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BEATING THE HEAT this week at the Southern Pines town lake off the Midland road, these young folks could afford to laugh at a hot photographer who wished he was in the water, too. Hanging or sitting on a play log in the water are, left to right: Jimmy Copeland, son of M/Sgt. and Mrs. O. R. Copeland; Eddie McKenzie, son of Mr. and Mrs. R. E. McKenzie; Steve Caldwell, son of Mr. and Mrs. James H. Caldwell; and

Gwen and Ralph McKenzie, also children of Mr. and Mrs. R. E. McKenzie. The older boys in back are Ike Woodell, son of Mr. and Mrs. Isaac Woodell, and his cousin, Larry Kelly, son of Mr. and Mrs. Lawrence Kelly. The Kelly family has just returned from four years in Germany. The lake is a popular spot with all ages during the current heat wave. (Pilot Staff Photo)

'On Stage America' Uses Home Talent In Minstrel Show Thursday, Friday

Project To Benefit Building Fund Church Of Wide Fellowship

"On Stage America," an old-fashioned musical minstrel with a modern patriotic twist, is being presented at Weaver Auditorium at 8:13 p. m. Thursday and Friday nights of this week.

Directed by Miss Nyla Anne Jester of Indianapolis, Ind., who returned here for the second year to stage a home talent show, by special request, the production is sponsored by the Fellowship Forum of the Church of Wide Fellowship for benefit of the church's building fund.

A whirlwind week of casting and rehearsals was wound up Thursday with first presentation of the traditional burnt-cork minstrel—with added talent show, choruses and music.

The Tiny Tot Popularity contest, a sideline to the main show, will be run off at the Friday night performance with crowning and robing of king and queen, prince and princess and duke and duchess. Winners are based on penny votes in boxes in various business establishments.

Clever costumes of satin and taffeta in brilliant colors will be worn by teen-agers in the two dancing choruses, the Hotsy Totsies and the Dixie Dandies. The flashy motif of minstrel days is carried out in the costumes of the high school girls who add a musical comedy note to the production.

Members of the Hotsy Totsies chorus are: Betty Foushee, Janice Holliday, Carolyn Hoskins, Delores Mearady, Joan Harris, Phyllis Faircloth, Phyllis Garzik, Arden Fobes and Grace Dupree. The Dixie Dandies are: Patty Britt, Linda Thompson, Becky Traylor, Suzanne Steed, Ann Vann, Lillian Clark, Catherine Harris, Frances Harper, Donna Dawson and Carolyn Smith.

Performing in the talent contest are vocalists, dancers, baton twirlers, instrumentalists and persons with other talents, all from Southern Pines and this area. A \$25 savings bond will be first prize in this contest, awarded to the winner chosen by the audience.

Running throughout the show will be music, singing, dancing and minstrel routines, including a men's minstrel circle, the ladies' (Continued on Page 5)

Lennon To Address YDC Rally Sept. 5

Senator Alton A. Lennon has accepted an invitation to speak at a Young Democrats county and district rally in Moore county Saturday, September 5, it was announced today. Time and place of the rally have not yet been chosen. J. Douglas David of Pinebluff is YDC chairman for the county. Al Cruise of Aberdeen is 8th District chairman.

No Change As Budget Is Adopted Controversial School Fund Not Opposed

At their regular meeting in Carthage Monday, the county commissioners formally adopted a 1953-'54 budget that sets the county-wide tax rate at \$1.35 per \$100 of property valuation. The budget has been lying open for inspection during the past three weeks, during which time it could have been questioned or changes could have been asked. Although the county board of education has been quoted as disatisfied with distribution of school capital outlay funds in the proposed budget, no formal action to change the budget was taken during the period when this could legally have been done.

The budget is based on an estimated property valuation of \$40,000,000. Total budget requirements are listed as \$1,072,367.

All members of the county board attended the Monday meeting—Chairman G. M. Cameron of Pinehurst; John M. Currie of Carthage; Tom Monroe of Robbins; J. M. Pleasant of Southern Pines and L. R. Reynolds of Leaman. The board approved four road petitions and a petition for a new bridge over the railroad at Vass, as reported in detail elsewhere in today's Pilot.

As part of their formal action on the budget, the commissioners adopted resolutions approving the budget's appropriations to the various funds and setting the rate of tax levy for each fund.

A large number of the county's taxpayers will actually pay a rate higher than the county-wide \$1.35, because of special school and bond levies.

