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WATAUGA DEMOCRAT

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

BOONE WEATHER				
1967	Hi	Lo	Snow Prec.	W. H. Lo
May 9	58	39	.42	73 49
May 10	64	42	.03	58 26
May 11	67	49	.03	60 31
May 12	73	61	tr.	60 46
May 13	72	57	.03	68 48
May 14	70	54	.03	63 55
May 15	70	54	.37	72 49

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It's Jaycees' Junior Champ Time

Nearly 100 students from Watauga's eight elementary schools will flood Conrad Stadium on the College campus Saturday for the third annual Junior Champ Day sponsored by the Boone Jaycees. Seven running, throwing and jumping events will be conducted in the one-day "Junior Olympics". There will be trophies for first and second place school teams plus 120 in-

dividual medals and ribbons for participants. Above, children from Appalachian Elementary line up for final eliminations to see who will represent their school in Saturday's competition. Starting time for the event is 9:30 and the Jaycees invite everyone to come watch the fun.

Dedication Set For May 28

Student Center At Appalachian To Be Named For Dr. Plemmons

The new student center at Appalachian State Teachers College will be dedicated in honor of the institution's president, Dr. W. H. Plemmons, in ceremonies May 28 in the recently completed structure. An open invitation is extended to the general public. E. L. Rankin Jr., Director of the Department of Administration of North Carolina, will deliver the dedication address. The modern, \$1,275,000 build-

ment programs for the past 12 years. The dedication ceremonies will begin at 2 p.m., with Dr. Kenneth Webb Jr., Dean of Student Affairs, presiding. The invocation will be given by Dr. William C. Strickland, chairman of the Philosophy and Religion Department.

Rankin will be introduced by John T. Frank of Mt. Airy, vice-chairman of Appalachian's Board of Trustees which last October voted unanimously to name the new student center in honor of Dr. Plemmons. David Shellman of Cramerton, ASTC student body president, and Michael Morgan of Salisbury, president of the senior class, will follow the principal address with expressions of students' appreciation.

Dr. Plemmons, 63-year-old native of Buncombe County, then will present his response. A graduate of Wake Forest College, Dr. Plemmons obtained the A. M. degree from Duke University and the Ph. D. degree from the University of North Carolina. The LL.D. degree was conferred upon him by Wake Forest College in 1958. He spent some time in business and was a teacher in the Asheville city schools for five years prior to being named principal of Lee Edwards High School in 1936. He was a teaching fellow at UNC, 1941-1943, and for the next three years served as admissions officer



DR. W. H. PLEMMONS

ing, a two-story facility located in the center of the campus, will be named The W. H. Plemmons College Center in tribute to the respected president who has headed the college's mammoth develop-

Congress Reacts To Newspaper Proposal

The Democrat received almost instant response from the members of the North Carolina delegation in Congress, to whom it had sent telegrams about the proposed Federally-financed newspaper. Our Representative James E. Broyhill opposed the move as did the others. Some of the messages received by the Democrat from our men in Washington are reprinted, to show how quickly and firmly our Representatives and Senators act on issues of vital concern in the State:

Dear Mr. Rivers—Your recent communication, expressing opposition to WAMY's application to the OEO for funds to print a weekly newspaper in the area, has been received . . . I agree with your position concerning this matter. Freedom of the press is one of our fundamental freedoms and I see grave danger connected with the government getting into the

newspaper business . . . Enclosed is a copy of a telegram which I have sent to Sargent Shriver, Director of the OEO, expressing my concern and opposition to the proposal. I am hopeful that the application will soon be withdrawn or disapproved . . . I appreciate your writing and giving me the benefit of your judgment in this matter . . . Sincerely, ROY A. TAYLOR, Member of Congress.

Dear Mr. Rivers—This is to acknowledge and thank you for your telegram regarding the application by WAMY Community Action for Federal funds for the establishment of a newspaper . . . In response to your telegram, I have written to Sargent Shriver, Director of the Office of Economic Opportunity to express my deep concern over the application. A copy of my letter to Mr. Shriver is attached for your information. (Continued on page two)



BROKEN SEWER LINE MENDED—A temporary sewer line (right) had been broken by the rising waters of Winkler's Creek, but Saturday became a support for a second line, which is successfully carrying sewage from a new motel on Blowing Rock Road into Boone's present sewer system. The waste had been pouring into the New River tributary, David Austin, assistant supervisor of the city's Water Department, told the Democrat that when construction of the water-sewer system is completed, the motel's new line will run on the South side of the Creek. He urges citizens to report to him any instances of raw sewage escaping from lines. Here, city employee Robert Townsend finishes binding the lines together. (Staff photo)

\$179,000 Was Sought WAMY Board Kills Newspaper Project

Objection Of Congress Is Called Cause

The application to the office of Economic Opportunity for funds with which to establish a WAMY newspaper in this area was withdrawn by the Board of Directors at a meeting held in Spruce Pine Thursday night. The action was taken after a discussion of more than two hours.

Reasons cited for the Board's action included the one that the project is unfeasible in the present situation "where North Carolina Congressman and other legislators have attacked the idea." Dean Chrisawn of Micaville, a county commissioner in Yancey, offered the motion to kill the newspaper project at least for the time being. The motion was seconded by Robert Heimle, Mayor of Burnsville. Twenty-one voted for the motion and six against. It is understood that the board consists of some sixty members.

WAMY serves the counties of Watauga, Avery, Mitchell and Yancey counties. It is the agency of the North Carolina fund and also applies for Federal funds under the national poverty program. The organization submitted an application in April to the Federal Office of Economic Opportunity seeking a \$179,000 budget to establish a weekly newspaper.

