

## Around Town

BY SAM C. MORRIS

Congratulations Kathy!

Words will not say how proud we are of you and I know all the people of Hoke County feel the same way.

A book has been placed at The News-Journal office and it will be given to Kathy on her return. If you would like to say 'Thank you' come by and sign this book. It will let her know in the years ahead what the people of Raeford and Hoke County think of her.

So come by and sign one for Kathy.

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The picture that ran in the paper last week of the students of 1916 brought forth more names. All have not been identified but maybe they will in the next week or so.

Someone asked why we just ran the names and didn't put the names with the faces. The way the students were in the picture it was almost impossible to do this.

The names that have been turned in since last week are Martha or Linda Hassell, Nivelina Pratt, Mary Bell and Martha Macon Moore.

If you know anyone else that wasn't named get in touch with this writer.

Thanks.

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A couple of the local golfers that go on tour approximately four times a year put Raeford on the map a couple of weeks ago. Bill Lancaster and Harvey Warlick were winners in a golf tournament at Pinehurst and made the daily papers. Congratulations!

By the way I heard that Joe Upchurch had a hole-in-one last Saturday at Arabia. Also Congratulations!

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The following letter was received last week and was appreciated:

Dear Sam:

Not only are you read in Red Springs and Raleigh, but The News-Journal ranks no. 1 in Atlanta, Georgia, in our house, and my sincere compliments to you and the entire N/J staff for continuing the fine job you do week after week.

Your Bicentennial edition was read with much interest by me and my family, and certainly brought back many fond memories of my younger years in Raeford, a fine job of reporting.

Raeford does have that 'certain something,' and I feel the fine people of several generations are responsible for this.

Give the Dicksons my regards, and keep up the good work.

Sincerely,  
Pat Kelly

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Another letter:

Dear Sam:

Since Kathy's part is over in the Olympics, I would like to express my deep personal appreciation, on behalf of the entire school system, to the people of Hoke County for the wonderful support they gave this young woman.

She was a tremendous representative for our town and county. One of the proudest moments of my life was when she stood on the awards stand, tall and straight. The announcer gave her hometown and county. On the way home we tuned in a New York station on the radio. Kathy was being interviewed. She said she was so happy that she didn't let her family, her town, her county, and her country down. We were proud citizens of Hoke County.

I must give a special thanks to some people for making our trip to Montreal more comfortable. To Clyde and Lorena Upchurch for arranging with Mrs. Upchurch's sister in upper New York for us to use her home as a place of rest and the other comforts of a home early Friday morning. To Younger Sneed for furnishing us a new car. With support and friends like this, you can't lose.

