

THE MILL WHISTLE



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Doffing Champions Get Ready For Tournament

Fieldcrest's fastest doffers will compete for prizes totaling \$5,000 in the National Superdoffer Tournament which gets underway April 12 in Textile Hall in Greenville, S.C.

Phillip Dickerson of the Bedspread Mill and Ray Pruitt of the Draper Sheeting Mill will represent Fieldcrest in the warp and filling doffing divisions, respectively. They previously won Fieldcrest championships in inter-mill competition.

Pairings for the contests have been announced by the American Textile Manufacturers Institute, sponsor of the annual tournament. Mr. Dickerson will meet Gilbert

of Cheraw Yarn Mills at 3 p.m. Thursday, April 15. Mr. Pruitt drew a bye in the first round of competition and will face the winner of the doff-off between Stanley Parks of Deering Mills and the champion doffer of Deering Mills, who has not been named.

The Fieldcrest doffers will begin initial contests, they will begin at Greenville and continue again on Friday. A break will be taken for the Easter

turn to Greenville Tuesday, April 20, to resume the tournament. The finals will be held on Friday, April 23.

The winner in each of the divisions — warp and filling — will receive a grand prize of \$1,750. The runner-up in each division will receive \$1,000.

Consolation doff-offs will be held to determine the third and fourth place winners who will receive plaques. All contestants will receive certificates of participation. Special certificates will also go to winners of first and second place in each division.

Some 34 textile manufacturers will be represented in the tournament. Contestants include 55 doffers — 34 warp and 21 filling — each of whom hopes to become the world's champion doffer. It is estimated that more than 2,000 doffers competed in company intramurals which led to the Greenville championships.

Doffing, one of the few textile production jobs still performed by hand, consists of removing filled bobbins or quills of yarn from spinning frames and replacing them with empties.



The Bedspread Mill demonstrates its pride in warp doffing champ Phillip Dickerson with this sign at the plant's main entrance. Admiring the sign is Hilda Smith, Bedspread Weave Room.

Speeds of 50 and 60 bobbins per minute are not unusual.

The chairman of the National Superdoffer Committee is Gra-

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SAFETY SCOREBOARD & STANDINGS

Through February 29, 1976

Manufacturing Location	Manhours Since Last Lost-Time Accident	**Avg. Manhours Worked Per Employee	Last Lost-Time Accident	***Frequency Rating
Laurelcrest Service Center	299,181	4,179	12-21-73	0
Foremost	498,242	3,074	9-4-74	0
Laurelcrest Carpet	475,928	2,776	9-27-74	0
Phenix City	856,677	2,343	*	0
Whiteville	112,542	2,141	12-20-74	0
Karastan Worsted	114,231	2,036	3-20-75	0
Mount Holly	194,603	1,944	1-8-75	0
Alexander Sheeting	661,288	1,733	3-17-75	0
Draper Sheeting	385,903	878	9-3-75	0
Blanket Warehouse	37,470	605	10-22-75	0
Laurelcrest Yarn	149,981	564	11-15-75	0
Sheet Finishing	132,602	495	11-5-75	0
Blanket Finishing	184,347	472	10-28-75	0
Bedspread	194,594	420	11-21-75	0
Karastan Spinning	122,020	399	11-18-75	0
Bedspread Finishing	107,027	397	12-21-75	0
Fieldale	515,167	377	1-6-76	3.25
Automatic Blanket	165,802	359	10-29-75	0
Non-Woven Blanket	12,273	157	1-8-76	58.0
Karastan Rug	111,370	142	1-30-76	3.02
N.C.F.	40,318	87	2-12-76	6.37
Scottsboro	12,479	70	2-10-76	15.2
Blanket Greige	31,045	59	2-9-76	7.0
Columbus	0	0	2-28-76	10.8

*Added 1-1-75
 **2,000 hours per employee needed to qualify for Safety Barbecue
 ***Frequency is the number of lost-time accidents per million man-hours worked

Hankins To Complete 50 Years Of Service

Lonnie T. Hankins is to complete a half-century of continuous service April 12 and become a member of the exclusive 50-Year Club.

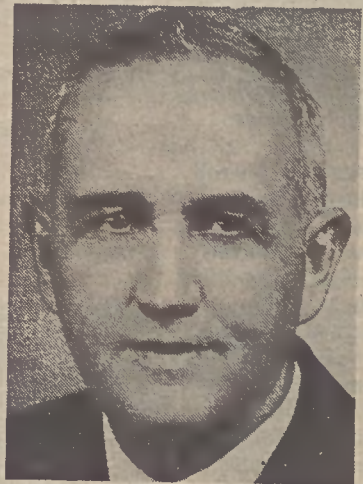
Fieldcrest management will honor him at a luncheon at the Meadow Greens Country Club during the week of his anniversary. The company's other 50-year employees will attend.

Mr. Hankins worked nearly all of his 50 years in the Blanket Warehouse and has been foreman of the Sample Department for the past 20 years.

First employed in the Blanket Stock Department, he worked as a boxer for crib blankets and as an order filler. He then was a follow up man in the Napping Department until he was inducted into the Army in March, 1944.

After serving in France, Germany and the Philippines, he returned in May, 1946, and resumed his old job as a follow up man.

In 1948 he became a section man in the Automatic Blanket Department, which at first was a part of the Blanket Finishing Mill. He was transferred to the Sample Department as assistant



LONNIE T. HANKINS

foreman in 1950 and became foreman in 1956.

A native of Eden, Mr. Hankins was one of a family of six children. His father and five of the children attained long records of service at the mills. A sister, Mrs. Leon Shropshire, is presently employed at the Bedspread Finishing Mill.

Commenting on his 50 years with the company, he said, "I don't know a thing I'd change."

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