

Also Acts On Recreation Pay, Reappraisal Contract

## Board Aids Program For Handicapped

### Around Town

BY SAM C. MORRIS

I will be glad when the winter is gone and "Spring has Sprung." The past few mornings have been too cold for me. Anyway the forecast is for warmer weather the remainder of the week.

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The following letter is self-explanatory:

A Letter To The Public:  
We thank God for the many "gifts of love" and which we have been blessed these past few months, and for the "joy of success."

We thank the local and area merchants, dealers, and individuals who donated merchandise to make our Raffles and our Turkey Dinner and Bazaar successful.

We thank the staff members of The News-Journal and WSHB for the publicity extended on our behalf.

Also, we thank the parents and friends for contributing both material gifts and so many hours working tirelessly with us. We enjoy your fellowship, getting to know you, as we participate in each project.

And, of course, we applaud the Hoke High Chorus, Chorale and Band, and the Upchurch Chorus and Band, and Mrs. Mary Archie McNeill, Mrs. Linda Huff, and Mr. Jimmy James! Together they make such beautiful music! We do appreciate their dedicated efforts in striving for achievement.

We thank each and everyone of you so very much, and look forward to continuing our relationship.

Sincerely,  
Executive Board Members,  
1979-80  
Hoke County  
Music Booster Association

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This letter was received last week after an item in this column concerning Raeford Institute and Maj. M. McR. McLauchlin appeared a couple of weeks ago. The writer is the son of Mrs. Beatrice McLauchlin of Charlotte and the late H.C. McLauchlin. The McLauchlins lived in the house where Mr. and Mrs. Joe Upchurch now stay on N. Main Street.

Hugh McLauchlin graduated from Hoke County High School in the early 1940s and is well-known by the older settlers of this community.

The letter follows:  
Dear Sam:  
You do not hear from me often, but I keep up with Raeford through the paper and in particular through your marvelous column.

Your last column about the Raeford Institute refers to Murdoch McRae McLauchlin, and I am sure this must be my cousin. Enclosed is a letter he wrote from Davidson College some forty years before the advertisement referred to in your column. I hope you will find it interesting.

Who ever copied this letter originally believed it was written to his cousin, Archibald, who did have a sister, Sarah, and a brother, Neill. However, the third paragraph suggests it was written to a female cousin who could have been either Mary Ann or my Great Aunt Catherine, both of whom had brothers named Neill and sisters named Sarah.

To help you follow this connection, I am also enclosing a copy of our family tree which was prepared by William McLauchlin, son of Murdoch McRae McLauchlin.

Please do not ever stop writing our column. I enjoy it thoroughly. Please give my best wishes to all my Raeford friends.

Hugh C. McLauchlin

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This letter from Frank Jeter, Jr. is self-explanatory:

Dear Sam:  
As you see, we continue to get some coverage on Art Gore's good

(See AROUND TOWN, page 15)



DEADLINE DAY -- The people in this line are waiting their turn early Friday afternoon to buy their 1980 state motor vehicle license tags. The deadline for showing the old ones was midnight that day. The picture was taken from the front lawn of Raeford Presbyterian Church looking toward the license agency office, behind the trees in the left background. Other people were waiting in vehicles parked on Edinborough Avenue at the left beyond the picture.

### In Off-duty Policeman's, Richard Fields' Cases

## 2 Not Guilty Of Assaulting Each Other

Hoke County District Court Judge Joseph E. Dupree Friday found Raeford Policeman James Lee Madden and Richard Dale Fields innocent of the assault charges they had filed against each other.

The judge said after hearing 11 witnesses testify that if a third party had filed the charges, "I'd tax each a fine and costs."

Judge Dupree said earlier he wasn't accusing anyone of anything but "if Mr. Fields by using his mouth...brought on a confrontation with an officer who is off duty, if that officer in the first instance slapped Mr. Fields, and of this and all that transpired, the high court has held that Mr. Fields is just as guilty" as he who struck the blow.

