



WATAUGA DEMOCRAT

An Independent Weekly Newspaper . . . Eighty-Second Year of Continuous Publication

BOONE WEATHER			
1969	25	Lo	Frst. Snow
Sept. 30	70	28	71 45
Oct. 1	66	47	77 45
Oct. 2	72	54	83 45
Oct. 3	70	54	85 45
Oct. 4	72	43	81 38
Oct. 5	80	45	87 38
Oct. 6	85	45	91 38

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BOONE, WATAUGA COUNTY, NORTH CAROLINA, THURSDAY, OCTOBER 9, 1969

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BAD CRASH, MINOR INJURY—After his car skidded 135 feet on US 421 near Deep Gap, Leonard S. Palmer of Patrick Springs, Va., emerged having suffered only a cut nose. After the skid, the automobile dug up some 50 feet of ground before coming to this perilous stop. The time was approximately 9:30 Friday morning and Palmer was picked up by the Watauga Ambulance Service. The wreck was investigated by the State Highway Patrol. (Staff photo)

Better Per Acre Yields Noted

Watauga Farm Income Adds Up To \$6,489,000

Returns Said To Be In Line Other Regions

How did the average farmer in Watauga County make out in the past year?

How much progress has he made, in terms of gross income, in the last five years?

Compared with the earnings of farmers and ranchers in other parts of the country, his returns have been relatively good.

The figures for the period are from a national survey released by the Standard Rate and Data Service. It shows that farm receipts in the local area were \$1,119,000 larger in 1968 than they were five years earlier.

The increase was due, in part, to better yields per acre. Farmers were able to produce more than in former years, despite the setback in the amount of land under cultivation, by pouring more mechanical equipment and by improved tillage practices.

At the same time, the demand for farm products was on the rise and the prices paid for them somewhat higher. Even though the farmer received only a fraction of this additional revenue—most of it going to the middle man—it was of some benefit.

In Watauga County, the figures show, gross farm income in the past year came to \$6,489,000, as against the \$5,370,000 reported five years ago.

Those were the gross amounts, before any deductions for operating expenses.

The increase in the period, 21 percent, compares favorably

(Continued on page two)

No 'Ridin' Cow' Could Be Found For Coach Lentz

They couldn't find a cow for Watauga High School Coach Carter Lentz to ride through Boone Saturday.

But they're still searching.

Lentz was due to ride of Bessie, led by Assistant Principal Carl Fidler, along King Street to satisfy a challenge made to the student body.

Jack Henson, president of the student body, said the ride has been re-scheduled for the Appalachian State University homecoming parade on Saturday, Oct. 25.

Lentz had promised the WHS student body that if it reached its goal of \$10,000 for its recent magazine subscription sale, he would ride the cow through Boone. The students' sales amounted to \$10,657.

Henson said the postponement developed after students could not find a cow. They still are open to a donation for the day.



WHS HOMECOMING QUEEN—Luci Welborn (center), daughter of Mr. and Mrs. John Welborn of Boone, reigned as queen during homecoming festivities Friday at Watauga High School. Members of her court are (from left) Sharon Blair, sophomore attendant; Sarah Hayes, senior attendant; Dinah Mitchell, junior attendant, and Deborah Greene, freshman attendant. (Staff photo)

Homecoming Festivities Gay Event At Hi School

It was a big weekend at Watauga High School—homecoming festivities complete with queen, football and dancing.

Pretty Luci Welborn, a member of the Senior Class, reigned over the three-day event. Members of her court were Sarah Hayes, senior attendant; Dinah Mitchell, junior attendant; Sharon Blair, sophomore attendant; and Deborah Greene, freshman attendant.

The events opened Thursday night when the cheerleaders and their sponsors treated the football squad to a steak dinner. A bonfire, reported to have drawn the largest crowd of students ever assembled, followed with the school band furnishing music.

The band again performed Friday afternoon at the pep

rally for the Marion game that night. A powderpuff football game by the pep club was refereed by Messers, Greene, Atwood and Brown. The homecoming court was presented by Bill Ross.

Miss Welborn was crowned during halftime activities Friday

night by Jack Henson, president of the student body.

The homecoming dance Saturday night capped the events. Sponsored by the student council in the school lobby, more than 200 students and alumni attended. Music was provided by the Young Company.

