

The News - Journal

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Around Town

By SAM MORRIS

The ACC will be represented in the NIT finals by either Duke or North Carolina. On Monday night Carolina defeated Providence and Duke nailed down Tennessee. We believe this is the first time that an ACC team has gone to the finals of the NIT. We suspect that by one of these teams playing in the finals of the NIT that it will take away from the NCAA finals for people in North Carolina.

The passing of Doug Currie takes from Hoke County another of the old political leaders. Doug was not old in years, but was one that went through many political battles. I believe we were on the same side on most major issues. He always supported me for chairman of the Democratic Party and his precinct was always at the top, percentage wise in the Democratic column.

With the passing of Doug and Smiley Roper, several weeks ago, Allendale precinct will not seem the same any more. The political rallies at Roper's Pond were almost as exciting as the national convention.

The rules of the party will not let me be chairman of the party for another year, but it would not be the same as of by-gone years.

The old precinct chairmen of my days are about gone. Doug Currie, J.M. Andrews, Clifford Bostic, J.H. Plummer and Gilbert Ray to name a few. These men were all solid Democrats and you could count on them to take care of their precinct.

So maybe Hoke County politics will be like the book "The Last Hurrah" written by Edwin O'Connor. It was made into a movie that starred Spencer Tracy. It was about Mayor Frank Skeffington and his last race in which he lost. The above men have lost the race here on earth, but the epitaph could be as an opponent of Mayor Skeffington said about him. "A rascal with a heart as big as Kansas and a marvelous way with all kinds of people."

Charlie Hottel, president of the Hoke High Booster Club, said this week that the Fun Night at the Hoke High gym last Friday night was a success. He stated that proceeds were only about \$200, but that everyone seemed to have a good time. Maybe this can become an annual event and will build into a real money maker.

Don't forget the Lions Club Golf Tournament which will take place May 15 and 16 at the Arabia Golf Club. If you didn't receive an invitation and want to play. Contact Doug Wallace, Don Steed or any other Lion.

Army Wives Help Provide Items

A project to help provide household articles for needy Hoke County families has been started by a Ft. Bragg woman's club.

Sewer Contract Let Tuesday

The city approved a contract for sewer construction to Pierce Ditching Company of Florence, S.C. in a special council meeting Tuesday.

Construction costs were bid at \$218,431.20, however the total contract amounts to \$237,000.

Final arrangements must be approved by the federal government, who is supplying part of the funds for the sewer expansion, before construction can begin.

Pilot Program At Hoke High Combats School Dropouts

An experimental program in vocational education is being tested at Hoke County High School this year.

Begun after Christmas, the program is designed to combat the high drop-out rate and to provide students who terminate their education at the high school level with a marketable skill.

Basically the program relies on intensive counseling and includes a six-month follow-up period after the student leaves the school.

Harold Gillis is coordinator for the program and has the responsibility of locating employment opportunities and of the follow-up on students.

Bobby D. Locklear, a counselor at the high school, has been assigned to the project as vocational counselor.

Mrs. Dorothy Jackson is secretary for the program.

There are 126 juniors and seniors in the program now Locklear said. Thus far, they have been given a battery of vocational aptitude tests administered by the Employment Security Commission and a vocational aspiration test. Students will be advised on the basis of these tests toward making realistic job choices, Locklear said.

In many cases, they will be encouraged to continue their education at technical

Blood Donors Give 97 Pints

The Bloodmobile's in-plant visit to Burlington Industries last Thursday added 97 pints of blood to the county's supply. Clyde Upchurch, chairman of the blood drive, announced.

A total of 60 pints donated were designated as replacements for blood used by county residents, he said.

"This gets us caught up again," he said. "But by June when the Bloodmobile comes again, we'll be behind and scrambling to make it up."

An unusually large amount of blood was used during February, Upchurch said. 70 pints were required by county residents during that month alone. Usage during January was also heavy, he said.

More than a hundred potential donors volunteered this time, Upchurch said, but a few were not accepted. Most of the donors were employed at Burlington.

Upchurch praised the facilities and staff at Burlington and Capt. George R. Reavell, Special Forces doctor working at the county health center, who directed the collection.

