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WATAUGA DEMOCRAT

An Independent Weekly Newspaper . . . Seventy-Ninth Year of Continuous Publication

BOONE WEATHER					
1967	Hi	Lo	Snow	Prec.	W. S. L.
Feb. 7	42	19	2	.54	45 16
Feb. 8	33	6	tr.	tr.	46 26
Feb. 9	35	16			44 31
Feb. 10	37	20	2	.11	49 34
Feb. 11	41	24			55 43
Feb. 12	37	24			49 39
Feb. 13	44	16			54 37

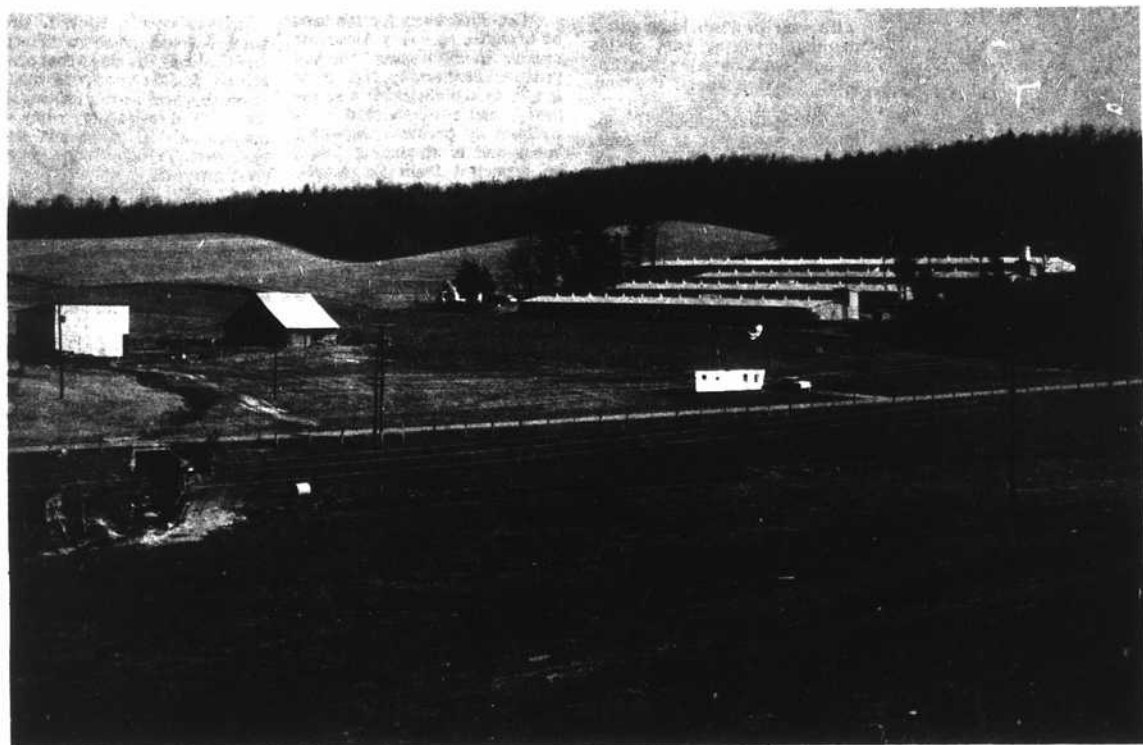
Snow given to nearest half-inch.

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22 PAGES—3 SECTIONS



Broiler production increased rapidly in 1966, bringing growers nearly \$250,000 more than the year before. The number two income-source for both 1965-66, broilers have climbed the scale to \$824,880, very near the worth of the number one crop, burley

tobacco. These five broiler houses, located east of Boone near Highway 421, belong to Mack Brown and Bill Brown. (Minor photo).

All-American Grid Star Honor Guest At Dinner

An overflow crowd turned out Thursday night to greet All-American football star Robert Matheson.

The occasion was "Bob Matheson Appreciation Night", sponsored at the Chalet Restaurant by the Appalachian Mountaineer Club. One hundred thirty-five persons came out to meet the young athlete and hear guest speaker Hugh McElhanev, administrative assistant to Duke University's athletic director.

McElhanev was coach at Duke while Matheson was playing and Matheson credited the speaker with a big part of his success in college play.

Bill Ross, a teacher at Appalachian High School while Matheson was a student, acted as Toastmaster for the banquet and recited various events during the youth's high school career.

A letter from R. E. Agle—which recalled Matheson's pre-high school football days and how even then football seemed to dominate his activities—was read by Dr. Robert Randall. Agle was to appear on the program, but was confined to a hospital bed.

Coach Jack Groce, who guided the successful teams of Appalachian High School, told of his star player's career in Boone. He also showed film of games in which Bob led the Blue Devils' advance and these brought back memories to those in attendance.

McElhanev praised Matheson not only for his gridiron prowess, but for his gentlemanly example and helpfulness in recruiting players and students for Duke. Citing Matheson's record in several Duke games, McElhanev proved the young man's versatility.

Son of Dr. and Mrs. W. M. Matheson of Boone, Bob began his college career as an of-

fense player, but played his last years on Duke's defensive team.

