

BOONE WEATHER			
1961	High	Low	6 pm. prec.
May 23	65	45	.02
May 24	73	55	.06
May 25	71	42	.58
May 26	63	42	.42
May 27	51	32	.49
May 28	70	33	.06
May 29	67	40	.03
Total rainfall—21 inch.			

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RESCUE GROUPS AT LAKE DURING SEARCH FOR JOHN KIRK AND SON

Lake Yields Bodies John Kirk And Son

Funeral services were held Tuesday afternoon at 2:00 o'clock, in the Boone Methodist Church, for John Kirk and his five-year-old son, Stevie, who were drowned last week in Watauga Lake. Burial was in Mountlawn Memorial Gardens.

The Rev. Preston Hughes, Jr., pastor, and the Rev. E. H. Lowman, Belmont, a former pastor, were in charge of the services.

Survivors include the widow, Elaine Shaw Kirk, a son, Tommy, two daughters, Sandra and Laurie Kirk, of the home, and Mr. Kirk's parents, Mr. and Mrs. Zeb Kirk, of Boone.

Pallbearers for Mr. Kirk were members of the Appalachian football team, and for Stevie members of the Methodist Men. College administration members were honorary pallbearers.

Mr. Kirk, who was Dean of Men at Appalachian State Teachers College, and popular assistant football coach, and his son were objects of a five-day search by rescue squads, navy divers, and other volunteers, when they did not return home from the lake after going there to fish Tuesday afternoon (May 23).

When they did not return home that night, a search was made for them, and the boat was found drifting on the lake.

Rescue squads from over North Carolina, Tennessee and other states, as well as navy men, joined in the search, which lasted until the body of Mr. Kirk was discovered floating on the lake by the

Carter County (Tenn.) Rescue Squad Boat No. 2, about 3:30 p. m. Sunday, near Point 7.

The search then concentrated at that point and about 20 minutes later the boy's body was discovered. The bodies were across the lake from where the boat was found Wednesday, and depth of the water at point of their discovery was estimated at about 40 feet. They were approximately 50 feet from shore.

While the main searching was done in the lake, search parties also scoured the surrounding woods and area, on the theory the two might have gone ashore, and the boat drifted away from them.

Mr. Kirk was a native of Lexington. He received his BS and MA degrees from Appalachian State Teachers College. He was a World War II veteran. After teaching and coaching at Reynolds High School in Winston-Salem, he returned to his alma mater, where he was a coach of the Mountaineers. He was named dean of men last year, a position he held at the time of his death along with his teaching duties.

Mr. Kirk was a former member of the Boone Rotary Club, a member of the American Legion, Phi Delta Kappa, education fraternity, the Methodist Men's Club, Pi Gamma Mu, social studies fraternity, sponsor and member of Men's A Club at the college. He was a member of the official board of the Boone Methodist Church, and was active in all phases of the church.

Acts To Provide For School Board Voting

Representative Murray Coffey has introduced a bill in the House which would provide for the nomination and election of the Board of Education by a direct vote of the people, rather than through Legislative enactment as is now the case.

The bill provides that Watauga education board shall consist of 3 members elected as follows: (1) in 1962 primary each political party shall nominate 3 candidates for board; (2) in 1962 general election the 3 candidates for education board receiving highest number of votes shall be elected to serve for 2-year terms. Election to be held in same manner and at same time as for other county officers; education board members to take office at same time as other county officers. Vacancy on board to be filled as now provided by law. If nominee dies or otherwise is not candidate in general election or less than 3 persons are nominated, executive committee of affected political party to appoint nominee.

Members of board to be paid per diem and allowances from state school fund in accordance with general law. Terms of education board members appointed by 1961 General Assembly to continue until successors are elected and qualified under this act.

The bill has been referred to the committee on elections and election laws.

J. A. Coffey Takes Own Life

Lenoir, May 24—James Adolphus Coffey, 32, of Lenoir, Rt. 1, died Monday in a hospital here from gunshot wounds.

Coroner Claude Goble ruled the wounds were self-inflicted and said there would be no inquest. Coffey was at the home of a sister, Mrs. Carl Hartley, when the shooting occurred.

He was born in Watauga County to Milton and Velma Viola Penley Coffey. Mr. Coffey was a sawmill worker.

Surviving in addition to his parents and his sister, are a daughter, (Continued on page three)



JOHN KIRK

Winkler Passes Bill For Airport Proposal

Senator Winkler's bill which would establish an airport commission for the purpose of the development of airport facilities for Boone and Blowing Rock has been passed by both Houses of the Legislature and ratified.

The bill by Senator Winkler which would exempt Watauga county from the State Democratic primary law, and provide for the return to the convention method of nominating Democratic candidates for office, has been passed by the Senate and has been sent to the House Committee on Elections and Election laws.

