

EXTENSION SCENE

By Everette Davis

For agricultural producers and many agribusinessmen, the winter months provide a time for reviewing the things that have happened during the past year as well as making plans for the coming year. The winter months are best suited for these activities since it is generally much too busy during the spring and summer to consider much more than the hectic demands of production.

As I have discussed many times in the past through this column, I feel that it is extremely important for all those involved in agriculture to stay as abreast as possible to the latest

developments that pertain to their specific interest. The topics of interest to those in the agricultural profession would definitely include production technology, but should also include marketing strategies, management practices, and the many other topics that are often placed on the back burner.

There has always been a great variety of opportunities for those involved in agriculture to gain information related to almost any topic imaginable. Most often these opportunities are sponsored by retail businesses or governmental agencies and are provided at no cost. All that is required is that there be an interest in the information, a desire to obtain that information, and a commitment of a small amount of time to take advantage of the opportunity.

Producers who are between the ages of 25 and 45, have at least a high school education, and are the active decision makers in their farming operation are allowed to apply. Final selection of the applicants will be made by the state Steering Committee.

The objectives of the Master Farm Management Seminar is to develop an understanding of the importance of sound business practices, learn the importance of business records and how to use them, and how to develop and use financial statements. In addition, training will be provided on how to develop and manage farm credit plans, how to develop a comprehensive marketing plan, and how to develop both short- and long-term farm plans with emphasis on investment decisions and agricultural policy alternatives.

I would like to encourage all agricultural producers from Robeson who fit the above criteria to consider applying for this seminar. This will be one of the best opportunities available to gain a greater knowledge of farm management and how to increase profitability in our fast changing agricultural society. Those interested should contact the Robeson County Agricultural Extension Service by calling 671-3276.

Hatcher

From Page 1

Lake ordered him to sit down and be quiet.

"I simply want to ..." Mr. Nakell said before Mr. Hatcher, who claims to be Tuscarora Indian, broke in and shouted at the judge: "You're a racist, segregationist, son of a bitch."

At that point, Mr. Hatcher's mother and sister, who were seated in the courtroom with about 30 other spectators, stood and briefly turned their backs to the court.

Mr. Hatcher sat down, and Judge Lake told Mr. Nakell that Mr. Thompson was the "only counsel of record at this time." Judge Lake told Mr. Nakell that if he wanted to address the court he would have to do so through Mr. Thompson.

Mr. Nakell, in a voice that could be heard throughout the courtroom, then began talking to Mr. Thompson about a ruling in July by Judge Dexter Brooks to allow Mr. Kunstler and Mr. Kuby to represent Mr. Hatcher.

Members of the audience applauded, and Judge Lake ordered Mr. Nakell removed from the courtroom, telling him he was considering citing him with contempt of court.

The judge later explained that "Judge Farmer in effect overruled Judge Brooks, and that's not a matter for this court. That's a matter for higher courts."

As Mr. Nakell was being ordered to leave, Mr. Hatcher, with his hair in a ponytail and wearing a long-sleeve shirt and fringed vest, shouted an obscenity and threw two pens that clattered off the judge's bench.

Mr. Hatcher's mother, Thelma Clark, then called her son's name and attempted to speak to Judge Lake, who cut her off.

"Do you want me to leave?" she asked the judge.

"Yes," he responded. "Well, it's a joke in here anyway," she said as she turned to leave the courtroom.

Judge Lake then granted a five-minute recess requested by Mr. Thompson.

The hour-long hearing — with Ms. Clark back in the courtroom and Mr. Nakell observing from behind a glass door — resumed when Mr. Thompson reported that

Mr. Hatcher was ready to proceed and would not need to be gagged.

But, before Mr. Hatcher was returned to the courtroom, Judge Lake said: "Since he's thrown something at the bench already, bring him back in handcuffs."

When Mr. Hatcher was seated, the judge told him: "You're going to get your rights whether you act like an intelligent individual or something else. But I'm not going to let you disrupt this court."

Judge Lake then asked Mr. Hatcher a series of questions about his decision to represent himself, telling him that he faced a possible maximum sentence of 420 years if convicted of all charges. Mr. Hatcher's demeanor was calm as he responded and asked questions about a variety of issues, including his access to legal materials to prepare for trial. No trial date has been set, according to District Attorney Richard Townsend.

