

Area Incidents

Hoke Woman Reported Missing

A young Raeford woman has been reported as missing by her mother and father, according to a report filed with the sheriff's department.

Mr. and Mrs. Clifford McGregor, Rt. 1, Raeford, told deputies their daughter, Mrs. Brenda L. Jones, 25, also of Rt. 1, has been missing from her home since about 3:30 p.m. on Nov. 4.

Sheriff D.M. Barrington said the woman's husband, Rudolph V. Jones, told him his wife got into a light green car with a man and a woman inside, after speaking to them outside her home.

Mrs. Jones, a black, is described as 5'9", 139 lbs., slender built, medium complexion, with a bush hairstyle. Anyone having any information about the woman's whereabouts is asked to contact the Hoke County Sheriff's Department, Barrington said.

The sheriff's deputies are also investigating a number of burglaries reported in the area.

James Barefoot, Rt. 2, Raeford, complained his home was broken into

sometime between 7:30 a.m. and 4 p.m. on Nov. 5, and a Swinger camera, valued at \$19.95, and cash and record albums totaling \$30, stolen. A complete list of items missing has not been made yet, according to the report.

Ralph Plummer, Rt. 2, Raeford, stated his home was entered sometime Nov. 5 and a Sylvania color TV valued at \$400 taken. The apparent means of entry was a cut window screen.

Roy Pittman, Rt. 2, Raeford, reported a Polaroid Swinger camera worth \$15 was stolen from his home sometime Nov. 7 between 8 a.m. and 5 p.m. Entry was made by removing a window screen, according to the complaint.

Roland E. Furr, Rt. 1, Raeford, reported he was notified by a neighbor that a small boy was in his home and Furr told deputies he chased the boy, but failed to catch him. Furr said upon checking his home, he discovered \$2.75 in cash and a bag of potato chips missing.

Nash Melvin, Carolina Telephone Co.,

reported someone stole a nitrogen tank, regulator and hose from an area alongside 401 South. The loss was listed as \$137.50.

Thomas H. Grooms, Rt. 2, Raeford, complained he discovered his home entered Sunday night after returning from a weekend trip. Missing were three guns, two cameras, a stereo, records with a total value of \$745. Entry was made by forcing a window, according to the report filed.

James Pittman, Rt. 2, Raeford, said a 10' aluminum boat was stolen from his home on Nov. 7 or 8. No value was listed for the boat.

City police are investigating the theft of money which was removed from employee's pocketbooks at the B.C. Moore Department Store in Raeford, Saturday.

Police Chief Leonard Wiggins said a number of employees had left their pocketbooks in a stockroom during the day, but the stockroom had not been locked. About \$5100 was taken.

Bike-A-Thon Set Sunday

To the Red Springs town hall and back to Raeford, Hoke High Key Club members will ride bicycles Sunday for charity.

The Bike-A-Thon will benefit the Diabetes Association. Local merchants are sponsoring the cyclists, donating according to the number of miles completed.

Anyone who would like to sponsor a cyclist may do so by calling 875-5221 after 5 p.m. before Sunday.

Individual donations will be accepted at City Hall Sunday during the Bike-A-Thon. The riders will start at 1:30 p.m.

LAND USE

The urban sprawl may appear to be gobbling up most of the available land, but it really isn't. Housing U.S. population takes up about 35 million acres, or less than 2 per cent of the total land area. Feeding and clothing the population requires at least 30 times more land.

EXPORTS DOWN

U.S. agricultural exports slipped in August to \$1.5 billion, down 11 per cent from the July figure and 2 per cent below August of a year ago.

Game Protection Is Beefed Up For Coming Hunting Season

RALEIGH -- Enforcement of North Carolina's game laws is being beefed up this fall throughout the state, particularly during the upcoming deer season where it begins on November 25.

It's all part of a major effort to cut down on game law violations, and at the same time, learn more about present populations of big game species.

"We plan to tighten up our enforcement by four methods," said Don Curtis, chief of the N.C. Wildlife Resources Commission's Division of Protection. "We're in the process now of setting up a series of game survey check points primarily in and around the key game lands. We're also reassigning some of our personnel to certain areas to improve the protection in those areas. In addition, we are again setting up an extensive series of 'hot line' phone numbers through which hunters can report violations they have observed. Finally, the total number of personnel involved in game law enforcement will be increased because all Wildlife Commission personnel -- not just wildlife protectors -- will be actively involved in enforcing the laws and regulations."

