

# Spring Concert Tonight

The Hoke High Chorale and Chorus, under the direction of Mary Archie McNeill, will present their annual spring concert Thursday, May 13 at 8 P.M. in the Hoke High gym.

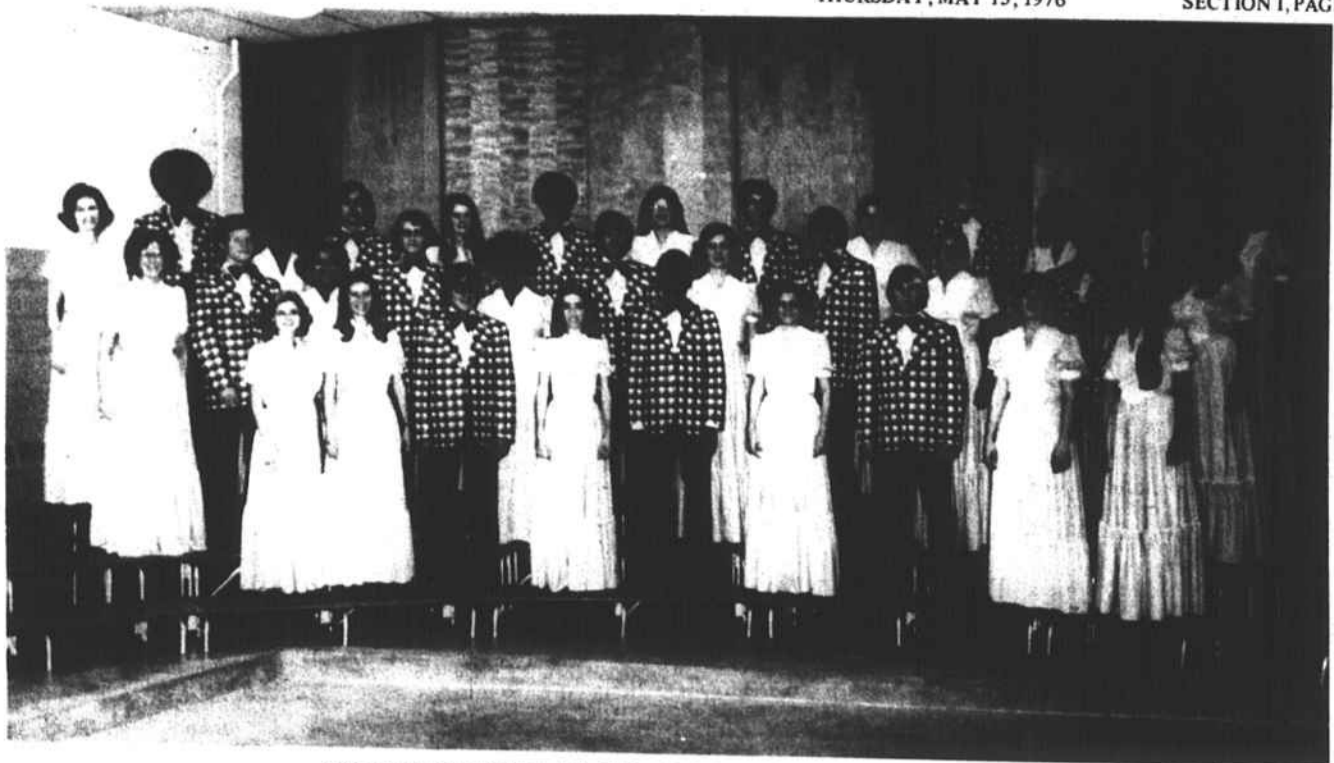
Admission is one dollar. The Chorale, performing first, will sing "Choose Something Like A Star", "Exodus Song", "The Stars Are With The Voyager" and others, including a patriotic medley from their Bicentennial tour featuring "This Is A Great Country" and "Yankee Doodle".

Featured soloists from the Chorale will be Rochelle Walters, singing "I Only Have Eyes For You", and Joanna Best, singing "Their Love Was Dying", written by Chorale accompanist Susan Gillis.

The Chorus will perform "Moon River", "Elijah Rock", "Edelweiss", "Praise To The Lord" and a medley of Hungarian folksongs, including "The Handsome Butcher", "Apple, Apple" and "The Old Woman".

