

THE NEWS - RECORD

MHC Festival Sparks Lunsford's Memories

Ninety-years-old Bascom Lamar Lunsford, the man who originated the concept of folk music festivals, was flat on his back in the bed last week in Asheville recovering from a stroke, yet mention of his mountain music festival Saturday, Oct. 14, at Mars Hill College brought sparks to his eyes and a cascade of memories.

He said his energies would be limited just to getting here for the "fric," but to get here he would.

Lunsford does not organize or perform at festivals anymore, but he loves to hear others pick and sing. "I try to sing a little sometimes, but my picking days are over on account of my fingers. Time is the success of folk music and I can't get the timing anymore. I will say this about myself though: I picked a banjo as well as a banjo as ever been plick—that's a word I made up."

He considered the annual Mars Hill festival as a homecoming event. He learned ballad singing and to play the banjo, as well as the fiddle and guitar, as a child on the college campus where he was born while his father was teaching. This was a reason why, of all the festivals that have sprung up since he began them in the 1920s, the one here at Mars Hill is the only one which he allowed to bear his name: "Bascom Lamar Lunsford's Minstrel of the Appalachians."

Lunsford, who has an international reputation as collector, researcher and promoter of Appalachian folklore, credited his musical upbringing in Madison County as giving him the realization of the "value of the fine tradition in mountain people."

He said this realization has been the key to whatever success he has had and that he has devoted his life in trying to convey this realization to others.

Lunsford said he began establishing folk festivals as a means of encouraging others to learn and to appreciate mountain culture. The first was in 1928 with the Mountain Dance and Folk Festival in Asheville, which is still going on. Others followed at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, at Renfro Valley, Ky., at the North Carolina State Fair.

He has lectured and performed at colleges, schools and concert halls from coast to coast and Venice, Italy, and with a band of local performers, has given programs in Pittsburgh, Dallas, Philadelphia, St. Louis, Chicago.

One of the highlights of his life, Lunsford said, was in 1939 when FDR invited him and his group of friends to perform at the White House for visiting King George VI of England and his queen. "When we got back everybody asked 'What did the queen say?' I replied, 'She just sat there and patted her foot.'"

Lunsford has mixed feelings about the multitude of folk music festivals, now he is encouraged by their popularity, yet discouraged about some that were less than authentic.

"My business was to draw attention to the fine cultural value of our traditional music and our dancing and the fine honor of our people. I was trying to perpetuate the real, true cultural worth of the mountain people."

"Our section, you know, has been slandered. People had

the notion that it was somehow inferior. Now they've turned around and found there might be something in it. The interest in it has been very, very good."

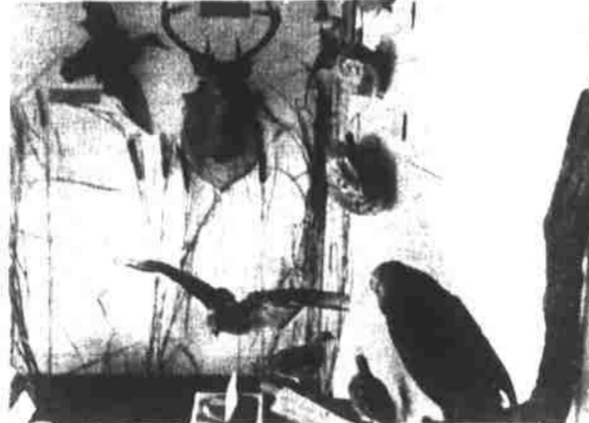
He liked the plans for this year's festival at the college, which has been called, "the world's most authentic festival of mountain music." The college will put up tents on a softball field under the "jam sessions" all day prior to the 7 p.m. start of the festival. The festival will be held in Moore Auditorium and is open to performers by "invitation only." But those wishing to participate can be auditioned during the jam sessions.

Madison County crafts people will hold demonstrations during the day also and will put on a community square dance at 7:30 p.m. the night before, Friday, Oct. 13.

