

By Hoke County Commissioners

\$3,251,064 Budget, \$1.01 Tax Rate Adopted

Around Town

BY SAM C. MORRIS

The following letter was sent in for use in this column and concerns "Bill Heyward Day" at the Raeford Presbyterian Church. An article elsewhere in the paper will tell who and why Bill Heyward is being honored.

Dear Sam:

The Session of the Raeford Presbyterian Church appointed a committee to arrange a "Bill Heyward Day" in recognition and appreciation of his service to our church and community during his pastorate (1947-1964). The committee has made arrangements for this day. The Heywards will be honored on June 22, 1980 during the Morning Worship Service.

Following the Morning Worship Service, our Church will host a picnic on the grounds. The committee and members of our congregation extend to all friends of the Heywards a special invitation to join us with their food basket for a great day of fellowship. Of course, we welcome everyone to our Morning Worship Service.

Bill, Sarah (his son, Nat, and family) will arrive in Raeford, June 20, 1980 and will depart to Florida, Monday morning.

The Committee:
Dick and Jessie Neeley
Harold and Peggy Gillis
Buck and Johnnie McPhaul

As most of you have observed, the weather hasn't been mentioned in this column for the past two or three weeks. Now since that time, we haven't had any rain so let's see if this will bring rain.

Mary Alice and I went to the mountains for a day or two last week and then spent the weekend with our son, John in Greenville, S.C.

While in Greenville, I called the McKeithan family, Cousin Make, and Nora Mae and we went by to see them. They were nice enough to invite us for lunch Saturday and it was nice to meet their two children.

Mac McKeithan, the son, is a chip off the old block. He is a star baseball, football and you name it player and was to pitch for the Greenville American Legion team that night. Ann, the daughter, has the McKeithan eyes and is a very pretty girl or maybe I should say young lady.

It is always good to visit one of the children, but when you kill two birds with one stone, it is much better. The drive back Sunday didn't seem so far.

The following is from the "Around Town" column of the *Harnett County News*, Lillington, and is written by Steve Plummer, a Hoke County native, son of Mr. and Mrs. Ralph Plummer of the Wayside Community. We think it will be of interest to our readers.

"In reading my hometown paper, *The News-Journal* from Hoke County, last week, I came across an article that I know holds a lot of interest for a lot of local people.

"The article was about the Hoke High School athletic banquet, which was dedicated this year to retiring athletic director John Pecora.

"John, as I have mentioned here several times before, is a former Erwin resident who is still remembered as being one of the best football coaches the school ever had.

"Well, he is retiring now, after being one of the best football coaches Raeford ever had. After 10 years as head coach, he was promoted to a fulltime post as athletic director, the first fulltime director the school has ever had.

"A health problem that required major, open-heart surgery last year forced him to the showers, and the banquet gave everyone in Raeford a chance to thank him for a distinction.

(See AROUND TOWN, page 9)

***** In School Food Service Show

5 Hoke Managers Win 8 State Awards

Eight awards, including the foremost, were won last week by Hoke County school lunchroom managers in the Culinary Arts Show of the North Carolina Food Service Association.

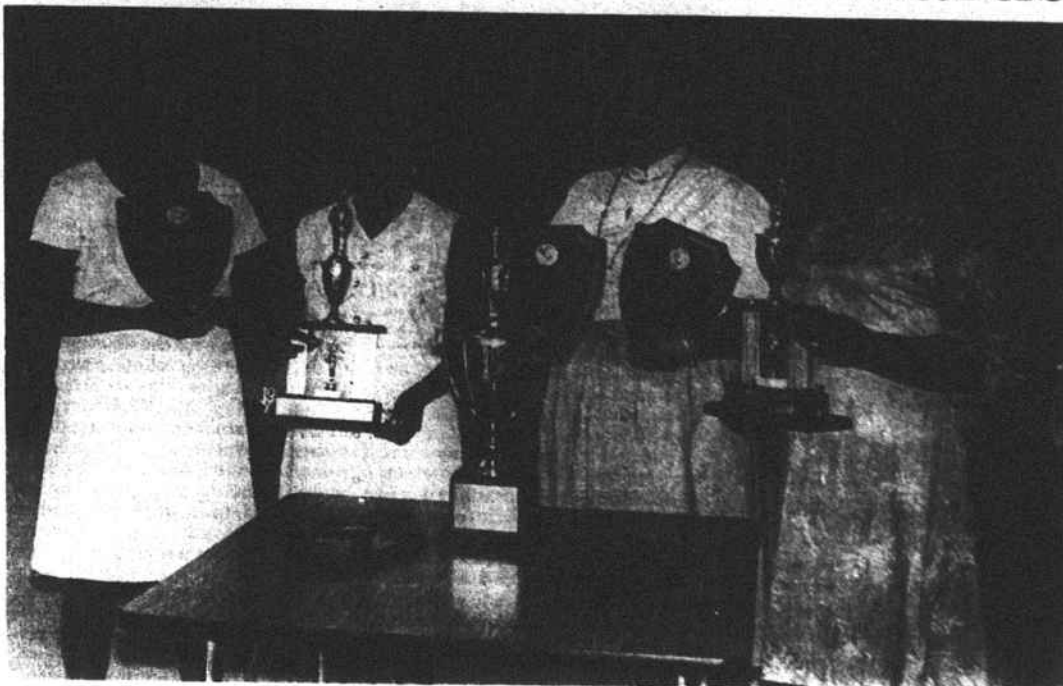
The show was held in Charlotte Thursday through Saturday.

