

THE NEWS RECORD

SERVING THE PEOPLE OF MADISON COUNTY

On the inside . . .

Miss Ethie's Hunch
About Lightening
Was Right! See Page 10

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THURSDAY, MAY 19, 1977

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22 County Students Graduate From Mars Hill College Sunday

The Class of 1977, numbering nearly 240, received diplomas from Mars Hill College President Dr. Fred B. Bentley Sunday. Folding chairs were placed along the outside aisles of Moore Auditorium for both the 11 a.m. baccalaureate service and the 3 p.m. commencement ceremony as the fair weather brought a crowd of families and friends.

In his brief address to the graduates, Dr. Bentley reminisced about the days following his appointment as president of Mars Hill in 1965. He quoted a letter he had received from Professor Joseph Hayes Jackson, a former Mars Hill teacher now retired to San Francisco, soon after the announcement of his appointment. Jackson told him that "I envy your opportunity to know those people as I knew them. They are the stuff that made America, our America, the U.S.A."

Bentley noted that even though the audience was represented by differences in geographic locations, socio-economic strata and educational backgrounds, there is a common thread which pulls them all together. "It has taken people with a strong sense of commitment, integrity, intelligence and people willing to engage in hard work to build for the future which has made our country great." He closed by telling the graduates they had a tremendous challenge and opportunity in continuing this tradition of making our country what it is.

Earlier in the day, Dr. Walter Harrelson, distinguished professor of Old Testament at Vanderbilt University's Divinity School, delivered the baccalaureate address. He noted that in the Old Testament, God was very much a part of the people's daily lives; He did a great deal of judging and warning of sinners and was portrayed as the One who was coming to destroy an unrighteous people. "God is the inescapable One," he stated, "the One without whom we would not be able to live but also the One who makes everything work in the direction of life and hope and joy and peace."

Harrelson said that he knew there were those in the graduating class who were asking themselves whether there is any particular thing they need to do with their lives. He told them that "Nothing happens to us entirely by chance. No one is absent from divine presence. Whatever vocation we have, that vocation is from God." He closed by telling the audience not to fall prey to self-pity, that the world has become so complicated that there is no way to identify that job which is uniquely your own.

"We can do our searching for God's cause," he stated, "knowing that God has already searched us out. We are not alone. God is with us. And God pleases not to let us go." An alumnus of Mars Hill, Dr. Harrelson was awarded the honorary degree of doctor of literature, becoming the fourth person the college has so honored. Dr. Bentley, assisted by President Emeritus Dr. Hoyt Blackwell, conferred the degree upon Dr. Harrelson during the 3 p.m. commencement ceremony.

Also during the graduation observance, Jonathan Wayne Riddle, a resident of Locust (near Charlotte), received the Scholarship-Character Medal which goes to the student who ranks highest in scholarship, manners and general character. In action taken by the board of trustees Saturday, the 36-member policymaking body adopted a \$6.5 million operating budget for the coming school year, approved faculty appointments, nominated new trustees and elected new advisors and officers.

The new officers elected include chairman, Dr. W. Otis Duck, Mars Hill physician; vice-chairman, Ernest Teague, president of Teague Milling Company of Marshall; treasurer, Jimmy Piercy, president of Hardwood Sales Inc. of Hickory; and secretary, Dr. W. O. Brazil, Asheville urologist. In ceremonies Saturday afternoon, ground was broken for the Blackwell Building, a three-story structure which

(Continued on Page 3)



GROUND BREAKING CEREMONY Saturday for the Blackwell Building (left to right) Dr. Bentley; Mrs. Blackwell; Cecil Porter, chairman of the board of trustees; Harold Austell, chairman of the board of advisors; Wayne

Richardson, president of the Alumni Association; John Rogers of Six Associates, designers of the building; Dr. W. Otis Duck, chairman-elect of the board of trustees; and Dr. Hoyt Blackwell, president-emeritus.