A series of 15 game survey check points will be established on certain game lands during the deer season. These check points will serve several purposes. They will be manned by Wildlife Commission personnel equipped with radios during the deer gun seasons, and all cars leaving the Game Lands past these check points will be subject to a check for game kills.

The game survey check points will also serve as stations where hunters can report game law violations which will then be relayed via radio to mobile teams of wildlife protectors patrolling the areas.

Hunters may also stop at these check points to fill out the mandatory or voluntary big game kill reports for various big game species. These reports are mandatory for bear and antlerless deer (and also turkey next spring). In addition, the game survey check points will serve as information centers where hunters can obtain map books of the game lands, copies of regulations and other information.

These check points, identified by a large N.C. Wildlife Resources Commission sign, will be located at the following points:

The Fires Creek entrance road; In standing Indian, check points will be at the Wallace Gap entrance, at the main entrance to Coweeta and one at Park Gap; at North Mills, check points will be on Yellow Gap Road, Bent Creek Gap and the North Mills entrance road; at Green River, the check point will be at Big Hungry bridge; at Harmon Den, the check point will be at the intersection of Cold Springs Road and I-40; in the Rich Mountain section, the check point

will be on the Mill Ridge Road; at Flat Top, the station will be at Harmiller Gap; in the Mt. Mitchell section, the check station will be on Curtis Creek Road; in Daniel Boone, the check station will be at the intersection of Upper Creek Road and Rt. 181; at Thurmond Chatham, the check station will be at the old area headquarters; at Uwharrie, the check station will be at the entrance to the old Uwharrie area.

"We had a similar system last year, and we feel that it worked quite well," said Curtis. "We were able to check a lot of kills, and hunters who needed information or needed to report violations knew where to find us."

The system of "hot line" phone numbers will again be used to provide sportsmen with numbers to call in case they should observe a game law violation.

"This system also worked very well last year, and we're hoping it will work even better this year," said Curtis.

The "hot line" numbers will be conspicuously posted throughout the state in popular hunting areas on red "stop-sign" type posters. Each poster will list the nearest "hot line" number where violations can be reported. Hunters may call these numbers collect if they are long distance. Each reported violation will be relayed by radio to mobile teams of wildlife protectors operating in the area where the violation is reported and the report will be quickly checked out.

There will be six "hot line" numbers located across the state. In the western part of the state, the "hot line" numbers will be 704-456-9292 at Waynesville and 704-437-5131 in Morganton. In other parts of the state, "hot line" numbers will be 919-259-4774 in Burgaw; 919-578-1646 in Haw River; 919-835-6426 in Jonesville and 919-582-2101 in Hamlet.

"With both the 'hot line' numbers and the many Game Survey Check Points, sportsmen should have no trouble reporting a violation to us," said Curtis, "and once we get the report, we're set up to check it out quickly."

"We're also assigning primary responsibility for some key Game Lands to a specific wildlife protector this year," said Curtis. "Of course, each of these men will have plenty of help, but this way, the sportsmen will know exactly who to contact if they need to get in touch with us on some problem about that area."

"Finally, every Wildlife Commission employee will have the responsibility to take part in the enforcement of our game laws," said Curtis. "This will mean that although a biologist or some other staff member of the Commission might have other duties, he will also be required to help enforce game laws when he observes violations."

"This will, in effect, practically double the number of people working to catch game law violators during the coming hunting season," said Curtis. "We would urge that every sportsman help us in protecting our wildlife heritage by making use of these programs to improve the enforcement of game laws."

Sunday School Lesson

Recently one of my sons came home from high school with the assignment to analyze the meaning of this popular saying: "Today is the first day of the rest of your life."

We decided that this saying is essentially a statement of hope. On any particular day we can be linked either with the defeats and frustrations of the past or the promises and opportunities of the future. We can concentrate on what has gone wrong or we can concentrate upon a better tomorrow. Some people are so encumbered by yesterday that they ruin every today and tomorrow.

To say "Today is the first day of the rest of your life," however, is to affirm your belief that you can cut yourself off from the past and enjoy a better and different future. We can put the past behind us.

