

Around Town

By Sam C. Morris

The topic on most people's minds in Hoke County at this time is the weather. It has been almost 40 days now with less than an inch of rain. Everyone thought that we would get rain last Sunday, but it wasn't enough to settle the dust.

The reports from the weatherman show that no rain is in sight for the remainder of the week. Crops are in bad shape but it could become a disaster if the dry weather continues.

A gentleman came by the office last week and was telling me about finding bear tracks in a field on his farm near Arabia. He said that the tracks must have come from a black bear as this is the kind usually found in this part of the state.

The man asked that his name not be used because he didn't want folks putting the bad mouth on him. I asked him if he had any witnesses and named a couple of gentlemen whose names were in the column recently, but he didn't comment and left.

Anyway people in the Arabia - Dundarrach section be on the lookout for the bear.

The following note came with a subscription renewed this week:

Dear Sam:
I just want you and Paul to know how much I enjoy The News - Journal. Each week it seems to get better, congratulations to you both.
Best Wishes
John Wilson

Thanks John, drop by the next time you are in town.

The Bicentennial week will be about half over by the time you read this, but if you haven't attended any of the events be sure to do so. I doubt any of us will be around for the Tri-Centennial so you had better celebrate this event. It won't come around again.

The forest fire that burned over 2000 acres in Hoke County last Saturday was finally put under control before it got into the military reservation. With the dry conditions that exist everyone should be extremely careful when they strike a match or throw down a cigarette. The destruction one match can cause can run in to many dollars.

Don't burn trash or brush until this dry period is over.

Congratulations to Kathy McMillan on breaking her own record in Knoxville, Tenn. last weekend. She should go on to break the world record at the age she is now.

So best of luck Kathy and we will be waiting to write about the new records as you break them.

Beard Judging Friday

Bicentennial beards, or Brothers of the Bush as their wearers are known, will have their chance for fame Friday night at 7 P.M. at the agricultural fair at the Armory when judging will be done.

Parents are asked to accompany small children who visit the animal petting zoo at the Armory grounds Friday. The animals are provided courtesy of the Hoke County Jaycees and an adult should be with very small children, the Bicentennial commission said Tuesday.

The Hoke County Jaycees will have the drawing for their raffle, a 1962 Ford pickup truck, at 8 P.M. it was also announced Tuesday.

Music during dinner on the grounds from 5:30-7:30 P.M. will be furnished by the Hoke County Fiddlers, Cliff Conoly, Jimmy James, Jo Dupree, Glenn McInnis, William Davis, Bobby McBryde, and R. Clark (caller).



ENTERTAINED - Raeford Police Chief Leonard Wiggins entertained youngsters at McLaughlin Elementary School Tuesday morning by donning his bullet-proof vest and riot gear. The police equipment demonstration and talk to the children was one of several visits made by local law enforcement personnel to the elementary schools Tuesday to highlight Government and Citizenship Day.

Large Turnout Asked

Bloodmobile Visits Friday

The Red Cross Bloodmobile will visit Raeford Friday, April 30 from noon to 5 P.M. at the Raeford United Methodist Church, Red Cross chairman Clyde Upchurch announced.

Upchurch said a large turnout of donors is hoped for, as Hoke County has used 173 pints of blood (39 patients) since the last visit of the Bloodmobile in January.

Especially needed is type O negative and type B negative and the Red Cross is making an appeal for persons with those types.

The Red Cross also compiled a list of county residents who have been regular donors since 1961 and extends special thanks for the generosity.

Those persons making the lists are:

Five gallons-Hubert Davis, Sam Galbreth, Lonnie D. Smith, and Clyde Upchurch, Jr.

Four gallons-Johnny Craycraft, Alexander Galbreth, James Tillman, Charles Wilson, and Harless Wright;

Three gallons-Charles Allgood, Homer Foster, James Bethea, and Jesse Childress;

Two gallons-Gary Adkins, Bob Averette, Bobby Blanton, John Buchholz, Danly Burbank, McCorkle Dresser, Patrick Fischer, Robert H. Gibson, Harold Gillis, Quincy Jacobs, Nancy Marley, James Plummer, John Rivera, Robert Sullivan, Jerry Thompson, Grady Tingle, Larry Tyner, Joe Upchurch, Eric Vann, John C. Watson, Robert Whitworth, Leonard Wiggins, Neil A. Willis;

One gallon-Ozzie Adams, Eric Allen, William Campbell, Charles Barfield, Julian Barnes, Gary Bonnersex, Treva Britt, Lawrence Buie, Sara L. Bundy, Willard Byrd, Joseph Bickar, Leonard Caloway, Bobby Carter, Edward Clark, William D. Cothran, Ralph Currie, Thomas Everette, Blanche Farmer, Mable Foster, William M. Freeman, Willie V. Gillis, John W. Glisson, Hamilton Grace, Robert L. Graham, Leroy Griffin, Charlie Guthrie, Elenor Harward, Becky

Jumps Over 22 Feet

Kathy Breaks Record Again

Kathy McMillan broke the American women's long jump record for the second time in two weeks in Knoxville, Tenn. Saturday night with a jump of 22 feet, 1 and 3/4 inches.

