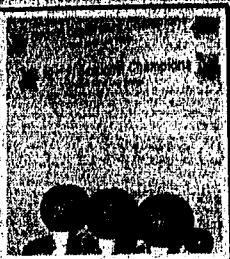




**Desert Storm Gnomes
Share In Celebration,
Limelight With Creator**

**Young Careerist
Vies For District
Honors In Hickory**

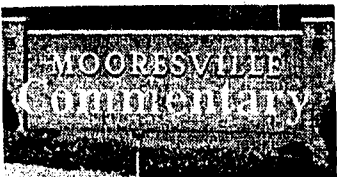
**South's Lady Vikings
Recall Accomplishments
Of A Season That Was**



Mooresville Tribune

"Although I Disagree With Everything You Say I Will Defend Unto Death Your Right To Say It"

VOL. LVI No. 9 A Park Newspaper Mooresville, N.C. (28115) Wednesday, April 10, 1991 (704) 664-3534/FAX 664-3614 Single Copy 25¢ (USPS 362-380) © 1991



LEE SULLIVAN

Lakeside Cable TV's basic rate increase is not a surprise and it's not that upsetting. Considering the condition of the economy and the service Lakeside provides, \$20 to \$25 a month for access to cable is not a bad deal. And Lakeside's fee is still comparable to the rates charged by other cable companies in nearby towns.

However, it's time for some channel additions that mean something. C-Span is fine. School kids could learn more — including how to think and interpret events for themselves — by watching Congress in action than they ever will from 12 minutes a day of Channel One's "packaged to sell" news. And now the schools don't need satellite dishes to pick it up.

But for Mooresville customers who purchase cable to be entertained as well as informed, C-Span is pretty far down the list of channel choices while New York's WOR remains the shining toy we can only enjoy by window-shopping through the daily television listings.

WOR carries quality movies and classic television shows like the other superstations — Atlanta's WTBS and Chicago's WGN on the Lakeside system — as well as live sporting events.

It might cost a little more to secure WOR's signal, but if rates are going up anyway, it would be nice if Lakeside added a channel we'll actually watch.

This area has built a solid reputation for "Odyssey of the Mind" success and "Special Olympics" support. But there's another event the community can't be proud of.

It's the Idiot Olympics for those with Odd Minds. Egg-throwing and mailbox bashing are — to date — the only two field events and there are no winners, only victims.

For some reason — and when dealing with vandalism, motive is virtually impossible to determine — someone has begun throwing eggs at cars and destroying mailboxes. Where's the satisfaction in this competition? Where's the honor? What's the point?

Now rest assured, if some teenagers are arrested for this aggravating crime, at least one mother will step forward and blast the police department for chasing egg throwers instead of drug dealers and she'll be convinced that the only reason the kids were out vandalizing in the first place is because "this town doesn't provide anything else for them to do."

Well if they are caught, an appropriate sentence would eliminate that nasty boredom problem. At last count, there were plenty of car-painting and mailbox-fixing jobs to keep them busy.

Speaking of police, if the weekend shooting of Det. Charles Harris in Southern Pines didn't send a shiver through you, it should have.

Eight men, ranging in age from 18 to 25, are charged with first-degree murder in Harris' death. The men are accused of going to Harris' house and shooting him when he opened the door.

Among all the frightening facts about the case, the most disturbing is the bizarre justification the suspects appear to have for their action. According to investigators, the alleged murderers shot the detective because he was investigating them for drug activity, as if by eliminating him

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Plans Set For May 5 Tribute

Welcome home, veterans.

That's the message Mooresville's United Veterans Task Force wants to deliver May 5 to military personnel who served in the Persian Gulf or in any American military conflict this century.

The Task Force, a volunteer group sanctioned by the Mooresville-South Iredell Chamber of Commerce and area churches, has planned a parade and rally with all veterans invited as honored guests.

