

Around Town

BY SAM C. MORRIS

I survived the graduation exercises at Chapel Hill last Sunday but my face is still paying for the 2½ hours in Kenan Stadium. The editor asked me Monday if I saw all the hippies and I replied no. Of course these young men and women were happy after the years of study but they also had a look of seriousness about the future. It was a great day for Mary Alice and myself along with the many other parents that were at Chapel Hill last Sunday.

A few years ago I wrote in this column about a group of boys building a cabin on Rockfish Creek. I left out a few names but I believe everyone was finally recalled. The difference in age of this group was about two years apart. Let's say from 13 to 15 years of age. Now the 14 year olds made up the largest part of this group. They were boys that started in the first grade together and went on to graduate in the Class of 1936. They were the first to graduate in the building now known as the Raeford Elementary School. These boys were very close friends being in the scouts together, going to the same church and playing and doing things as one. This was in the early thirties and the depression was in full force and finding work was impossible so playing ball, swimming at Rockfish and building a cabin were things that these boys did during the summer. The population of Raeford at that time was approximately 1300 people so you knew about everyone in town. There was not the moving in and out as of today because there was no industry in the county.

The boys I am writing about are as follows: David Scott Currie Jr., Harold Keith, Harold McDiarmid, Bruce Morris Jr., James Gordon Currie, Alvis Dickson and Kerr Stevens. Now what calls this to mind is the death last week of Kerr Stevens. This makes the third death of this group as James Gordon and Alvis died a few years ago. Of this group only one is still in Hoke County, David Scott Currie, Jr. One other of the 'cabin group' has passed on and this is John Thomas Walters.

I know that it is hard for the youth of today to realize how a group of boys could become so close knitted but the time of the thirties and today are two different days.

In the passing of Kerr Stevens the 'cabin group' lost a friend but to the people of Hoke County, they have lost a solid citizen.

From all reports I guess this will be the last week that I see R. B. Lewis making his way to The Bank of Raeford early each morning. As time goes by things change and all at once you realize that you are the older generation of a community. I only hope that I will be able to continue to accept change in this changing world and continue to believe in our upcoming generation as I do now.

So much for this mess until next week.

ESAA Grant Hearing Set

A public hearing on the Emergency School Aid Act will be held Tuesday at 3:30 p.m. at the Board of Education Building. Members of the ESAA advisory committee will be on hand to answer any questions and accept suggestions on using the federal

assistance plan. Hoke County school system has submitted an application to ESAA requesting approximately \$143,000 to help ease problems of desegregation. The public hearing is among requirements for approval of the grant.

Farm Accident Claims Archie Kerr Stevens

A tractor accident Friday took the life of a prominent Hoke County farmer. Dr. Riley Jordan reports Archie Kerr Stevens, 54, died about noon Friday from injuries sustained while working alone in a field on his Puppy Creek farm. Jordan said the autopsy report and investigation indicates the death was accidental.

About 4:45 p.m. Friday a farm worker discovered Mr. Stevens on the ground behind the tractor which had stopped among some trees.

Services for the church elder were conducted Sunday in the Raeford Presbyterian Church by the Rev. John Ropp. Burial was in the Raeford Cemetery.

Surviving are his widow Mrs. Rachel Stevens; one son, Tommy of Raleigh; his mother, Mrs. A.K. Stevens Sr. of Raeford; and one sister, Mrs. H.T. Purcell of Raleigh.

Active pallbearers were Paul Johnson, Marshall Newton, Jimmy Conoly, Jeff Harris, Ralph Barnhart and Henry

Maxwell. Honorary pallbearers were the elders and deacons of the church.



ARCHIE KERR STEVENS



HOKE YARD OF WEEK - Immaculately maintained lawn surrounds home of Mr. and Mrs. Bobby Gibson in Antioch Community. Yards of week are selected each week in May by the Raeford Women's Club Garden Department.

Lady Bucks Are State Champions

Rogers Appeals Dismissal

Monday Elias Rogers, a Hoke County Indian, appealed a recent ruling dismissing a \$250,000 damage suit against the Lumbee River Electric Membership Corp. The appeal was filed with the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Fourth Circuit in Richmond, Va., by Rogers' attorney Phillip A. Diehl of Raeford.

The suit against EMC was dismissed by U.S. District Court Judge F.T. Dupree Jr., upon motion of the EMC. In his complaint Rogers had maintained he was discriminated against in a bid for re-election to the EMC board of directors on Nov. 4, 1970.

Rogers alleged he was defeated solely because of his race by the use of ballot box stuffing, false ballots and proxies. He maintained the approximately 11,000 membership of EMC in September 1970 was 40 percent white, 30 percent Negro and 30 percent Indian but all nine members of the board with the exception of Rogers were white.

