

# THE NEWS - RECORD

## Union Rejects Telephone Company's Proposal, 155 To 141

The Communication Workers of America Union Local No. 3673 rejected the Western Carolina - Westco Telephone Companies most recent wage and benefit proposal by a vote of 155 to 141, it was announced today by company spokesman, Turner Rogers.

The package included a two (2) year contract consisting of wage increases of 12.5 percent the first year and 10 percent the second. Some of the fringe benefits were the elimination of monthly hospitalization insurance premiums, five (5) weeks vacation after twenty (20) years of service, one additional holiday per year for a total of nine and a contract retroactive effective date of July 1, 1974. The former contract expired June 5.

Rogers stated the Company's opinion that this third proposed contract which was rejected by the Union membership following their negotiating committees recommendation for acceptance, now leaves the Company no alternative except to indicate that the work stoppage may be of a considerably longer duration than was hoped for. We are now reviewing our work force requirements, he said, and will be initiating additional steps to bolster those areas where we have not totally kept up with customer requests, such as, the installation of supplemental services as extension telephones, etc. Primary emphasis, since the work stoppage began on July 29, has been the timely restoral or repairs of service, he continued, but in

recognizing our customers needs, we are moving to reduce installation delays now. He said, the Company is prepared to supplement its work force to where day-to-day operations will be near or at normal levels.

When asked what the next step is, he stated, as always to provide our customers with good dependable telephone service but if you mean the labor negotiations, we are always willing, as they have been, to talk more and that's what we are doing.

## Ledford Cited For Accomplishments; Refuse System, Landfill Praised

James T. Ledford, chairman of the Madison County Board of Commissioners, was recently cited for "outstanding contributions in the field of Public Health" at the 67th Annual Convention of the North Carolina Association of County Commissioners in Winston-Salem Aug. 15-17.

The award was presented by Dr. H.W. Stevens, president of the North Carolina Health Directors Association, and Buncombe County Health Director.

Ledford received one of four awards presented at the

convention. There are more than 480 county commissioners in the state representing 100 counties.

As chairman of the Madison County Health Board, Ledford was cited for implementing a refuse collection system along with a sanitary landfill, in addition to doubling the health department facilities and increasing the department's staff. The commissioner's association also singled out Ledford's work in initiating a junked car program and promoting a 100-bed nursing home for the county.



JAMES T. LEDFORD

In accepting the award, Ledford stated that "credit should be given to the full board of county commissioners, the county health board, the acting health director and his staff without whose cooperation and hard work, the award would not have been possible." The commissioner also singled out other governmental and private agencies at the local, regional, and state levels as having been "instrumental in improving health conditions for all residents of Madison County." In concluding, Ledford stated: "In order for

the county to move forward, it will take all of the citizens to be involved in the field of health."

Edward Morton, acting director of the county health department, commenting on Ledford's award stated that "We have been very fortunate in having Mr. Ledford as chairman of the board of commissioners."

Morton pointed out that "Mr. Ledford has played a significant role in earmarking 50 acres out of the more than 180 acres at the sanitary landfill for a planned recreational facility." At the present time, Morton said, there are 135 refuse containers scattered throughout the county and one compactor. According to Morton, Ledford "is attempting to secure 40 additional containers in addition to a second compactor which should be in operation in October of this year." Prior to the opening of the landfill and container system in June of this year, refuse was "dumped along the roadside and in streams," Morton said.

In assessing the overall operation of the health department, Morton noted that "We have been able to

make available more services to the people of Madison County in recent months."

"For example," Morton said, "we have been able to expand our Title XIX screening clinic from one to three times per month. We now have a new sewerage system of adequate size for the health department complex. The complex itself now has a new building which will house offices and thus allow more space for our clinics."

According to Morton, Madison County was one of the "last counties in the state to have a paved road to the health department, but this was accomplished within the last year and a half."

Looking ahead, Morton pointed out that a full-time psychologist is operating at the health department and will be making significant contributions to both young and old in the county."

Ledford received the award August 17 at the Winston-Salem Hyatt House before an audience of more than 1,500, including county commissioners and other local officials.



KENNETH ROBERTS, left, is shown with Ranger Charles Craine at the recent Forestry Camp at Swansboro. Kenneth won top honors at the camp in which 75 boys throughout the state attend.

## Kenneth Roberts Tops At Forestry Camp

Some 75 boys from throughout North Carolina attended Forestry camp at Swansboro recently.

Kenneth Roberts, son of Mr. and Mrs. Earl Roberts, of Big Pine, took top honors, scoring 570 points out of a possible 600 points.