After asking Mr. Hatcher about his willingness to represent himself, Judge Lake found him to be "a very well educated and mature individual" and granted his request to represent himself. Mr. Hatcher told the judge he has three years of education beyond high school.

Judge Lake ordered Mr. Nakell to return to court Thursday for a hearing on the possible contempt citation.

Judge Lake, explaining his reason for the contempt hearing, told Mr. Nakell he had "refused to sit down and be quiet" and had been disruptive.

Mr. Hatcher, 31, and another Pembroke-area man, Timothy Jacobs, 20, claimed they seized a Lumberton newspaper office to call attention to their allegations of law enforcement corruption in Robeson County.

The two men were acquitted of federal hostage-taking and weapons charges in a U.S. District Court trial in Raleigh last year in which Mr. Hatcher represented himself. They were subsequently indicted on state kidnapping charges in connection with the same incident.

Mr. Jacobs pleaded guilty to the state charges in May and was sentenced to six years in prison.

How to get the most from your bank

AUTOMATED TELLER MACHINES PROVIDE MORE THAN CASH

By Michael A. Dixon

The automated teller machine has become a household name since its beginnings in the mid-1970s, but many people are unaware of all of the functions the machine can perform and the ATM modifications that have been made to better serve customers.

In addition to being able to withdraw cash from a teller machine, you can use it to make deposits to accounts.

To make a deposit, fill out a deposit ticket and put the ticket and the endorsed check or cash into a deposit envelope. Envelopes are located at the ATM, usually in a compartment above or to the side of the machine. Enclose a pre-printed deposit ticket from your checkbook or use the deposit ticket provided at the machine when making a deposit at a teller machine.

You can also use an ATM to transfer money from one account to another. This feature allows you to make loan or credit card payments or move funds from a line of credit into a checking account. The machine can also provide account balance information.

You now can make ATM transactions without leaving your car by using the new drive-up machines available at some banks. Drive-up ATMs are particularly convenient in bad weather or if you have young children with you.

If you are out shopping and run out of cash, a remote or standalone ATM can help you out. These machines are located in public places such as shopping centers and hospitals and are not part of a full-service branch.

You can use the automated teller machine of another bank if your bank and the other bank are members of an ATM network such as Relay, Cirrus or Plus. About 2,300 ATMs in North Carolina, South Carolina, Virginia, Georgia and Florida make up the Relay network. You can access thousands of ATMs across the country through the Cirrus or Plus nationwide networks. You likely will be charged a small fee for using an ATM at a bank other than your own.

If you are traveling in the United States and need to use a Cirrus teller machine, you can call 1-800-4-Cirrus to locate the nearest ATM on the Cirrus network. If your bank is a Plus member, you can call 1-800-The-Plus to find the nearest ATM on the Plus network.

To ensure that you are the only person who has access to your money through an automated teller machine:

- Never write your personal identification code on your card. Without that number, a thief cannot get to your money through an ATM. Memorize the code.
- Don't keep your card and code in the same place, such as in your wallet or purse.
- If your card is lost, notify your bank immediately.
- Don't lend your card to anyone.

Your ATM transactions appear on your checking, savings or bank credit card statements. Save your receipts from all transactions and record them in your checkbook after you use an automated teller machine. This will help you balance your statement each month.

Michael A. Dixon is a Personal Banker in the Main Office of Wachovia Bank and Trust Co. in Greenville.



Michael A. Dixon

In past years one of the greatest opportunities for a young producer to gain a broad range of information was to attend the Modern Farming Short Course that was taught on the N.C. State campus for two weeks during last January and early February. This school was particularly useful to those who recognize a need for greater insight into such topics as production, marketing, management, alternative crops, research, and much more.

Because of the changing trends over the years, the format for this traditional school has been changed. Instead of two weeks, this school now involves only one week of classes. The classes will still be taught on the campus of N.C. State University, and the cost to participate will be offset by scholarships provided by the regional Farm Credit Association. However, instead of dealing with a broad range of general topics, the new format will provide more inten-

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