

Schools Hold 8th Grade Graduations



Kindergarten and eighth-grade students at Spring Creek Elementary School shared the stage last Thursday for the school's annual graduation ceremony, held in the auditorium.



Proud parents filled the auditorium at Hot Springs Elementary School last Thursday to watch as the school's eighth-grade students went through annual graduation exercises.



Eighth-grade students at Marshall Elementary School stand during annual graduation day Thursday, the last day of classes.

Graduation Was Hot

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 may be experiencing now that the end of their high school career is upon them.

Valedictorian Brent Pack told the group they must work to conquer the challenges of the future to make the world a better place to live.

Salutatorian Jamie O'Brien delivered the invocation, and Stephen Briggs of the Class of '87 sang "God Bless The U.S.A."

Senior class member Barbara Penland played the processional and recessional.

Christiaan Ramsey sang "The National Anthem" and Student Council President Wayne Alvery welcomed friends and parents.

Lisa Gahagan, Fellowship of Christian Athletes president, gave the benediction.

The class of 1987 had 28 honor graduates with 19 North Carolina Scholars. Ten students are members of the National Honor Society.

Madison High School Principal David Wyatt awarded three Optimists Scholarships of \$500. Winners of the scholarship were Brad Sprinkle, Tracy Baldwin and Gretta Griffin.

Wyatt and Bruce Phillips, assistant principal, also completed the once-a-year task of handing out diplomas to the graduating seniors.

Lake Project Delayed

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 have been in the works since January 1986.

As part of the project, lily pads and other aquatic vegetation that have clogged the lake will be removed and the bottom of the lakebed cleaned of garbage.

"The project is designed to create a passive recreation area for the people of Weaverville and North Buncombe County," Horne said.

"The lake had a longstanding history of nonuse. There had been talk for several years of draining it and getting the lily pads out of it. This

administration pursued that with some diligence," he said.

Weaverville Mayor Reese Lasher suggested Monday that the engineers look into the possibility of improving the landscaping of the current parking space at the lake.

"All I've heard is that the parking is a problem," Lasher said. "We need to window dress the present site."

Weaverville officials will announce the new completion date later this summer.

When finished, the lake will be restocked with fish, Horne said.

Water Rates Increase

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 amount. There will be a capital improvement meeting July 7 at 7 p.m. to discuss how those funds will be used.

"This is a budget that reflects a growing community" Horne said. "We are holding the tax rate where it has been, and we're pretty pleased about that."

Florida Hiker Dies On Appalachian Trail

A hiker on the Appalachian trail died Tuesday afternoon of an apparent heart attack.

Jerry Glenn Johnson, age unknown, of Gainesville, Fla., died while hiking on the trail with his daughter about a mile off of N.C. 208 near the Tennessee

line, said Chief Deputy Dal Peek of the Madison County Sheriff's Department.

Authorities do not suspect foul play in the death, Peek said Wednesday morning.

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