

# The News - Journal

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DAVE BARRINGTON

## Hoke Sheriff State's Youngest

BY LUCY GRAY PEEBLES

One man sped to the left, another to the right, and a third plunged straight ahead into the snake-infested swamp.

This was no game. Nor was it war.

It was Hoke County's Dave Barrington, the youngest sheriff in North Carolina, and his two deputies, dressed in their go-to-meeting best running down a criminal on a Sunday morning.

On the far edge of the swamp, the sheriff flushed his quarry.

The ensuing chase led across a field teeming with briars and beggar lice. The athletic sheriff overtook his prey. A neat tackle pinned him to the ground. Within minutes, he was in handcuffs and on his way to jail.

It was not an unusual Sunday morning for Barrington. He has flushed away many tigers just before starting out to Sunday school, to arrest a wife-killer, an armed robber, or to round up an escaped teenager from nearby Leonard Training School.

Law enforcement knows no holidays. Dave Barrington knew this. As the son of a deputy, he was born into the profession. Legitimately, of course, but nevertheless, in jail.

His father, W. R. Barrington, was Hoke County jailer at the time. Dave, youngest of the Barrington brood of six, was born in an apartment on the first floor of the jail building.

As youngsters, the Barrington children enjoyed the spacious grounds around the jail. But not all their playing was done out-of-doors. They also played cops and robbers under real circumstances.

Young Dave declared then, however, and still swears that it was not he, but his brother, Ebb, who locked his sister, Martha, in a cell and left her there for hours, forgotten.

Nor was it he, but a youthful brother, who when handing a dinner plate to a prisoner let the criminal slip through the unatched door. A general alarm was averted when the quick-thinking youngster grabbed a gun from a rack, overtook the escapee, and herded him back behind bars.

At 23, Dave Barrington returned from four years of duty with the U. S. Coast Guard and began marching in his father's footsteps. He was hired by Sheriff Dave Hodgins - the same man who had hired his father - and began his career as a rural policeman.

He served as a deputy until 1962. When Sheriff Hodgins announced that he would retire, Barrington, then 28, filed for the Democratic nomination. In the first primary he polled more votes than his four opponents combined and entered the general election unopposed.

Even the friends - who week after week cunningly inserted numerous witty campaign ads in the local paper on his behalf - never thought he would win the first primary.

His genial manner and sincere attitude as a veteran deputy had won for him admiration and respect both in the courtroom and on the field of activity.

Barrington's associates say he has the knack for knowing what to do and when to do it. Barrington says that a good officer must be able to handle people - not by force alone.

The Hoke County officer, now rounding out his first year as sheriff, contends that diplomacy will often work magic with the criminal, just as it does with the average citizen.

Barrington did not acquire these traits in any of the schools he attended. They just grew as he grew while he mimicked his gun-toting dad day after day on the playground.

The sheriff is young but he is old enough to have experienced fright, embarrassment, despair

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## BEGINS MONDAY Three Capital Crimes On Hoke Court Docket

### Murders, Rape Set For Trial

Three capital offenses will be tried in Superior Court here next week when Judge Maurice Braswell opens the criminal term Monday morning.

Scheduled for trial are cases against John Calvin Jones, accused of rape, and Preston Chavis and Henry Morrison, both accused of murder in the death of their wives.

Chavis, an Indian, allegedly killed his wife with an axe August 25 at the home of her mother, Mrs. Melissa Henderson, in Antioch township during an argument in the back yard of the Morrison home.

A state's witness in the case will be Quess Henderson, brother of the slain woman, who said he witnessed the slaying.

Morrison, a Negro, is charged with the shotgun slaying of his wife, Mary Stephens Morrison, on the night of August 28 in their home on Rt. 2, Raeford.

Jones is accused of raping Mrs. Geneva McMillan, Indian, on the afternoon of September 5 at the woman's home on Raeford Rt. 1.

Other cases scheduled to be heard during the session include:

Oscar F. Bowan, breaking and entering and larceny and possession of burglary tools.

