

Serving --

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The Swannanoa Babe Ruth Bambino division stars won the state championship recently as undefeated winners of a four-game tourney. They are, standing, Coach Debbie Reese, Tracy Owensby,

Kim Smiley, Deanna Young, Renee Sibbitt, Sherry Foster, Sandi Rice, Angie Stroupe and Coach Wanda Rainwater. Sitting are Cheryl Harwood, Lisa Holderman, Susan Barry, Lori Rauschenberger, Sherry Williams and Rita Scott.

Moore, ARC director, fired

By Dan Ward

Herb Moore, director of the Alcoholic Rehabilitation Center (ARC) in Black Mountain has been fired by Secretary of the Department of Human Resources Sarah Morrow.

Dr. Morrow confirmed from her Raleigh office that a decision had been made between her and Dr. N.P. Zarzar, director of the Division of Mental Health, on July 22 to fire Moore as of July 31. She said Moore was fired for "not providing the leadership we felt was necessary."

Specifically, Dr. Morrow said, Moore was terminated because he called a press conference to publicly announce his opposition to an amendment to the State Personnel Act exempting administrative personnel and employees with less than five years state service from protection of the act.

The termination was no surprise to Moore, who was expected to hold another press conference July 27 to announce receipt of a termination notice, plans to establish an organization to fight the constitutionality of the State Personnel Act amendment, and the

resignation of Dr. N.A. Desrosiers, ARC director for Clinical Services.

Moore's successor will be William Ferry Johnston, who is a former resident of the Swannanoa Valley and is presently an assistant to the Comptroller in Raleigh.

Although Moore withheld comment on Johnston, he said that the state "cannot hire a qualified hospital administrator for this job."

Morrow said that by announcing his dissent to department policy publicly, Moore was "biting the hand that feeds him" and undermining a smooth relationship within the department. Morrow said that criticism is welcome from state employees, but should come through the proper channels.

Moore provided copies of letters from him and another administrator to Drs. Morrow and Zarzar indicating that they found the lack of job security created by the new amendment to be hurting morale among state employees. Moore cited the resignation of Geraldine King, ARC business manager, as an outgrowth of that ill-feeling.

Moore said that receiving no response from those letters, and the lack of any compromise from Gov. Jim Hunt's

office in negotiations with the North Carolina State Employees Association, who were working to modify the effects of the amendment, convinced him that nothing could be accomplished through normal channels.

Another reason Dr. Morrow gave for Moore's termination was that he failed to comply with a directive to file a public personal economic report.

Moore showed a letter indicating that he filed the report, but attached a statement that it was not to be made public unless he was accused of a conflict of interest. The report was returned as unacceptable.

Moore said he will work to prove that the economic interest report for administrators is an invasion of privacy.

Moore said that an organization called "Citizens for Equity in Public Employment" is being formed in Raleigh for those "who would like to do what I did, but were afraid to" to fight the State Personnel Act amendment in federal courts. Moore said the organization would take anonymous donations from state employees and publish advertisements and financial reports regularly to assure its credibility.

Moore has maintained that the amendment was created by Gov. Hunt's office as a means of eliminating party hacks from the previous administration. The effect, however, has been to cause professional employees and dedicated employees without party affiliation concern that they may lose their jobs for political reasons, Moore said. He added that he thought the governor was using tax dollars to pay political debts by replacing former ad-

ministration appointments with his own.

Dr. Morrow said the intent of the amendment was not political, but was only to make firing of goldbricks in state jobs as simple as in private business.

The amendment to the State Personnel Act, in effect, makes it possible for administrators and persons with less than five years experience to be fired directly from Raleigh without a hearing before peers.



HERB MOORE in the office at the Alcoholic Rehabilitation Center that he must leave July 31. (Dan Ward)

Budget cut hurt schools, Carver to remain open

By Dan Ward

A cut in the budget submitted by the Buncombe County Board of Education by the County Commissioners might have heavy effects on the operation of Swannanoa Valley schools, but in one case a group of parents and teachers are relieved.

A number of parents, some in all, of Carver Schoolchildren attended a meeting of the Buncombe County Board of Commissioners July 21 expecting to find Carver Optional School to be one of the items the

commissioners found expendable in the budget. When a breakdown of budget cuts was returned to the commissioners by the school board on July 24 in a special work session, Carver was not on the list.