Southern Pines rate tops the county with \$1.83—the regular \$1.35 levy plus a special school levy of 34 cents and a levy of 14 cents to pay interest and redemption on bonds issued for construction of Weaver auditorium and a portion of the school gymnasium.

Aberdeen and Pinehurst school districts each has a special school levy of 30 cents to pay supplementary teachers and provide extra services in the schools, not provided by the state, making the tax rate in those communities \$1.65. Pinebluff is included in the Aberdeen school district. (Continued on Page 5)

New Pastor Called By Baptist Church

The Rev. D. Hoke Coon, assistant pastor of the First Baptist church, Salisbury, has been called as pastor of the First Baptist church, Southern Pines, it was announced this week.

The new pastor, who is 26 years old and married, will assume his duties here September 1. Rev. Mr. Coon preached here about a month ago and was formally called to the church here within the past few days.

In the absence of a regular pastor, the Rev. James Oppert is serving as supply pastor until the arrival of Rev. Mr. Coon. David W. Gamble is chairman of the First Baptist pulpit committee of the First Baptist church.

Their Families Wait And Hope

The Pilot has record. Both have spent many months in Communist prison camps. Communications from both have reached their families. There is good reason to believe both are alive.

As the exchange of prisoners began Tuesday (Wednesday in Korea), families of the Moore County men could do little but fight down their anxiety, control their soaring joy and watch the daily lists of released men now being published in the press.

Two Moore County Men Among Red Prisoners

They are only two of the numbered human units in Korea's "Operation Big Switch"—the exchange of United Nations and Red prisoners now going on—but to eager waiting families and friends in Moore county they are all-important.

They are: Cpl. Henry Bradford, husband of Mrs. Cleocy Renegar Bradford of Southern Pines, and Sergeant First Class Gentry T. Frye, son of Mr. and Mrs. Theodore Frye of Carthage, Route 1. These two United States Army men are the only Moore County prisoners in Korea of which

Harden Will Speak Here

John Harden, of Greensboro, a vice-president of Burlington Mills and one of the state's most sought-after speakers, has accepted the invitation of the Southern Pines Chamber of Commerce to be the principal speaker at the membership banquet to be held in September.

Mr. Harden, a former newspaperman in Charlotte, Salisbury and Greensboro, is well known also in state political circles and is a longtime friend and close adviser to Governor Umstead. This week he was appointed by the Governor to head the publicity for the state bond issue for schools and mental institutions, to be held October 3. He was also sworn in Monday as a member of the N. C. Library Commission. His talk here will be non-polit-



ical in nature, on the general theme of what makes a good community.

Police Aid Man Dazed By Beating Motorist From Florida Injured By Hitch-Hikers

Mystery today surrounds a brutal attack made Tuesday by two young hitchhikers on a 47-year-old Florida man, Eugene Contino of Jacksonville, who is a patient at St. Joseph of the Pines hospital.

Dazed and bleeding, Contino was stopped by Police Officers Ray Backlund and Kieth Marks, driving his black 1950 Mercury "fast and weaving on the road" about 7:30 p. m. Tuesday, while the officers were patrolling No. 1 highway for speeders.

It required over 50 stitches to close the jagged wounds that covered the man's head after the officers took him to the hospital. His left eye and right hand were also injured.

While Contino had left his home to drive north to visit a nephew at Camp Pickett, Va., he was headed south on No. 1 when he was stopped.

From the confused accounts given by the man, police officers here gathered that he had been attacked somewhere north of Southern Pines by hitchhikers he had picked up earlier Tuesday—but whether the two young men had entered his car before or after he had passed through Southern Pines could not be determined. He said he had spent Monday night at Columbia, S. C., after leaving Jacksonville, where he operates a shoe repair shop, Monday.

Contino said he had no family at Jacksonville. The nephew at Camp Pickett was notified by police.

Police Chief C. E. Newton quoted Contino as giving the following description of the two men he had picked up and who later forced him into a side road at an unknown location, had beaten him into unconsciousness and robbed him of a wallet containing between \$80 and \$90.

One was tall, slim and fair, about 25 years old, weighing from 160 to 170 pounds, neatly dressed in gray clothing and wearing a short-sleeved shirt.

The other was short, stockily built and dark, about five feet, six inches in height, neatly dressed in dark clothing, with brown hair and about 25.