Thomas D. Lambert, breaking and entering and larceny and possession of burglary tools.

Ed McPhatter, crime against nature.

James "Al" Covington, felonious assault with a deadly weapon with intent to kill.

Matthew Thompson, possession of illegal liquor for the purpose of sale.

Hub Thames, public drunkenness and possession.

Clyde E. Taylor, assault with a deadly weapon and carrying a concealed weapon.

Herbert Leroy Hendrick, drunk driving and carrying a concealed weapon.

Mitchell Lee Lomack, drunk driving.

Ruth Elliott, assault with a deadly weapon causing pain and injury.

Morris McNair, possession for the purpose of sale.

Guthrie Edison Long, drunk driving.

Kenneth Ryan See, drunk driving.

James Samuel Jackson, failure to give adequate turn signal.

Bobby Lee Edwards, false pretense.

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FAIR WEATHER -- Although the weather is a little chilly, it's termed "fair weather" in Hoke County, where the county fair is in progress this week. Rides like the ferris wheel and the flying saucer, shown above being erected,

have largely stood idle this week but are expected to see plenty of action through Saturday. The fair offers a total of 13 rides, plus exhibits and sideshow attractions.

## New Plant May Begin In County

Applications are being taken today and tomorrow at Raeford-Hoke Chamber of Commerce for jobs in a potential new industry for Hoke County.

A spokesman for the Chamber said the new industry may locate here if there are enough qualified workers available.

The plant, a sewing operation, would begin operations in about 90 days, the spokesman said.

Sought as employees are women between the ages of 18 and 45 with a minimum of a ninth grade education. Starting wages are \$1.25 per hour. Applicants will be notified as soon as possible whether the plant is to be started here.

## Two Injured In Accident

Mrs. Leo Burner and daughter, Barbara, of Wright St. who were hurt in a head on collision last Tuesday in Winchester, Ky., were reported Tuesday to be resting comfortably.

Burner, a Fort Bragg serviceman, returned from their bedside Sunday night. He told a neighbor that Mrs. Burner suffered a crushed knee and a broken elbow. Her eight-year-old daughter is in traction with a broken thigh.

## Wreck Leaves Pair Injured

A 1960 Volkswagen skidded through an intersection at 401 and 401A Sunday at 1:35 a.m. and crashed into a pole injuring two persons.

According to J. E. Herbin, investigating patrolman, the accident occurred about three miles north of town. Injured were the driver, Raymond Clovis Bottoms, 37, and a passenger, Grover Cheek, 38, both of Fayetteville. The two men were treated at Cape Fear Valley Hospital for cuts and abrasions.

## Two Hurt In Wreck

Two passengers suffered injuries and an automobile was demolished Sunday at 8:30 p.m. when the driver lost control on a curve near McCain.

Willie Frierson, Negro 18, of Raeford Rt. 2, operator of the 1954 vehicle, suffered compound fractures of the upper right leg, according to Patrolman J. E. Dupree, who investigated the accident.

A passenger, Linzie Morrison, Negro, also 18, of Raeford was thrown from the car. Moore County Hospital attaches reported that he had multiple injuries.

According to Dupree, the car was traveling west on rural paved road 1219. Due to excess speed and slick tires, he said friction was broken causing the vehicle to skid 186 feet up the highway. It overturned and rolled an additional 150 feet.

The operator was charged with reckless driving.

## Driving Instructor Fails Court 'Test'

A driver education instructor who ignored his teachings lost his license here Tuesday in Hoke Recorder's Court.

Billy Ray Ward of Greenville, who told officers he was a driving instructor in Fayetteville, received 6 months suspended, \$150 and costs, and lost his license for a year on a charge of drunk driving. He appealed the decision to Superior Court under \$250 bond.

Other decisions handed down by Judge Harry Greene during the day-long session included:

John D. Purcell, Raeford, trespassing and breaking into house, six months suspended, \$10 and costs, good behavior for 12 months.