The Appalachian Mountaineer Club presented the honoree a set of golf clubs.



At left, Robert Matheson rises to accept a gift of golf clubs from the Appalachian Mountaineer Club. Charlie Taylor makes the presentation. (Staff photo)

Matney Community House Is Soon To Be Finished

Seven years work on the Matney community building will soon be completed with the help of a \$1,000 Incentive Grant approved by WAMY Community Action Jan. 26. The grant will be used to improve and furnish the Matney building.

The grant was approved by the WAMY screening committee on the condition that the Matney Community Club make a greater effort to involve all members of the community in club activities. The conditions also asked that a community-wide interest survey be made, and provisions made for adult education and crafts classes and recreational programs.

This was the first Incentive

Grant to be approved in Watauga County, according to screening committee chairman Clyde Tester of Timbered Ridge. Another \$5,000 is available for grants to Watauga communities, Tester said.

"The first steps we'll take," said club president Marshall Ward, "will be to build a septic tank, plumb the bathrooms, purchase and install kitchen appliances, and finish the kitchen. Members of the community will donate as much of their time and skills as possible to ward completing this project."

The Matney 4-H Club will take responsibility for improving the recreation facilities. The area behind the community

College To Get \$2.6 Million Of Building Funds

The State Advisory Budget Commission announced Monday night it will recommend that the Legislature appropriate \$2.6 million for a two-year program of capital improvement at Appalachian State Teachers College.

Submitted in July, the request called for \$6.7 million.

Appalachian also had requested \$2 million for salaries for additional teachers for the two-year period. The Commission plans to recommend an expenditure of \$650,000.

City Brochure Fund Runs Low

The Board of Directors of the Boone Chamber of Commerce have voted to ask the Town Board of Aldermen and the County Commissioners each to lend financial support to the city's brochure fund.

The brochures are four-color folders featuring information on the area and pictures of entertainment highspots. The last order is running low and the Directors are moving ahead to refurbish the supply. The point was made that many revisions should be made in the new folders.

Tobacco Is Still King '66 Watauga Farm Income \$3,711,843

Unit Prices In Most Cases Rise Higher

Figures from the County Extension Chairman of 1966 farm income show tobacco still is king in Watauga, although its total is down several thousand dollars from the 1965 total. Last year's overall income climbed \$100,000-plus to \$3,711,843, a record.

Government payments in five categories added \$158,970 to farm intake for a grand total of \$3,870,813.

L. E. Tuckwiller, Extension Chairman, said "Despite reduced yield of apples and small fruits, the agricultural sales for Watauga County farmers reached a record amount.

"Substantial increases in dollar sales of cabbage and other vegetables, broilers, cattle, nursery stock and other forest products coupled with higher prices for burley tobacco was enough to set a record of farm products sold."

HOLD THE LEAD

Three farm products repeat their win, place and show status from 1965.

Burley tobacco that year brought \$986,826, sliding to \$918,503 overall in '66, while broilers rose from \$575,200 to \$824,880 and cattle, in the number three slot, reached the \$611,840 mark. In '65, they brought \$575,200.

Cabbage income rose significantly, gaining \$252,000 to put \$432,000 in producer's pockets in 1966. In fifth spot, 5 million pounds of milk brought \$200,000. A year earlier, dairy products as a group, yielded \$206,000. Ornamental trees and shrubs came in for \$180,000 of the total and other forest products, which brought \$92,500 in '65, cleared \$150,000 for growers last year.

Accordingly, "Unit prices on most farm products were higher in 1966," Tuckwiller said, "and yields were also on the high side. After the late spring frosts that nearly wiped out the fruit crop, the weather favored the farmers. Ample rain helped make good pasture and hay crops that put good weight gains on livestock and increased yields for vegetables."

1966 FOCUS

Eighteen hundred acres produced 1,000 bushels of corn for \$16,000; 150 acres potatoes, 10,000 cwt, accounted for \$30,000; 9,000 acres yielded 1,000 tons hay at \$40,000; and 900 gallons syrup brought \$3,150.

From 250 acres, 1,000 bushels of apples (frost damaged) brought \$1,500; from 20 acres, 3,000 bushels of pepper brought \$6,000; 7 and a half acres produced 6,000 gallons of strawberries for \$7,500; six acres of tomatoes totaled 5,160 bushels for \$25,800; and 25 acres snap beans made for 7,500 which sold for \$22,500.

Six hundred, thirty-seven acres tobacco, the number one (Continued on page six)



Presenting a check for \$1,022 to Stacy C. Eggers, Jr., is Mrs. Margaret Ayers, Boone's Mothers' March chairman for the March of Dimes - National Foundation. Chapter Chairman George C. Thomas looks on from right. Eggers is a member of the Board of Directors, Watauga Chapter. (Staff photo).

Mothers' March Accounts For 40% Of Dimes Money

As Mrs. Margaret Ayers last week presented the proceeds of the annual Mothers' March to a director of the National Foundation's local chapter, she spoke of the vast contribution in time and money of her area chairmen and more than 60 Marching Mothers who amassed approximately 40 per cent of the funds received here for the fight against birth defects.

