

Around Town

By Sam C. Morris

The rain is coming down in Hoke County as this is being written Tuesday morning. The weather prophet hasn't been by today but it must have rained all night. (Dick Neely was just in the office but it might make Gatlin mad if I used his figures.) Maybe we will have to wait for the chart at the end of the month.

From all reports it seems winter will still be around for a few more days. With Easter about the middle of April the weather may still be unsettled until after that time.

Saturday night after Virginia lost to DePaul in the Eastern Regional it seemed that basketball would be over for the season as far as local teams were concerned. But Monday night in the NIT Tournament in New York N.C. State and UNC-G fought their ways into the semi-finals. It is too bad that they must play one another but it might still be possible for the Tar Heel state to come up with a champ.

During the regular season N.C. State beat UNC-G by three points.

Two or three people that work at the Board of Education office have been in the past week and were making comments on how nice and quiet it has been at the office lately.

From reports or rumors it seems that the Superintendent of Schools, Raz Autry, has lost his voice or for some reason can't talk for a week or so. Now I can't confirm this because Raz hasn't been around town for the past week.

It seems from reports that Raz went to the doctor for a physical examination and the only thing wrong with him was something about his vocal system and he was instructed not to use his voice for a week. As most of you know this could certainly work a hardship on the superintendent. It seems that he has a pad and writes instructions to all the employees of the office. Of course this works a hardship on all concerned but it is hard to keep a good man down.

One person said Raz wrote him a message the other day and after reading the instructions he caught himself writing the answer back to Raz.

All joking aside we hope that whatever caused this will soon be cleared up and that Raz will return to normal. Speedy recovery Raz.

The Jefferson-Jackson Dinner in Raleigh last Saturday night was very successful with a record crowd in attendance. Hoke County was represented by six faithful Democrats and enjoyed the event very much. On an election year most political minded people seem to find the road to Raleigh for this event.

Don't forget that Tuesday, March 23 is the day to vote. Besides paying taxes this is one thing that you can do in this country. It seems that about half of the people want the other half to run the country because only about 50% of the people vote. It is usually less than that to vote in Hoke County.

Besides the presidential primary a couple of ballots will contain issues to be voted on that could be of importance to you in years to come. So get out and vote on Tuesday.

Vote or keep your mouth shut about the way the country is being run.

Women's Council Urged

After drawing little interest from county commissioners last month, the regional worker for the North Carolina Council on the Status of Women is making a renewed effort to establish a county Council on Women here, following similar action by Robeson and Scotland counties.

"We're not women's libbers - we only want to bring about necessary changes so that the needs of women can be identified and programs set up to meet those needs", Clara Bryant, who is coordinator for Region N, made up of Hoke,



Bicentennial Paint -- The Main Street fire hydrants took on Bicentennial colors last week in a joint project of the public affairs department of the Junior Womans Club and Sandhills Youth Center volunteers. City merchants donated paint. Pictured at work are [clockwise from left] Bill Morgan, Mary Gambon, Jeff Brown, and Kathy Leandro.

Burglar Nabbed

A young Fayetteville man was arrested early Tuesday morning after he was caught in the act of carrying goods from a house in the Rockfish area, according to Sheriff's deputies.

Austin Dale Yarborough, 18, of 2543 Belair St., Fayetteville, has been charged with two counts each of felonious breaking and entering, larceny, and receiving stolen goods, according to Deputy Sheriff J.R. Riley.

Sheriff D.M. Barrington said deputies answered a call from Mrs. Thomas Clouse, of Rt. 3, Fayetteville, who said that someone was breaking into the home of Samuel L. Bell, of Rt. 3, Fayetteville.

Deputies J.R. Riley, J.E. Tindall, and J. Peterkin answered the call and apprehended Yarborough as he was leaving the house through the back entrance, Barrington said. "They nailed him before he could get out," he said.

Riley said a call had come in from Mrs. Clouse a week ago and \$1,857 in property had been taken from the Bell home.

He said Yarborough had been charged for both incidents.

Riley said the same car was used for both break-ins as it had been spotted both times by Mrs. Clouse.

He said Yarborough had \$652 in property in his possession when he was apprehended Tuesday.

Councilmen, Architects Confer On Re-modeling

The city council met Thursday morning in a special meeting to discuss renovations to the municipal building with two architects, but made no decision, according to city manager Robert Drumwright.

E.J. Austin of Austin and Associates, Southern Pines, and James McVictor of McVictor and Associates, Laurinburg, were called to meet with the councilmen by Drumwright and each inspected the city hall offices, police department, and fire station, along with the old post office on the Main St.

block. Drumwright said both architects wanted to make a closer study before making any recommendations on construction or renovations.

Councilmen discussed appropriating funds for improvements to the municipal building at their last monthly meeting, particularly to give the already cramped police department and fire department more room, but postponed any decisions until getting opinions from architects.

Family Planner Gone

The county health department is now without its family planning nurse practitioner after the practitioner's publicized criticism of the program last week, and it may be months before a replacement can be assigned.

Mrs. Otha Carol Swett, who had been assigned to the Hoke health center on Thursday afternoons, failed to show up last Thursday and some patients had to be turned away, according to the center's acting director, Susan McKenzie.

"We did have Dr. Bethea here, but he does not insert intrauterine devices (IUD) and we had to turn

away some IUD patients", she said.

Lumber River Council of Governments health educator and coordinator, Hank Debnam said Monday Mrs. Swett was no longer working, but refused to say if she had been asked to resign following complaints she aired that the program was "doing nothing".

"I can tell you it's going to be a problem, Hoke County is the one really in need of a clinician. We hated for the thing to get blown up like it did", Debnam said.

Debnam acknowledged it would be "weeks or months" before a replacement could be trained to take over the job. The family planning nurse practitioner program was begun under a grant last year and is administered by COG.