The parade will begin at 1:30

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90 Percent Support For EAS Package

Nearly 90 percent of Troutman's telephone subscribers who voted in the recent poll favor a plan that would give them toll-free calling to Mooresville, Davidson and Cornelius.

Because Troutman wants Extended Area Service, Mooresville, Davidson, Cornelius and Statesville also will get it. Because EAS cost will be greatest in Troutman, the N.C. Utilities Commission ordered a March vote only for that exchange.

The commission released results of the referendum Monday.

Troutman's 3,710 subscribers were asked if they favored EAS and its 62-cent per month rate increase for homes and \$1.70 for businesses. Of 2,504 ballots returned, 2,237 — 89.3 percent — said yes.

After the Commission reviews the poll, it will notify subscribers in the other affected exchanges of the action. Toll-free calling among all exchanges in the expanded area is expected to be in place within 18 months.

Calls between Statesville and Troutman are toll-free now, as are those between Mooresville and Davidson/Cornelius.

Lakeside TV Rates Will Rise May 1

Starting May 1, Lakeside Cable TV customers will pay more for the service.

Lakeside officials have announced a \$2.30 increase in the basic rate and a 35-cent increase in the rate for additional outlets.

Lakeside also announced the addition of C-Span, a 24-hour network that provides coverage of U.S. House of Representatives sessions and other public-service broadcasting, to the Lakeside basic package and a new channel lineup.

With the increase, Lakeside's basic rate — for service that does not include premium, or extra-charge, channels — will jump from \$14.95 to \$17.25. The charge for additional in-house outlets will rise from \$1.65 to \$2. Charges for converter rental and the various premium services will not change.

The addition of C-Span will put 28 channels in Lakeside's basic package. The company also offers three premium movie channels at additional cost.

C-Span will be broadcast on channel 33 in the new Lakeside lineup. The revamped lineup will feature Charlotte television stations, public television stations, superstations from Chicago and Atlanta, the Home Shopping Network, Prevue Guide and the local news update on channels two through 13.

The movie channels will fill channels 14-16. TNT will be broadcast on channel 17 and the Discovery Channel will be on 18. The lineup for channels 19-32 will be unchanged.

Lakeside serves cable television customers in and around Mooresville, Davidson, Cornelius and Huntersville.



\$150 million, 373,000-square-foot plant at business park already producing air compressors

Dedication Thursday At MCA Plant

Dedication ceremonies will be held Thursday for the newest, biggest and most expensive addition to Mooresville-South Iredell's industrial base.

Matsushita Compressor Corporation of America will conduct a formal dedication service for its Mooresville Business Park plant starting at 11 a.m. Invited guests will also be treated to lunch and a general tour of the MCA facility.

Town, county and state government officials will join MCA representatives in taking part in the dedication program and symbolic opening of the manufacturing facility, which is located on 100 acres in the 500-acre business park between Mazeppa Road and N.C. 801 just north of Mooresville.

Trial production at the 373,000-square-foot plant, which represents a total investment — including land acquisition, construction and tooling — of approximately \$150 million, started earlier this year as MCA supervisors and employees "worked the bugs out" of the system.

On March 6, less than 15 months after ground was broken for the plant, the first complete shipment — 5,000 units — of air compressors for the air conditioner

industry was made from the local plant.

At that time, MCA had 166 employees with plans to expand to 200 sometime this month. The plant is currently running one full shift and plans to have three full production lines, each producing a specific model of air compressor, in the future.

Eventually, the MCA facility will have up to 450 employees producing 1.5 million air compressors each year.

The three compressor models

produced at the plant will be marketed to major air conditioner manufacturers in the United States. MCA's future plans may include exporting compressors to manufacturers in other countries.

MCA is a subsidiary of Matsushita Electric Industrial Company, Inc. of Japan. The parent company, one of the world's largest firms, manufactures and markets a full line of both consumer and industrial electric and electronic products in North

America under the Panasonic, Technics and Quasar band names.

