

# Diamond-S Lake Is Reserved For Youth Of Watauga County

By JOE C. MINOR

A fish pond "dedicated to the youth of Watauga County"—that is just what the pond built on the Diamond "S" Ranch is, according to the owner, B. W. Stallings.

When Mr. Stallings built this pond back in 1950 he resolved that it mainly would be used by youth groups of the county, and that's the way it is.

The efforts of Mr. Stallings have caused many young boys and girls to enjoy fishing who might not ordinarily go fishing because of the lack of easily accessible places to fish. Probably the largest group of youngsters to converge upon the pond, is the group which attends the annual "Fishing Rodeo." Last week the fourth annual event was staged. More than 125 children ages up to 10 years—the age limit—were around the half-acre pond to try their luck at fishing. While he was not actually seen baiting a hook, Mr. Stallings said a youngster of seven weeks was among the young fishermen.

Mr. Stallings also invites groups such as Scouts and Sunday school classes out to his pond for good "old-fashioned" fishing, with pole and line.

And, most of the time the boys and girls are not disappointed, because Mr. Stallings had tried to follow good pond management to insure a good crop of fish, both in building the pond and in maintaining it.

When he decided to build the pond, Mr. Stallings called on Howard J. Williams, conservation technician with the Watauga Soil Con-

servations District, for advice on how the pond should be built and where a suitable place to locate it would be.

Some of the things Mr. Williams and his department did were to check the site, the source of water and watershed for the pond, type of soil, and slope of land draining into pond.

Mr. Williams explained that these things are necessary because some soils are not suitable for impounding water; also if the watershed is too great, the dam might not hold in heavy rains. In Mr. Stallings case, it was established there was a 10-acre water shed.

The pond was planned with plenty of good standing room for the young fishermen, with concern for their safety a main factor. After the pond was completed, Mr. Stallings said, it filled in a few weeks. Then came the stocking.

In the fall of 1950 blue gill, at the rate of 1,000 per acre—500 for this pond—were placed in the pond. In the spring of 1951, bass, at the rate of 100 per acre, were released in the waters.

This combination of fish is recommended by the U. S. Department of Agriculture because it has been proven that with proper fertilization and management of the pond, a good balance of fish, pan size, may be expected. The bass eat the young blue gill fingerlings and keep them from overstocking the pond, while the blue gill eat the eggs of the bass to keep their number down. Both fish are considered good game fish and will afford plenty of fun for the fish-

erman in landing them.

The fish are supplied to pond owners by the Department of Interior of the United States.

Many of the ponds are used for stock watering as well as for fishing, and Mr. Stallings' cattle have access to his pond.

Mr. Williams, whose department has aided in building about 50 farm ponds in the county since 1950, adds that after a pond has become established with the blue gill bass combination, that about 80 percent of the total weight of the fish in the pond are of usable size. Mr. Stallings doesn't worry about too many fish being caught by the youngsters, because he is carrying out management recommendations

of conservation authorities, who say that up to 400 or more pounds of fish may be taken annually from an acre pond. And that's a lot of fish.

### Rocky Creek Items

Col. Dave Williams of McMill Field, Tampa, Florida, who flies one of the most powerful U. A. Air Force B-47 fighter planes, is here to start building his retirement home on Rocky Creek. He is accompanied by Mrs. Williams.

Mr. George Hoots of Statesville is building a modern summer cottage here.

Mr. Johnny Corey is occupying his new home on Rocky Creek.

Mr. Bill Ebary will be at his Rocky Creek home until after July 4th.

Mr. and Mrs. W. L. Black are spending their vacation at their cottage on Rocky Creek.

Marciano is willing to give return bout to Cockell.

### Zionville News Notes

Mrs. Carolyn Harrison and sons, Sonny, and Michael, of Whiteville, N. C. have returned home after a visit with Miss Hettie Greer. Mrs. N. J. Greer Sr., also of Whiteville will remain here for an indefinite time.

Mr. Gleen Greer and Mrs. Pauline Chapman have returned to Ohio and Indiana after a visit with their mother, Mrs. Emma Greer. Mrs. Bonnie Isaacs of Cincinnati, Ohio will be with Mrs. Greer for some time. Mrs. Greer remains ill.

Mr. and Mrs. Junior Potter visited Mr. and Mrs. Burl Miller last week. Mr. Potter was called here due to the illness of his mother, Mrs. Frank Potter at Trade, Tenn.

Misses Anna Mae, Mary June, and Nancy Stephens spent Friday and Saturday in Lenoir with Mr. and Mrs. Carl Ragan and Mr. and

Mrs. G. C. Wineberger. Anna Mae and Mary June returned to Boone Tuesday after a three weeks vacation with their parents.

Mrs. Fred Castle and Steve, accompanied by Mr. John Castle of Mountain City, Tenn., are visiting relatives in Pennsylvania.

Mr. and Mrs. Kenny Gragg and children of Boone visited Sunday with Mr. and Mrs. Edward Wilson. Mr. and Mrs. Lee Wilson and Donna visited last week with Mr.

and Mrs. Radford Beach. Mr. and Mrs. Jackie Mast and daughter have moved to Elkton, Maryland.

DEMOCRAT ADS PAY

Vacation time is here. Time to hit the open road. Hit the road, but don't hit anything else. Don't be a "Hurry Bug" in the heavy summer traffic. Slow down and live!

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"Everybody Likes Boone, N. C."

THURSDAY  
EDWARD G ROBINSON  
in  
"Black Tuesday"  
Also  
Color Cartoon

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MONDAY and TUESDAY  
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# Don't argue with this baby!

All Chevrolet's competitors and most of the high-priced cars tried it recently in official NASCAR\* trials—and took a licking!



Meet the champ! The new Chevrolet "Turbo-Fire V8"—the most modern V8 on the road today.

You want facts, don't you? And not ours. Facts instead from an independent, outside source where the only things that count are who came in first, second, and so on. Here they are—

Daytona Beach. NASCAR Acceleration Tests Over Measured Mile From Standing Start. Chevrolet captured the 4 top positions in its class! 8 of the first 11! On a time basis it beat every high-priced car, too—but one!

Daytona Beach. NASCAR Straightaway Running. Open to cars delivered in Florida for \$2,500 or less. Chevrolet captured the first two places. 7 out of the first 11 places!

Daytona Beach. NASCAR 2-Way Straightaway Running Over Measured Mile. Open to cars from 250 to 299 cu. in. displacement. Chevrolet captured 3 of the first 5 places! None of its major competition (what competition?) even finished "in the money"!

Columbia, S. C. NASCAR 100-Mile Race on half-mile track. Very tight turns. Chevrolet

finished first! Way, way ahead—as in sales! With a new car, and no pit stops!

Fayetteville, N. C. NASCAR Late Model Event. After running the fastest qualifying round (with a new car) Chevrolet again finished first. Because of even tighter turns the driver chose to run the entire 150 laps in second gear! Yet no overheating or pit stops!

These facts you can't laugh off. Sales leader. Road leader. A crowning achievement of Chevrolet and General Motors. Try a Chevrolet... and live in a land of going-away where you win all the arguments! Soon, maybe?

\*National Association for Stock Car Auto Races



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