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TWENTY-TWO PAGES



Staff Photo by J. P. Brady

A diminutive brunette, Miss Lela Jo Gailey, (center) was crowned "Homecoming Queen" during half-time festivities here Friday night at the Franklin-Clyde football game.

Miss Gailey Crowned Queen; Panthers Beat Clyde, 6 to 0

A chilled crowd of some 300 fans watched the Franklin High Panthers shove over a winning touchdown in the dying minutes of a game here Friday night with Clyde—a game that capped off the Panthers' 1953-54 season and added a note of cheer to the school's homecoming festivities.

It was a scoreless duel between the two evenly matched teams up to the last three minutes of the game when Franklin suddenly caught fire and moved down to the two-yard line. Back Vic Teague fumbled on the one, but Guard Gene Mashburn iced the game for the Panthers by scooping up the elusive ball and falling into paydirt.

Vivacious Miss Lela Jo Gailey, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Clyde Gailey, was crowned "Homecoming Queen" during a colorful and unique half-time performance by the Franklin Band, which sponsored the queen contest.

The diminutive brunette, who made a queenly entrance in a convertible against a background of whistles and cheers, was crowned in semi-darkness by runnerup Miss Carlene Sorrells as the band executed a star formation with sparklers in her honor.

Band members in charge of the contest reported a total of 17 entered. The queen was selected on a penny-a-vote basis, and the proceeds, \$101.11, are earmarked for the band department.

In addition to the above three, other contestants included Misses Sue Blaine, Barbara Cunningham, Marlene Fox, Jean Sutton, Margaret Jones, Dorothy Barrett, Julia Waldrop, Sue Duvall, Sue Solesbee, Virginia Ray, Ellen Calloway, Ruth Downs, Jerlene Cabe, and Doris Teague.

Thus, the curtain went down on the years' grid season for Coach R. A. (Art) Byrd and charges. The team's win-tiltless standing is 3-1-5.

LOCAL YOUTH CENTER OPENS

Some 68 Teen-Agers Turn Out For First Gathering At School

Some 68 teen-agers were on hand Saturday night for the official christening of the new Youth Center at Franklin High School.

Brainchild of interested adults and teen-agers, the purpose of the center—set up in the school cafeteria—is supervised Saturday.

SEE NO. 1, PAGE 10

SING IS SLATED

The fourth Sunday sing of the northern division of the Macon County Singing Convention is scheduled at the Iota Baptist Church beginning at 1:30 p. m., according to John Campbell, vice-president.

FIRE DANGER UP; 3 BLAZES ARE REPORTED

Ranger Wasilik Terms Situation Critical; Requests Cooperation

Three fires—two on government and one on county land—were reported this week as fire danger continued to amount in the face of a relentless drought.

Nantahala District Ranger John Wasilik, Jr., yesterday (Wednesday) described the fire situation as Class 4, a "critically dangerous classification".

The ranger urged all citizens to exercise extreme caution. He particularly singled out motorists with a plea not to throw burning cigarettes along the highways.

The three fires—all small ones—were quickly brought under control. The first on government land broke out Saturday in the Briartown area on

SEE NO. 3, PAGE 10

Judge Patton Appointed To Preside Here

Judge George B. Patton will be back among home folks in December—at least for two weeks.

As a special superior court judge, he has received his commission to preside over the December term of court here in place of Judge F. Donald Phillips, of Rockingham, who is unable to preside as scheduled because of illness.



JUDGE PATTON

The term opens December 7 for two weeks of trial, the first week being set aside for hearing criminal actions, the second week for civil matters.

A native of Franklin, Judge Patton received his appointment as a special judge February 6, 1947, from Gov. R. Gregg Cherry.

Meanwhile, Miss Kate McGee, clerk of superior court, said yesterday (Wednesday) the criminal and civil dockets for the December term are "about average". Most of the criminal actions, she added, are violations of the motor vehicles law.

For the past several court terms, both dockets have been cleared the first week. However, under the law the term remains active for a full two weeks in the event a pressing matter arises.

ARC MEETING SLATED FRIDAY

Election Of Officers Will Feature Annual Event At Kelly's Inn

New officers will be elected by the local American Red Cross Chapter at its annual meeting tomorrow (Friday) night at Kelly's Inn.

No formal program is planned for the meeting, which is slated for 8 o'clock, according to Mrs. Elizabeth McCollum, chapter secretary.

Present officers are Z. Weaver Shope, of Franklin, chairman; W. R. Potts, of Highlands, vice-chairman; and J. C. Jacobs, of Franklin, treasurer.