The jump, 5 1/4 inches better than her record breaking jump of 21-7 1/2 in a triangular meet two weeks ago, was only 3 1/4 inches off the world mark set by Heide Rosendahl in 1970.

The winning jump came on her first attempt in the finals of the long jump competition of the Fourteenth Annual Volunteer Track Classic.

She scratched on her second attempt by about an inch on the takeoff board, but it was measured anyway by officials. The jump

measured 23-1 and would have broken the world mark.

Along with her record jump, she also won the 100 yard and 220 yard dashes in meet record times, 10.8 and 24.0 respectively.

For these accomplishments, she received trophies for the outstanding performer in the track and the field events.

She also paced the Hoke High team to a second place finish in the team standings.

Her 18 points trailed the first place team by only 8 1/2 points. She was the only member of the Hoke team to make the trip to Knoxville.

She will participate in the conference meet which will be held tomorrow night (Friday) at Hoke High Stadium.

Reporter Gets Prize

News-Journal reporter Marty Vega received the first place award for 1975 news writing in the non-dailies division during ceremonies Saturday night in Chapel Hill at the annual banquet and spring institute of the North Carolina Press Women association.

Mrs. Vega received a cash award for a front page story published in The News-Journal March 27, 1975, an account of a destructive tornado which hit Hoke County on March 24, 1975.

Dr. Reid H. Montgomery, professor at the University of South Carolina School of Journalism, commented in his judging, "the story is told in dramatic, yet

restrained fashion . . . verbs were strong and properly used. Sentences and paragraphs were short, yet not choppy. Full details were given of the event, but only after the reader knew quickly what happened".

"Vigorous language was used, but the result was smooth", the judge said.

Mrs. Vega, a Detroit native, has been a News-Journal reporter since August 1974.

Second place award went to Kathy Bryant of The Hickory News and third place was received by Clare Cartrette of The News-Reporter (Whiteville).

Judge Gives 25-40 Term For Killing

Claims Office Switches

All workers filing new claims for unemployment benefits and those reporting under continuing claims will no longer be served at the temporary Employment Security Commission office located in the Armory building on Tuesdays.

All claims business will be done at the Jobs Service Office on West Elwood Avenue opposite the post office. Persons filing new claims should report at 1 P.M. on Tuesdays. Persons with continued claims should report at their scheduled time.

The Jobs Service Office is open Monday through Friday. Telephone 875-5059.

Hoke High Appoints Harris



NEW COACH - John Lacy Harris, who has been head football coach at Burlington Cummings High School for the past three years, was named head football coach at Hoke High School for the 1976-77 school year, earlier this week.

By Mike Steadman

Hoke High School Principal Allen Edwards announced this week that John Lacy Harris, who has been head football coach at Burlington Cummings High School for the last three years, has been hired as head football coach and health and physical education teacher for the 1976-77 school year.

"Harris will use a competitive spirit, dedication, and desire to develop a successful and inter-scholastic football program at Hoke High School," said Edwards.

"A comprehensive background in football as a player, assistant coach, and head varsity coach for a man of his age, and his success as an individual were some of the key traits that led to our decision," he added.

Edwards said a successful program would require work and dedication of the coaching staff, support and participation of the student body, and continuous support of the citizens of Hoke County.

Harris, 30, was a graduate of Roxboro High School where he was an all-conference performer in football, basketball, and track. He was chosen to the all-East and all-state squads in football his senior year.

He then attended Hargrave Military Academy in Virginia before he went to the University of North Carolina on a football grant-in-aid. He played defensive back for the Tarheels from 1966-69.

Following graduation, Harris went to work as the assistant offensive and defensive backfield coach at Roxboro Person Senior High School. During his stay there, the varsity record was 32-8-1 and went to the state semi-finals three of the four years.

He also served as assistant basketball coach and head track coach at Person Senior. He compiled a 33-3 record in two years and was the founder of the Clayton Relays, the largest track meet in the state, for both boys and girls.