However, the \$647,887 in cuts will result in the loss of teachers, assistant principals and other employees from local schools unless the budget is restructured.

As the budget now stands, Swannanoa School would lose an aid, an assistant principal and a clerk, according to Bill Williams, the principal. In

addition, the school would lose federal funds if these positions no longer exist, he said.

However, he added that he expects the Board of Education to revise the budget so that no existing positions are dropped or programs discontinued.

Gene Dellinger, principal of Black Mountain Grammar School, said that school stood to lose a music teacher if the budget is unrevised.

Melissa Thomas, principal of Carver Optional School, said she "would not have been greatly surprised" to find Carver on the list of eliminated programs, but that the school still may lose teacher's aids and supply money.

Leonard Keever, principal of Black Mountain Primary School, said he would not know how that school would be affected until an individual budget for the school came out.

Fred Martin, superin-

tendent of schools, said that the school board was especially opposed to the portion of budget cuts they had drawn up calling for elimination of employees as necessary in order to meet the budget given them and fund a two per cent pay raise for school personnel, as granted by the board of commissioners.

He had been expecting at that time, on July 25, that the commissioners would allocate additional funds to eliminate the need to fire personnel. On July 26, the commissioners rejected a request from the school board for extra funds, but promised to consider the schools in the event any windfalls from taxes or revenue sharing came to the county.

Funding for the new \$3.5 million Swannanoa Elementary School was provided two weeks ago and is not affected by the schools' operation budget.

ARC clinical chief, Desrosiers, resigns

By Dan Ward

Norman A. Desrosiers, clinical director of the Alcoholic Rehabilitation Center (ARC) has resigned as of July 31 as a result of what he described as "patient care giving way to politics."

Desrosiers, who headed Clinical Services at the ARC for eight months and has worked for the state for 20 years, cited the imminent change in programs designed by him and Herb Moore, recently fired director of the

ARC; the job insecurity of being placed on the State Employee Act "exempt list"; "Invasion of privacy" in being required to make public his personal finances; and his opposition to the "five-year rule," which requires a state employee to work five years before obtaining protection of the State Personnel Act, as reasons for his resignation.

In his letter of resignation to Moore, Dr. Desrosiers wrote, "Not only I, but the whole Western Regional Alcoholism Program grieves to see a

legitimately evolving treatment philosophy go down the drain. I grieve the loss of 10 years of professional investment in the field."

Project on Aging begins

Family Counseling Service for Buncombe County has received state funds to begin a Project on Aging.

The purpose of the project is to provide an outreach service to the aging population of Buncombe County with focus

on low-income individuals and members of the black community, but not limited to those categories.

The goals of the project are to provide friendly visiting services to persons 60 or older to provide company and help them regain contact with the outside world, arrange for

services such as transportation and to put them into contact with helping organizations.

Referrals may be made by calling the project on Aging office at the Allen Center in Asheville, 253-9314.

Family Counseling Service is a non-profit agency.

Late Bloomers brighten day

By Matsu Crawford

Never let it be said that late bloomers—both flowers and persons—cannot put on a flower show worthy of the name. On Wednesday July 20, at Highland Farms in the Arts and Crafts Room they did just that.

Flower displays for halls, tea tables and living rooms were especially lovely, two of them showing decided Japanese influence. Nelle Stanger won first prize in this division; Helen Black, second; Bessie Zernow, third.

In the tea table arrangements, Natalie Benjamin won first, Hazel May Snyder, second; Helen Day won third.

In the living room division, Nelle Stanger, first; Zillah White, second; and Bessie Zernow, third.

Annuals, perennials and bulbs were displayed as single blossoms or in small containers. Bessie Zernow came first in the bulbs' display, Anna Lambert won first in the bottle display; and Lucy Willmot won second place.

With perennials, Katherine Huff won first prize, and Hazel May Snyder, second. In class two, Allen Stanger

and Gladys Ebersole scored. Class three of perennials, Mildred Morse, Gladys Ebersole and Jessie Woodson won the three top scores.

Late bloomers—Zennias and marigolds were chief singles displayed. In this group of annuals, Allan Stanger and "Mildred and Elsie" scored: With the hardy and colorful Zennias, Elsie Hamilton, first; Allen Stanger second and third.

