

# Hoke County Happenings Last Week



**SALES AWARD** -- Bob Ellis (left) district sales manager for Chevrolet, presented a plaque last week to Younger Sneed, Jr. and Younger Sneed at Hoke Auto Company for first place in sales of cars and trucks in their area. The award was issued by the assistant general sales manager of Chevrolet.

## Kids Tour Camp In Park

A bicycling band of youngsters camped overnight in the park behind McLauchlin School last week. They were on their way from Charlotte to Charleston on a three week ride through the Carolinas.

Dubbed the "Phantom Carolinas", the group is on one of the tours sponsored by the Metropolitan New York Council's American Youth Hostels.

They left New York City on July 29, flying stand-by to Charlotte, the group leader Vicky Fersel explained. The next day they began pedaling to Wilmington on the first lap of their journey. From Wilmington, they will go south to Charleston and will fly back to New York on Aug. 17.

It took a week to travel from Charlotte to Raeford, Miss Fersel said. The group camps along the way, seeking shelter in a barn or other buildings if it rains. The youngsters were instructed to bring a bike, packed saddlebags, sleeping bag and a birth certificate for purchase of an airline youth fare card. In addition, the tour group recommended that each person carry \$15 per week in traveler's cheques for "ice cream cones, stamps, pay toilets, crap games, speeding tickets, odds & ends." The cost of the tour is \$10 a week and the youngsters each pay their own expenses.

The travelers are instructed to call home once a week to tell their parents where they are. When they arrive in Charleston, the group will check airline schedules and decide how and when to return, Miss Fersel said. Then the youngsters will notify their parents to meet them.

American Youth Hostels sponsor a number of tours for young people both in the United States and to Europe, Miss Fersel said. Part of the purpose of the tours is to encourage young people to travel and to develop inexpensive places for lodging for them such as the youth hostels of Europe.



**MYSTERY CAR AWARD** -- A special award was presented Monday to Robert Clark, who is employed at Niven's Esso station. The award, a plaque bearing two rare silver dollars, two Kennedy half-dollars, and a specially minted commemorative coin set in an automotive engine design, was given by a representative of the Gates Rubber Company for exceptional customer service. The Denver-based company sponsors a nation-wide contest, now in its 38th year, to reward service station personnel who provide exceptional service. A fleet of "Gates Mystery Cars" regularly travels across the country stopping at service stations. Each "mystery car" has a worn fan belt. Award plaques are presented to station personnel who notice the defective belt and offer to replace it.



**PACKING UP** -- Ten teenagers and a leader on a bicycle tour through the Carolinas pack their gear after camping overnight in the park behind McLauchlin School last week. The group began bicycling in Charlotte after flying from New York and will end their trip in Charleston in mid-August.



**CYCLISTS** -- A group of youngsters from New York camped overnight in Raeford last week on their way to Wilmington. They are on a three week bicycle tour through the Carolinas which began in Charlotte July 30 and will end in Charleston in mid-August. Members of the "Phantom Carolinas" include Richard Schonberg, Wyatt Landesman, Lynn Meyers, Cindy Shapiro, Leslie Moore, Paul Sokoman, Judy Esman, Jessica Fogel, Clem Burton and Neil Gottlieb. The leader, Vicky Fersel, is shown standing at the far right.