



### Come on down

A jump plane used by Gene Paul Thacker in his parachute school lands at the Raeford-Hoke Airport. Thacker is one of the most well versed in the county on the problems of the airport and he is one of the airports best patrons. Just before this plane landed, the load of sky divers who jumped from the plane

began settling to the ground. Not only would improvements at the airport make the facility more attractive to new pilots flying in, but it would make the job of the jump school personnel easier and safer, Airport Commission members say.

## Airport grant applications being delayed for more study

By Ed Miller

A thorough investigation needs to be conducted before state and federal funds are sought and used to improve the Raeford-Hoke County Airport, some members of the Airport Commission said.

The commission feels that the money can be best used at the airport by paving the taxiway; however, it is going to take more than a previously funded \$75,000 state grant and a \$75,000 match from Hoke County and Raeford to pave the taxiway.

"There are a lot of things that can be done right away at the airport, and we are putting our energy into that," said Commissioner John Plummer.

Originally, the \$150,000 was to be used for the construction of a

new airport terminal, but members of the airport authority, and local and county officials feel there are more pressing improvement needs than the terminal at the facility.

The Airport Commission is now looking into finding the extra money needed to fund the paving of the taxiway.

According to Commission Vice-Chairman Wayne Byrd, the \$100,000 needed may come from the Federal Aviation Authority (FAA) in the form of grants if the airport is made available to the full use by ultralights.

If the Airport Commission decides to go through the City Council and County Commission to re-apply for the funds, the chances that they will get them are good, said Jay Pate, spokesman

for the state Aeronautics Council in a previous interview.

The revised request will be compared with other projects around the state and examined to decide if it is of high priority, Pate said.

If the priority is found to be high, the request will be funded.

The construction of taxiways, improvements on runway lighting, increasing the apron area, and resurfacing or lengthening runways would have a high priority to the council, Pate said in June.

Funding would not be granted if the money is not used for a high priority project, and projects that would generate revenue for the airport cannot be funded, Pate said.

Presently, both the City Council and the County Commission has \$37,500 each set aside to match the state funds if applied for and received.

## ... County surveyed

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bring each building into compliance.

According to the report, ramps to allow wheelchair bound people to enter and exit buildings, marked handicapped parking places, and grab rails in rest rooms are needed in and around some buildings.

The report also noted that the County Health Department building and the Department of Social Services building are both

"barrier free," meaning that access to these buildings is unlimited to handicapped persons of all kinds.

The Board of Education building also needs no improvements except for the creation of some handicapped parking, the report says.

In further action, the County Commission appointed Carole Scarborough to fill the vacant position on the Airport Commission.

The vacancy was created when Marianne Baker, an original appointee, resigned recently.

In other action, commissioners: Reviewed the 1% state rebated sales tax and one-half cent sales tax revenue for the city and county. The total revenues received in Hoke County was \$191,313.83 and Raeford got \$33,103.

Rescheduled the regular September 3 meeting to September 4 because of Labor Day.

## Break-in probed in South Hoke

By Ed Miller

A break-in at a South Hoke store left the owner with over \$100 damage to video game machines and with an over \$2,000 loss in merchandise.

The Hoke County Sheriff's Department is investigating the incident that happened last Thursday night at Charlie Locklear's Store.

Locklear reported that the apparent thieves entered the building through a crawl way above a door.

Three cases of beer, six cases of cigarettes, candy and chewing gum, 12 men's wallets, 20 cigarette holders and eight boxes of chewing tobacco were taken from the store.

In an unrelated matter, Raeford Police are baffled by a reported larceny at the Edinborough Place Family Care Home on West Donaldson Street.

"It's sort of a mystery," said Police Chief Leonard Wiggins, explaining that one of the residents awoke to see someone standing at her medicine cabinet, but that the suspect ran away and now the resident cannot describe the person.

When the police got to the care

home, all the doors were locked, and there was no sign of tampering, Wiggins said.