Sincerely,  
Raz Autry

## Rose's Office

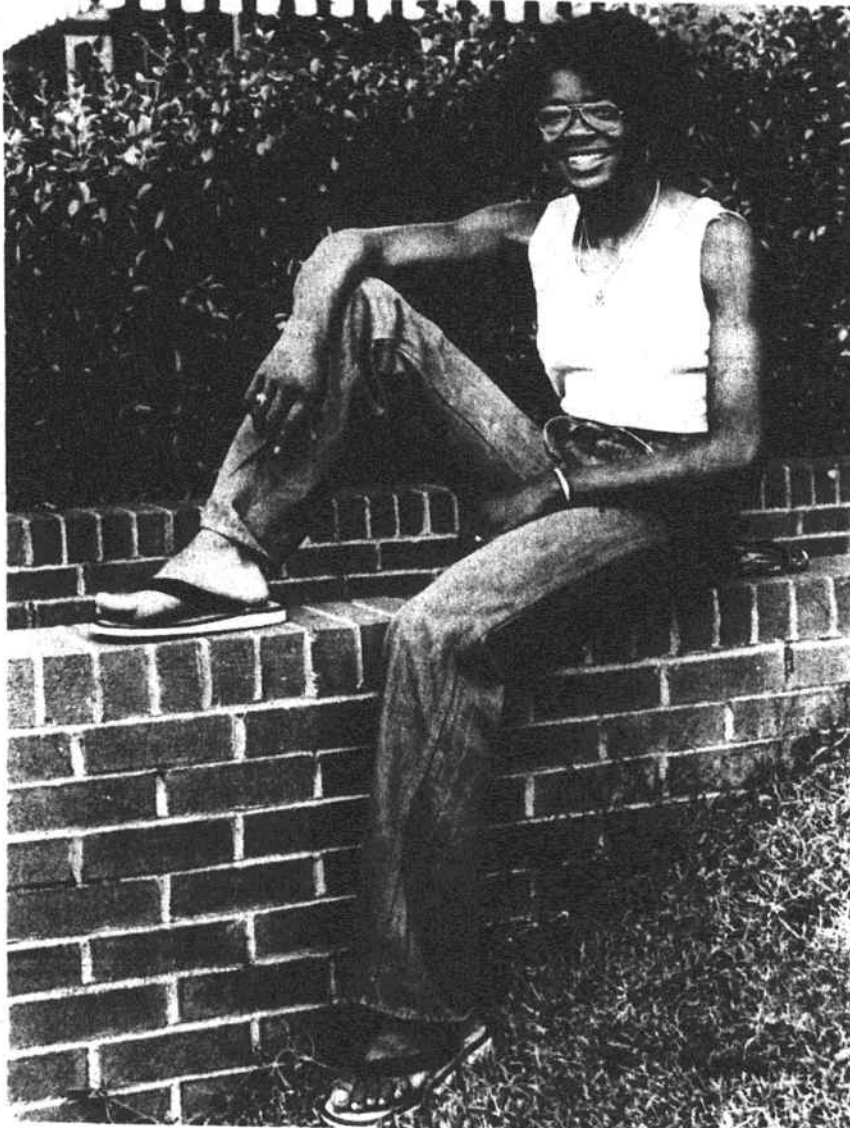
The mobile office of Congressman Charles G. Rose will be in Raeford Friday July 30 from 10 A.M. to 3 p.m.

The van will be parked in the post office lot.

## Hometown Jubilant

# Fans Await Kathy's Return

## Parade, Reception Planned For Silver Medal Winner



**LONG-LEGGED LONG JUMPER**—Eighteen-year-old Kathy McMillan was awarded the Olympic silver medal in the long jump event in Montreal Friday. Miss McMillan put in a winning jump of 21' 10 1/4".

Kathy McMillan, who earned the silver medal for the United States Friday at the Summer Olympics, will be congratulated by jubilant Hoke Countians on her return from Montreal with a 'Kathy McMillan Day' being planned by the community.

Because of disappointing last minute changes in the television network's schedule of Olympic coverage, many here missed her 21 feet, 10 1/4 inch leap in the women's long jump. Taped coverage of the track and field events began at 8 P.M. and an announcement was made the long jump would not be shown. The event was telecast after 11 P.M., however.

Miss McMillan became the first American to finish in the top six in the women's long jump in 20 years. She is the first to capture a medal in that competition since Willie White got the silver in 1956.

Miss McMillan, who will arrive at the Fayetteville airport at 7 P.M. Wednesday, July 28, told the Associated Press Friday she was "disappointed" she didn't jump farther, but was very pleased to get the silver medal.

"I know the people of Raeford are going to be proud of me," she told the AP. About twenty persons representing various organizations in the county met Monday in the county office to make plans for 'Kathy McMillan Day' and involve the entire community in welcoming her back. A reception in the courtyard of the high school to give everyone a chance to meet her is planned, along with a downtown parade in her honor. A banner with her name will be unfurled across Main St.

Chamber of Commerce manager Dayna Pate announced a special fund has been established to raise money for the welcome back celebration and to present Miss McMillan with a token of the community's pride. Radio station WSHB will broadcast a Kathy McMillan fund raiser from 4-9 P.M. Thursday to receive contributions. Donations can also be made in the form of a check payable to 'Kathy McMillan Day' and mailed to P.O. Box 96, Raeford.

