



(Photos by Pam Frederick)

**Large Lift**

In the briefing on the Blackhawk helicopter, Hoke High students got to look inside and walk around in the real thing. The Blackhawk, manufactured by Sikorsky Aircraft Corp., is capable of flying at a maximum speed of 234 miles per hour. Along with fuel and crews, the chopper can also

carry a vulcan cannon and up to 1,000 rounds of ammunition. Many of these students are standing in the cargo loading doors. In the case of an emergency, the two windows to the rear of the cabin are also doors.

## ROTC students learning the basics

By Ed Miller

Walk around Hoke County High School on a Wednesday during lunch.

One will see the expected types of dress, blue jeans, sweaters and tennis shoes.

One will also see some Army uniforms.

Wednesdays are inspection days and the uniformed young people are in the Junior ROTC program at Hoke High.

The program is in its second year and has already attracted so many people, a ceiling has had to be placed on the number of students that can enroll.

The population of the Corps on campus is about 50% male and 50% female.

On Friday, November 17, a team from Fort Bragg came out to the school to give demonstrations on rappelling, first aid, survival and weapons.

There was also a brief given on the UH-60A Blackhawk helicopter that flew the Ft. Bragg personnel to the demonstration.

The purpose of the exercise was an extension of classroom learning, according to Major Carlton L. McGuire.

The theory is learned in the

classroom, but practical work must be done outside, McGuire said.

The exercise served to acquaint students with the "air mobility aspect of the Army," McGuire said.

According to the Major, Army ROTC not only familiarizes students with how the military operates, it also highly motivates students and teaches them safety.

Some of the students are so in tune with the program that 85 out of 105 that chose to attempt it, qualified as rangers.

To be a ranger is to prove one's physical capabilities as per standards set out by the Army, McGuire said.

McGuire is quite proud of the fact he had so many students qualify and he is the only instructor in this area that holds qualification trials.

Ranger qualifiers were also about half and half male and female, McGuire said adding that competition between men and women is very high.

The Junior ROTC program is mainly concerned with teaching young people to be community oriented, said McGuire.

"We don't teach war. We don't teach kill, capture and destroy. We do push patriotism, pride and self-confidence," the instructor said.

"I'm not here to recruit students into the military. I teach leadership and management skills," McGuire said.

According to the instructor, students that once missed school regularly have joined the ROTC program and now, never miss school.

McGuire has had calls from businesses all over town telling him how the performance of his students has improved since enrolling in the program.

Raeford Police Chief Leonard Wiggins has also called McGuire telling him how troubled young people have straightened out their act since becoming involved.

"Dr. Simpson (Hoke High Principal) has given me his full support," said McGuire adding that ROTC at Hoke High is actually Simpson's program.

"I am just the manager of the program," McGuire said.

Between McGuire and Assistant Senior Army Instructor Sergeant Major Aaron Williams, the Hoke High unit was made fully func-

tional in just three months.

Accomplishment of the feat was a combination effort by McGuire, Williams and the students, McGuire said.

"Students offer to come in after school and on weekends to help with paperwork," said McGuire.

"The cadets manage the Corps under adult supervision," he said.

The students are learning, said the Major.

The instructor uses "force teaching" techniques on students.

According to McGuire, students have to take tests until they make 100%.

"I don't let students just get a 70 and pass; I make them learn it all," he said.

The main benefit students get from the program is an alternative idea of how to make a living after school, said McGuire.

If a student chooses to go into the military after school and has been in ROTC for four years, that person will make about \$200 dollars per month more than the average Army recruit, the Major said.

"It gives them a foot in the door" if they want to go into the military after high school, he said.

**You can make it**

Survival is all about making it on nothing but what the land has to offer. These Hoke High students are learning from Ft. Bragg personnel how to survive in the woods. This was just one of the classes taught by the Bragg soldiers once they landed. Hoke High students pictured are: (standing) Henry Beasley, Gwen Ellerbe, Jettie Jones, Jerry Ray, Jenalla Baker and Tony McNeill, (Seated) Dellus Hodges, John Smith and Joseph Stevens.

**Straighten it out**

Once a parachutist hits the ground, the hard part of sky diving begins. The jumper must untangle his lines and pack away his chute. These are members of the 82nd Airborne Division stationed at Ft. Bragg that "just dropped in" on the Junior ROTC at Hoke High. Shortly after the jumpers landed, a demonstration was given on parachuting and sky diving.