In spite of the fact that there was no signs of forced entry, the resident who saw the intruder is now missing \$123 in cash.

She kept her money in the medicine cabinet, Wiggins said.

Raeford Police are also investigating a breaking, entering and larceny into the apartment of Dennis Lagerquist.

The Raeford resident came home last Saturday to find his sliding glass door open and that someone had entered his apartment and removed a 14-inch television set, a radio, a shotgun and a long bow and some arrows, Wiggins said.

Lagerquist lost about \$850 worth of property in the robbery.

The Hungry Jack Restaurant was the victim of vandalism, sheriff's reports say.

On last Tuesday, James Barefoot reported that someone had used paint to write "black pride", "death", "jam on it" and "KKK" on the exterior walls of

the county restaurant.

The vandals also painted a red, white and blue flag on one of the walls, reports say.

In another matter, the Sheriff's Department recovered what appears to be a stolen .22 calibre rifle and air tank. A tip was turned in by a county resident.

Harold B. Currie reported that around the beginning of July, those items had been taken from him.

He also told Deputy Alex Norton that he had heard who took the items and asked if he would investigate, the report says.

Upon arriving at the address provided by Currie, deputies recovered the items, reports say.

No arrests have been made in the case.

While the Sheriff's Department recovered one gun, another was reported stolen last week.

Ronald M. Huffman reported last Tuesday that he found a .22 calibre revolver, that usually stays under his son's mattress, missing.

The gun was valued at \$200, reports say.

## ... Rape being investigated

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ment, the death threat was repeated at least once more during her ordeal.

Allegedly, all four men raped her, reports say.

The men then allowed her to redress and took her home.

The report was taken from the

victim by sheriff's deputies Saturday about 7 a.m.

The victim submitted to a rape test at Moore County Hospital, reports say.

"This (the area of the rape) is one of the most isolated sections of the county. The homes are few and far between," said Hoke County

Sheriff Dave Barrington.

The subjects in question will be arrested on charges of kidnapping and first degree rape, Barrington said.

According to the sheriff, when the subjects refused to let the victim out at her house, they became liable for charges of kidnapping.

## New airport regulations adopted

By Ed Miller

A new set of rules and regulations governing the operation of the Raeford-Hoke Airport was adopted in a special session Thursday night by members of the Airport Commission.

The new rules establish strict standards at the airport.

"They are strict, but they give the Commission room to bend and grow," Commissioner L.E. McLaughlin said.

"They're a set of rules we can live with until we have to make changes down the road," he said.

Pilots are controlled as to what they can and cannot do.

According to the new rules, pilots:

- Must abide by the air traffic rules and aircraft operations regulation of the Federal Aviation Authority (FAA).

- Must start and run engines only in designated areas. "At no time shall engines be run up when hangars, shops, airplanes, or any buildings or persons are in the path of the propeller stream and, or, jet exhaust," the document says.

- Must not park, store, or repair aircraft except in designated areas.

- Must fuel aircraft while the engine is off and only in designated areas. No one may smoke within 50 feet of a fueling operation.

There was only one change made to the original rules submitted at the regular meeting two weeks ago.

Prior to the change, there was a section in the rules that read: "All take-offs and landings shall be confined to the runways and movements of aircraft shall be confined to the hard surface areas."

An addition was made to the section, at the suggestion of Commission Vice-Chairman Wayne Byrd, to reword that part because many of the planes at the airport are parked on grass and must be taxied on the non-paved surface to get to the runway apron.

The section about take-offs and landings was reworded to allow ultralights to take-off and land on a strip beside the runway.

The exception to the original rule applies only to ultralights, the commission voted.

The rules and regulations were researched and written by Commission Secretary John Plummer.

In other business, the commissioner discussed the building of

"T-hangars" at the airport. There is room at the airport for enough "T-hangars" to house

about 20 airplanes, Byrd said. The commissioners agreed to look into the costs of the hangars.

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