

# THE YANCEY RECORD

"Dedicated To The Progress Of Yancey County"

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## Burnsville Native Higgins Becomes Record Publisher

J. Tom (Tommy) Higgins, a 25-year-old native of Yancey County became this week the editor and publisher of The Yancey Record.

Higgins, son of Mr. and Mrs. Milton B. Higgins of Burnsville, comes to the Record from the Durham Morning Herald, where he was associate sports editor.

He previously was a sports reporter for the Winston-Salem Journal and Sentinel, and prior to that with the Asheville Citizen-Times.

Higgins was born in Burnsville in 1937 and attended both elementary and high school here. He was editor of both the school paper and yearbook, and was also a participant in three varsity sports—basketball, baseball and softball.

He was a starter on the Burnsville basketball team which won the county tournament in 1954 and the Toe River Conference

title in 1955.

Higgins enrolled at Brevard College in 1955. At Brevard he also edited the sports section of both the school paper and yearbook while again competing in three varsity sports—basketball, baseball and track.

He began his newspaper career in 1957 as a reporter for the Canton Enterprise.

After three months at Canton, he moved to the sports department of the Asheville Times for a year, then was employed for four years by the Winston-Salem papers. He had been in Durham 10 months when he decided to return home to Yancey County.

Higgins' assignment at Asheville was the Western North Carolina prep sports beat. At Winston-Salem he specialized in golf writing, edited the papers' outdoor page and also covered Atlantic Coast Conference athletics.

In Durham, he continued to cover the golf beat and the ACC and also wrote a thrice-weekly column, "Along the Sidelines." Last fall he realized an ambition of long standing when he was assigned to cover the University of North Carolina football team.

During his career Higgins has covered several of the southern sports world's "classic" events, including the famed Masters golf tournament in Augusta, Ga., the World softball tournament in Clearwater, Fla., the now defunct Dixie Classic basketball tournament and the ACC basketball tournament.

Higgins' association with the sports scene was so close that it even carried over to the wedding ceremony which united him and the former Caroline Plemmons of Winston-Salem. Wake Forest College basketball coach Horace (Bones) McKinney, who is also a Baptist minister, performed the ceremony.

The Higgins have the child, a son, J. Tom (Chip) Jr., 2.

### Cane River Club To Present Play

Cane River High School's Dramatic Club, "The Red and Gray Players," will present a hillbilly comedy in three acts, "A Feuding Over Yonder," Jan. 10 at 7:30 p. m. in the school auditorium.

The play is extremely funny and should be enjoyed by the whole family. Admission is 50 cents for students and 75 cents for adults.



CELEBRATES BIRTHDAY. Mrs. Edmonia Horton, pictured above on the 100th observance of her birth in 1862, begins another century January 4.

## Mrs. Horton Begins 2nd Century Friday

Mrs. Edmonia Horton will begin her second century Friday, a distinction no other Yancey Countian can claim.

Mrs. Horton, who has made her home in the Paint Gap community for all her 101 years, is, unofficially, the oldest person now residing in the county.

The honor apparently fell to her Tuesday upon the death of Mrs. Savannah Elizabeth Gouge of Rt. 5, Burnsville. Mrs. Gouge was 103.

Mrs. Horton's health, excellent for her first 100 years, is failing now and she is confined to her bed. A granddaughter, Mrs. Annie Maney, shares the residence with her.

Mrs. Horton was born just eight months after the siege at Fort Sumter, S. C., started the Civil War. The daughter of Na-

than and Elizabeth Stewart Horton. Mrs. Horton says that she can recall the influx of the so-called "carpet beggars" into the south in the chaotic years following the war.

She married William Horton on May 3, 1879. They had three children—Frederic, Alvin and Estelle—all now deceased. Her husband died in the 73rd year of their marriage, only two years short of the extremely infrequent diamond anniversary.

Mrs. Horton has six living grandchildren. In addition to Annie Maney they are: Lee Maney and MaMa Maney Robinson, both of Rt. 3, Burnsville; Grace Maney Spires, Atlanta; Mary Alice Maney, Black Mountain; and Margaret Maney Clarke, San Bernardino, Calif.

She also has eight great grandchildren and seven great great grandchildren.

### Club Schedules To Be Published

Have a tough time contacting all the members of your organization when an important meeting is coming up?

You can solve this problem by either dropping a card or phoning the Record. Beginning next week there will be a weekly front-page section—"The Yancey Calendar."

### Stork Grounded?

Despite the beautiful weather of the past few days, the stork has apparently been grounded as far as Yancey County is concerned.

At Record press time Thursday, the county was unofficially still awaiting its first newcomer of 1963.

