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Nationwide Wilderness Study Begins

(Cont'd from page 1)
 gress for wilderness classification and which will be designated non-wilderness areas.
 Dr. Rupert Cutler, Assistant Secretary of Agriculture said the entire roadless area study will be an open process in which the public will be kept informed at all stages. "The Forest Service already has received much help from the public in inventorying the roadless areas and suggesting criteria for wilderness designation," he said.
 Rival camps are already being formed with strong

sentiments for and against Wilderness designation of the study areas in Western North Carolina. On Thursday, December 8, a wilderness roundtable, arranged by the Forestry Commission of the Western North Carolina Development Association, was held in Asheville. According to Morris L. McGough, executive vice president of the Association, the roundtable was held in an effort to try to get a cross-section of the various interests—timber, minerals, Sierra Club and other conservation groups—to find some means of understanding each other's views.

Those present included Mike Holt of Senator Jesse Helms' Hickory office, Jack Abbot of Senator Robert Morgan's staff, and Tom Mallonee of Rep. Lamar Gudger's staff.
 Immo J. Sanders, minerals specialist with N.C. State University, called for taking a careful look at any minerals which might be present on any of the lands under consideration as wilderness before recommending that they be made wilderness.
 Coming to the strong defense of wilderness were Hal Salisbury, representing the Sierra Club and Alan

Barton, president of the Carolina Mountain Club. Salisbury said the Sierra Club took part in the study of North Carolina forest land which could be proposed for wilderness designation. "And this (207,600 acres) is all we could find in the state."
 Taking an opposite view was Hank Plotkin of the

Society of American Foresters.
 Twenty-two percent of the National Forest lands in Western North Carolina would be involved if the area were declared wilderness, he said. Charles Woodard of the Southeastern Lumber Manufacturers Association, told the group that "Our problem is a shrinking timber base."

Tom Thrash of the Appalachian Lumbermen's Club said that on 200,000 acres in wilderness the yearly carrying cost (\$500 an acre land value) would be \$10 million a year, or \$400 million over a 40 year period.
 The list of roadless areas and criteria for evaluation was published in the November 18

Federal Register. Maps of inventoried areas will be available for public inspection at Forest Service regional and Forest Supervisor offices in mid-December. A summary of public comment on the inventory is available from Chief, Forest Service, USDA, Room 0340-S, P.O. Box 2417, Washington, D.C. 20013.

6 Accidents Reported

Yancey Highway Accidents

A one-car accident on NC 80 south occurred on Tuesday, November 29 at 6:25 p.m. Tommy Murphy, 35, of Route 5 was driving a 1960 Ford pickup around a curve and ran off the right side and overturned into the ditch. One passenger, Jackie Lingerfelt, 23, was taken to Burnsville Health Care.
 Damage was estimated at \$100. Tommy Murphy was charged with driving under the influence and improper registration. Trooper W.J. Stallings investigated.

A one car accident on Saturday, December 3 at 7:00 p.m. occurred on US 19W. Ned Wilson, 40, of Route 4, was driving a 1977 Ford pickup south and ran off the pavement on the right side. Driver cut sharply and vehicle crossed road and ran off the left side down a 10 ft. embankment.
 Ned Wilson was charged with left of center. Damage was estimated at \$600. Trooper A.T. Morrison investigated.

An accident on Monday, December 5 at 8:30 a.m. occurred on Fox Branch. Grover Mitchell, 48, of Goldsboro, N.C. was driving a Drott Backhoe and struck a 1970 Chevrolet Pickup that was parked on the right shoulder.
 Damage was estimated at \$200 to the Chevrolet pickup. Trooper W.J. Stallings investigated.

On Tuesday, December 6 at 8:45 a.m. an accident occurred on NC 197. Grace Whitson, 29, of Green Mountain was driving a 1970 Ford on snow and ice and skidded into the left land down a steep grade. Deborah Edwards, 20, of Relief was driving a 1971 Dodge north and observed vehicle 1 and applied her brakes, skidding into the southbound land. Vehicle 1 skidded back into the south bound land and collided with vehicle 2.
 Damage was estimated at \$600 to the Ford and \$600 to the Dodge. Trooper A.T. Morrison investigated.