Featured soloist from the Chorus will be Amy Hemmens, singing "You'll Stay In My Heart", written by Chorus accompanist Debra Scarboro.

The program will conclude with the Chorale and Chorus performing together. Selections will be "Hymn to Joy", "Black Is The Color of My True Love's Hair", George M. Cohen's "Patriotic Fantasy", "Walk Him Up The Stairs", "The Way We Were" and "Fly Away", arranged by Melanie Childress for the theme of the concert.



CHORALE CONCERT—The Hoke High Chorale (shown here) will present their annual spring concert Thursday night at 8 in the Hoke gym. Tickets are one dollar.

## Lumber Bridge News

By Lib Sumner

The attendance at The Baptist Church was very good Sunday with several visitors. The message was delivered by the Pastor, Stacy A. Wells, entitled "Handmaiden of God".

The women of The Presbyterian Church, Circle I, met Wednesday night with Mrs. Frank Williford and Miss Ollie Ann Williford. Mrs. F.R. Weber gave the Bible Study. Refreshments were served following the meeting.

Circle II met Thursday afternoon with Mrs. Grady Marley in Red Springs. Mrs. F.R. Weber was in charge of the Bible Study. Refreshments were also served at the close of the meeting.

Circle I of The Rex Presbyterian Church met Monday with Mrs. Ethelene Shaw. Mrs. Mary Emma Kennedy presided. Mrs. Jimmy Shaw gave the Bible Study. A social hour followed.

Wednesday afternoon, Circle II met at the home of Mrs. Nina Turner. Mrs. Dot Barnes was in charge of the program and Mrs. Jimmy Shaw gave the Bible Study. Refreshments followed the meeting.

Mrs. John Balfour attended the meeting of The Hamlet Woman's Club in Hamlet, N.C. Monday to install their new officers.

Mrs. Douglas McMillan and children, Douglas and Marie, of Whiteville spent Sunday with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Curtis Britt. Mr. McMillan spent Sunday in Red Springs with his mother.

Mrs. Edith McBryde of Aberdeen and Mrs. Frances Fredericks visited Misses Lib and Lois Sumner Sunday afternoon.

Dr. and Mrs. Major Goodman, Sean and Scot of Raleigh spent Sunday with her mother, Mrs. N.H.G. Balfour.

Mr. and Mrs. Donald Lack and children, Deborah, Kathy, and Carolyn, of England are spending a few days with Mrs. N.H.G. Balfour. Mr. Lack is transferred to Canada for two years.

Mrs. Allie Keeter is spending some time with her daughter and family, Mr. and Mrs. Bill Webb and Lyn and Craig in Charlotte.

Mrs. J.C. Chason is confined to bed with a sprained ankle. Her daughter, Mrs. Tim Nance, of Siler City, has been with her for a week.

Mr. and Mrs. Sam Alford and daughters, Cathy, Laura and Heather of Raleigh spent Saturday and Sunday with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Lee Shaw.

Miss Wanda Ammons of Campbell College spent the weekend with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. S.F. Ammons and Stevie.

Mrs. Hunter Forbes spent Sunday with her sister, Mr. and Mrs. Homer Terry in Rockfish.

Mrs. Annie Tolar's Sunday guests were Mr. and Mrs. Worth

Williford of Fayetteville, Mr. and Mrs. Alfreda Tolar and Steve Tolar of Red Springs.

Mrs. A.T. Hammonds of Laurinburg visited Mrs. Hunter Forbes Thursday.

Mr. and Mrs. Chip Salack of Fayetteville visited Mr. and Mrs. Tony Jackson and Ryan and Mr. and Mrs. Clinton Jackson Sunday.

Mrs. Dorothy Barnes returned from a trip to Hawaii last week. Mrs. Warren Usher stayed with her mother, Mrs. Margaret Evans while she was away.

The Parkton School Seniors held their Junior-Senior Prom Saturday night. Seniors from Lumber Bridge, Misses Billie Sue Troutman and Sherry Elliott attended.

Mrs. H.B. Honeycutt and daughter, Nancy, of Warsaw spent Friday with her mother, Mrs. Dennis Clifton. Mrs. Herman Creech of Rocky Mount and Mr. and Mrs. Wade McSwain of Albemarle were Sunday visitors.