LeRoy Cooley, traveling at a slow rate of speed so as to impede the normal flow of traffic, costs.

Charles V. Daniels, Raeford, non-support, verdict reserved until Nov. 26.

Fred Currie, Raeford, as-

sault with a deadly weapon, entering into an affray, 12 months suspended, \$50 and costs, good behavior for two years.

Robert Martin, Raeford Rt. 2, assault with a deadly weapon and entering into an affray, nol pro; assault, \$25 and costs.

Michael F. Mahon, Ft. Bragg, reckless driving, non-suit.

James H. Ristow, Ft. Bragg, no registration, improper parking on highway and no lights, six months suspended, \$50 and costs, appealed under \$200 bond.

Gerald Bruce Walters, Shannon, speeding, costs.

Bobby Wayne Salmon, Aberdeen, speeding 90 m.p.h., 90 days suspended, \$75 and costs.

George H. Tyree, Ft. Bragg, speeding 80 m.p.h., six months suspended, \$50 and costs.

Herbert Alfred McCaskey, Fayetteville, speeding, 30 days

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## United Fund Still Short Of Its Goal

Hoke County United Fund crept closer to its goal this week with contributions climbing to \$17,337.75.

With an additional \$700 expected from the sanitarium at McCain, the fund was still expected to fall between \$800 and \$1,000 short of its goal of \$18,950.95.

Contributions by divisions to date, with goals in parentheses, are:

Industrial, \$10,597.44 (\$9,457); Commercial, \$2,389.90 (\$3,623); public employes, \$2,732.86 (\$2,875); professional and individuals, \$849 (\$1,783); and county areas, \$768.35 (\$1,392).

While only a few reports remain to be filed and the campaign office on North Main Street has been closed, campaign officials were still hopeful that the goal will be reached.

They advised persons who wish to contribute -- those who

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## FOR ACCREDITATION

## Hoke High School Is Studied

A 17-person committee of top school men and women representing the Southern Association of Secondary Schools Tuesday completed two days of evaluating Hoke High School's educational standards.

The visiting committee was headed by O. C. Dowd, dean of students of Methodist College, who served as chairman of the group, and other educators from St. Andrews College, the State Department and various high schools in the area.

During the two-day study they talked individually with a cross-section of students from all grades and with the teachers. They also looked into the school's policies and methods of teaching.

The school has been working for the honor and prestige of becoming accredited by the SASS for two years building up

to today's visit, according to Mrs. Tom Cameron Hoke County school supervisor. If it meets the high standards set by the association it will receive the accreditation by the end of next year. The school is already accredited by the state.

Mrs. Cameron also said that Alfred Leach, chairman of the steering committee for the project, had been aided in preparing data for this week's evaluation by all the teachers, many of whom served as committee heads, and by patrons of the school.

In commenting on the progress made by the school during past years, the supervisor noted that the enrollment has jumped from 259 in 1963 to 431 today.

Principal Dewey Huggins said that the outcome depends upon whether this committee recom-

mends the school favorably to the state committee. If they do the remainder of the way for accreditation will be paved. He said that he hopes to know their verdict within the next two months.

An evaluation dinner was given in honor of the visitors Monday night at Hoke High School cafeteria.

Leach presided, opening the meeting with invocation by the Rev. W. B. Heyward. W. T. Gibson Jr., superintendent of Hoke County Schools, gave the welcome address and Dewey W. Huggins Jr., high school principal, introduced the visitors. A short business session was conducted by Dewey.

The Hoke High Ensemble under the direction of Mrs. Lewis Upchurch Jr., gave a short musical program.



BANK DIRECTORS -- Shown here are directors of the Raeford branch of Southern National Bank, which will open its new office here November 22. A grand opening will be held at the bank building on North Main Street on November

21. Directors are, left to right: Front row, C. P. Kinlaw, Dr. R.M. Jordan, Walter Gibson, John Balfour; second row, Harold Gillis, Ken McNeill, Charles Hostetler, Bobby Carter and Joel Davis.