Mildred Hunter took first prize with marigolds, Allen Stanger again came second and third.

Ellen Fenfound won a blue ribbon for a miniature arrangement of snapdragons., Zillah White came second with an arrangement of candidium.

In a fifth class—miniature arrangements—Helen Sechrist won first prize, Dorothy Davies second, Gladys Ebersole third.

In the pot plants division, grouped according to types of plants, first places were awarded Harriet Hayn, Jane Bagley, Margaret Davis, Lucy Willmott, Jane Armstrong, Anna Lambert and Mildred Hunter.

Pauline Wyant, Natalie Benjamin and Pauline Wyant. Third winners were Mary Fry, Jane Bagley, H. Burnam, Lucille Forest and Jane Armstrong.

Competition in the african violet division was keen: Mable Allen won first, Bob Hodged second, Hazel May Snyder won third.

Kenneth Owenby won first in hanging baskets, Jane Bagley, second; W.H. Walter won third.

For the most beautiful patio of Brookside apartments the Carl Hayns won blue ribbon, the Flumleys, second and the Flimleys, third.

The Rex Davies won blue ribbon, Kim Bryant, second, the Wyants, third—in the patios of the Roadside Apts., Helen Day won first prize of the Deck Apts., Katherine Ward came second, Jane Whitmire won third.

The Flower Show committee, with Ruth Capps, the experienced chairman did an expert job. The displays were artistically arranged about the room. There were many comments about the lovely paintings of our artists, Angie Wright, and how much they enhanced the beauty of the



flowers on display. Judges for the display in arts and crafts room were Eileen Moss, Shirley Turner,

and Frances Heath. Judges for patios and decks were Harriet Styles and Mrs. Ferry Stone.

IRS committee hears problems

Any North Carolina taxpayer who feels that his Federal tax problems are not being promptly resolved through normal channels can appeal directly to a special committee set up in the Greensboro office.

Since the Problem Resolution Committee was formed in March, 1977, many taxpayers' problems have resolved promptly and appropriately. Robert A. LeBaube, IRS District Director, remarked, "We handle situations that cannot be resolved through normal IRS procedures, or within normal processing times. If a taxpayer has been treated unfairly or discourteously by an IRS employee, we want to hear about it."

The director added that an argument with the IRS about a tax bill would not be handled by the Committee, but rather the taxpayer should use the regular IRS appeals procedures, or go to court. Routine requests for blank forms or an IRS publication should be made on the toll-free telephone line to a taxpayer assistant.

Complaints can best be handled by letter. It is important that the taxpayer furnish the name, address and social security number appearing on the tax return, and his telephone number so the IRS can contact him when necessary. The mailing address for the committee is: Problem Resolution Committee, P.O. Box 20541, Greensboro, N.C. 27420.

Police Report

A representative of Faving Enterprises, Inc. of Arden has reported that one of its yellow and green dumptrucks, valued at \$1000, was stolen from an area near construction of the 40 bridge east of Black Mountain.

The truck, stolen the night of July 18, has not yet been recovered, said Jim Wiseman, assistant Black Mountain.

Police Chief. Black Mountain Police issued three speeding citations and arrested two for public drunkenness last week. They responded to an accident on US 70 east, and answered 106 calls.

Officer Randy Halford is gone to Greenville for a three-week school on traffic accidents.

Black Mountain police needs top priorities

Black Mountain has been chosen as the site of two priorities in Law Enforcement Administration (LEAA) funds, as chosen by Land-of-Sky Regional Council.

For the first time since Law Enforcement Assistance Administration programs began in 1970, local law enforcement officials and elected officials in Region B were able to establish priorities for use of LEAA funds. The Criminal Justice Advisory Committee met on

May 11 and recommended priorities for a projected \$153,385 in available funds.

The priority listing met the required legislative set aside for juvenile justice of \$38,346 and the minimum for corrections programs of \$15,339. The Council adopted the Committee recommendations on June 25. Thirteen continuation projects were given top priority and seven new projects were added.

The priority list includes:

Priority	Project
4	Group Home - Buncombe County
6	Investigator - Black Mountain
13	Dispatch personnel - Black Mountain
15	Crime Lab Update - Asheville-Buncombe County
17	Training - Buncombe County
19	Crimes Against the Elderly - Land - of-Sky Regional Council.