

Around Town

By Sam C. Morris

The warm weather of the past week has helped with the fuel shortage. When the temperature is lowered for the night now the heat doesn't come on at all during the night. Also it doesn't take long to get the office or home comfortable the next morning. Of course this is bad weather for sickness. According to all reports the gasoline shortage is at its highest since the energy crisis started several months ago. I haven't been anywhere in so long I don't know how it is out on the super highways. If reports keep coming in like they were in the newspaper Tuesday morning I won't be going any place anytime soon.

The Booster Club of Hoke County High School will sponsor an Invitational Two - Day Golf Tournament March 16 and 17. The price will be \$10 for both days. If you like to play tournament golf be thinking about this because it is for a very worthy cause.

Last Saturday afternoon a paper drive was held in Raeford for the benefit of Hoke County Association for the Developmentally Disabled. Esther Teal called me Monday and stated that the drive was very successful. Over 5000 pounds of paper was taken to the parking lot of the Raeford United Methodist Church. Esther said she would like to thank everyone that contributed to this worthy cause. This just goes to show what people can do by working together.

Congratulations are in order to Benny McLeod and R.B. Lewis of the Raeford Kiwanis Club.

Benny received the annual Citizenship Award last Thursday night at the club's annual Ladies Night.

Bob Lewis received an award as the Man of the Half Century. This of course is the first time this award has been given as the Kiwanians were celebrating the 50th anniversary of the club.

From those present the program was very enjoyable and covered the lives of people of the county over the past 50 years. One person stated that it was educational to him also.

Elsewhere in the paper is a writeup of the achievements of Benny and Bob but I did hear one comment about Bob Lewis. One of the men that was looking over files and records said that he couldn't understand how Bob Lewis could have been involved in so many things during the past 50 years. Some people are born to become involved and he is one of them.

Fund Nears Mid Point

Library Building Fund Committee Chairman R.B. Lewis reported \$40,000 collected or pledged toward the \$100,000 goal needed to build a new county public library. The report was made at a Monday meeting of seventeen members of the seven township committees represented.

Lewis said he was hopeful and optimistic in urging campaign members to "finish our goal this year, 1974."

Special reports showed the Shiloh Women of the Church donated to the fund rather than send Christmas Cards in December, and that \$100 was received from Parker's Methodist Church.

Lewis said plaques would be placed in See FUND, Page 13

Legislators Seek Office

All three state representatives from the 24th District made their future political plans public recently. Reps. Gus Seros, Joy J. Johnson, and Henry W. Oxendine, all Democrats from Robeson County represent the district which includes Hoke, Scotland and Robeson Counties.

Seros announced he will file within the next few weeks for re-election to the house seat he has held for three terms. During his tenure Seros was Conservation and Development Committee chairman.

Seros stated his decision to run for a fourth term has been delayed until he could get the general feeling among legislators regarding annual sessions.

He favors returning to bi-annual sessions since he supports the citizens-legislator rather than professional-legislator concept. Seros feels the professional concept will prevail if annual meetings are held.

Oxendine filed January 21 to run in the May primary. The first Indian to serve in the Legislature, Oxendine was appointed last year to fill the seat vacated by the death of the late Frank S. White. Since his appointment Oxendine has stressed communication with the average voter.

He is convinced that granting tax relief as listed in a bill passed by the House of Representatives last week will not prohibit implementation of the state budget recommended by Gov. Jim Holshouser in his January 17 message to the General Assembly.

Oxendine says, "I welcome letters and phone calls from all citizens on any matters...When constituents are in Raleigh they are welcome to drop in and see any of us in the Legislative Building. My office is number 1215, and my phone number is 829-5750. People may write to me simply by addressing me at the Legislative Building in Raleigh."

Johnson filed for a third term January 18. A Fairmont resident, Johnson was a town commissioner before going to the legislature Johnson says, "As in the past two terms, if elected I will do everything possible to represent all of the people in my district to the best of my ability."



HECTOR McGEACHY

McGeachy Makes Bid For 7th District Seat

N. Hector McGeachy Jr., Fayetteville attorney and former state senator, formally announced his candidacy for the 7th Congressional District seat now held by Charles G. Rose III in a Monday morning conference. Hoke County is



MAN-OF-THE-YEAR-Benny McLeod, Hoke Cotton Warehouse & Storage Company president and manager, (left) receives Man-Of-The-Year trophy from Frank Blue, Kiwanis past president, January 24, at Kiwanis Golden Anniversary celebration in Southern Pines. The trophy for the annual citizenship award is a continuing trophy passed from honoree to honoree each year. (N-J Photo)

Club Honors McLeod, Named Man-Of-Year

Benny McLeod, president and manager of the Hoke Cotton Warehouse, was chosen Raeford Kiwanis Club's Hoke County Man-of-the-Year at the Kiwanis Club's golden anniversary ladies night banquet last week.

