



Feeling of relief
 These Hoke County cows appear relieved they are not the holiday fare for Thanksgiving. The three took a break from eating and lined up to pose recently in a field near Antioch.

Photo by Stephen T. Hambert

Defense is studied in 'Jailhouse' suit

An investigation by defense attorneys is continuing into a "jailhouse" lawsuit filed in federal court asking for \$1.1 million in damages against Hoke County Sheriff Dave Barrington and three other local law enforcement officers.

Attorneys representing the defendants are examining the facts in the suit which was filed by Sherwood McLean, who claims he was severely beaten by Barrington, Deputy J.W. Jones, Det. Ed Harris and Jailer Ralph Tindall while he was confined in the Hoke County Jail in 1983.

McLean is currently serving a 25-year sentence in the Caledonia Facility in Tillery for the armed robbery of Jack Tucker on March 2, 1983.

"The suit is in the process of being investigated and is now in the hands of a paralegal," Winston-Salem defense attorney Allen Gitter said in a telephone interview on Thursday.

Gitter is with Womble, Carlisle, Sandridge and Rice, the firm representing the sheriff and the Hoke County officers in the case. The cost of the defense is covered by the county's insurance.

McLean claims he was severely beaten by the four officers as he was being escorted back to his cell after being convicted on the armed robbery charges on May 18, 1983.

In a statement included in an incident investigation report, Deputy J.W. Jones said while he and Jailer Ralph Tindall were escorting McLean back to his cell, McLean hit Jones in the face.

The report indicates that McLean was unprovoked into hitting the officer.

Jones further states that McLean continued to fight and that it took Jones, Det. Ed Harris and Jailer Ralph Tindall to get McLean under control.

But in McLean's suit, he claims that Jones hit him over the head with a "flap jack" on the way back from McLean's sentencing.

The suit further claims that Jones then called Sheriff Barrington, Det. Ed Harris and Jailer Ralph Tindall to assist him in punching McLean about the head, arms and body.

A witness to McLean's alleged beating is Alexander McArn, a co-defendant in the armed robbery on Tucker.

McArn testified that McLean had participated in the armed robbery.

McArn also signed a statement in the McLean suit which differed from an earlier version giving to investigating officers.

In the investigation report, McArn says McLean hit Jones first.

McLean is seeking \$250,000 from Barrington and \$15,000 from Jones, Harris and Tindall for compensatory damages.

In addition, the plaintiff is seeking \$10,000 each from the defendants in punitive damage.

McLean also is claiming that the defendants disregarded his medical condition and subjected him to "unnecessary pain and suffering" by refusing to give him the proper medication and care required for his epileptic condition.

McLean refused medical attention from ambulance drivers following the incident and was taken to Central Prison where he was treated for a head wound, reports show.

... Around Town continued

(Continued from page 1A)

Ray Harris, Music Director of the Raeford Presbyterian Church, has been asked to lead the singing, according to information reaching me.

The street decorations will be turned on at 5:45 p.m. The sponsoring groups have asked that citizens of Raeford turn on their lights in their homes and on their front porches at the same time.

This should start the Christmas season off in the correct spirit. Nothing commercial is involved in this event. Just trying to bring joy and the Christmas spirit to all who will participate.

So join in this event Sunday at 5.

Another meeting that could help with community spirit is a dinner meeting on Saturday night, December 7. It will bring together the black and white ministerial

associations of the county. The event will take place at Freedom Chapel starting at 6 p.m. This could lead to something big in the county.

The American Legion sponsored supper planned for December 3 will be held at the new National Guard Armory on Teal Drive. This is to benefit the Legion baseball team.

The featured speaker will be Bobby Richardson, famous New York Yankee baseball player, also in the program will be Miss North Carolina, Joni Parker and Miss Fayetteville, Kim Evans.

Tickets can be purchased from Legion members and will be priced at \$10.

The Raeford Kiwanis Club Annual Pancake Supper will be held Thursday, December 5, beginning at 5 p.m. The Gibson Cafeteria will be the place for this annual

event. Besides Kiwanians, tickets can be purchased at *The News-Journal* office, Western Auto and Howell Drug. This is an event where you get all you can eat for the price of a ticket. The fun and fellowship is worth more than the ticket will cost.

Proceeds from this event is used by the club in its many worthwhile projects for Hoke County.

Hope to see you there!

The Mullet Roast, second annual, will be at the Civic Center on Wednesday night, December 11. Tickets can be obtained from Steve Parker at Southern National Bank. This event is sponsored by the Hoke County Committee of 100.

Those that were in attendance last year had a fine time and heard many projects that would help the city and county. Many state and local officials will be on hand for this event.

So mark your calendar and pur-

chase your ticket.

Don't forget the county-wide Thanksgiving service Wednesday night, November 27 at the First Baptist Church. The service will start at 7:30 p.m.

The deadline for taking pictures to appear in the Christmas section of *The News-Journal* will be Friday, December 5. So if you have a door front, inside decorations, etc. that you would like to have appear in this section, please call our office so that a time can be arranged for the picture to be taken.

Remember the deadline, Friday, December 5.

... United Fund near mark

(Continued from page 1A)

The supervisors were then given pledge cards and explained the goals of the drive to employees in their various departments.

"I found that managers who talked to individuals in their departments did the best," Gregory said.

"It's a very distinct pleasure to be working with employees who are willing to participate in something as worthwhile as this," Gregory added.

Faberge has contributed to the fund in years past, but this is the first time the employees were asked to participate.

"If we had gotten two or three thousand dollars I would have been impressed," said Ken Witherspoon, president of the Hoke County United Fund Drive.

The Faberge employees' response to the local drive will set a challenge to other local businesses to support the fund, according to Witherspoon.

... Tree lighting Sunday

(Continued from page 1A)

mission and the Raeford-Hoke Chamber of Commerce, is being funded by the Raeford Merchants Association.

The Merchants Association last week voted to disband and to contribute more than \$1,000 in accumulated funds towards repairing the town's Christmas lights, restoring the Aberdeen and Rockfish Depot and for downtown revitalization.

Anyone interested in singing in the combined choir is to meet at 4 p.m. Sunday afternoon at the Raeford United Methodist Church to rehearse the carols.

All Hoke County residents are encouraged to attend the tree lighting which begins at 5 p.m.

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 6:30 a.m.-3 p.m.
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 And All Trimmings
 OR
COUNTRY HAM
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Be a part of "CHRISTMAS '85," our special section to be published December 19.

This year's section will include gift ideas, holiday recipes, Hoke County season's traditions, folklore, letters to Santa, local decorations and more.

The News-Journal
 875-2121

To advertise, call no later than noon, December 10. For photographs or other contributions, call prior to December 5.

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