Mr. and Mrs. John Balfour and Johnny's Sunday dinner guests were Mrs. N.H.G. Balfour, Dr. and Mrs. Major Goodman, Sean and Scot Goodman of Raleigh, Miss Mary K. Staton of Raeford, Mr. and Mrs. Donald Lack and daughters, Deborah, Kathy and Carolyn of England.

John Balfour, Donald Lack, Misses Deborah and Kathy Lack spent Monday in Wilmington. They visited several places of interest, also the Battleship U.S.S. North Carolina.

Mr. and Mrs. Glen Clark spent Sunday in Fayetteville with Mr. and Mrs. George Harris.

Visiting Mr. and Mrs. W.H. Schell Sunday were their sons and families, M/Sgt and Mrs. Bill Schell, Debbie Lyn and Billie Sue of Goldsboro, and Mr. and Mrs. Harold Schell and sons of Charlotte.

Mrs. Ethel D. Gibson's Mother's Day dinner was enjoyed by her children, grandchildren, and great grandchildren; Mr. and Mrs. A.J. Freeman, Arvin Freeman, Mr. and Mrs. Lamont Brown and daughter, Mr. and Mrs. Steve Freeman and Stephanie, Mr. and Mrs. John E. Sumner of Fayetteville, Mr. and Mrs. J.D. Gibson of Stedman, Mr. and Mrs. Charles Kelly, Mr. and Mrs. Sammy Bennett, Yvonne, Kyle and Brandon Bennett of Wilmington, and Mr. and Mrs. S.E. Sumner and Miss Pamela Sumner of Lumber Bridge.

The known sick and shut-ins are: Mrs. Clyde McGowan, at home; Mrs. Ava Clifton, at home; Mr. Dennis Clifton, at home; Mrs. Pete Chason, at home; Miss Lina Chason, at home; and Mr. J. Edwin Clifton, Jr. who entered Cape Fear Valley Hospital Tuesday for an eye operation.

To All Mothers: Many More Nice Mother's Days.



IN CONCERT—The Hoke High Chorus (pictured here) will perform Thursday night at 8 P.M. in the annual spring concert at the Hoke gym. Tickets are one dollar.

What's your favorite North Carolina freshwater fish? Would you pick the largemouth bass? What about the rainbow or brown trout? Maybe it would be the bluegill, or perhaps the shellcracker. Don't forget the striped bass, and the white bass. Could it be the crappie?

Maybe it's something more unusual, like a muskellunge or walleye. Hickory shad? American shad? Smallmouth bass? Chain pickerel? Good grief, it's almost impossible to pick a favorite.

One thing is fairly certain. The odds are good that the fish you pick is either not native to this state, or at least not originally found in the water you fish.

Many of the all-time favorite fish named above are "foreigners." Until fairly recently, they may not have been found anywhere in North Carolina.

Let's look at the list again. The only trout native to North Carolina is the brook trout or "speckle." These remnants of the ice age are not actually trout, but char. Both the brown trout and rainbow trout were brought here years ago and stocked. The brown is not even native to North America; he came from Europe. The rainbow came from the west coast.

True, the largemouth bass and the bluegill are native species, but the popular shellcracker is a new citizen. Shellcrackers (or redear sunfish) come from the deep south, and were stocked in North Carolina. Most farm ponds have shellcrackers now and so do many large lakes.

What about the striped bass and white bass. The white bass is not native to North Carolina, and prior to the early 1950s, these fish were not here. The striped bass is a native, but until recently, they were found in freshwater only during the spring when they climbed coastal rivers to spawn. Now, stripers are landlocked in many large lakes across the state, including Kerr, Gaston and Norman.

The crappie, muskellunge, walleye, hickory shad, American shad, smallmouth bass and chain pickerel are all natives, but in most cases, their original range has been greatly increased. For example, the muskie is native to several large western rivers -- like the French Broad and Little Tennessee -- but these fish have been extremely scarce. A recent stocking program appears to be bringing these fish back into the limelight after many



years. The smallmouth bass and walleye have been stocked in many waters where they weren't originally found. Shad fishing has only recently become popular. Only a few hook and line fishermen knew they could be caught 15 years ago. Efforts to restore spawning runs in the Cape Fear by "locking" the fish through three locks have greatly increased the fishery there.