## Orchestra Concert At Upchurch Thursday

The place for the North Carolina Chamber Orchestra concert of Thursday night has been changed to the Upchurch Junior High School auditorium from Hoke County High Schools gymnasium.

But the Friday morning concert will be held in the Hoke High gymnasium as originally scheduled.

The Thursday night concert will start at 8 o'clock, and the Friday morning program at 10:15. The Friday morning concert is for students in grades four through six of the Hoke County Schools.

Bloch's "Suite Hebraïque," performed by violist Phyllis Weins Sandgren, and the "Winter" movement from Vivaldi's "The Four Seasons," performed by violinist Suzanne Kelly, will highlight the concert on Thursday. Artistic Director and Conductor John Gosling recently announced.

The remainder of the concert will be Cimarosa's Overture to "Il Matrimonio Segreto," "Mozart's Divertimento No. 2 in D Major," and selections from "West Side Story" by Bernstein.

Ms. Sandgren has been a member of the N.C. Symphony since 1977. A student of Hugh Partridge at Wichita State University, she also studied under Lillian Fuchs and Samuel Rhoads at the Aspen Music Festival. She appeared as soloist with the Wichita Symphony in 1972 and was a soloist with the Aspen Music Festival Orchestra in 1975.

Ms. Kelly has been a member of the violin section of the North Carolina Symphony Orchestra since 1972. She is a graduate of the Interlochen Arts Academy where she studied with Joseph Knitzer.

Madden and Fields had pleaded not guilty.

The trials, consolidated, took about an hour and 50 minutes.

Each testified he had acted in self defense in the incident last Dec. 28 outside the County Supermarket on Rockfish Road about two miles east of Raeford. Madden testified he was off duty at the time with three other officers also off duty -- Hoke County Deputies Sheriff J.R. Riley and C.R. Wilson and Raeford Policeman Weaver Patterson -- and Riley's stepson, Chris. The three other officers testified in support of Madden's testimony to the effect that Fields had called Madden a vulgar name in the store, then later attacked Madden as Madden was sitting in a

car with the three other officers and the boy.

The officers testified Madden got out of the car after Fields punched him in the mouth and that Fields hit him three more times with his fists before Madden acted in self defense, punching Fields several times after Fields tripped and fell.

The officers testified they had gone to the store to get some steaks after having been deer hunting and that Fields entered the store while they were there.

Fields testified he went to the store, a quarter of a mile from his home, to get a gallon of kerosene, that he didn't say anything to the officers, paid for the fuel and left. He said after he got into his car, Madden came to him and told him that if Fields came to Raeford Madden was going to watch every thing Fields did. Fields said Madden called him a punk and jerked the car door open after Fields had started the motor.

Fields also testified Patterson told him he also would watch everything Fields did if Fields came to Raeford.

At the start of the trials, Madden testified he had arrested Fields in November on a charge of possession of marijuana.

One witness for Fields testified they saw Madden holding Fields by the shirt and another said he saw Madden raise his fist at Fields though he couldn't say whether he hit Fields with his fist or open hand.

Fields testified that after the incident he felt he should do something about it, so he walked back to the store to find witnesses who had seen the incident, to prepare to get a warrant.

He said the officers' car pulled over by the side of the road, and Madden "got out of the car like a wild man." He said Madden struck him first and that he acted in self defense. He also said he had taken off his coat but, contrary to what testifying officers said, he didn't remove his shirt, that Madden grabbed it, and he slipped out of it.

Madden testified that in the first incident, while he and the others were in the store, he heard Fields say something about some "pigs." When he turned around, he said, he found Fields staring at him.

Outside the store, he said, Fields was sitting in Field's car with the door open. He quoted Fields as saying, "You S.O.B. I want you to meet me somewhere in front of my house."

Madden said, "I waved my finger in front of his face and said, 'You punk, I'll meet you anywhere you want.'"

