

Patriot Athletes Receive Awards

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Community Calendar

Memorial Day Parade Set For Saturday

World War II hero Edward F. Rector, a retired Air Force lieutenant colonel and Marshall native, will be the guest of honor and featured speaker at the second annual Memorial Day observance.

Rector won fame and numerous decorations as a member of the 23rd Fighter Group of the 14th Air Force, better known as the "Flying Tigers."

He was an original member of the American Volunteer group in World War II and as a member of the China Air Task Force may have put in more combat time overseas than any American soldier.

The Memorial Day activities begin at 10 a.m. with a rummage sale on the American Legion parking lot on Gudger (Back) Street.

The Memorial Day parade gets underway at noon. The parade will be led by a color guard from Johnson City, Tenn.

Following the parade, there will be a memorial service held in the gymnasium of Marshall Elementary School.

The Memorial Day observances are being sponsored by the American Legion and Ladies Auxiliary of Post No. 317 in Marshall.

Commissioners To Meet Tuesday

The Madison County Board of County Commissioners will meet on May 27 at 1 p.m. to discuss the 1986-87 county budget.

Mars Hill Bd. Meets June 2

The Mars Hill Board of Aldermen will meet on June 2 at 7:30 p.m. in the Town Hall.

News Record Closed On Monday

In observance of the Memorial Day holiday, The News Record office will be closed on Monday, May 26. Deadline for all legal and classified advertising to appear in the May 29 edition is Friday at 5 p.m.

All local post offices, banks and county offices will also be closed on Monday for the holiday.

Jury Finds Bray Guilty Of Murder

After hearing three days of testimony, a Buncombe County jury required less than four hours of deliberation to convict William Bray, 23, of first degree murder in Superior Court in Asheville on Monday afternoon.

The jury of eight men and four women convicted Bray late Monday afternoon following the close of testimony and arguments by defense and prosecution attorneys.

The same eight men and four women began deliberating Bray's fate in Buncombe County Superior Court on Tuesday as the sentencing phase of the trial began.

Earlier on Monday, Bray's court-appointed attorney, Joe Huff of Marshall, asked the jury not to convict his client. Saying "This man is guilty of horrible judgement," Huff argued that the shots Bray admitted firing at State Trooper Bobby Lee Coggins were not the ones that caused the trooper's death at an overlook near Hot Springs last Sept. 14th.

District Attorney James T. Rusher urged the panel to convict the 23-year old escaped convict in an emotional appeal during his closing argument. Rusher told the jury, "It's a terrible thing that happened. This inquisitive officer did his job well, and for that he had to die."

Testimony in the case began on May 14th after six days of jury selection. During the first day of the trial, a tape recording of the final conversation Trooper Coggins had with Highway Patrol dispatchers in Asheville was played for the court.

Coggins had called the dispatchers after stopping a stolen pickup truck being driven by Jimmy Dean Rios on N.C. 209. The slain trooper stopped the truck when he suspected the driver was intoxicated. Rios, who accompanied Coggins back to his patrol car, gave the trooper a fictitious name, Eric Clark.

The Asheville dispatcher radioed that the truck was believed to have been stolen and that the pair were considered armed and dangerous. Coggins' last words to the dispatcher were "Stand by. Everything's 10-4 right now though."

The next words the dispatcher heard came some seven minutes later when a passing motorist, Lee Phillips of Tennessee, picked up the microphone and said, "Hello! Can anyone hear me out there?...There's a cop been shot in the head."

State Trooper Rick Terry, the first officer to arrive at the murder scene, also testified during Wednesday's session.

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Bray: I Don't Know Why I Shot Him

Convicted murderer William Bray told the jury which will decide his fate that he's sorry he shot State Trooper Bobby Lee Coggins at an overlook on N.C. 209 last September.

Bray said he didn't intend to kill the trooper. He acted, he said, after being told to shoot Coggins by his co-defendant, Jimmy Dean Rios. The jury of eight men and four women who found Bray guilty on the first degree murder trial was expected to decide if he will be executed for the crime on Wednesday.

Bray did not take the stand in his defense during the four-day trial which concluded on Monday. His appearance on the stand during Tuesday's session was his first public remarks since his capture in Spring Creek on Sept. 17 of last year.

The 23-year old, described by police as an escapee from an Arkansas prison, told the court, "Rios just started yelling, 'Shoot him! Shoot him!' I just stuck the gun inside the car. I pulled the trigger, yes. I didn't intentionally shoot him, no. I didn't aim. I remember firing once."

In response to a question from his defense attorney, Joe Huff, the convicted murderer said he was sorry.

