

The Democrat led all N. C. weeklies in 1965 Press Assn. contests. It won first place in General Excellence, Excellence in Typography, Local News Coverage, Want Ads. and Second in Display Advertising.

BOONE WEATHER			
1967	H	L	Snow Prec.
Dec. 27	42	17	41 10
Dec. 28	34	27	.01 46 25
Dec. 29	39	19	1 .65 51 16
Dec. 30	32	16	.60 25
Dec. 31	38	24	.00 31
Jan. 1	52	25	tr. 61 44
Jan. 2	46	25	tr. 53 47
Snow given to nearest half-inch.			



Flames burst from the roof of the administration building on the Appalachian State Teachers College campus.

Six Fire Companies Contain Blaze Million Dollar Loss As Fire Destroys ASTC Ad. Building

Young Man Of Year Is Sought By Jaycees

The Boone Jaycees have formed a committee to seek nominations for the outstanding young man of the year in the city, according to Bob Snead, Jaycee president.

The committee is canvassing churches, business, clubs and organizations to determine which young man—21 through 35—has contributed the most to the community during the year.

According to Phil Templeton, DSA Chairman, nomination blanks will be available from any local Jaycee, in local banks, and other businesses.

The Distinguished Service Award winner from Boone will be entered in the North Carolina Jaycee contest. The state winners will then be entered in the national competition, which chooses America's Ten Outstanding Young Men.

Irreplaceable Documents Destroyed

BY RACHEL RIVERS

The fiery loss of ASTC's administration building Thursday has been estimated at \$1 million, but before the flames were firmly rooted in the north end of the 45-year-old structure, college officials already were planning campus operations in a temporary facility.

Between 2:30 and 5 p. m. that wintry day, six fire departments and more than 50 men were to contain the inferno.

It was to be a moment to moment emergency as 40 mile-per-hour winds swept in from the northwest, putting in peril the library and Watauga Hall, a women's dormitory formerly known as Dalph-Blan. It was to be wooden girders wavering behind bright orange, time-worn brick contrasting against smoky clouds overtaking the last of the sky's blue.

And it was to be the pronouncement that rescuers are barred from the building: personal danger is too great.

Campus grounds, neglected by the student body since the Dec. 9 recess, had been swollen alternately with snow and rain water and frozen into a slippery sea.

Faculty, maintenance crews and passersby, joined forces to heft filing cabinets, office furnishings and contributory odds and ends from the smoky interior. ASTC Business Manager Ned Trivette was to say Monday that the cashier's money was retrieved, just in time, from one of the buildings' two vaults, and "We got enough records from each of the areas of our office to . . . piece things together."

The effects of the English and foreign language departments, the language laboratory and the contents of faculty offices were to be destroyed. And while thousands of irreplaceable documents and personal mementos were giving in to the blaze, their sound was to ring like a huge sheet of tinfoil held up to a gale wind.

Chronicle

Early arrivers saw smoke boiling out of the eaves and ventilators, as a tragedy long-feared came into being.

By 3 p. m., eight 2½-inch hoses were conveying water from the town and college systems. Firemen from Boone, Blowing Rock and Deep Gap were there, and forces from Crossnore, Newland and Banner Elk were to steer their trucks along the icy accessways within minutes. Four hoses were on each system, but the men could only work to keep the fire from spreading. As Boone Fire Chief, R. D. Hodges said, "It was gone when we got there."

As the eaves of the auditorium—the jutting, north end of the ad building—were splintering paint, buckling and falling in smoldering heaps, the last of the salvage operations was completed. When the north roof collapsed, exploding a basement window in back, and gushing fire into the broad east-to-west wing of the building, file drawers were being carried out of the office of ASTC President W. H. Plemmons.

A ladder was put up to the second floor window, in the east corner, as rescuers passed down the heavy files.

Hodges had dispatched some of his men to put up a curtain of water between the auditorium and the building.

The modern building, which will be erected on the center of the mountain campus at a location where the ancient



A last, smoke-shrouded glimpse of the handsome administrative center . . . never again to be seen intact. (Staff photos)

Contracts For Youth Corps Program For WAMY Signed

Contracts for the Neighborhood Youth Corps program in Watauga, Avery, Mitchell and Yancey counties were signed last week by officials of the Labor Department in Washington and W.A.M.Y. Community Action.