He was instructed in various fields of forestry including forest management I and II, forest measurements, forest pest control, forest fire identification and fire control.

Ranger Charles L. Craine of

Madison County stated that he is extremely pleased with the way Kenneth represented the county and also for the fact that this is the second consecutive year in which boys from Madison County have won top honors. David Messer was last year's winner.

"It gives me pride to have been a small part in instructing and counseling these boys and I am proud of their success," Mr. Craine stated.

## Gov. Holshouser's 'Freeze' On Road Work Irks County Residents

By JAY HENSLEY  
Citizen-Times Staff Writer

The revelation Friday by Transportation Secretary Troy Doby that the secondary roads construction program is bogged down throughout North Carolina makes the road controversy in Madison County stand out like a red flag on a survey stake.

People in Madison County are complaining about a cutback in construction funds under Republican Gov. Jim Holshouser's administration they say deprives them of roads essential to the operation of their new consolidated high school.

Doby attempted Friday at a meeting of the Secondary

Roads Council at Sen. Charles Taylor's Laurel Falls Lodge in Brevard to jerk the kinks out of the road paving system as it applies statewide. He made it plain that he wants the some \$33 million allocated for road work spent.

But he said he knows of no plan to reinstate roads scheduled for construction in Madison County which were pulled down by the Holshouser administration.

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When Holshouser went into office as the first Republican governor of North Carolina in some 75 years, he immediately started work to fill a campaign pledge to put road construction on a nonpolitical basis.

Holshouser transportation board when they were appointed to the top posts. Both were tireless workers in Holshouser's campaign for governor, and their interest then centered on improving the state's road program.

The word at the Secondary Roads Council meeting Friday, which was also attended by Highway Administrator Billy Rose and transportation board members Bob Vaughn and Jim Callhan of Rutherfordton, is that Holshouser is still holding open the slot for Herman H. "Bull" West of Cherokee County.

West, a former state senator and earth-moving contractor was appointed to the board, but declined because he is in a hassle with the Department of Transportation over access to his property from a road under construction in Cherokee County.

Sources at the meeting said efforts are continuing to clear up that problem so West can take his seat on the transportation board.

Holshouser put a "freeze" on all road work until a detailed analysis of all programmed construction was completed, then scratched everything with a low priority which could not be completed with funds available within a seven-year period.

About a dozen roads in Madison County were deleted. The new administration felt the county had been favored by the previous highway commission at the expense of surrounding counties. It also felt that funds earmarked for expenditure there "not in the best interests of the taxpayer citizens of Madison County."

Just where all this will end is anybody's guess, but the newly-organized Madison County chapter of the North Carolina Jaycees has jumped into the fray with a petition campaign. They are petitioning Holshouser to "take immediate action to have constructed all roads which were promised to Madison County prior to January, 1973."

The reference to a "promise" is made frequently in discussions of the issue, and revolves around a meeting former Gov. Bob Scott had with county officials when the school bond drive was being planned.

## Labor Day Activities Planned For Marshall

Music-lovers and musicians will have a "Field Day" on the Island here next Monday in observance of Labor Day.

Monday afternoon and night will be filled with music and dancing with a display of fireworks about 9:30 o'clock.

The Marshall Volunteer Fire Department is sponsoring the activities.

Beginning at 10 o'clock on the ball field will be music by the MacArthur Glory Band. They will entertain until about 5 o'clock, it was announced.

All musicians and singers in the area are also invited to participate in the music festival.

It was also announced that a Little League football game may be played Monday afternoon if plans are successful.

A big square dance is planned on the Island Monday night beginning about 8 o'clock and continuing until midnight. The John Ray Band will furnish the music.

A large display of fireworks will feature the entertainment

and are expected to be shown about 9:30 o'clock.

It was also announced that hamburgers, pop corn, candy, soft drinks, etc., will be on sale during the afternoon and night.

In order to cover expenses, an admission of \$1 will be charged adults and children will be admitted free.

## Road Project For County Announced

A secondary road project to be built in Madison County during 1974-75 has been announced today by the Department of Transportation.

The project is subject to review by the Board of Commissioners in the counties affected. The work will be done with allocations made for the fiscal year 1974-75.

Work approved for Madison County will include:

SR 1576-Bend of Ivy Road-1.30 mile, spot improvements from SR 1579 South, costing \$30,000.00.

This project is only a part of the county's secondary road projects for 1974-75. Madison County's total allocation for the year is \$381,588.00.

