

Black MOUNTAIN NEWS

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Dr. Billy Graham greeted Montreat-Anderson students informally after addressing them Monday morning.

Billy Graham talks with M-AC students

by Cynthia Reimer

"I had always said I'd be anything but a preacher or an undertaker," Dr. Billy Graham told Montreat-Anderson College students Monday morning. The son of a North Carolina farmer, now world-renowned evangelist, Dr. Graham ad-libbed replies to about 20 students' questions.

Dr. Graham told students he visited Pope John Paul II last year at the Vatican after traveling to Warsaw, Poland to receive an honorary degree.

"In two minutes I forgot he was the Pope," Dr. Graham said.

The two discussed the state of Poland and what Dr. Graham had seen there.

At one point in the conversation, Dr. Graham said, "He pounded himself on the leg and said, 'Think of it—a Polish Pope!'"

Dr. Graham's wife Ruth, just back from 10 weeks at Mayo Clinic for a hip replacement which developed complications, took the microphone to assist her husband with a question on marriage.

Praying together is a key to a successful marriage, Mrs. Graham told the audience. She said she especially enjoyed the closeness of praying with her husband.

"I wouldn't trade him in," she joked, "for anybody."

Dr. Graham said Mrs. Graham originally injured her hip "falling out of a

tree." She aggravated the injury in a hang gliding incident and developed arthritis. "It's good to see her walking again," Dr. Graham told the students.

Dr. Graham said his position on abortion was "the same position the Pope takes." In the case of rape, incest or where the mother's life was at stake, Dr. Graham said, he would consider abortion.

In response to a student question on drinking in moderation, Dr. Graham said, "Because of the problem of alcoholism and because it's difficult to drink in moderation, I would say be a teetotaler."

Dr. Graham acknowledged that wine-drinking was reported in the Bible. "To say 'Jesus turned water into grape juice' is ridiculous," he said.

A student asked Dr. Graham if a suicide victim is eternally damned. "I don't think anyone can totally answer that question," Dr. Graham said.

A student suicide is attempted at the rate of one a minute in the United States, Dr. Graham said. Last year, 5,000 were successful.

"Suicide is the number three killer of students in the United States," Dr. Graham reported.

On a lighter note, Dr. Graham gave advice to daters. "When you go out on a date in an automobile," Dr. Graham told the students, "put a Bible on the seat between you."

Board okays recreation program, amends law banning trailers

by Cynthia Reimer

Black Mountain aldermen passed a resolution at a called meeting Monday night to hire a full-time recreation director to head a full-time recreation program for the town. Aldermen also passed the first reading of an amendment to an ordinance, which will allow mobile homes within the city limits.

Aldermen voted to allocate \$16,000 for a recreation program, to include the salary of a director. The resolution also named a May 1 deadline for selecting a director.

Alderman Gay Fox said the Kiwanis Club and others have offered some financial support for a recreation program. She also said student interns from area colleges' recreation departments would be available for the summer at no cost to the town to assist in the program.

A job description for the recreation director will be drawn up for the April 5 agenda meeting of the board.

A disbanded recreation commission will also be re-formed by the board at the April meeting with a new description of duties.

Fox said the town recreation program

would not be in competition with other area sports programs, but would "support and coordinate" them.

The motion was made by Fox, seconded by Doug Stafford and passed unanimously.

Trailer permits

Two families requesting permission to place trailers within the town limits were granted their requests Monday by

the board. The board attempted to amend the zoning ordinance without public hearing or publication but were reminded of the obligation by Tony Caudle, visiting the meeting from the Land of Sky Regional Council.

The amendment allows mobile homes to be placed where there is an existing mobile home or mobile home space for 24 months in cases where hardship can

be documented. The amended ordinance will be in effect until the Planning Board completes a new zoning ordinance.

The motion was made by Carl Bartlett and seconded by Steve King. Michael Begley cast the only negative vote.

The public hearing will be held after the agenda meeting on April 5.

Other action

The board also approved budget amendments, which included returning \$10,000 to the contingency fund, recently allocated to the water department.

The board also gave final approval to water bond anticipation notes.

Planning Board to meet

The Planning Board will meet Monday, March 22 at 7 p.m. at City Hall. The public is welcome to attend the meeting.

Swannanoa fire chief resigns

Swannanoa Fire Chief David Trexler resigned Monday night, citing his reasons as personal, according to board president Jim Ogle.

Jim Adams has been appointed to act temporarily as fire chief until a new chief can be named. That could happen as soon as Thursday, Ogle said, if

enough members can be assembled for a meeting.

Trexler, who could not be reached for comment, apparently accepted a job on the second shift, which would conflict with his fire department duties.

Trexler had served as Swannanoa fire chief for almost two years, Ogle said.

Merchants updated on town programs

by Jim Aycock

A near capacity crowd watched a TVA slide show on community development Monday night at the Black Mountain Library. John Smalling presented the "Town Lift" project at the invitation of local leaders and the Land-Of-Sky Regional Council.

The meeting was sponsored by the Black Mountain-Swannanoa Chamber of Commerce and its Community Development Committee. Susan Garland presided.

Bill White, chamber president for 1982, opened the program with comments about various chamber committees and their work. He described the Governor's Community of Excellence Program which is designed for towns of 15,000 population or less.

To qualify for funds a community must meet certain criteria, White said, such as having a development program, a brochure and slide presentation, a community profile and financial organizations.

Community of Excellence award winners get road signs at major highway entries to the town, White said.

Locally available bus transportation to the Knoxville World's Fair is being arranged, White added.