In the suit Rogers asked \$5,000 attorney's fees, \$3,656 other expenses incurred and \$250,000 punitive damages.

In granting the dismissal motion Judge Dupree said the EMC had expanded its board of directors by creating three additional directorships

Bicentennial Goal Voted

At its May 16 meeting the Hoke County Bicentennial Committee voted to adopt building a new library as the county bicentennial project. The group voted to ask the library board to serve as a sub-committee of the Bicentennial Committee.

The aim of the group is to supply resources for the library board to provide a good county library. A joint meeting of both boards will be scheduled as soon as tentative building plans are drawn, reports Mrs. Laurie McEachern, Bicentennial chairman.

In the future the Bicentennial Committee will appoint public relations and ways and means committees for the project.

Tentative plans call for personal solicitation and fund raising projects to support the bicentennial goal. The object is to see that every citizen has an opportunity to contribute to the project commemorating the birth of the United States.

New Bicentennial Committee members present at the meeting were John D. McAllister, Mrs. Richard Neeley, Mrs. D. R. Huff Jr. and J. A. Hunt. Additional new members are R. B. Lewis and H. L. Gatlin. The committee plans additional expansion as project plans formulate.

and had seated Rogers on the board thereby providing him the relief he had sought.

Defendants in the case were the corporation and its officers Neill A. Watson, Cecil Cunn, W.B. McDiarmid and D.J. Dalton.

Earlier this month Rogers and two Robesonians were bound over to a federal grand jury in connection with missing Bureau Of Indian Affairs documents. Rogers is charged in that case with interfering with federal officers while they were searching a Robeson County home where two truckloads of the missing documents were found.

Phone Work Underway

J.C. Johnson, district commercial manager for Carolina Telephone and Telegraph Company, announced May 7 that a \$50,000 expansion project is underway at the company's central local dial equipment office here.

The program will provide facilities for additional service to new subscribers in this area and will permit existing subscribers on two-party lines to switch to private lines if desired. The project is scheduled for completion around June 6.

"Recently," Johnson said, "the growth of Raeford has accelerated the demand for telephone service. As a result, the maximum capacity of present equipment has nearly been reached."

In the past 10 years, for example, telephones in service here have increased from 1,700 to more than 4,500.

"The expansion project was engineered to enable the company to meet future growth requirements," Johnson noted.

Stolen Vehicles Are Recovered

Recovery of an automobile stolen from South Carolina led a Raeford policeman to discovery of a breakin and motorcycle theft at a local business Sunday evening. The motorcycle was also recovered.

The car stolen from Marlboro, S. C. was found abandoned at 5 p.m. Sunday near Morrison's Body Shop on U. S. 401 South by Patrolman Kermit Griffin. The motor of the vehicle was still warm, report police.

While investigating Griffin discovered the body shop had been broken into. A little later the motorcycle which had been taken from Morrison's was found on Rural Route 1149 about 300 yards from the body shop.

Police report the motorcycle was in running condition but apparently thieves did not know how to start it and abandoned it. The motorcycle was valued at \$1,700.

Man Arrested

James B. Jones, McCain, charged with breaking and entering, is being held in lieu of \$200 bond in connection with an incident Monday at the Adult Club, Davey Jones Hill.

At 2:45 a.m. Monday James Marshall McIntyre said he saw a man leave the Adult Club by a window. Deputy Sheriff Harvey Young investigated and discovered the window was broken.

Investigating officers say Jones was arrested about 20 minutes later at Rockfish Creek Bridge. Nothing was reported missing from the club.



STATE CHAMPIONS - Hoke High students, from left, Debbie Little, Tondea Jackson, Kathy Little and Kathy McMillian line up to win the 440-yard relay at the girls state track meet Friday. They set a new state record of 51.2 seconds beating the old record by .5 of a second (Ernest Sutton photo)



CAR FLIPPED - Three people escaped serious injury last week when this car went out of control on U.S. 401 Bypass. The vehicle landed upside down in a water-filled drainage ditch. Passersby assisted Highway Patrol with the successful rescue.

Passersby Save Three

Passersby assisted law enforcement officers in saving three persons trapped in a car submerged upside down in a water filled drainage ditch at U.S. 401 Bypass and North Main Extension at 2:30 p.m. May 10.

The three people including a young child escaped serious injury and possible death when the car in which they were traveling went out of control and landed wheels up in the ditch.

Highway Patrolman J.E. Stanley reports only the wheels of the vehicle were visible above the water when he arrived at the scene of the accident. According to Stanley a young Hendrix woman who was nearby used her tractor

to pull the car upright enough to allow rescue workers and passersby to remove the three passengers. They were taken to Cape Fear Valley Hospital by Morrison's ambulance.