Lunsford said he hoped people would take part in the activities for they would be exposed to "the richest pocket of traditional lore in America today."

And he thought to know, for he has combed the mountains for ballads for most of this century. Before old age slowed him down in the late 1950s he had collected some 1,500 ballads and had made 146 phonograph records for the Library of Congress, for Columbia University and for two commercial recording companies.

In his search, Lunsford said he spent the night in more cabins between Harpers Ferry, W. Va., and Iron Mountain, Ala., than anyone. "And I always took off my hat when I entered mountain people's homes for their ancestors were lords of the realm."



NORRIS FRISBY, JR., of Marshall, took a course in Taxidermy by mail and although only 15 years old is an expert Taxidermist. Several of his stuffed fowl and animal heads, made a year ago, are now on display in the Marshall library window. Shown above is a ring-neck pheasant, quail, ruddy duck and mallard duck. Also show, forefront, is "Polly", the parrot which belonged to Mr. Brittain who operated The New Cafe here many years ago.

Fall Grazing Opens On Set-Aside Acres

Set-aside acreage under the 1972 feed grain, and wheat programs may be used for livestock grazing after October 1, Ralph Ramsey, County Executive Director for the Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation Service, has announced.

He reminded farmers that no grazing is permitted on acreage still under contract in long-term land retirement programs such as the Cropland Adjustment Program. Today's announcement affects only livestock grazing on land diverted under annual commodity programs. No set-aside acreage may be harvested.

Land also provides many acres of wildlife habitat.

Ramsey said he is available under the Rural Environmental Assistance on set-aside acreage.

County Historical Society History Is Reviewed

The medical history of Madison County was the topic of the program of the Madison County Historical Society held at White Rock Presbyterian Church on Saturday, Sept. 16, at 2 p.m. The period of history covered was roughly Madison County Health Department in April, 1949. A panel of six persons gave information on hospitals, doctors and nursing services, and others added information during informal discussion.

Philip Wagoner, Mars Hill College history student, read a paper prepared by a fellow student on the founding of the first hospital in the county, at White Rock. M. P. Tweed told of the construction which was interrupted by World War I, but was completed in time to have the hospital in operation in late 1919. This hospital was a project of the Presbyterian Home Mission Board, and it was built on land donated by J. S. Tweed. Native stone was used in the foundation and steps. German siding painted white completed the exterior. The floors are of oak and the woodwork is ash. Mrs. C. D. Bowman told of her arrival in May, 1920, to join the staff of three nurses. Mrs. Bowman came from Peter Bent Brigham Hospital, Boston, Mass. to this hospital. Several nurses made up the staff through the years, but only three were here at a time. Doctors who served during the twenty years of the hospital's existence were: Drs. Packard, Holden, Andrews, Locke, and Rowen. Dr. Arthur Pritchard, of Asheville, was called in for

surgical cases as needed. Mrs. Bowman recalled that regular clinics were held at Rev. Allegheny, Allenstand, Rice's Cove, Druid and Carmen, home visiting was a routine part of the doctor's day; and the staff was frequently called on to minister to sick or injured animals.

Mrs. C. M. Roberts told of the practice of Dr. Frank Roberts of Marshall, who in 1927 recruited a young doctor, Dr. Harry B. Ditmore, to join him in establishing a hospital in Marshall. The hospital was located on the entire second floor of the Roberts Pharmacy Building, owned by Dr. Roberts. Mrs. H. B. Ditmore described the operation of the hospital. Miss Elsa Baker and Miss Bertie Revis were nurses and Mrs. Emmett Piemmons was dietitian. Dr. Roberts and Dr. Ditmore were assisted in surgery by Dr. Thurman Hipps of Spring Creek as needed. Both major and minor surgical cases were handled here. Efforts to secure county support to participate in Duke Foundation funds from which to enlarge and relocate the hospital failed in a county election and the hospital closed.

