

BOONE WEATHER				
1969	Hi	Lo	Snow	Wind
Feb. 25	35	30		31 19
Feb. 26	33	27		48 13
Feb. 27	31	28		30 14
Feb. 28	34	11		42 23
Mar. 1	39	25	10.00	81 22 15
Mar. 2	36	28	1.50	49 20
Mar. 3	41	20		48 20

\$17,000 Grant To ASU To Foster Aid Rural Areas

A \$17,000 grant has been awarded to Appalachian State University for the extension of a highly successful 18-month program in which ASU has been using its technological resources to foster grass-roots economic development among rural people in the mountain region.

Of the total funding, \$11,522 is being supplied by the U. S. Office of Education and \$5,762 has been promised by the State Board of Higher Education.

The extended project will retain its present director, Dr. Robert H. West, a professor in Appalachian's Department of Business and Economics.

Dr. West, who initiated this program for university assistance to small businesses in isolated communities, explains that some time ago he noted "numerous instances where small businesses or community enterprises could be established if adequate technical, economic or legal advice were available to the residents of this mountain region."

"Since that time," he continues, "we have developed the program, and we have succeeded in giving sound technological advice to these groups and to individual small business firms."

"We have done such things as advise mountain craftsmen as to production and marketing techniques, and we have established the Small Business Management Institute which helps owners and managers of independent businesses to increase their understanding and abilities in management functions."

The program has been extended to insure the success of those enterprises recently aided by the project—"Because so many of these businesses are seasonal, and need one more summer to become firmly established," Dr. West explains.



SATURDAY'S SNOWFALL in Boone was recorded as 10 inches and the next day one and a half inches were added to the record. As snow continued flaking down Saturday morning, this pine-shrouded walkway had a finished look. But more was to come, including warming temperatures that erased this beauty and prevailed Monday afternoon and a giant snowfall was expected to, but failed to, hit the mountains. (Staff photo)

It's A Great Season For Skiing At Slopes Of Area

It's been a great season for the area ski slopes, according to officials at all four slopes and hopes are running high that the slopes will be open several more weeks.

At Appalachian Ski Mtn, in Blowing Rock, Mrs. R. T. Weber, office manager, said "Things have been fine. We've made quite a few improvements and we've got excellent conditions."

Ski Mtn. reports skiers from New Orleans and New Jersey as well as many from South Carolina and Georgia. Mrs. Weber said that the slopes will remain open two more weeks if the weather holds out.

Hound Ears notes a large number of ski fans from the Atlanta area. "We've had a very good year with lots more people than in past years" said Jo Carlsen at the ski shop. Hound Ears also plans another two weeks of skiing.

Ski Area Manager Pete Reinecke of Seven Devils said the last three weekends provided some of the best skiing in some time because of the natural snowfall. He said the Seven Devils slopes were filled to capacity each weekend.

He said the slopes will remain open "three or four weeks . . . unless something drastic happens weatherwise."

An official at Beech Mountain offered a similar report saying that the area's newest facility is "packed every weekend."

Beech plans to remain open through March.

The heavy snowfalls of the last three weeks haven't bothered business at the ski areas, despite speculation that slippery roads keep many snow-goers away. Reinecke said that the snow seemed to generate the skiing fever for those at Seven Devils.

All four slope officials noted the quick clearing of highways. They said that some folks in the larger cities found the driving safer in this area than in their home towns.

Heavy snowfall was predicted for Boone Monday night, but it didn't come. At mid-morning

Tuesday, Seven Devils reported snowfall coming from the West and hopes were up for another good ski weekend.

Basil Whitener YDC Speaker

Former Congressman Basil Whitener will address the Young Democratic Club Friday night in the County Courthouse.

Jerry Perry, club president, says all Democrats are urged to attend the session. The meeting will begin at 7.

Northwestern Area Science Fair Comes To Appalachian March 14-15

The 1969 Northwestern District Science Fair to be held on the campus of Appalachian State University on Friday and Saturday, March 14-15, will include a "Silver Symposia" to celebrate the 25th year of the National Science Teachers Association.

Dr. E. D. Palmatier, Kenan Professor of Physics at UNC-Chapel Hill will speak at the symposium to be staged from 9:30 a. m. until noon the 15th. Others on the program will be Bruce Robertson, an East Mecklenburg High School teacher, and Dr. George B. Miles, chairman of ASU's Department of Chemistry.

Students and teachers from throughout the 11-county district

will hear the practicing scientists tell about their own research projects and describe how schools can encourage and

support real scientific research.

Junior and senior high school students from throughout the

district will enter exhibits in the annual science fair which will send six winners to the State Science Fair in April.

The district fair, under the direction of Dr. Larry W. Woodrow of Appalachian, will begin at 9 a. m. the 14th with registration and setting up of exhibits in the W. H. Piemmons Student Center. The exhibits will be on display for area elementary school children that afternoon and for visitors and judges from 7 to 9 Friday night and 9 to 11:30 Saturday morning.

The best four exhibits in the senior division and the best two in the junior division in both the physical and biological

district will enter exhibits in the annual science fair which will send six winners to the State Science Fair in April.

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To Consider In April No Local Action Taken On Area Housing Plans

Commissioners Await Report Of Attorney

Whether Watauga will join six other counties in forming a regional public housing authority remains a question.

County Commissioner Gene Wilson said no action was taken on the issue in the regular monthly meeting Monday because the Board of Commissioners had not yet received the full report of Jim Holshouser, county attorney.

Holshouser also is Legislative representative from the 44th District and attorney for the Town of Boone.

In a public hearing held at the Courthouse the Tuesday before the Commissioners' Feb. 3 meeting, it was said that Watauga's abstinance from the proposed seven-county authority might mean that Avery, Mitchell, Yancey, McDowell, Rutherford and Polk counties could not form their own authority.

