

The News - Journal

The Hoke County Journal - Established 1905

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NEW BANK -- Grand opening ceremonies will be held today at the new Raeford office of Southern National Bank. Open house will be conducted from 4 to 9 p. m. at the bank on Main Street and W. Elwood Avenue. For more on the new bank, see section two.

Briefs U.S. Rubber Lays Decline To Strikes

Judge Preyer Here Tonight

Richardson Preyer, candidate for the Democratic nomination for governor, will speak here tonight at a joint meeting of the Raeford Lions and Kiwanis clubs.

The dinner meeting, scheduled for 7 p. m., will be held in Hoke Civic Center. Clyde Upchurch Jr. is in charge of arrangements.

Preyer and his wife arrived here last night. A tea will be given this afternoon in honor of Mrs. Preyer.

Airport Drive Short Of Goal

The local airport commission still is \$400 short of its goal in the campaign for \$10,000 to build a new Hoke County airport north of Raeford.

Only \$2,000 of that amount had to be raised by public subscription. Hoke County gave \$5,000 and Pacific Mills another \$2,000.

Campaign officials said public contributions now amount to about \$1,800.

Savings & Loan To Open Bids

Bids on a new office building for Raeford Savings and Loan will be opened December 5 in Southern Pines at the office of Hayes-Howell, architects.

Tom McBryde, chairman of the firm's building committee, said construction of the new building on Campus Avenue will begin as soon as the contract has been awarded.

Ashemont Is Second In Contest

Ashemont Community brought honor to Hoke County Monday night and won for itself \$76 in cash when the Sandhills Area Development Association awarded second prize to the section for its 1963 work in community development.

The occasion was the annual meeting of the SADA held at Carthage. Ashemont was second only to Mountain Creek Community of Richmond County. First place award was \$100.

The presentation was made by Miss Wilma Key of Richmond County, area chairman of Community Development. Mrs. Leonard McBryde, of Ashemont secretary-treasurer, received the award on behalf of her club.

Other officers of the club are James Thompson, president; C. B. Vickers, vice president and James Nixon, publicity chairman.

The group competed with 29 other clubs in Hoke, Lee, Montgomery, Moore and Richmond counties.

Three Hoke County men were named to area offices. Neil McFadyen was elected vice president; T. B. Upchurch, Hoke County member of the board of directors, and R. B. Stone chairman of travel and recreation.

Strikes in eight plants producing tires, chemicals, footwear and plastics were the major cause of a decline in the new income of United States Rubber Co., during the first nine months of 1963. George R. Vila, president and chief executive officer, reported to stockholders today.

Net income for the nine-month period was \$18,188,203, equivalent to \$2.45 a share of common stock, 7.4 per cent lower than the \$19,611,728 or \$2.68 a common share reported for the first three quarters of 1962, Vila said. Nine-month sales of \$740,401,771 were 1.3 per cent below sales of \$750,024,882 reported for the same period in 1962.

The strikes came in the third quarter when net income dropped 30 per cent to \$4,236,380 or 50 cents a share compared with last year's third quarter net income of \$6,047,004 or 81 cents a share. Third-quarter sales of \$238,208,479 were 1.1 per cent below the \$238,884,287 reported for the third quarter of 1962.

Sales thus far in 1963 in most product categories have been equal to or better than last year's. Sales and profits of plastic resins have increased, Vila said. Footwear is making gains and sales to the automobile industry reflect the high level of motor activity. Strong progress has also been recorded in chemicals, textiles and operations outside the U.S.A.

Strikes were called by local unions at four of five tire plants in July over terms of the local supplemental contracts. The strike at the Eau Claire tire plant was settled on October 17

after a shutdown of more than three months. Negotiations are continuing at the three other strike-bound plants in Indianapolis, Ind., Los Angeles, Calif., and Chicopee Falls, Mass.

In addition, there was a 27-day strike at two chemical plants in Louisiana, a nine-day strike at a Midwest plastics plant and a strike at the largest footwear plant in Canada which started 22 days before the end of the third quarter and was settled after a total of 39 days.

Raeford-Hoke To Be Featured By Magazine

Raeford and Hoke County will be featured in a forthcoming issue of The State magazine, it was announced this week by Bernard Bray, chairman of the Chamber of Commerce public relations committee.

Bill Sharpe, editor of the magazine, was in Hoke County earlier this week gathering material for the article, which will appear in the "Milestone Edition" at a future date.

Bray said the magazine was convinced to do the write-up on this area after the local chamber of commerce gave it a report on progress and changes in this area.

