

Blues Fest organizer



BARRY GWYNNE RICHARDS | SPECIAL TO THE JOURNAL

Hoodoo Hounds play at the Blues Fest held over the weekend in the Clemson area. Sponsors said they were pleased with the good turnout.

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Jackson pleased with inaugural event

BY GREG OLIVER
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CLEMSON — Clemson resident Vince Jackson said Monday he was pleased with the turnout for the inaugural Blues Fest held in the Clemson area over the weekend.

Jackson, who organized the four-day event, estimates that between 2,500 to 3,000 individuals from the Southeast were in attendance. Despite some rain Saturday at Patrick Square, Jackson

said the audience remained at the concert and artists continued performing. He added virtually all events were packed, featuring a standing room only crowd for a traditional Blues and Spiritual Singing on Sunday at the Clemson-African American Museum.

"We've received a lot of positive feedback, with people asking when we could do this again," Jackson said.

Artists featured throughout the weekend, at various

venues in Clemson and Central, were Chick Willis, Frankie's Blues Mission, Paula Harris, Sarah Mac Band, Robbie Ducey Band and Clemson's own Hoodoo Hounds. The traditional Blues and Spiritual Singing featured Jennifer Fortson and FREE, from Georgia: United Gospel Harmonizers, from Liberty; William Acker from Center of Faith and Dan Morton, both from Pendleton; New Holly Light Missionary Baptist Church

Gospel Choir and The United House of Prayer Brass Band.

Jackson, who authored a book about blues artists who once performed at the Littlejohn Grill, said he was pleased to see the Horace Littlejohn family receive a proclamation recognizing his contribution to the community.

"He ran a nightclub, but he ran a clean nightclub," Jackson said.

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