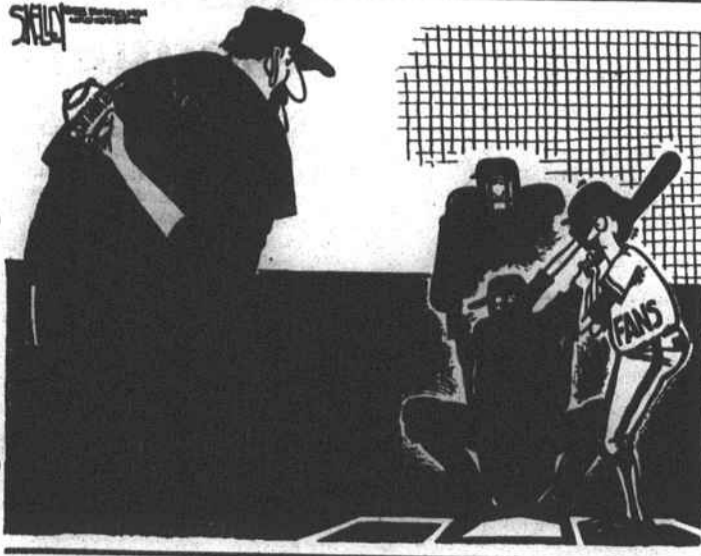


Opinions



Helping hands eases momentary crisis

No one is ready for panic at 7:30 a.m.
 For a fact, I wasn't and perhaps never will be.
 Nothing really terrible happened that morning coming from Fayetteville, but many have felt the shiver of despair (oh, what a drag!) that runs through the body when your car sputters its last sput and the engine dies.
 Immediately I looked at the gas gauge. The needle had a death grip on EMPTY.
 "That's what I get for trying to get to work early," I said aloud, adding in a few other choice remarks.

than I) sitting on oil drums and things at the rear of the store.
 Thinking maybe one of them worked there, I got out of the car and approached.
 "What time does the store open?" I asked.
 "Eight-thirty," one of the men replied.
 My brain really went into hysterics then.
 No gas in the car and about a 25 minute walk from work, where I needed to be in 10 minutes at the most.
 I told the guys my situation.
 Quick as a flash, one of the men, I think I heard him called Philadelphia, jumped up, grabbed a gas can that he said he had brought for a friend, and motioned me to follow him.
 "Where are we going?"
 "To another store."
 Now, I knew that the nearest store was about a 10 or 15 minute walk down the road from where we were, but I really didn't have a world of choices staring me in the face so I followed.
 We crossed the street to a field where there was a little foot path.
 Down the path we walked, not at a fast pace nor a slow one.
 One of the other men fell in line behind us. I never did catch his name, but that's OK. They never caught mine.
 In about three minutes, we had arrived at the station.

Bubba Tails
 Ed Miller

"Short cuts are a wonderful thing," I said, and Philadelphia told me they were especially good when the police were chasing you.
 I could not disagree with that reasoning for an instant remembering my childhood and some of the times I had moved at least the speed of light to escape a policeman who had seen me throw an egg at the home of the neighborhood grouchy, blue-haired old lady. I later came to realize that she was one of the dearest old souls on earth, but at the time I had no feel for her soul. She had just run me out of her yard and her precious begonias where some friends and I had been doing something really important like playing army that afternoon.
 Anyway, we were standing in front of the store, looking at the petrol pumps and the one full of unleaded had a piece of cardboard on it saying "empty."
 My luck was running true to form.
 "My car uses unleaded..." I said as I looked at Philadelphia.

His face dropped.
 Here was a man who had gone well out of his way to help me, and I was complaining because of what tetraethyl lead might do to my little Japanese engine.
 "My car uses unleaded...but this will be just fine," I said hoping for a brightening of his face.
 I went into the store and paid for the gas, then went back out and pumped it.
 I picked up the can, borrowed a funnel from the store manager, and we all went back to my car.
 After putting the gas in the tank, I tried to think of a way to repay the kindness of the two men.
 I did, but somehow it did not seem like enough.
 They had taken my panic away and put me back on the road all in under 10 minutes. Not a particularly amazing feat, but awfully nice.
 I have a list. A list of people who I will reward somehow, someday.
 Some of these people I have paid back with a good turn, some will have to wait until I'm rich and famous.
 Philadelphia and his friend are definitely near the top of my list.
 Chivalry is not dead and kindness knows no boundaries when one's heart is in the right place.
 Thanks guys.

