

Storm's High Winds Drive Heavy Snow Into Deep Drifts Throughout Hoke County

Around Town

By SAM C. MORRIS

The eight to 10 inch snow that fell Friday night and Saturday once again slowed things down in Hoke County. This was the most snow to fall in the county in the past several years. I also think the highway people did another fine job and also the City of Raeford Street department. It was impossible to start clearing the highways or streets until late Saturday when the snow stopped.

Many cars were pulled from snow drifts on all roads of the county by wreckers, tractors and humans, but as of Tuesday afternoon I have not heard of a single bad accident. Most of the motorist have been going at a slow speed because after the low temperatures of Sunday night and Monday night ice had formed over the snow and driving became very dangerous.

Nearly all the churches in the county were closed Sunday or walking was almost impossible and the church leaders decided it was too dangerous and asked people to worship at home.

The ABC Store closed Saturday morning as most people coming for booze were getting stuck in the parking lot. One man told me that he went out to the store and got stuck and it took him an hour to get out, but the sad part was that he didn't get the booze. I suspect right many woke up feeling better Sunday morning or the opposite.

School opened Wednesday after being closed for two days. This is seven days lost so far this year and only one has been made up, with the prediction of heavy snow the last week in February school could go into late June before closing. I hope the prediction doesn't come true.

The first POWs were released Sunday and many families are happy for the first time in many years. I was watching TV as the first prisoner came down the ramp and I thought he looked very good after eight years imprisonment. One thing we all should realize is that these men have been trained on what to do if captured. Of course, some men cannot hold up as well as others, but this is only human nature.

Anyway I hope they will soon be back in the United States and that this country not get involved in any such war again.

It was pleasing to me to see Arnold Palmer win the Bob Hope Classic. So many writers had said that he would wash up, but this win will give him confidence and could get him back on the winning road again. He is a great competitor and has meant much to the game of golf.

Speaking of golf I wonder when the courses will dry up enough to get back on them. With all the water, ice and snow the courses will take a while to be made playable. I will say that Arabia will be ready as soon as any other. I hope so anyway.

The Board of Directors of the Raeford-Hoke Chamber of Commerce met Tuesday morning at the Family Restaurant. I arrived early and the early morning coffee drinkers started giving me information for my column. I am sorry to say that it cannot be printed so you can see that some people's minds run in the wrong direction.

Washington's Birthday will be celebrated Monday, February 19 instead of Thursday, February 22 the day he was born. The banks, post office and many offices will be closed in the county.

Congressman's Mobile Office Visits Saturday

Congressman Charlie Rose's mobile district office will be in Raeford from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday. The office staffed by Rose's administrative assistant, Rip Collins, will be parked near the post office.

Rose said, "We want to give our people the opportunity to come and talk with my assistant at a place close to where they live." He pointed out Collins would relay the information gathered to Rose's Washington office.

Cadets Sing In Raeford

The seventy-five member West Point Glee Club from the United States Military Academy at West Point, N.Y. will perform Saturday at 8 p.m. at Upchurch School.

The concert will open with "The Star Spangled Banner." Other selections on the program include an armed forces medley, folk ballads, pop hits and old favorites.

Tickets are \$1 and may be purchased from any Chaminade Music Club member or by calling 875-3501.

Pump And Meat Stolen In Hoke

The Sheriff's Department reports a pump valued at \$165 was taken from a pump house at Pittman Grove Church sometime between Jan. 4 and 7.

Sgt. James L. Hill Rt. 1, Box 599, Raeford told deputies 10 to 15 chickens and 30 to 35 pounds of meat valued at \$36 were stolen from a freezer kept in a storage building in his back yard. Hill reported the thefts occurred within the past few weeks.

A bicycle valued at \$25 was taken from the yard of Ruth Shaw's Jones Ave. home on Feb. 6.

The Rockfish home of Mrs. Gray Everett was broken into. A window in a rear door was ransacked and canisters were emptied. The incident was reported Feb. 6, but the time of occurrence is unknown.

A rock was thrown through a window in a rear door of West Hoke School on Sunday. The incident was reported Monday morning but it is not known if any items are missing.

Hoke Senior To Compete



Mary Margaret Sawyer, Hoke High School senior, is the Raeford Women's Club nominee for the Sally Southall Cotton scholarship competition.

As nominee Miss Sawyer receives \$200 from the Women's Club and the Club's Education Department and will compete in the district competition March 10 at Methodist College, Fayetteville.

At district level nominees from 6 communities will compete. One will be chosen to represent the district at the state competition which is sponsored by the North Carolina Federation of Women's Clubs. Competition is based on leadership, character, scholarship and need.

The state winner will be awarded the Sally Southall Cotton four-year scholarship. The recipient will receive \$1,250 a year to be used in any North Carolina state school.

Miss Sawyer who hopes to attend the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill is active in pep club, National Honor Society, golf and volleyball teams, Future Teachers of America, Fellowship of Christian Athletes and chorale.

She is an officer of Hoke High School and winner of good citizenship and biology awards. She has been a member of Spanish club, chess club and chorus and was marshal last year.

The Women's Club congratulated other outstanding seniors Sally Austin, Kim Jordan and Carolyn Staton.



STUCK IN SNOW -- Bicycle stands sprocket-deep and immobile following an eight-inch snowfall in Hoke County.



DAVID CARNRIKE

Carnrike Is N-J Reporter

David Carnrike, an Air Force veteran and native of Cory, Pa., has joined The News-Journal staff as a part-time reporter-photographer.

Carnrike who earned his A.A. degree in journalism at the Queens University of Kingston, Ontario, Canada, was a Chicago Tribune research team member in South Dakota during the 1972 primary campaign.

