



STATE CHAMPIONS — The Pinecrest Patriots won the State 4-A Baseball Championship by sweeping the series with Garinger of Charlotte. The 7-0 victory climaxed a 24-2 season and in photo above Simon Terrell (right) of Chapel Hill, director of the N.C. High School Athletic Association, presents the championship plaque to Coach John Williams while the jubilant players demonstrate they're No. 1.—(Photo by Emerson Humphrey).

Tax Rate Set At 70¢; Town Plan Attacked

BY JENNIFER CALDWELL
Townpeople in Southern Pines reflected a "Proposition 13" mood Tuesday night as they applauded statements favoring all types of tax cuts, including the rejection of a downtown tax on merchants.

A 1979-80 overall budget was tentatively adopted, however, with a tax rate of 70 cents on \$100 valuation approved.

Over 100 persons crowded the Council chambers for the meeting, which recessed close to 1 a.m.

Although interest was shown, often for the first time, in secondary matters such as zoning and Town Council terms, the primary emphasis, and the reason most of the people were in attendance, was the 1979-80 fiscal budget and the connected downtown tax for revitalization. Revitalization, which in current form calls for a downtown merchants' property tax of 25 cents per \$100, particularly was defeated by popular statements, with only one person speaking for the plan without making personal amendments. The issue was moved forward on the agenda after a motion from Col. Frank Smith that this item and the budget itself be considered before other matters.

The Town Council as a body seemed surprised to see the high level of interest. "I've never seen this many people at a budget hearing," Councilman Mike Smithson said.

And, on the revitalization plan, Mayor Emanuel Douglass said "We have just been breezing along, thinking things were o.k., because you didn't say anything."

One merchant, H.L. Tate, said he stayed away from the meetings because he didn't like the plan.

"Having a beautiful downtown is not going to bring people to it," he said. "People are already going to the shopping centers. What we need are large businesses to bring in the traffic."

Other comments made concerned parking, the cleanliness of the town, and the particular block (the 100 block of both sides of Broad Street) chosen to be the first "developed."

R.W. Cook said "I don't know how the property owners on Pennsylvania Avenue will benefit materially from revitalization."

Frank Maser said, "If you're going to spend money on the sidewalks, they'll look nice, but if the gutters are still filled with trash they'll take away from it."

(Continued on Page 16-A)

Killing Brings Arrest

A 34 year-old man, Charlie Ashley Batchelor of Southern Pines, was killed early Sunday morning in the parking lot across from Hap's Country Rock.

Police have arrested John Henry Furr, 36, of Pinebluff and charged him with murder. He is being held in the Moore County Jail without bond, awaiting preliminary hearing on June 29. He was an employe of Proctor-Silex.

According to reports from the Southern Pines police, Batchelor was killed by a slug shot from a .410 rifle, which an eyewitness said was fired by Furr from across the street, behind the fence at Duffield and Barbour car dealers.

Batchelor was pronounced dead on arrival at Moore Memorial Hospital about 3 a.m. Moore County Coroner James Andrews judged the shot, which hit Batchelor in the neck, was

(Continued on Page 16-A)

Methodists To Get New Ministers

New pastors at four Methodist Churches in Moore County, including Southern Pines, were announced Thursday by Bishop Robert M. Blackburn of Raleigh at the N.C. Annual Conference in Fayetteville.

The Rev. C. Franklin Grill from the Conference Council on Ministries Staff in Raleigh will come to the Southern Pines United Methodist. He will replace the Rev. John S. Paschal, who will go to Whiteville Church in Whiteville.

The Rev. Thomas G. Holsclaw from the Concord Charge in Roxboro will come to the Robbins Church in Robbins; The Rev. Robert H. Ray from the Bonlee Charge, Bonlee, will come to the West End Charge; Doubs Chapel, southwest of Carthage and West End Church, West End; and the Rev. Claude Dial will be associate pastor at Page Memorial Church in Aberdeen and Roseland Church, Roseland.

The four-day conference, held at Methodist College, encompassed the 56 counties of the eastern part of the state and includes 847 churches, more than 750 ministers and over 212,000 United Methodists.

Two bills pertaining to Moore County were ratified during the closing hours of the session Friday. One was to give authority to the Village Council of Pinehurst to collect property taxes. The other was to change the way ABC liquor profits are divided in Moore County.

Under the ABC bill all municipalities with liquor stores will get 25 percent of profits from sales at stores within their boundaries, and Southern Pines will collect 50 percent of the special tax on mixed drink sales. Before this the towns got only 10 percent of ABC profits.

JUDGES—Judge Robert L. Gavin of Pinehurst is among four of the seven Republican special

(Continued on Page 15-A)



Miss Aberdeen—Alisa Kay Goodman

She's Preparing For N.C. Crown

BY JENNIFER CALDWELL
It is disheartening, to put it mildly, to see Alisa Kay Goodman in the middle of a hectic afternoon. She looks so good.