An accident on Thursday, December 8 at 7:45 a.m. occurred on NC 80 south. Deborah Wilson, 23, of Route 5, Burnsville was driving a 1969 Jeep. Phillip Boone, 49, of Bakersville was driving a 1977 Dodge pickup south and went into a sharp right hand curve. Boone turned on his defroster and his windshield immediately fogged. The vehicle crossed the center line and struck the Wilson vehicle. Both drivers were not seriously injured.
 Damage was estimated at \$800 to the Jeep station wagon and \$1750 to the Dodge. Phillip Boone was charged with on left. Trooper W.J. Stallings investigated.

On Friday, December 9 at 8:00 p.m. an accident occurred on US 19E. William Hays, 73, of Franklin, N.C. was driving a 1968 Ford pickup south and came over a crest in the roadway and was unable to see vehicle 2 because no back lights were visible. The Hays vehicle struck Robin Dreyer, 21, driving a 1964 pickup.
 Damage was estimated at \$500 to the Ford and \$500 to the Chevrolet. Robin Dreyer was charged with improper lights. Trooper T.L. Rogers investigated.

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It's The Law

20-183.2 Equipment inspection required....
 (a) Every motor vehicle, trailer, semitrailer, and pole trailer not including trailers of a gross weight of less than 4,000 pounds and house trailers, registered or required to be registered in North Carolina when operated on the streets and highways of this state must display a current approved inspection certificate at such place on the vehicle as may be designated by the Commissioner, indicating that it has been inspected in accordance with this Part. (c) on and after February 16, 1966, all motor vehicle dealers in North Carolina shall, prior to retail sale of any new or used motor vehicle, have such motor vehicle inspected by an approved inspection station as required by this Part.

Patrol Holiday Statistics

The North Carolina Highway Patrol, Troop G, received a memorandum recently from the Traffic Records section of the Division of Motor Vehicles. This memorandum, entitled "Christmas Day Holiday Report," was a grim reminder of the Christmas holidays last year during which 29 people lost their lives on North Carolina highways and another 852 were injured. The statistics were part of the total accident report which showed North Carolina's share of holiday accidents was 1,426.

When combined with the New Year Holiday statistics which were drawn from 1144 accidents during the last 4-day New Year holiday period, the picture became even blacker. 15 more fatalities occurred on North Carolina highways and an additional 640 persons were injured.

The major cause of all fatalities for both the Christmas and New Year holiday periods last year was speeding. Two other driver violations contributing to the accident rate were Driving Under the Influence and Failing to See Movement Safe.

Many of the accidents resulting in injuries or even death were attributed to simple driver errors—which should emphasize the fact that extreme caution should be exercised when driving during a holiday period.

Troop G, which serves this area, is hoping that their last year's record of zero fatalities will hold up again this year. Troopers will be out in force patrolling the highways during the Christmas and New Year holidays this year—to help keep North Carolina highways safe for all its citizens.

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Blue Bell Plans Wage Increase

L.K. Mann, President of Blue Bell, Inc., announced today a wage increase for all hourly paid direct operators in mainland U.S. plants. The increase will become effective January 1, 1978 and the amounts will be announced by managers in the local plant communities.

Mr. Mann also announced that effective one year later, January 1, 1979, Blue Bell will install a retirement plan for all full-time direct and hourly indirect employees not presently covered in mainland US plants. Details of the plan are yet to be defined and submitted to the U.S. government for approval.

Blue Bell presently has a pension and profit sharing

plan for salaried employees. The decision to offer such a plan to direct and hourly indirect employees came about as the result of several factors, according to Mr. Mann. Until recently, it was felt the majority of operators indicated a preference for direct compensation rather than deferred benefits. Mainly due to inflation and national attention on retirement, this attitude has changed. In addition, the company's growth, diversification, consumer acceptance and market penetration have improved Blue Bell's competitive position paving the way for establishment of such a plan without hampering its financial strength.

