

# The News - Journal

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## FOLLOWS FATAL WRECK

# Grand Jury Charges Driver With Manslaughter

A 20-year-old Hoke County youth was indicted for manslaughter this week by a grand jury meeting at the beginning of the April term of Hoke Superior Court.

The bill of indictment was returned against Billy Howard Barefoot of Raeford Rt. 1. He was the driver of a car which crashed February 28 on Five Points Road. James Ronald Threast, 20, of Raeford was killed in the wreck.

Barefoot's case was ordered to the grand jury by a six-man coroner's jury which held an inquest here two weeks ago. Barefoot's automobile was one of two vehicles which crashed seven miles west of Raeford, allegedly at high rates of speed. Driver of the second car was Ronnie Lee Baker, 19, of Raeford. He was convicted in Hoke Recorder's Court on a charge of careless and reckless driving. He received 60 days suspended and was fined \$200 and costs.

State Highway Patrolman W. T. Herbin said following his investigation that both drivers denied they were racing at the time of the accident. He said they told him they mistook the Five Points Road for an adjacent road known as "Timberland straightaway," known locally as Hoke County's drag strip. Herbin said both drivers told him they left Raeford, one car following the other, and after turning onto Five Points Road, "opened their cars wide open" until they crashed on the curve. Baker, alone in his car, was only slightly injured in the

crash. Another passenger in the Barefoot car, Billy A. Baker of Raeford Rt. 1, was seriously injured, as was Barefoot. Both spent several weeks in the hospital.

Barefoot's case is docketed for trial in this week's session of Superior Court.

Meanwhile, five Hoke County men were freed on charges of hunting deer at night with the use of an artificial light.

The incident was alleged to have occurred on the night of December 22 in the Wayside Community east of Raeford.

At the conclusion of state's evidence, Judge W. H. S. Burgwyn directed verdicts of acquittal (non-suit) for William D. Lunsford, and Fred M. Lunsford, brothers, and James R. Barefoot. Earl F. Conoly and John W. Riley remained on trial and were declared not guilty by the 12-man jury.

All five reside in the Wayside community.

Game Protector Stacy Forbis testified that while he and other wardens were patrolling the area on the night of December 22, they saw a car sweeping its headlights across a field and proceeded to follow it.

Forbis described a high-speed chase of 4.2 miles in which a .22 magnum rifle was thrown from the car. The rifle was recovered by the officers.

Forbis said when the car finally stopped just off U. S. 401, he found that it was driven by Conoly. Several .22 magnum

shells were found on the seat and floorboard of the car, he said.

Conoly testified that on the night in question the Lunsford brothers' car broke down near his service station. He said they had the rifle, which they had just borrowed from Riley, and threw it in his car when he offered to give them a ride home.

Conoly said the three drove to Big Star Truck Stop, where they met Riley and Barefoot, and the group decided to ride around and "see if we could see some deer."

He said they flashed the car headlights on a deer just before the chase with the wardens began. "but nobody thought about the gun or intended to shoot it."

All five denied that they were night hunting.

The trial consumed most of the afternoon and morning of the first and second days of the session.

Another driver was freed of manslaughter charges evolving out of a wreck in Hoke County during August, 1962.

Nol pros with leave was taken in the case against James Armstrong of Pink Hill.

Daniel Ray Thomas of Aberdeen Rt. 1 was given six months after the jury found him guilty of bigamy.

Thomas, 38, was married February 24 in Chester, S. C., to Juanita Lester of Aberdeen Rt. 1. He was arrested here in

late February on the complaint of Dorothy Lee Thomas of Sanford who produced documents showing she was married to Thomas in April, 1963.

A charge of bigamous cohabitation against Thomas was not pressed.

Willie Graham of Raeford drew a three-to-five-year sentence for felonious assault; the sentence to begin at the expiration of a term he is now serving.

Sam Nelson of Lumber Bridge Rt. 2 was fined \$100 and costs on a charge of possessing a complete distillery outfit. He also was put on probation for three years.

Charles Bobby Cordall of Goldsboro, charged with larceny by trick was given six months, to begin at the expiration of a sentence he is now serving.

