



# THE NEWS RECORD

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## School Bus Overtakes, 10 Students Injured

By ROBERT KOENIG

A school bus carrying 28 Madison High students home from classes overturned on Walnut Creek Road Monday afternoon, injuring 10 passengers.

The bus was traveling north on Walnut Creek Road at 3:15 p.m. when the accident occurred. Seven students were taken by ambulance and three other students were taken by their parents to Memorial Mission Hospital. A spokesman for the hospital said all 10 students were treated and released early Monday evening.

Madison High School Principal David Wyatt reported that none of the injured students received any broken bones in the accident. Wyatt said most of the injuries were scrapes and bruises.

The bus driver was David Bryan Sprouse of Marshall, a senior at Madison High School. State Highway Patrolman Jerry Tabb reported that the

bus hit the bank on the right side of the road when it met an approaching vehicle. Tabb said the vehicle did not force the bus off the road. When the bus struck the right side bank, it crossed the road and overturned, coming to rest on the bank on the left side of the road.

Several students on the bus were unable to recall how many times the bus turned over. Several said it overturned twice before coming to a stop.

Sprouse was not charged in the accident, pending further investigation. Principal David Wyatt said Monday night he believed Sprouse would not be charged with any violation.

The bus came to a stop with its nose buried in the bank. The windshield of the bus was destroyed. Students were able to escape through the emergency door in the rear.



TEN MADISON HIGH SCHOOL students were injured Monday when this bus overturned on Walnut Creek Road.

(Photo by Bob Koenig)

## Commissioners Meet

### Phillips Calls For Investigation

The Madison County Board of Commissioners held its regular monthly meeting Friday night in the county courthouse. The newly re-elected commissioners heard reports from several county department chiefs and heard a complaint from a Mars Hill businessman.

Bob Phillips asked the board to investigate the Madison County Housing Authority. Phillips charged that the authority had violated Housing and Urban Development guidelines regarding the purchase of materials. Phillips, who ran unsuccessfully for a seat on the board, told the commissioners that the Housing Authority has purchased materials to renovate housing in the county from stores in Buncombe County. He said HUD guidelines state that materials will be purchased within the county whenever possible.

The commissioners unanimously approved Phillips' request and appointed attorney Larry Leake to investigate the matter.

Contacted Monday morning regarding the investigation, Madison County Housing Authority head Sam Parker said he was not aware of the investigation because he had been out of town over the weekend. Parker said he would respond to Phillips' charges after consulting with the authority's board of directors.

In other matters, the commissioners heard a report from Mildred West of the county ambulance service, who said the EMS made 102 calls during October.

Delba Jean Roberts reported to the board concerning the new county transportation system. She said the program needed an additional driver. After considering applications, commissioner Virginia Anderson recommended David Wills for the job. The board approved Wills unanimously.

Board chairman James Ledford announced that the county would seek a grant of \$176,000 to operate the program next year.

Ledford also said Madison County has received approval for \$680,000 in HUD funds for the coming year. HUD has also awarded the county an additional \$20,000 planning grant to be used in the East Fork and Spring Creek areas. Statewide, North Carolina has received \$157 million from the federal agency to rehabilitate some 1,800 homes.

Marshall Alderman Jackie Davis presented a proposal to the board. Davis suggested that the county spend \$1,825 to purchase a boat and equipment needed for making rescues on the French Broad River. The commissioners approved Davis' proposal before adjourning.

The next regularly scheduled monthly meeting of commissioners will be held Dec. 3 at 7:30 p.m. in the county courthouse.

After narrowly losing the 11th District election to challenger James McClure Clarke, U.S. Rep. Bill Hendon called for a recount of ballots in five Western North Carolina counties.

Hendon called a press conference the day following the election. He told reporters that there were many errors in the vote count due to punch card ballots used in Transylvania, Henderson, Haywood, Rutherford and McDowell counties.

Final returns showed that Clarke had won the election by a margin of 1,324 votes, with over 160,000 votes cast in the district. Hendon said the punch cards confused many voters and that many who wished to vote for him had their votes recorded for the Democratic challenger instead. At the Wednesday press conference, Hendon said many people who checked off the box that made the ballot a straight Democratic vote also checked the box with



REP. WILLIAM HENDON

Hendon's name, believing they were voting for the Republican candidate. According to state election laws, such votes would be counted for Clarke.

