

Around Town

BY SAM C. MORRIS

Most of you that read this column know that the first paragraph or two has something in it about the weather in Hoke County. For the past few weeks I have been praising the fall weather and saying we were not going straight into winter as has happened the past several years. As the old saying goes "maybe I put the mouth on it!"

Tuesday morning when I went out to come to work, lo and behold, ice had formed on the windows of the car during the night. The heater had to be turned on to clear ice from the windshield. Jimmy Conoly said that ice was on his truck last Saturday morning, but it wasn't on mine.

So maybe it would be better if I didn't write anything about weather, but then on the other hand who can do anything about the weather.

Until next week, let's say winter is with us again.

The rain didn't stop the Homecoming parade last Friday afternoon and the bands and floats with the help of cheerleaders, queen candidates and scouts, made a fine showing on main street to the folks that lined the streets.

The Bucks fought hard at the game that night before losing to Pinecrest 13-12. All in all it was a big day for Hoke High students.

An article in this week's paper is about the Hoke High football team of 1936. This group is having a get together this weekend and will be recognized during the half at the Cary - Hoke High game at the stadium.

Best wishes for a big weekend to this group.

A telephone call Monday was from Ashwell Harward, personnel manager of the dyeing plant here, telling me that he was in good health and was available for all his friends to find him.

This message stumped me for a few minutes until he asked if Graham Pope still had his subscription to *The News-Journal*. This brought to mind a letter I received in 1975 from one Graham Pope, who used to head the dye plant here. If most of you will recall, it was after N.C. State had defeated Carolina in football and Pope was inquiring about the whereabouts and health of Ashwell Harward. Of course Harward is a Carolina graduate.

So after the game in Carter Stadium last Saturday, Ashwell says he can't get in touch with Pope or any other State men and would like to use this paper to try to see if they are still up and about.

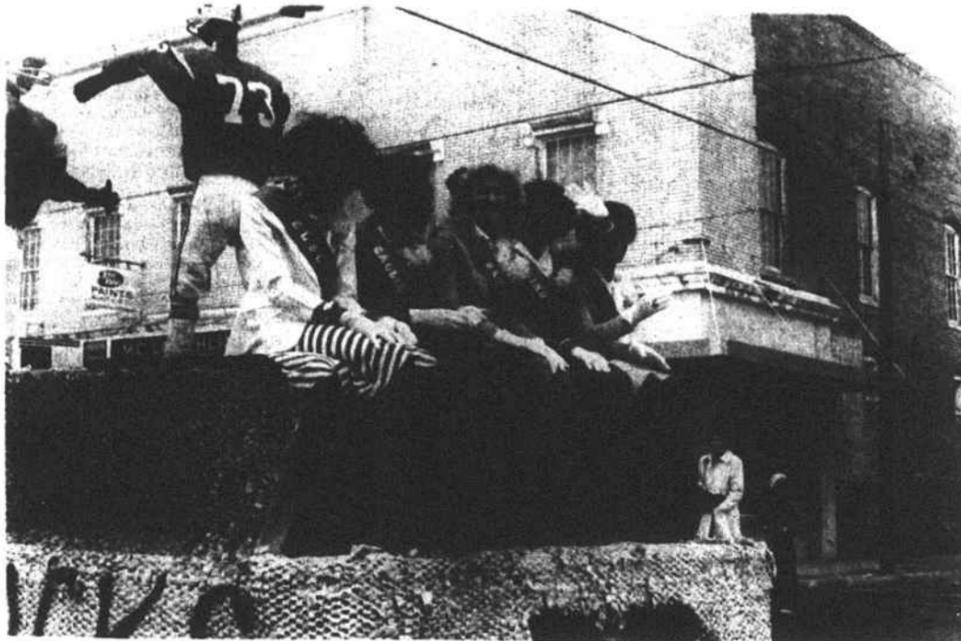
All right Pope, let us hear from you, not only to find out about your health, but what was wrong with your football team. Maybe as your letter to Ashwell said in 1975, you will see him during basketball season.

The following article appeared in a recent issue of *The Sandhills Art Council*.

"Harold Brady, area sculptor, has won the South Carolina National Bank Purchase Award for a life-size sculpture of a greater scope. Mr. Brady is well-known in the Sandhills as a woodcarver and bird sculptor as well as a friend of Wildlife. He has been featured in articles in *North Carolina Wildlife* and other regional publications. His prize-winning piece will tour branches of South Carolina National Bank."

Harold is the son of Mr. and Mrs. H.K. Brady of Raeford and now lives in Southern Pines. Congratulations, Harold.

Don't forget the concert to be given in Raeford on Tuesday, November 1 by the North Carolina Symphony. Make your plans now so that you can be present.



BEST FLOAT -- With a bevy of pretty girls seated in front of the gridiron figures, the senior class float was voted first prize in the Hoke High homecoming parade.