Treated for facial injuries and released were driver of the vehicle Mary Foster Green, 40, and a passenger Tiney Gilley, 65. Uninjured was another passenger Jeffery Null, 4. All were from Spring Lake.

Police Report Fall From Car

Police report as a car driven by Margaret Ann Wade, Cumberland, was making a turn Saturday at 3:05 p.m. from U.S. 401 onto rural paved route 1210, Lula Biggs Wade, a passenger fell from the front left door of the car. The 77 year old Fayetteville resident was taken to the Cape Fear Valley Hospital emergency room where she was treated for scratches and bruises and released.

James E. Ramsey Speaks At (COFC) Annual Dinner

James E. Ramsey, speaker of the state House of Representatives will be principal speaker Monday at the annual Raeford-Hoke Chamber of Commerce dinner in W.T. Gibson cafeteria at 7 p.m.

Ramsey, D-Person, a member of the House since 1963 is a former recorder's court judge and member of the N.C. State Bar, N.C. Bar Association, Person County Bar Association and president of the Person County Bar.

He received his law degree from UNC Law School in 1958 and also attended the University of Hawaii. He is active in Chamber of Commerce, Lions Club, Ruritan Club, Wildlife Club, and Toast Masters Club.

Ramsey, a captain in the U.S. Marines Corps Reserve, is a Methodist associate lay leader for Durham District, a steward and parsonage trustee.

The Person County native, father of four, is married to the former Eunice Jordan Saunders.

Also on Monday's program will be installation of officers, special award presentation and annual report. The

Hoke County High School stormed to its second consecutive girls state track championship Friday smashing three state records in the process. Hoke's Lady Bucks amassed 51 points to easily out distance runner-up Southeast Guilford who could only manage 16 points. All other teams trailed far behind.

Kathy McMillian led the charge by bettering the broad jump mark from 16 feet 10 inches to a new state record of 17 feet 7 inches. She then added a first in the 440 yard relay as she joined Kathy Little, Debbie Little and Tondea Jackson in lowering the state record from 51.7 seconds to 51.2.

The mile relay team of Barbara Lide, Geraldine Murray, Orea Dean Galberth and Angela McPhatter raced to a time of 4 minutes 20.1 seconds to break the record by nearly 12 seconds.

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Lide placed first in the 440 yard dash and Barbara Campbell shared a first in the shot put to close out the match for the Lady Bucks.

Coach Billy Colston's girls have now won 16 regular season matches without a loss and two state championships in their brief three-year existence.

Records of Friday's state meet show: shot put, first, Campbell, Hoke, 36 feet 5½ inches; broad jump, first, McMillian, Hoke, 17 feet 7 inches, third, Barbara Lide, Hoke, 17 feet; high jump, first, Robbins, Southeast Guilford, 5 feet ½ inch, second, Debbie Little, Hoke, 4 feet 10 inches; discus, first, Crickshank, Camp Lejeune, 107 feet 2 inches; 50 low hurdles, first, Bombalis, Andrews, 7.6 seconds; mile relay, first, Hoke, 4 minutes 20.1 seconds; and

100 yard dash, first, Leak, Bowman, 11.1 seconds, second D. Little, Hoke, third, McMillian, Hoke; mile run, first, Taylor, North Pitt, 5 minutes 22.2 seconds; 440 yard relay, first, Hoke, 51.2 seconds; 440 yard dash, first, Lide, Hoke, 60.7 seconds; 220 yard dash, first Leak, Bowman, 26.1 seconds; third, D. Little, Hoke; 80 yard low hurdles, first, Montgomery, Scotland, 11.5 seconds; 880 yard run, first, McAmis, Southeast Guilford, 2 minutes 32.8 seconds, third, Malloy, Hoke; 880 relay, first, New Bern, 1 minute 48.3 seconds, second, Hoke.

Thieves Busy

Three May 9 larcenies were reported to the Sheriff's Department. Charles Henry Ransom of Arabia reported someone forced a house door open on the Crowley farm between 7 a.m. and 5:15 p.m. and took a shotgun valued at \$160.

James A. Willis, Stonewall Township, reported a stereo and tape player were taken from his home between 6:30 a.m. and 7:15 p.m.

Thomas Lee Locklear, Bethune Bridge, reported someone took a watch valued at \$195 from his wrist while he was asleep in his home between 6:05 p.m. and 11:30 p.m.

Monday Ernest Davis, Dundarrach, reported 50 bushels of seed beans were stolen from a pack house on Mrs. B.F. McGregor's farm sometime early that morning.

Hoke County High School chorale will perform. County 4-H Clubs will prepare and serve the dinner.



JAMES E. RAMSEY