Other hospital services were provided at Hot Springs by Dr. David Kimberly; by Dr. Locke Robinson at Mars Hill; and by Dr. Shelby W. Vance at Marshall.

Miss Irene Willis, retired nurse from Mars Hill, told her early years as a nurse with Dr. Locke Robinson, Dr. W. F. Robinson and later with the present Mars Hill clinic staffed by Drs. Duck, Powell and Powell. Mrs. Tom Baird told of the work of Dr. Baird in the Mars Hill area.

Fowler Wallin, grandson of

Dr. Jesse Wallin who practiced medicine in Marshall area at the close of the Civil War, told stories handed down of this early practice when doctors often had to make their own medicines. Dr. Wallin died in 1914.

Dr. J. L. McElroy who has practiced medicine in Marshall since 1932, is the grandson of Dr. J. K. Hardwick, one of Marshall's earliest doctors. When the Southern Railway completed its line through Madison County, it employed Hardwick. Dr. Frank Roberts succeeded him and now Dr. J. L. McElroy holds this position with Southern Railway.

While emphasis was given to the review of doctors with medical degrees, tribute was paid to those who practiced under the "Grandfather Clause" which provided that a person paying a fee and passing a limited examination could practice. Registered nurses who served faithfully alongside the doctors or in their communities throughout the years were named as follows:

The Madison County Health Department was set up in 1949. At this time, 22 school were operating in the county. Dr. Whims and Dr. Irma Henderson-Smathers gave assistance at Miss Elizabeth Goforth, Mrs. Weaver and Mrs. J. L. Baker were on the nursing staff. Mrs. Furman Fox has served continuously since 1952.

The next meeting of the organization will be in November.

County To Receive \$42,450.57

A record total in Powell Bill funds will be sent North Carolina cities and towns, the State Highway Commission announced today.

The total for the fiscal year 1972-73, which ended June 30, 1972, was \$42,024,222.30—more than double last year's allocation of \$12.5 million which was the largest previous total.

Reason for the giant increase was the passage of legislation by the 1971 General Assembly which doubled the amount of gasoline tax earmarked for municipalities, from one-half cent per gallon to a full cent.

Each municipality is given its share based on a formula in which population counts 75 percent and street mileage not on the state system counts for 25 percent.

Charlotte, the state's largest city, as usual received the largest single allocation, \$2,730,241.20. Following at the top of the list were Greensboro, \$1,721,377.25; Winston-Salem, \$1,552,911.39; and Raleigh, \$1,424,149.80.

Madison County's three towns will receive a total of \$42,450.57, as follows: Mars Hill, \$18,295.01; Marshall, \$14,445.56; Hot Springs, \$9,709.99.

Mars Hill College Creates Behavioral Sciences Dept.

Mars Hill College has added a department of social and behavioral sciences to its academic structure this year.

The new department offers three area majors: psychology, sociology and political science. Prior to this year psychology had been part of the education department and sociology and political science, part of the history department.

The three disciplines were brought together because of their common methodology and approach to problems, according to Dr. Richard L. Hoffman, vice president for academic affairs. He proposed the creation of the department last year to coordinate, correlate and integrate the activities of the faculty in the three disciplines.

Dr. Donald Anderson, department chairman, said the department's curricula will reflect the interdisciplinary nature of the three sciences. The major task before him and his staff was the establishment of "pre-professional" career tracks for each of the disciplines. "With such a curricula a student can expect a fruitful

answer when he asks, "What can I do if I major in your department?" He said the department was interested in setting up placement service for its majors also.

There are some 100 majors in the department and the equivalency of eight full-time faculty.

Anderson, who was born and raised near Crossville, Tenn., was chairman of the social studies department at Eureka College, Ill., before joining the Mars Hill faculty last year. He has done graduate work in history at the University of Maryland and has a PhD in social ethics from the University of Chicago.

