

Around Town

BY SAM C. MORRIS

The request for information about the old Teacherage being torn down on Main Street is still coming in. Robert Gatlin said he had received letters and phone calls about the house.

I had a note from Jewel Klouse, nee Jewel Snead of Myrtle Beach, S.C., concerning the Teacherage. She also said, "I enjoy your paper so much - and still call Raeford my home." Thanks Jewel, and come by to see us the next time you are in town.

I received a note last week from Mrs. Julian King about the Cancer Drive. The note follows:

"On behalf of the Raeford Junior Women's Club, I would like to express our deep appreciation to the Raeford Merchants and to Mr. Allen Edwards, Hoke County High School principal, for their help with our card benefit to raise money for the American Cancer Society. We are indeed fortunate to have such cooperation and civic-minded people in our community."

Maybe reading the words in this note will cause many newcomers to Raeford to see why Jewel Klouse still calls Raeford home.

The paper next week will contain our Senior Section. This section is run each year offering congratulations to the students that have completed the 12 years of school work in Hoke County. It consists of ads from the local business firms of the county and also pictures of each member of the Senior Class of 1975.

The staff of The News-Journal always tries to reach all firms for ads in this section. If you have been overlooked and would like to appear in the section, just dial 875-2121, and someone will get in touch with you. Please call by Friday noon if you want to be in the section.

While on the subject of graduation, the class of 1935 will hold a reunion this year, 40 years from graduation from Raeford High School. I have mentioned this before in this column and the final plans should be completed this weekend. Forty letters were mailed to the living members of the class, and as this is being written, 31 have returned letters. Of this number 27 will attend the reunion and four others either, because of a previous engagement or sickness, had to decline. I still hope to hear from the other eight members. After forty years I wasn't sure this many would answer the letter, so the results, from my viewpoint, are very good.

The 28th annual dinner meeting of the Chamber of Commerce, held Monday night at the Gibson Cafeteria, was well attended. The meal served by the Hoke County 4-H Clubs was very good. The affair went very smoothly and the speaker kept everyone awake and listening with his timely remarks.

The Chamber now starts a new year under the leadership of Dick Lovett, Jr., of Knit-Away.

I went out to West Hoke School last Friday morning for their annual Field Day. The rain held off and the day was very successful for both students and teachers.

J.D. McAllister, assistant school superintendent, made the comment that he could remember having field days when he was in school. It also brought back memories of field days during my days at school during the twenties.

I am glad to see them being revived as I think the competitive spirit of these events is good for the students as much as the book work in the classroom.

City Picks

Housing Panel

Five members of the recently reactivated Raeford Housing Authority have accepted appointments by the city council.

Neill McFadyen, a farmer and former state representative with experience in real estate and building, has been named chairman.

Others on the authority are Dayna Pate, a caseworker at the Department of Social Services; Ken McNeill, a farmer and member of the previous housing authority; J.D. McAllister, assistant superintendent of schools and Gerald Wright, a real estate broker.



MEDI-VAC - The driver in a Vass Road smashup was extricated from the wreckage by the Hoke County Rescue Squad and transported from the scene by a medi-vac helicopter to Womack Army Hospital. (Photo by Marty Vega)

Guardsman Is Injured In High Speed Crash

A nineteen-year-old National Guardsman was pinned within his wrecked car for 35 minutes following a high speed crash Tuesday morning before rescue squad members were able to free him.

Ronald Lawson Fowler, Rt. 6, Monroe, lost control of his 1970 Chevrolet SS 454 while traveling south on Vass Road at about 10:40 a.m., Trooper J.D. Thigpin said.

Thigpin said Fowler, who was alone in the car, was driving at an extremely high rate of speed and lost control of the car on a curve. The vehicle went off the right shoulder, hitting several trees and overturned.

Morrison's Ambulance service arrived at the scene and Trooper C.A. Bennett and Thigpin attempted to free Fowler from the wreck. Thigpin said the impact threw Fowler to the passenger side of

the vehicle, and the doors could not be opened.

Rescue squad members extricated the man from the car using their power tool and Fowler was evacuated by military helicopter to Womack Army Hospital at Ft. Bragg.

A hospital spokesman said the man was admitted with head injuries, but did not disclose his condition.

Thigpin termed the car a total loss and estimated damage at \$2,000. Traffic was disrupted for an hour before the car could be removed from the scene.

Thigpin said Fowler is attending a two week summer camp for National Guard members. He is the son of Union County Sheriff Frank Fowler.

Bennett said two persons witnessed the accident and charges are expected to be filed.



CHAMBER HIGHLIGHTS - Dick Lovett (left) incoming Chamber of Commerce president, Loren Young, guest speaker, and Richard P. Bruce, chairman of the board of Knit-Away who introduced Young, gather at the annual Chamber dinner.

Officers Are Installed At Chamber Dinner

George J. (Dick) Lovett, Jr. was installed as president of the Raeford-Hoke Chamber of Commerce at the annual Chamber dinner Monday night at Gibson building.