Another bill by Senator Winkler which would regulate the commissions paid the Watauga County Tax Collector has been ratified.

Interest Seen In Palsy Drive

The annual United Cerebral Palsy Campaign conducted in May was introduced for the first time in Watauga County. A fifty-three minute march was made on Tuesday, May 23rd ending the drive.

A great deal of interest was shown but it is hoped that there will be increased interest in next year's campaign.

Rev. Mr. Gibson, Mr. Hargrave In Accident

Rev. John Gibson, Missionary for the Three Forks Baptist Association and Marshal Hargrave, minister of education at the Boone Baptist Church were seriously injured in an automobile accident at Lexington, Ky., as they were returning from the Southern Baptist Convention in St. Louis.

The crash occurred Saturday at a four lane highway crossing and five cars figured in the collision. No definite information as to the exact cause of the crash is forthcoming.

Mr. Gibson suffered a broken left leg, fractured left arm, broken nose, a concussion and cuts

AT BLOWING ROCK

Million Dollar Winter Sports Project Slated

J.C. McConnell Dies Monday

Julius Clifford McConnell, 63, prominent Boone business man died Monday at Watauga Hospital, following a brief illness.

Funeral services will be held this (Wednesday) afternoon at 2 o'clock at the Boone Baptist Church, by Rev. Boyce Brooks, the pastor, and Rev. E. F. Troutman, pastor of Grace Lutheran Church. Burial will be in the city cemetery.

Mr. McConnell had formerly been engaged in the automobile business in Boone, had established the Graystone Block Co. a number of years ago, and the Watauga Ready Mix Co., with which he was still actively engaged at the time of his fatal illness.

Surviving are the widow, the former Miss Ruth Hagaman and two sons, James C. McConnell, Winston-Salem and Robert McConnell, Greenville, S. C. There are two grandchildren. His mother, Mrs. Emma W. McConnell, of Reese, also survives.

Hurts Fatal To Bud Mast

Bud James Mast, 43, Route 1, Vilas, died Monday from injuries received in an automobile accident ten days ago.

Funeral services were conducted Wednesday at 3:00 p. m. in the Willowdale Baptist Church. Ministers were the Rev. E. O. Gore and the Rev. Alfred Pitts. Burial was in Mast cemetery.

Surviving are the widow, Mrs. Lillie Mast, Vilas; two daughters, Miss Connie Mast, of the home, Mrs. Wayne Maitba, Boone; one son, Douglas Mast of the home; one stepson, Dennis Lawson, Vilas; two brothers, Gilbert Mast, Boone, Louis Mast, Sugar Grove; three sisters, Mrs. Myrtle Fletcher, Sugar Grove, Mrs. Opal Dennis, Banner Elk, Route 1, and Mrs. Annie Brinkley, Milton, N. C. There are two grandchildren.

Miss Miller Is Dairy Princess

Miss Nancy Miller, age 18, from Cove Creek High School was crowned June Dairy Princess of 1961. She was crowned by Miss Cora Lee Holder the 1960 June Dairy Princess.

Nancy is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Finley P. Bingham of Sugar Grove. She plans to enter business college in the fall of 1961.

Nancy will enter the area contest in Elkin on June 5. Judging in Elkin will begin at 2:30 and continue through a banquet for the contestant at 6:30 p. m.

The first runner up was Miss Jeanette Storie, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Carl Storie of Route 4, Boone. The second runner up was Miss Betty Martha Triplett, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. George Triplett of Route 1, Blowing Rock.

E. N. Hollar Dies In Fla.

Everett Newton Hollar, 54, former resident of Blowing Rock, died May 25 at New Smyrna Beach, Fla.

Funeral services were conducted May 28 in the Boone's Fork Baptist Church by the Rev. Robert Shores and the Rev. Carson Eggers. Burial was in the church cemetery.

He is survived by the widow, Mrs. Almeda L. Hollar; two sons, Kenneth Hollar, Greensboro, Grady Hollar, Blowing Rock; two daughters, Mrs. Allen Henson, Boone, Mrs. Dan McKay, Charlotte; one sister, Mrs. Alice Garland, Shulls Mills; one brother, Larney Hollar, Blowing Rock. There are six grandchildren.



Photo Flowers' Photo Shop

CAR that figured in Watauga county's second traffic fatality . . . officer points to spot where Mrs. Robert Hughes' body was found.

Mrs. Hughes Fatally Hurt By Passing Car

Mrs. Annabel Hughes, 22, died instantly Tuesday morning at 6:45 o'clock when she was struck by a car in front of her home on N. C. Highway 105. She was the wife of Robert D. (Buster) Hughes, member of the Watauga Democrat staff.