Mrs. Ruth Johnson of the Mountain Scenic Development Commission, a 17-county Western N. C. agency, told the Commissioners at the hearing that public housing supporters requested the Board sign a resolution that they understand a regional planning authority should be set up and that low-income housing is needed in Watauga (Feb. 6 issue).

The Commissioners' signing of the resolution would not compel Watauga to participate, it was noted, but enable it to under locally appointed housing authority. Needs of the local authority would be filled through the regional set-up, whose administrative staff would be federally salaried. No others would be paid.

Asked if Monday's meeting was attended by supporters of the resolution, Wilson said no. The housing request is to be on the agenda for the meeting the first Monday in April.



Watauga High School Librarian Mrs. Lera Randall accepts the filmstrip, More Than Love, from Miss Susan Lawrence, TAP chairman for the Northwest N. C. Area March of Dimes. (Staff photo)

Filmstrip Given Hi School By March Dimes Foundation

As part of its program to improve health at the national, state and community levels, The National Foundation-March of Dimes has given a filmstrip to the Watauga High School Library.

The presentation was made Thursday by Miss Susan Lawrence, chairman of the Teenage Program in the six-county Northwest N. C. Area of March of Dimes, accepting on behalf of the school was the librarian, Mrs. Lera Randall.

Miss Lawrence explained that More Than Love is a medically authenticated filmstrip for young people. In clear, straightforward terms, yet with great sensitivity, it discusses the responsibility for giving children the best chance for a healthy start in life.

Designed primarily for students in the eleventh and twelfth grades, the film can be used effectively with younger and older groups. Also, the filmstrip gives important attention to the genetic history and general good health of the male parent.

More Than Love, designed for pre-parenthood education, was created primarily for boys and girls ages 16 to 18. But it also will be meaningful to those to whom engagement, marriage

and parenthood are of immediate concern.

The filmstrip can be used in a variety of classes such as biology, health education, family life, sex education, child development and special classes for pregnant teenagers.

The National Foundation suggests the filmstrip can aid outside the school environment with young groups, in settlement houses, churches, community organizations and health departments.

Girl Scout Cookies Offered During Week

If it is green, a girl asks you to buy a box of cookies, it's a Girl Scout. If meeting these qualifications, but smaller in size and uniformed in brown rather than green, it is probably a Brownie Scout.

From the Brownie level through senior Scouts, Watauga girls numbering between 250 and 270 will officially end their cookie sales here Saturday. As their educational schedule permits, they will be selling door to door, in local grocery stores and from a downtown booth until then.

Mrs. Kay Bosworth, Neighborhood Chairman for Watauga County, says the girls keep 10 cents on every 50-cent box with the remainder going for the expense of the cookies and for the pride of the eight-county Catawba Valley Girl Scout Council: Camp Ginger Cascades.

Located in Caldwell, the camp this year will have platform tents, latrines, troop shelters and perhaps a dining hall. Girls within the Council may

attend at "an extremely reasonable rate," she says, during the month of July.

Mrs. Bosworth says this

(Continued on page ten)

Grain Sign Up Is Continued

The feed grain sign up will continue through Friday, March 21, according to Roy W. Isley, ASCS County Office Manager. County office records show 212 farmers have signed to divert their corn bases for 1969. These producers have received over \$9,960 in cash advance payments and plan to divert over 556 acres from the production of corn.

Producers who have already signed may revise their intentions through March 21.

Any interested farmer should contact the ASCS office on or before March 21 for information on how the feed grain sign up would affect their 1969 farm income.



History Essay Contest Won By Cathy Cooper

Seventh grader Cathy Cooper has won a history essay contest sponsored by the Daniel Boone Chapter of the DAR.

Theme of the contest was "Heroines of the American Revolution" and Miss Cooper's essay was on Esther Videau of South Carolina.

Her essay will be entered in the district contest and the winner there will proceed to the state eliminations. State winners then go to the national finals.

A student at Appalachian Elementary School, Miss Cooper is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. William Cooper of Pinnacle Lane.

Runners-up in the contest were Myra Harrill and Lottie Spainhour.

7 Of 10 Watauga Newlyweds To See 50th Anniversaries

Of the many young couples who will be getting married this year in Watauga County, what proportion of them will live to celebrate their golden wedding anniversary?

The answer, based upon recent national studies, is—more than a third of them. The assumption that goes with it, of course, is that no divorce or annulment intervenes along the way, in that event, all bets are off.

The likelihood that both husband and wife will survive to mark that 50-year milestone is more than twice as favorable as it was for their grandparents, when they got married.

The improvement in the prospects for a longer life span is the result of spectacular achievements in the fields of health, biology and medicine during the last few decades.

Just what the chances are of a person's reaching the various landmark stages in life are detailed in the latest studies made by insurance statisticians and others.

For the average Watauga County couple just getting married, where the bridegroom is 22 and the bride 19—there are some 175 young men and 180 young women

locally at those ages at present—the odds are about 7 out of 10 that both of them will be around in the year 2010 to mark the bride's 60 birthday.

For their grandparents, the odds were only 5 out of 10 that they would reach that point.

The prospects of living to the retirement age of 65 are also greater than ever, the figures show.

Of the 170 young men in the local area who are now 18 and are going to work or into the armed forces or to college, the indications are that some 120 of them will reach 65.

At that point, their chances of living an additional 10 years are listed as better than 6 out of 10.

Of particular importance to a man are the first 30 years or so of his married life, when there are likely to be dependent children in the family. It is a period of maximum economic responsibility.

For the 175 men in Watauga County who have arrived at age 22 and are at the marrying stage, the statistics show that no less than 89 percent of them will be on hand to witness the marriage of their children. This occurs, on the average, when the father is about 53 years old.