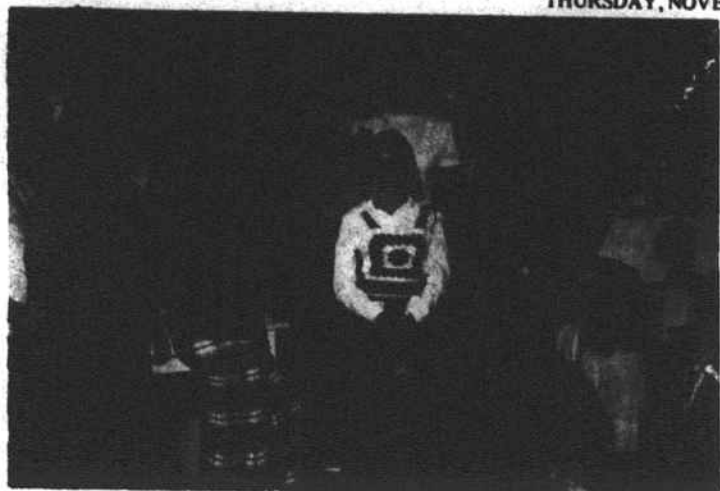
Actually, we decided that the saying would be more accurate if we were to say instead of "Today is..." to say "Today can be the first day of the rest of your life." There is certainly nothing automatic about today and tomorrow. A new day is not delivered with the morning milk. The key is what we make of a new day. If we are to break with the past and build a better tomorrow it is incumbent upon us to take some affirmative action. A better "rest of your life" doesn't "just happen."

This was essentially the message that the prophet Ezekiel brought to the Hebrew people in exile. His was a prophetic message of hope for the future. He saw a "new day" coming for these captives in exile. A beautiful promise was given them by God through the prophet: "For I will take you from the nations, and gather you from all the countries, and bring you into your own land" (Ezekiel 36:24).

Yet, if the people of Israel were to enjoy this "new day," they could not simply wait for it. Something was required of them: they had to be willing to let God transform them. God wanted to renew them, but they had to be receptive:

A new heart I will give you, and a new spirit I will put within you; and I will take out of your flesh the heart of stone and give you a heart of flesh. (36:26)

Sometimes there is nothing we need so much as a new beginning. This is when it is not enough to make some changes here and there, when what is required is a major overhauling. We are likely to have the same old today and tomorrow unless we are willing to let God make some radical changes in our lives. Jesus told his disciples that you can't put new wine into old wineskins. So it is in our lives: if we want a "new day," we have to be willing to let God make a new "us."



BEAUTY BADGES - The Cadette Scout troop got instructions for good grooming badges from Mrs. Jean Minshew and Mrs. Yvonne Sams at a meeting last week. Mrs. Minshew gives a facial to Sarah Gaddy, as troop members watch.



Read Psalm 90:1-12

Even to your old age I am He, and to gray hairs I will carry you. I have made, and I will bear; I will carry and will save. (Isaiah 46:4 RSV)

I was once a guest speaker in a village church. While waiting in a seat near the front for the worship to begin, I heard a voice behind me say in a cheery tone: "Good morning, everyone."

During the worship service, I looked down and saw the speaker of those words. He was an elderly man, but I was hardly prepared for the remark made to me at the close of the worship hour. A member said, "That man is 102 years old." Noting how he participated in the service and seeing how sprightly he walked out of the church, I could scarcely believe he was that age.

God's promises to us are wonderful and authentic. We can count on them. Centuries ago, the prophet Isaiah felt moved to pen the words of our text.

When we live for God each day of our life, then we receive spiritual grace and strength to continue along the pathway of the years - whether the years be few or many.

PRAYER: Dear Lord, quicken us with perceptive minds and ready wills in youth and middle life, so that in old age we may honor Thee and prove life to be a blessing. Amen.

THOUGHT FOR THE DAY: Are we using the days, months, and years of our lives to the honor of God?

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Macks Reports Earnings Drop

Macks Stores, Inc. reported a drop in earnings for the 38-week period ending Sept. 21.

An unaudited statement released last week reported that net sales gained by \$2,000, from \$18,432,396 for the same period last year to \$20,362,019. However, net earnings dropped from \$578,997 to \$415,003.

Net earnings per average common share was 37c, compared with 52c for the same period.

Hoke Delegates At Lung Meet

Mrs. Bobby Burns McNeill and Mrs. Crawford L. Thomas will attend the kickoff meeting for the annual Christmas Seal drive Friday at Mc Cain Hospital.

They are county board members of the Mid-State Lung Association.

Dr. John Metcalf of Duke University Medical School will address the association's directors.

TOP TEN

North Carolina is the only southeastern state in the top ten in gross farm income. The Tar Heel state ranks tenth with \$2.3 billion in farm marketings. California, Iowa, Texas, Illinois, Kansas, Nebraska, Minnesota, Indiana, and Missouri lead in that order.

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