His free-lance articles have appeared in the Tribune and The New York Times. The veteran of two and a half years service in Vietnam held the rank of sergeant when he was discharged in May 1972.

Carnrike resides in Spring Lake.

Juvenile Article Omitted Ruling

In last week's News Journal an article concerning hearings for juveniles involved in city and county breakins omitted judgment for one of the juveniles. He was committed to a state training school until he reaches the age of majority. The juvenile was on probation for an earlier violation at the time of the breakins.

Bloodmobile Here Friday

Hoke Countians used a large amount of blood during the winter months and the need to replace this blood is great, reports Clyde Upchurch.

The American Red Cross Bloodmobile will be at the Raeford United Methodist Church Friday from noon till 5:30 p.m.

The Raeford Women's Club is assisting by manning a telephone recruiting campaign tonight to urge city and county residents to donate blood.

Upchurch Teacher Resigns

An Upchurch Junior High School math teacher resigned Feb. 7 after being informed by school Superintendent D.D. Abernethy he would be suspended pending a hearing by the Board of Education. The teacher Milford Oxendine violated the superintendent's directive concerning corporal punishment when he paddled 12 to 15 students Feb. 6, reports Abernethy.

Upchurch Principal Lonnie Bledsoe Sr. says as far as he knows none of the children required medical treatment as a result of the paddling. It had been reported one girl was treated by a physician but both Bledsoe and Abernethy say they talked to the girl's mother and she said her daughter saw a doctor for treatment of an unrelated illness and not as the result of the paddling.

The girl's mother told The News-Journal, "I guess I should have taken her to the doctor but I didn't. I gave her some aspirin and put her to bed. She was upset and I guess you could say she was in shock."

Bledsoe and Abernethy report they talked to parents of the paddled children. Bledsoe also says other parents contacted him after the incident to ask if there was any way Oxendine could be retained because these parents felt the school was losing a good teacher.

The restriction of administering corporal punishment was issued to Oxendine about a year ago when he paddled a child. At that time Abernethy

told Oxendine never to administer corporal punishment but to refer such cases to Bledsoe. The teacher was then transferred to new students.

In North Carolina teachers are permitted to use reasonable force to maintain discipline. But, explains Abernethy, Oxendine was using corporal punishment as a teaching tool.

Reports from parents and school officials indicate approximately half of Oxendine's students failed a test Feb. 6. The teacher gave the students a choice between writing 20 definitions 20 times or being spanked. The paddling followed.

Abernethy says the school board plans no further action because Oxendine is no longer teaching in Hoke County Schools. In his resignation Oxendine indicated he

See RESIGNS, Page 15

Church Men Set Annual Supper

The annual Raeford Church Men's supper is Tuesday at the First Baptist Church at 7 p.m. Tickets may be purchased from men of the downtown churches for \$2.50.

The program under the direction of the United Methodist Church includes guest speaker the Rev. James Bailey, pastor of Lumberton's Chestnut Street United Methodist Church, and the Youth Handbell Group led by Mrs. Betty Upchurch.

The second snow storm of the year dumped eight to ten inches of snow on Hoke County over the weekend. The snow driven by high winds began falling Friday night and continued throughout the day on Saturday. Many businesses closed, church services were cancelled and schools closed.

Highway department crews began to work on the roads about 9:30 p.m. Friday. Saturday was the worst day for motorists. Traffic from I-95 and 74 was rerouted to highways 401 and 211.

Many vehicles stuck in the heavy snow and tow trucks were kept busy. Farmers using tractors pulled cars out of ditches and ditches.

In some areas the heavy snow drifted so deep plows were unable to break through. Road crews worked throughout the night and all day Saturday. All primary roads in the county were passable by Saturday evening and were in good condition by Sunday night.

Tuesday morning three graders from Moore County and a grader and front end loader from Lee County were sent to assist in Hoke County snow removal.

Bill Southern, Hoke County Department foreman, reports the additional equipment made it possible to open county roads from 401 North to the Maxton Road by Tuesday evening.

Crews spread 75 tons of salt on roads and only a little slush remained Wednesday morning. Equipment was busy Wednesday pushing snow ridges away from the edges of the roads.

Classes in all county schools were cancelled Monday and Tuesday but resumed on Wednesday morning. D.D. Abernethy, school superintendent, reports one bus became stuck for a brief period near the Cumberland County line when it pulled over to let another vehicle pass. Another school bus was reported out of service Wednesday because gas had been siphoned from the tank.

School principals and maintenance personnel reported no work on Monday and Tuesday. The two days of cancelled classes will be made up later in the school year, reports Abernethy.

Carolina Power and light reported no interruption of service because of the snow.

Child Photos Schedule Set

In the near future The News-Journal will publish pictures of all children who are brought by their parents or guardians to the Hoke Civic Center Friday between 11 a.m. and 7 p.m. The photos will be used in a photographic feature series "Citizens of Tomorrow."

A professional children's photographer will take the pictures in Direct Living Color. We emphasize, therefore, that you dress the children colorfully so as to take full advantage of the beauty of Color photography.

NO CHARGE TO PARENTS

There is no charge or obligation for taking the pictures. Parents don't even have to be a subscriber to the News-Journal nor even a reader. You do

See PHOTOS, Page 15



GALLON DONORS - Graham Pope, Burlington Worsled Dying Plant manager, presented gallon blood donor certificates to, from left, George M. Baker, Harold H. Britt, Ratzman C. Britt, Danley E. Burbank, Hubert S. Davis, Billy E. Burke, Ennis T. Lemons, Glenn McInnis and Leroy Thompson. Also earning a certificate but not pictured was Butch T. Posey.