

First game photos!!



Second class postage paid
at Black Mountain, NC 28711

Thursday, September 7, 1978, Vol. 24, No. 46

Serving--

- ★ Black Mountain
- ★ Swannanoa
- ★ Montreat
- ★ Ridgecrest

15 cents per copy

Fire district compromise still in discussion

by Dan Ward

Representatives of the Black Mountain and Swannanoa Fire Departments came away from a workshop on a common boundary with differing versions of what was accomplished August 29.

Although Swannanoa Fire Department Directors Grady Rozzell and Barbara Settle were joined by Black Mountain Ald. Ruth Brandon in the consensus that a compromise has almost been reached in the long-standing boundary dispute, Black

Mountain Fire Chief Gary Bartlett said he has not been swayed from an earlier belief that Black Mountain should maintain its present service area.

Rozzell, Settle and Brandon agreed that a tentative boundary of Tom Brown Road and Grovestone Road be established between the two districts, pending one or more meetings where representatives will study firefighting capabilities and insurance costs.

As part of that compromise,

they said that both districts would request an assessment of seven cents per \$1000 to eliminate fears that protection costs would be higher in one district than in another.

According to Bartlett, he told persons at the meeting that Black Mountain Fire Department could provide protection to the contested area at a rate of five cents per \$1000. That amount is approximately double the amount presently paid by industry and residents in that

area through donations, Bartlett said.

Also, Bartlett said he is not in favor of establishing the boundary at Tom Brown Road.

"It's not up to us to decide the thing — it's up to the county commissioners. Really, I think it's up to the people to decide, and they've already spoken," referring to a public hearing at Owen High School in June where comments by industry and residential representatives was heavily in favor of service by Black Mountain Fire Department.

The Buncombe County Commissioners after that hearing instructed the two departments to try to work out a compromise within six months. The compromise would presumably have to be reached between Bartlett and the Swannanoa Fire Department Board of Directors.

Bartlett's objections were apparently unknown to others at the meeting.

According to Mrs. Settle, representatives had hoped to finalize the compromise at the next meeting, at Swannanoa Fire Station September 12, or at another following it.