The highly coveted citizenship award was presented by Frank Blue, Kiwanis past president. In presenting the award, Blue said:

"The presentation of the Hoke County Man of the Year Citizenship award from the Raeford Kiwanis Club is the highlight and the recognition of the individual who has done his job well and efficiently with results beyond the average of the best in our city and county.

"This choice is made by an unpublicized committee of Kiwanians appointed by the outgoing President. They have almost a year to inventory, observe, check, and verify the score card and make their choice. They have made their choice and have asked me to make this presentation.

"Having seen this person perform from the inside on several of the many activities in church, civic, and community affairs where he has been in the middle of the action, I know first hand that this person is the Hoke County Citizen of the Year in every respect.

"He comes from a well known, highly respected and successful farm family. His parents, like himself, have lived here in Hoke County all their lives. He was born January 5, 1936, and has one younger brother. He went through the Hoke County School system, graduating from our high school in 1954.

"After attending Staunton Military Academy, Staunton, Va., for one year, he went to the University of North Carolina from 1955 to 1957. He finished his college days in the Spring of 1958 at East Carolina University, Greenville, N. C.

"He enlisted in the N. C. National Guard and in 1957-58 served six months active duty in the U. S. Army. As he continued to prove himself a leader in the National Guard, he was commissioned a Second Lieutenant at the N. C. Military Academy, Ft. Bragg, N. C., in June 1962. He reached the rank of First Lieutenant before completing his service in the N. C. National Guard.

"He began work as a Hoke County forest ranger for the N. C. Forestry Service in 1958. He was elected President and General Manager of an

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Club Reviewed Golden History

Approximately 132 people attended the Kiwanis Club Golden Anniversary and Ladies' Night at the Southern Pines Country Club January 24. This compares with 139 at the Silver anniversary celebration in 1949.

Awards presented included citizenship award, Benny McLeod (see related story), Man-Of-The-Half-Century, R. B. Lewis; best program, J. Altway and 30-year perfect attendance M. Gatlin.

Graham Pope was in charge of the program, "Not So Long Ago." The history of Raeford Kiwanis was shown with a slide presentation narrated by Harold Gillis.

The program was introduced by David Pope dressed as an early 20s newspaper boy in knickers and floppy cap. He distributed copies of a newspaper front page imprinted with a banner notices of Kiwanis Golden Anniversary.

The narrator began, "In 1924, the nation was reeling from the shock of scandals in the administration of President Warren G. Harding, Secretary

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Bloodmobile Here Friday

Hoke Countians, heavy users of blood recently, will have an opportunity to replenish the supply when the American Red Cross Bloodmobile visits Burlington Industries plant Friday from noon until 5:30 p.m.

Burlington guards will permit all county residents wishing to donate blood to pass through the gates.

Clyde Upchurch, Red Cross chapter chairman, reports Hoke Countians used 45 pints of blood in December and about the same total is expected for January. He hopes about 100 donors will participate in Friday's drive.

Court Hears Drug Cases

Help!

George Baker, North Raeford Volunteer Fire Department chief, said two fire helmets were lost from a fire truck as it sped to the scene of a fire Tuesday. He reported the truck returned to the fire station by the same route following the fire, but could not find the helmets. Baker requests anyone knowing their whereabouts contact the NRVFD. The helmets cost \$25 each.

During the first two days of the current court session, the vast majority of judgments handed down by Superior Court Judge Donald L. Smith were probationary sentences. At least 13 of the more than 20 defendants whose cases were heard received such sentences.

Much of the time was spent taking pleas and hearing testimony in cases stemming from a Nov. 13, 1973, county-wide drug raid conducted by the SBI, Hoke County Sheriff's Department and Raeford Police. In each instance the states case rested on testimony from an SBI agent who reportedly had been working undercover in the area about six weeks prior to the raid.

In the seven drug raid cases heard, the state took nol pros on the possession with intent to distribute charges and proceeded on the distribution charges.

Heaviest drug sentence meted out was 12 months in prison for Edward L. (Buddy) Wright, 47, 511 E. Sixth Ave. The SBI agent testified he and a confidential source went to Wright's residence Oct. 2, 1973, and asked the defendant for "a bundle of marijuana."

The agent said 12.4 grams of grass were purchased from Wright for \$20. He also reported asking the defendant about possibility of buying a pound of marijuana and said Wright replied it would take a few days notice but a pound would sell for \$180.