Paper Earlier

The News-Journal will be issued on Wednesday next week in order that its staff may observe the Thanksgiving holiday.

PLEADS GUILTY Morrison Given Life For Slaying His Wife

Plea Makes Sentence Mandatory

Henry Morrison, 44-year-old Hoke County Negro, was sentenced to life imprisonment here Wednesday for the shotgun slaying of his wife, Mary Stephenson Morrison.

In an unexpected move, Morrison pleaded guilty to first degree murder in the August 26 slaying. The plea carries a mandatory life sentence.

Sentence was pronounced by Judge Maurice Braswell, presiding over this week's session of Hoke Superior Court.

The plea, entered through Morrison's attorney, Carl Barrington of Fayetteville, paved the way for an early adjournment of court. Court officials estimated the docket will be cleared by 5 p. m. today.

No witnesses were called in the Morrison case. Judge Braswell said it would be pointless to call them in view of the fact that the plea automatically called for life imprisonment.

Morrison was accused of killing his 40-year-old mate with a single blast of a 12 gauge shotgun at the Morrison home.

The blast, fired at close range, struck the woman in the neck. The wadding was lodged in her throat.

At the time of the slaying, Morrison admitted to officers that he killed his wife, but refused to give the reason.

Kelly Ray, who lived in the Morrison home, told officers he was in an adjoining room and heard Morrison say "I am going to kill you." He said he heard the woman answer, "AW, get your clothes off and let's go to bed."

Officers, summoned to the scene by Morrison, found the body apparently where it had fallen, with the feet near the bed.

A special Hoke County venire of 45 had been summoned, together with the regular venire of 35, for the Morrison case. The extra jurors, ordered to be in court at 11 a. m., didn't arrive until after Morrison was sentenced.

The grand jury Monday indicted Morrison on the first degree murder charge. He was arraigned before Judge Braswell and at that time pleaded not guilty.

Hoke Countians summoned for the special venire included: Gilbert M. Ray, Willie S. McNair, R. L. Almond, James D. McGowan, Irvin Currie, Mary Kelly, Neal Jackson, Edgar T. Collins, Thomas Richardson, Jack Morris, Charles H. Keaton, Joseph Hunt, R. B. Lewis, George Jackson, Mrs. Richard B. Baker, Billy

(See MORRISON, Page 6, Sec. 1)



Henry Morrison

Preston Chavis

John Calvin Jones

Chavis Gets 25-Year Term For Axe-Murder Of Wife

A 22-year-old Hoke County Indian who confessed to the axe-murder of his wife was sentenced here Monday to 25 years in State Prison.

Preston Chavis of Red Springs Rt. 2 pleaded guilty to second degree murder in the slaying of his wife, 17-year-old Doris Lee Chavis.

Sentence was pronounced by Judge Maurice Braswell, presiding over this week's session of Hoke Superior Court.

Quess Henderson, an eyewitness to the killing and brother

of the victim, testified about the slaying, which occurred August 25.

He said Chavis was chopping wood in the backyard of the defendant's mother-in-law, Mrs. Melissa Henderson, in Antioch Township when the victim approached Chavis and said something to him.

"He started toward her with the axe. I thought he was going to drop it, but he hit her with it and she fell down. It looked to me like she was trying to get up, and he hit her

again, this time in the back. She fell back down and laid there. Preston dropped the axe and took out across the field."

Three character witnesses, among them ex-sheriff Dave Hodgins, appeared for Chavis. Hodgins said the defendant came from a home in which the father and mother "were always fussing and fighting and separating." He said the defendant's reputation prior to the slaying was "good."

It was the second slaying within a year involving the Indian family. A year ago, Frances Henderson Chavis was accused of murder in the death of her husband, Revels Chavis. She was acquitted.

Frances Chavis and Doris Lee Chavis were sisters. Revels and Preston Chavis were brothers.

In other cases heard earlier this week, Judge Braswell handed down the following decisions:

Ed McPhatter, Raeford Rt. 3, attempted crime against nature; two-to-three years.

Kenneth Ryan See, Ft. Bragg, drunk driving, not guilty.

Oscar F. Bowman, Ft. Bragg, two counts of breaking and entering and larceny, six months; two years suspended.

Thomas D. Lambert, Ft. Bragg, two counts of breaking and entering and larceny, six months; two years suspended.

Norris McNair, McCain, possession for purpose of sale, \$50 and costs, good behavior for two years.

(See JONES, Page 6, Sec. 1)

Jones Gets 15 Years For Assault

John Calvin Jones, 26-year-old Hoke County Negro, was sentenced here Tuesday to 15 years in state prison on a charge of attempted rape.