Contino told police the men had been riding with him about 25 or 30 minutes when one of them said, "Turn off on this side road; we got some business with you." Although protesting, Contino turned and was slugged into unconsciousness as soon as the car had stopped.

KENNEDY WOUNDED NEAR WAR'S END

Pfc Mack Kennedy, son of Mr. and Mrs. A. M. Kennedy of Aberdeen, Route 1, was wounded in action on July 27, the last day before the cease fire order went into effect in Korea, according to notification received by the parents this week.

The Moore County young man, who entered service in the Marine Corps in February 1952, is the youngest son in the Kennedy family. He has two brothers and four sisters.

Survey Shows Optimistic Outlook For Fall Golf Tourney At Country Club

C. of C. Directors May Decide Monday On Definite Plans

First reports on the Chamber of Commerce golf tournament survey, which got under way this week, are "extremely encouraging," it was learned from Joe Montesanti, Jr., who is heading the project as special events chairman.

While no large pledges have been reported as yet, with most of the amounts ranging from \$5 to \$25, hardly anyone approached has refused to indicate cooperation, he said.

The directors are visiting business firms in town to ascertain the extent to which each is willing to participate financially, if the

Chamber goes ahead with its sponsorship of the November event. No money is being collected at this time but "we have to have \$3,000 in sight before we can underwrite the tournament," declared Chairman Montesanti.

A special meeting of the directors will be held at the Chamber office Monday at 8 p. m. to report on the progress of the survey, and it is likely that a decision can be reached at that time as to whether to go ahead with the plans.

The tournament, to center around the Southern Pines Country club, is being planned for the interval between the wind-up of the northern pro circuit and the opening of the Florida tour at Miami. Word from Dugan Aycock of Lexington, Carolinas PGA president, is that most of the pros can be expected to stop over for several days on their way south, with a (minimum) purse of \$2,500 as the attraction. A large entry list of amateurs would also be anticipated.

Little Leaguers Win Opener In Baseball Series

The Southern Pines Little League Lions scored 11 runs in the first inning, behind a good pitching performance by Jimmy Caldwell, to set a solid foundation for a 17-9 victory over the Pinehurst Little Leaguers in the opening game of the post-season series at Pinehurst Monday.

Tripled by Van Benschoten and Woodell led Southern Pines' 13-hit attack.

The two teams were to meet here Thursday afternoon for the second contest in the two out of three series.

Meanwhile the other two teams in the league, Carthage and Robbins tangled Monday in their first game of a two out of three series, with Robbins winning 13-9 at Carthage Monday.

The second game was to be played at Robbins Thursday afternoon.

If third games are necessary in either of the two out of three series, they will be played Saturday. All games start at 5:30 p. m.

Winners in each of the two out of three series will meet for the Moore County Little League championship, with games starting Monday. Play for consolation between the losers also will start Monday.

Southern Pines boys led the league for the regular season.

Aberdeen Scouts Win Swim Meet, Receive Awards

Day, Night Events Held At Pinebluff; Parents Join Boys

Boy Scouts from throughout Moore county gathered at Pinebluff lake Wednesday for a swimming meet, a picnic supper with their leaders and parents and an after-dark court of honor and entertainment program held around a huge blazing campfire.

In the daytime "swim-all" events, Aberdeen Troop 68, with 46 points, nosed out Pinebluff 208 with 44 points, to capture top honors. Other troops competing were Carthage, 30 points and Pinehurst, 8 points. Points were given for placing in 15 separate swimming events.

In the Cub Scout swimming meet, Pinehurst Pack 7 led with 36 points, to 20 for Pack 206 Pinebluff, and 11 for Pack 74 Robbins.

A highlight of the court of honor program was a report given by Charles Swearingen of Pinehurst, one of the six Moore County Explorer Scouts who recently attended the National Jamboree at Santa Ana, Calif. The other Moore County Explorers making the trip on a chartered bus with boys from the 12-county Occaneechee Council were Bobby Barrett and Charles Garrison of Pinehurst, Jimmy McDonald and John Chappell of Southern Pines and Garland Key of Robbins.

Later in the program recognition was given to Bill McLaurin of Robbins, adult leader who accompanied the Moore County boys on their transcontinental trip. He is Moore District chairman of camping and activities. He described the trip as "a wonderful experience for me and all the boys."

Mr. McLaurin said that Garland (Continued on page 5)