

**Taking a breather**

After fighting the South Hoke dwelling fire for almost two hours, volunteer firemen might have been tempted to take a dip in several of the

drop tanks at the scene. These firemen at least appear to be glad that the blaze is under control.

**... Fire levels home**

(Continued from page 1A) the family had insurance. The loss has been estimated from \$50,000 to \$75,000.

Three firemen were slightly injured during the blaze, Baker said. One man burned his shoulder, another burned his arm and a third needed oxygen.

According to Hoke County Commissioner James Albert Hunt, who was at the fire on Friday, the dwelling was owned by his wife, Maggie, and by the United Carolina Bank. Axtrell was believed to have been remodeling the house, which Hunt said he had moved to the site "several years earlier."

The fire erupted on South Hoke Road in an area that is not covered by any of the county's volunteer departments. "It's a no man's zone," one

North Raeford fireman said at the scene.

Hunt has attempted to get a volunteer department established in the area, but has not been successful.

Friday's fire tested the county's mutual assistance program.

The coordination between the seven responding departments was good, and the cooperation was high, firemen at the scene said.

City of Raeford trucks drafted water from the nearby Raft Swamp and filled other department's tankers that transported the water to the scene of the fire.

Units from Antioch, Stonewall, Hillcrest, West Hoke, Pinehill, North Raeford and Raeford fought the blaze. Hoke County Emergency Service personnel and members of the Hoke County Rescue Squad also assisted.



**Getting the sparks**

This lone North Raeford fireman douses the charred remains of the two-story dwelling to make sure the fire is out. The bus was also destroyed in the blaze.

**... Airport leases nixed**

(Continued from page 1A)

With the help of City Manager Tom Phillips, the authority came up with a figure of over \$240,000 needed to pave the taxiway.

Even with the \$150,000 now being directed toward the airport in matching grants, the authority still needs almost \$100,000 to complete the project.

There is money available to airports from the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) to airports that include ultralight airplanes in to their planning, said Byrd, adding that FAA provides 95% of the money.

The authority also passed motions appointing two committees.

The first committee is to look at the rules and regulations of other airports in the area, determine which of these rules would be applicable to the Raeford-Hoke Airport, and make recommendations at the next meeting, said authority Chairman Frank Baker.

John Plummer and Marianne Baker were chosen to be the committee.

L. E. McLaughlin and Wayne Byrd were selected to become a two man committee to look into federal grants and their availability and uses.

**... Around Town**

(Continued from page 1A)

same hot weather for the remainder of the week.

...

Golf is a funny game. You never know what will happen from one day to the next. In the U.S. Open Sunday Hale Irwin couldn't do anything right after playing perfect golf for the first three days. Also Sunday Greg Norman played perfect golf and couldn't miss a putt, but in the playoff Monday he couldn't get the golf ball to do anything right.

So we duffers shouldn't feel too bad about our bad rounds.

...

The rains that fell over the weekend should make the corn in most local gardens. This will be good news to most folks because fresh corn is good eating.

...

The following story was told to me by Mayor John K. McNeill and it might have some missing words, but the punch line is correct.

It seems that over the past several years when the McNeill Clan, John K's family, would get together, the younger son, Jeff, would always have comments to make concerning the doings of his nieces or nephews. All was not critical, but it seems that Jeff's brothers and his sister could hardly wait for Jeff to get married and have children of his own.

This happened; he got married several years ago, and last month his wife presented him with a son. Of course Jeff called his mother to inform her of the birth of her grandson.

His mother, Ruth, of course had to call all the clan to inform them of the new addition. When she called John K. III and told him, he asked her to hold the phone for a minute. When he came back to the phone, he told his mother that she must be mistaken. Her reply was, "What do you mean?"

John K. III said that he had gone outside and did not see the "Star in the East." No perfect child!

Knowing Jeff, I expect that this column will print a letter in answer to this item.

Thanks Mayor, I hope it is correct.

...

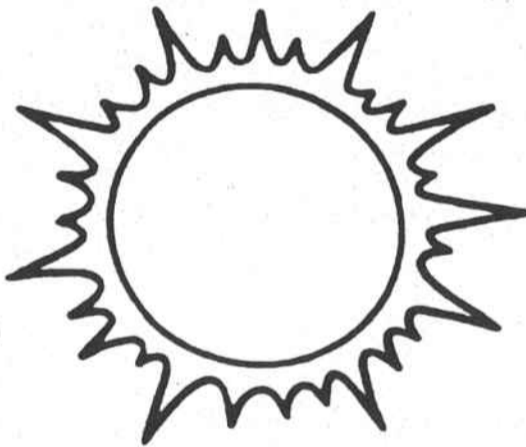
With about five months left before the general election, we wonder how many more vicious political ads will come forth from both the Hunt and Helms camps.

We were voting back many years ago in another Senate race between Willis Smith and Dr. Frank Graham and we didn't ever expect to see another race with such vicious ads.

With television now in use, it seems that the Smith-Graham race will be mild compared to this one.

This is not for the best interest of the state and its people, because it will have scars that cannot be healed.

Setting The Standard In The Industry Pacific Pools



**POOLS, ETC.**

Cole Plaza  
15-501 North  
Aberdeen  
944-7581

**Don't Let The Sweltering Sun Make Your Summer Miserable**

**Beat The Heat - Delight Your Family - Enhance Your Property COOL OFF IN A PACIFIC POOL**

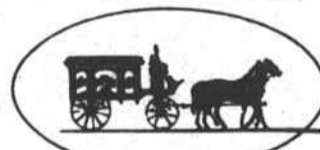
From **POOLS, ETC.**

Just As Pacific Pools Sets The Standard For The Industry, Pools, Etc. Sets The Standard For North Carolina!

Pools, Etc. Has Been Chosen By Pacific As The N.C. Dealer Of The Year! The Professionals At Pools, Etc. Will Plan, Install And Equip Your Pool At A Price Less Than You Might Expect. We Build It Right And We Will Be Here To Serve You.

Visit Our Store In Cole Plaza Between Western Sizzlin' And McBrayer Honda

- Chemicals
- Cleaners
- Chlorinators
- Vacuum Systems
- Test Kits
- Reagents
- Pumps
- Fittings
- Games, Games, Games
- Repair Kits
- Floats
- Filters



James L. Boles, Jr.  
Funeral Director

*Sandhills*  
*Funeral Services*

692-6262

1345 Old U.S. # 1 South Southern Pines, N.C.

(Formerly McKeithan Funeral Home)

**OPEN UNDER NEW MANAGEMENT**



Funeral Director & Owner  
**JAMES L. BOLES JR.**

Owner - Melissa S. Boles  
Staff - Robert Jones, EMT

Funeral Services Available  
Traditional Church Services (Funeral)  
Chapel Services  
Cremations  
Alternative Services To Meet The Family Needs

24 HOUR AMBULANCE SERVICE