RWC Gets Five District Awards

The Ninth District N.C. Federation of Women's Clubs General Clubwoman of the Year 1977 award was won by Mrs. Joan H. Balfour of the Raeford Women's Club. The Raeford club also won three other first place and one second place awards at the recent district festival.

Mrs. Balfour won her award for extensive church and community activities. She is currently serving on a number of committees in her church, the Lumber Bridge Presbyterian Church. She will be District III President of the Fayetteville Presbytery beginning this fall. She is serving on the board of directors of the Hoke Civic Center and on the board of the Raeford Chapter of the North Carolina Symphony. Her work also involves being active with fund raising in the community. Currently, she is president for the Ninth District of the Women's Clubs.

First place awards won by the club include the 1977 Gene Tart Community Service Award and the 1977 Cooperation and Involvement Award. These awards were given for the Woman's Club's public service work. They sponsor a used clothing store, The Attic, to provide needy people with clothing and also to provide low-income persons with a place they can afford to shop. 35 children were sent to camp through the Club's efforts, and they were active in getting registered voters to the polls. The members help manage the Hoke Civic Center and they sponsored a day of Special Olympics for Special Education children. Along with the many community services the Woman's Club provides, they also made numerous financial contributions to worthy causes.

First place for the Elizabeth Maynard Youth Award was also taken by the Raeford Club. This award was given for outstanding work with the youth of the community. Included in the youth-related activities are donations, scholarships, and volunteer work on an individual basis.

The 1977 Public Affairs Award entry won second place in the District judging. The Public Affairs Department of the Club sponsored several programs to promote awareness of important issues. They also provided the police with an electric marker for public use to aid in location of stolen belongings. Child Abuse Awareness Week was supported by the Club and numerous contributions were made to needy groups.

Trio Rob Grocery

Sheriff's deputies are seeking three Indian males who staged an armed robbery at the Clearview Grocery on N.C. 211 Saturday.

According to Capt. J.R. Riley of the sheriff's office, three males entered the store about 5 p.m. and told employee Stafford Locklear they wanted three cases of beer. One man followed Locklear to the cooler and pulled a pistol while one of the other two emptied the cash register.

About \$95 was taken, Riley said. The trio fled in an automobile. Locklear told investigators.

No arrests have been made.



WINNER -- Mrs. John Balfour displays her cup as winner of the Ninth General Clubwoman of the Year Award in Ninth District State Federation of Women's Club meet.

United Way Drive Adds Canvassers

The 1978 United Way Campaign, which started Monday, has announced the addition of three canvassers for the Raeford business division.

Linda Kay Teal will join Northwest Area Chairman Betty Smith, Jane Davis will help Tom and Ann Howell in the Southwest Area, and Ed Hasty will work in the Southeast Area with Danny DeVane.

Funds will be collected in the county by Extension Homemaker Club members and by individuals from each community. Ellen Willis is in charge of the Extension Club collection.

Co-chairmen of this year's drive are Dale Teal and Ralph Huff. As the drive opened collections this week, Co-Chairman Huff said, "Things look optimistic. We hope to reach our goal."

The 1978 goal is \$24,374. This is an increase of \$1,500 over last year's goal. The campaign drive is scheduled to run through Nov. 30.

The United Fund will serve the Girl Scouts, Boy Scouts, Red Cross, White Cane, 4-H Clubs, Hoke County Rescue Squad, Senior Citizens, and Hoke County Developmentally Disabled Association.

The balance has been earmarked among the Carolina United agencies, the state arm for national organizations affiliated with the United Way. Carolina Way funds will reach the Children's Home Society of N.C., Florence Critten-ton Services of N.C., Carolina Mental Health Assoc., United Health Services of N.C., Epilepsy Assoc. of N.C., Research Fund of

N.C. United, North Carolina United Way, American Social Health Assoc., National Council on Aging, and United Service Organization.

County Man Dies In 401 Accident

A twenty three year-old textile worker was killed Sunday morning on U.S. 401, marking the fourth traffic fatality of the year in Hoke County.

Killed in the 7:10 a.m. accident was Jerry Gordon McRae, of Rt. 3, Box 519, Raeford.

According to Trooper R.V. Lee, McRae was checking under the hood of a stalled vehicle on the southbound shoulder of the highway when a northbound vehicle crossed the center line and struck McRae before colliding with the car.

McRae was dead on arrival at Cape Fear Valley Hospital in Fayetteville with internal injuries, Lee said.

The driver of the Dodge pickup truck which struck McRae was identified as Willie Lee Sellers, 44, of College Park, Md.