Alisa Goodman is Miss Aberdeen. She won the title last July 4 in the town's annual pageant by a vocal rendition of "Can't Smile Without You".

She also won because of her looks, the kind that make other women feel their hair needs help. After a morning of visiting with Aberdeen merchants, the slim 5-foot-six brunette still is smiling on four-inch heels and not a hair is out of place.

Yet she insists this image has not always been hers. "Before I entered pageants I had been sort

of shy. Now I can talk to practically anyone," she said.

She also said she has lost weight in the past year, by "eating almost nothing. I eat one meal, usually a salad, in the middle of the day. My stomach grows all day long."

To further help her diet, she jogs a mile a day, and to further her talent for the state competition, she practices weekly with both Joseph Walker, a voice instructor in High Point, and one of his former students, Susan Lynn Griffin, who was Miss North Carolina 1974 and a talent winner in Miss Miss America.

"My talent had been one of my weaker areas when I won Aberdeen," she said. Actually, at

(Continued on Page 16-A)

Issue On Weed Cutting Flares At Project Meet

BY JENNIFER CALDWELL
Mayor Emanuel Douglass and Southern Pines resident Walter Coffin engaged in a heated argument at the first of two public hearings on the town's application for a community development grant last Thursday night.

Coffin said he had several points of concern, which he had outlined prior to the meeting in a letter to Town Manager Mildred McDonald.

One point was lot-clearing, which is part of the proposed packet of improvements scheduled to take place with the

help of the community development grant in West Southern Pines.

"If the town's going on a lot-clearing spree, there are 30-some vacant lots within a five or six block radius of this building," Coffin said.

(Continued on Page 15-A)

Peach Harvest

The peach harvest got under way in the Sandhills this week from growers in all areas, including West End and Wind Blow.

Many Drug Bust Cases Scheduled For Court Hearings On Thursday

Hearings for felony drug cases will clog the Thursday, June 14, calendar of Moore County District Criminal Court.

Of the 253 cases docketed for tomorrow's court session, almost

140 are cases stemming from a series of drug raids conducted by the sheriff's department early last week.

In the first two days of the raids about 136 warrants were

served on 32 individuals in Moore County. The charges involve marijuana, LSD, MDA, cocaine and methamphetamine.

On Thursday the 33rd person was arrested. He is Danny Seagraves, 27, Aberdeen, charged with selling and delivering methamphetamine and possession of methamphetamine with intent to deliver.

Warrants have been issued for 20 other persons, but as of yesterday no additional arrests were reported.

Known as "Operation Medicine Cabinet," the drug raid

was described as the largest in Moore County history. Liquor violations were involved in a couple of the cases, and the Moore County Sheriff's Department was assisted in this investigation by state and county ABC officers.

In addition to the drug raid cases, the court docket for tomorrow has been fattened by several other drug cases which predate the raid.

Here are the charges to which the defendants are entitled to hearings in district court tomorrow:

Troy Lee Richardson Jr., 27, Southern Pines—two counts of possession of marijuana with intent to deliver, two counts of selling and delivering marijuana.

Daniel M. (Little Apache) Smith, Southern Pines—

(Continued on Page 16-A)

Road Plans Hearings Held Here

Secretary of Transportation Thomas Bradshaw attended the Division Eight highway planning hearing, held Wednesday in the Southern Pines Municipal Building.

The hearing was presided over by Martha Hollers, the division representative to the Board of Transportation. People attended from across the division with the largest contingents coming from Lee and Scotland counties.

Although Betsy Lindau, Ed Robbins, Gary Mofield, Harry

(Continued on Page 15-A)

Downtown Meet

A meeting of downtown Southern Pines business people to form an association for revitalization of the area has been called for Tuesday, June 19, at 7:30 p.m. in the Town Council chambers at Town Hall.

Persons who are interested but who cannot attend have been asked to call Sandy Dana at 692-6659.

US 1 Hearing Set In Moore June 26

The Division of Highways of the North Carolina Department of Transportation will hold a public meeting on the proposed improvement of US-1 from south of Sanford to Lakeview.

The informal, open-forum meeting will be held Tuesday, June 26, from 3 to 5:30 p.m. at the Cameron Elementary School in Cameron and from 7:30 p.m. to 10 p.m. at the Vass-Lakeview School in Vass.

Several types of improvements are under consideration. One possible improvement consists of constructing a fourlane divided

highway on new location. Another possibility consists of widening the existing road to a multi-lane facility. No detailed studies have been conducted at this time.

The proposed improvements would begin at US-1 south of Sanford and extend to US-1 south of Vass at Lakeview, where the divided four-lane highway now ends.

