

It was

Degrees, honors and hard work

As the heat rose in the McDonald Gymnasium, 276 seniors were graduated from Hoke County High School in exercises Friday night.

Forced inside because of anticipated rain that showed up in torrents, the graduates appeared unwaivered in white caps and gowns.

While 263 of the seniors were students that have spent the last 12 years of their lives in school, 13 of the graduates were special.

These few seniors were adults who returned to school and received a diploma.

Carol Dianne Acorn, Carol Ann Beasley, Tracy Carolyn Beasley, Teresa Brewer Cooper, Annie Jones Dockery, Rhonda Lynn Young Gibson, Angenal Jones Hammonds, Betty Jean Harris, Marie H. Locklear, Nettie L. McDuffie, Martha Brown Ross, Karen Delores Thomas and Lula B. McRae Thomas were all recognized in a special section of the graduation ceremonies.

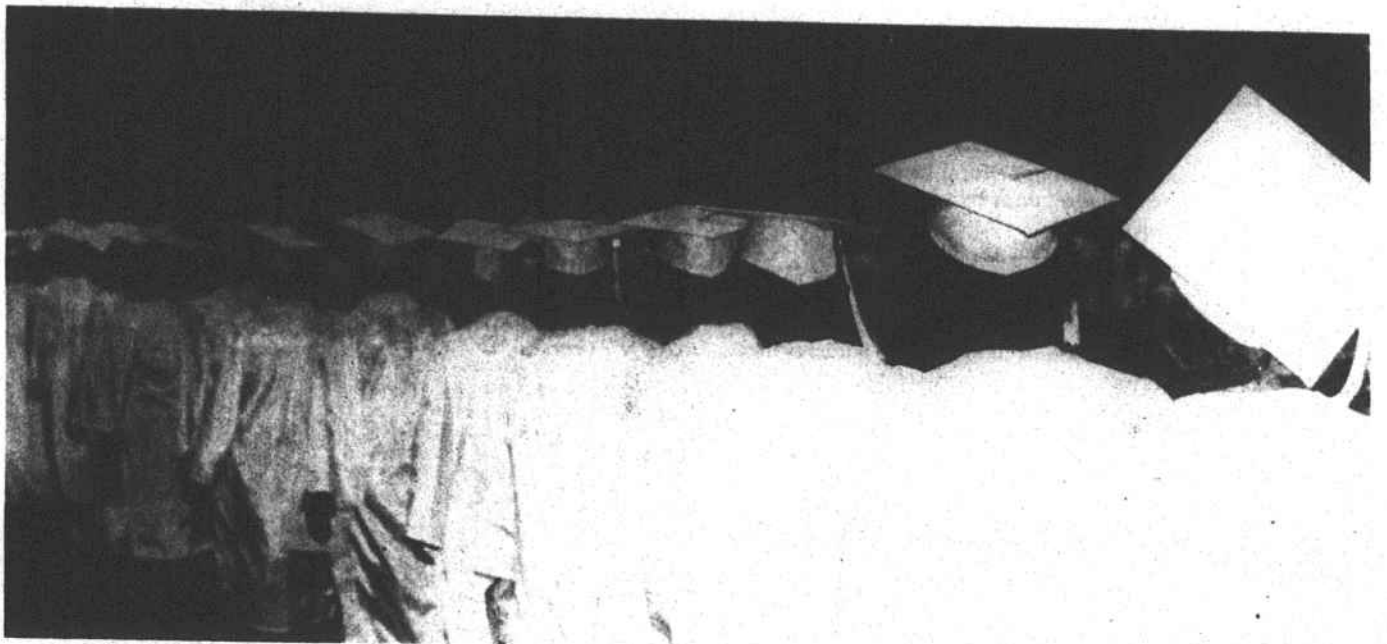
Also recognized were students who earned and were given scholarships.

Athletic scholarships were given to nine seniors.

Marco Pickett, Tony Townsend, Elgin Blue, Jeffery Fellows, Bruce Moore, Tony M. McRae, Del Pridgen, Garry McMillian and Larry McMillian all received athletic scholarships, in full or in part, to play various sports in colleges and universities all over North Carolina.

"This senior class has been unusually athletic," said Hoke Superintendent Dr. Robert Nelson.

The following students have received scholastic scholarships from clubs, schools and organizations: Adriene McPhatter, Kim McColl, Linda Glisson, Randy Scull, Kim Oxendine, Anthony Powell, Brenda Hendren, Jameria McPhatter, Noel Jones, Andy Sizemore, Kelley Goza, David Butler, Harry Southerland, Sharon Kershaw, Mark Black, Jenny Ellis, Ronnie Haynes, Kim Summers, William Currie, Patsy Baxley, Johnnie Thompson, Lisa Taylor, Joseph Mosso, Stephanie Stone and John Ward.



