

# THE NEWS RECORD

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On the Inside . . .

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Is Undefeated This Year

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## Hunt And Scott Both Visit Madison

### Scott Addresses Meeting At MHC

Attacking the growth of state government and calling for higher salaries for teachers, former Gov. Bob Scott brought his campaign to Madison County on Monday when he held a breakfast meeting at Mars Hill College cafeteria with a mixed group of 30 supporters and interested listeners.

Scott recalled the many county roads his father helped to pave and the political friends he has made here over the years as he criticized "too many programs attached to the educational system" and the "proliferation of government bureaucracy" under the Hunt administration.

Scott has been criticized for challenging Gov. James Hunt,

a fellow Democrat, to a primary battle that could weaken the party state-wide. A dairy farmer by vocation, he returned from a post with the Appalachian Regional Commission in Washington to seek the top job in the state community college system, which he failed to get.

Calling himself a "strong believer in the free enterprise system," he charged Gov. Hunt with poor spending priorities.

"One of the main reasons government exists," he said, "is to help the poor and the elderly and the handicapped who can't help themselves. Yet the handicapped services people tell me that their funds are being cut back. At the same time the governor has ordered a \$1.4 million jet helicopter to fly industrial prospects around the state. I understand that this helicopter will be able to fly in bad weather and at night. Well, they don't have any business flying in bad weather, and they can't see any industrial land at night, so I don't see why this expensive helicopter is needed.

"I would also question all the money being spent to expand the governor's staff. This administration has increased its staff by 130 percent. I want to discourage the proliferation of government bureaucracy, which is a nonproductive segment of our society. When I'm governor, you can count on me doing a right good pruning job down there in Raleigh.

"A few years ago we saw the

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GOVERNOR HUNT, right, presents a check for improvements to the Hot Springs water system to Mayor Swan B. Huff outside the Hot Springs Community Center. Later in the day he announced a grant to help

repair erosion damage at Madison High School and presented a check for \$53,750 to Commissioner James Ledford at Greater Ivy for the new industrial site's water system.

### Hunt Stops At Hot Springs, Madison High, Greater Ivy

Gov. James Hunt Jr. swept into Madison County on Monday like a political Santa Claus, bearing gifts totalling some \$190,000 which he dispensed in Hot Springs, Marshall and Greater Ivy.

The largest check he brought with him was for Hot

Springs' water system. This grant, for \$88,400, is part of funding recently obtained to construct 11,450 feet of water mains, 11 fire hydrants, a chlorinator, a master meter, and an equipment house. The total project cost is \$353,600.

Another check, for \$53,750,

will provide water service to the Madison County industrial park near Marshall and the nursing home in Mars Hill. Actual construction at the industrial site will include a 500,000 gallon elevated water storage tank and 2,800 feet of water main connecting the tank to the Marshall water system. The total cost of that project will be \$215,000.

He also announced a grant for \$48,000 to help repair erosion damage at Madison High School.

Unlike former Gov. Bob Scott, who visited the county earlier the same day and who is running against Hunt for the gubernatorial nomination this spring, Hunt launched no campaign attacks. He did not even mention re-election, confining his talks - at the Hot Springs Community Center, Madison High School, and Greater Ivy Community Center - to county projects and people.

Throughout Gov. Hunt's visit he was accompanied by virtually the entire Democratic hierarchy in this Democratic county, underlining the difficulty of unseating an incumbent.

"I can't think of any reason," said Zeno Ponder, co-chairman of Hunt's county campaign "why another candidate should challenge - the first governor of this state to get along with a president since FDR, and who has had the courage to face a tough issue like succession. There's no reason why Bob Scott couldn't have waited four years."

The governor was accompanied on his speedy drive from one end of the county and back by Zeno Ponder, Sheriff E.Y. Ponder, State Sen. Larry Leake, Probation Officer Roger Haynie, Wayne McDevitt of the State Department of Natural Resources and Community Developers, State Rep. Liston Ramsey, and State Rep. Ernest Messer of Canton.

He presented the Hot Springs check to Mayor Swan B. Huff, and paid tribute to Commissioner Virginia Anderson, Day Care Supervisor Teresa Zimmerman and Nutrition Site Supervisor Dorothy Shupe. Among the others present were Court Clerk James Cody, Register of Deeds Jena Lee Buckner and Tax Collector Harold Wallin.

Wayne McDevitt is the second co-chairman of Hunt's Madison County campaign, while Roger Haynie is the friends of Jim Hunt coordinator, having charge overall of the county effort.

Gov. Hunt arrived at Asheville airport at 11:25 a.m. and left a few minutes later by SBI car for Madison County. He met two other cars at the Marshall bypass and arrived in Hot Springs on schedule at 12:50. He was met by a crowd of the loyal and the curious, as well as the students from the Hot Springs Elementary School and seventh and eighth graders from Spring Creek School. The governor struck up a quick rapport with the students, who cheered him loudly half a dozen times during his talk.

He was greeted by Commissioner Virginia Anderson: "I am pleased to welcome Gov. Hunt back to Hot Springs, and delighted that it's under more agreeable circumstances than it was last time." Hunt's last visit to Hot Springs was to the county - was it the destructive flood of 1976?

Sen. Larry Leake greeted the "interim" governor: "Although a Democratic, I'm

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### Head Start Gets HEW Funds For 12 Months

The Department of Health, Education and Welfare (HEW) has approved a grant of \$399,884 to the Opportunity Corporation of Madison-Buncombe counties, Congressman Lamar Gudger announced today.