"Business Boom" List Is Growing

Four new entries are on the "business boom" list kept by the Watauga Democrat, and the county's total of new businesses for the five-year period to end Dec. 31 has swelled to 101.

The Rathskeller, a restaurant specializing in Kosher foods, was followed by the new Orbit Factory Outlet, Libro's Coins and Stamps and Watsonatta Westerns.

Located at 103 Appalachian St., the Rathskeller is owned by a local minister and three ASU professors: the Rev. Reginald Smith, Dr. Mike Perry, Dr. John Fish and Dr. Jim Smith. The restaurant opened Monday, Sept. 1.

Orbit Factory Outlet is located at 116 Blowing Rock Road. It is operated by Mrs. Walter Lazier and features a wide variety of the latest women's styles.

Mr. Walter Lazier operates the coin shop next door at 118

Blowing Rock Road with his brother, Moreland, Walter Lazier has just retired as head of the science department of a Key West, Fla., high school. His brother has retired as comptroller of their hometown, Jamestown, N. Y.

Watsonatta Westerns opened Sept. 20 at the corner of King and Depot streets. Owned by Mr. and Mrs. Darrell Watson, the store features genuine Western apparel and equipment, including dance costumes.

Watson is a native of Banner Elk.

To Pa. U. Meeting

J. Carroll Brookshire, internal auditor at Appalachian State University, recently attended the 13th annual conference of the Association of College and University Auditors on the campus of the University of Pennsylvania.

U. S. Jaycees Official Will Be Here Friday

Jack L. Brantley, of Columbia, S. C., vice president of the United States Jaycees, will visit with Boone Jaycees Friday.

President Jim Hastings of the local club said that Brantley will begin his local visit with a stop between 9 and 10 a. m. at Boone Drug Company. He will address the Jaycees Friday night at their dinner meeting at 7 o'clock at the Town House Restaurant.

Brantley, a native of Ridge-land, S. C., will discuss "Challenges Unlimited in '69," the platform he ran on in his campaign for the national office. He was chosen as one of the three Outstanding Young Men of South Carolina by the state Jaycees in 1966.

Hastings extends an invitation to local businessmen and civic leaders to meet Brantley during the morning visit.

Extra Penny Sales Tax

Called "Last Best Chance" To Widen Support Local Projects

The proposed extra penny sales tax is being described as the "last best chance" for the taxpayers public to broaden financial support for local government projects in North Carolina.

The appraisal of the Nov. 4 vote came during a meeting in Boone last Tuesday of the 11-county northwestern district of the North Carolina Association of County Commissioners.

Jerry Elliott of Raleigh, public relations director of the association, said the Nov. 4 election will not decide if there will be additional taxes. It will only advise county officials how additional revenues should be obtained, he said.

The meeting was called by the association's executive secretary and legal counsel, John Morrissey. Also on hand was Frank Lewis, who is filling the new position of field secretary.

Ferry Greene, chairman of the Watauga County Board of Commissioners, was re-elected chairman of the district. In describing the additional one per cent local option tax as the "last best chance" for needed local revenues, Morrissey and Elliott noted that if counties fail to approve the tax proposal, future sessions of the legislature are likely to turn to the tax for additional state revenue.

Morrissey noted that already the ad valorem (property tax) is producing the largest bank of revenue throughout the state. Using figures for the 1967-68 fiscal year, he said the ad valorem tax is producing 27 per cent of all revenues at all levels of government in North Carolina.

And citing the growing pressures on counties, cities and towns for more revenue, Morrissey said "It makes no sense for them to increase the tax source that already is producing the most revenue."

Morrissey said the "federal system of government is at stake" in the local option tax. "There will be no strengthening of local governments until they can get some measure of local financial independence," Morrissey said.

Morrissey explained that local

governments need not be so completely dependent upon Washington and Raleigh for funds. Approval of the local option sales tax will be a major step in affording local governments the means to finance and direct local programs, he said.

The local option sales tax is

the first major opportunity ever in North Carolina for local governments to broaden their tax base. In counties where voters approve the additional one per cent sales tax, nearly all of the penny will come back to the counties where it was collected to be distributed among county and town governments.