Other testimony was Wilson and Patterson took Madden by the arms and drew him away from Field's car. Patterson testified,

The Hoke County commissioners at their mid-month meeting Monday night approved a pay range of \$12,500 to \$14,500 a year for the Hoke County recreation director, voted an extra \$2,000 for the rest of the fiscal year to meet increased travel expenses for a program for the handicapped, and granted the county's reappraisal contract to Allen Appraisal, Inc., of Laurinburg.

The action on the recreation director's pay was taken after W.K. Morgan, Jr., chairman of the County Recreation Commission, discussed the commission's original recommendations -- \$14,500 annually for the director and \$10,700 for the athletic or assistant director.

Commissioner Danny DeVane said the pay range would allow flexibility in negotiations. The proposal for the range was approved at the regular February meeting by John Balfour, chairman of the board of county commissioners, as well as DeVane, who had proposed it, but the matter was tabled for further study.

The commissioners decided not to act on the recommendation of the higher pay for the assistant or athletic director till after the new director is appointed. The appointment is scheduled to be made March 23, to fill the vacancy created by the resignation in

January of Director Don Slaughter. The athletic director, Anne Howell Pate, receives a salary of about \$9,800 now.

Morgan told the commissioners 23 applications for the job had been received by the commission, from as far off as Pennsylvania and Indiana. Speaking of the salaries, Morgan told the commissioners the reason for asking \$14,500 is the commission cannot now offer an applicant pay security.

Replying to a question from a commissioner also, Morgan said there is a possibility that Mrs. Pate would be appointed director, which would leave the assistant or athletic directorship to be filled, and this was the reason the commissioners postponed action on the recommended \$10,700 salary.

The commissioners voted the County Association for the Developmental Disabled an additional \$1,000 per quarter for the last two quarters of the fiscal year, which will end June 30, after hearing Judy Hendrix and Mrs. Elizabeth Park, association treasurer, report expenses for operation and maintenance of the van used to transport disabled Hoke County people to the Scottish Crafts workshop in Laurinburg had risen. Mrs. Park indicated the level of expense was at the point that the program was endangered.

Ms. Hendrix is director of the Hoke County Children's Center but was appearing on behalf of the association.

The contract for reappraising property in the county for county tax purposes is for \$85,000. Allen and Southern Appraisal Co. of Sea Level, N.C. submitted identical bids last month. The commissioners interviewed a representative of each company separately at their Feb. 4 meeting to make a choice.

The vote to let the contract to Allen was 3-2, on the first count, but Balfour and Commissioner James A. Hunt, who had cast the "no" votes, changed their votes to "yes" to make the count unanimous.

In other action, the commissioners adopted a resolution requesting the State Department of Transportation four-lane U.S. 401 north from Raeford to the existing four-laning in Cumberland County just beyond the Hoke border, near 71st High School. The resolution will be presented at a DOT highway meeting March 6 in Southern Pines.

Earlier, the commissioners adopted a motion authorizing the Burroughs Co. to survey the county to determine what its needs in reference to a computer are and what the county is doing now. Shelley Foster, Burroughs territory manager for five counties including Hoke asked for the authorization. She explained this was the second of the regular five steps the company uses in discussing a computer sale. The final step, she said is the proposal, but none of the steps cost a county anything.

The commissioners also adopted a motion changing the name of the Hoke County Civil Preparedness Agency to the Hoke County Emergency Management Agency. They acted after Bill Niven, county CP coordinator, informed them the state had recommended the change. He said the change in name had been made by the federal agency and the change was sought for the local organizations.

The commissioners also voted Niven a \$64 expense account to attend the meeting of the North Carolina Association of Local Government Employee Safety Officials scheduled for Raleigh March 6-7.

## Fire Report Sends Hunt Home From Meet

Hoke County Commissioner James Hunt left the mid-month meeting of the Board of County Commissioners Monday night after saying he'd just been informed his house was on fire.

He returned about 20 minutes later, however, reporting a fire did break out but it was some paper in the chimney and had not ignited wood of the house itself.

(See NOT GUILTY, page 15)