

Republicans Suggest Madison County Line Be Moved

The Madison County Republican Party has come up with one way to solve the question of what to do about the proposed withdrawal of Madison County from its current judicial district.

The party, during a meeting last week, offered a compromise asking the General Assembly to move the county line so that Democratic party leader Zeno Ponder's home would be located in Buncombe County.

Ponder and fellow Madison

Democrats have proposed that Madison County withdraw from its current judicial district — the 24th — and align itself with Buncombe County, which, by itself, is the 28th Judicial District.

Madison County Republicans say they are opposed to the redistricting plan, but did arrive at a "compromise."

Ponder's home and 500-acre ranch is located on the Madison-Buncombe county line, and a slight adjustment

of that line would place Ponder in Buncombe County — and out of the 24th Judicial District, according to the Republicans' proposal.

Buncombe County officials have said they are opposed to joining with Madison County in a new judicial district.

"In order to please Mr. Ponder and avoid the problems with the proposal, the county boundary lines dividing Madison and Buncombe counties at Mr. Ponder's property (should) be

withdrawn, such that Mr. Ponder's property becomes a part of Buncombe County, thus making his county of residence Buncombe County and his home judicial district the 28th Judicial District," the Republicans' resolution states.

"Nobody else wants to do this but Zeno, and some of his property is in Buncombe County, anyway," said Roger Swann, Republican Party chairman. "All they have to do is redraw the county lines so that all of

his property is in Buncombe. That would end all the squabble about what should be done."

Some opponents of the redistricting plan have speculated that Ponder has proposed the change in judicial districts because of his indictment in the 24th district on charges that he conspired to profit from inside information he learned while on the N.C. Board of Transportation. J. Thomas Rusher, the 24th Judicial District attorney prosecuting Ponder, is a

Republican.

Jim Baker, assistant district attorney, drew up the resolution for the Republicans, but said that did not represent a conflict of interest because he would not participate in Ponder's trial.

Ponder has denied that his indictment has anything to do with the redistricting proposal. He has said Asheville is simply closer to Madison County than Boone, home of Rusher's main office.



Town Recovers From Festivities

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An old-fashioned sock hop followed the pageant in the Hot Springs School gym.

Events continued throughout Saturday and Sunday as the weather went out of its way to cooperate with a weekend of picture-perfect days.

Up and down Main Street, clubs and organizations sold food and crafts while on the river local rafting companies gave free raft rides. For a couple of dollars, visitors were given the opportunity to view the town from above in a hot air balloon.

Saturday night, young and old alike took to the streets to dance to the sounds of Carolina Misty.

"I saw people dancing I never knew could dance," said Hot Springs Mayor and Homecoming Chairman Kenny Ramsey. "As long as I'm mayor, homecoming

will be an annual event."

People came from as far away as Oregon and Texas to take in the events, Ramsey said.

"I'm very well pleased. Everything went smoothly," said Ramsey.

Funds raised during the festivities will be enough to cover the operational costs, with a bit left over for next year, Champion said.

"A lot of people did come home," Champion said. "This really lifted the town's spirits. I think we were beginning to lose some of our southern pride, but a weekend like this is just what we all needed."

The weekend ended with a ceremony honoring the the 50 anniversary of the Appalachian Trail, which passes through Hot Springs.

U.S. Rep. James McClure Clark

was on hand along with George Olson of the U.S. Forest Service at the ceremony and reception on the Jesuit Residence lawn.

"This has been one of the best things we've done for ourselves and the town," Champion said. "I'd like to thank everyone who's worked hard to see us succeed."

A number of contests were held in connection to the homecoming festivities. Here's a list of winners:

Beauty Pageant
Wee Miss Hot Springs, Christy Puryear; Little Miss Hot Springs, Autumn Church; Junior Miss Hot Springs, Julie Tino; and, Miss Hot Springs, Sherri Self.

Pinewood Derby
Dustin Roberts and Chris Sams.

River Raft Race
Roy Whitson, Chuck Gentry, George Self and Toby Lawson. The team was awarded a \$100 first prize, which team members donated back to the town.



BILL STUDENC PHOTOS



Hot Springs Homecoming '87 was a festival of sights and sounds. Above left, area children listen to the band Nuthin' Fancy. Above center, Lions Club President Larry Huntsinger flips a burger. Above right, a hot air balloon gives residents a birds-eye-view of the festivities. Left, Margaret Studenc and Linda Dodson look at crafts made by local artists.

230 Graduate At Mars Hill

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Grayson closed by noting that Mars Hill College has had only three presidents in this century, and that each of them had a profound effect on the quality of thousands of lives of students who passed through Mars Hill's classrooms.

Earlier in the day, the students, their parents, the faculty and staff of the college heard Dr. R. Kirby Godsey, president of Mercer University, bring the traditional morning baccalaureate service. Entitling his sermon "Lessons on Time," Godsey urged the seniors to make time their servant rather than their master.

"We should not delude ourselves into thinking that time is an essential matter. We are not likely to be known for the number of days we have lived, but rather by the way we chose to live those days," Godsey said.

"Without us, time has no character, no color, no beginning, no end. It is you and I who have character. We have meaning," he said. "My lesson on time is that we can live with integrity only if we live beyond the clock."

"Human problems, pain and values are larger than time. The times change. The enduring issues do not," he said.

"Your being here provides the primary clue to what the future world is coming to be. Like it or not, we must turn to you, we must accept the work of your own creation."

Godsey concluded by saying that "You are not children of time but time will be your child. History will be your legacy. The tragedy of life is not death, but that which dies within while we live. The real measure of your life will be whether you are willing to become a force for hope in the world."