A check with the Yancey Hospital revealed that no babies had been born there during the New Year. A hospital spokesman said it was very improbable that a baby had been delivered within the county—but outside the hospital—since Jan. 1.

## Patrolman Rector Moved To McDowell

Veteran State Highway Patrolman A. W. (Arnold) Rector last month was transferred from Yancey to McDowell County.

Rector became something of an exception in the Highway Patrol, which normally rotates its men

approximately every two years. He came to Yancey in August of 1952—this was his first station—and remained here until his transfer just before Christmas.

The Buncombe County native was especially popular with the teenagers of the county, and gained state-wide recognition when the students at Cane River High School dedicated a year book to him. Patrol officials in Raleigh said they could not remember any such similar honor being bestowed upon a patrolman.

Rector's wife, Jo, and two daughters are maintaining their residence in Burnsville, but the family plan to move to Marion soon.

R. R. McKinney, a McDowell County native, is now the patrolman stationed in Yancey.

Whether or not a second trooper will be sent here has not been determined.

### Presbyterians Slate Meeting In Spruce Pine

The quarterly meeting of the Presbyterian Men of McDowell and Yancey Counties is scheduled Jan. 9 in the First Presbyterian Church of Spruce Pine.

A dinner at 7 p. m. will get the meeting under way.

Program arrangements are being made by E. M. Singleton, president of the Men of the Spruce Pine Church. The Rev. Joseph B. MacLeod, Director of Christian Education for the Holston Presbytery will speak and show slides of the Presbytery's camp at Banner Elk.

Officers elected for 1963 at the last meeting are: President, Charles Edwards, Secretary and Treasurer, Lester Holcombe, Vice-President, Fred Anglin.

Edwards and Holcombe are both members of the Paint Gap Church. Anglin belongs to the Burnsville Church.

### Mars Hill Edges Cane River Boys

Cane River split a high school basketball doubleheader with Mars Hill Tuesday night in the Cane River gymnasium.

The Cane River girls triumphed by 30-26, but the boys were beaten, 48-47, in a game that was hotly-contested throughout.

The Rebels are idle Friday night, but their cross-county rivals, the East Yancey Panthers, are scheduled to travel to Tipton Hill for a doubleheader.

**GIRLS GAME**  
MARS HILL (26)—Edwards 5, Ramsey 4, Peek 11, Flagle 1, Boss 1, Allen 3, Ledford 1, Hensley, B. Peek.

CANE RIVER (30)—Burton 4, McCurry 15, Ballew 2, Evans 9, J. Ballew, Mathis, Grindstaff, Morrow.

Halftime: Cane River 17-13.  
**BOYS GAME**  
MARS HILL (48)—Claus 7, Dickerson 13, Buckner 11, Green 17, Anderson, Hembree, Ray.

CANE RIVER (47)—Byrd 6, Proffitt 10, Fox 7, Smith 6, Whitson 18, Edwards, Styles, McDowell  
Halftime: Mars Hill 22-20.

## Be Careful! There's Danger Of Frostbite

Cold weather is back again and with it comes the health hazards that accompany subfreezing temperatures. An ever present winter danger is frostbite.

Frostbite is, naturally, more of a problem in the northern states, but even in most of the south there are occasional periods of weather cold enough to nip unprotected noses and fingers.

Frostbite can be very painful for a long period, can result in amputations, and can leave the victim hypersensitive to cold for the rest of his life. In some ways the damage of frostbite is similar to a burn. Injuries to both deep and shallow tissue are comparable. First degree frostbite, like sunburn, is an injury to surface skin. It is likely to attack ears, toes, fingers, cheeks or nose. Second degree frostbite produces blisters as in second degree burns. In third degree frostbite the damage is deep and much of the frozen part may be lost.

Prevention is the best protection against frostbite. This means being properly dressed in warm clothing, waterproof shoes and heavy, dry socks, and with good covering for head and ears. Keep clothing dry from both outside moisture and perspiration and avoid tight clothing or garters that may restrict circulation.

Motorists traveling across country in subfreezing weather are advised to have heavy clothing and shoes in the car, in the event that there should be a breakdown and it becomes necessary to hike for help.

If your auto is stalled in snow or ice some distance from help, it may be safer to stay in the car than to walk a long distance in extreme cold with clothing that is too light.

The first signs of frostbite are "pins and needles" prickly feeling and then numbness. The affected part will turn white or gray and later red.

First aid possibilities are limited. Thawing of the tissue as soon as possible is the major consideration, and this can best be accomplished by getting the patient indoors into a warm room. Treat the frozen part with gentleness and do not rub or massage it. The old technique of rubbing snow or ice water on the frozen part does more harm than good by delaying thawing.