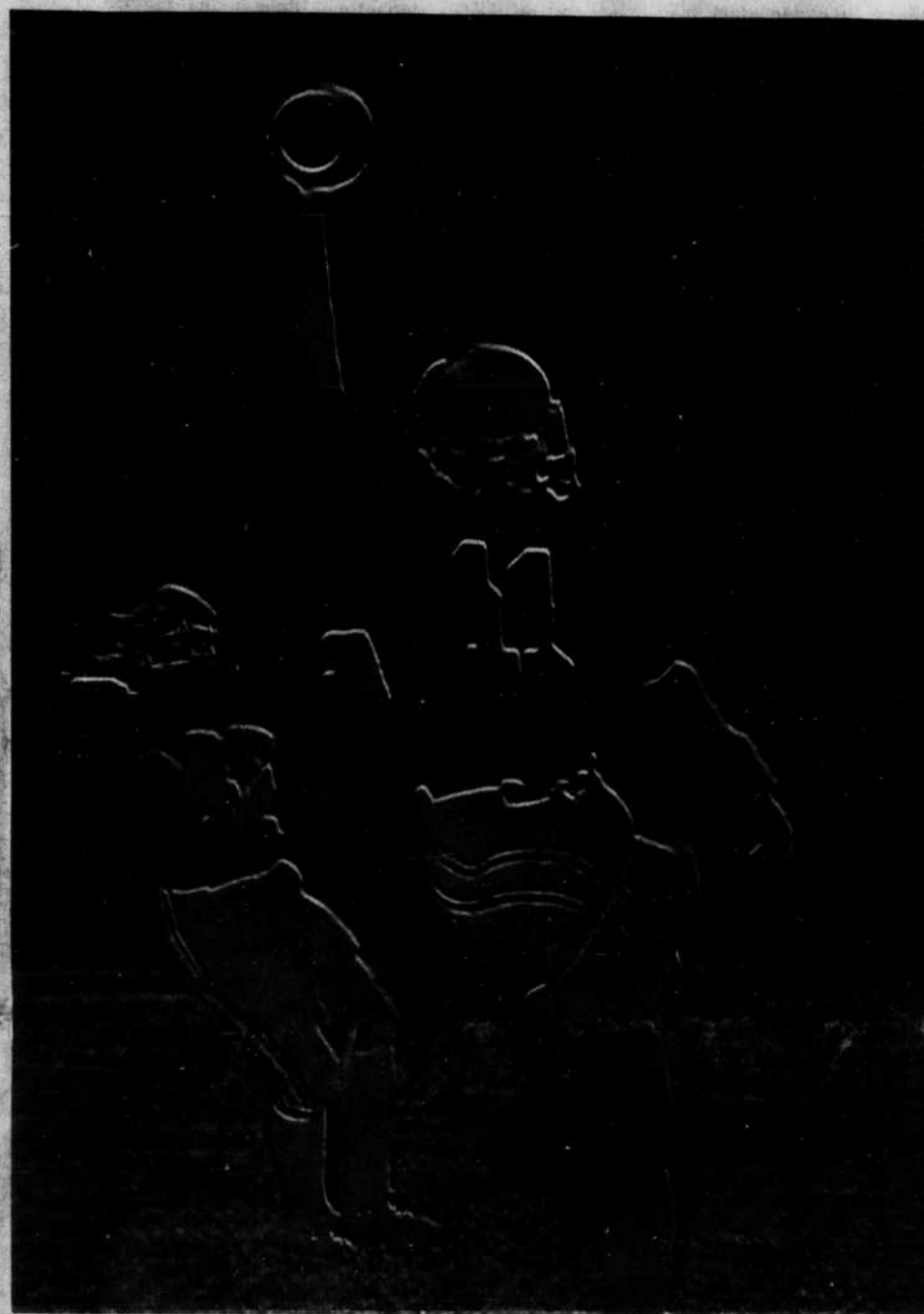
"At the next meeting, we're hoping to work on the maps to determine which fire department could give the taxpayers the best rate possible," she said. Maps and figures are being compiled by Martin Nesbitt, attorney for Swannanoa Fire Department.

Under the compromise that apparently has not been agreed on, Swannanoa would cover some areas previously serviced by Black Mountain, including the Singer-Kearfott plant, Excello, and the Juvenile Evaluation Center.

At the seven cent assessment, Black Mountain would gain \$14,000 per year from the area outside the town limits on the northwest side, while Swannanoa would receive \$7,000. Bartlett said the town receives approximately \$5,000 from that area in donations now, and would get \$10,000 under a service contract assessing five cents per \$1000.

Rozzell and Brandon said that an effort has been made to keep discussions low-key so that factual data could be presented to the persons involved, to prevent a half-informed, emotional backlash. Rozzell said he is also interested in getting all Black Mountain residents involved in the discussions, not just persons living outside the limits on the west side.

One piece of misinformation voiced, according to Mrs. Settle, was a comment made by industrial representatives that insurance costs will go up for those shifted to the Swannanoa district. She said that the insurance commission has informed the department that those buildings having internal sprinkler systems would not be affected by the insurance rating of the district they are in. Swannanoa has a lower rating, 9AA, than Black Mountain, at 7AA — primarily because it does not have fire hydrants, street lights, and full-time firemen.



Six points

Brad LeVine dances a victory jig after scoring against Enka. (Dan Ward, graphics by Taylor)

Drink vote set here for

September 12

Mixed drink opponents have stepped up what has been considered by many to be a low-key debate with advertising and door-to-door canvassing. One said he was expecting a heavy last-minute appeal from those in favor of mixed drinks in Black Mountain.

An Anti-liquor coalition, in the meantime, has dropped a plan to call another referendum to abolish the ABC store in order to concentrate on defeating liquor-by-the-drink and to attract more persons who drink, but are opposed to the current law allowing mixed beverages.