Mrs. Pate said many of Kathy's hometown fans plan to greet her on her arrival at the airport Wednesday night. Kathy McMillan Day is tentatively set for this Saturday.

Another meeting will be held Thursday at 4 P.M. in the courthouse annex building to finalize plans for the program. Anyone who has not been contacted about participating in the plans may attend the meeting.

Contributions to Kathy McMillan Day may be dropped off at McNeill's Grocery, Dundarrach Trading Co., McCallum's Grocery, Huff's Exxon, McMillan's Grocery, Parks Grocery & Grill, Pete's Exxon, Parks Grocery & Exxon, Hunt's Grocery, Davis Grocery, Rockfish Store Grocery, Big Star Truck Stop, Alpine Grocery and Wilson's Grocery.

## Bond Issue Decides Fate

# Firehouse A 'Firetrap'

By Suzanne H. Aplin

The forty to fifty-year-old firehouse on Main St., termed a "firetrap" by the North Carolina League of Municipalities, may be replaced soon if voters approve a \$200,000 bond issue Aug. 17.

Fire Chief Crawford Thomas Jr. explained that the League ordered the department to install a sprinkler system in the old building. Electrical sockets hanging from the walls and electricity boxes without covers were also cited as hazardous. The whole building needs to be rewired in accordance with the Occupational Health and Safety Act.

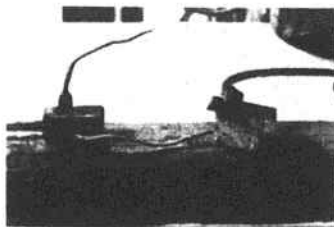
Rather than refurbish the existing firehouse, the firemen have requested a new one, listing a number of problems inherent in the present location.

"If we want to hook up the battery charger on one of the trucks," Thomas said, "and someone is using any of the other equipment, the air conditioner, electric calculator, or the typewriter in the office it throws the circuit breaker."

"Even if there was sufficient

power for the building," he continued, "there are not enough plugs to meet our needs."

The firemen are hard pressed for space. Four vehicles, three fire trucks and an equipment truck are squeezed into an area Thomas estimates to be 18' by 70'. Only one truck can exit the front door at a time and the fire truck and equipment truck are parked side by side with only enough room separating them to allow firemen to



**ELECTRICAL HAZARD**—Electrical sockets hanging from the firehouse walls were one of the hazards pointed out by the North Carolina League of Municipalities when it called the present firehouse a "fire trap."

walk single file between them.

With two vehicles side by side at the entrance and the other two lined up one behind the other, a major problem arises should one of the front vehicles fail to crank. Backing out of the rear of the building is complicated by parked cars and a tree. Fireman Robert Jackson noted that this lack of room really creates a "life and death situation."

Space limitations also require that the firemen park their antique fire truck elsewhere. Firemen responding to an alarm may find 15 to 25 men trying to dress in a space about five feet wide between the truck and a wall.

The location of the building further hampers the action of firemen. Once the fire alarm is sounded the men arrive to find no available parking and often wind

up leaving their cars in the street. Should the alarm sound on a payday Friday or during a funeral at one of the two churches nearby the trucks have a difficult time getting underway because of the traffic.

