Come out for Tigerama 2009

BY JESSICA SIBLEY
THE JOURNAL

CLEMSON — Now in its 53rd year, Tigerama roars into the record books as the second largest pep rally and entertainment event among all U.S. universities.

Not only does the event showcase the many talents and traditions of the university and its students, it's also a fun, family-friendly atmosphere that shouldn't be missed.

Put on with the help of the Blue Key Honor Society, Maddie Stoddard, marketing representative and past president for the celebration, said this year will be another great one in Tigerama's history.

This year's theme is titled, "Legends of the Valley," as the rally will showcase outstanding men and women from Clemson's history.

And before the show really revs up inside Littlejohn Coliseum, come out for the Tiger Tailgate.

If you want to hear a variety of good bands, see unique performing groups and bring the little ones for some trick-or-treating, Tiger Tailgate has it all. The tailgate begins at 5:30 today on the lawn of Littlejohn.

"We are encouraging people to wear their costumes, as Tigerama fell around the Halloween holiday this year," Stoddard added. "Various student organizations will be set up, handing out candy."

The tailgate this year will be hosted by father and son team George and Jeff Bennett, both of whom are Clemson graduates.

George, former president of IPTAY, is credited with the idea of firing a cannon when the tigers score during football games.

Once the rally starts at 7 p.m., prepare for the crowing of Clemson's 2009 Miss Homecoming, performances by the Rally Cats, Clemson Cheerleaders and appearances by Dabo Swinney and his Clemson football team.

In addition, numerous student groups will be performing skits, ranging from the absolutely hilarious, to skits that make people feel nostalgic.

"This show gives students a chance to showcase their talents," Stoddard added. "Trust me, they spend a lot of time on these skits and they are always so funny."

The cheerleaders and Rally Cats will be performing high-flying acts, giving the audience an up close and personal look at how difficult the sport is.

And to end the night, the large crowds will take back to the lawn, as a spectacular fireworks display will light up the sky over Clemson.

And before the Clemson Tigers take on Coastal Carolina on Saturday at 1:30, the rally is the perfect jump-start to a great weekend.

And thanks not only go to the organizations that make this event such a success each year, but to Joe Sherman, the man who really made Tigerama a reality.

> **"In one stop,** you get to experience great music, superb talent on so many levels, fireworks, fun, good food, some Halloween treats and awesome Clemson spirit."
>
> **Maddie Stoddard**
> **Marketing representative**

"I got the idea while I was at the University of Florida," he said. "Florida had this big student talent show that night before the homecoming game called 'Gator Growl.' When I came back to Clemson in 1956, I persuaded the alumni council to fund a show just like it."

Tickets are $8 for the public and $6 for Clemson students who buy in advance with Tiger Stripe. Tickets can be purchased on campus in the Hendrix Student Center, University Union, Alumni Center, Littlejohn Coliseum box office and the athletic ticket office at Memorial Stadium. Tickets also are available at Mr. Knickerbockers, The Athletic Department and Tiger Sports Shop in downtown Clemson. Proceeds from the pep rally benefit the Tigerama Scholarship Endowment Fund for Clemson University Students.

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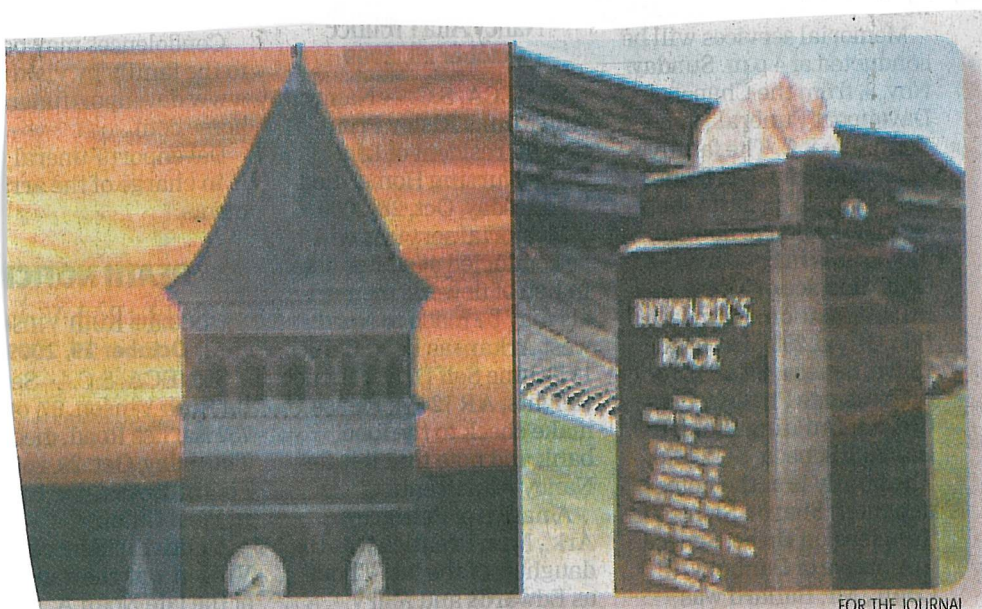


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To finish off the night, a huge fireworks display will light up the sky over Littlejohn.



Tigerama is a fun-filled event, based on the many traditions of Clemson University. Combining sports,



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talent, music and spirit, there is something for everyone at Tigerama 2009.