

Court Decision Backs Vepco

ROCKY MOUNT — North Carolina's Supreme Court, in a 4-3 decision, has ruled against the North Carolina Utilities Commission in its attempt to roll back the Virginia Electric and Power Company's fuel charges to retail customers because of mismanagement.

The court says that more than \$60-million charged by Vepco to its retail customers in the Northeastern North Carolina region does not have to be rolled back to them as the Commission has asked Vepco to do.

The court maintained that the Utilities Commission did not seek redress of Vepco's mismanagement charges in the fuel charge case, but that it would have to seek that charge in a regular rate case.

"We find little comfort in that," J. Larkin Little, chairman of Operation Overcharge, said. "If a company is mismanaged, it is certainly mismanaged in making fuel charges just as it is in setting rates," he commented. "This shows, again, that consumers, very seldom, see grievances settled in their favor in the courts."

"It comes down to the simple fact," Little pointed out, "that a company does not have to be well managed, it just has to know how to retain good lawyers and Vepco has some of the best."

Little said an effort by the Public Staff of North Carolina to ask for a review by the Supreme Court "holds out little hope for a reversal." "We would expect more of the same."

Meanwhile, Little said Northeastern North Carolinians are trying to

figure out how to grapple with a "well managed 100 per cent fuel charge." Vepco has just handed to its wholesale customers, the municipalities that serve thousands of customers in the region. "That's hard to take on top of this court decision," Little said.

Little said Operation Overcharge has known for a long time that "we won't change the system very quickly." "It's entrenched and it's going to take a long period of effort to find solutions to the power problems in Northeastern North Carolina," he said. "The easiest solution is for Vepco to leave the region, and we've known that from the start," he said.

Meanwhile, Little looked astance at the fuel charge itself. "We disagree with the fuel charge concept," he said. "It was wrong in the beginning, it's wrong now, and it will be wrong as long as we have it." "It, in effect," he said, "allows the power companies to raise their rates any time they want to raise them without any adequate response allowed by the consumers."



AREA PLAYERS ON TECH SQUAD — Two former area players are members of Coach Bill Dooley's 1980 Virginia Tech football squad. Standing with Assistant Coach Ken Treadway, from left, are junior defensive tackle Hannon Fry from Manteo High and junior defensive end Robert Brown from John Holmes High in Edenton.

Geologist Studies Albemarle Region

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understand present transpositions, Lenzhart viewed the Dismal Swamp as similar to the environment which produced the rich Pennsylvania coal field over a time span of millions of years.

For his masters thesis in micropaleontology, Lenzhart spent eight weeks in Colorado, collecting samples and mapping 16 square miles of mountains from 9,000 feet to 13,000 feet, which is no small feat. Other field trips have taken him north to New England, west to California, south to Louisiana, and east to North Carolina. "I've seen a lot of things not found in books," he remarks.

Although stratigraphers and paleontologists are in high demand by industry, especially oil companies, Lenzhart has always wanted to teach since his first undergraduate course in

geology at the University of Louisville, Kentucky. "My main interest is teaching. I've never wanted industry. I've wanted to share the knowledge and the thrills since that first course in geology," he said.

"This is our home, it is where we live," Lenzhart always tells first-time geology students. "We should know what it's made of, what we can expect from our home in the event of possible disaster, what to watch out for, like any home. Then, what can we do about it... earthquakes, tornadoes, hurricanes...if anything."

This semester Lenzhart is teaching Stratigraphy and Sedimentary Rock, "Where it came from, how it was deposited, how it turned into rock, how we can interpret the sedimentary rock in terms of earth history. This is where the fossils are preserved we will study next semester." He is also teaching survey courses in environmental science and General Geology. On schedule for the spring semester will be a course in

Invertebrate Paleontology, which contains plants and animals with backbone.

The new assistant professor believes in "hands on experience," which means frequent field trips and implementation of classroom lectures.

He resides in Elizabeth City with his wife, Sandy, employed as a sixth grade teacher in Currituck County Elementary School.

BRASWELL PROMOTED
Marine Lance Cpl. Thomas J. Braswell, son of Jessie J. Braswell, 26 Chowan Court, Edenton, has been promoted to his present rank while serving with 2nd Force Service Support Group, Marine Corps Base, Camp Lejeune. He joined the Marine Corps in October, 1976.

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Pork Festival Scheduled Oct. 1

The tickets for the 1981 Virginia Pork Festival will go on sale October 1. Tickets will be \$12.50 each and will be limited to four tickets per person. Tickets may be ordered by writing to the Virginia Pork Festival, Inc., P. O. Box 1001, Emporia, Virginia 23847.

Ticket sales policy will be as follows:

The following will be the sales policy for the 1981 Virginia Pork Festival only. Twelve thousand tickets will be sold. Ticket orders will be limited to four tickets per person. Tickets will be sold by mail only. Tickets will go

on sale October 1. Ticket orders postmarked before October 1 will not be honored.

Ticket orders will be filled on a first come - first serve basis, based on date of postmark. Each person attending must have a ticket. Should a ticket over-order occur, an alternate sales policy will be decided at the discretion of the Executive Committee.

The Virginia Pork Festival, Inc., is a non-profit promotional - educational organization dedicated to the promotion of pork and pork products and to the

recognition of the swine industry.

Winn-Dixie To Distribute Fair Coupons

Winn-Dixie Stores throughout North Carolina will distribute free "Fair Deal" coupons good for a savings of up to 40 per cent on admission and ride tickets to the 1980 N. C. State Fair in Raleigh.

The coupons can be used to order any number of advance tickets thru the mail directly from the N. C. State Fair office in Raleigh. Mail orders using the Winn-Dixie "Fair Deal" coupons must be postmarked no later than October 3. This gives the State Fair time to process and return the tickets prior to the October 17-25 Fair dates.

Ivan Hardesty, Jr., advertising director of the Winn-Dixie Raleigh Division, said they are "extremely pleased to participate with the State Fair and offer this exclusive service to our customers". He added that 164 North Carolina Winn-Dixie Stores will be distributing approximately 2,000,000 discount coupons between now and the October 3 deadline.

Not Telephone Directory

ROCKY MOUNT — Business and professional firms in Eastern North Carolina may be confusing listings in a private national "classified directory" with Yellow Page advertising in their local telephone directories.

B. C. Dixon, Carolina Telephone and Telegraph Company directory manager, said the solicitation by National Directory Publishers of Niagara Falls, N.Y., has no connection with Carolina Telephone.

"I have received inquiries from a number of business people in Carolina

Telephone's service area who thought they were buying space in our company's telephone directory. The printed material they are receiving by mail has an illustration that resembles a telephone directory Yellow Pages with the words, 'Directory Advertising Gets Results,'" Dixon said.

"Carolina Telephone is concerned that our customers clearly understand that the organization is unrelated to the telephone company and that purchase of such advertising does not entitle them to space in the telephone book distributed by our company."

Why is it that most people get so excited over nothing?

Card Of Thanks

It is very hard to express in a few words all the acts of kindness shown to us during the sickness and death of John Jethro. We would like to thank Dr. Hardy of Greenville, Dr. Lucas and Dr. O'Leary, the staff of Pitt Memorial Hospital, Chowan Hospital and Chowan Hospital Extended Care Facility for all they did for John over the past 6 years. We thank each of you for the prayers, flowers, donations, cards, food and all the acts of kindness shown to each of us. We sincerely appreciate all that each has done. God bless you.

The Family

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