The company currently has more than 10,000 employees in 23 subsidiaries and affiliates in North America.

Matsushita, through its various subsidiaries, is the world's leading manufacturer of air conditioner compressors. The company's compressors are used in one out of every three air conditioners produced in the United States.

Year-Round School Program Appealing To Twice As Many

The needs of Mooresville's year-round school program is outgrowing its means.

And that's good.

"We're pleasantly surprised," noted Dr. Sam Houston, Mooresville's school superintendent, upon releasing information during Monday night's monthly school board meeting indicating that the population of the model program is expected to double. "We're already where we expected to be a year from now. This information serves to prove that it wasn't a bad idea after all."

With more applications still being received and processed, last year's enrollment of 190 students in grades kindergarten through five has already increased to 375 students and counting for students in grades K-5.

Houston is confident that the total enrollment will exceed last year's count twofold.

"We're going to double in size," he confirmed. "The year-round school is here to stay. It's not just a passing fancy. We didn't anticipate this kind of growth this fast, but we're delighted about it."

With the increase in student population, the year-round program, currently restricted to the Park View School campus, will grow to touch two more Mooresville schools.

"Our ultimate desire," stated Houston, "is to have the year-round students in their proper environment. We're working in that direction."

In so doing, year-round students in grades four and five will join with traditional school classmates at Woods Elementary School beginning next school year.

And one class of sixth-graders in the year-round program will join fellow sixth, seventh and eighth-graders at Mooresville Junior High.

Those sixth graders represent a new breed of year-round students.

This year, the year-round

program is catering to students in grades K-5. But with those students all advancing a grade, the new program will enlarge to include those in grades K-6.

Grades K-3 will continue to conduct classes at Park View, consisting of 10 classes. Three classes will cater to kindergarten students, with two each serving students in grades one, two and three, respectively. One combination class will feature first and second graders.

'Evening At The Depot' Event To Return May 4

Music in the big band tradition will resound in the Depot Arts Center on May 4 when the "Nothing Finer" band presents a concert of music made popular back in the 30s and 40s.

The May 4 event is the fourth presentation of An Evening At The Depot and, for the fourth year, the concert will feature the music of the "Nothing Finer" Band. These repeat performances are by popular demand from an appreciative audience.

The evening concert will offer a program of music, an exhibit of art by Mooresville Artists Guild and a serving of dessert. The evening of entertainment and sociability is available for a donation of \$8 to the Guild.

Because seating capacity is limited, admission tickets must be obtained in advance from members of the Guild, or purchased at the Depot Center, at Main and Center Streets on Thursdays and Saturdays from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. or on Sundays from 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. or by calling Win Hensel, 664-3630 or Jean Mueller, 663-8717. Table reservations may be made for groups of four or more.

The Nothing Finer Band is made up of Mooresville and Charlotte musicians devoted primarily to music in the style developed in the Tommy Dorsey

Four classes of students in grades four and five will be held at Woods School.

And the one class of sixth graders will be held at Junior High.

"We anticipate little, if any, problems caused by the increased enrollment," stressed Houston. "We anticipated the program would grow when we initiated it. We didn't think it would

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Glen Gray - Artie Shaw decades. Approximately one third of the band members are former members of the Mooresville Alumni of Note that performed in the area from 1975 to 1987.

The three-room gallery area as well as the walls of the warehouse-concert area will be adorned with paintings depicting primarily flower subjects.

Desert will be served beginning at 7:30 p.m. The concert is

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Reminder: Mail Tax Returns By Midnight Monday

Although it isn't a good idea to do so, you can wait until the last minute of April 15 to mail your state and federal tax returns.

Mooresville Postmaster Don McKelvey says all tax returns delivered to the local post office before midnight Monday will be postmarked April 15, although they will not be "worked" by local postal employees until the morning of April 16.

So, all you folks who like to wait until the very last minute to mail your returns, breathe a little easier.

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