

Fiddling & Football & Fun Equals MHC Homecoming

Mars Hill College bubbled with activity last weekend as three big events coincided: homecoming, the Bascom Lamar Lunsford Festival, and the Guilford football game. Mountain musicians offered some of the finest fiddling to be heard anywhere; homecoming queen Melanie Hall and football queen Carol Hawk were crowned; women stitched quilts; the Rural Life Museum gave a preview at its new home on campus; the Center next door displayed its programs and products; Drew and Louise Langsner demonstrated how to hew a poplar log and other techniques of country woodcraft; old-timey cooks produced mouth-watering cider, sausage biscuits, and apple butter; and a woman brewed up a bubbling batch of lye soap. Oh, and Mars Hill beat Guilford 10-7 to keep itself undefeated this season.



A BALLOON on a windy day is almost as unwieldy as it is unpredictable. Crew members struggled with it for over an hour

at the college athletic field, finally deciding to wait for calmer weather.



TALL HAROLD GARRISON bends to tend to a customer from Miami. Harold brought his finely-crafted wood-shaving flowers and an assortment of walking canes. His flowers, carved from white maple, contain as many as 400 curly shavings each.



LIZ SMATHERS SHAW and her husband, Lynn Shaw, fiddled both onstage and on the campus lawn

for much of the weekend, drawing enthusiastic crowds wherever they went.



QUILTING is an old habit with mountain people, and the oldest-fashioned way to share work and gossip. Here Katherine Rice and Inez Rayburn of Black Mountain help out on a quilt by Liona Rice of Mars Hill, as passersby stop to chat.



EXTENSION HOMEMAKERS of Madison County produced enough good mouth-watering pickles and preserves to win no fewer than 76 ribbons this year. Doris Roberts, who works with the Extension Service as a nutrition aide, tends the exhibit.



NATIVES AND VISITORS joined on the college campus for some spirited square dancing, accom-

panied by a full string/fiddle band.

Memories Of Molasses

Letter To The Editor

Editor the News Record;
When I glanced over the front page of The News Record this morning, and saw the article "Making Molasses", plus the vivid pictures of the "cane patch", the cane mill, and the "boiling down" of the cane juice, it set me reminiscing, bringing back poignant memories of yesteryear.
But just imagine my sur-

prise when I read your editorial quoting from my book "Home in Madison County" which was published by East Tennessee State University a few years ago. It brought tears to my eyes!
In fact, the whole paper is so full of interesting, newsy, homey items and good pic-

tures, that I would like for you to please mail a copy of each of my five daughters and my sister.
With kindest regards to you, and to "Pop" who has been so faithful over the years.
LENA PENLAND PURKEY
Knoxville, Tenn.

Sunday Night Singing

The regular second Sunday night singing will be Oct. 14 at the Alexander Baptist Church beginning at 7 p.m.
Groups taking part in the singing will be Bear Creek Quartet, Alexander Church

singers and others. All singers and listeners are welcome.
Jean Francois Champollion deciphered the hieroglyphs on the Rosetta Stone in 1822.

Heard And Seen

By POP

Baseball fans had a real treat last week during the playoffs between Pittsburgh and Cincinnati and also between the Orioles and Angels... imagine, the first three games going extra innings and the great comeback by the Angels who trailed 9-1 and then almost won the game in the ninth inning before losing 9-8. The playoffs were the most interesting I can remember. (Except for the fourth game between the Angels and Orioles). In addition to the great plays by the teams, the camera work was excellent as were the announcers.

Way back while I was playing high school baseball and also playing in the Madison County League, we didn't know what it was to wear batting gloves, sliding gloves, catchers' bibs, pine tar and rosin for the bats, much less "doughnuts"... we only had two or three bats and maybe three

baseballs... that was when we had roundhouse curves, drops, knucklers, etc., not sliders, etc. But we had a lot of fun anyway. Every time we had a game we had to beg enough money to buy a ball or two. We weren't blessed with the large baseball gloves and mits worn today. I can well remember putting a sponge in my thin and worn first baseman's "pud" when "Snake" Carver was pitching and also in high school to catch the rifle-like throws of Carl Bryan, Warren Ramsey and others... today, they call it velocity... in my playing days we called it speed and great throwing arms. How things change!

The first touch of "real fall" has been in evidence for the past several days... in addition to the flake or two of snow in the higher elevations, there has also been some light frosts. Maybe a few more frosts will help my kudzu disappear. These past few

mornings have been nippy and invigorating and a blanket at night feels real good... the Autumn colors will be at a peak in a few days and there's nothing more beautiful than the mountains this time of year.

It's always nice to hear of former residents and subscribers who read this column... a few days ago, the Arnold Hensleys of Plano, Ill., were visiting in the county and Mrs. Hensley told me she always read this column... others who have moved to various other places have told me or written that they enjoy Heard and Seen... I appreciate this.

I certainly did appreciate the unique message I received last week from some of the gals at the Waynesville Mountaineer... including Betty, Brenda, Jacki, Vicki and Patri... they are a fine group... I'm going to visit them and the rest of "the gang" as soon as I can see my way clear.

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