MHC Officials Break Ground For Building

Ground was broken during Mars Hill College's Commencement Weekend for the Blackwell Building, a three-story \$1 million building which will house the college's administrative offices. Named for President Emeritus Dr. Hoyt Blackwell, the building will stand on the site formerly occupied by Treat Residence Hall. Dr. Blackwell turned the first shovel of dirt in ceremonies last Saturday afternoon. Others participating in the ceremony were Cecil Porter of N. Wilkesboro, chairman of the board of trustees; Harold Austell from Greenville, S.C., chairman of the board of advisors; John Rogers of Asheville's Six Associates who designed the building; Mars Hill President Dr. Fred B. Bentley presided; and the invocation was given by the Rev. Robert Mann, pastor of the First Baptist Church of Boone.

Dr. Blackwell is an alumnus of Mars Hill and joined the faculty in 1928 as teacher of Bible and Greek. In 1938 he was unanimously chosen by the trustees to succeed Dr. Robert Lee Moore as president. After 38 years of service to the college, Dr. Blackwell retired in 1966. He maintains a home in Mars Hill and is still active in the affairs of the college and community. Bids from 12 construction companies will be opened June 16, and if budget guidelines are met, construction of the 23,876-square-foot building will begin in early July. Construction time is estimated at 16 to 18 months. If the schedule is met, the building will be ready for occupancy around Christmas of 1978.

The completely air-conditioned building will be of a contemporary architectural style similar to Wren College Union and Cornwell Hall, two of the college's newest buildings. The exterior of the new building will utilize the familiar red brick which is common to most of the buildings on campus. In conjunction with the construction of the new building, a major renovation and landscaping of the central portion of the campus will also be conducted. This will include the closing of College Street from Spilman Residence Hall to the cul-de-sac in front of the McConnell Building, forming a pedestrian mall. The Robinson House, located between the Fine Arts Building and Memorial Library, will be razed and made into a plaza with a 32-place parking lot. A new campus-wide lighting system and reforestation plan will enhance the beauty of the campus as well as reduce the cost of grounds maintenance.

Heart Association Can't Help Tanya

Due to the interest in the upcoming open heart surgery on Tanya Lynn Payne, 2-year-old daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Evin Payne of Brush Creek, and the costs of the operation, which will be performed in Birmingham, Ala., on May 23,

inquiries have been made as to whether the North Carolina Heart Association Inc., could help financially. Mrs. Ernestine R. Plemmons of Marshall, public information chairman of the Madison County Heart Association, has asked me to write you describing the Heart Association policy on patient aid.

A survey of the major medical centers and heart surgeons in the state shows that the costs of an operation range from about \$5,000 for the simplest procedure (based on a 14-day hospital stay) to over \$30,000. These figures exclude the possibility of post-operative complications with the attendant's longer stay in the hospital.

Last year the Heart Fund in North Carolina netted \$1,200,000. If the average cost of an operation was \$10,00, then only 120 people in the state could benefit from this. And that average figure is probably low. But who is to determine who the 120 people will be. It is

also the policy of the Heart Association that what we do for one person we do for all. However, there are agencies in North Carolina, such as the Vocational Rehabilitation and Crippled Children's sections of the State Division of Health Services, that support surgery for all persons who cannot afford it or who do not have insurance coverage. Since its beginning, the Heart Association has assisted thousands of people in finding aid for the proper sources.

This policy allows us to pursue our programs concerned with the causes and prevention of heart disease to the benefit of all rather than a few. It is our role as a voluntary health agency not to duplicate efforts by others in trying to reduce premature death and disability from heart and blood vessel disease. With the state and federal governments supplying patient care, we feel our policy is the correct one.

B. JACK STOREY
Associate Executive Director
Director of Field Services
Chapel Hill

Superior Court To Open

The May term of superior court for the trial of criminal cases will start here Monday morning with Judge Robert E. Gaines presiding. District Attorney Clyde M. Roberts, assisted by R. Harold Bailey, will represent the state.

