

WATAUGA DEMOCRAT

An Independent Weekly Newspaper . . . Seventieth Year of Continuous Publication

BOONE WEATHER				
1955	High	Low	6 pm	prec
Apr 29	66	54	57	.06
Apr 30	61	41	53	.75
May 1	62	50	57	.71
May 2	59	51	51	.64
May 3	78	59	63	.29
May 4	75	54	60	.11
May 5	69	52	62	.24
Total rainfall for period—.68 inch.				

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VOLUME LXX—NO. 44

BOONE, WATAUGA COUNTY, NORTH CAROLINA, THURSDAY, MAY 8, 1955

SIXTEEN PAGES—TWO SECTIONS

Deluge Floods Boone

Boone was hit by the worst rain storm of the season Monday night, when more than an inch and a half of rain and hail fell in the area in a little less than an hour. Basements were flooded, drains and storm sewers were clogged, and general flood conditions were reported in several sections of town.

A culvert, clogged with debris, a dog house, and tree trimmings, at Watauga Hospital, caused water to back up to the steps of the nurse's home before the drain could be unstopped and the water released. A car, owned by Miss Guntha Lukevics, employee at the hospital, had to be pulled from its parking place after being almost completely submerged in the water. The car was "ruined," according to eyewitnesses.

Water covered many places in the streets, and left mud deposits, which in some cases were slippery and dangerous to traffic.

Cars were stalled on King Street in the main part of town as they were "drowned out." Streams left their banks in some places as the water fell too fast to be carried in the channels.

The basement of Boone Methodist Church was one of the many flooded by the rain. A scheduled meeting of financial campaign workers turned into a "mop-up" party before the meeting could get underway.

Reports continue to be heard about basements that have never had rain water in them being flooded Monday.

Hail, about the size of peas, pelted the area for a while, and reports were heard that some of it clogged down spouts of gutters, causing water to overflow the gutters. The temperature dropped from a high of 69 degrees during the day to a low of 52 by 7:00 p. m.

Reports as to how much damage farmers suffered were not available, but erosion damage was not expected to be as great as it would have been had gardens been plowed. The wet weather of the past few weeks has prevented as much plowing to be done as is normal at this time of the season.

About half an inch of rain had fallen prior to the storm, and it continued to fall throughout the night, and by 7 a. m. Tuesday a total of 2.73 inches had been recorded for the 24-hour period.

Walter Eggers Rites Are Held

Walter Eugene Eggers, 65, of Route 1, Banner Elk, died at the home last Wednesday.

Funeral services were conducted Friday at 2 o'clock at the Liberty Methodist Church at Matney by the Rev. Talmadge Watson and the Rev. Raymond Hendrix and burial was in the church cemetery.

Survivors include the widow, Mrs. Tempie Shook Eggers, and the following sons and daughters: Buster, Fred, Jack Eggers, Lexington; Claud Eggers, Concord; Mrs. M. O. Cole, Mrs. Cecil Tester, Mrs. Hoover Eggers, Lexington; Mrs. Hildreth Davis, Snow; and Betty Faye Eggers of Banner Elk, Route 1. There is one sister, Mrs. Charles Townsend, Banner Elk, Route 1, 17 grandchildren and 1 great grandchild.

Take Course At Chapel Hill

Mr. and Mrs. Lionel Ward returned to Boone Saturday from Chapel Hill where Mr. Ward attended the North Carolina Veterans Service Officers School.

Mr. Ward reported that there was approximately 200 county district and assistant service officers present and the entire heads of the N. C. Veterans Commission; also the head men of the Veterans Administration in Winston-Salem. The department commander of the American Legion was present, as well as the head of other veterans organizations.

T. O. Kraebel, consultant to the director of national rehabilitation, commission of the American Legion from Washington, D. C., made a talk on veterans' affairs.

West Indies Federation given formal launching.



INCOMING-OUTGOING OFFICERS of Watauga NCEA pose for picture following banquet Friday night. Last years' officers, seated left to right, are Mrs. Beatrice Winkler, Mrs. Peggy Hadden, Mrs. Susie Buchanan, and John Marsh. New officers standing, Mrs. Reba Moretz, Mrs. Doris Banner, Henry Hagaman, retired school teacher, Carl Day and James A. Greene.

Five Retired Teachers Are Honored; Officers Installed



W. Guy Angell reads from Certificate of Merit he presented to Henry Hagaman, left, retired school teacher, in top picture. Bottom picture: Roy Thompson, speaker at NCEA banquet, gestures as he illustrates his talk, while Mr. and Mrs. John Marsh, left couple, and Mr. and Mrs. James A. Greene listen.—Staff photos by Joe C. Minor.