Hoke High soon-to-be graduates file into Friday's ceremonies.



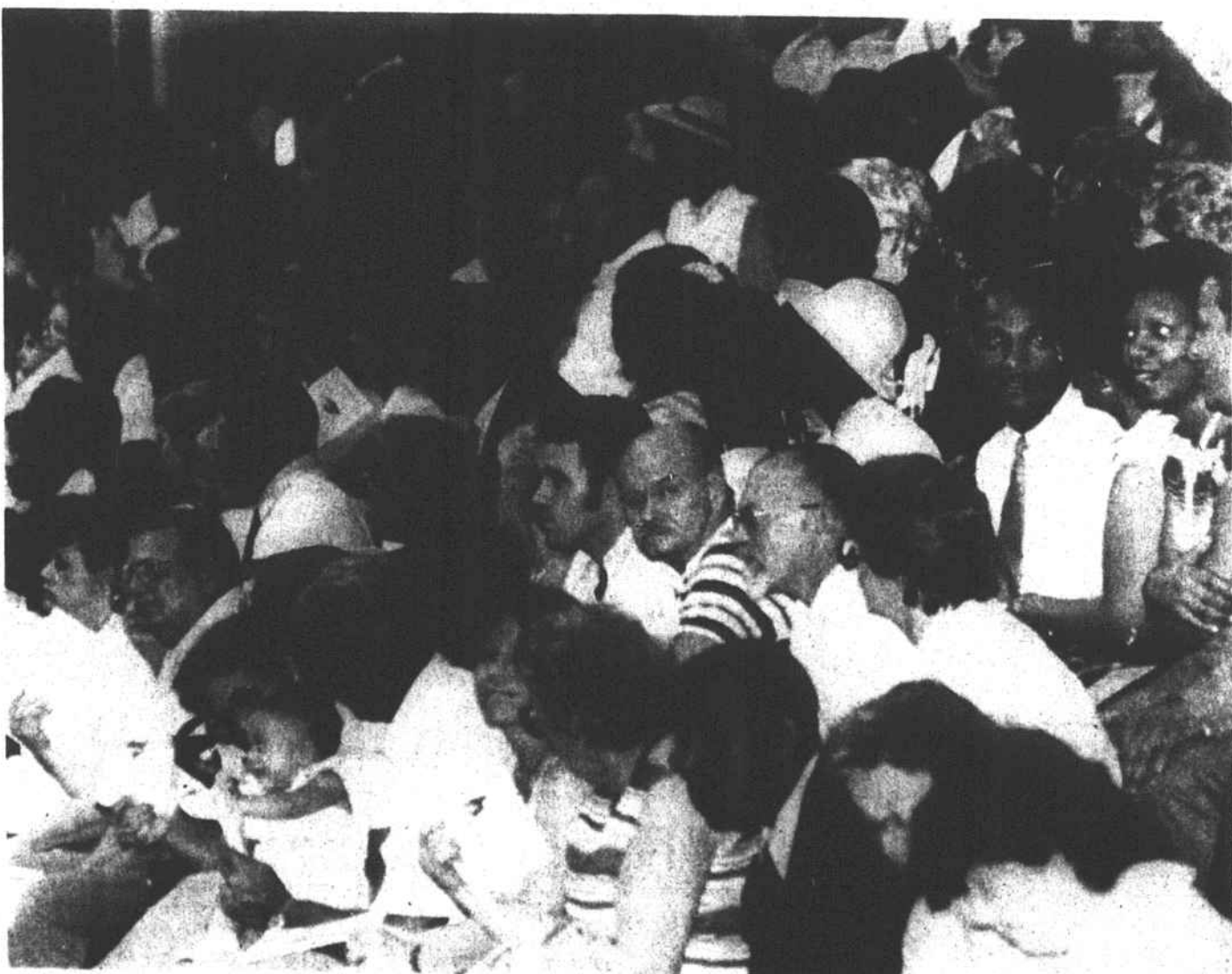
Members of the adult graduating class line up prior to the exercises.



Congressman Bill Hefner addresses the graduating seniors, while Raeford Methodist Church minister Rev. Arthur Winstead (right) listens.



Friday night was a special time for graduates and for those who attended the exercises.



Relatives and friends crammed into MacDonald Gym for the ceremonies, which were forced inside by the weather.