

## Around Town

BY SAM C. MORRIS

Several years ago the turn to cooler weather meant that you had to have the heating system checked and the heat would come on early in the morning and this meant that the cost of living would rise. This is not quite the case now because the electric bill is high from running the air conditioner. Maybe the cost of fuel oil will be somewhat higher than the electric bill, but if the hot, humid days keep as they are now, maybe a dollar or two extra at the end of the month wouldn't be too bad if it would cool off.

Anyway the weather is miserable these days and with the football season getting into high gear cooler weather is needed. So let's hope that a break will come before long.

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Someone walked into the office Monday and said that the cry was now, "Stop the Yankees." Of course they meant that this has been the cry for about all my life, because since the days of Babe Ruth the Yankees have ruled the roost most of the time.

They haven't taken over the top rung yet, but if they do it will be hard to catch them. It must have been a sad time in "Bean Town" this week after New York swept the four - game series.

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The Bucks came through in their home opener last Friday night with a victory over Clinton. According to reports a large crowd was on hand but there was room for some more fans.

Friday night the Bucks will meet Lakewood High School from Cumberland County at the high school stadium starting at 8:00 clock.

Go out and help the Bucks win game number two for the year.

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The parking lot between Edinborough and Elwood avenues has something new added. Signs have been put up and they have "Entrance" and "Do Not Enter" on them. Of course most of the folks can read now and they go the right way and enter and leave the lot by the right road. This is that the driveway on Elwood Avenue is for ENTRANCE only.

There are a few individuals I see going the wrong way that can read because they buy a paper every week and they can't be getting it just for the pictures.

So try to think, and the parking lot will be a safer place if everyone will follow the arrows.

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The City Council met for the second month in the new City Hall council room and it is a fine place to meet. With the addition of the soft chairs for the council members, it is almost a pleasure to serve in the board. Of course when a controversy comes up it doesn't make much difference where you are meeting or what kind of chair you are using.

An open house will be held in the near future but I know any of the employees would be glad to show you the new building.

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Monday night at the council meeting the man from the Cablevision company was asked about the channels that were not working. He stated that lightning had struck something that had knocked them out but that a part was being flown in from California and it would be installed as soon as it arrived.

Tuesday morning before coming to the office to write the column I turned on the TV and all channels were back on the air.

Now to all the folks that complained to me about the TV being out; it is on, but your complaints were small compared to my wife's complaint after missing all the old movies last Sunday afternoon.

You can't win!

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Have you been on the road by the Civic Center recently and seen the new Scout Hut that is on the lot in front of the center? The lot has been cleaned and with the installation of water the scouts will move in. Of course the Kiwanis club (See AROUND TOWN, Page 15)

## At New Cosmetic Company

# Oct. 15 Target For Production

## Playing Numbers Game

Some military jets flew low over Margaret Johnson's Rt. 1, Raeford home Tuesday afternoon -- so low that the turbulence of the aircraft caused the tops of pine trees to sway. She decided to call Fort Bragg and file a complaint.

Two weeks ago Col. E. W. Bush told a group of Hoke County citizens in the courthouse that tree-top flying off the military reservation was against Army policy. He told them to call 396-6100 and file complaints if they saw low-flying jets.

And what happened when she called the number?

"They gave me the run-around," Mrs. Johnson said. "They told me I wasn't supposed to call that number and gave me another one. I called it, and there was no answer."

She dialed the original number again, the one Col. Bush released. They then gave her another number, 396-0808, which turned out to be the office of Col. Bush.

"A very nice man told me that I'd been given the wrong number," she said. He took her name and phone number and said someone would get back in touch with her.

She waited. No call. She waited some more. Still no call. Then she decided to try the original number again. This time she was given a patriotic speech in an uncivil tone about how "they," meaning the military, were protecting the country and the flights were absolutely necessary for national defense.

"Everywhere I called, they passed the buck," Mrs. Johnson said. "As far as Col. Bush is concerned, he apparently hasn't notified his people to expect any calls from Hoke County."

And the story might have ended there on a sour note had it not been for Maj. Jim Lester, who returned Mrs. Johnson's call later in the day. He told her he had had to wait for a WATS line (a toll free line) and apologized for the delay. She also talked to a Maj. Hatcher.

"They were both very nice and courteous," she said.

They told her that the number Col. Bush released was a valid number but it wasn't as effective until after 4:30 in the afternoon. During the day 396-6100 is the number for the General Headquarters, they told her.

The majors said they had talked to the pilots who had flown over Mrs. Johnson's house. Maj. Lester said the pilots were clearly in the wrong. They are not supposed to fly so low off the base. He said they had been using a bridge on the Vass Road for sightings and apparently had not been doing it right. In the future, he said a landmark in the Timberland - Montrose area of the county, a less populated area, would be used in training.

Mrs. Johnson asked for telephone numbers that could be called during the day to lodge complaints, and Maj. Lester gave her three: 396-7702, 396-4402, and 396-5611. He said these numbers should be called between 7:30 a.m. and 4:30 p.m.

