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WATAUGA DEMOCRAT

An Independent Weekly Newspaper . . . Seventy-Ninth Year of Continuous Publication

BOONE WEATHER		HI	LO
1965	71	64	50
June 28	78	64	50
June 29	83	59	43
June 30	80	59	44
July 1	76	62	44
July 2	76	63	44
July 3	73	59	44
July 4	79	63	48

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THE LONG, LONG LINE—kept thousands of Wataugans and visitors busy watching as the fourth annual Daniel Boone Wagon Train made its westward journey along King Street in Boone Saturday. (Staff photo)

Authentic Pioneer Trip Wagons, Teams, Riders Form Mile-Long Parade

Pageantry Is Best In Four Years Of Train

BY RACHEL RIVERS

Willard Watson was there, wearing a sombrero big-around as a wagon wheel, and he slicked his handlebar mustache and said he liked the parade, and "We'll be with the next'un."

And this writer holds there'll be plenty of next'un's.

Except for the glint of silver on one or two saddles, the Daniel Boone Wagon Train Saturday presented the most-authentic parade in its four-year history. And it was spectacular!

A blue-eyed blond came a-riding side-saddle, wearing a flowing gown that set off her black horse handsomely. And the bare-chested Presnell boys from Beech Mountain were comical as usual, and yet deadly serious about the mission of folks hitting the trail with the Wagon Train.

It was either Perry or Hoover (Presnell), who, during a brief halt of the parade, whipped out a gigantic antique pipe, lit it dramatically, sucked through his teeth and whooped, "Giddap" and the mule team dropped into the harness and started the wagon rolling again.

Pretty women in old-time dresses and bonnets complemented the Presnell rig, and a gentleman with a fretless banjo picked a happy tune from the back of the wagon and the procession moved westward along King Street.

There must have been 10,000 folks downtown for the parade.

Boone Camp

Ivey Moore and Dewitt Barnett brought the wagoners to the Boone Camp earlier than expected.

By noon Friday, most of the horses and mules were unhitched, and a few trail-weary horsemen and footmen were catching a nap before the big crowds converged on them.

Cotton candy, popcorn and candied apples added just a smidgin of the carnival touch, but the campfires and skillets of slicked potatoes took spectators back to the pioneer era the Wagon Train is set up to revere.

A young man cracked a bull whip for a band of admirers. A spirited horse tossed his head as a young woman sat confidently atop.

Boone businessmen came later in the day to conjure up tasty hamburgers and fried chicken dinners for the famished group.

And Ivey Moore found himself a real quiet spot and settled down for a moment's respite.

Dissension

Back down the trail, around Ferguson or Darby four or five wagons dropped out of the Wagon Train for one reason or another. One was reported to have thought the Train moved too slowly. Another thought it moved too quickly. Anyhow the Wagon Train way of life didn't suit.

But the consolation was that undaunted group of 200 wagons and 300 horsemen that came on up from Wilkes, all the way along the famous Daniel Boone Trail, the folks that stayed on for every minute of the modern-day procession — and as one gentleman said—didn't get too excited about the gangs of people who just had to visit the camps all along the way.

They really put on a show.

Bye, Old Friend

Goodbye, old friend. It was heard everywhere. When the parade was over, and the adventure had ended for

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HIGHLAND DANCERS—Carolyn Campbell of Charlotte, last year's "Junior Miss" for North Carolina, and Glenn Jones of Trenton, New Jersey, are shown congratulating each other for winning dancing trophies at the Grandfather Mountain Highland Games and Gathering of Scottish Clans. The event will be held this year July 9 and 10. Carolyn is the winner of many dancing medals, and Glenn topped all others in the Novice Class last year.

Scottish Clans To Have Highland Games Weekend

The Scots have a word for it, when they meet once yearly for the Grandfather Mountain Highland Games and Gathering of Scottish Clans.

It's "Ceud Mile Faighte," which means "100,000 welcomes," and it is a greeting extended by the Games president, N. J. MacDonald, who is also vice president of St. Andrews Society of the State of New York, and a member of the board of commissioners of Clan Donald Society of America.

The President's greeting will be echoed by hundreds of families of Scottish descent who take part in the two-day program each year, and by the thousands of spectators who are attracted to the event.

The 11th annual Games and Gathering will be held July 9-10 on MacRae Meadows, with the venerable peaks of Grandfather Mountain providing a fitting backdrop. The Games have become one of North Carolina's most colorful and unusual summertime events, featuring bagpipe bands in full regalia, highland dancing in costume, track and field events, Parade of Tartans, and religious services.

The opening day will be marked by the pageantry of pipe bands passing in review, competition for all ages in highland dancing in costume, novelty and open piping and amateur drumming, and a full slate of track and field events, which are sanctioned by the Amateur Athletic Union.

Track and field events will include broad jumps and dashes, shot put, tossing the cabar, highland wrestling, cross country race, and tug-of-war. Medals

will be awarded to the first three places in each event, plus the Drumbaie Trophy presentation to the Games' outstanding athlete.

The second day program will begin with worship services, and introduction of guests of honor. During the afternoon there will be a pipe band review, the Parade of Tartans, plus competition in highland dancing, featuring the Sword fling, Sean

Truibhas, and Strathspey and Reel.

Exhibitions in highland dancing, solo piping, and a series of track and field events will follow, and the Games conclude with the "Highland Shoot," the N. C. Archery Association tournament.

The Games were founded 11 years ago by Mrs. Agnes MacRae Morton of Wilmington and Linville.