Bray's professed remorse contradicts testimony presented by Buncombe County Jailer Luke Bigelow, who told the court that Bray bragged of the shooting to cellmates in the Buncombe County Jail on May 9.

The jurors also heard testimony by Dr. Anthony Sciarra, an Asheville forensics psychologist who examined Bray at the request of defense counsel.

Sciarra described the defendant as "borderline mentally retarded." District Attorney James T. Rusher discounted the psychologist's testimony, describing Sciarra as a "gun for hire" who had testified on Wednesday.



WILLIAM BRAY

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Three Are Charged With Child Abuse

Two Marshall men and a woman have been charged with taking indecent liberties with children as a result of complaints filed by the parents of children enrolled at the Marshall Day Care Center.

One of the men, Andrew L. Chandler Jr., is an employee of the Madison County Transportation Authority. The other two suspects, Lathern Hensley and Pam Coli, are clients at the Mountains of Madison project in Mars Hill. Hensley, also

known as Buddy Norton, and Coli were both frequent passengers on the county van driven by Chandler, who is commonly known as Junior Chandler.

The two men were first arrested by authorities on Monday morning following a complaint filed by the parents of a four-year old boy enrolled at the Marshall Day Care Center.

Chandler was released on a \$5,000 bond posted by Madison County commissioner Ervin Adams. Chandler was named in a second warrant

issued late Tuesday night, however, and authorities told The News Record he would be rearrested on Wednesday. Both warrants charge the driver with taking indecent liberties with children.

Coli was also arrested late Tuesday night following the issuance of a warrant for her arrest. She and Norton remained in the Madison County Jail on Wednesday morning in lieu of bail. Bond for Norton was set on Monday at \$5,000. Coli was scheduled to have a bond hearing on Wednesday after-

noon. A report in Tuesday's edition of The Asheville Citizen incorrectly stated that "two men who transport mentally retarded handicapped children to the Unaka Center in Hot Springs were charged." The children who were transported by Chandler were enrolled at the Marshall Day Care Center. Chandler also transported clients of the Mountains of Madison project in his van along with the day care children. No one connected with the Unaka Center has been implicated in the charges.

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Mars Hill College Graduates 1986 Class



Dr. John H. Hewett, pastor of Asheville's First Baptist Church, told Mars Hill College's 130th graduating class Sunday that the new Southern Baptist "College of Cardinals" is "codifying a latter day law which makes Pharisaic Jerusalem look like Mr. Rogers' Neighborhood."

Hewett addressed the 220 members of the class of 1986, their family and friends, and faculty and staff during the 11 a.m. Baccalaureate services, a traditional time for guest speakers during Mars Hill's commencement activities.

His address, entitled "The Spirit and the Forms of Freedom," revolved around the day of Pentecost, which was also observed Sunday. Pentecost is the day, 50 days after Easter, when the spirit of God came to the 12 Apostles, endowing them with the power to speak in different languages.

In addition to the story of Pentecost, Hewett took as his theme, Corinthians 3:17, "Where the spirit of the Lord is, there is freedom." Within the story of the Pentecost, Hewett said, he has found six dramatic forms of freedom in the spirit, each embodying a release from the ties that bind people to something less than the spiritual.

Hewett urged the assembly to "stand on the historic Baptist principles of soul competency, soul liberty, and the priesthood of every believer," and not to let "any denominational machine ever move us."

Quoting Martin Luther, when Luther nailed his theses to the door of Castle Church, Hewett stated, "let the architects of the ecclesiastical and academic inquisition now appearing on the horizon hear this clearly and unmistakably: Here we stand! Only the Spirit can move us."

"Salvation is not a matter of being born into a specific race or tribe," Hewett said, explaining that membership in the family of God is not a matter of lineage. "God would have many children, but no grandchildren."

"The righteous life has to be freely chosen, or the gate to the kingdom can not be entered," Hewett noted.

Finally, he told the group that it was time to stop preaching and start celebrating. "It is time to walk out of here empowered by the liberating spirit of God," he urged, asking the seniors that when they remembered their college days, "remember who and what you were when you came here and who and what you became in the process."

The seniors received their diplomas during the afternoon ceremonies, during which Dr. J. Wesley Grayson of Laguna Hills, Calif., made a short address to the assembly. Grayson is Mars Hill's most generous benefactor. He and his wife, the former Polly Wall of Mars Hill, have contributed nearly \$3 million to the college for the Grayson Scholarships, Mars Hill's highest academic award.



MARS HILL COLLEGE PRESIDENT FRANK BENTLEY, right, presented diplomas to new graduates during commencement exercises in Mars Hill.

MARS HILL COLLEGE CHAPLAIN, REV. Marie Bean, right, congratulates new graduates following Sunday's ceremonies.

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