Lee said Sellers and two passengers in his vehicle, John Mack Sellers, 42, of Riverdale, Md., and

Farm Listing Changes Eyed

Circus Kirk Coming Saturday

The Hoke County American Legion Post XX will sponsor two performances of the Circus Kirk at Armory Park Saturday. The shows will be at 2 p.m. and 4 p.m.

Offering wholesome family entertainment, the Circus Kirk will present aerial acts, acrobatics, clowns and animal acts. Advance tickets are on sale for \$2 for adults, \$1 for children (three years and under are free). Tickets may be purchased at Southern National Bank, Clark's Gulf Station, Raeford Auto Co., Gentry's Tire Center or from any member of the American Legion.

Ticket prices will be higher at the gate. Proceeds will go to help support the Post baseball team.

Children Bruised In Mishap

Six Hoke County schoolchildren were checked and treated for minor lumps and bruises Tuesday afternoon following an accident involving a truck and school bus No. 10.

Upchurch School Principal Allen Edwards was contacted in the office of Dr. R.G. Townsend shortly after the accident. He said that the bus carrying children from the high school, Upchurch and Raeford Elementary, was proceeding south on US-401 and was preparing to turn left when a southbound truck attempted to pass two other trucks and the bus. The truck driver, who Edwards identified as Harry Bell of Locust, apparently returned to the right lane too soon, catching the front end of the bus.

Edwards indicated that the truck then jackknifed and went into a ditch about 200 ft. down the road.

The bus, driven by Sidney Townsend, was considered a financial loss, according to Edwards.

"It would probably cost more to repair it than it would to buy a new one," he said.

Another bus was dispatched to carry the children home after about a 30 min. disruption of the schedule.

Willie C. Sellers, 13, of College Park, Md., were taken to Cape Fear Valley Hospital with minor injuries.

Sellers was charged with death by vehicle and released under \$1,000 bond in connection with the accident, Lee said. Lee said the driver told him he swerved to avoid an oncoming vehicle in his lane. Lee said there appeared to be no indication of drinking in connection with the accident.

According to the trooper, the victim was traveling on the highway when he and another man stopped to assist the driver of a stalled car near the Checkerboard Grill about six miles north of Raeford. The driver of the stalled car, Cleveland A. McRae, 35, of Rt. 1, Box 576, Raeford, was behind the wheel and attempting to start it when the accident occurred, Lee said. He was treated for minor injuries at Cape Fear Valley Hospital.

The two McRaes were unrelated, Lee said.

County commissioners voted Monday night to ask the state to include Hoke County in a pilot program aimed at reducing the workload of the tax listing office in certifying farmland.

Les Simpson, director of the tax listing office, told commissioners that the Land Utilization Survey of the N.C. Department of Agriculture is now being done on a "sampling" basis in a few counties.

If permission is received by state officials, the responsibility for certifying crops will no longer rest with the county tax listers, Simpson said.

Under current law, the tax listers are required to obtain detailed information on every farm of 10 acres or more every January for later classification by state agriculture officials. Under the pilot project already implemented in a handful of counties, questionnaires would be sent out to farmers to complete and return.

Simpson estimated that it takes two tax listers a full month now, or about 320 manhours, to get the job done.

Board Chairman John Balfour, also a farmer, said he was in favor of a new system, pointing out that farmers are required to list crops both with the Agriculture Stabilization and Conservation Service (ASCS) and the township tax lister.

In other business Monday night, the board voted unanimously to endorse an attempt by the N.C. Association of County Commissioners to raise the state reimbursement for housing short-term prisoners in county jails.

Under a contract signed earlier, Hoke County will receive \$8 per day for each prisoner who serves his term here instead of in a state prison unit. The commissioners' association is attempting to have the arrangement re-negotiated at \$12 daily.

The four board members present (Ralph Barnhart was absent) heard a briefing on industrial revenue bonds and the procedure for establishing a revenue bond authority from Pam Cooper, industrial development representative from the N.C. Department of Economic Resources and Community Development.

A seven-member bond authority is expected to be named within a month from the list of 12 suggested names submitted by the Hoke County Planning Board.

The planning board recommended Gerald Wright, Neill McFadyen, Bobby Conoly, Sam C. Morris, Tom McBryde, Bill Moses, J.D. McAllister, Julius Jordan, Earl Fowler, Eugene Carter, Avery Connell and Bobby B. McNeill.

The commissioners voted to allow two members of the Parks and Recreation Commission and two senior citizens' representatives to check prices on a bus for senior citizens' trips.

The Parks and Recreation Commission notified commissioners that it voted in favor of purchasing a 35-seat bus, instead of a van.

\$15,000 was allotted in this year's budget for the purchase of a van, however, that sum also includes one year's operating costs, temporary board clerk Bill Altman said.

Rose's Office

The mobile office of Rep. Charlie Rose will visit Raeford tomorrow (Friday) from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. in the post office parking lot.

Administrative assistant Rip Collins will be in the office.