Red Cross Chapter Elects New Officers

Members and directors were elected within the Watauga Chapter American Red Cross at the annual meeting June 27 at First Baptist Church, Boone.

Chapter chairman is S. M. Ayers; first vice-chairman, Clyde R. Greene; second vice-chairman, Richard Atkinson; secretary, Mrs. Kathryn Tuley; treasurer, Armfield Coffey; and executive secretary, Mrs. Goldie C. Fletcher.

Executive directors to serve one year are S. C. Eggers Sr., Ralph Tugman, H. R. Eggers, Conrad Yates, Hank Greer and Marshall Hargrave. Directors to serve two years: Kenneth Wilcox, the Rev. C. O. Vance, Mrs. Gaynelle Jones, the Rev. Ronda Horton, Moses Crutchfield and Mack Brown. Three-year directors are the Rev. George B. Hyler, Bert Mast, Mrs. Ann Brown, Mrs. Zeb Shook, Ralph Beshears and Richard Atkinson.

Chairman of personnel is John Robinson.

Jerry Adams heads the blood program, with Marshall Hargrave as recruitment chairman and Mrs. Florence Robinson as chairman of blood program volunteers.

First aid and water safety is again directed by Coach R. W. Watkins. Vice-chairman John Ward has charge of the program, rally and Miss Joan Askew, co-chairman, will work

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Ashe Horse Show Next Saturday

Ashe County's second annual horse show has been re-scheduled for Saturday, July 9, at Greenfield Acres.

The afternoon show will begin at 1:30 p. m., the night show beginning at 7:30 p. m.

Henson Named State Prexy Of R.F.D. Carriers

At the annual North Carolina Rural Letter Carriers' Association Convention in Goldsboro, Council Henson, rural carrier of Vilas, was elected as State President. He has served on the executive committee for three years and as vice-president of the association during the past year.

He, along with other elected delegates, will represent the N. C. Association at the National Convention in New Orleans in August.

The two-day convention held at Goldsboro Motor Hotel, ended Tuesday, June 26.

Other officers elected are Horace Ward of Rose Hill, vice-president; Leonard Sronce of Vale, secretary-treasurer; and executive committeemen: Thad Worrell of Goldsboro, chairman; Seth Gabriel of Mooresville and Charles Fouchee of Liberty.

Others from this area attending the State Convention were Mr. and Mrs. Roy Lyerly of Banner Elk, Mrs. Council Henson and Kim.

Four Are Killed In Fiery Plane Crash

Ray Critcher, Blowing Rock motel owner, and Manager of the ABC store at Blowing Rock and three Florida relatives died Tuesday night when a private plane they occupied, believed to have been piloted by Critcher, crashed and burned

near NC 184 in the vicinity of Banner Elk.

The other occupants of the light plane were tentatively identified as Critcher's niece, Sandy, 13, and nephew, Rusty, 16, children of Mr. and Mrs. J. M. Critcher of Miami and

Vivian Caruso, 15, of Bradenton, Fla., who were visiting the Critchers in Blowing Rock.

The identification was by Dr. Charles Davant of Blowing Rock, an aviation medical examiner and friend of Ray Critcher.

The bodies are at Reins-Sturdivant Funeral Home in Boone. Funeral plans are incomplete.

The sheriff's department got the first report of the crash from an unidentified witness. The Boone Rescue Squad was immediately dispatched to the scene.

Critcher took off from the Boone airstrip at 5:45 p. m. J. M. Critcher and other members of the family were at the airstrip waiting for the plane to return when they received word of the crash.

The bodies reportedly were burned beyond recognition.

South Is Cited For Youth Corps Work

Kenneth South of Tamarack Community returned from the National Youth Conference on Natural Beauty and Conservation, which was held in Washington, D. C., June 26-29.

South was one of more than 500 delegates representing the nation's leading youth organizations with a total membership of over 20 million. They came from the 50 states, Canada and Puerto Rico.

Highlight of the conference was the opening ceremony on the White House lawn, Monday morning, June 27. Mrs. Lyndon B. Johnson addressed delegates and was joined by President Johnson, who made a surprise appearance.

The First Lady urged the youths to "dream impossible dreams" particularly in their determination to do something

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Land Bank Sessions Here Set Record

The Federal Land Bank Association of Boone Saturday garnered its fifth attendance award from the national FLB Association. Although the 11,025 persons were under expected attendance, John H. Hollar, manager-appraiser, said Boone still gets the prize for welcoming the largest crowd of FLB stockholders to attend any meeting in the United States.

Rep. James T. Broyhill was among honored guests at the Appalachian Elementary School Saturday morning. He discussed the outlook for agriculture and told his audience that federal land banks provide continuous credit to farmers when they need it.

R. A. Darr, president of the Columbia Land Bank, said, "Farmers now have to buy more of the supplies and other things needed to carry on a farming operation. This means farmers use more capital . . . and much of this capital is in the form of credit . . . through the land bank, contributing to the progress of all business in this area."

Hollar reported that the bank loaned \$659,808 up to March, 1965, and that at the end of 1965, there were 769 loans outstanding with a total balance of \$3,984,117.26.

Stockholders re-elected Gordon A. Chambers of State Road and Dykes Wilson of Granite Falls and other directors are S. C. Eggers of Boone, president; Carlis Lee Mitchell of Sparta and O. Paul Bower of Jefferson

outstanding service by Jack Howard, national administrator of the Neighborhood Youth Corps.



At the national Youth Conference on Natural Beauty and Conservation in Washington, D. C., June 26-29, James Kenneth South (left) enrollee from Boone is congratulated for his