

I. Facilities, Event Production and Presentation

The facilities available for mounting displays, demonstrations and events on the Expo site were disappointing. The bark mulch covered arena, designed for equestrian events, was dusty and difficult to walk on, and sharing the venue with a range of other events was an unnecessary complication. The covered display area, no more than a vinyl tent with an asphalt floor, looked shoddy and makeshift compared to near-by pavilions. It was in the farthest corner of the least frequented part of the Expo site.

A limited budget was available for providing carpeting, paneling, tables and lights for displays in the tent and the Expo Signage Department provided basic descriptive signage for exhibit items, but in most cases the displays would have been more attractive, appealing and understandable if more resources had been committed to "dressing up" the displays and making them more entertaining.

In the Spring of 1986 the Specialized Periods program hired two staff people to assist with the production and presentation of the Kodak Bowl and Tent events. While it was useful, even at this late juncture, to add these skills to the program, a production team with an artistic director should have been introduced at least a year prior to the opening to assist technical staff in making the presentation of events and displays more effective.

Relying on Volunteers as hosting staff for the Bowl and Tent was problematic since a minimum of 12 volunteers per day was required and by the end of the summer the drop-out rate was over 50%. Fortunately, Specialized Periods staff recruited dependable Volunteer Team Captains to handle key functions such as staffing the Information Desk. Paid hosting staff would have been preferable.