The funding is for Head Start Programs in the area and was authorized by HEW's Office of Human Development Services, Administration for Children, Youth and Families.

An HEW spokesperson said the grant will be for continuing present Head Start Programs for the next 12-month period.



CHATTING WITH former Gov. Bob Scott are, left to right, Doug Robinson, Scott, Otis Duck, and Warren Ponder, who was named Scott's campaign chairman for

Madison County. The occasion was a breakfast meeting with Democrats at Mars Hill College cafeteria Monday morning.

### Older Citizens Offered Tax Breaks

North Carolina's senior citizens are offered a number of special tax benefits when they file their 1979 Federal income tax returns, the Internal

Revenue Service says. For those who are 65 or older and single, they are not required to file a tax return unless their gross income is at

least \$4,300. If a couple is filing jointly, they can make \$7,400 tax free if both are 65 or older; and if one is under 65, the income amount is \$5,400.

Many North Carolinians began receiving Social Security pensions for the first time last year. The IRS says that monies received from Social Security are not taxable.

This year the personal exemption has been increased to \$1,000; however, for taxpayers 65 or older, the exemption is doubled.

If a senior citizen has a question about Federal income taxes, they should call the IRS at 1-800-822-6890, toll-free from anywhere in North Carolina. (The toll-free line is monitored at random to make sure you are receiving courteous and accurate information.)

### A-B Tech Schedules Course On How To Build With Logs

The Continuing Education program of Asheville-Buncombe Technical College will offer a course in log building construction beginning Feb. 11 at Marshall Elementary School. The course will meet each Monday night from 7 to 10 for 10 weeks.

Traditional and modern techniques of log construction will be taught, and students will actually construct a small building from start to finish during the course, using natural materials and hand

tools. Certain basic tools will be required, including a saw, axe, tape or rule, framing square, level, chalk line, etc.

There will be a materials fee of approximately \$20 and a \$5 registration fee.

Peter Gott, a Madison County craftsman, will be the instructor.

Class size is limited and pre-registration is required by calling the Continuing Education office at A-B Tech, 294-1212.

## Madison County Doctors Set Record

Quietly, two Madison County physicians, Dr. Otis Duck of Mars Hill and Dr. Lawrence McElroy of Marshall, have been working on a medical record of sorts. Dr. Duck has been president of the county medical society since 1951 and Dr. McElroy has been secretary-treasurer for the same period. This year they enter their 30th year in these positions - longer than any other county leadership team in the state.

Dr. McElroy has practiced medicine in the county since 1932, and Dr. Duck since 1946, but the Madison County Medical Society was moribund during and immediately after World War II. It was fully reactivated only in 1951, when officers were elected. Since then, the membership has remained quite steady at around 10 members. Today there are nine members and two associate members, who are dentists.

The county medical society is an affiliate of the N.C. State Medical Society, which, in turn, is a unit of the American Medical Association. All AMA members must first be members of the local organizations. Drs. Duck and McElroy are also charter members of the American Academy of Family Practice, founded in 1946.

The function of the society is primarily educational. The group meets once a month for a scientific program, usually to hear an invited speaker. For these meetings each member receives two hours' credit for continuing education; the state medical society requires 150 hours of such exercises or classes every three years to keep in touch with advances in medical knowledge. At the January meeting, held on Tuesday of this week, Dr.

John Lawrence of Asheville gave a talk on pacemakers.

Both doctors are natives of Madison County. Dr. McElroy was born in Marshall, in the house next to the Baptist Church - a pre-Civil War house. He went to college at the University of North Carolina when that school only offered two years of medical education, then finished his degree work at Washington University in St. Louis. He did his internship at Harper Hospital in Rochester, N.Y., then returned to Marshall in 1932, at the nadir of the Depression.

"It was rather tough then," recalled Dr. McElroy. "The banks closed here about the time I started. A lot of people couldn't pay when they were sick, and a lot of others could only pay when their tobacco money came in.

"The diagnoses have changed a good deal since the '30s," he went on. "There used to be a lot of what they called catarrh of the stomach. No one really knew what that was, but anyone who had anything wrong with their stomach said they had catarrh.

"There were many more communicable diseases then. Measles was much more serious, and diphtheria; I even had a few cases of typhoid. One woman was in the hospital with typhoid for nearly two weeks before they diagnosed it. Now vaccines have almost wiped out these diseases."

Dr. Duck was born on Middle Fork near Mars Hill, and went to Mars Hill High School and Wake Forest College. He trained for medical practice in Philadelphia, Knoxville, and at Harvard University. He came back to Madison County in 1946 and helped reactivate



DRS. LAWRENCE McELROY, seated, and Otis Duck met in Dr. McElroy's office in Marshall to reminisce about medical practice in Madison. Dr. McElroy has been practicing here since 1932, Dr. Duck since 1946.

the county medical society.

Like Dr. McElroy, Dr. Duck has seen many changes in the practice of medicine since his early years.

"I think one of the chief changes in our rural area has been the improvement in health education," he said. "When I first came here in

1946, only 5 to 10 percent of the women were having babies in hospitals. This has completely reversed. Now, I'd say that 90 percent are having them in hospitals.

"I would also say that antibiotics have been one of the greatest assets to the practice

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