The project is included in the 1979-85 Transportation Improvement Program, which was approved by the Board of

(Continued on Page 15-A)

Aberdeen's 80¢ Tax Rate Protested And Favored

The Aberdeen Town Board with Mayor Jack M. Taylor presiding met Monday night for a Public Hearing on a \$1,088,875 budget at their regular meeting, and delayed action until Monday, June 18 at 7:30 p.m. for a meeting and a possible decision.

Bill Bryant of Bryant Enterprises, Inc. and Howard Johnson protested the proposed tax rate of \$80 per hundred of property valuation, and asked consideration be given to lowering the tax.

Bruce Medlin spoke to the matter, saying that he was in favor of police protection and the need for more policemen in

Aberdeen, even as his taxes would be increased to meet salaries and operational cost.

Larry Richardson also requested more policemen.

Riley Taylor asked questions about the budget and town finances.

The proposed budget calls for a breakdown as follows: General Fund, \$543,925; Utility Fund, \$503,750 and Debt Service Fund, \$41,200.

Changes in zoning, calling for a public hearing July 9 at the regular Board meeting, were approved on a move by Commissioner Blue, seconded by Comm. Harris and carried.

County To Do Some Trimming If Tax Rate Is Held To 48¢

BY FLORENCE GILKESON
With preliminary budget work behind, the Moore County Board of Commissioners will convene again Monday for what may be an even tougher job: the slicing of approximately \$800,000 from a tentatively approved \$5.5 million figure.

When the commissioners wound up their June 6 budget meeting, the tentative total was \$5,571,937, which, if approved, would mean a tax rate of almost 80 cents per \$100 property

valuation. With a commitment to a tax rate in the area of 48 cents, the board faces hard decisions in finding places to cut from an already reduced budget figure.

Making matters worse is the fact that the \$5.5 estimate includes the same amounts allocated last year to the school system and to Sandhills Community College, both of which have requested hefty increases. Nor does the figure include the \$1.6 million requested by the schools for the first phase of a

long-range capital outlay plan. These decisions must wait until the June 18 session.

The Wednesday meeting was the third marathon session of the week. The commissioners devoted almost their entire regular meeting on June 4 to the budget, then met Tuesday night from 7 until 10:45, returned at 2 p.m. Wednesday to talk budget matters until 9 p.m., with a 45-minute supper break. The June 18 meeting will begin at 10 a.m.

(Continued on Page 16-A)

Robbery Arrest Is Made Within Hour Of Holdup

In less than an hour after an armed robbery last night officers of the Moore County Sheriff's Department made an arrest and recovered the stolen money.

Charged with armed robbery is Del Dee Dorner III, 19, Riverview Acres, who remains in the county jail under \$20,000 bond. His court date is June 28.

L.D. Brooks, who operates a store in the Lobelia community, reported the robbery at about 9:35. He told the sheriff's department that he and his wife had locked up their business and

had driven about 500 feet away when a man arose from the back seat of the car, threatened them with a gun and demanded their money. Brooks said the man left the vehicle and went to a Yamaha motorcycle parked nearby to make his getaway.

The arrest was made about 10:20 p.m., and the \$180 was recovered, according to a report from the sheriff's department. Taking part in the investigation were Detectives Arthur Frye and Darrell Cheek, Sgt. Willie Hill, and Deputy Ronald Smith.



BRUTON—Dr. H. David Bruton of Southern Pines was re-elected to his second two-year term as chairman of the State Board of Education at a meeting of the board in Raleigh on Thursday.

Dr. Bruton was the choice in 1977 of Governor Hunt to become chairman of the board to replace Dallas Herring of Rose Hill who had held the position for 20 years.

LEGISLATURE—The 1979 session of the N.C. General Assembly came to a close Friday night. It was a recess instead of an adjournment because the Legislature will go back to Raleigh in June of 1980 to revise the budget and to act upon measures held over for that session.

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(Continued on Page 15-A)

Who Votes On Liquor Among Referendum Questions Raised

Will Southern Pines' registered voters be permitted to vote in the Sept. 4 McNeill Township liquor by the drink referendum?

Probably so, but Moore County election officials are taking no chances and have asked the state Attorney General's office for a ruling. Doris Fuquay, clerk to the elections board, says a response is expected this week.

The question arose because the Town of Southern Pines held its own LBD referendum last year,

as one of the first such elections in the state. The town's voters reside in two precincts, North and South Southern Pines, both in McNeill Township, and in part of Pinedene precinct, which is in Sandhills Township.

Regardless of the Attorney General's ruling, persons registered to vote in Pinedene will not be eligible to participate in the referendum, which has been called for McNeill Township only.

Mineral Springs and McNeill townships, both in Moore County, are thought to be the only areas in North Carolina affected by legislation passed by the 1979 General Assembly permitting mixed beverage elections in townships where ABC stores already exist "by petition" rather than by referendum.

Mineral Springs, which includes Pinehurst, Seven Lakes, Foxfire, and Country Club of

(Continued on Page 15-A)