"Dr. Reavell took care of the drive in its entirety," Upchurch said. "We would have been in a fix if it hadn't been for him. Dr. Townsend was out of town at a meeting and the doctors at McCain had staff meetings and operations scheduled. We would have had to hire a doctor at better than \$20 and hour."

"The facilities at Burlington were just perfect," Upchurch continued. "We had plenty of volunteer workers and everything went very well. I think everything is in good shape for right now."

Pre-schoolers To Register April 5-7

All children who will enter the first grade in Hoke County schools are requested to register April 5, 6, or 7 at the school serving the family's attendance area. The three schools involved are Scurluck, J.W. McLaughlin, and West Hoke. Hours for the registration will be from 8:30-3:00.

This year, for the first time, children who are registered during the pre-registration period will be given an appointment for a free physical examination. Details of this service will be given to the parent on the day of pre-registration at the school.

Parents should bring a copy of the child's birth certificate and a copy of the child's immunization record to the school.

Children who are 6 years old before October 16 are eligible to attend school. Children who are 7 years old before October 16 are required to attend school.

Working with the county Department of Social Services and the Army liaison team, the Ft. Bragg Non-Commissioned Officers Wives Club members are collecting and storing household items.

When items are needed by a family here, the Social Services Department will send a list through the Army office here. The NCO Wives will also deliver the items, Miss Mabel McDonald, director of the Hoke DSS said.

Three families, including two who have been burned out, have been submitted to the club, she said.

"We are delighted with the project," Miss McDonald said. "Especially since they have storage space, which we don't, and can deliver items, since we don't have transportation."

institutes. A project at Fayetteville Technical Institute provides tuition fees for students who can't afford tuition, Locklear said.

Hoke High's program, titled an exemplary project in vocational education, was developed by A.G. Bullard, associate director of planning in the office of vocational education.

Hoke was probably chosen, D.D. Abernethy, county superintendent of schools, said, because of its high dropout rate and low economic status of the county.

In 1968, the last year for which figures are available, the percentage of potential students lost from the school system since the fifth grade was 53.8 per cent, Abernethy said.

A federal grant of \$21,000 is funding the program for the remainder of the year. The program, which is still in the organizational phase, is expected to be refunded for next year.

Much of the program is trial and error, Gerald Maynor, Hoke guidance counselor, explained.

"Because this is a pilot program, we don't have the resource people to go to, to find out what they tried and what worked for them," he said.

Gillis emphasized that the prime aim

Shannon Youth Bound Over To Grand Jury For Murder

Horse Show Promises Fine Day For Horse Fans

Horse lovers will have a field day Saturday as horses of all sizes and kinds are gathered for the Raeford Woman's Club 7th Annual Horse Show at Stanton Farms stables on U.S. 401 By-pass.

A total of 90 scheduled classes will offer something for everyone. Quarter horse fans can attend an American Quarter Horse Association-approved show in ring two beginning at 9 a.m. Halter classes for stallions, mares and geldings will occupy most of the morning.

Afternoon classes in the AQHA-restricted show will feature western and English pleasure classes, trail classes, jumping and working hunter classes. There will be classes for young people, seniors and all ages.

The morning show in ring one will feature halter classes for stallions, geldings and mares.

Other classes will include western and English pleasure horses, Arabians, pleasure ponies, roaster classes and amateur three-gaited classes.

Young riders will be featured in the lead line class for riders six years old and under, and in the pleasure pony and local pleasure pony classes.

In addition to these classes, the afternoon show in ring one will include walking horses, three and five gaited horses, western and English pleasure and Arabian classes.

The championship show will begin in the lighted ring at 7 p.m. Classes have

been arranged to eliminate delay in starting the show.

Winners from the daytime classes will compete for cash and trophies. A total of 20 classes are scheduled for the championship show.

The Raeford horse show has been selected for possible inclusion in travel brochures produced by the state travel and promotion agency.

Mrs. J.M. Andrews, chairman of the show, was notified this week that a

photographer from the travel division of the State Department of Conservation and Development will take pictures at the show.

Last year 194 horses from as far away as Missouri, Ohio and New Jersey were entered in the show. Quarter horses were the most distant entries, but horses from North and South Carolina, Virginia and Georgia were entered in the English and western show.