Black Mountain residents will have the opportunity to decide whether or not to allow mixed drinks to be served in town in a special referendum to be held September 12.

To be decided by voters in Black Mountain Precincts 2 and 3 that day will be only one question — for or against "the sale of mixed beverages in social establishments and restaurants" within the Black Mountain city limits.

The polls will be open from 6:30 a.m. to 7:30 p.m. for voting Tuesday. Residents of Precinct 2 will vote at the Primary School, and residents of Precinct 3 will vote at Lake Tomahawk Clubhouse.

3 arrested for drugs

Three local youths, including a 14-year-old, have been charged by Black Mountain Police with drug-related crimes carrying a total possible penalty of 21 years in jail.

Richard Reeves, 17, and Thomas Parker, 17, both of Black Mountain, were each charged with breaking and entering, larceny, possession of barbituates, and manufacturing marijuana after they were apprehended in a stake-out by police of a

house that had been closed up by the owners.

In addition, Reeves was charged with possession of PCP, and Parker was charged with possession of codeine.

Apprehended with the two was a 14-year-old Swannanoa boy, who was charged with breaking and entering with intent to commit larceny, possession of marijuana, possession of codeine, felonious possession of barbituates, and manufacturing marijuana.

Police searched the house on Rhododendron Avenue, owned by William and Nancy Styles, when an anonymous caller said the house had been broken into. The Styles live out of town and had boarded the house up.

Police found that persons had been apparently living in the house. They found some drugs, containers of growing marijuana plants on the roof, and some marijuana hanging to dry in the house.

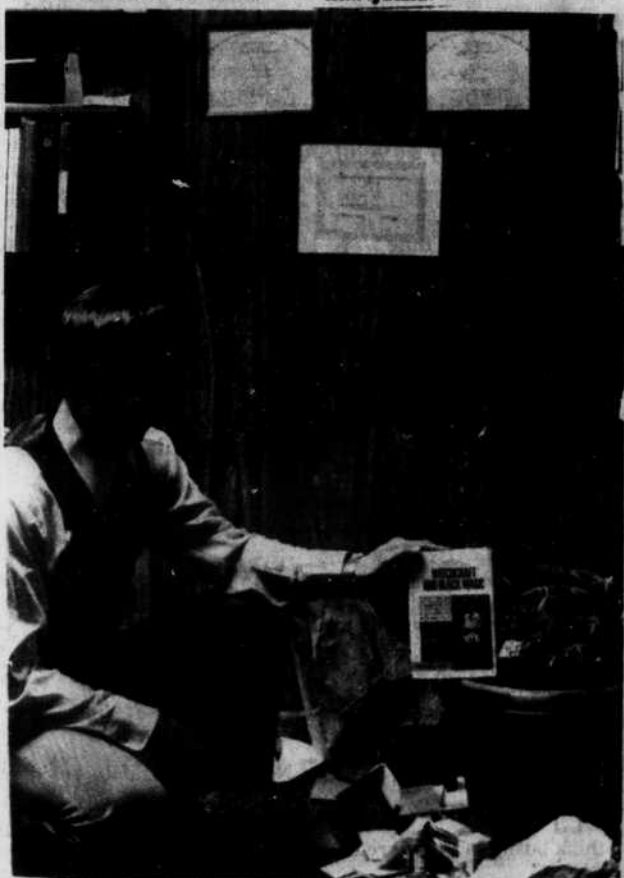
The three youths were arrested during a stake-out of the house by Det. Don Ramsey, Officers Randy Halford and Myron Fineberg, and Auxiliary Officer Jerry Fuller.

Ramsey also arrested Steve Henaley, 17, of Black Mountain in connection with the burglary of the Bill Studenc residence last month. Police reported \$135 and two lighters were taken in that breakin. Henaley has been charged with breaking and entering and larceny.

Police received 238 calls, investigated one accident, and issued four citations last week.

Police reported that information and signs are now available at the police station for the Neighborhood Watch Program.

Det. Ramsey noted that 20 bicycles have been stolen since spring with few recovered. He advised that bike owners chain their bikes, record serial numbers, and mark their bikes with an engraver available at the police station. The engraver is also available, without charge, to mark any other possessions brought in, he said.