Under the new contracts, which cover only the Out-of-School portion of the Youth Corps program, 200 high school dropouts may be enrolled in the program at any one time during the year. The In-School portion of the program was approved earlier in December, providing 200 part-time jobs for students still in school.

The Neighborhood Youth Corps program is part of the W.A.M.Y. Community Action program which serves the four counties.

The W.A.M.Y. Youth Corps program is open to unemployed dropouts aged 16 through 21, with 47 of the 200 openings being reserved for women.

The program is designed to develop good work habits in the youth and make them employable, according to local Youth Corps director H. C. Moretz. It does not try to teach specific job skills.

Approval of a new W.A.M.Y. program which will teach specific job skills, however, is expected any day, Moretz said. The new program, called On-Job-Training, will pay employers for the cost of training new employees. The job training program will be filled mainly with graduates of the Youth Corps, although other unemployed adults in the four

counties will be eligible.

If the job training program is approved in Washington, Moretz believes the local Youth Corps program will be one of the best in the nation.

"If we can teach these youths how to work, and then get them training for permanent jobs," Moretz said, "we think a lot of good, productive citizens will be added to the area."

The basic work schedule in the new Youth Corps program will be unchanged. Enrollees will work 25 hours a week at \$1.25 an hour. They will also spend four hours a week in basic education and an average of two hours a week in counseling. Enrollees are not paid for time spent in classes and counseling.

A majority of the male enrollees, 130, will work on seven sanitation crews and four reforestation crews in the four counties. The sanitation crews build privies, septic tanks and sanitary water supply systems, while the reforestation crews work on planting trees and woodland improvement.

The supervisors of these crews will be direct employees of the Youth Corps under the new program. In the past, they had been paid through the health departments and the soil conservation service. These agencies will continue to select work sites and provide supervision as in the past.

Other enrollees will work for schools, hospitals and town governments as clerk-typists, mechanics, maintenance aides, cafeteria and dietician aides, health and nurses aides and meter maids. These enrollees will be supervised by personnel at the agencies where they work.

Costs of the program will be \$480,870, with \$350,000 going

for enrollee wages and fringe benefits, \$151,250 for administrative salaries, supervision and expenses, and \$24,620 for equipment and supplies. The program will run from December 19, 1966 to December 19, 1967.

Warehouse At City Hall Is Almost Done

The doors of City Hall's new warehouse were put up Monday, and all that remains to be done is the wiring.

Mayor Brown says he is particularly pleased that the two phases so far completed in the four-stage construction have been achieved "without raising taxes or issuing bonds."

Phase three, a fire department, is on the agenda now. It will contain a three-truck garage and hose room, and the Mayor says Fire Department personnel might make suggestions as to utilization of space.

The station will be constructed between the police station and the Variety Store on West King, and when it is finished, phase 4 will be started.

The fourth stage of construction will be a new city hall. Incorporating a council room that will seat 64, and other offices.

Co. Ministers Name Officers

The Watauga County Ministerial Association met Monday, Jan. 2, at 10 a. m. in Deerfield Methodist Church Parsonage for fellowship and refreshments and in Deerfield Methodist Church Sanctuary for the regular monthly meeting.

New officers for 1967 are: The Rev. C. O. Vance, president; the Rev. Richard Graf, vice-president; the Rev. F. W. Dowd Bangle, secretary; and the Rev. J. K. Parker, Jr., treasurer.

A constitution was adopted after the Rev. Richard Crowder presented it and answered questions concerning it. The Rev. James O. Young was appointed WAMY representative.

The Rev. Hank Greer demonstrated the new audio tapes to be used in the new Watauga Hospital Chapel and reported on its progress.

The Rev. Paul Kesterson, director of associational promotion and enlargement, Raleigh, conducted devotions which centered upon the prophet, Amos.

Former Wataugan Is Fatally Shot

West Jefferson — The funeral for Baker McGuire, 53, of West Jefferson, who was shot to death in front of the Town Hall last Tuesday night, was held at 1 p. m. Friday at Baldwin Community Church. Burial was in West Jefferson Cemetery.

Meanwhile, Conley Wyatt, 52, of Deep Gap remained in jail at Jefferson on a charge of killing McGuire. He was arrested on a murder warrant issued by Mayor Carl B. Graybeal of West Jefferson.

Officers said Wednesday no date has been set for a preliminary hearing. Wyatt was arrested at North Wilkesboro by Wilkes officers about two hours after the shooting. Officers said he operates a store on N. C. Highway 16 in Wilkes County near Ashe County at

the "Jumping Off Place". Officers said they had not established a motive for the slaying. They said Wyatt drove his car in front of Town Hall, opened fire on McGuire and left him lying in the street, mortally wounded.