According to State Highway Patrolman W. D. Teem, who investigated the accident, Mrs. Hughes was hit by a car driven by John Lee Atwell, route 3, Boone. Mrs. Hughes was crossing the highway to get into a car driven by Rebecca Emma Earp, route 1, Vilas, on her way to work at Shadowline, Inc.

Mr. Atwell was traveling west and his left fender hit Mrs. Hughes, whose body was carried 122 feet, according to the patrolman's report. She died of a fractured neck.

A coroner's inquest will be held Monday morning at 10 o'clock, Patrolman Teem said.

Survivors, besides her husband include her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Stanley Dancy, of Zionville, and two brothers and two sisters.

Funeral service will be held at Pleasant Grove Baptist Church, Silvestone, at 2 p. m., Thursday. Interment will be in Mountlawn Memorial Gardens at Boone.

Surveyors are expected to complete a survey of the site during June, and construction will begin immediately upon completion of the survey, and will be completed in time for operations to get under way in November.

Operation of the slope, its snow manufacturing machinery, and lodge facilities will require a full time staff of 40 persons, and will be capable of serving huge crowds of visitors each week.

Long range plans of the corporation include an ice-skating rink and modern bowling lane facilities for Blowing Rock.

Application has been made to the Securities Exchange Commission for registration of the firm's stock at a par value of \$10 per share.

The project is viewed by its promoters as an attraction capable of drawing 5000 visitors to the area each week during its November through February season, bringing a tremendous upsurge in the winter time demand for traveler facilities and services of all kinds.



JOE DAVIS, President, Carolina's Section P. G. A.

Golf Classic Starts Sunday

Boone Golf Club will be host to the Carolina's Open Golf Tournament, which begins Sunday at the Boone Golf Course. Defending champion Al Smith and 70 other professional and amateur golfers are expected to be in Boone for the event.

This is the biggest golfing event held in Boone since the opening of the course in 1959. The tournament will be a sort of celebration for the opening of the course's third season.

Joe Davis, host professional, lists the following four-day program for the golfers:

Sunday, June 4—One day Carolina Golf Association tournament. Monday—Pro-Am \$300.00 plus entry fee, sponsored by The North-

western Bank and Watauga Savings and Loan Association.

Tuesday—18 holes stroke play (8:00 p. m., banquet for contestants, wives, members of press at Daniel Boone Inn).

Wednesday—18 holes stroke play.

Thursday—18 holes stroke play.

Joe Davis, president of the Carolina's section of the Professional Golfers Association, in praising the Boone Golf Club and its officials, on the local course, said, "It is with a great deal of pleasure that the Carolina's P. G. A. is playing the Carolina's Open here at Boone Country Club. Since this community built their course, we have always looked forward to coming (continued on page eight)

Land Bought, Surveys Will Begin Soon

A million dollar winter sports installation for Blowing Rock became a certainty Monday when Chamber of Commerce President L. H. Smith announced before a special meeting, acquisition of a site and finalization of plans for a ski slope and lodge facilities there.

A special committee of the Chamber of Commerce has been at work on the project since January.

A site has been selected on Payne Branch road, approved by the engineering firm chosen for a study of it, and purchased by the Blowing Rock Ski Lodge, Inc., a million dollar firm chartered for that purpose.

Immediate plans call for the ski run with lifts at two levels, providing a 1,500 ft. run for one lift installation, and 2,000 ft. run for the other and a 20 room ski lodge.

Development Committees Are Named

Committee members were named recently by the Northwest North Carolina Development Association to work with farmers in their area and with committees in other counties in the association to improve income through commodity programs. Watauga men named to committees include:

Beef cattle and sheep—Howard Edmisten, R. G. Shipley, Henry Taylor.

Dairying—Grade "A"—I. B. Wilson, Dick Winkler, Vance Keller.

Dairying—Manufactured milk—Fred Tester, W. R. Vines, Hal Cook.

Burley tobacco—L. E. Tuckwiller, M. L. Shepherd, Clint Eggers, Ned Glenn.

Poultry—Sam Moretz, Sanford Creed, Homer Critcher.

Swine—Stewart Simmons, Cecil Swift, Fred McGuire.

Forestry—Dr. F. Ray Derrick, Crayte Teague, Edgar Greene.

Apple production and marketing—D. T. Brown, Johnson Christenbury, Walter Coffey.

Small fruits and vegetables—J. C. Goodnight, J. C. Stanbury, the Rev. Rhett Y. Winters, Jr.

Gets MS Degree

Mr. John Edward Fletcher of Mabel received a Master of Science Degree in Aeronautical Engineering at North Carolina State College in graduation exercises held last Saturday.

His parents, Mr. and Mrs. J. C. Fletcher were in Raleigh for the occasion.