Black Mountain Det. Don Ramsey with drugs and book on witchcraft confiscated after a stake-out. (Dan Ward)

Our Valley Native woods

by Bill Pezousand and June Hodge.

The chestnut tree was a major species in the northern hardwood forests of the medium to high elevations in the Valley. This species has been almost entirely eliminated by the chestnut blight (a fungus disease). It was reported by (1934:34)

that 80 to 90 percent of the chestnut trees in Buncombe County were infected by 1929. At the present time, only occasional sprouts, usually infected, but sometimes up to 30 feet high, may be encountered.

Hickory is one of the toughest, hardest, heaviest and strongest of woods and is

used for baseball bats, as shafts for golf clubs and in several agricultural implements. Of the maples, the sugar maple is the most valuable. Since it is hard, often beautifully grained and figured, maple wood is one of the best woods for furniture.

(continued on page 10)

Black Mountain fire

Black Mountain firemen made four runs last week.

On August 26, one engine and 15 men responded to a report of a ruptured gas line at Owenby Trailer Park. No fire responded from the leak.

One engine and 12 men responded to a false alarm caused by a malfunction at the WNC Hospital on August 31.

On September 2, a car owned by Chris King was totally destroyed by fire on Mockingbird Road. One engine and 15 men responded.

A smoke detector malfunctioned at the Ballard residence on Dougherty Street the morning of September 3. One engine and 16 men responded.

Nutrition?...gardening is fun

by Dan Ward

The Buncombe County Extension Service may not have considered the fun factor to be so important when they helped participants of the Expanded Nutrition Program put in gardens this year.

After its first year of operation, the TVA supported program has shown to be so effective that Extension workers want to expand it to include tillers for participating families to share.

Jeanette Boesen, of Black Mountain, and her three daughters are one family that not only eats well now, but has fun doing it.

"We planted a little of everything," Ms. Boesen said. "We tried planting some of those pear-shaped Sacramento tomatoes. You get five tomatoes on every branch — they are coming up all over the place," she said with a child-like glee and hint of pride. "We've already had about 250 cucumbers."

The Extension Service, Ms. Boesen explained, gives \$35 to qualified families to buy whatever seeds, plants, fertilizer and pesticides they need to plant a garden. Although workers for the Expanded Nutrition Program offer advice on what to plant and how, the only requirement made of participants is that

they allow a soil sample to be taken and that they add whatever nutrients are called for.

"We're mainly interested in building up the soil and seeing that they get some good out of it," said Mickey McElrath, who is a case worker for the Expanded Nutrition Program.

What makes the beautiful Boesen garden a special success story is the fact that the three children — Denise, 13, Krissy, 10, and Diane, 5 — did most of the work on it for over a month, when Ms. Boesen had a broken leg.

"They not only kept the garden going, they kept the house going," Mrs. Boesen said. The children also kept a log of how many of each vegetable was harvested.

A neighbor has also helped keep the garden up, and has added an extra measure of fun by planting rows of the same vegetables next to theirs to see which grow best.

Ms. Boesen said that although her children have always liked vegetables, raising their own has made eating more fun. The variety of vegetables in the garden has also changed their eating habits, she said.

Ms. McElrath said the program has had a more profound effect of the diets of other families.

"We encourage participants

to raise other things — to try something new. Some are even growing peanuts for the first time. I think it has really awakened a lot of people to gardening," she said.

Beyond the seed money given members of the nutrition program, most of the services the Extension office

gives families like the Boesens is the same as is available to everyone else.

Ms. McElrath said anybody may obtain a free soil analysis by sending a soil sample to NC State University Extension Service in Raleigh. She added that the Buncombe County Extension

Service has free pamphlets on all aspects of gardening for those who call, and offers free advice on particular problems people have with their crops.

"We're really pleased with this program, and just hope the TVA considers us next year," Ms. McElrath said.



Denise, Diane and Krissy in their garden. (Dan Ward)