Mrs. Swett, who also was assigned to the Robeson County Department of Health center for one clinic a week, assisted about 34 women here in Hoke County who visit the family planning clinic on a weekly basis.

See PLANNER, page 14

Rose's Office Here Friday

The mobile office of Congressman Charles G. Rose will be in Raeford Friday, March 26 from 10 A.M. to 3 P.M. with administrative assistant Rip Collins on hand.

The van will be parked in the post office lot.

Scotland, Bladen, and Robeson counties.

Mrs. Bryant said the purpose of county councils is to serve as a resource center for women to gather data and furnish sources of assistance to women regarding education, employment, legal matters, and problems with credit, taxes, insurance, etc.

"Seventy per cent of all women in North Carolina are head of households", she said. "Here, there is a tremendous need for day care centers".

Mrs. Bryant said state funds are

available for a local coordinator once a county council is established, and there is a possibility of receiving grants to set up programs.

"We need more interest from women. We go to the county commissioners first because they are the key people. We give them the opportunity, and if they fail to act, then we go to the women", she said.

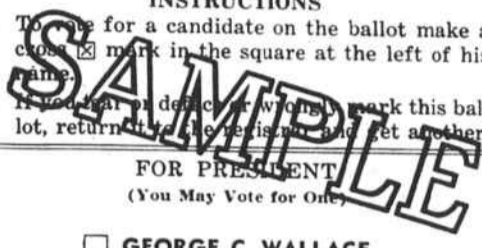
"We need the men as well, and we'd like to have men as members on the council".

Light Turnout Seen For Tuesday Primary

Official Democratic Primary Ballot for President of the United States

INSTRUCTIONS

- To vote for a candidate on the ballot make a cross mark in the square at the left of his name.
- If you tear or deface or wrongly mark this ballot, return it to the registrar and get another.



FOR PRESIDENT
(You May Vote for One)

- GEORGE C. WALLACE
- LLOYD BENTSEN
- JIMMY CARTER
- FRED R. HARRIS
- HENRY M. JACKSON
- MORRIS K. UDALL
- NO PREFERENCE

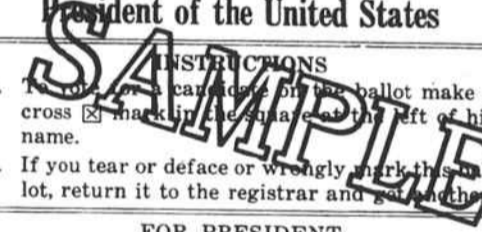
State of North Carolina
Primary election March 23, 1976

Hugh M. Wilson
Chairman, State Board of Elections

Official Republican Primary Ballot for President of the United States

INSTRUCTIONS

- To vote for a candidate on the ballot make a cross mark in the square at the left of his name.
- If you tear or deface or wrongly mark this ballot, return it to the registrar and get another.



FOR PRESIDENT
(You May Vote for One)

- GERALD R. FORD
- RONALD REAGAN
- NO PREFERENCE

Primary election March 23, 1976

Hugh M. Wilson
Chairman State Board of Elections.

County Okays Firemen's Loan

The Hoke County Board of Commissioners met in a two-hour special meeting Thursday night and approved the proposed Farmers Home Administration loan to the West Hoke Fire Department after an eight member delegation of firemen presented details of the financing.

County manager T.B. Lester said the department plans to acquire a \$25,000 truck and apply for state certification. Yearly payments on

the loan, including interest, would amount to \$1,800, an expense which was termed to be not out of line for the department's total budget, Lester said.

The commissioners voted unanimously to approve the plan.

In other business, Warren Pate of the Hoke County Association for Developmentally Disabled asked for \$1,500 in county funds and said the city would also donate \$1,500 so his group could apply for a state grant.

Pate told the board the Association is interested in acquiring two new vans and needs a "letter of intent" from the local governments involved before the grant application can be submitted.

According to Lester, the county board agreed to the funding if the city agrees to contribute.

Board members filled out a questionnaire prepared by the Council of Governments before adjourning.

Part 4 In Series Slated Mar. 23

The fourth session of "The Good Old Days: Then or Now?" discussion series will be held March 23 at 7:30 P.M. in the Presbyterian Church, Edinborough Street, due to the primary elections taking place at the Hoke Civic Center.

Mrs. Janice Hardison Faulkner of East Carolina University will speak on changes in politics and government. The discussion panel will include State Senator Luther J. Britt, Jr., Neil McPhatter, State Representative David R. Parnell, Pete Sawyer, and Kay Thomas. Mayor J.K. McNeill, Jr. is moderator for the series.

This series for the public is made possible by the National Endowment for the Humanities and the North Carolina Humanities Committee. Sponsors in Hoke County are The Sandhill Regional Library System (Hoke County Library), the Woman's Club of Raeford, and the Hoke County Bicentennial Commission.

Mrs. Faulkner, an assistant professor of English, received both

the B.A. and M.A. degrees from East Carolina University, where she has been on the faculty since 1957. She taught at ECU from 1957-1962, served as director of alumni affairs from 1962-1966, and returned to teaching in 1966. She has served as director of freshman composition and is active in various teaching and advisory positions in language arts.

Mrs. Faulkner has published several textbooks and a number of articles, is listed in *Outstanding Educators of America*, and is a member of several professional organizations.

In addition to her work in the field of English, Mrs. Faulkner has been very active in community affairs and in North Carolina politics. She was an alternate delegate to the 1960 National Democratic Convention. She has held various offices in local, state, and national political organizations, and is strongly interested in political issues.



SPEAKER -- Janice H. Faulkner, assistant professor of English at East Carolina University, will speak on politics and government at the fourth session of "The Good Old Days: Then Or Now" series March 23.