

Monday, April 20, 2015

Longview News-Journal

Rain doesn't stop Caddo Lake regatta event

By Naomi Prioleau
April 19, 2015 at 4:05 a.m.



UNCERTAIN — A little rain Saturday morning didn't stop dedicated paddlers from coming out to Caddo Lake to celebrate the fourth annual Caddo Lake Earth Day Paddling Regatta and take in the scenery of the featured trails.

Three paddling trails, Old Folk's Playground, Turtle Shell and Cathedral, were highlighted this year, giving paddlers the chance to enjoy the scenery and nature.

"Everybody showed up who preregistered, and we had 53 preregister," regatta coordinator Stella Barrow said. "We were low on people walking up, but I think a lot of that was because of the weather."

The trails opened a few years ago, but were recently dedicated as part of the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department's Paddling Trail program. Of the 10 trails, five are in Caddo Lake and five are along Big Cypress Bayou.

All trails vary in distance, but the three featured this year were roughly the same length. Old Folk's Playground is a 4.7-mile loop, Turtle Shell is a 4.4-mile loop, and the Cathedral is a 4-mile round trip.

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