Dr. Robert G. Townsend Jr., a former Chamber president, installed officers, that included J.B. (Benny) McLeod and Neill A. McDonald as vice-presidents and W.E. (Gene) Carter as secretary-treasurer.

Richard P. Bruce Jr., chairman of the board of Knit-Away, Inc., introduced the guest speaker, Loren Young.

Young, with a varied career as teacher, coach, historian, counselor, Yukon forest ranger and Methodist minister, has also been closely associated with the world of sports and served for ten years with the Fellowship of Christian Athletes.

Harold Gillis, manager of the Chamber of Commerce, reviewed the progress of the Chamber over the years.

Outgoing directors introduced were Ed Brown, Graham Clark, Bobby Conoly, William Poole and Freddie Williams.

Directors with one more year to serve who were recognized were Bob Gentry, Theresa McBryde and Neill A. McDonald.

Directors recognized with two more years to serve were Gene Carter, Dick Lovett and Benny McLeod.

Incoming directors included Julian Butler, Gib Bernhardt, Vardell Hedgpeh, Ivey McNair and Mike Wood.

Dinner music was provided by Susan Gillis and the Hoke High chorale presented a musical program.

Food Stamp Participation Here Up 165% From 1972

The number of persons receiving food stamps in Hoke County has jumped 165% over this time in 1972, according to figures released by the state Department of Human Resources.

Figures for all counties were released in a report this month detailing the results of Project REACH, the Department of Social Services' campaign to inform North Carolinians

of the food stamp program and increase participation among poverty level persons.

The number of persons receiving food stamp assistance in the county as of April was put at 3,860, or 85% of the persons designated as below poverty level. In 1972, the number was 1,459.

See FOOD STAMPS, page 13

Hoke High Student Sues School Officials Over Hair

A Hoke High student has filed suit against school officials alleging harassment over the school's haircut policy and a Superior Court judge has issued an order temporarily restraining officials from enforcing the haircut rule.

A petition was filed last Thursday at the court house in behalf of Joseph Thompson Jr., an eleventh grader, and "and those similarly situated" by attorney Kenneth Glusman, of Fayetteville. The restraining order was signed by Judge James H. Pou Bailey after a hearing held in Fayetteville since there was no session of Superior Court in Hoke County at that time.

A hearing has been set for 9:30 today in Fayetteville before Judge Bailey.

In the order, Bailey cited numerous previous suspensions from school and declared that "there exists a substantial likelihood, based on past history, that

the plaintiff will again be suspended from school because of the length of his hair; that said suspension would result in irreparable harm to the plaintiff since he will be prevented from doing his schoolwork and will cause him mental distress, anxiety and humiliation. That the loss of schoolwork and adverse effect on grades cannot be remedied by money damages.

"That there is not sufficient time for proper notice to all parties if irreparable harm to the plaintiff is to be prevented."

The petition names as defendants, Raz Autry, school superintendent; school board members Riley M. Jordan, William L. Howell, Jr., Robert T. Gibson, D.R. Huff Jr. and Wilton Wood; Hoke High principal Allen Edwards and assistant principal Donald Steed.

They are each being sued both

individually and in their official capacities for \$1,000 in actual damages and \$5,000 in punitive damages.

In addition, the petition asks that the haircut regulations be declared unconstitutional, null and void and that the defendants be permanently enjoined from enforcing them. Also, it is asked for the deletion of all "zeros" that have been entered on Thompson's class records as a result of absences caused by suspensions on account of his hair length.

The petition also asks that the action be considered under North Carolina law as a class action, affecting "all males who are now, or ever will be students at Hoke County High School."

Thompson is described in the petition as a better-than-average student who has been respectful, obedient and well-disciplined in school. His hair is described as "short by current standards, and it is well-groomed, but it does extend slightly over his ears, and occasionally extends to his collar in the back. Plaintiff's sideburns extend to slightly below the earlobe."

The suit alleges that during the past school year, Thompson has been suspended from school on several occasions by Edwards and "has been subjected to continual petty harassment by the defendant Steed".

Because of suspensions, Thompson "has been forced to miss classwork, has received adverse grades in his classes, has suffered great mental anguish, has cut his hair several times against his will, has been held up to public ridicule and has been subjected to harassment and embarrassment by the defendants, Edwards and Steed."

Thompson contends in his petition, that Steed and Edwards "have been aided, encouraged and ordered to continue and persist in the course of action" by Autry and the school board.

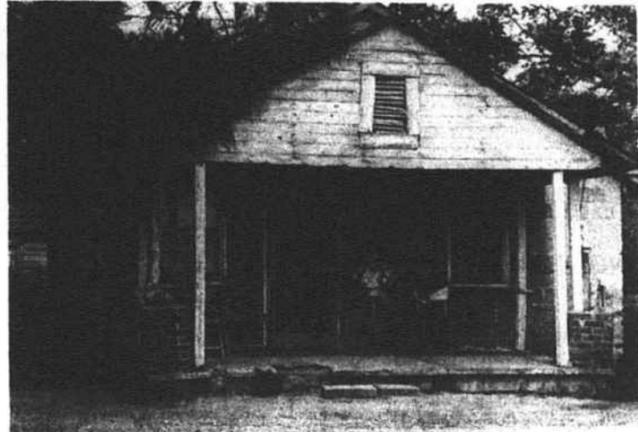
He is being caused irreparable harm because of the policy, Thompson contends, in that he has been placed under great mental stress that makes it difficult to study and his grades have been damaged by the "zeros" entered on his school record. He has never been given any kind of hearing before a suspension, the petition alleges.

