

# All-American picnic



OSMAN IFTIKHAR, husband of Karen Iftikhar of the Equal Opportunity Office, helps kick off the opening festivities for the picnic with a jump onto the KARS park picnic grounds. Iftikhar and three other members of Astra's skydiving team from Titusville dropped in during the ceremonies. Together the four parachutists have a total of 60 years experience and 11,000 jumps, having performed at air shows throughout Florida.



JUDGES FOR THE fifth annual KSC chili cookoff get down to business.

FROM THE LEFT, David Brady, Johnny Wilkinson and Dana Peacock of the Merritt Island High School Quarterback Club helped cook some of the 800 pounds of hamburger consumed during the picnic.



Kennedy Space Center's 1996 version of the All-American picnic was so popular, organizers resorted to handing out makeshift tickets at the gate.

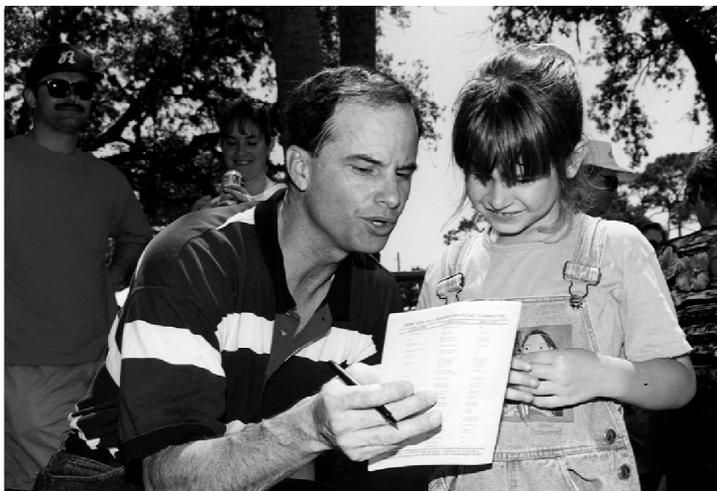


Tom Breakfield, organizer of the event, said the final estimated attendance of 5,200 is a "conservative number. Most past picnics have drawn about half that, and the picnic committee this year had set a goal of 3,000.

Breakfield said the picnic committee began getting a little nervous the afternoon before the event when 4,200 tickets were reported sold. On the morning of the picnic "we had people rushing out to locate more hamburger meat, hot dogs, drinks, ice and paper goods," he said. When all was said and done, picnic goers consumed 800 pounds of hamburger, 200 pounds of hot dogs, 1,008 cups of ice cream, 9,144 cans of soda and 5,000 pounds of ice.

Anyone who attended the picnic extravaganza would agree the committee pulled it off beautifully. "It was a real success," Breakfield said. "The picnic was geared to real family-type activity."

One of the biggest successes was the restructured children's activities area which featured games designed for groups of employees, centered around KSC and space-



ASTRONAUT Kevin Chilton, who performed in the MAX Q band, signs an autograph for Trish Zion, 5, daughter of Howard Zion of Precision Fabricating and Cleaning.

# aws all-out crowd



on the task of rating KSC's finest chili concoctions.

MEMBERS OF the MAX Q astronaut band get picnic goers, including Nora Ross of Shuttle Operations, on their feet with their rousing renditions of classic rock-n-roll favorites.



THE NASA KENNEDY Management Association Dunking booth provided participants an opportunity to

# 1996

related themes. And the variety of entertainment topped off by a floor-stomping performance by the elusive MAX

Q astronaut band. And the fifth annual chili cookoff which even attracted a judge from that other chili-loving state — George Abbey, director of the Johnson Space Center in Houston, Texas. "There was something for everybody," Breakfield said.

Of course the event required the coordinated efforts of hundreds. Breakfield said the real credit goes to the picnic committee members. He was especially appreciative of the support of the Exchange Council Facilities Operations Manager for KARS Bobby Goforth, the KARS Gun Club, and the KARS personnel who took on what may have been the biggest job of all — cleaning up the trash!



GROUND SYSTEMS team members won over the judges as their Roadkill chili received top prize in the chili cookoff. From left are Mark Nurge of Ground Systems, Mike McCully, director of Launch Site Operations for Lockheed Martin Space Operations Company and chili judge extraordinaire, Shawn Quinn of Ground Systems and Center Director and Chief Chili Honcho Jay Honeycutt. At right, Payload Operations Director John Conway's Politician's Chili may not have received the most votes, but it