17 GROUPS NOW IN RURAL EVENT

Cullasaja And Ellijay Organize Monday With County Agent's Help

The Macon County Rural Community Development Program swelled to 17 communities Monday night with the organization of Cullasaja and Ellijay.

In the contest year just ended, 13 communities competed for \$1,050 in prize money. Soon after the November 1 deadline, Cowee and Upper Cartoogechaye joined the movement.

County Agent S. W. Mendenhall assisted the two newcomers with organizational procedure Monday night at Cullasaja School.

The Cullasaja organization elected Amos Wood president; Pritchard Russell, junior president; Mrs. Evelyn Bryson, vice-president; Mrs. Gordon Gibson, secretary-treasurer; Mrs. Pitch-

SEE NO. 4, PAGE 10

MACONIANS SET TO MARK THANKSGIVING

Highlands, Franklin Churches Plan Special Services In Observance

A humble and thankful Macon County is preparing to join the rest of the free world in the observance of Thanksgiving next Thursday (November 26).

The churches of both Franklin and Highlands are each planning their annual community Thanksgiving worship services.

Franklin's service will be held this year at the First Baptist Church at 8 a. m. Dr. A. Rufus Morgan, rector of the St. Agnes Episcopal Church, will preside and the Thanksgiving message will be delivered by the Rev. C. E. Murray, Methodist pastor.

Holland McSwain, of the Presbyterian church, will lead a responsive reading, and worshippers will be welcomed by Verlon Swafford, of the Baptist church.

Miss Eveline Giedinghagen, Baptist music director, will be in charge of music for the service.

The Highlands service, slated for 9:30 a. m., is planned for the Highlands Presbyterian Church. The Rev. John Buell, Baptist pastor, will deliver the Thanksgiving sermon and the Thanksgiving proclamation will be given by the Rev. Robert E. Early, Methodist pastor. The Rev. Robert M. Hart, Presbyterian pastor, will preside.

Meanwhile, as the day of thanks approaches, Macon housewives are scurrying about, preparing for the big meal of the year, while the menfolk—at least most of them—are scavenging stores for the necessary artillery and ammunition to give the Thanksgiving Day opening of the rabbit and quail season a big send-off.

Killian Bull Adjudged Grand Champion Of Show And Sale In Twin City

A bull owned by Dr. Frank Killian, of Franklin, was adjudged grand champion at the Winston-Salem All-Polled Show and Sale Friday. The bull ranked first in its class and sold for \$900 in the sale.

Two other animals entered by Dr. Killian placed 3rd and 4th in their class and sold for \$670 and \$625.

Board Buys Tract For County Home

Paper Different? Reason Is Section On Rural Contest

Does your Franklin Press feel different this week?

There's a reason. In addition to the regular newspaper, with news and pictures of the week's happenings, a special 12-page section is included, covering the activities of the 13 communities competing in the 1953 Macon County Rural Community Development Contest.

The special section, not too affectionately referred to as the "agony issue" by members of The Press staff, was whipped into shape in a little more than a week.

It contains 45 pictures of progress—a record number for any past issue of The Press. It contains stories by community reporters on the year's activities of each community—reporters whose assistance made the publication of the special section possible.

It contains congratulatory messages from local business and professional men, who threw their support behind the highly successful contest. In other words, it's chock full of information and pictures.

To give some idea of the scope of preparing the special section, The Press photographer spent two days shooting pictures in the 13 communities, traveling better than 200 miles. Other members of the staff, after working regular eight-hour shifts, worked into the nights during the week to prepare the extra material.

And at last the edition is out. The Press staff is proud of the job. It hopes the readers are, too.

RECRUITING DAY CHANGED

The U. S. Marine recruiting day here has been changed from Wednesday to Friday from 8 a. m. to noon. Sgt. Joseph H. Latham has announced. The recruiter also announced another platoon composed of W. N. C. enlistees will leave January 19 for basic training.

New Home For Aged Will Be Built Soon, Baldwin Explains

In regular session Monday, the board of county commissioners purchased a \$2,500 tract of land for the site of a new county home and began mapping preliminary plans for construction of a new home at an early date.

The board's decision brought a deep sigh of relief and a note of triumph from local civic organizations and individuals, who have crusaded for several years against the present dilapidated and inadequate county home on heavily-traveled US 23 (Georgia highway).

Board Chairman W. E. (Gene) Baldwin said the present home and property will be sold as soon as the new building is completed.