## Board Transfers Franchise

The Raeford City Council voted Monday night to transfer the cable television franchise to Jones Inter-cable, Inc., which will carry three additional channels without increasing the rates.

The proposal had to pass two readings. The board approved the transfer at its August meeting, and this week's vote made it official.

At the August meeting, company representative Doyle Graves said a movie channel, a 24-hour Christian station, and Channel 17 from Atlanta (a 24-hour independent), will be added to the system.

The movie channel will be optional, he said, at a cost of between \$7.50 and \$8 a month.

Councilman Sam Morris said he had had 15 phone calls since last Friday about cable vision. A spokesman said lightning struck a microwave unit, and that's why service was disrupted over the weekend.

In other business, the council approved a request from Chamber of Commerce Manager Earl Fowler for \$5,000 in city funds. Fowler said the money will be used "to improve the economy throughout the county" by recruiting industry for the area. The county pledged \$10,000 to the chamber for fiscal 78-79.

"I don't feel like it's a contribution. Think of it as an investment," Fowler said.

"I think the chamber has done a heck of a job," said Councilman Bob Gentry. "It played a big part in getting this new industry (Raeford Manufacturing)."

"The chamber is doing as much as possible for the City of Raeford, and I think we need to back them," said Councilman Vardell Hedgpeth.

Councilman Sam Morris cast the one dissenting vote, saying that the request should have been made before the city budget had been approved. He pointed out that the request was \$1,000 higher than anticipated.

The board approved a re-organization of city government proposed by City Manager Ronald Matthews. As part of the plan, Bill Sellars was made Director of Public

## Voting Deadline

Rose Sturgeon, Hoke County Supervisor of Elections, reminded voters this week that the deadline for registering to vote in the November 7 general election is October 6.

She said voter registration has been rather slow and urged eligible voters to register so they can participate in the election.

Works. He was also named Acting City Manager and will handle the duties of the office if Matthews is absent.

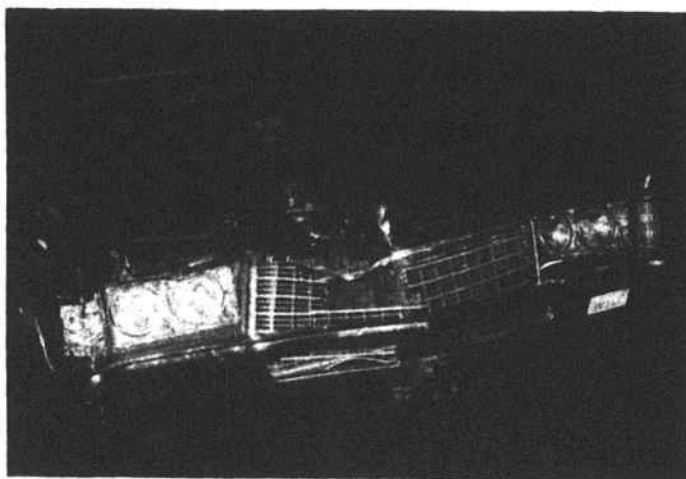
Mrs. W.K. Morgan was appointed to a 5-year term on the Raeford Housing Authority and was sworn in by Mayor J.K. McNeill, Jr.

Barbara Ross, new executive secretary to the city manager, was

introduced to the board. A Hoke High graduate, she will also assist the mayor and councilmen.

The board approved several recommendations concerning the city cemetery proposed by Lew Brown of MICA, the town's consultant. The changes are designed to increase revenues in the opera-

(See CITY COUNCIL, Page 15)



FATALITY -- James Tucker, a 15-year-old Hoke County youth lost his life Thursday night when the bicycle he was riding was struck by this car. Cecil Jacobs, of Rt. 2, Raeford, was the driver, according to a report by the highway patrol.

## Car, Bike Collide

# Cyclist Loses Life

Charges are pending in a bicycle-car collision that claimed the life of a 15-year-old Hoke County youth on a rural road Thursday night, according to State Trooper R.V. Lee.

James Arthur Tucker of Rt. 1, Shannon, was pronounced dead at the scene after the bicycle he was riding was struck by a car on rural paved road 1456 three miles east of Raeford about 9 o'clock Thursday night.

Lee said the bicycle was traveling north in the southbound lane without lights when a car driven by Cecil Jacobs, 20, of Rt. 2, Raeford, approached from the south and the two collided. Investigation into the accident is continuing, Lee said.

The accident marked the eighth traffic fatality in Hoke County this year.

Also killed in a traffic accident this year was Spec. 4 Timothy A. Potter, 19, of Ft. Bragg, who died August 28 when his Volkswagen slammed into the rear of a logging truck in front of the Big Star Truck

Stop on Highway 401 about eight miles north of Raeford.

Lawrence McCollum, 59, died following a one-vehicle accident on RPR 1409 six miles north of Raeford on July 5. Four young passengers were thrown from the rear of the pick-up truck McCollum was driving, although they sustained only minor injuries.

June 22, Lennon Harris, 22, and his two infant daughters, Shanna, age 2 and 7-month-old Christopher, were killed when Harris lost control of his car and it overturned on a rural Hoke County road about a mile and a half from the Cumberland County line.

