



LOADING UP paint, brushes and brooms for the trek up the mountain for the annual whitewashing of the U ceremony are these Uintah residents: Shirley Hill, Scott Sanders and Mark Miller (left to right).

Uintah Prepares for Annual 'U' Day Events on Saturday

UINTAH — The traditional lighting of the letter "U" Saturday on the mountain southeast of Ogden will highlight the 47th annual celebration of "U Days" in the Uintah Town Park.

The festivities will begin Thursday at 5:30 p.m. when young and old alike will meet at the church with old brooms, buckets and "grubbies" to whitewash the "U."

Sponsored each year by the town of Uintah, this year's celebration will be under the direction of the Uintah LDS Ward's Explorer Scout troop, with Wendell Sanders and C. Elliot Stuart, explorer advisors, as chairmen.

CONCESSION STANDS

Many of the concession stands will be run by young girls of the community, as well as by various church and civic groups.

Saturday's events will begin at the town park at 10 a.m. with a children's parade on the

theme, Pioneers. More than 200 parade participants are expected, and best entries will receive prizes.

The parade will be led by Robert Enz, cub scoutmaster of Uintah Pack 34, as flag bearer, with the full pack in uniform. Mr. and Mrs. Parley P. Kendall will follow in a 1929 Oldsmobile A Roadster as the oldest living native couple of Uintah.

Also to be honored will be senior citizens including Mrs. Laura Fernelius, Mrs. May Bybee, Mrs. Ellen Stuart, Mr. and Mrs. Clarence Fernelius, Mr. and Mrs. John Dye and Mr. and Mrs. Zearl Stoker.

All former residents of Uintah are invited to attend the celebration, as well as the general public.

Activities of the day will include a dunking machine, pie eating contest, fish scramble, merry-go-round, pony cart rides, tug of war, Explorer trading

post, and five scheduled ball games. The food booths will remain open throughout the afternoon.

At dusk, the letter "U" will be lighted and will burn through most of the night.

The first "U Day" was held on April 28, 1923, when some 80 townspeople built the large "U" on the mountain east of Uintah. Since then it has been an annual event held at the end of the school year.

Uintah, once thought destined to become Weber County's leading city, has experienced great boom periods.

It was first settled in 1850 by eight families. With the coming of the railroad in 1869, the community became a real "wild and woolly western frontier town."

The population grew to an estimated 2,000 to 5,000 persons. But when the Utah Central Railroad was opened for business from Ogden to Salt Lake City, Uintah was rapidly deserted. Today, the population stands at around 443 persons.