Around Town continued

(Continued from page 1A) erest and assistance in making the

project a reality. With best wishes Sincerely,

Bill Hefner Member of Congress

Dear Bill:

Thank you for your telephone call expressing support for the four-laning of US 401 from taeford northeasterly to the existing four-lane section in Cumberland County.

Our Board of Transportation has completed 14 public meetings throughout the State for the puroses of obtaining requests from ocal officials and citizens for needed highway improvements to be added to our Highway Improvenent Program. The citizens and officials of Raeford/Hoke County made a very good presentation on the need and justification for fouraning this portion of US 401. I am ture our Board of Transportation will give every consideration to adding this project to our Highway

Improvement Program when it is updated this fall.

Bill, we greatly appreciate your continuing support for our Highway Improvement Program. We know that because of your efforts we were able to get special federal-aid funding to start the construction of the extension of I-40 to Wilmington. Without your help, this extension of I-40 would still be a "dream" and an unmet

critical highway need. In closing, let me again assure you that our Board of Transportation will make every effort to im-prove the section of US 401 between Raeford and Cumberland County as soon as possible.

Sincerely. W.R. Roberson, Jr.

Now the editor handed me these letters to be used in this column and I believe the reason is for me to make some comments.

After going to Raleigh to see governors and writing letters about US 401 being four-laned for the past 25 to 30 years, maybe the comments I will make won't help

It seems to me that it would help if letters concerning US 401 could be written sometime other than at election time or during an election

year. It has become almost a joke in Hoke County. It is like the boy yelling "wolf."

Maybe these letters are sincere, because it may be that the Democratic vote of Hoke County may really mean something this year. But I hope it isn't like when the wolf did arrive. It came too late to get the vote.

Let's stop the politics. Either four-lane 401 or forget about the little county of Hoke.

The men and women that are representing the U.S. at the Olympics are doing a wonderful job. It has brought forth once again pride

for our country.

If you haven't been watching, please do so before the end of the games this week.



What have we here?

Merchandise apparently stolen from The Raeford Housing Center was recovered last week by Raeford Police behind 401 Gulf. A mirror, some pictures, some bathroom items and other trailer furnishings

were found covered by a shower curtain in the rear of the station. The merchandise is still at the police station awaiting the owner, said Police Chief



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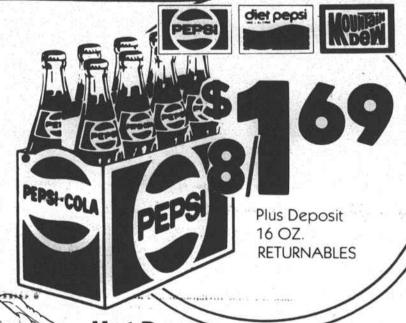


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Three men charged for Moore's heist

A six-week investigation into the break-in at Moore's Department Store has resulted in three arrests and a number of warrants issued, Police Chief Leonard Wiggins said Tuesday.

All three suspects are from Raeford and are charged with breaking and

entering and larceny, Wiggins said.

On Monday police arrested Michael Bethea and William Anthony Gillespie, both 18.

Tuesday morning, the third arrest was made as 17-year-old Richard Lee Harris was taken into custody, Wiggins said.

Some of the merchandise from the robbery has been recovered, the chief The June 26 looting saw Moore's lose about \$2,025 in merchandise and

another \$2,000 in damage done to the building as one of the alleged intruders apparently fell through the ceiling.

"Several more arrests are expected," Wiggins said.

Non-support, bigamy draw jail for resident

By Ed Miller

A Hoke County man was ordered to jail Thursday by District Court Judge Warren Pate after the man failed to meet support payments to his estranged

Russell Locklear, 42, was sentenced to serve not less than three and not more than six months, court records say.

Locklear apparently quit paying the support amount of \$50 every other week after his payment on July 11, 1983, records say.

According to Hoke County Sheriff's reports, Locklear will be back in the county soon to stand

trial on charges of bigamy. Locklear was arrested last week

on the charge, reports say.
His first wife, who was supposed to be receiving the support payments, reported him, according to reports.

According to the report, Locklear admitted both marriages.

In other action, a Shannon man was sentenced to two years in the N.C. Department of Corrections for driving while impaired (DWI) and driving while his license was

Ricky Chavis was arrested on February 24 on the charges, records sav.

The 23-year-old man has two prior convictions of DWI and driving while his license was revoked, according to records.

In another unrelated matter, an 80-year-old man was given an active jail term of seven days for DWI and causing an accident from which serious injury resulted to

another person, court records say.
Willie Edward McLean, born
March 3, 1904, was arrested on the
charges July 7, records say.

McLean received a sentence of six months suspended for one year on special supervised probation and a \$200 fine, say records.

By a special court order, Judge Pate released McLean from jail after one day to have a previously scheduled full physical examination on Saturday.

McLean was given credit for one day in jail but was told to report

back to Hoke County Jail Sunday

McLean was allowed to report to jail late in the day because he told the judge he wanted to go to church. In other action, three Hoke

County men were given suspended sentences last week in court for degrees of larceny which stemmed from the same case.

Gary and Junior Cummings, both of Raford, and Stephen Bryant, of Lumber Bridge, were sentenced on charges that they took gas from a pump belonging to Robert McNeill.

Bryant, 18, was charged with two counts of misdemeanor larceny and one count of larceny, and was sentenced to not less than 18 months and not more than 24 months suspended for two years supervised probation.

He was also fined \$750, say records.

Gary Cummings was charged with larceny and plead guilty to the charges.

The 25-year-old was given one year suspended for two years supervised probation and a fine of \$250 and ordered to restitution to McNeill.

Junior Cummings, 35, was also charged with larceny and given a one year suspended sentence for two years supervised probation and a fine of \$250.

He also was ordered by the court to pay \$25 restitution, records say. Gilberto Matos was in court last week facing charges of possession of stolen goods.

Matos was served with a warrant on April 26 because he had a pool cue, gold bracelet and clarinet belonging to Norman G. Fowler. records say.

The 21-year-old Lumber Bridge resident received a one year suspended sentence for two years supervised probation, fined \$300 and ordered to pay \$515 in restitution, say court records.

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