Kevin Chavis, 2-year-old son of Linda Chavis, was killed instantly when he was struck by a pick-up truck in the driveway of the Chavis home May 20.

A head-on collision between a truck and a car on Highway 401 north about eight miles from Raeford claimed the life of Arian S. Tesfamariam of Dayton, Ohio, March 23.

Raeford Manufacturing Corporation, a new cosmetics firm here, has set October 15 as the target date for production, it was announced Tuesday morning at a breakfast meeting of the Raeford-Hoke Chamber of Commerce.

Chamber Manager Earl Fowler told the board of directors that the new company is "moving rapidly."

"They're adding 75,000 additional feet to the old Summerfield plant," he said. "It will give them over 400,000 feet of space."

He told the group that the company will have nationwide distribution and will export through Wilmington. The company has openly expressed support for the community and plans to participate in a civic-minded way in local affairs, Fowler said.

It is projected the firm will hire 300 workers within 12 months of production. Among its products will be drugs, cologne, antiperspirant and body lotion.

Raeford Manufacturing bought the vacant Summerfield textile plant in June and has been remodeling it to suit its needs. Summerfield was the second largest employer in Hoke County at the time of its closing in February, and unemployment here has risen over 11 percent in its absence.

Although there has been much speculation, there has been no official word on who is behind Raeford Manufacturing. Announcements about the company have been made through the local chamber of commerce, which company spokesman says was instrumental in their decision to come to Raeford.

In other business at the meeting, Fowler repeated his pledge, as a private citizen, to seek an injunction in federal court if a Military Operations Area (MOA) is charted in Hoke County before local citizens have seen the environmental study which the military is required by law to conduct.

He said opposition to the air zone is "a matter of principle."

"I question the right of federal authorities to force the rules of big government on people without due process," he told the board, saying, as he did at a recent meeting, that he has no personal feud with the military.

The zone has been the subject of several public meetings here, during which local residents have voiced objections to it. A new Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) regulation requires high speed military jets to fly in designated air space if they fly below 10,000 feet.

In the past the jets have flown in holding patterns over Hoke County with little restriction while on support missions for ground troops on training maneuvers at nearby Fort Bragg.

Military spokesmen have said air support is vital to the training program, but local residents are afraid that, in spite of assurance to the contrary, activity will increase in the zone once it is drawn and the resulting noise from the aircraft will hurt the economy.

The environmental report should be ready in the next few weeks, military spokesmen have said.

Chamber President Neill McFadyen said the board of directors has gone on record opposing the zone.

The chamber board adopted a \$36,000 budget for the coming year. The county put up \$10,000, and the city contributed \$5,000. Another \$9,000 comes from license fees, and projected membership fees total \$12,000.

Beginning this week newcomers to Raeford will receive a "Move to Raeford" packet from the local chamber of commerce. The packet contains information about the city and county and gift certificates from local merchants. Bobby McNeill is chairman of the project.

Fowler said Peter Bachelor will be reporting on a revitalization study for downtown Raeford soon. The \$11,000 study was financed by the City of Raeford. Bachelor is an instructor at the N.C. State University School of Design.

Hoke County Manager James Martin and City Manager Ronald Matthews were special guests at the chamber meeting. Both are relatively new to this area. Matthews assumed his duties here in July, and Martin joined the county in January.

The managers said they are impressed with Raeford and Hoke County and wholeheartedly support the efforts of the chamber of commerce. They pledged to work together for the welfare of the area.

## Board Votes To End Jr. High Football

The Hoke County Board of Education voted Monday night to end the interscholastic football program at Upchurch Junior High School beginning in the 1979-80 school year.

Raz Autry, superintendent of schools, told the board that his recommendation to bring an end to the program was based on a scheduling problem. There are not enough schools participating in junior high football to warrant having the program, Autry explained. He told board members that the school had only scheduled six games this year, although the season will not end until November.

There will be several weeks during the season when the Upchurch team will not have a game due to a lack of participating teams, Autry said.

The possibility of building two all-purpose buildings, one at West Hoke School and one at Scurlock, was also discussed.

Autry told board members that a teacher survey indicated a need for these buildings. Each building could be used as a gymnasium, an auditorium and provide a place for physical education when the weather was too bad for outside activity.

Board Chairman R.L. Gibson said he did not want to make a

decision on the proposed new structures because of the upcoming election.

"Before the next budget session, the board will have at least two new members," Gibson said. He explained that it should be their decision. Autry proposed requesting \$320,000 in Revenue sharing funds for the construction. No action was taken on the matter.

A roster of new employees was approved, including the hiring of the first blind teacher to teach in the Hoke system. Leigh Goodrum of Cary will be teaching children with learning problems at J.W. McLaughlin school.

William E. Heath, a Hoke County resident, requested by letter that his children be allowed to attend school in Moore County. Heath told the board in his letter that he is a widower and after-school care facilities were more readily available in Aberdeen. The request was approved for one year because of the hardship involved.

In other business, the board agreed to have the proposed sewer easement run behind the high school instead of in front of the campus as was originally proposed. An accident policy and a child abuse policy were also approved in the Monday night session.