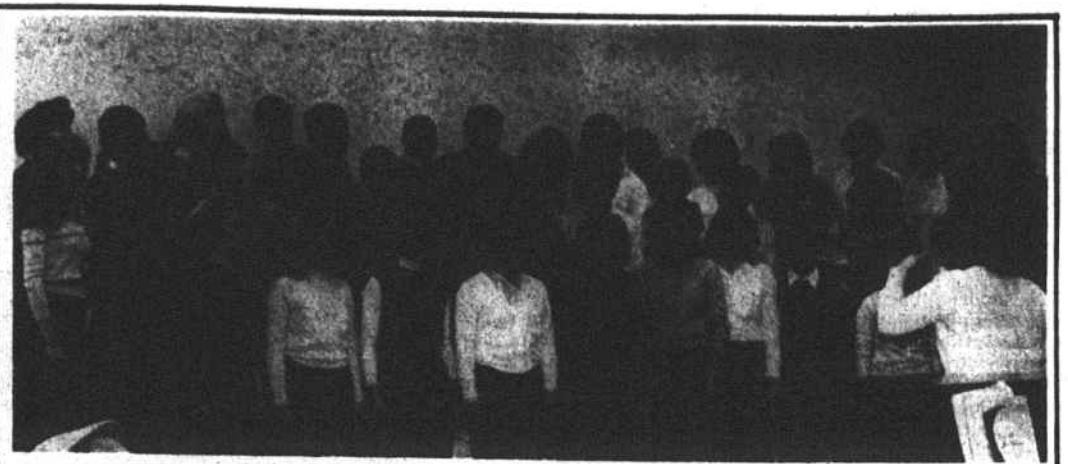




A music lesson
Music instructor Doris Austin prepares this Scurlock general music classes along with Miriam McNeill at the first grade class for a lesson in rhythm. Austin teaches four elementary schools. (Photo by Pam Frederick)



Preparing for the spring tour
The Hoke High Chorale, under the direction of Anne Dorsey, gets in a little vocal practice as they prepare for a spring concert tour that will take them to New Orleans March 21-25. (Photo by Pam Frederick)

... Music helping schools

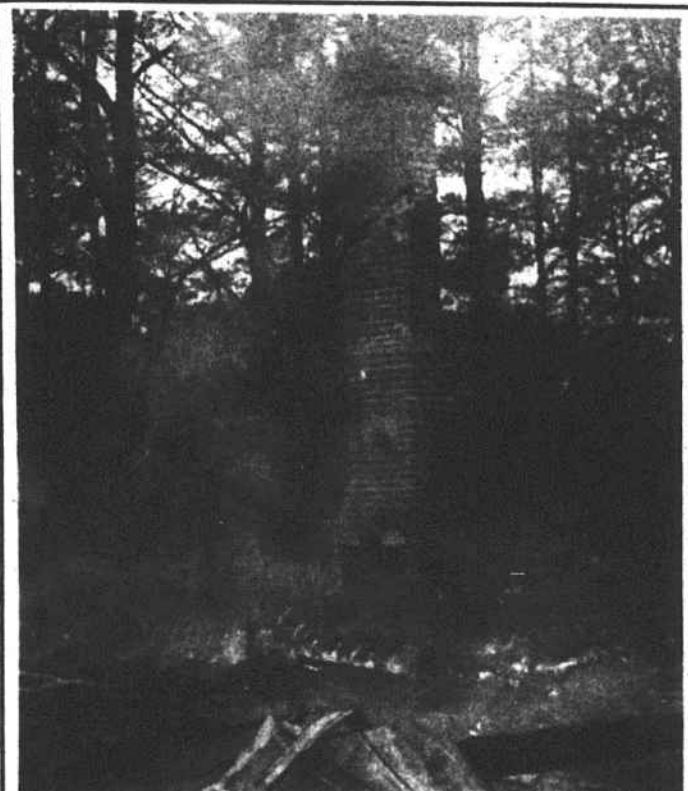
(Continued from page 1)
The guitar lessons began this year and will "hopefully" expand to other schools in the future.
"We are always looking to expand and better our music program," McNeill said.
Although McNeill sees more advancement on the horizon, she feels that Hoke now has one of "the best music programs within the state."
"Considering the size of our county, I think we have made some excellent achievements," McNeill said.
Throughout the years, the bands, choruses and chorales have "excelled" in state and national competitions, giving them excellent ratings and recognition beyond the Hoke County line.
"Our music program is known throughout the eastern part of the United States," McNeill said.
"I am very proud of what these students and teachers have done for the program," she added.

While the music program has boosted the Hoke School system, McNeill believes it is more a shot in the arm for the students than for anyone else.
"They really seem to love it," McNeill said.
"It really holds their attention. They participate one-hundred percent," she added.
"It is hard to find a student involved with the music program that is not really involved with what they are doing," McNeill said.
Through the music programs McNeill believes that students acquire self-discipline, leadership, a working relationship with other students and a chance to be exposed to a variety of different people.
"It builds a positive attitude in these students. They learn to get along with each other and help their fellow students," McNeill said.
"Music students are like one big family," she added.
According to McNeill, between

three and five graduates each year continue their musical education.
"That makes it all worthwhile," McNeill said.
"When students show that they appreciate what they have learned and desire to learn more...it is a good feeling," she added.
Through community support, administrative support and church support, the Hoke music program has soared.
"We could not have done it without their encouragement and help," McNeill said.
Although McNeill said she was "pleased" with the educational program she was quick to add that "it could get better."
"We are constantly searching for new ways of musical advancement," McNeill said.
"I am very grateful and proud of the accomplishments we have made through the years. I am looking forward to many more in the future," she added.



A lesson in guitar
Along with their general music instruction, these Upchurch students get lessons in guitar. The guitar program, started this year, has caught the attention of many Hoke Seventh and eighth-graders, Cultural Arts Director Mary Archie McNeill said. (Photo by Pam Frederick)



Smoky remains
A partially destroyed chimney was the only thing left standing following a fire that broke out in an abandoned house on State Road 1412 near Rockfish on Monday afternoon. Sheriff's reports show that the fire was apparently set. (Photo by Pam Frederick)

... Couple jailed

(Continued from page 1)
A five-gallon kerosene can was the only thing reported missing from the room, reports show.
The case remains open for investigation.
Frances McRae of Rt. 4, Raeford reported that someone broke her bedroom window.
McRae reported that she did not see anyone at or around the window.
Nothing was missing from the house, according to reports.
The case remains under investigation.
A caretaker for a mobile home owned by Marion Jackson of Rt. 1, Lumber Bridge reported that he

found the back door to the Jackson residence open and all the cabinets and drawers ransacked.
Nothing was reported missing in the incident, reports show.
In further crime, Eddie Owens of Hoke County reported that someone broke into his residence and removed two televisions, a microwave and some jewelry.
Reports show that Owens' wife came home and found that the double doors to her residence had been "busted open."
Owens found some jewelry lying on the ground outside the door.
The case remains open for investigation, reports show.

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Rockless
Mon.-Fri. 3:20 - 7:15 - 9:10
Sat.-Sun. 1:20 - 3:20 - 7:15 - 9:10
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100 SELLERS
LASSITER
9:10
AGAINST ALL ODDS
Mon.-Fri. 3:00 - 7:00 - 9:10
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