In 1973, Harris accepted the head coaching position for Burlington Cummings football team.

Cummings of the Central 4-A league, had less than 20 players on the varsity squad when Harris arrived.

"My football record was 6-24 while at Cummings, but this past season we had as many as 60 players on the varsity squad," Harris said.

He was also the junior varsity basketball coach at Cummings and compiled a 37-8 record. He served as head track coach and had an 11-3 record and they were city-county champions.

Harris and his wife Ellen have three children, John, seven, Katie,

See NEW COACH, page 15.

Festival Center Now Open

The hospitality center and headquarters for Festival Week located in the old post office building next to city hall is open from 10 A.M. to 5 P.M. this week Wednesday and Thursday.

Souvenir tiles, children's bonnets and three - cornered hats, and Brothers of the Bush tags will be on sale at the center along with free guides to the week's activities.

Visitors and guests are invited to drop by the center following the parade Thursday.

Enjoy A Meal At Fair

Three refreshment stands will be open to serve hungry visitors at the Armory grounds Friday for the all-day celebration of Agriculture and Fair Exhibit.

The Junior Woman's Club will be selling charcoal broiled hamburgers and hot dogs, homemade baked goods and popcorn from 11 A.M. to 4 P.M.

Hot dogs, stew, and supper plates of Southern cooking may be bought from 5:30-7:30 P.M.

The Lions Club will operate a refreshment stand from 8-10 P.M.

A twenty-five year-old Raeford woman pleaded guilty to second degree murder late Monday afternoon here during the April term of Superior Court, and was given an active sentence of not less than 25 years nor more than 40 years by Superior Court Judge D.B. Herring Jr.

Beatrice Purcell, of Rt. 1, Box 123, Raeford, was charged last November 23 by sheriff's deputies after they responded to a call that Leroy Torrence, 28, of Rt. 1, Box 138, Raeford, had been shot in the left chest with a shotgun near the Bowmore section of the county.

Torrence was found lying on his back in a field with the shotgun about twelve feet away, according to officials.

Authorities said they found Miss Purcell at the scene along with two eye-witnesses of the shooting, Roscoe Torrence, brother of the victim, and Ardrie Priest.

Miss Purcell pleaded guilty to a charge of second degree murder after taking oath, and then the court heard Roscoe Torrence and Priest give their testimony.

Herring passed judgment after hearing arguments from the defendant's lawyer and the Dist. Atty.

In other cases, Carl Thomas Hipp, Jr., pleaded guilty to armed robbery and was sentenced to not less than five years nor more than 15 years.

Edward Nealy pleaded guilty to armed robbery and was sentenced to not less than five years nor more than 15 years.

Lester Hawkins was brought before the court for judgment for a charge of armed robbery and was sentenced to not less than five years nor more than 15 years.

Nelson Jacobs, pleaded guilty to misdemeanor assault with a deadly weapon and was sentenced to 12 months, suspended for three years, fined \$44.85 restitution to Moore County Hospital and \$100 and costs.

Alvester McGregor pleaded guilty to misdemeanor receiving stolen goods and was sentenced to 15 months, suspended for three years on condition he pay \$100 and costs and \$10 restitution to Curtis McNeill.

Willie Ray pleaded guilty to misdemeanor receiving stolen goods and was sentenced to 15 months, suspended for three years on condition he pay \$100 and costs and \$10 restitution to Curtis McNeill.

James Smith pleaded guilty to misdemeanor receiving stolen goods and was sentenced to 15 months, suspended for three years on condition he pay \$100 and costs and \$10 restitution to Curtis McNeill.

Isiah Jackson Jr. pleaded guilty to discharging a firearm into an occupied dwelling and was sentenced to three years.

James T. Corum pleaded guilty to felonious breaking and entering and was sentenced to six years.

Kevin C. Blacker, pleaded guilty to felonious breaking and entering and was sentenced to six years.

Burlington Hikes Pay

Burlington Industries, Inc., announced Tuesday a 10 per cent pay increase for its wage employees effective June 14.

Burlington's increase, which will affect an estimated 50,000 hourly workers, came after a similar announcement of wage increases at Carmon Mills last week.

Jack Bradford, Raeford plant manager, said about 1,400-1,500 local Burlington workers will receive the increase.

Last pay increase was September, 1975.

Show Re-scheduled

Showing times published in the Hoke County Festival Week guide for Robert Gatlin's slide presentation of history have been re-scheduled, the Bicentennial commission announced.

Originally scheduled for Friday at the Armory, the shows have been changed to Thursday at the United Methodist Church, at 10:30 A.M. and 7:30 P.M.

Showings are free.