New Director Talks About Region N Plans

Graham Pervier, the newly hired Executive Director of Region N Council of Governments, will take over responsibilities April 12 in Lumberton. Pervier has been provided temporary office space in Lumberton's City Hall.

The Council of Governments for Region N, which includes Robeson, Scotland, Hoke and Bladen counties was set up in the spring of 1970 by an executive order of the governor which called for the whole state to organize 17 regions.

The main purpose of Region N, according to Pervier, is the "hope that the Council of Governments can be an

umbrella for all planning and redevelopment programs on a regional level," and a clearinghouse for federal grant funds. Commissioner Sam Noble says the set-up will "avoid lots of duplication of services."

In further explaining purposes, Pervier stated that the council will delete such problems, hopefully, as separate water and waste disposal plants for all four counties when one would be more economical and more efficient. Other matters in which he hopes the council will aid are in setting up regional health planning and man-power planning.

Representatives on the council include one elected official from each of the counties' Board of Commissioners, and also one official from each of the City Councils which are members.

Commissioner Sam Noble of Robeson County is chairman of the committee and Pervier's position is much like that of a city or county manager.

According to Pervier, when the council meets officially for the first time, after April 12, the first order of business will be setting up a budget and selecting an appropriate title for the council.

When asked what size budget he anticipates, Pervier stated that the budget will "hopefully be somewhere near \$25,000 with perhaps an additional \$15-20,000 federal and state funds." Each county and city contributes to the budget on a basis of population.

Pervier explained that the budget would include salaries for himself and a secretarial staff, office space, equipment, and that some of the money will be used to provide required matching funds for certain state and federal projects which may be undertaken.

Commissioner Noble stated that the Region N Council of Governments feels fortunate in getting Pervier to be director, as he is the state official who helped set up Region N and get the council started.

Pervier is a native of Virginia and studied at the University of Virginia. He will be leaving a post in Raleigh where he serves on the administrative staff of the Department of Local Affairs.

Pervier has a wife, Karen, and a fifteen-month-old daughter.

1/Lt. McNulty Awarded Bronze Star For Valor

First Lieutenant Charles M. McNulty of Raeford has been awarded the Bronze Star with V for heroic action in Vietnam last September.

1/Lt. McNulty, originally from Pittsfield, Mass., bought a home in Raeford while he was stationed at Ft. Bragg prior to going to Vietnam for his third tour last July.

His wife and five children are living here while he is overseas.

1/Lt. McNulty was serving as a platoon leader for Company E, 2nd Brigade, 3rd Infantry on Sept. 27, on a reconnaissance operation when his platoon discovered a large enemy hospital and bunker complex.

While they were searching the area, the unit came under intense fire from a large enemy force. After placing his men in fighting positions, 1/Lt. McNulty exposed himself to enemy fire as he directed armed helicopter strikes.

When the gunships had completed their strikes, 1/Lt. McNulty continued to expose himself to extreme danger as he assaulted an enemy bunker and drove the enemy soldiers from the area.

1/Lt. McNulty, who was recently presented the award, is now serving with the 101st Airborne at Camp Eagle at Phu Bai. He entered the Army in 1954 and, besides the Bronze Star with V, he holds the National Defense Service Medal with oak leaf clusters, the Good Conduct Medal, the Combat Infantry Badge, the



FIRST LIEUTENANT McNULTY

Vietnam Service Medal, the Vietnam Campaign Medal with 60 devices, the Senior Parachutist Badge and the Purple Heart.

His wife, Mrs. Nereida McNulty and children Charles, 14; Chester, 13; Kevin, 12; Sharon, 9; and Edgar, 7, live at 513 E. Donaldson.

He is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Harry S. McNulty of Pittsfield, Mass.

was to keep students in school. This can be implemented by finding a job the student can handle while in school and helping to arrange a schedule for him. Intensive counseling is expected to be one of the main tools in the program, he said.

After a student leaves school, the counseling will continue for six months to help keep the student employed, Abernethy said.

Locklear said that they hoped to encourage as many students as possible to continue their education at a technical school. The tuition grants at Fayetteville Tech would open the way for some students who might not otherwise consider further training, he said.