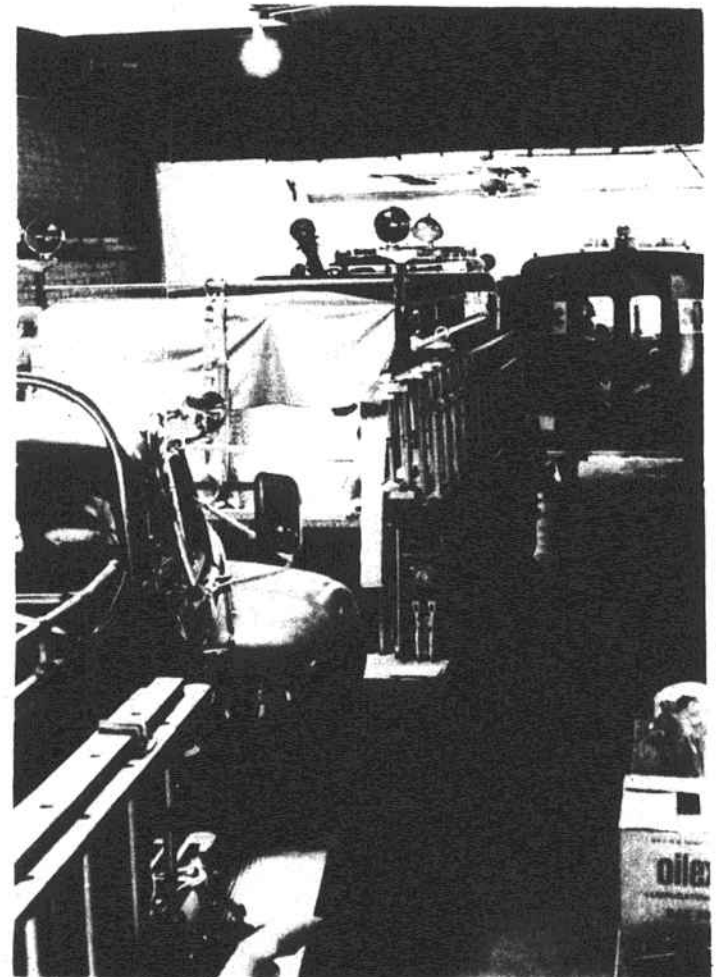
Other complaints of the firemen include lack of space for small repair work, poor lighting, no storage for extra equipment, no area adequate for washing and drying hoses, no place to secure potentially dangerous items like a fire extinguisher which is now simply set on the floor.

There are no dressing rooms or lockers to leave personal items. The restroom is a dark, closet-like addition built into one corner. Upon returning, the firemen have no place to clean up. Shower stalls have been built in the office area upstairs, but have never been hooked up to the hot water heater because of the electrical problems.

Thomas further elaborated on the problems by pointing out that there was currently no way to supervise the back of the station. The only full time fireman, Robert Jackson, spends much of his time in the office area located upstairs. This leaves the trucks vulnerable to pranksters or to a small child simply attracted by the large red trucks. "All a child would have to do is climb up and start throwing switches," he said. "Or, someone could just pick up a \$250 nozzle replacement off of the open shelves," he added.

The men worry about the safety of the back door. "Some years ago it just fell out of the overhead tracks and hit one of the firemen. We fixed it as best as we could, but we still worry about it falling again," Thomas said.

The men have largely financed the decoration of a meeting-recreation room upstairs to encourage participation in the volunteer fireman program. There is a pool table and TV and easy chairs. But the stove doesn't work. "It would be nice to be able to come back



**FOUR VEHICLES**—Three firetrucks and one equipment vehicle are parked in an area approximately 18' by 70' at the Raeford firehouse. Should one of the front vehicles fail to start firemen are indeterminately delayed as they either push the offending vehicle out into the street or attempt to maneuver out the back door past a tree and numerous parked cars.

after a fire and clean up and be able to fix a bite to eat," said Thomas.

"If we had a new station we could train there instead of pulling out into the street like we do now and block traffic. We could also clean the vehicles inside the station without having to pray that it doesn't rain before we get finished," he added.

"In the winter our heat here is

not sufficient for the water in the trucks," he said.

Robert Drumwright, city manager, reiterated the points of inadequacy pointed out by Thomas and then added, "The League of Municipalities said that if a fire should start in the upstairs portion of the firehouse we would be lucky to get one truck out safely."

Drumwright also noted that the

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