The original intake of \$972.71 was bolstered by lately recorded income to provide a total of \$1,022. This is a handsome increase over last year's \$711.

The current drive has brought \$3,000-plus to the March of Dimes treasury and more is expected from contributions later this month and early in March.

Accepting the check, Stacy Eggers Jr. stated he was pleased with the progress of the Watauga County March of Dimes.

"Since this County chapter supports the Morganton Evaluation Center and the N. C. Treatment Center as well as the Salk Institute for Biological Studies, I accept this check on behalf of the 8,000 infants born in North Carolina this year with serious birth defects. In the hope that some of these may be helped by this contribution."

Thomas thanked Mrs. Ayers for a job well done, saying he regretted he could not tell every worker how greatly the work is appreciated.

Mrs. Ayers' area chairmen were Mrs. May Autrey, Mrs. Milton Blue, Mrs. Jimmy Cline, Mrs. Robert Danner, Mrs. J. B. Hagaman Jr., Mrs. G. C. Greene Jr., Mrs. Bob Poe, Mrs. Bill Hayes, Mrs. Paul Branch and Mrs. Cleo Rhyne.

An awards dinner will be held late in March for the many volunteers. At that time, a directors' meeting also will be held.

Federal Grant Provides Scholarships At ASTC

A Federal grant of \$52,200 to be awarded in the form of scholarships to ASTC students in special education was announced Friday by Dr. W. H. Plemmons, president of the college.

The scholarships, to be used during the academic year, 1967-68, will be awarded to special education students in two separate training programs—teachers of the mentally retarded and teachers of the deaf and hard of hearing.

The awards are for both graduate and undergraduate students. Dr. Milton Blue, director of special education at ASTC, said that undergraduate seniors

who receive funds will be given \$1,600 for the academic year plus waiver of tuition and fees.

Graduate students in either of the two programs will receive \$2,000, waiver of tuition and fees, plus \$400 for each of their dependents.

The support funds are provided under Public Law 85-926.

In its fourth year at Appalachian, the special education department enrolls 85 undergraduates in the mental retardation program. There are 13 graduate students enrolled in both training programs, one for teachers of the mentally retarded, the other for teachers of the deaf and hard of hearing.

Reflecting on the program, Dr. Blue commented, "Appalachian is the only college in North Carolina which offers a graduate program in education of the deaf and hard of hearing; and only four other institutions have graduate programs similar to ours in the training of teachers for the mentally retarded.

He added that eleven persons have already earned their special education M. A.'s in education of the deaf. The majority of the graduates are teaching in state schools for the deaf and hard of hearing throughout the Southeast.

No. 1 Team To Play For Keeps Against Tigers

The Pioneer basketball team will be playing for keeps when the Valdese Tigers come to Watauga High School Friday night.

The local grapplers—number one in the conference—will "polish" the home arena for what is expected to be one of the largest turnouts of the year.

Governor Would Ease State Tax Burden

Governor Moore Monday night asked the General Assembly to ease the tax burden on North Carolinians while appropriating record amounts for expansions of State services. His proposed biennial budget totaled more than \$2.7 billion, an all-time high and an increase of more than 18 per cent above expenditures for the current biennium.

The Governor's proposals for tax relief would benefit low-income families, families with children in school and college, service personnel in Viet Nam,

and older citizens. The revenue loss from these measures would be \$23.3 million for the biennium.

Public education received considerable attention as the Governor addressed the General Assembly for the second time since it convened last week. His proposals called for large budget increases to meet major needs in the public school system, community colleges and the State system of higher education.

The Governor called for capital improvements totaling near-

ly \$180 million. This would be the largest capital improvements budget in the history of the State and it would not require a bond issue. Of the total, over \$66 million was recommended for capital improvements in higher education.

He proposed that a sizable portion of the capital improvements should be financed from the \$163 million General Fund credit balance expected at the end of the current biennium. He said that nearly 68 per cent of the credit balance should be utilized for capital improve-

ments or, as he termed them, "permanent assets."

In other areas, the Governor expressed personal reservations but urged consideration of industrial aid bonds with proper safeguards, stated his opposition to increasing the 6 per cent interest rate, urged approval of a local option sales tax to help local governments with their financial needs, and proposed steps to strengthen State Government.

The Governor told the legislators, "We can give tax re-

lief while appropriating major increases for the public schools, community colleges, higher education, health and welfare and other basic services." He presented details for the record budget and complimented the members of the Advisory Budget Commission "for a public service of the first magnitude."

He said that tax relief and stepped-up State services are possible because of the "excellent fiscal condition" of the State. "Revenues continue to exceed legislative estimates,

and there will be substantial reversions resulting from efficient administration," he said.

The Governor, in view of what he termed "our bright revenue outlook," recommended these four tax relief measures:

1. Raise the dependency exemption from \$300 to \$600 per year. (Biennial revenue loss; \$16.5 million.)

2. Allow an additional \$600 exemption for each dependent enrolled for full-time study in (Continued on page six)



MISS LUCY BROCK

M. A. degrees from the University of Tennessee and also attended Columbia University and the University of California at Berkeley. (continued on page six)