

THE NEWS RECORD

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On the inside . . .
Find Out What Kids
Want For Christmas In
Youth Speak Page 12

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Merry Christmas

from
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First Scholarships Awarded

By NICHOLAS HANCOCK
Editor

Three 1980 Madison High School graduates became the recipients of the first Madison Central Optimist Club scholarships at an awards dinner last Thursday night in Marshall.

Lisa Edwards, Kathy Pack and Lucille Peterson each received a \$250 check from Bryce Hall, local Optimist Club president. Each of the young ladies will receive the other half of the \$500 scholarships next fall upon confirmation that they have enrolled in an institute of higher learning to continue their education.

"We are thankful and proud that we were able to create the scholarship fund in such a short time," Hall said before presenting the checks to the students.

The Madison Central Optimist Club only received its charter in March of this year, but it is the largest chartered chapter in Optimist International which includes the United States and Canada.



Photo by N. Hancock

OPTIMIST SCHOLARSHIPS were awarded to Lisa Edwards, Kathy Pack and Lucille Peterson Thursday night at an awards dinner in Marshall. Bryce Hall, president of the Madison Central Optimist Club presented the checks to the three students.

"Before coming here, I was in another Optimist Club and it took that club four years before it got a scholarship

fund started," Hall said.

The club took on the scholarship fund as a local project and quickly raised \$1,900 for the fund. Each year the club will award three \$500 scholarships to Madison High School graduates who apply for the funds and meet the criteria set up by the club's scholarship committee. Hall explained the scholarships were awarded on the basis of financial need, scholastic ability, community and church involvement and extra-curricular activities.

The scholarships are awarded directly to the students to use however they choose for expenses in continuing their education. The applicants must be enrolled in a college or institute of higher education, Hall said.

The scholarship committee which reviews the applications and selects the final three recipients consists of Bruce Phillips, assistant principal at Madison High; Gerald Young, member of the board of education; Dr. Charles Powell; Bryce Hall; Mrs. Wills Wyatt, Madison High School guidance counselor;

and Bill Stump of Arbee Manufacturing.

The scholarship committee reviewed seven applications for this year's scholarships and selected these three young ladies as the recipients.

"I am honored and very grateful to the Optimist Club," said Kathy Pack after receiving her check. Miss Pack is a freshman at Mars Hill College where she plans to major in business and finance. She is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Britton Pack of Mars Hill.

Lisa Edwards, the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Lloyd Edwards of Spring Creek, is a freshman student at Western Carolina University where she will be majoring in Speech and Hearing. Miss Edwards said the scholarship will be very beneficial to her in helping to meet her college expenses.

Lucille Peterson is studying computer programming as a first-year student at Asheville-Buncombe Technical College. The daughter of Mr. Frank Peterson of Wolf Laurel, Miss Peterson told the Optimist Club members, "This scholarship means a lot to me, I'm very thankful."

Four Children Injured In Head-on Crash

Four Weaverville youngsters were injured, one seriously, last Wednesday night when the car in which they were riding collided head-on with another vehicle on N.C. 213 about one-quarter mile east of the U.S. 25-70 bypass in Marshall.

Samatha Lee Cutshaw, age 5; Stacey Carmell Cutshaw, 11; Ray Dewayne Walker, 9; and Darlene Louise Walker, 7, received multiple cuts and bruises when the 1974 Chevrolet driven by their mother, Mrs. Linda Pressley Cutshaw, hit a 1980 Ford Bronco driven by Troy Lee Meadows, Jr. of Mars Hill.

According to State Highway Patrolman W.C. Swanson,

Stacey Cutshaw suffered a severe injury over her right eye "which may require plastic surgery." Patrolman Swanson said a plastic surgeon was called to the Memorial Mission Hospital Wednesday night to examine the child's injury.

The accident occurred at approximately 10 p.m. Wednesday. The Highway Patrol report said the Bronco, driven by Meadows was headed east on N.C. 213. Patrolman Swanson said Meadows was driving on the wrong (left) side of the road without his headlights. The Chevrolet, driven by Mrs. Cutshaw, was traveling west on the highway and hit the

Bronco head-on. Mrs. Cutshaw was not injured in the wreck.

