



1776 HATS - Six year-old Rachel and five year-old Kenneth model 1776 hats which will be on sale next week at the hospitality center downtown during "Hoke County Festival Week", or at the Attic, the Raeford Woman's Club thrift shop. The youngsters are the children of Mr. and Mrs. Norman McKenzie of College Dr.

Defective Lights Head List On Motor Vehicle Inspection

Edward L. Powell, commissioner of motor vehicles, announced the annual motor vehicle inspection report for 1975 of the License and Theft Section of the North Carolina Division of Motor Vehicles and lights headed the list of defective equipment with a total of 745,579.

Signals - directional indicator ranked second with 136,562. Other equipment found defective included tires, 84,720; windshield wipers, 83,682; foot brakes, 80,154; exhaust systems, 64,887; horns, 28,121; emergency brakes, 25,896; steering mechanisms, 15,476; rear view mirrors, 6,334; and exhaust emission controls, 2,742.

Statistics compiled by the License and Theft Section, which administers North Carolina's motor vehicle inspection program, show that of the 3,527,784 vehicles inspected in 1975, 3,507,695 were eventually approved. Of the vehicles inspected 960,906 were detected with defective equipment, with a total of 1,274,153 defects.

Powell said that the average repair costs were less than \$1.10 for each vehicle issued an inspection sticker during 1975. For the 3,507,695 vehicles approved, equipment repair costs totaled \$3,827,169.40.

As of Jan. 1, 1976, there were 6,232 inspection stations and 19,430 mechanics licensed by the Division of Motor Vehicles to inspect motor vehicles in North Carolina. During 1975, 20 stations had their licenses revoked, 166 were suspended, 59 placed on probation, and 361 warning letters were delivered. 138 mechanics were suspended and 5 had their licenses

revoked.

Commissioner Powell said "The Motor vehicle inspection laws were passed in the interest of highway safety, and these vehicle inspections help to ensure that safer automobiles operate on our highways. The vast majority of these stations and mechanics are doing an honest job of inspecting vehicles properly, but we have 89 plain-clothed License and Theft Inspectors who have private non-enforcement automobiles inspected at random locations on a regular basis to determine if our citizens are getting the inspections they pay for and which are required by law."

"While these measures help to ensure compliance by these stations, we greatly need the help and cooperation of our citizens in reporting violations of the inspections laws to the Division of Motor Vehicles. If a citizen has a complaint regarding such failure to properly inspect a vehicle, we urge that this be reported to the License and Theft Inspector in their community immediately," Powell added.

Net Income Up

Southern National Corporation, the one-bank holding company for Southern National Bank of N.C., has reported net income for the first quarter of 1976 before security gains of \$675,624 or \$.59 per share. This compares to \$597,840 or \$.52 per share at the same period in 1975, an increase of 13 per cent.

The board of directors declared a cash dividend of \$.20 per share payable on May 1, 1976.

Area Incidents

Suicide Suspected

Sheriff's deputies investigated an apparent suicide late Monday afternoon of a Hoke County man, who was shot with a .12 gauge shotgun under the left armpit.

David P. Propst, 59, of Rt. 2, Raeford, was found by his wife, son, and daughter-in-law about 4:55 P.M. Monday, according to Sheriff D. M. Barrington.

Barrington said a .22 caliber pistol was found by Propst's side along with the shotgun. He said the pistol had misfired six times.

He said Propst's wife, son, and daughter-in-law were in the front room of the house at the time of the shooting, and rushed to the bedroom where Propst was found when they heard the shot.

Hoke County medical examiner, Dr. R.G. Townsend said Propst died of loss of blood, according to the report.

Barrington said the state medical examiner ruled the death a suicide.

In other incidents, Billy Parks, Rt. 4, Raeford, complained that

someone broke into his store located near the caution light near Raeford sometime Monday, April 19, and took two cases of soft drinks valued at \$12.

Kenneth Dale Smith, Lot 9, Culbreth Trailer Park, Raeford reported someone broke into his car while it was parked on N.C. 211, and took speakers, sunglasses and cigarettes worth \$10.50, sometime Sunday, April 18. Damage to the car was \$80.

Jack Pope complained to police two cars at his garage on Harris Ave. were damaged by vandals sometime before Tuesday morning. Damage was estimated at \$430 total to a 1966 Pontiac and a 1964 Rambler.

About \$25-\$30 in cash and goods was taken from a vending machine sometime Sunday or early Monday in an apparent break-in at the Gibson building of the high school, police said. No arrests have been made.



FISHERMAN - Five year-old Tracy Riley proudly displays her catch from a nearby pond. Measurements of the fish were not available.

Superior Court Begins

The April term of Superior Court will begin here Monday, April 26.

Cases scheduled for the opening day of the term are nonjury and other matters including judgments for Lester Mitchell Hawkins, armed robbery, and Isiah Jackson, Jr., shooting into an occupied dwelling; according to the calendar.

Tuesday cases scheduled for trial are: James Robert Riddle, shoplifting; Willie James Locklear, assault with a deadly weapon with intent to kill; James Earl Hunt, DUI, (three counts), transporting alcoholic beverage with the seal broken; Mary Jane Leach, making a false report to a police officer; John Henry Love, speeding 65 in a 35 MPH zone, driving while his license was suspended, making a false report to a police officer, and misdemeanor hit and run.

Also scheduled for Tuesday are: James Matheson Holmes, DUI; John Edward Alford, larceny and receiving, breaking and entering

and larceny, and misdemeanor larceny; Austin Dale Yarborough, receiving, breaking and entering and larceny, breaking and entering and larceny and receiving; and Joe T. Mounce, felonious escape.

Slated for trial on Wednesday are: James Alden Hyler, DUI, (third offense), driving while his license was revoked; John P. Smith, DUI, (second offense); Lacy Locklear, receiving; Earl Bullard, breaking and entering and larceny; James Earl Jackson, breaking and entering and larceny; and Gummy Elbert Barnhill, assault with a deadly weapon with intent to kill.

Trial cases set for Thursday are: Arol O. Smith, VPL, (two counts); Harold Dean James, DUI, transporting alcoholic beverage with the seal broken; Conrad Hollingsworth, assault with a deadly weapon; Alexander Purcell, breaking and entering and larceny; John M. Clark, selling a controlled substance; and Alex James Butler, DUI, (second offense).

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Pedestrian 'Critical'

A twenty-nine-year old man is listed in critical condition in the intensive care unit at a Lumberton hospital after walking into the path of a car on a rural road early Sunday night.

William Wells, Rt. 1, Shannon, sustained head lacerations and internal injuries after being struck about 7:45 P.M. on RPR 1436, about three miles south of Dunderarrach, according to highway patrolman J.D. Thigpen.

Thigpen said Wells got out of a pickup truck, driven by Henry Dixon, in front of his home and walked behind the pickup and attempted to cross the highway, apparently not seeing oncoming traffic.

A car operated by Larry Lee Dial, Rt. 1, Shannon, struck Wells in the roadway.

Wells was transported to Southeastern General Hospital in Lumberton.

No charges will be filed in the accident, Thigpen said.

McCain Patients Panel Meets

The regional patients services committee of McCain Hospital met at McCain on April 8 with Mrs. Gertrude McClure, chairman of the committee, presiding. During the business session, a budget for the 1976-77 year was finalized for patient care at McCain Hospital. Mrs. McClure was re-elected to serve as committee chairman for another year.

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