Parkway Dam, Bridge Contract Is Awarded

Trotino and Brown, Inc. Asheville, N. C. was awarded a contract to build a bridge and dam over Boone's Fork Creek on the Blue Ridge Parkway in Watauga county, the Democrat has been informed by Representative Hugh Alexander.

The contract figure was given at \$295,327.

Information reaching Representative Alexander's office from Conrad L. Wirth, National Park Service director, said the contract calls for the construction of a 105-foot combination bridge and dam over Boone's Fork. The structure will be of concrete, stone and masonry.

The contract also covers the excavation of the bed for the lake to be formed by the dam, and an access road to the Yonahlossee highway.

The project is located in the

Julian Price Memorial Park, in an area where Wirth said \$400,000 worth of work is already under contract.

Kirth said construction projects now under way on the parkway in North Carolina and Virginia are estimated to cost about \$8,900,000.

Has Flags For Memorial Day

Lionel Ward, county veterans service officer, states that he has flags to go on veterans graves in Watauga county at his office and will appreciate if some person from each of the churches and small family cemeteries throughout the county will come by between now and Memorial Day and get a flag or flags for their respective cemeteries.

Five persons who had been connected with Watauga county schools for many years but who have retired since 1955, were honored Friday night when the Watauga unit of the North Carolina Education Association held its annual installation of officers' banquet at Valle Crucis School.

Speaker for the occasion was Roy Thompson, humorist, and columnist-reporter with the Winston-Salem Journal. He managed to entertain the more than 200 teachers and their guests, while "getting revenge" for his treatment at the hands of his teachers as a student as he told stories and related experiences leading up to and during his journalistic career.

New officers installed by Mrs. Dessa Mae Edmisten, supervisor of Watauga county schools, were James A. Greene, president, principal at Valle Crucis; Carl Day, vice president, Appalachian Elementary teacher; Mrs. Doris Vance Banner, secretary, teacher at Cove Creek High School; and Mrs. Reba Moretz, treasurer, teacher at Parkway.

Outgoing officers were John Marsh, president; Mrs. Susie Buchanan, vice president; Mrs. Peggy B. Hadden, secretary; and Mrs. Beatrice Winkler.

Henry Hagaman, who retired from the Cove Creek Elementary school as a classroom teacher in 1956, was the only one of those honored present at the dedication program. He was presented a lapel pin with the inscription: "Watauga County Schools—Loyalty and Service," and a certificate of merit which read: "This certificate is awarded to you in appreciation of the fine service rendered through the years to the youth of your community. This tribute is extended as a great honor for the influence and effort which you have exerted in the cause of public education. The appreciation and indebtedness of the Board of Education and the community are herein gratefully acknowledged."

The certificate was signed by Dr. Charles Davant Jr., chairman of the county school board, and by W. Guy Angell, superintendent of county schools, who made the presentation.

Others honored included Gladys M. Bingham, who retired from the system as a teacher last year and who is now teaching in Miami, Fla.; S. F. Horton, who retired from his principalship at Cove Creek High School in 1955, and later accepted a position as superintendent of the Jefferson District Schools in Jefferson, S. C.; Anna Mae Sherwood, who retired from Cove Creek Elementary School as a teacher in 1957 and is now teaching in the Vero Beach School in Florida; and Donald Lewis Swift, who had served as janitor in the Cove Creek School since 1923, retiring last September.

In praising the work of these teachers and workers who have retired since 1955, Mr. Angell noted that at least 22 persons who have been connected with the county school system over the years are now drawing retirement pay which they earned. Eight or ten of these retired with 30 or more years to their credit, he said.

A social hour was held following the banquet.

\$150,000 Park Area Vote Will Be Held On July 15

Clubhouse, Pool Among Proposals

A municipal election has been called by Mayor Gordon H. Winkler and the board of aldermen to permit the citizens of Boone to vote on the issuance of \$150,000 in bonds for the purpose of building a recreation center on the Horn in the West property, now owned by the town.

A tentative date of July 15, 1955, has been set for the election, contingent upon compliance with election laws and approval of bond attorneys.

It has been estimated that a tax increase of approximately 15c on the \$100 property valuation will be necessary to provide sufficient funds to finance the bonds.

The project would provide for a community club house and swimming pool, playground, teen canteen, and concession stand, all to be located on the large lot on the outside corner of the property immediately south of Oak Street.

Long-range plans call for development of the entire area, including picnic grounds, provision for horseback riding, museum, memorial garden, and overlook.

