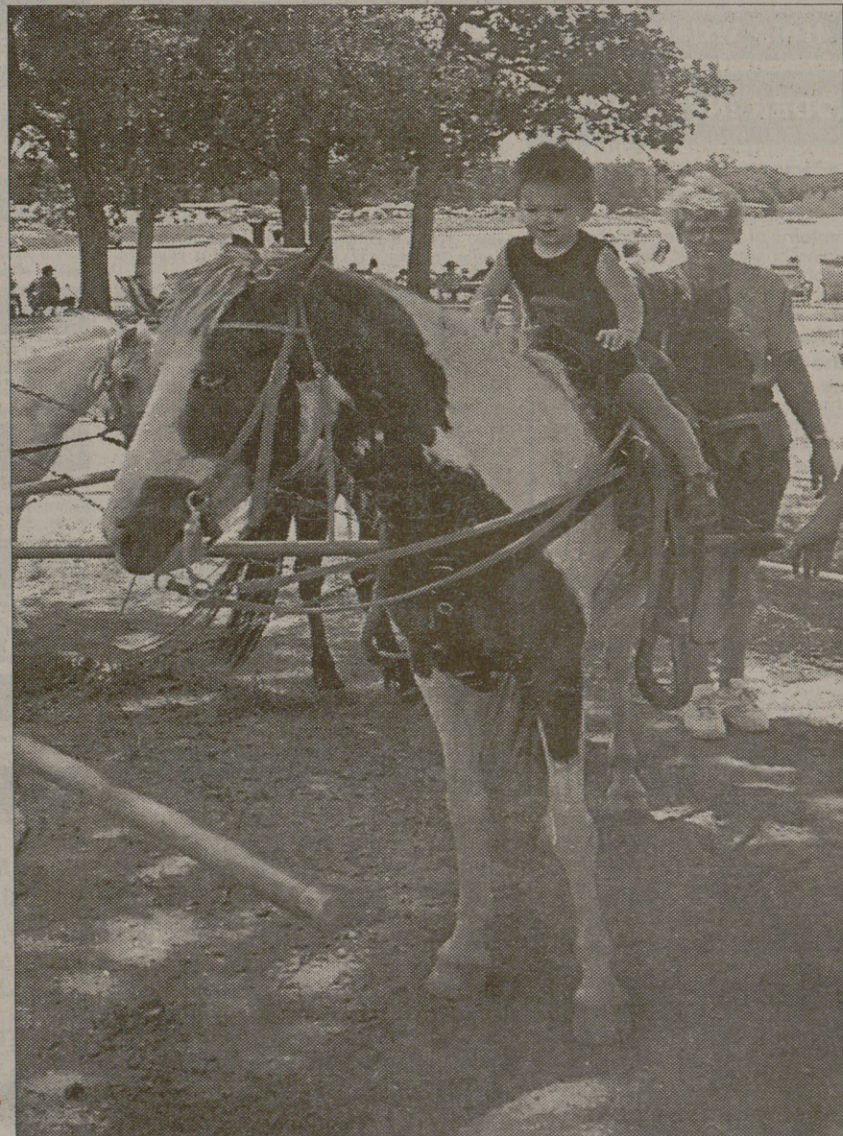


Above: Crowds enjoyed carnival rides set up near the balloons' launch area. (photo by Stew Milne)  
Left: Crew members fire up their balloon's burner in preparation for Saturday night's "balloon glow." (photo by Stew Milne)

Below: Russell "Rusty" Lee Santansiero, 2, goes on a pony ride Sunday afternoon at the Balloon Classic, which also featured a petting zoo, live music and arts-and-crafts booths. (photo by Mark Smith)

## THE BALLOONISTS' PRAYER

*The winds have welcomed you with softness. The sun has blessed you with its warm hands. You have flown so high and so well that God has joined you in your laughter and set you gently back again into the loving arms of Mother Earth.*



27, 1994  
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