Letters To The Editor

Cemetery board not doing job

To the Editor:
 What has happened to the so called cemetery board, or its president, in charge of Highland Biblical Gardens?
 We came from Indiana for the services of my grandson, and being a board member of a cemetery in Indiana of similar size, I was nauseated at the condition of what could be made into the most beautiful cemeteries in the Raeford area.
 To make the picture complete, a hay baler should have been at the edge of the cemetery. I was told by the Crumplers that the person in charge was notified three days before the funeral to mow the cemetery.
 If the persons contracted to mow the cemetery could not be contacted, the Crumplers would mow the section.
 Their offer was turned down by the so called president of the cemetery board. He in turn relied on an answering machine to resolve the problem instead of direct contact with the contracted lawn keepers.
 So my grandson was laid to rest

in a hay field of fescue.
 The cemetery hay field was mowed in the dark the evening after the funeral.

Thoroughly disgusted
 Charles A. Johnson
 Indianapolis, Indiana

Loose gravel causes damage to vehicles

To the Editor:
 We, the citizens of Hoke County, are concerned about the way our highways are being prepared, particularly in the Stonewall Community.
 There is loose gravel that has caused paint to be peeled from our cars and windows to be broken or chipped. More importantly, accidents are more likely to occur with this inadequate type of paving.
 On Highway 1003, which was completed approximately two weeks ago, there are large holes in the road.
 Many citizens all over Hoke County are working together to alleviate this major problem. We need your help and support.

Thank you,
 Hosea Baldwin

Never for a moment forgetting to thank my lucky stars that I have a manual transmission, I pushed in the clutch and coasted as far as momentum would carry me.
 I came to rest in the drive of a small store on the outskirts of Raeford that had gas pumps in front.
 Once again, my lucky stars were getting their just rewards when I noticed a sign on the door saying "closed."
 The stars were forgotten, and the choice remarks returned.
 I got out of the car to survey the situation, always a clever if not an effective thing to do in the midst of a crisis.
 There were four or five older black men (not real old, but older

Women's group leaders refused seating

We read that the National Women's Political Caucus, meeting recently in Atlanta, refused to seat a Louisiana delegation because that state unit had not ratified a by-law supporting sexual and reproductive freedom for women.
 "Sexual freedom refers to lesbians and the decision to refuse to seat the Louisiana delegation was made on the recommendation of the national group's "Lesbian

Caucus."
 No male political caucus claims to represent men, and none could do so. Neither can any organized group of women represent American women en masse.
 One would suspect, from such actions as encouragement of lesbianism, that much of the leadership in active female political groups is pretty far removed from the thinking of the average American woman.

Cliff Blue
 People and Issues



FIRE TRUCKS ... Virgils "Fire" Trucks, a talented pitcher for the Detroit Tigers in the fifties

(he pitched two no-hitters), fired a pitch at the Major League players' union recently.
 Players now average earning \$360,000 a year. They're threatening to strike again (they did in 1981) if clubs limit total salary expenditures to balance competition, as in other pro sports.
 Players now averaging \$360,000 for nine months of game-play would come down to earth for a living, twelve months a year.

The Johnson Company
INSURANCE
 AUTO — FIRE
 HOMEOWNERS — COMMERCIAL
 Raeford's Oldest Agency
 110 E. Central Avenue Phone 875-3550

PUBLIC NOTICE
 The City of Raeford Water Department will be conducting smoke tests on the sewer lines in the Jones Hill and High School Road areas. Do not be alarmed if smoke is noticed from drains. These tests will be performed during the months of August, September and November.

"ATTENTION"
Teachers - Coaches
School Administrators
 Sales and service position is now available in Hoke County for the teacher market. Starting salary \$20,000 per year, plus bonus and commissions based on production. Training program in our established educator market. A career position which provides automatic increases in group benefits and compensation based on performance and time with company. Multi-line portfolio of extremely competitive products. Full benefit package including group life, major medical, disability, and super retirement program. College degree and teaching or school administration background required.
 Send resume to: C. Steven Mosley, Educators and Executives Insurance, Inc.
 P.O. Box 1248, Monroe, N.C. 28110
 Georgia International Life Insurance Company - A Member of the Capital Holding Family

AUCTION

Sponsored by the Raeford Jaycees
 to benefit the
 Hoke County Girl Scouts
Saturday, August 3, 1985
 10 a.m. until — —
New National Guard Armory



NEW ITEMS

- Ceiling Fan
- 20" Ceiling Fan
- Electric Curlers
- Electric Iron
- Cases of Oil
- News Journal Subscriptions
- Door Knockers

- Country Crafts
- Cleaners Gift Cert.
- Auto Parts Gift Cert.
- Toys & Games
- Interior Paint
- VCR Rentals & Movies
- Car Stereo

- Sewing Machine
- Man's Sweater
- Frying Pans
- 3/8" Drill
- Local Restaurant Dinners
- Wheel Balance & Rotation
- Wood Duck

Many more used & new items!

Raz Autry
 Auctioneer