Two character witnesses testified on Wright's behalf and one who said he had known the defendant 16 or 17 years testified, "The arrest was the first thing I ever heard against him."

The second witness, a minister, said, "I know him to be a man who tells me the truth...like most of us he has faults...in this case he recognizes his mistake."

Twelve months in prison suspended three years with three years probation upon payment of \$250 for SBI use in narcotics and drug investigation and \$250 fine and costs was judgment meted out for Archie F. Bristow, 24, Rt. 2.

Bristow entered a guilty plea to distributing phenacyclidine in Dundarrach Oct. 24, 1973. He testified he was in Larry Pittman's truck with Pittman when the undercover agent and his confidential source approached the vehicle. Bristow said Pittman asked him to get a medicine bottle out of the glove compartment. "It contained six or seven pills. I handed two of them to Larry." Bristow said he had not seen the bottle prior to opening the glove compartment at Pittman's request.

The SBI agent testified he gave Pittman a \$5 bill and while "he reached for \$1 change Bristow got tablets from a vial and handed them to me."

Pittman corroborated Bristow's testimony. "The substance was mine. Bristow handed it to me, and I gave it to

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Danny Deloris McCollum

Candidacy Announced

A second candidate has filed for one of three seats on the Board of County Commissioners up for election this fall. Danny Deloris McCollum, a Hoke County native employed by Proctor Silex in Southern Pines, announced his candidacy Tuesday. He stated he had decided to run in an effort to "pep up" the office after he had approached the commissioners on speed zone and road condition problems with no visible results.

McCollum also voiced a desire to give relief to rural fire departments. He is the chairman of West Hoke Fire District. He has served on a social services committee and is a member of the Shady Grove Missionary Baptist Church.

McCollum is married to the former Effie Patterson. They reside with their two children, Doris, 17, and Carlos, 5, at Rt. 3, Box 244-A.

Forum On Recreation Set For Wednesday

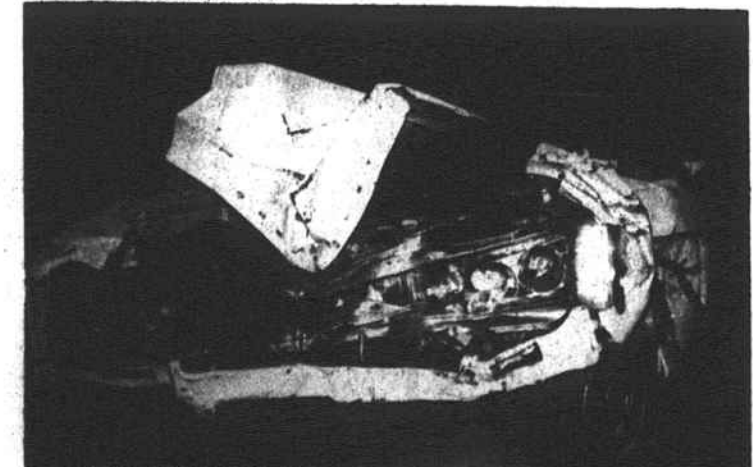
According to reports from Mrs. R.G. Townsend, Raeford Woman's Club project chairman, attendance at Hoke Forum sessions is increasing. Mrs. Townsend reported approximately 300 in attendance at the January 29 session on family roles.

Wednesday, the forum will deal with recreation. H. Douglas Sessions, professor and chairman of the Recreation Curriculum Administration

at the University of North Carolina, (UNC) Chapel Hill, and Thomas A. Stein, assistant professor of Recreation, Curriculum Administration at UNC, will be guest speakers.

The session will be at 7:30 p.m. at Gibson Cafeteria. The public will be welcome.

Serving as moderator for Wednesday's session will be Benny McLeod, chairman See FORUM, Page 13



DEATH CAR - Robert White, 35, McCain, driver of this car, was killed when a tractor-trailer truck reportedly jackknifed on rain-slick U.S. 401 in front of Virgil's Drive-In at 5:30 p.m. Tuesday. Investigating State Trooper Joe Stanley reported the car was apparently stopped at a stop sign when the tractor-trailer truck driven by Joseph Phillip, Wilmington, Delaware, reportedly jackknifed and slid into the front of the White car. Three passengers in the White car were reportedly taken to Cape Fear Valley Hospital by Morrison Ambulance Service. Their names were not available. The accident is still under investigation. The Hoke County Rescue Squad used a new metal prying tool to assist in freeing the victims.



MAN-OF-HALF-CENTURY-R. B. Lewis was honored January 24 at Kiwanis Club Golden Anniversary celebration as the only charter member who is still an active member of the club. This will be the only time such an award can be presented to a Raeford Kiwanian. The presentation was made by Graham Pope, president. (N-J Photo)