There are other examples of how "foreign" fish have played a big role in improving the fishing in North Carolina. The flathead catfish (though probably once a native of this state) has been stocked in the Yadkin River and other Piedmont waters and these fish reach tremendous size. A growing number of anglers would put the flathead at the top of their list.

Steelhead trout (sea-run rainbows) have been stocked in two western rivers. Kokanee salmon are apparently thriving in Nantahala and providing a growing fishery. The tiger musky will be studied for possible stocking. A program is underway to introduce the spotted bass, and extend the range of the rare Roanoke bass. A hybrid sunfish is being studied, along with the cross between the striped and white bass. Florida strain largemouth bass are being studied, but they may never be stocked unless some inherent problems are worked out.

The stocking of non-native forage fish is also a little known, but highly important part of the picture. After all, without food, fish can't grow and reach large sizes. Therefore, blueback herring and threadfin shad have been stocked and are now common in most large lakes across the state.

Most of this good fishing opportunity is a direct product of the licensed sportsman. The sale of

licenses pays for these management and research programs (no tax funds are used), and if you buy these licenses, then you helped pay the cost of establishing one of those "favorite foreigners" in Tarheel waters.

I've always thought that it would be nice to have X-ray vision so that I could see where fish are and what they're doing when they're ignoring my efforts to catch them. Early in March, during that warm spell, I got my wish.

It has been my experience that bluegills, shellcrackers and crappies can be easily caught in ponds on a flyrod and sinking flies during the early spring, even when the fish are not yet bedding. Ultralight spinning lures also work very well, and bass are on the prowl, big ones.

I've had such consistent success using flyrods and ultralight during the spring that I was ill prepared for failure.

When I arrived at the pond, conditions looked perfect. The air temperature was hovering around 80, the pond was clear, and I could see signs of fish moving in the shallows. A school of good-sized bluegills hung near the surface beside the boathouse, clearly visible as they soaked up the sun.

I began fishing with a sinking black ant, but halfway around the pond I hadn't had a strike. Strange, I thought, maybe I'm fishing in the wrong places.

I paddled to the opposite shore, facing the sun, and began to fish. Because of the angle of the sun, I could easily see several feet into the water. Bluegills were loitering near the top clustered in small groups over the shallows. I could see crappies hanging near the stumps. One school of crappies swam past near the surface. There was no doubt that I'd found the fish. The

rest, I thought, would be easy. It wasn't.

Everytime I made a cast anywhere near a group of bluegills, they flushed like a covey of quail. Normally, they're drawn to a fly like a magnet, but not this time. I picked up my ultralight rod and began to cast to the crappies. They also flushed. Even when I cast beyond stumps and brought the lure back past the fish, they often spooked. Occasionally, one would follow the lure for a short distance, then turn away. It was maddening, especially since some of the fish were quite large.

I went back to my flyrod and tied on a 12-foot leader tapered to a very fine tippet. Then I tied on a delicate, unweighted wet fly thinking that I could cast this near the fish without spooking them. I managed to catch two or three bluegills, but most still scattered everytime I cast.

I began to concentrate on some small bass that I could see swimming in the shallows. After casting an ultralight lure to at least a dozen fish, I managed to catch only two -- both of them very small. The others darted away.

Still determined, I moved away from the banks and located a school of crappies hanging about three inches under the surface over open water. At first, they spooked also, but by making long casts beyond and to one side of them, and using a tiny, jointed minnow, I managed to catch three before the school disappeared.

Late in the afternoon, when the sun left the water and I could no longer see the fish, I caught several more bluegills. They were still spooky, but not quite so skittish as before.

It would be easy to simply say that the water was too clear, but I'm not sure that this was the whole problem. I've caught fish in clear water plenty of times. Perhaps they felt vulnerable while lying so close to the surface, but again, I'm not sure. The lack of insect life on the water may have also been a factor. Later in the spring, panfish are accustomed to seeing insects drop into the water. Perhaps, it was a combination of these factors, and yet I've had good luck many times under similar conditions early in the spring.

I did reach one conclusion, however. I've decided that X-ray vision may be highly overrated.



DRAWING—Two year-old Phillip Nordan (assisted by Dianne Smith) draws the winning number for the Raeford Junior Woman's Club raffle, a prize of 100 gallons of gasoline donated by Raeford Oil Co. Winner was Jim Wade of Adams St. Proceeds from the raffle will go toward a scholarship fund for a Hoke High student and other community projects.

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