



BILL STUDENC PHOTO

Firefighters and neighbors watch as a mobile home off NC 213 near Marshall smoldered after a Tuesday morning fire. No one was injured in the blaze, although neighbors at first thought a woman was trapped inside.

## Madison Realtors Want Landfill Use To Be Restricted

By BILL STUDENC  
Editor

The Madison County Board of Realtors says it does not want garbage from outside Madison to be dumped in the county landfill.

Board members unanimously agreed last month to endorse a resolution stating their opposition to the use of the county landfill by anyone outside Madison County.

The resolution, drawn up by Mars Hill attorney Ed Krause, is in response to growing fears that a private garbage hauler may be hired to handle Madison County's waste disposal problems -- and may have to bring in trash from other counties to make the venture profitable, said Frank Roberts, president of the Madison County Board of Realtors.

Roberts is scheduled to meet with the Madison County Board of Com-

missioners on Monday to present the resolution.

"I acknowledge the county's need for our personal garbage disposal," Roberts said in a letter (See Page 4). "We felt what we needed to address is the effect of allowing a truckload of outside waste from any municipality or private source into our county."

The county stalled a waste disposal crisis earlier this year when it constructed additional dikes and lifts at the current landfill, which officials said would be full this past spring. But those measures should extend the landfill's life until late this spring, county officials now say.

One option under consideration by commissioners is hiring a private firm to take over the county's waste disposal responsibilities. Hyder Waste Container, Inc., in Asheville has offered to haul the county's gar-

bage to a new landfill for \$230,000 a year.

But the Board of Realtors says that if the county commissioners decide to hire the private contractor, they should include in the agreement a provision prohibiting the company from hauling garbage from other counties into the Madison landfill.

"For every truckload that is imported, that is one truckload less that we will be unable to use for our own needs," Roberts said.

"The county is growing. If there is a problem now with waste disposal, it will be a worse problem in six to eight years," Roberts said.

"If a private hauler can't afford to take care of our garbage without bringing in trash from outside the county, we should find another way," he said.

## Blaze Claims Mobile Home

From Staff Reports

A Tuesday fire destroyed a trailer off N.C. 213 between Marshall and Mars Hill -- and caused some moments of worry for emergency workers.

Emergency crews were concerned that Sara Jackson, who lived in the trailer, was inside when the double-wide mobile home became engulfed in flames.

"At first, the people who lived around there said that the woman was at home," said Marshall Fire Chief Jimmy Ramsey. "So we had to check and find out if she was or not before we started the cleanup."

Firefighters learned that Jackson had gone to Asheville only minutes before the fire began, Ramsey said. Fire officials say the blaze ap-

parently began at about 11 a.m. Tuesday at a kerosene heater and then quickly spread throughout the rest of the mobile home.

The trailer was a total loss, Ramsey said.

Marshall and Mars Hill units responded to the call and had extinguished the fire in about 15 minutes, he said.



Tom Weaver ... calls it quits

## North Buncombe Coach Resigns

By BILL STUDENC  
Editor

North Buncombe High School officials are looking for a new head football coach and athletic director following Tom Weaver's resignation from those positions after his second consecutive one-win season.

Weaver said a combination of factors led to his decision to resign last Wednesday as football coach and athletic director. Among those factors were back-to-back one-win, nine-loss seasons, and petitions circulated in northern Buncombe County calling

for a major change in North Buncombe High School athletics.

"I felt like it was the best thing at this time for my family," Weaver said.

Weaver said he was aware of petitions that began circulating in the middle of a 16-game losing streak for the Black Hawks -- a streak that began the second game of the 1986 season and continued until late this season. Those petitions, circulated by upset fans and supporters who wanted more wins, did not specifically

(Continued on back page)

## Snow Biz

### Wolf Laurel Resort's New Owners Get Ready For Their First Season

By BILL STUDENC  
Editor

If you had told Buster Inman one year ago that he would be worrying about making snow at a ski resort in the mountains of Western North Carolina, he would have said you were crazy.

But now Inman, former golf pro in Texas, finds himself at the helm of the Wolf Laurel resort on the Madison-Yancey county line. And, with just a week to go before the ski area's anticipated opening, Inman is more than just a little bit busy.