Fred H. Powell of Raeford drew 30 days suspended, plus \$100 and costs on a charge of driving after his license had been suspended.

William T. Cumbo and Carl Bailey, both of New Bern, were convicted of carrying a concealed weapon. Cumbo was fined \$100 and costs. Bailey, who also was convicted of speeding and possession of illegal liquor, was fined \$150 and costs.

A case against L. C. Cunningham of Raeford Rt. 3, charged with assault, was not pressed with leave.

# Hoke High Principal Quits After 5 Years

## He Resigns To Enter Business

Dewey Huggins, principal of Hoke County High School, has resigned to enter private business in Piedmont North Carolina.

Huggins submitted his resignation Tuesday night to the local school committee which earlier in the meeting had re-elected him, along with other principals in the district. The resignation was accepted.

Huggins said he is leaving school work after 15 years to enter the insurance business in Yadkinville, his wife's hometown. He will leave Raeford some time after the middle of June, when his current contract expires.

W. T. Gibson Jr., superintendent of schools, said the school committee will immediately begin looking for a replacement for Huggins, who came here five years ago as district principal. He served in that post until it was abolished a year ago, then became principal of the county's consolidated high school.

Huggins is a graduate of Lenoir-Rhyne College, which he entered after attending N. C. State. He received his master's degree in 1953 from the University of North Carolina.

Before coming to Raeford, he has served as principal of an elementary school in Whiteville, as principal in Ansonville, and had taught two years in Johnston County.

Huggins is a native of Catawba County.

Other principals elected at Tuesday night's meeting include Lonnie Bledsoe of J. W. McLaughlin School; J. W. Turlington of Raeford Elementary School; G. A. Page of Uchurch School, and John B. McAllister of Scurlock Elementary School.



MOOSE OFFICERS -- Shown here are new officers of the local Moose Lodge who were installed Tuesday night. They are left to right: Front row -- Ralph Plummer, junior past governor; Sam Motley, governor; Bion Brewer, Junior governor; Ed Lamb, installing officer. Back row -- Hestel Garrison, secretary; Burleigh Thompson, prelate.

Paul Bass, asstant sergeant-at-arms, and A. D. Austin, trustee. New officers not shown include Horace Walters, treasurer; Reuben Wann, trustee; Randolph Jones, sergeant-at-arms; Richard Taylor, inner guard, and Bill Currie, outer guard.

## Post Office Has Change

Effective May 4, money orders will not be issued on Saturdays at the Raeford post office, according to Postmaster Charles Morrison.

Several other adjustments in postal service will be made, Morrison said.

Parcel post deliveries will be suspended on Wednesdays of each week, beginning May 6. Six-day service will continue on deliveries of first class parcels (See POST OFFICE, Page 11)

## Joanne Cameron Wins School Bid

Miss Joanne Cameron, a rising senior at Hoke High School, has been invited to attend The Governor's School this summer.

To be eligible for nomination a student must have an I. Q. score on any standardized intelligence test of approximately 125 or better. He must have an acceptable overall grade

## Death Ruled Accidental

A 35-year-old Negro died Thursday of a knife wound which Coroner Frank Crumpler has ruled was self-inflicted.

Henry Seaford of Raeford Rt. 1 was accidentally stabbed near the groin in the left thigh as he attempted to raise freshly-painted windows with a butcher knife in his home one-half-mile north of the town limits.

Seaford's wife told officers she was working in the kitchen about 11 a. m. and heard her husband trip. She found him bleeding badly and immediately summoned a doctor.

The puncture wound severed an artery in the thigh, officers said. Seaford died from loss of blood.

EYESORE -- Residents of Robbins Heights are again protesting the appearance of the town maintenance lot at Prospect Avenue and Saunders Street. The lot, situated under the town water tower, is used to park trucks and store storm drains and other material.

## Only 11,000 Residents Protest Take Second Town 'Junk Yard' Polio Dose

Only 11,000 persons turned out for the second in a series of three polio clinics in Hoke County, according to the Junior Chamber of Commerce sponsor.

That was about 2,000 less than the first clinic held here in March.

The third and last clinics will be staged at the five clinic sites May 17.

"This third dose of vaccine is the most important of the three," said Al Bruketa. "All three doses are necessary for complete immunization, but the third is especially important."