Christmas Sale

The Schick Hot Lather Machine



Gift Item Sets
 Old Spice
 British Sterling
 Jade East
 Yardley Musk Oil
\$4.00 up

Old Spice®
 Lotion
\$1.89
 \$2.50 Value



Small Appliances
 Look 'n Lovely **\$6.65**
 Lighted Auto Vanity Mirror
 All Purpose Lighted Mirror **\$12.99**
 Mirror Mirror
 West Bend Automatic Hot Pot **\$14.50**
 Hair Dryers
 Electric Shavers
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 Collector Pocket Watches
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 1/2 Price
 Variety of Bibles **\$2.49 up**
 Open Bible In The King James Version

Kodak & Poloroid Cameras


\$22.39 up
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Travel Kits by Amity & Epcó
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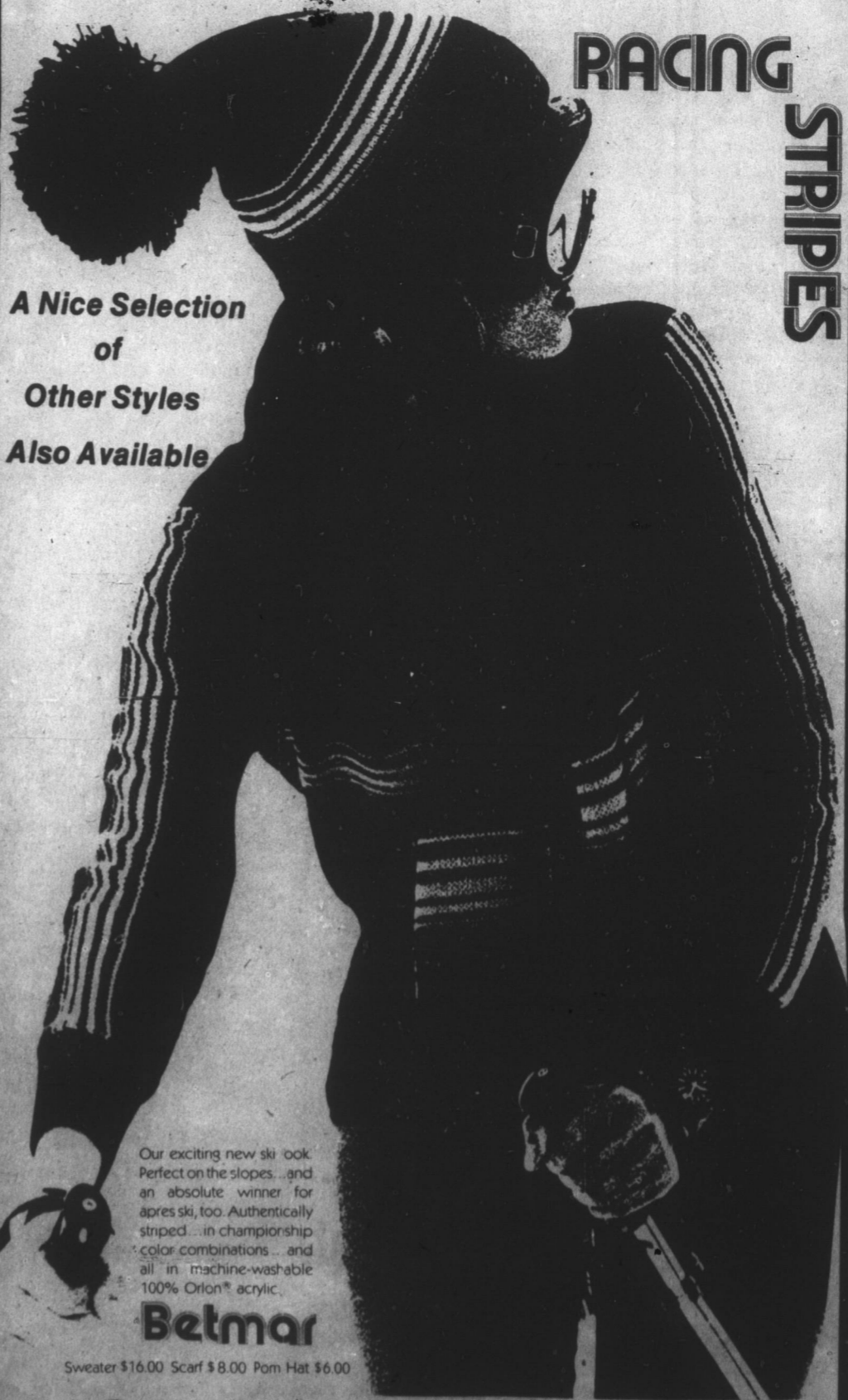
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