



Quick exit
Race action at Charlotte-Roger Mandeville scrambles from his burning Mazda RX-7 race car during last Saturday's sports car racing at Charlotte Motor Speedway. Mandeville was unhurt. The races were a prelude to this weekend's NASCAR

... racing at Charlotte where Ford driver Bill Elliott is going for a \$1 million bonus if he can win the World 600. The photo was taken by Graham Niven of Raeford who operates Autosports Photographics.

...City budget given go ahead

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given the lower rate because of the other contributions they make to the local economy, Phillips said. In addition to providing jobs, the local industries pay a large portion of city and county taxes. The increases in the rates will allow the city to operate the water and sewer utility in the black, Phillips said. In addition to the water and sewer increases, residential garbage collection will increase from \$1.50 per month to \$2.50. Phillips had proposed raising the fees to \$3.50 per month, but coun-

cilman Graham Clark and others objected to the hike. Clark suggested the \$2.50 compromise. In order to make up for the loss of revenue in garbage fees, the council scrapped a plan to purchase a new \$38,000 dump truck for the street department. The departments present truck, which is not running, will be repaired with a new engine and transmission, Phillips said. Repair work is estimated to run about \$10,000. The proposed budget also includes:

- ✓ A combined water and sewer and general fund capital reserve balance of \$650,000.
- ✓ Funds to allow the purchase of a new city fire truck for \$105,000.
- ✓ Funds for a new \$12,000 police car and another approximate \$117,000 for equipment for other city departments.
- ✓ At least \$10,000 for downtown revitalization and \$12,500 for economic development.
- ✓ Funds for merit pay raises for city employees.

Telephone vote delayed again

After a lengthy discussion, members of the North Carolina Utilities Commission failed to reach a decision Monday on a bid by Hoke County residents to establish extended telephone service with Fayetteville. The final decision on whether to grant a locally supported request by the commission's public staff to order Carolina Telephone Company to conduct a cost study of the extended service and also to grant a September public hearing in Raeford, could be delayed until after a new commission is seated in July, sources have speculated. Officially, all the commissioners

are saying is that a vote on the matter has not been taken, Hoke County Economic Developer John Howard said. Howard is acting as a spokesman for the Hoke County committee which is working on establishing the extended service. The effort to establish the service has received support from the City of Raeford, Hoke County commission, the Raeford-Hoke Chamber of Commerce, all of the members of the local legislative delegation and U.S. Rep. William G. Hefner. The matter was presented to the

Utility Commission on May 6, and a vote has been delayed since that time. Carolina Telephone objected to conducting the cost study, because the results could challenge a companywide policy of setting rates, the firm's attorney said during a May 6 hearing in Raleigh. Under the rates schedule Carolina Telephone has projected for the services of tying the 875 Raeford exchange with Fayetteville, the company would increase annual revenues by \$1.7 million, company spokesmen have confirmed.

...Around Town continued

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full details but hope to read about his trip in his column in the weeks ahead. Mrs. Jeff Harris left a copy of a picture that ran in the *Roxboro Courier Times* recently. The picture was of the Oman National Parachute team, which is training at the Raeford Parachute Center North of Raeford. The team was visiting the North American Aerodynamics Plant in Roxboro. The picture shows the team watching a worker sew on a parachute. The name of Gene Thacker, owner of the jump center in Raeford, was also mentioned in the cutlines. All publicity of Raeford and Hoke County helps

keep the place on the map. Thanks Dot for the clipping! The classes of 1934 and 1935 of Raeford High School will hold their 50th & 51st reunion on Saturday, June 8 in Southern Pines. The response from members of both classes has been more than expected. We hope those that have not contacted their chairman, would do so immediately, so that final planes can be set. It does hurt to receive letters or phone calls from former classmates who say they cannot come because of illness in their family. It makes you want to give a prayer of thanks for the health that you have and didn't think too much about. You know most of us don't realize how lucky we are until we

hear of some tragedy that has come to a friend or even to an enemy. We just assume that we will go on living and nothing could happen to us. This has been brought home to me in present weeks and I hope I won't forget it. Maybe we all should do a little thinking! I don't believe anyone has been any happier than Jack Nicklaus was at Pinehurst Sunday. He has won more major golf tournaments than anyone in the world, but when his son won the North-South Amateur, I believe he would have swapped all of his majors for that victory. The tears he shed were tears of joy. Yes, Jack is a family man. We need more of them!

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