Local doctors have said that if response to the third clinic is as large as the first two, polio will have been wiped out in Hoke County within the next eight to ten years, Bruketa said.

Jaycees reported that contributions fell off during the second clinic, decreasing 10 cents a person to about seven cents. Jaycees had asked for a quarter per person to help pay for the vaccine.

Posters soon will be displayed advertising the third clinics at Mildouson School, West Hoke School, Hawk Eye School, McCain Sanitorium and J. W. McLaughlin School.

Residents of Robbins Heights have renewed their protest of the town maintenance lot at the corner of Prospect Avenue and Saunders Street, describing it as "an eyesore to the community."

The lot, situated at a town water tower, is used for storage of trucks, concrete pipes, oil drums, and other equipment. The lot is surrounded by a wire fence.

Grady Setzer, whose yard borders the lot, said residents petitioned the town council in 1962 to move the lot. He said he was informed this week that the petition is "still on file."

He said the petition was signed by "just about everybody on both sides of Saunders Street" in the vicinity of the lot.

The area is zoned "residential," Setzer said.

"If a private property owner is restricted as to the use of his land in the community, then we feel the town has no right

to maintain a junk yard in the same area," he said.

Setzer said residents also feel that any clean-up campaign in the area would be futile unless the town does something about the maintenance lot.

"We realize that it is convenient for the town to utilize the property around the water tank, but it has other property on which this junk could be piled less conspicuously," Setzer said.

He said he has talked with many residents of the area during the past few days and all expressed disapproval of the lot. He said they also expressed willingness to appear with him before town council to again request action on their dormant petition.

"We are proud of our neighborhood," Setzer said. "It is as well-kept as any in Raeford. We feel like the town should assist us in developing and maintaining its beauty."

## Hoke County Democrats Elect Precinct Officials

The county Democratic convention at the county courthouse. The convention is scheduled to begin at 2 p. m.

Meanwhile, W. L. Poole, chairman of the county board of elections, announced that registration books will be open at all polling places this Saturday, May 2, and on the next two succeeding Saturdays. Challenge day will be Saturday, May 23.

The polling place for Raeford's Precinct 3 has been

changed from Crumpler's Store to Hillcrest Fire Station, Colonel Poole said.

Following is a list of precinct committees elected Saturday:

Allendale -- George Watson, chairman. Mrs. Jack Roper, vice chairman. Miss Willa McLaughlin. Laurie McEachern and Arch Locklear.

Ashmont -- O. B. Israel, chairman. Mrs. N. F. Sinclair, vice chairman. Mrs. R. O. Cottrhan. Mrs. Tom Sinclair and

D. R. Huff Jr.

Antioch -- W. E. McDiarmid, chairman. Mrs. Bobby Gibson, vice chairman. J. M. Andrews. Mrs. D. W. Gillis and Herbert Gillis.

Blue Springs -- Jeff Harris, chairman. Mrs. Lucy Smith, vice chairman. L. W. Clark. Mrs. D. J. Dalton and Julian Love.

Buchan -- C. G. Odom, chairman. Mrs. R. W. Parks, vice chairman. Albert Kellis R. W. Parks and Mrs. Albert Kellis.

Puppy Creek -- J. H. Plummer, chairman. Mrs. Marshall Newton, vice chairman. John Parker. Douglas Monroe and Mrs. D. K. Parker.

Mildouson -- C. D. Bostic, chairman. Mrs. Bob McInnis, vice chairman. Mrs. David Hendrix, N. A. McInnis and Tom Jones.

Raeford No. 1 -- J. D. McMillan, chairman. Mrs. Sam C. Morris, vice chairman. Mrs. H. A. Greene. K. A. McDonald (See DEMOCRATS, Page 11)

## Boater Club Meets Tonight

The Hoke High Booster Club will hold its annual spring meeting tonight at 7:30 in the coach's office at the high school.

Guests of the dinner meeting will be members of the spring sports teams at the high school.

## ATTENDS FUNERAL

Mr. and Mrs. Walter Maxwell attended the funeral of her cousin, Mrs. Dick Owen, who was buried in the family cemetery near Fayetteville on Tuesday.