However, Maynor said, transportation is a problem. The staff is now looking for means to obtain a bus or other transportation for students.

If students are not going to continue their education, Locklear said, then they will try to find a job that will be meaningful to him according to his aptitude and interests.

"For this we will need the cooperation of employers in this area," Maynor said. Students for the new program are selected from all areas of the high school, Gillis said. They may already be enrolled (See PILOT PROGRAM, Pg. 9)



PILOT PROGRAM - Workers in a new vocational program designed to encourage students to stay in school and to provide them with a marketable skill are Mrs. Dorothy Johnson, secretary, and Bobby D. Locklear, vocational counselor. The project, the only one of its kind in the state, includes intensive counseling and a six months follow-up period after the student leaves school.

Hubert Lowery, Jr., 21, of Shannon was bound over on \$25,000 bond to Superior Court for action by the grand jury for the slaying of Bobby Strong on March 11.

Judge Joseph Dupree ruled probable cause after a preliminary hearing in District Court Friday.

The state produced two witnesses who testified that they saw Lowery standing at the corner of Mrs. Annie McNeill's home just before Strong was shot in her carport with a shotgun and that they saw Lowery running down the road from the house with a gun two or three minutes after the shooting.

Davie Earl Bullard of Shannon said he was at the home of Nelson McNeill in Antioch near the Robeson County line working with McNeill on a car. Strong came to the house later that morning, Bullard said. Lowery came to the McNeill house briefly and then returned about 1 p.m., Bullard testified.

"I recognized him standing at the corner of the house," Bullard told the court. He said that he, McNeill and Strong continued to work on two cars belonging to him and McNeill. Strong was outside a car and Bullard was working with his head under the dash to put in a tape player, Bullard testified. He said he heard a gunshot, sat up in the car and saw Strong on the ground.

"Bobby called my name and said Buck had shot him," Bullard said. Bullard and other witnesses referred to Lowery as Buck frequently in their testimony.

Bullard said he saw Lowery running down the road from the house with a shotgun two or three minutes after the shooting.

Nelson McNeill testified that Lowery had come to the house that morning and had asked to speak to his sister, Cathy.

"The second time I saw him that morning, he was talking to my sister. He asked to speak to her and I went on out," McNeill said. "He went on out the back way he had come and 'ood through the corner. The last time I saw him before the shooting, he was standing at the corner of the house about 12 feet from Bobby."

Carlton Locklear of Rt. 4, Red Springs testified that he had been with Lowery most of that day. They drove by the McNeill home that morning and Lowery got out and went into the house for two or three minutes, Locklear said. When they left the McNeill house, Locklear testified that Lowery told him "lets go before he done something he didn't want to."

Lowery took a gun from the back of the car when Locklear let him out, Locklear testified.

Donald Bullard told the court that he saw Lowery in the woods near the McNeill house with a shotgun. Lowery said he was going rabbit hunting, Bullard said.

Bullard testified that Lowery told him that Strong had taunted him about Cathy McNeill's baby, saying that the baby that Lowery was supporting was his (Strong's). Bullard said that Lowery said when he went to see Cathy McNeill that morning that she and Strong were in the bathroom together.

Bullard testified that Lowery told him he was going to kill Strong.

Lowery's attorney, Luther Britt, questioned each witness about Strong's reputation. Lowery did not take the stand.

David Earl Bullard testified that he knew Strong and Lowery had had a fight but that he didn't know what it was about.

"Would you call Strong violent and dangerous," Britt asked Bullard.

"No," Bullard answered. "I knew he had been in a lot of trouble but I wouldn't call him violent and dangerous."

"Did you know he was under indictment for four cases of assault?" Britt asked.

"No," Bullard answered.

Nelson McNeill told the court that Strong "had a bad case of cutting people."

Locklear said, in response to a question from Britt, that he had heard Strong say he would kill Lowery.

Food Classes Will Be Held At Church

A nutrition and food buying course will be sponsored by the Women of Raeford Presbyterian Church with classes beginning Monday at 7 p.m. in the fellowship room.

A representative from Sandhill Community College will instruct.

Persons from all churches in the county are invited to attend. Those who participate are encouraged to share the information presented with others in their community.