McGuire was born in Watauga County to John M. and Blanche Blackburn McGuire. He was in the Army and stationed at Pearl Harbor when the Japanese attacked on Dec. 7, 1941.

He is survived by his father; two sisters, Mrs. Dan P. Campbell of Deland, Fla., and Mrs. Coolidge Goodman of Bristol, Tenn.; and three brothers, James W. McGuire of Jefferson, John Monzell McGuire of Deland and Howard B. McGuire of Mogadore, Ohio.

Eden New Superintendent Of Blue Ridge Parkway

Appointment of James M. Eden as Superintendent of the Blue Ridge Parkway, Virginia-North Carolina, the scenic route linking Shenandoah National Park Virginia, and the Great Smoky Mountains National Park, North Carolina-Tennessee, was announced in Washington by George B. Hartzog, Jr., Director of the National Park Service.

Eden, 53, who has served as assistant superintendent of the Parkway since 1964, succeeds Samuel P. Weem, who has

taken an assignment in Australia to help that country develop a national park system.

A native of Council Grove, Kansas, Eden began his career in the National Park Service at Banderler National Monument, New Mexico, as a Foreman in 1934. Following duty with the Seabees in World War II, he returned to Banderler as a Park Ranger and in 1947 was reassigned to Grand Canyon National Park, Arizona, as administrative assistant.

He left Grand Canyon in

1952 to become Chief Park Ranger at Carlsbad Caverns National Park, New Mexico, and two years later was promoted to Superintendent of Organ Pipe Cactus National Monument, Arizona.

In 1959 he was selected for the job of Project Manager at the Glen Canyon Project, Arizona-Utah, and later became the first Superintendent of the Glen Canyon National Recreation Area, where he remained until his appointment as Assistant Superintendent of the Blue Ridge Parkway.

Watauga County Hospital Getting Final Inspections

Wednesday before Christmas, the Medical Care Commission inspected the new Watauga County Hospital and ascertained it was 95 per cent complete and the work, in general, was well done.

However, according to Mayor Wade E. Brown — also chairman of the hospital board — Commission representatives "were concerned about some technical matters, and asked for closer examination and testing by engineers, especially as regards electrical work."

Brown said electrical engineers came Dec. 27-30 and tested the system thoroughly. "Electrical contractors went behind them, correcting deficiencies" and now the final details of completion are being carried out.

"Most of the hospital furnishings are stored here and ready to be installed," Brown said Tuesday. But the architect advised that more checks into the heating and air conditioning system be finished

before he issues his certificate of approval.

This certificate will enable the board to start moving in the furnishings. Some of the architect's men are to make further inspections this week.

Covered Wagon Is Asked By Fla. Fair

A covered wagon in Florida? No. The Florida State Fair the latter part of February.

According to Wilcox, he was contacted by Bob Conway, historic site specialist with the Vance Birthplace Museum in Weaverville, who is inquiring whether an authentic wagon and team might be available for the Florida State Fair the latter part of February.

Contract completion date was Nov. 20, however Brown said "Numerous circumstances made completion impossible by that time."

"We hope by the first of (continued on page nine)"

The wagner would represent the summerly Daniel Boone Wagon Train and outdoor drama, Horn in the West.

The Fair coincides with the annual re-enactment of the overthrow of Tampa by pirates.

Matters of finance and feasibility—at this late date—will be taken up by the board of directors. Wilcox says even if it is too late to "get in gear" in time for the February event, the directors may discuss a similar Florida promotion for springtime.

New Classroom Building At ASTC Costs \$310,000

The cost of constructing a new classroom building on the campus of Appalachian State Teachers College has been increased by \$310,500, all of which will be provided through a Higher Education Facilities Act grant.

Total cost of the proposed structure will be \$1,556,250. Two-thirds of this amount has

been appropriated by the state legislature, while the remaining one-third will come from a \$518,750 grant from the HEFA. The N. C. Advisory Budget Commission last week authorized the cost increase.

The modern building, which will be erected on the center of the mountain campus at a location where the ancient

Old Lovell Hall now stands, will house the language departments and two other academic departments.

Ned Trivette, director of business affairs at ASTC, said bids on the structure will be let in the spring. The building is expected to be completed by the opening of the fall quarter of 1968.