



Over the top carefully
This Raeford cat seems to be checking out his landing zone as he clears a fence. The cat is apparently aware that one can never be too careful about what one jumps into.

Hoke boys nabbed

By Ed Miller

Four juveniles, ranging in ages from eight to 16, were arrested last week and charged in two apparently unrelated cases involving motor vehicles, Hoke County Sheriff's reports show.

A 16-year-old youth was arrested Thursday and charged with the apparent larceny of a yellow motorcycle, reports say.

Last Wednesday, Bobby Williams reported to sheriff's deputies that his yellow Yamaha motorcycle had been taken from his garage.

Williams' daughter reported that she had last seen the bike on her way to work.

The next day, a concerned parent called the department and said that her son had been missing for two days, but that he had shown up at home that morning riding a motorcycle.

The boy had stopped in to get some clothes, reports say.

Following up on the tip, deputies staked out an area where the suspect was reported to travel.

The youth returned home and deputies were called, the report said.

The youth was taken into custody, and deputies recovered the keys to the motorcycle, but had to travel to a pool hall to recover the vehicle.

The case is pending juvenile process, the report said.

Three other juveniles, ranging in age from eight to 11, were arrested and charged with damage to real property and unauthorized use of a motor vehicle, reports show.

Gloria McVickers reported that she and her husband had gone into Raeford to do some shopping.

Upon their return, they reported seeing three youths running from their yard.

One of the suspects was caught and taken to his home while the other two apparently got away.

When the McVickers returned home a second time, and reported that their car had been moved and that some of their grass had been torn up, apparently by spinning tires.

This case is awaiting juvenile processing also, according to reports.

In other Hoke County crime, the Little Whale Restaurant was vic-

timized by thieves with apparently rich tastes.

The Rt. 4 Raeford establishment was hit for over \$1100, as reported by Paul Johnson to sheriff's deputies.

The report said that included in the stolen food was a case of lobster tails valued at \$300, a case of prime shrimp valued at \$405 and \$325 worth of steaks.

Also, three-five pound boxes of scallops were stolen at a \$100 loss.

In the report, Johnson said that a rear window to the business had been broken.

The matter is under investigation.

The estate of H.W. Willis was the victim of an apparent theft in March of this year.

The alleged theft, which left the estate without a water pump, was not immediately reported to law enforcement officials.

The report was finally made last week by L.R. Willis and said that the pump was worth \$550.

There are no leads in the case.

Raeford Police reports show that, last Tuesday, the department received a complaint from the House of Raeford saying that \$745 had been taken from an unlocked safe.

The apparent theft occurred sometimes between April 21-24, Police Chief Leonard Wiggins said.

The matter is under investigation.

On the past Saturday, the Convent Mart, on West Prospect Street reported that someone had broken the lock off of a video machine and taken an undetermined amount of quarters out.

"The theft took place during business hours," Wiggins said.

According to sheriff's reports, Linda O'Foghluoka of Raeford reported someone kicked out the glass of her back door in an attempt to get in.

The report says that the alleged robbers could not get in the door so they went in a window.

About \$300 in sporting equipment, musical equipment, and camera supplies was taken in the Thursday theft.

... School \$6.5 million plan considered

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keep property taxes down," Balfour said.

According to law, 40% of the sales tax revenues must be used for schools.

"Sixty per cent is what we felt was a responsible amount, a judgement call, if you will," Gibson said.

According to the recommendations, the plan would be implemented with \$279,000 being spent to make repairs on the roofs of existing structures and to set up a "preventative maintenance" program.

These plans will continue until the beginning of the 1986-87 school year when the county should have "roofs as good as any that can be obtained today," said Gibson.

During that year, the county will start construction at Upchurch School.

If the schedule goes according to that in the recommendations, in 10

years Hoke County will have a totally revitalized school system.

The recommendations also call for school redistricting, which would require the approval of the U.S. Justice Department.

"This will probably happen anyway," said Hoke County School Superintendent Robert Nelson.

Two schools, McLaughlin and Scurlock, are becoming overcrowded because they are located in fast growing areas. Student populations would have to be shifted to accommodate the growth, whether the plan is approved or not, Nelson said.

One of the first proposals, which accompanies the committee's recommendations is the closing of classrooms located under the gymnasium floor at Turlington school.

These rooms could be closed this summer and will require no funding, the report said.

There has been \$20,000 included in the proposed Board of Educa-

tion budget for the upcoming fiscal year which would allow the purchase of four used portable classrooms. Under the plan three would be placed at Turlington and one at Hoke High School.

Two other recommendations made by the committee, but which are not included in the funding proposals, are the purchase of additional land at the Upchurch School and the addition of gymnasiums at West Hoke and Scurlock schools.

"The committee believes we really have enough land at Upchurch now," Gibson said, noting that state guidelines would require the purchase of about 12 acres to add to the school site.

"The gymnasiums can be added when funds become available," he said.

After the public hearing, the committee was commended for its

quick and well thought-out actions by the Board of Commissioners and the School Board.

There will be a meeting at 7 p.m. on May 14 for the School Board to present its budget to the County Commissioners.

The committee's recommendations are included in the first draft of the school budget, which is suggesting a 26.9% increase over last year's local budget.

The News-Journal

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Pd. Political Adv.

Keep Judge Johnson in Superior Court

E. Lynn Johnson was appointed to the Superior Court bench in January of 1983. Judge Johnson's legal and career experiences led to this appointment. Briefly, they include:

- 10 years of private law practice, with civil and criminal trial experience; appellate experience in State and Federal Courts
- 3 years as Assistant District Attorney - 12th Judicial District (Cumberland and Hoke Counties)
- 4 years as Special Agent with the F.B.I.
- Graduate of the University of North Carolina School of Law
- Degree in Business Administration, U.N.C.
- Graduate of National District Attorneys College; National Judicial College
- Member of N.C. & Cumberland County Bar Associations, N.C. Academy of Trial Lawyers, National Association of Criminal Defense Lawyers
- Secretary/Treasurer of Conference of Superior Court Judges



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