Medical treatment is needed promptly in frostbite. Control of the often severe pain is required and antibiotics and antitetanus injections may be needed if the skin is broken. Often the frozen skin will eventually slough off.

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## Leaving World Of Sports Brings Back Fond Memories

By: Tom Higgins

When I left my desk in the sports department of the Durham Herald for the final time last week, I had a feeling of apprehension probably not too much unlike that which the veteran athlete senses when he has played his final game.

Although the departure was made without regrets, there was a gnawing pain that warned that life at the axis of the sports world would be missed.

Not, in particular, the contests themselves. For a sportswriter, the basket at the buzzer which won which game or the decisive long touchdown passes or home runs eventually become hopelessly enmeshed. But the cast... it is indelibly cast on the brain.

Who could forget Horace (Bones) McKinney, bouncing his unbelievably angular frame off the bench and striding the sidelines, exhorting his Wake Forest College basketball team in a fashion that would have made even Billy Sunday envious.

Or "Sunny Jim" Tatum, the late University of North Carolina football coach, standing in the middle of a busy street and commanding a police car to get himself and two sportswriters to an airport in time to catch a plane.

Or Arnold Palmer, the man who has forearms like drivers on a locomotive and who candidly admits that the word "impossible" isn't in his vocabulary when it comes to playing golf, nonchalantly sinking puts on which thousands of dollars are riding.

Or Don Cardwell, the normally affable major league pitcher from Winston-Salem, settling a grudge with one searing, vengeance-filled performance that brought him baseball immortality: a no-hitter



against the St. Louis Cardinals.

Or Eddie Darrell, the rotund, self-styled "golf detective" who makes owners of "All You Can Eat" establishments wince or else bolt their doors when they see him approaching.

Or Billy Packer, the mighty mite of Wake Forest's great basketball teams of the past few years, bawling out giants twice his size and prodding them—and thus, the team—to national prominence.

Or Argentine Rocca, the wrestler who acts like an ape in the ring, but who is really an articulate college graduate who holds several degrees.

Or Norman Sneed, the bashful ex-Wake Forest quarterback who surprisingly took charge of the Washington Redskins and made fans stop saying "Ugh" and start saying "How."

Or the sportswriting crew undoubtedly one of the most colorful clans in the country, bluffing and cussing their way to stories... or else hiding their "scoops" with the slyness of a CIA agent.

The list could go on and on—it's far too long to record here. Nevertheless, none will be forgotten. All will be missed.

Still, it's great to be home. I sincerely hope that our association will prove fruitful for all of us, but more important still, fruitful for our town and county.

## N. C. Has An Unwanted Record: Traffic Deaths Are Up Again

FROM THE DURHAM HERALD

North Carolina has broken its record for highway deaths in a single year.

If these unfortunate persons and the tens of thousands of others who were "only" injured on the highways had been struck down by a disease, the public outcry would be as awesome as the death figures. As it is, though, 1962's grisly record will be shrugged off by many persons and ignored by even more.

Worse than that, a sizable percentage of Tarheel motorists will actually fight the remedies for this bloody scourge. They will balk at both the sane driving habits and the tighter highway safety laws that can prevent new bloody highway records.

Many motorists will insist on the right to believe they are good enough drivers to take repeated risks on the highways. They will fight stronger safety laws as though they were bills of attainder invoked in the name of George III. "Convenience" and the "necessity" of licensing every man,

woman and fool to drive—these are the sort of arguments used against effective safety measures. In the name of convenience, North Carolina leaves vehicles on the highway that menace everyone who approaches them. Countless juries, prosecutors and judges give drunk drivers the benefit of every doubt because they are loath to take away the driving privilege even though it has been grossly abused.

The driving privilege is championed as a "right" even for young drivers in an age group



RALEIGH — The Motor Vehicles Department's summary of traffic deaths through 10 A. M. Monday, December 31, 1962: KILLED TO DATE 1307 KILLED To Date Last Year 1255

which accounts for just 15 per cent of the driving public but is involved in more than 27 per cent of the nation's fatal accidents.

It is not an accident that the only encouraging part of North Carolina's 1962 highway death record comes from the six-county Operation Impact area where an intensive program of law enforcement and safety engineering is in progress. Though the experiment has barely begun, it is showing what other similar experiments have shown.

The deadly dangers of highway travel can be reduced.

Tighter laws, law enforcement, highway engineering, and improved signals won't make highway safety automatic. The human factor can always produce an accident under the safest conditions.

But with tighter laws applied through a statewide Operation Impact and backed up with more uniform treatment of traffic law violators by the courts, the predictable causes of accidents can be checked. So too can the growing death toll.

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