He had been charged with raping Mrs. Geneva McMillan, 18-year-old Indian housewife of Raeford Rt. 1. The state permitted him to plead guilty to the lesser charge.

Mrs. McMillan, principal witness for the state, testified about the attack, which occurred at the McMillan home on the afternoon of September 5.

She said Jones, an infrequent visitor to the home, had "been off" with her husband that morning and returned in the afternoon to get some liquor. McMillan had left there for him.

"We were in the front room and the liquor was in the kitchen," Mrs. McMillan said. "When I turned to go get it, he grabbed me and started choking me."

She said he forced her into a bedroom, threw her across a bed, and assaulted her.

"He kept choking me. He told me to put out my tongue. Then he choked me harder and everything got dark," she said.

In pronouncing maximum sentence, Judge Maurice Braswell said: "Under the evidence, the court feels you're a mighty lucky man not to be on your way to Raleigh to be executed."

"There is a maximum penalty under the law, and you have

(See JONES, Page 6, Sec. 1)

WILD WEEK END

Rash Of Wrecks Leaves One Dead, Others Hurt

A Raeford woman was killed and her daughter severely injured Saturday in a head-on automobile collision near Wagram in Scotland County.

The dead woman, Mrs. Leo Morton of Prospect Avenue, was driver of a car in which her daughter, Mrs. Audrey Hendricks, was riding. Mrs. Hendricks was admitted to Scotland County Hospital for treatment of a severely cut lower lip, loss of several upper teeth, and multiple cuts and bruises.

Less seriously injured were Mrs. Hendricks' two small children, Brenda Sue, 3, and Noah Hendricks, Jr., 5. They were admitted to Scotland County Hospital for observation.

The Morton car was involved in a collision with a vehicle operated by James Earl Reden-

baugh, a Fort Bragg soldier. Investigating officers said physical evidence at the scene indicated the Redenbaugh car veered at least two feet across the center lane and crashed into the Morton car. Both automobiles were demolished.

State Highway Patrol Cpl. J. H. Jackson of Laurinburg investigated the accident. He was assisted by Pfc. J. E. Dupree of Raeford.

Meanwhile, Dupree investigated five other accidents in Hoke County during the week end, none of them involving serious personal injury.

At 8:10 a. m. Friday, a car driven by Fred Dudley of Raeford Rt. 2 was involved in a collision with a car driven by Malcolm Nash Clark Jr. of Raeford about two miles north

of Raeford on U. S. 401.

Dupree said the Dudley car was attempting a left turn into a driveway at Foster McBryde's residence when struck from the rear by the Clark vehicle.

Dudley was charged with making an improper turn, while Clark was cited for failing to sound his horn.

At 6:10 p. m. Friday, a truck driven by Jim Thomas Powell of Wagram Rt. 1 and a car operated by Albert Johnson, Wagram Rt. 1, collided on Turnpike Road six miles west of Raeford.

Dupree said Powell was driving north and attempted a left turn into a private driveway, colliding with a southbound Johnson vehicle.

Damage to Johnson's car was estimated at \$1,500. Powell

was charged with reckless driving.

Cars driven by Sydnor Jane Patrick of Raeford and David Alfred Quick of Raeford Rt. 2 collided at about 9:40 p. m. Friday five miles north of Raeford on U. S. 401.

Dupree said the Patrick vehicle, headed south, attempted a right turn into a driveway at the R. E. Nealey residence and was struck from the rear by the Quick car.

Minor damage resulted. Quick was charged with following too closely.

Later Friday night, a car operated by Earnest Parker of Red Springs Rt. 1 skidded off the road near Hawk Eye School and overturned.

Dupree said the accident oc-

curred on a curve on Highway 1134. He said the car entered the curve at a speed 20 miles faster than the curve could be negotiated in safety.

The car, a 1956 model, was damaged about \$400.

At 4:55 p. m. Sunday, a car driven by David Bennett Martin of Laurel Hill overturned near the city dump on U. S. 401 a half-mile north of Raeford.

Dupree said the car ran off the road on a curve, veered back across the highway, and overturned in its side ditch. Martin's wife, Mrs. Frances Martin, suffered a fractured pelvis.

Martin was charged with driving drunk.



TWIN TURNIP -- To some people, one turnip is enough. But when they start growing two-together, that's too much. The above twin specimen, pulled from the garden of Edwin R. Newton on Raeford Rt. 2, is being held by Newton's daughter, Kathy.