The board purchased a 25-acre tract in the Bend of the River section from Mr. and Mrs. W. W. McConnell. Construction will begin as soon as blueprints are drawn, according to Mr. Baldwin.

Although plans are indefinite, the chairman said the board plans to construct a modern one-story fireproof building at a cost of from \$10,000 to \$15,000. The structure probably will have 12 rooms, including a kitchen, he added.

Six persons are living at the county home at present.

For years, demands for corrective measures at the county home have stemmed not only from civic groups and individuals but from almost countless grand juries during superior court terms.

At the past August term here, after noting the grand jury's comment that "our county home is in pitiful condition", Judge F. Donald Phillips sharply criticized conditions and ordered a certified copy of the report sent to each commissioner.

A picture story on conditions at the home featured the April 23 issue of The Press after the grand jury at the April term branded the rambling two-story frame structure a "disgrace to the citizens of Macon County".

OCTOBER ROAD WORK IS LISTED

Highway Crews Finish Eight-tenths Of Mile During Month Here

Slightly more than eight-tenths of a mile of road work was brought to completion in Macon during October by state highway crews, according to an announcement by 14th Division Commissioner Harry E. Buchanan.

The following roads, all 19 feet wide, were stabilized and the existing surface straightened with traffic-bound macadam: Oak Branch Road, 2 1/2 miles; State Road 12, 1 1/2 miles; Pleasant Hill Road, 1/2 mile; The Tom Johnson Road, which is 16 feet wide, was graded, drained and surfaced with traffic-bound macadam for 2 miles.

In the 10-county division, a total of 12.87 miles of road improvements were completed during the month, the commissioner said.

Club To Boost Band Is Born

A Band Boosters Club was born Wednesday night of last week following a dinner meeting of interested citizens and civic club representatives at the Franklin High School cafeteria.

The purpose of the new organization is to lend moral and financial support to the Franklin District Band as a steering agency through which the efforts and interests of all groups and individuals in the district may be concentrated toward the promotion of the band.

Since its organization here four years ago, the band has

SEE NO. 5, PAGE 10

Project Closed To All Traffic, Engineer Says

The Franklin-Dillsboro highway project (US 23) is now closed to all travel, Resident Engineer S. T. Usry announced this week.

Although through traffic has been detouring around the project for more than a year, local motorists have been allowed to drive over the project at their own risk. But construction has now reached the stage where vehicles can no longer use the road, the engineer said.

SENATOR HERE



ALTON A. LENNON

Mr. Lennon, North Carolina's junior U. S. Senator, spent Sunday night here and Monday went on a handshaking tour in the county. The Wilmington lawyer, who was appointed by Gov. Umstead in July of this year to succeed the late Senator Willis Smith, was the principal speaker at a Tree Farm dedication in Robbinsville Saturday.

We Do Anything, Inc.' New Firm Operated By Six Boys

Talk about ingenuity! Take a lesson from "We Do Anything, Inc." This firm name isn't at all deceiving, for the seven boys behind the impressive title are prepared to do anything from baby sitting to fighting fire in order to raise money for a trip to Washington, D. C., with the Franklin High senior class in April.

So, with the motto, "The difficult we do immediately, the impossible takes a little bit longer", these seven boys are ready to tackle any odd job coming their way.

They are Connie Potts, G. D. Buchanan, Roger Seay, Gene Mashburn, Victor Teague, Dan Angel, and Joe Patton. All one has to do to put them into action is contact them at the school or their homes.

They already have "fed the kitty" with better than \$50 from fighting fire over the week-end—14 hours of fighting and all were ready for school Monday morning.

Six rules govern the corporation: (1) all members must pass all work in school; (2) any member dropping out before April 1, 1954, will lose all his share in the enterprise; any member may sell his share to another person, providing all members agree; (3) any member refusing to help on a job will be dropped by a vote of the members; (4) when possible, all payment for jobs will be made by check and all money will be turned in the following school day to be placed in the bank under the name of the corporation; (5) no money can be withdrawn before April 1, 1954, and only then by consent of all members; (6) when a member can't work on a job, he must make up the difference in hours or money.

Beagle Wins Field Trial



Coburn Holden, of Franklin, is shown with his prize beagle, "Faithful Fan", who won first place for 13-inch bitches in a licensed field trial staged by the North Georgia Beagle Club in Gainesville Monday through Thursday of last week. It was "Fan's" first field trial and she completely stole the show, competing against 40 dogs from all over the country. The judges described her as "very bold with a calm, quiet nerve". The blue-ribbon beagle and her master left Monday for Salisbury and another field trial.