Inman, new general of Wolf Laurel, had already been overseeing the resort's 18-hole golf course, its

restaurant and its inn, purchased in June by the Stokes, O'Steen, Williams Group from Bald Mountain Development Corp. But with the Jacksonville, Fla., based firm's recent acquisition of the Wolf Laurel Ski Area, Inman gained additional responsibility.

"Who'd have ever thought that a golf pro would be worrying about making snow," Inman said Tuesday.

Wolf Laurel represents the Stokes, O'Steen, Williams Group's first venture into the skiing industry.

"I don't know that someone at Stokes, O'Steen, Williams sat down and said, 'Hey, we want to get into the ski business,'" Inman said. "What we wanted to do was have a

12-months-a-year, or at least as close to that as possible, resort."

Skiing will provide an additional activity at the resort during the winter months, Inman said.

But, because no one at Stokes, O'Steen, Williams Group has any experience with operating a ski resort, Wolf Laurel's new owners have had to learn.

Inman and five employees traveled to Sugar Mountain and Appalachian ski resorts to see how things are done there.

"Not being in the ski business, we thought, 'Why not go and see how the best people in the business do it.'"

(Continued on back page)

## Father Charged With Son's Murder

From Staff Reports

The Madison County Sheriff's Department has charged a 72-year-old man from the Big Laurel section of Madison County with second-degree murder in last week's shooting death of his son.

Authorities arrested Charlie Luther Chandler last Wednesday after his son, Carroll Chandler, died from a gunshot wound to the face.

The younger Chandler had been

shot once last Monday with a .32-caliber pistol, according to authorities.

The shooting apparently stemmed from a domestic argument between the son and his parents, said Madison County Sheriff Dedrick Brown.

"From statements we have from the parents, they claim the boy had got a claw hammer out and was attempting to hit Mr. Chandler," Brown said.

"He (the father) drew his gun and told him that he would shoot him. The boy turned on his wife and started to hit her. He (the father) cocked his gun and claimed the gun went off and it shot the boy through the head," Brown said.

The elder Chandler appeared in Madison County District Court last Wednesday for a first-appearance hearing.

## Cast, Crew Prepare For Marshall Christmas Pageant

By BILL STUDENC  
Editor

One year, so remembers Ed Fender, members of the Marshall Fire Department on hand as behind-

the-scenes workers at the Marshall Christmas Pageant received an emergency call. A house was on fire. Duty called. The annual Christmas pageant, mere minutes away, would

have to wait.

The firemen returned about a half hour later, Fender recalls, and the pageant finally got under way. All was calm as a man and woman por-

traying Mary and Joseph made their way from the bridge across the French Broad River toward the Madison County Courthouse, where a manger scene awaited.

A hush fell over the crowd as the choir sang "O Little Town of Bethlehem." The narrator began to read those familiar words from the book of Luke.

It was just as Mary and Joseph crossed the railroad tracks that the piercing blast of a locomotive's whistle shattered the calm. Seconds later, a train roared smack dab through the middle of the Marshall Christmas Pageant.

"Mary just about got squashed by a train," said Fender's daughter, Sheila, one of two people who'll be playing the part of Mary in this year's pageant.

"Usually, the mayor contacts the depot in Knoxville and tells them to hold the train," said Fender, director of the Marshall Christmas Pageant. "That year, they held the train, but we got started late. The train was on time, but we weren't."

That little story just serves to illustrate that things don't always go as smoothly as hoped during the pageant -- but that has not detracted from what has become a rejuvenated Marshall tradition.

The Marshall Christmas Pageant began in 1963, the brainchild of an area dairy farmer, and quickly became a much-loved annual event, attracting attention from not only



BILL STUDENC PHOTOS

Wayne McDevitt practices his role as narrator of the Marshall Christmas Pageant.

Western North Carolina, but from all over the United States.

The pageant enjoyed success for several years, but eventually fell vic-

tim to lagging attendance and a lack of participation. In 1978 -- 15 years after its birth -- the Marshall

(Continued on back page)



Pageant director, Ed Fender, left, goes over the script with James Treadway (who'll play Joseph) and Sheila Fender (Mary) during rehearsal this week.