Other members of the department are: Kenneth Sanschargin, sociology; Joseph Godwin, Dr. Walter Stroud and William Lynch, psychology; and Dr. Larry Stern, George Peery and Dr. Edward Angus, political science. Lynch, who is director of the counseling director of Save Our Kentucky, an anti-strip mine pressure group, and Robert Brunk of Barnardsville, a former sociology instructor at the University of North Carolina at Asheville.

center, and Angus, who is director of institutional research, are on part-time status. Also teaching on a part-time basis are James Barseome of Lexington, Ky.

Huey Elected YDC District Chairman

Charles Huey, President of Madison County Young Democratic Club, attended the State Y.D.C. Convention in Wilmington this past weekend. The convention was highlighted on Friday night with an address by Mrs. Eleanor Kuschner, who seconded the nomination of Sen. McGovern at the Democratic Convention. Mrs. Kuschner is spearheading the drive to free the POW's as her husband has been a POW since 1957. On Saturday night, the delegates were awed with an address by Sen. Mike Gravel of Alaska. Sen. Gravel was responsible for releasing to the public the Pentagon Papers.

While at the convention, Mr. Huey was elected Chairman of the Eleventh Congressional District. Mrs. Sue Cochran of Polk County was elected Secretary. Tom Barringer, an attorney from Wake County, was elected President of the State Y. D. C. for 1973.

Two Red Oak Teachers Cited In Publication

Mrs. Reynolds Revis and Mrs. Pearl Roberts of the faculty of the Red Oak Elementary School have been chosen to be included in the 1972 edition of "Outstanding Elementary Teachers of America."

This is a citation given a teacher for her outstanding service in the school and in the community, not only in scholastic work, but in their leadership ability and in their capacity to inspire students to higher achievements.

Mrs. Revis and Mrs. Roberts were in the group of seven teachers in the Asheville area to be so honored.

Mrs. Revis is a graduate of Western Carolina University



at Cullowhee and has been a teacher for about 30 years in elementary schools. Mrs. Roberts received her degree from Asheville Normal Teachers College and has



taught 33 years in Madison and Buncombe Counties. Both are two of Buncombe County's most valued teachers, say their co-workers and their principal, William Bragan.

Mountain Music Festival This Week-end At Sodom

An old-time mountain music festival will be held on Friday, Saturday, and Sunday, Sept. 29, 30, and October 1, at the community ball park in the Sodom section of Madison County, 20 miles north-west of Marshall, on US 308. This festival is presented by the Beta Omega Chapter of ESA of Marshall, in cooperation with the old-time Music Committee of Madison County.

This festival will comply with the oldest traditions of mountain music. For this reason no country-western, rock music, or electric instruments will be allowed. This festival is dedicated to old-time musicians and the presentation of their music. There will be no contest or competition and musicians are urged to play with one another and not against one another.

Admission to the festival will be \$1 for adults and 50c for children under 12 years of age. Refreshments will be sold by Beta Omega. The proceeds will be used for the Laurel and Walnut Health Clinics. The

expenses for the renovation of buildings for these clinics have been totally community effort.

All who come are asked to bring a blanket or a chair to sit on. The entertainment schedule is as follows: Friday evening, 8 p.m. - 12 p.m.; Saturday evening, 7:30 p.m. - 12 p.m.; and Sunday afternoon, 2 p.m. - 6 p.m. for the singing of hymns. Square dances will be held when the

people want them.

All old-time fiddle, banjo, dulcimer, and guitar players, buck and square dancers, ballad singers, and old-time hymn singers and other traditional mountain musicians are urged to come, and sing and visit with friends and neighbors and enjoy music in the mountain tradition.

Make plans now and bring a friend.

Tornadoes Rout Blue Devils, 67-0 On Island Friday

The game but outmanned Hot Springs Blue Devils suffered a 67-0 defeat at the hands of the Marshall Tornadoes in an Appalachian Conference game played on the Island last Friday night.

The first three times the Tornadoes had possession of the ball they scored on the first plays from scrimmage. This set the tempo of the game as Coach John Fisher used every substitute on the bench for the greater part of the game. In all, the starting unit played less than 12 minutes.