On Friday, Hendon called on his opponent to join him in calling for a recount. James Clarke declined, telling reporters, "The results of the official canvass are now in. They show that I have received a margin of 1,324 votes over my leading opponent. It is now clear that I am the victor."

On Saturday, Hendon officially petitioned the five counties seeking a recount. He offered to pay the cost of the recount and sought to check only the number of ballots on which voters checked off the straight Democrat ticket and voted for Hendon. On Monday, election officials in Henderson, Transylvania and Haywood counties denied Hendon's request. Hendon's attorney, Bob Long of Asheville, said that they will consider challenging the election boards' decision in the courts.

## Hendon Calls For Recount

### School Board Meeting

The Madison County Board of Education held its regular monthly meeting Wednesday. The day before saw all five members of the board returned to office by county voters.

In the first meeting of their new term, the board heard a request for funds from the Madison County High School Band Boosters Club. James Lister and Bill Thompson, representing the club, told the board the club is attempting to raise money to purchase uniforms for the high school band. The club will be conducting fund-raising activities. Each uniform will cost \$170.

The board agreed to allow Madison Central Optimist Club use of the Madison High gym for the club's annual Christmas basketball tournament.

Also approved at last week's session was a new seventh-month position at Madison High School for a vocational agriculture instructor during the remainder of the school year. James Coleman was employed for the position.

Supt. Robert Edwards told the board the cost of a new activity bus for Madison High School will be \$20,377, plus an additional \$2,677 for necessary equipment. The board approved the purchase at its October meeting.

Madison High School principal David Wyatt reported that the school has received approval of the N.C. Chapter of the Southern Association of Schools and Colleges. The final step toward receiving the prestigious accreditation will come Dec. 13 at the annual convention in Atlanta.

Ditt Williams, owner of The World of Clothing store in Hendersonville, told the board he will contribute \$13,500, plus \$500 in prizes, for the school's string band program. He also offered to pay \$2 a week toward the rental of necessary instruments.

The board discussed several insurance matters. It was announced that a new policy increases the payment of damages as a result of activities accident injuries from \$1,000 to \$5,000 in the event of a bus accident in connection with a school trip.

The board also approved Janice Faye Rice as a substitute teacher at the Marshall Primary School.

The board's next regularly scheduled meeting is slated for Dec. 1 at 10:30 a.m. in the county courthouse.



### Great Pumpkin

OFFICER JASPER TREADWAY and his 35 pound pumpkin were the winners of our Great Pumpkin Contest. Treadway came in with the winning entry hours before the contest ended Oct. 29. For his prize, he will receive a free one-year subscription to The News Record and lunch with the newspaper staff.

## At Weaverville Elementary School

### Mars Hill Tutors Learn From Students

By ELIZABETH SQUIRE

Mars Hill College students are teaching grade schoolers to have a new attitude toward basic learning skills. Or is it the other way around?

The college students are currently tutoring in the Weaverville Elementary School. In recent years, Mars Hill students have taught in schools in Flat Creek, Barnardville and Red Oak. Next semester, they'll move on to another area school.

These days, the 12 Mars Hill tutors meet with the Weaverville youngsters twice a week in the school library. The tutors play verbal football, write books, do crossword puzzles and much more with the young pupils.

There are other volunteers who do valuable work in the school and the Mars Hill tutors

will also do other practice teaching, but this program has a special value to both tutor and student.

Pat Freeman explains what makes the program so special: "If you are new, and not positive that you want to be an education major, this is your chance to see if you really want to work with kids."

Another tutor, Sherry Fender of Burnsville, said, "You learn to care about students more. This tutoring exposes you to how a school system really works. You can see how important a teacher is and how much you have to plan."

The tutors spend about three hours planning and researching each of the 45-minute one-to-one sessions with their pupils. The many hours of planning are necessary to

enable the tutor to suit the lesson to the individual student's need. The tutor search the curriculum laboratory at Mars Hill for games and exercises that will help each student get satisfaction from the learning experience.

The elementary school students are at a time in their lives when their attitudes toward learning are being formed. The Weaverville school has an average of 26 students in each class. With so many students to attend to, there are limits on how much individual attention the teachers can give each student. Teachers recommend pupils they feel would most benefit from the individualized attention the Mars Hill tutors can give.

(Continued on Page 4)



SHERRY FENDER learns from her young pupils.

Sandy Wilson helps a Weaverville youngster.