For example, based on actual sales tax collections in Watauga County during 1968-69, it is estimated that a total of \$294,180 would be returned to the county annually. The county would get a total of \$212,010, Boone \$58,068 and Blowing Rock \$24,103 (including \$211 from Caldwell County). These figures would presume all 100 counties approve the tax.

Morrissey, reviewing the background for the recent legislature's enactment of the local option sales tax, noted that strong efforts had been made since the middle 1950's for legislative direction in provid-

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ASU Enrollment

Official enrollment totals show that the student body at Appalachian State University has tripled in size in the past decade.

ASU Registrar W. Dean Meredith says a total of 6,984 students had registered for fall quarter classes at the university. In September of 1959, Appalachian's full-time equivalent enrollment was 2,277.

A breakdown of the grand total shows 3,660 resident women and 3,204 men registered at the university. There are 5,796 resident undergraduate stu-

dents enrolled, 546 resident graduate students, and 497 graduate students enrolled through 24 extension classes. One-hundred fifteen undergraduates are also on the extension rolls.

By classes, the undergraduate total includes 2,185 freshmen, 1,370 sophomores, 1,204 juniors and 909 seniors. Special students number 38.

Students from within North Carolina number 5,981 and out-of-state students total 883. ASU's enrollment includes students from nine foreign countries.

ASU Students To Get Soft Drinks Without Tax Cost

While taxpayers across the state were moaning about the new crown tax on soft drinks Wednesday morning, students at Appalachian State University were breathing a little easier.

After computing the advantages and drawbacks, ASU officials decided to try to absorb the increase in soft drink costs without additional levies on the student body.

"and we will continue using the same nine-ounce cup in our machines."

At the ASU cafeteria where students consume some 4,000 soft drinks per day, Director of Food Services John Welborn said that because of the new tax plus an increase in wholesale prices, soft drinks cost him 61 per cent more than they did last month. "But we are still going to try to live with our dime soft drinks," he said.

Appalachian's University Bookstore operates more than

50 soft drink machines for the resident student body of 6,300 and plans there are to "absorb the cost increase ourselves as a service to our students," according to manager Howard Cottrill.

In addition, an army of cigarette machines, also owned by the Bookstore but stocked and serviced by an off-campus contractor, will continue to dispense cigarettes for 30 cents per pack despite the new two-cent tax which will erase any profit from the service.

Camporee At Deep Gap

The Thunderbird Scalpoms, a camporee for Boy Scouts of the Watauga District, will be held Saturday and Sunday, Oct. 18 and 19, at Deep Gap.

Arvil Sale, scoutmaster of Troop 109, said the camporee will be one of the most unique scouting events held here in recent years.

The camporee will feature pioneer projects and scout skills, included will be bridge building and towers made from poles lashed together.

Fred Tarletons Back From Mexico

Mr. Fred L. Tarleton and Mrs. Tarleton have returned to their home at 200 Hunting Road from Monterrey, Mexico, where they had been for five weeks while Mr. Tarleton was on assignment for the International Executive Service Corps.

IESC is a non-profit organization which arranges for retired (and sometimes mid-career) executives to share their managerial know-how with enterprises in developing nations. These volunteers, exemplars of the best in American business, are helping the free nations to help themselves achieve economic stability.

Mr. Tarleton is retired manager, refrigerator engineer of Hot Point Division of General Electric Co., Chicago and former chief engineer of the Norge Division of Borg Warner.

University Plans Second Appraisal

The State will have a second appraisal made of the old burley tobacco warehouse property in Boone before making a decision about its purchase.

The property, located on Faculty Street, is owned by the Town of Boone which utilizes it as a warehouse for its larger equipment. Also, during tobacco market season, the building provides extra storage space for tobacco.

The Town Board recently extended an option to Appalachian State University to purchase the property for \$75,000. The university asked for the extension until the Council of State could

make a decision about its purchase.

ASU business manager Ned Trivette said the state is having a second appraisal made since its policy is to secure at least two appraisals before purchasing land.

The original option to ASU was granted in June by the previous town board. The board decided to give ASU preference on the land since the school already owns land adjoining it.

The matter arose initially after the General Services Administration cast its eye at the property for site of a new Federal building in Boone.



JACK L. BRANTLEY