

# Victories Came Hard

By DAVID BROWN  
Asheville Citizen  
Sportswriter

David McFee, 29, Dennis Hefner, 29 and John Fisher, 28 are all ex-head football coaches. After a combined stay of four years at Madison High, their record is 1-38-1.

They all aspired to be head coaches, and all are in their prime years. Yet Fisher works with school bus drivers in three counties, Hefner is an assistant coach at another school and McFee, the most recently departed, is presently teaching and doesn't know what he'll do next year.

They all left Madison with high praise from their immediate superiors, but each felt negative pressure from the county government or the

community or both. McFee and Fisher resigned, Hefner was fired when he declined a request for his resignation.

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This spring's graduation class will be the first to have known no school except Madison. Consolidation brought together six small schools in the county.

Maybe, as Fisher said, the county was spoiled that first year. With Roy Ammons at the helm, the Patriots won six games and lost four. Ammons left to devote more time to his farming, and one of his assistants, Fisher, was elevated. As he was coming in the door he passed some 25 seniors headed the other way, but he thought he could rebuild.

"It was a real hassle," said Fisher. "Money was really tight — the athletic budget was almost zero. I think for a while they thought they could run a 3-A program on 1-A money. It got depressing to the point I didn't want anything to do with it."

So one of his assistants, Hefner, inherited. Hefner, now at Tuscola, practically echoed Fisher. There are some good kids up there, they said, but we're glad we're no longer a part of the situation. Two of Hefner's assistants quit during the season, and he finished it up pretty much by himself.

J.C. Wallin, principal at the time, was quick to stand up for the coaches. "Coaching is not

the problem," he said, explaining that transportation is the root of the hassles.

"I knew the task was an extremely hard one," said McFee, who left a comfortable position as wrestling coach and football assistant at Owen. "I was very excited, and I worked extensively, but I knew it would take time."

He was the fourth coach in as many years, and next fall somebody will be the fifth in six. "I didn't want to leave," said McFee, "but sometimes you just know you have to do something."

"You could call it a mutual parting between me and the Board of Education. From the standpoint of the won-lost record I'd say there was some pressure."

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The stumbling blocks to (Continued on Page 3)

## Agricultural Conservation Sign-up

A sign-up period for the 1978 Agricultural Conservation Program began Feb. 6 and will continue until Feb. 24. This sign-up period applies to all annual requests for cost sharing under the 1978 ACP Program. Soil tests are recommended but will not be required for participation in the 1978 program.

Immediately after the sign-up period ends, all requests for cost sharing will be reviewed by the County Committee for eligibility and notification will be mailed to each applicant that is eligible.

Those wishing to file a request are urged to do so between Feb. 6-24. Office hours are from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday. The office will be closed Feb. 20 in observance of George Washington's birthday.

The sign-up is open to all producers without regard to race, religion, color, sex or national origin.

**Birth**  
To Mr. and Mrs. James D. Sharp of Route 2, Marshall, a son, Feb. 5 in Memorial Mission Hospital.

## Letter To The Editor

DAY CARE

Editor, the News Record:

As president of the Hot Springs Lions Club, I would like to address this letter to you concerning the Madison County Child Development Program which operates day care centers in Hot Springs, Marshall, Mars Hill and Greater Ivy. Our Lions' Club met last week and the 28 members of our club have asked me to write to you as one of the officials we can count on for help. It has come to our attention that state officials have decided to cut the funding for the day care centers mentioned above. The reduction would be by 75 percent starting in July of 1978. For our rural communities, this would mean a great reduction in such services as transportation and health care and the money available for items such as fuel, rent and supplies for our children. Child care is an urgent need for a county such as Madison with the problems of employment and the recent November floods.

All of our members are residents of Madison County, and we fully support the ARC Day Care Program in our county. Our request in this letter which is supported by our 28 members is that ARC and Title XX funds that are coming to our Day Care centers now be continued after July of 1978.

We would like to thank you for your concern in helping our mountain children and the western counties that are in need of your continued support. Please use your influence at the state level. It is your help that can make the difference in the future of our children who often have many fewer opportunities than the other urban counties to the east of our great state.

J.C. WALLIN JR.  
President  
Hot Springs  
Lions Club.

**EDITOR'S NOTE:** I assure you that I will do all I can to encourage the continuance of our Day Care centers in Madison County and congratulate the Hot Springs Lions Club on its efforts.

# Heard And Seen

By POP

Motorists around here are grateful to Jack Buckner, supervisor of the local DOT highway crew, and his men for quickly salting the main roads whenever snow falls and icy conditions begin to make the roads hazardous... and many local citizens are complimentary about the fine work Donald Ramsey and his helpers are doing in aiding many people by working on frozen water pipes to their homes despite sub-freezing weather... there are so many people doing so much for others it is impossible to mention all of them... but I would be remiss not to include the fire and ambulance crews for being ready to go into service at any moment, day or night.