## Absentee Applications Dates Set

The Madison County Board of Elections will meet to consider applications for absentee ballots in the office of the Board at 5 o'clock p.m. on the following dates, provided an application has been received: September 3, 13, 16, 20, 23, 27 and 30; October 4, 7, 11, 14, 18, 21, 25 and 28; and the following additional dates at 10 o'clock a.m.: October 26, November 3 and 4.



## Patriots Defeated By Blue Devils In Opening Game, 18-0

By WAYNE McDEVITT  
Sports Writer

Football season is indeed back again. We all look forward to this time of the year with great anticipation and anxiety without realizing that each time it rolls around, we're all a year older. Nevertheless, the leaves are changing color, the days are getting shorter, school has started, and yes, FOOTBALL TIME IS BACK!

This past Friday night, our fans began arriving early at Mars Hill College's beautiful Meares Stadium. They greeted familiar faces which some had not seen for a year and began to throw out terminology (such as Wing T and Power I) which had grown stale due to lack of use over the year. They shook friendly hands and reminisced about last season as they vowed their loyal support to the new Patriot edition. Everyone had come to witness a rematch of what is destined to be one of the greatest rivalries in Western North Carolina. Yet, the Madison Patriots fumbled the ball away five times and Harris High of Spruce Pine averted their loss of a year before handing the Patriots an 18-0 defeat in the season opener.

The Blue Devils wasted little time in showing the fans exactly what they intended to do. Lee Wheeler took the opening kickoff and returned it 45 yards to the Madison 24 yard line. Only two plays later, quarterback Greg Slagle rounded right end on an option play and scampered 21 yards into the Patriot endzone. The PAT was wide and the home-standing Patriots found themselves trailing 6-0, no more than two minutes into the game.

Although things were looking bleak at this point, both teams settled down and the next 16 minutes were characterized by tenacious and aggressive defense which accounted for poor execution on offense. However, with 6:49 remaining in the first half a Madison fumble on their own 9 yard line proved costly. It took the Blue Devils only two plays to capitalize on the turnover, as they increased their lead to 12-0. This ended the first half scoring but not before the Patriots waged a serious threat which fell only inches short of paydirt when time ran out.

Halftime showed many concerned fans mingling with old favorite enemies while enjoying the beautiful Mars Hill College facilities. The most commonly discussed subject was the realization that every Madison County High School student is now on one campus. The effects of



THE PATRIOTS PEP RALLY, sponsored by the local Jaycees on the Island last Thursday night was successful although the rally started earlier than announced due to a change in the practice session. Pictured in top photo are the Patriot cheerleaders and in bottom picture is a portion of the fans who were present.



37 Pints of Blood Given

Despite school opening and other distractions, the August 21 visit of the Red Cross Bloodmobile was terminated successfully here as 48 persons visited the unit.

Of the 48 who came to the French Street E.M.C. unit, 27 pints were received with 11 deferrals.

Especially commended for all-out participation was the personnel of Derringer Manufacturing Company here, 13 of whom the company's personnel visited the unit with 11 pints received.

## Owen Jarrett Gets Honors At Ridgecrest



OWEN JARRETT

Robert Owen Jarrett, 19-year-old son of Mr. and Mrs. Forrest Jarrett, of Memphis, Tenn., formerly of Marshall, was awarded a beautiful plaque and the \$500 T. L. Holcomb Scholarship award

on August 16 at the Ridgecrest Baptist Conference Center at Ridgecrest.

The T. L. Holcomb scholarship was established by an anonymous donor to perpetuate the memory of one of the denomination's leaders and to assist some deserving student with his education. The awards were presented to the Staffer, who in the opinion of the Selection Committee, best exhibits the spirit and ideas set forth by Ridgecrest Baptist Conference Center.

Owen, a rising sophomore at Memphis State University, was chosen from a field of 290 Staffers at the Ridgecrest Assembly.

He is the grandson of Mrs. Linda Jarrett, of Route 1, Marshall, and the late Otis Jarrett.

## Burley Group To Tour County Sept. 5

The Annual Research-on-Wheels Burley Tour will commence on Thursday morning, September 5. The group will leave Holiday Inn West at 7:30 a.m. After a stop in Buncombe County, they will visit the Vanie Edwards research test field on the Mars Hill-Marshall highway.

Next will be the J.C. and Charlie Brown test field on the Middle Park road.

After leaving Madison, the group will reach the test field near French Creek, N.C.

Yancey County. At this location they will see new types of burley handling and curing tobacco.

The group is sponsored by the N.C. Agricultural Experiment Station and will be accompanied by representatives of the N.C. Agricultural Experiment Station.

After leaving Madison, the group will reach the test field near French Creek, N.C.