Three sections of the school dress code are unconstitutional, the suit contends. The sections protested include the haircut regulations, the ban on beards and mustaches, tank shirts and midribs and the rule prohibiting any kind of pictorial markings on clothing.

The regulations are unconstitutional, the suit contends, because they violate the due process clause of the 14th Amendment, in by infringing on the right of the student to regulate his own appearance. The rules violate the students' right to freedom of speech under the First and 14th Amendment and they violate the equal protection clause of the 14th Amendment, because the hair length regulations apply only to males and not females. This is an irrational discrimination, the defendant contends.

Thompson's father, Joseph Thompson Sr., was appointed by the court to bring the suit in his son's behalf, since the student is a minor.

Deputies served the court order to school officials over the weekend. A bond of \$5 each was set to comply with the laws governing civil procedure.



SLAYING SCENE - A wreath of white flowers was left at the door of the South Hoke home where Barbara Jean Patterson was slain by gunfire last Thursday. Deputies found the body lying in the front yard.

Hoke Woman Is Slain In Family Argument

No charges have been filed yet in the fatal shooting of a South Hoke mother of three last Thursday which authorities say occurred in a family dispute.

Barbara Jean Patterson, 29, was found slain at the home of her grandfather, Caesar Patterson, Rt. 1, Box 666, Red Springs, shortly after 4:30 P.M. Thursday. The body, which was found in the front yard, had a small caliber gunshot wound under the right breast, Sheriff D.M. Barrington said.

Medical examiner Riley M. Jordan pronounced the woman dead at the scene and the body was ordered sent to Chapel Hill for an autopsy.

Barrington said Caesar Patterson, 91, told him an argument developed over food burned on the stove, and Patterson's granddaughter went into another room and brought out a gun. Patterson struggled with his granddaughter over the gun and it

discharged, striking the woman, according to Patterson's account.

Patterson turned over a .22 caliber rifle to deputies which has been sent to the state crime lab for ballistics and fingerprints tests, the sheriff said.

Barrington said he had obtained statements from two witnesses present at the time of the shooting, but the versions differed.

James Earl Patterson, 8, the dead woman's son, and Phyllis Pleasant, 12, Patterson's great-granddaughter, gave conflicting descriptions of what occurred, Barrington said.

The sheriff said he will request a coroner's inquest to determine the circumstances surrounding the shooting. The dead woman had two other children, a four year old, and a child age two or three. She had returned to the county to live with her grandfather after an absence, the sheriff said. She had been receiving public assistance.

Patterson had originally given his age as 84, but a spokesman at the Department of Social Services disclosed the man is 91, Barrington said.

No date has been set for the inquest.

Rain, Rain Fell This Way

More than four inches of rain fell in Raeford during the thunder storms last weekend.

A total of 2.5 inches fell within a 35 minute period Saturday night, according to weather recorder Robert Gatlin. Another two inches was recorded in two thunder storms Sunday.

The total for the week was 5.8 inches of rain, as 1.3 inches was recorded on May 17.

Hoke Band In Concert Tonight

The Hoke High band will present its spring concert Thursday night at 8 p.m. at the high school gym.

Featured will be a section called Fall Memories, recalling the band's performances during the fall.

There will be no admission charged and the public is invited to attend.

Tie Down Fees Urged By Airport Committee

Parking spaces will be assigned to private aircraft owners and tie down fees will be assessed by the city if a recommendation of the airport committee is adopted.

The committee met last week at city hall to discuss tie downs, leases and other airport business.

A \$10 a month rental fee was recommended for space on the paved apron at the airport. The committee also recommended that the city appropriate funds to build T-hangars for rental at the airport.

Gene Thacker, owner of a sports parachute business at the airport, has notified the city that he wants to exercise his option to renew his original lease, the city airport committee was informed.

A new lease similar to the one recently signed with flight school operator Paul Rose was being negotiated that would have moved Thacker to a new area at the airport and would have returned control to the city of the

airport building and paved apron.

The airport committee requested the city manager to have the legality of Thacker's present lease investigated by the city attorney but no recommendation was made by the committee, according to the minutes of the meeting.

According to the minutes, the committee also recommended that the city collect rent from the property on which a hangar owned by Tom Cameron and William Poole is located. However, John Gaddy, who recently was appointed airport manager as well as city manager, said the city is still seeking to have the hangar moved.

A transformer has been requested to correct a problem of voltage surge in the visual approach slope indicator landing lights. Gaddy told the committee and the cost will be included in the final payment of an FAA grant.

The next meeting of the committee is scheduled for June 11 at 7 p.m. at city hall.