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Weather Thursday: high 64, low 29. Friday was like a spring day.

The Census Bureau, in its first look at who gets government help, reported Thursday that federal benefit programs reach one out of every three American households.

The House and Senate officially clamped the new mood of austerity upon themselves, their staffs, judges and other top federal officials Thursday by rejecting a 16.8% wage increase.

The Tryon High student body had a party Friday morning. Student Council President, Ken Taylor, said the occasion was to say farewell to Walter Mize who was leaving for Thailand as an AFS student and to honor the boys basketball team who will play Friday in the State 1-A finals. Mrs. Beth McCallister presented a gift from the faculty to Walter Mize. Athletic Director Geoffrey Tennant praised the basketball team on their accomplishment, talent and character. He also said that Tom Foster and Coach Mike Pearson had gotten the most out of the team. Coach Pearson introduced each of the players and told what a pleasure it had been to coach

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Polk Schools Advisory Council To Meet

The Polk County Community Schools Advisory Council will meet Tuesday, March 17, at 7:30 p.m. in the conference room at NCNB in Columbus. Subjects for discussion will be a proposed summer day-camp and library program at the elementary school sites, and the Reading Is Fundamental (RIF) program.

Baseball

Monday
Landrum at Polk Central
Tuesday
Tryon at Jonesville
Friday
Landrum at Spartanburg

Golf

Monday
Tryon in five team match with Brevard, Pisgah, Tuscola and West Henderson at Red Fox Country Club.

Rating of Excellence

The Polk Central Chamber Singers participated in the Western District III Small Ensemble Chofal Festival held Feb. 19th at Warren Wilson College. They received a rating of Excellent.

The Chamber Singers are under the direction of Carron Prince.

Meet Tonight

The Polk County Commissioners will meet tonight at 7 o'clock at the Green Creek School.

Ass't Superintendent For Polk Schools

Superintendent Larry D. Coble of the Polk County School System has announced the appointment of Ronald B. Singletary to the newly created post of Assistant Superintendent.

The decision to recommend Singletary to the Board of Education for approval was made unanimously by the five-member selection committee, which had been screening final candidates for two weeks prior to the recent Board meeting. The new Assistant Superintendent will take up his duties in Instruction and Administrative Service on April 13.

Mr. Singletary is a native of Goldsboro and Jacksonville, and is married to the former Judy Aman. He received a B.S. degree in Elementary Education from Pembroke State University in 1969, earned a Masters of Education degree in School Administration from Eastern Carolina University in 1972, and an Education Specialist degree from Appalachian State University in 1977. He is presently enrolled in the doctoral program in Educational Administration at the University of North Carolina at Greensboro, and expects to complete the academic requirements this spring.

During his twelve years in public education, Mr. Singletary has served in the Cumberland County Schools as a seventh

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Fires

The Columbus Volunteer Fire Department responded to three fires Wednesday and Thursday. Wednesday at 5:30 p.m. a station wagon driven by Mrs. Claudie Pack caught fire in the Polk Central High School parking lot. The car was totaled. Columbus and Mill Spring fire departments answered the call.

Thursday about 5:30 p.m. the Columbus Fire Department was called to a woods fire near the residence of Kevin Thompson on old No. 19. The fireman, along with the Forestry Service battled the blaze for about an hour before bringing it under control. About an acre was burned.

Thursday at 7:45 p.m. the Columbus firemen were called to the west bound lane of I-26 about halfway up the mountain. A battery box fell off a truck coming down the mountain and crossed the medium and knocked a hole in the fuel tank of a tractor trailer coming up the mountain and several hundred gallons of fuel spilled on the highway. Water could have only made matters worse so the firemen called the State Transportation Department and they sanded the area. The bouncing battery box also hit another truck and punctured the front tire.

Burning Permits Are Cancelled

All burning permits in North Carolina have been cancelled due to dry conditions.