The Tornadoes seemed to "put it all together" as they scored 20 points in the first period, 21 in the second, 6 in the third, and 20 in the final quarter.

Let it be said, however, that

the Blue Devils were courageous throughout the game and showed plenty of spunk and "guts" while absorbing the loss.

Coaches Charles Tolley and Tommy Huff, handicapped by depth, weight and experience, nevertheless won the admiration of fans as the small band of Blue Devils played against the heavy odds with poise and determination.

Quarterback Jeff Treadway scored on a one-yard run, a 50-yard punt return and threw a 54-yard touchdown pass to Carlton Freeman.

Boyce Mayhew galloped 66 yards on the first Marshall play from scrimmage for a score, and was followed by Treadway's scoring strike and on the third play from

scrimmage.

Mayhew sped 49 yards for another Tornado score. Mayhew was successful on seven of 10 PAT attempts.

The Marshall defense came up with three scores, with defensive end Ronnie Bryan returning a Hot Springs fumble 50 yards; and pass interceptions coming from Jim Ramsey and Rick Harrell late in the fourth quarter from 44 and 14 yards.

Marshall's record is 2-3. Individual defensive statistics for the Tornadoes revealed that Ricky Harrell had 1 interception, 1 recovered fumble, 5 assisted tackles and two individual tackles. Holden Webb: 6 assisted tackles, two individual tackles. J. C. two individual tackles. Harlan Rice: 8 assisted tackles, two individual tackles, also blocked field goal attempt. Other standouts defensively were Ronnie Bryan and Danny Boone.

	Hot Springs	Marshall
Firstdowns	6	2
Rushing-yardage	199	47
Comp-Att-Int.	50	5-8-3
Fumbleslost	2-4-0	3
Yards penalized	0	49
passing yardage	35	20
Hot Springs	67-0	
Marshall	0-67	

Fires At Dump Lot Forbidden

Fires of unknown origin at the Marshall city dump are causing concern both here and in Raleigh. It has been announced by Mayor Lorado Ponder.

A blast of unknown origin Monday night necessitated the closing of two Marshall fire trucks. "This must be stopped," Mayor Ponder said. Any apprehended setting fires at the dump are subject

to fine and imprisonment in Raleigh under the Pure Air and Water Ordinance. Officials from Raleigh were alerted to the fires and two members of the Pure Air and Water Commission have visited Marshall this week.

"We intend to stop this unlawful act which adds to pollution", Mayor Ponder said.



Republican Candidates Visit County

Republican Party candidates, except one, for state office lashed at their opponents in the Democratic Party at a \$5-a-plate fundraising dinner in Marshall High School Saturday night.

Carl R. Eagle of Granite Falls, running for state superintendent of public instruction, called incumbent Craig Phillips a "mitenee superintendent," saying Phillips had spent more time out of state than taking care of his function in the state.

Eagle said Phillips was "wrong in saying the North Carolina Association of Educators should concern itself only with teacher welfare, and leave the state officers to deal with the problems of education." He also said teachers need a

greater voice in decision-making that affects education.

Nick Smith of Durham, opposing Robert Morgan for attorney general, said crime has increased 1,000 per cent in the state in the past decade, and charged that Morgan is "more interested in becoming a United States senator in 1974 than in crime." He also remarked that, in his opinion, crime control "transcends in importance consumer protection" which Morgan has been concerned with.

Mrs. Grace J. Rohrer, candidate for secretary of

state, said it was incumbent Thad Eure who called himself "the oldest rat in the Democratic barn," and not she that called him that.

Marion Sconce, running for auditor, said Tar Heel money "has been handled too loosely," and advocated better budgeting and wiser use of the state's surplus monies.

Jesse Ledbetter of Asheville, seeking to succeed U.S. Rep. Roy A. Taylor, asked for support, saying he would better help President Nixon in the President's program.