The publication, which would have been commercially printed, was to be mailed free to some 8,000 low income families in the four-county area.

Last week newspapers in the WAMY area and in other sections of the State and even other states described the details of the proposal, and carried adverse editorials.

Locally the Watauga Democrat appealed to the North Carolina delegation in Congress and other political leaders. They promptly responded. Other organizations and individuals joined in the effort, including the State Press Association and the National Newspaper Association, which were in constant touch with the Watauga Democrat.

WHS Band To Give Concert

The Watauga High School Band, under the direction of Otis Strother III, will give its spring concert Thursday, May 18, at 8 p. m. in the high school auditorium.

At this time, the Arion Award will be given to the most outstanding music student.



Ricky Ray stands before one of his paintings as he accepts a \$100 check from Mrs. Betty Lou Wells, Watauga High School art teacher. One of the youngster's paintings was purchased in New York City for a country-wide tour. (Staff photo)

Oil Painting By WHS Student Will Be Shown By Hallmark

An oil painting by a Watauga High School student will be in a Hallmark (cards) exhibit to be on tour in the United States. The autumn scene, showing a boy in front of a tree, was painted by Ricky Ray, son of Mr. and Mrs. Ronda D. Ray of Deep Gap.

Ricky's painting won a Gold Key award in the National Scholastics Art Awards contest in Asheville in February and was sent to New York where it was included in the famed collection. Hallmark awarded Ricky \$100 for the painting.

EXPRESSION

A senior this year, Ricky says he has been interested in

Blowing Rock Theatre Needs Male Actors

Male Actors are needed for parts in James Thurber's comedy show, "Carnival".

Michael Vetrie, director of the forthcoming Blowing Rock Community Theater production, says casting will continue at 8 p. m. Thursday in Blowing Rock's municipal auditorium. "Carnival" will have a five-day run, June 30-July 4.

Former productions of the Theater have enjoyed big successes in the mountain area. Membership and participation in the Theater are not restricted.

Vetrie, who is a professor in ASTC's speech department, recently directed "No Exit" at Wesleyan Foundation.

painting since he was eight years old. He has two brothers and a sister who also paint. His mother had noticed signs of art talent in an older brother and took him to see retired Marine Major William E. Lee, an artist who makes his home in the County. Ricky tagged along for the trip and ended up as a student of Lee.

He has studied part-time under Lee for eight years now, and also is in an art class taught by Mrs. Betty Lou Wells at Watauga High.

Ricky, who uses the mediums of oil, charcoal, water colors and pen and ink, has won other honors for his work. This is the second year he has been a Gold Key winner at Asheville and last year he was a first place winner in a district Fine Arts Festival at Greensboro. He has three of his works on display at the Lenoir County Club and three works have been hung at WHS where he is president of the Art Club.

Ricky says he uses the impressionistic style—color harmony that is placed on the canvas individually, with the eye forming the tone. Most of his pictures are portraits with landscape backgrounds. He uses some live models, but paints

many of his pictures from photographs. In his quest for subjects, he has been to Cape Hatteras, Jekyll Island, Ga., Charleston, S.C., Washington, D. C., the Great Smoky Mountains and Biltmore House in Asheville. Of his studies under Lee, Ricky says his instructor teaches that colors usually alternate from "cool to warm, warm to cool" and insists that

(Continued on page two)



GOV. ROBERT MCNAIR

Gov. McNair To Speak At Singing On Mountain

Grandfather Mountain—The largest yearly event in the mountains of the South, the 43rd annual Singing on the Mountain, will be held June 25, and is expected to attract over 25,000 visitors and participants.

This year's principal speaker will be Gov. Robert E. McNair of South Carolina, who is waiving his rule against Sunday public appearances in this instance because of his "deep interest in the program and its religious nature."

The famed, all-day religious singing convention also will feature gospel singing quartets and groups from all parts of the South, and it will be held on the ancient slopes of Grandfather Mountain, tallest peak of the Blue Ridge Mountain Range.

Gov. McNair's invitation was extended by Arthur Smith of WBT in Charlotte, who also serves as music master for Singing on the Mountain. Smith, himself a musician and nationally-known television personality, will head his own Crossroads Quartet as one of

(Continued on page two)

Jaycees Indicate A Study To Be Made Of WAMY Effort

The Boone Jaycees issued a statement here Thursday night in direct opposition to federally financed communication media.

The Jaycees' opposition stemmed from a proposal by the Directors of WAMY Community Action, Inc., to provide a cost-free news service to the four-county mountain area.

The organization stated that the issue was a symptom of a more serious problem, that of whole-scale federal intervention in private enterprise.

The proposed \$179,000 package would provide a newspaper with a circulation of 8,000 and one hour per day of federally

sponsored programming to be aired over area radio stations. The club passed the resolution unanimously in a special called meeting at the Watauga County Courthouse.

Reports indicate the Jaycees will conduct a study of the local poverty effort.

The resolution read as follows: "BE IT RESOLVED that consistent with the principles of the United States Junior Chamber of Commerce, as stated in the Jaycee creed, the Boone Jaycees do express their opposition to government intervention in the free enterprise system, and believing that a free

press is essential in preserving a free nation, the Boone Jaycees specifically oppose governmental sponsorship in any form of public news media.

"Consistent with the Jaycees' belief in positive action for community development, be it further resolved that a program of study and inquiry be initiated by the Boone Jaycees to determine the advisability of continuing, expanding, or eliminating these programs of governmental assistance as opposed to programs of private initiative, and to report our findings to the proper governmental authorities at the county, state and federal levels."