During the ceremonies, the Scholarship-Character Award was presented to two students who have each maintained a perfect 4.0 academic average during their college careers. The two are Andrew

Csordis, a continuing education student from Valdese who received a bachelor of science degree in business administration, and Rochelle Hanenburg Owens. Mrs. Owens is a native of Orlando, Fla., and received a bachelor of science degree also in an interdisciplinary major in physical education and exercise science.

Other members of the Class of 1987 include the following from Madison County:

Marshall
Sandra Darlene Keller, (BA) religion, cum laude; Jamie Lynn List, (BS) veterinary medical technology; Lesa Renee Taylor Coates, (BA) elementary education; Wendell Steven Wallin, (BA) elementary education; Cheryl Parkman Ezell, (BA) elementary education; Donna Clouse Garrison, (BS) nursing, august graduate; and, Linda Nell Moore, (BS) business administration.

Mars Hill
Ilo Yvonne Hughes Hardin, (BS) chemistry; Michael Todd Kirkland, (BA) psychology; Pamela K. Allison,

(BS) accounting; Gary William Jamison, (BS) business administration; Deborah K. Leininger, (BA) theater arts and speech; Roy Carroll McGinnis, (BA) English, cum laude; Gerald H. Spaulding (BA) psychology; Trina Derby Hollister, (BA) studio art, cum laude; Dolores Buckner Wyatt, (BA) elementary education, magna cum laude; Deborah Dianne Ricker, (BS) biology, cum laude; James Larry Thomas, (BA) religion; Rodney Lee Honeycutt, (BS) recreation; Lisa Long Taylor, (BA) elementary education; Geraldine Gardner Girard, (BA) elementary education; Bette Anne Hardin English, (BA) elementary education; Mary Marie Dickson, (BA) English/French, magna cum laude; Betty Jean Hensley, (BS) business administration; Shannon Noel Ward, (BSW) social work; Gina Allen Terry, (BM) music education (piano), cum laude; Kimberly Annette Thomas, (BM) music education, (clarinet); and, Pamela Kish Brown, (BA) English, cum laude.



Rochelle Hanenburg Owens and Andrew Csordis, winners of the Mars Hill College Scholarship-Character Award, talk to Dr. Donald Schmeltke, academic vice president of the college. Both Owens and Csordis maintained a grade-point average of 4.0 at Mars Hill.

NC State Graduates 3,650

An estimated 3,650 men and women received degrees from North Carolina State University during the university's special centennial commencement Saturday in Carter-Finley Stadium.

Chancellor Bruce R. Foulton conferred some 3,195 baccalaureate, 672 master's, 201 doctoral and 67 doctor of veterinary medicine degrees. He delivered the commencement address "Promises To Keep."

The following graduates are from Madison County:

Mars Hill
Master — Monica M. Sprehe, civil engineering, daughter of Mrs. and Mrs. D.J. Sprehe of Route 2.
Bachelor — Ronald E. Weathers, industrial engineering, son of Mr. and Mrs. R.E. Weathers Sr.

Marshall
Bachelor — Stephen B. Halula, computer science, son of Mr. and Mrs. J.N. Halula of Route 2.

Madison Students Among Graduates At Western Carolina

Western Carolina University Chancellor Myron L. Coulter conferred degrees on 869 students Saturday, at the university's 1987 spring commencement exercises.

Former U.S. Secretary of Education Terrel H. Bell delivered the commencement address in the ceremonies in WCU's Liston B. Ramsey Regional Activity Center.

Receiving diplomas were candidates from Western's six schools. There were 160 graduates from the School of Arts and Sciences, 157 from the School of Business, 155 from the School of Education and Psychology, 88 from the School of Nursing and Health Sciences, 116 from the School of Technology and Applied Science

and 155 from the Graduate School.

A total of 206 students graduated with academic honors. Fifty-six students graduated summa cum laude (highest honors) based on four-year grade averages of 3.75 or higher on a 4.0 scale. Of these, 21 were designated University Scholars for completing all of their work at WCU. Sixty-five students graduated magna cum laude (high honors, 3.50 to 3.74) and 85 graduated cum laude (honors).

Listed are area students in the graduating class, showing each student's field of study. All received bachelor's degrees except where graduate-level degrees are noted. Appropriate honors also are designated.

Area students graduating were:

• Hot Springs — Cheryl Lynn Plemmons, Route 1, master's degree, middle grades education; Donna Lucinda Fowler, Route 1, chemistry; and, Judith Lynn Price, Route 1, finance, cum laude.

• Mars Hill — Gail Foster Sawyer, certificate of advanced study, community agency counseling; Doyle Willard Ammons, education specialist degree, educational administration, public school. Master's degrees: Frances Lee Ramsey,

Woodland Drive, secondary education, social sciences; Richard M. Thomason, business administration; and, Donald Thomas, Route 5, medical technology, magna cum laude.

N. Buncombe Students Compete In Academics

Students from North Buncombe High School competed in the Academic Olympics held recently at Southwestern Technical College in Sylva.

A third-place trophy was awarded to the school for cumulative points scored against schools of comparable size.

According to school officials, "All students were winners, their behavior was superb, their cooperation flawless, and their courage magnificent since the majority of the students had no idea what the competition entailed."

The daylong testing session held

last month probed how well the entrants knew their subjects. Winners included: Ellen Ezell, first in music competition; Amy Gregg, first in accounting; Angela Buchanan, first in home economics; Jessica Olson, first in journalism; and, Michele Pender, first in typing.