Kathy Wacaster, director of Black Mountain's Community Development Program, explained the role of the federal Housing and Urban Development (HUD) funding process. Intended to improve blighted areas, HUD grants are handled by the town itself, she pointed out.

Grants to Black Mountain so far total more than \$1 million, Wacaster continued. HUD allows these funds to be used to plan community development, she said, including low interest loans for business improvements to stimulate investment.

continued on page 2

Owen clinches regionals

The Owen High School Warhorses played two very exciting games last weekend to put a clinch on the 3-A Boys West Regionals.

They started off Friday night, March 12 with a 57-54 victory over the Shelby Lions.

Owen trailed 13-11 at the end of the first quarter, and 21-13 with 5:10 remaining in the half. Then the Warhorses began to get their inside game together and by intermission cut Shelby's lead to less than four at halftime buzzer, the score 30-26.

Shelby led the game until the final five minutes when Owen came from behind to the delight of their fans with two free throws by Mike Gragg.

Brad Daugherty finished up the game with 30 points, seven blocked shots and eight assists. Mike Gragg hit eight-of-nine free throws in the fourth quarter.

The second game played on Saturday was without a doubt the more exciting of the two games played last weekend. Owen's Brad Daugherty and Phil Groce combined for 51 points to lead the Warhorses to an 81-77 victory over Asheboro, winning the 3-A Western Regional Championship.

The game went into a double overtime as both teams tied 65-65 at the end of regulation play, and 71-71 at the end of the first overtime.

Asheboro missed a golden opportunity to win at the end of the first

overtime, as the Comets' Maurice Deberry missed two free throws with two seconds remaining on the clock.

The Warhorses fouled intentionally seconds before Asheboro's Mike Moody hit a driving lay-up to give the Comets an apparent victory, but after a long discussion at the scorer's table, the officials ruled Moody's basket no good, and ordered three seconds put back on

the clock. Owen's Brad Daugherty, Phil Groce and Mike Gragg each hit a pair of free throws in the final minutes of the second round of overtime to give the Warhorses a four point lead and a clinch on the victory.

Owen now advances to the 3-A State Championship game Saturday at the Greensboro Coliseum against Warren County.

Game broadcast

Don Taylor of WBMS Radio will broadcast a play-by-play report of the Owen basketball game Saturday over WKIT, 102 FM, in Hendersonville. The broadcast will begin at 6:40 p.m.



Owen Warhorses bring home a trophy.

Beacon receives top Legion award

Beacon Manufacturing Company of Swannanoa has received the top award of the American Legion Department of North Carolina for 1981 for its employment of older workers.

The American Legion Citation Award was presented during a ceremony at Francy-Burdett Post No. 70 in Asheville, March 10 as a feature of the observance of Employ the Older Worker Week and the observance of the American Legion's 63rd anniversary.

The company also received a Certificate of Appreciation from the national American Legion commander and a letter of congratulations from Gov. Jim Hunt.

Making the presentations were Ralph B. Adcock of Hickory, state Legion membership chairman, and Robert A. Tart of Benson, national Legion committeeman. Accepting on behalf of Beacon were Joseph Graham, president, and Herb Coman, corporate employee relations director.

In the nomination for the honor submitted by Post 70 it was noted that older workers make up 52 percent of Beacon's work force and that 41 percent of the male work force are veterans.

It was also brought out that the company has never been involved in a class action lawsuit in regard to discrimination, due primarily to Beacon's application of Equal Employment Opportunity Act policies.

"The company is extremely community-conscious," the nomination stated, "particularly in the area of the various target groups and its participation in community affairs, as evidenced by the fact that Mr. Coman is a member of the Private Industry Council, chairman of the Asheville and North Carolina Job Service Employer Advisory Committees and the Swannanoa Community Council and a former member of the Asheville Mayor's Committee on Employment of the Handicapped.

Truck sought in hit-and-run

Black Mountain police are still looking for a canary yellow pick-up truck that sideswiped a car driven by Cam King. The hit-and-run driver demolished the woman's car, helped her out of it and then disappeared while she called police.

The incident happened about 10 p.m. on Saturday, March 6 in the rain when King was traveling toward Black Mountain on Highway 9. The pick-up turned onto 9 from Blue Ridge Road, hitting King's olive-green Buick Skylark.

The yellow pick-up was damaged on the driver's side, with a smashed fender and headlight.

The driver appeared intoxicated, King said, and was alone in the vehicle. He was middle-aged, heavy set, clean shaven, with dark hair.

Anyone with information about the accident, the truck or its driver should contact the Black Mountain Police Department.

Buses to provide Fair transportation

Arrangements have been made with Blue Ridge Mountain Tours of Marion to provide round-trip transportation to the World's Fair in Knoxville, Chamber of Commerce President Bill White announced. A local pick-up point has not been set, White said, but possibilities include the parking lot of the former Big Buy store on Montreat Road.

Both daily trips and overnight arrangements are being made.

To make reservations, call collect 1-652-2991, or visit the Blue Ridge Mountain Tours office at 20 South Main Street, Marion.

Blue Ridge Mountain Tours is a firm of the Marion Bus Leasing Company.



American Legion Awards were presented to Beacon Manufacturing Company, Swannanoa, in recognition of its employment of older workers during a ceremony at Francy-Burdett Post No. 70 in Asheville. From left to right are Ralph Adcock of Hickory, state Legion membership chairman; Robert A. Tart of Benson, national Legion committeeman; Joseph Graham, president of Beacon; and Herb Coman, Beacon's corporate employee relations director.