Snow, then sunshine, then snow... that's the way it was around here Monday... side roads and sidewalks were plenty slippery Monday... oh, well, maybe spring will get here sometime before we all go bananas... thanks to Mrs. Clota Lippard of Mars Hill, for sending me the album of favorite hymns by her son, Seth, entitled "Glory to God"... also thanks to Charles Huey for cooking a generous bowl of macaroni and cheese and

bringing it up home a few days ago... he knows m&c is my favorite dish and believe you me, Charles is an expert at cooking as well as being an outstanding musician and organist.

The Rev. Spencer LeGrand, his wife, Ann, and children, who now reside in Greenville, S.C., stopped by the Plaza Burger last Friday night enroute to their home and several members of the Marshall Baptist Church, where he served as pastor, enjoyed visiting with them... Spencer says he's getting along fine but misses the mountains.

## Home Damaged By Fire

The home of Mrs. Lula McDevitt and son, Bruce, was damaged by fire last Saturday which was caused by an overheated wood stove.

The house, owned by Mrs. Swan Frisby, is located at Rollins.

Most of the damage was done to the ceiling. Marshall firemen prevented the fire from destroying the house.

## Messer Named To Task Force

House Speaker Carl J. Stewart Jr. has announced the appointment of Rep. Ernest Messer of Canton to the National Conference of State Legislatures' Task Force on Aging.

Messer will serve on the nationwide task force with approximately 25 other legislators in an intensive effort to study the problems and needs of the elderly.

He will monitor and review present programs available to assist the elderly at the federal and state level, and

will make recommendations on improving living conditions of the elderly in America.

Messer is chairman of the House Committee on Aging and during the 1977 session served on the House Committees on Manufacturing and Labor.

He was vice chairman and a member of the Appropriations Committee on Human Resources and Corrections, the House Committee on Higher Education, the Committee on Insurance and the Committee on Water and Air Resources.

Messer is House co-chairman of the Legislative Research Commission Study Committee on Aging, which is conducting the 1977 session's interim study on problems of the elderly.

## Free Adult Classes In County

Asheville Buncombe Technical Institute sponsors free adult basic education classes twice a week in Madison County. You may review in reading, math, or English — even study for your high school equivalency (GED). The class in Marshall meets at Madison High School on Monday and Thursday evenings from 7 to 10 p.m. Mrs. Hettie Rice is the instructor. The class in Hot Springs meets Tuesday evening (6 to 9 p.m.) and Saturday afternoon (2 to 5 p.m.) in the home of Mrs. Mildred Shelton (schedule subject to change). Plan to contact either Mrs. Rice (Marshall) or Mrs. Shelton (Hot Springs) to resume your education. A-B Tech is an equal opportunity educational institute.

## Singing

The regular second Sunday night singing will be this Sunday at the Alexander Baptist Church beginning at 7.

All singers and listeners are welcome.

Dennis Parris will be in charge.

**Clemens**  
(Continued from Page 1)

responsibilities of the county commissioners with your tax dollars. If elected, I will seek to get every penny's worth out of our tax dollar. At present we are spending \$18,000 a year for a county planner. I have yet to see any results," says Pat.

"I have but two things to offer the folks of Madison County — six years managerial experience with Deringer Mfg. Co. and a strong and sincere desire to see Madison County take its rightful place in the state at the top."

Pat lives in the Jupiter section of Madison County with his wife, Jennie, and two daughters.

## D. M. Robinson Back In County

D.M. "Doug" Robinson, who has been in Sarasota, Fla., for sometime, has returned to Mars Hill where he is residing.

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*"To get something I want, I have to get something I want. Right?"*

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Hal D. Johnson, Vice President  
The Northwestern Bank, Marshall

**Your Pharmacist Bill Powell Says**

Community Medical Center Pharmacy,  
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**A bit comical but sobering**

It's almost comical. Americans are big givers. But they expect to receive too. Example: Observe the Valentines Day greeting card mania.

As your Pharmacist, I must warn my readers. There are certain dangers in failing to send certain "loved ones" cards on Valentines Day. However, if you do find yourself getting, consult me about your predicament. Advice on treating knots and bruises placed on heads and bodies by aforementioned neglectees who did not receive your special remembrance is an area I should be able to assist.

Apropos: A greeting card in hand is insurance against a knot on head. Anon.

Bill Powell, Your Pharmacist.

# EMERGENCY NUMBERS SAVE LIVES...

## KEEP THEM NEAR YOUR PHONE.

**EMERGENCY PHONE NUMBERS**

AMBULANCE \_\_\_\_\_

FIRE \_\_\_\_\_

POLICE \_\_\_\_\_

STATE POLICE \_\_\_\_\_

DOCTOR \_\_\_\_\_

Emergency numbers for your area are listed in your phone directory. To be certain they're handy when needed, write them in the spaces above, then clip the numbers from this page and keep them near your phone at all times.

**IMPORTANT!** Even pre-schoolers can be taught to pick up the phone and dial "Operator". Your child is never alone if trouble does strike.

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