The project was proposed by a committee composed of representatives of ten Boone civic clubs, known as the Daniel Boone Park Committee, with Wade E. Brown as chairman and Mrs. B. W. Stallings as secretary. The first of a series of meetings was held by the committee on September 17, 1954.

The committee recommended to the town board that a bond election be called, and Mayor Winkler appointed a three-member committee to study the plans and report to the board.

This committee, composed of T. K. Pease, chairman; Mrs. B. W. Stallings, and Mrs. James B. Winkler, subsequently reported, after consulting with engineers, architects, and others, that the project is worthy, desirable, and feasible, and included a recommendation that an election be held at the earliest practicable date.

Sub-Committees Appointed

The Daniel Boone Park Committee met again on Thursday, May 1, at which time G. C. Greene, Jr., was elected as executive vice-chairman. His duties will be to, relieve Chairman Brown of a major portion of the responsibility and details of planning the promotion, and to act as chairman in his absence. This was done at the request of Mr. Brown, who is also town attorney and chairman of a group which is building a new golf course and housing development in the southern outskirts of Boone.

At Thursday's meeting, the committee also instructed Chairman Brown to appoint two sub-committees, one to be charged with getting newcomers registered, and the second to contact residents of the perimeter area outside the town limits for moral and financial support of the project. Also to be appointed is a steering committee.

A publicity committee, including Hugh Hagaman, chairman; Ralph Tugman, and Virgil (Stretch) Rollins, was appointed (Continued on page eight)

Captain Mast Is Graduated

Captain Robert L. Mast, whose parents, Mr. and Mrs. Bud Mast, live in Rominger, recently graduated from the Civil Affairs Military Course conducted at Fort Gordon, Georgia.

Mast, who graduated from Lees-McRae Junior College, Banner Elk, entered military service in June 1949.

He is presently assigned as Assistant S-3 Officer, Headquarters, 95th Civil Affairs Military Government Group, Fort Gordon, Georgia. He and his wife, Kathleen, live at 1816 Wilkinson Circle, Augusta, Ga.



MISS CAROLYN WALL, of Winston-Salem, who reigned over the May Day festivities on the College campus Saturday. Thousands of visitors witnessed the "Memories of the Mountains" with her. (Story 2nd sec.)

Work Is Being Started On Boone Golf Course

Wins Teenage Driving Rodeo

Miss Judy Younce of Cove Creek High School won first place in the Teenage Safe Driving Rodeo, held Sunday, May 4, on the elementary school playground. She received a plaque with her name inscribed.

There was a tie for second and third places between J. C. Miller of Appalachian High and Fred Yates of Cove Creek High. They received safe driving keys.

Sixteen contestants from the four Watauga County high schools participated in the event, which was sponsored by the Boone Junior Chamber of Commerce.

Andy Hollar Dies Monday

Andy Hollar, 85, of Vilas, died last Thursday at Watauga Hospital.

Funeral services were held at the Church of God in Boone Saturday at 11 by Thomas Bunting, and burial was in the neighborhood cemetery at Matney.

Surviving are a son and daughter, Charles Hollar and Miss Ola Hollar. There are two sisters, Mary Maggie Reitzel and Mrs. Mary Lipes, of Vilas. A brother, F. H. Hollar of Vilas, also survives.

Wellborn Gets Scholarship

The Registrar of Pfeiffer College, Kenneth D. Hohbauer, announced today that Glenn Wellborn, son of Mr. and Mrs. Joe J. Wellborn, Deep Gap, has been awarded an athletic assistantship scholarship amounting to \$500.00.

This scholarship is based on academic grades and the general scholastic rating in accordance with the needs of the individual. This scholarship is for the academic year 1955-56.

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Owsley May Go To Lehigh U.

Bethlehem, Pa., May 3—One Boone, North Carolina student is among the men offered admission to this fall's freshman class at Lehigh University who attended the last of three Candidate's Days today. Other candidates were previously entertained at similar programs on March 29 and April 15.

Area students attending include Thomas Lawrence Owsley of Boone.

Democrats To Have Convention Saturday

The Democrats of Watauga county are asked to meet in convention Saturday May 10 at 2 o'clock in the courthouse for the purpose of perfecting a county organization and naming delegates to the State convention in Raleigh May 15.

Precinct meetings were held last Saturday at which time precinct organizations were perfected, and delegates to the county convention were named. The county executive committee, composed of the chairman of the precinct organization will designate their choices for the chairmanship, vice-chairmanships, and secretary in connection with the county convention.