Both vehicles were extensively damaged as a result of the collision.

Patrolman Swanson said he charged Meadows, 40, with driving under the influence of intoxicating beverages.

One of the first people to arrive at the scene of the accident was Mr. Ken Mesker of Marshall who came upon the scene while on his way home. Mesker said he suddenly saw the Bronco setting in the middle of the road and wondered what it was doing there.

Mesker approached the

vehicle on foot, said he saw the driver, Meadows, "sitting there coughing."

"Then I heard a woman shouting somewhere in the dark, 'Help me over here! My babies, my babies,'" Mesker said. As he went to the Cutshaw vehicle, Mesker said he saw the children near a side ditch and noticed that the oldest of the three girls seemed to be seriously injured.

"Her face and clothes were drenched with blood," he said, "and another little girl was bleeding from her head."

Mesker said Mrs. Cutshaw kept repeating, "He didn't have any lights."

Former Madison Sheriff

Jessie J. Bailey Dies

Jesse James Bailey, who served as sheriff of Madison County in 1920 and as Buncombe County sheriff in 1928, died Sunday, Dec. 21 in Memorial Mission Hospital in Asheville, at the age of 92.

Bailey resided on Weaverville Road in Buncombe County after retiring as a detective for Southern Railway in 1968 at the age of 70. He worked in several capacities for the railroad for 52 years, taking two leaves of absence when he was elected sheriff in Madison and then eight years later when he became sheriff in Buncombe County. He was believed to be the only lawman in the state to serve as sheriff in two counties.

Bailey was born near Bailey's Bend on the French Broad River in Madison County. He was a farm boy and he took a telegrapher's job at Bailey Station in the Knoxville, Tenn., division of

Southern Railway in 1906.

In 1920, Bailey fulfilled a childhood dream when he was elected sheriff of Madison County on a promise to be tougher on moonshiners than his opponent.

That was the year after the Volstead Act, and prohibition was at its height. The Sheriff's county was known as "Bloody Madison."

In 1971, Bailey told this story about the 1920 election:

"My opponent, a former sheriff, had been light on the liquor laws. I'd never drunk a drop in my life — still haven't — but I decided I wasn't going to be too hard on the moonshiners. I went out in the bushes and told 'em: 'New boys, I won't be too hard on you unless you put your stills out here in the road where I can stomp my toe on 'em.' But they said, 'Bailey, we know what this other man will do and we don't know what you'll do, so we'll have to support him."

"They did, but the dry people elected me. They expected me to dry up the county overnight and, of course, I couldn't do that."

But I raised the price on liquor from \$15 a gallon to \$75. I made it scarce."

(Continued on Page 12)

Public Meetings

The Madison County Board of Commissioners will hold regular January meeting on Friday, Jan. 2 at 7:30 p.m. in the courtroom at the Madison County courthouse.

The Madison County Board of Education will conduct a regular meeting Monday, Jan. 5 at 10:30 a.m. in the courtroom of the Madison County courthouse.

The Town of Marshall Board of Aldermen will meet Monday, Jan. 5 at 7:30 p.m. in the Town Hall.

The Board of Aldermen of the Town of Mars Hill will meet Monday, Jan. 5, at 7:30 p.m. at the Mars Hill Town Hall.

Direct-Dial Now In Mars Hill

Private line customers in the Mars Hill exchange will be able to direct long distance phone calls without an operator coming on the line to take billing information.

The new "automatic number identification" (ANI) service went into effect at 7 a.m. Monday, Dec. 22, according to Jack Gouge, customer services superintendent for Westco Telephone Company.

Party-line customers will continue to provide their number to the operator.

"This change for one-party customers is another step in Westco's continuing effort to provide its customers the most modern service available," Gouge said.

Westco has nearly 2,400 customers in the Mars Hill exchange.