The following cases are on the court calendar: State vs. Jerry Dale Hunter, ADW; Freddie Tilson, armed robbery; Clarence Massey, ADW; David Chandler, non-support; William McKinley Ramsey III, resisting arrest, improper registration; Burlin Junior Johnson, driving under influence; Willard Lee Ray, driving under influence and no operator's license; Roy Wayne Shook, driving under influence; James Allen Sams, driving under influence; Joseph Robert Allison, driving under influence; Larry Cass Chandler, driving under in-

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Cancer Drive Reaches Goal

The Madison County Chapter of the American Cancer Society has reached its 1977 goal of \$3,000. This was announced today by Charles R. Tolley, 1977 Crusade chairman for Madison County. "I am grateful to the people who worked so hard in all phases of the campaign," Tolley stated, "and I want to publicly thank the following people — Mrs. George B. Shupe, president; Mrs. Tom Wallin, vice president; Mrs. E. O. Burnette, secretary; Miss Pat Fisher, treasurer; Ricky McDevitt and Jerry Plemmons, special events; Mrs. Nancy Wilde, educational director; Mrs. Faye Ramsey, services chairman; Mrs. Ern

publicity; Mrs. Florence Ramsey, rural churches; community captains Mrs. Juanita Adcock, Big Laurel; Mrs. Bea Clark, Greater Ivy; Mrs. Ellen Coomer, Mars Hill; Mrs. Anna Fox and Mrs. Lucille English, Upper Laure; Mrs. Lucille Burnette, Walnut; Wade Ponder and Terry Herbert, Hot Springs; Sue Pangle, Spring Creek; and Jerry Plemmons and Ricky McDevitt, Marshall.

"A very successful benefit talent show was held and we want to recognize the following people who helped with this benefit — Ricky McDevitt, Shelia Rice, Quinton Ramsey and Jerry Plemmons on planning; Faye Ramsey, Maria Cox, Sue Pangle,

Amanda Caldwell, Edna McCall, Billie Lynn Roberts and Tootsie Gunter on refreshments; Barbara Brown, Marie Brown and Karen McDevitt at the door; Frank Roberts, Hot Springs Nutrition Site, Marshall Nutrition Site and Opportunity Corporation for prizes; David Wyatt, James Baldwin and staff, and Mrs. Katie Webb for building facilities; Billie Jean Redmon, Shelia Rice, Ellen Feldman, Ruby Wallin, Robin Lewis, Peter Gott and children, Ralph Lewis and boys, Carl Chandler and band, Joe Chandler, Arthur Chandler, Mary Eagle, Cas Wallin, Ronnie Rice, Freddie Holtkamp, Stan Mace

Officers Arrest 8 On Gambling Charges

Bill Ingram, district Alcohol Enforcement Division supervisor, has stated that eight persons were arrested on gambling charges here May 6. Ingram said the raid marked the debut for the new division which comes under the N. C. Department of Crime Control and Public Safety.

The raid occurred at the home of William Thomas, 61, who resides in the trailer park on Skyway Drive near the reservoir here.

Ingram said that Thomas was charged with the illegal sale of liquor, possession of liquor for the purpose of sale and with operating a gambling house.



4-H CLUB MEMBERS, above, who presented demonstrations at the County Demonstration Day last Saturday. They are, from left to right: James Brigman, Jackie Buckner, Renee Wyatt, Tobie

Sprinkle, Greg Lisenbee, Brenda George, Karen Flynn and Peggy Sexton. They will be competing at Mountain Heritage High School June 22.

Seven others were arrested on gambling charges including Willard Ball, 47, of Route 5, Marshall; Kie Sams, 71, of Route 3, Marshall; Bill R. Peek, 33, of Route 2, Marshall; Douglas Williams, 42, of Route 6, Marshall; Albert Bullman of Route 3, Carlisle, S. C.; Geneva Cook, 32, of Route 3, Marshall; and Cathy Franklin, 23, of Marshall.

Agents confiscated a quantity of liquor and \$189.50 in cash, Ingram said. Trial on the charges was set for June 3 in district court in Marshall.

(Continued on Page 3)

(Continued on Page 3)