The foremost honor, the Ralph Eaton School Lunch Award, was won by Mrs. Gayle Ellis, manager of the Hoke County High School lunchroom. She also won second-place awards for salad and/or soup, and for desserts.

First-place trophies were won by Mrs. Isabelle Smith, for breakfast, and Mrs. Druelter McLeod for her sandwich plate.

Mrs. Jean McPhatter and Mrs. Juanita Clark won second-place awards. Mrs. McPhatter in the competition for meat/vegetable plates, and Mrs. Clark, for breakfast and for lunch.

Mrs. Smith is lunchroom manager for South Hoke School, Mrs. McPhatter for J.W. Turlington, Mrs. Clark for Upchurch Junior High, and Mrs. McLeod for Scurlock.



Winning lunchroom managers with awards: L-R, Mrs. McPhatter, Mrs. Smith, Mrs. Clark, and Mrs. McLeod. The largest trophy on the table is the Ralph Eaton School Lunch Award won by Mrs. Ellis.

Ex-Raeford Pastor Heyward To Be Honored

The Rev. Bill Heyward will be honored Sunday by Raeford Presbyterian Church for the services he did for the church and the community while he was serving as pastor from 1947 to 1964.

The occasion will be "Bill Heyward Day."

He and his wife will be given recognition during the morning worship service, and a picnic will be held in his honor after the service.

The message at the morning service will be brought by his son, Nathaniel J. (Nat) Heyward, who has been assisting in First Pres-

byterian Church of Dunedin, Fla., which the elder Heyward served as pastor for 16 years till he retired this year. Nat Heyward will be accompanied to Raeford by his wife and their two children.

All the Heywards live in Dunedin.

The arrangements for "Bill Heyward Day" are being made by a committee of Dick and Jessie Neeley, Harold and Peggy Gillis, and Buck and Johnnie Belle McPhaul. The committee was appointed by the Session of the local church.

Seniors In Last-ditch Competency Tests

13 Failed Final State Exams

Thirteen of 14 Hoke County High School seniors who took state competency examinations in early June failed to qualify for their high school diplomas, and the other failed to qualify because of another deficiency.

Roy Maynor and Florence Cohen, county schools directors of instruction, reported the results Tuesday.

For the seniors it was the fifth

effort of the past two school years to pass both the reading and the mathematics competency examinations. Passing the examinations is a state requirement for a high school diploma.

Of the 14 who took the examinations, eight were educable mentally handicapped, another was handicapped by a stroke during high school years and was in the Extended Day class, and another had a learning disability.

Mrs. Cohen and Maynor reported one EMH student and the learning-disabled student passed the mathematics examinations but not both, and the Extended Day student passed reading after earlier passing the mathematics examination but failed to qualify for a diploma because of another deficiency in the student's record.

Of the examinations given in early June, 11 seniors took the reading exam, 12 took the mathematics test, and some of each group took both.

The setting of the competency examinations in early June was an effort to give the students a final chance to receive diplomas at the

high school's June 6 Commencement.

The passing grades for the competency examinations are 87 for reading and 77 for mathematics.

Maynor said none of the educable mentally handicapped in the junior and senior grades has passed both examinations, though some have passed one.

Hoke High juniors and seniors took competency examinations in May, the juniors for the second time and the seniors for the fourth in the past two school years. They were given for students who had failed the earlier competency exams.

In the May examinations, 30 percent of the 47 who took the reading examination passed, and 41 percent of the 51 who took the mathematics exam passed, Maynor and Mrs. Cohen reported.

The May examinations were given the juniors and seniors who had failed one or both of the examinations given last fall. In those, 82 percent of the 302

students taking the reading examination, and 81 percent of the 307 taking the mathematics examination passed. These included all seniors who had not passed one or both of the first two tests given in the 1978-79 school year.

The fall competency examinations were the first of their kind for the juniors.

The seniors of the past year who failed the competency examinations, as well as those with other disqualifying deficiencies, received certificates of attendance at the June 6 Commencement, though not official diplomas of graduation. As far as the graduation ceremony was concerned, no distinction between a student receiving an attendance certificate and a student receiving a diploma was announced publicly.

This is in accordance with a County Board of Education policy, though seniors who do not meet the requirements for graduation do not receive a regular diploma, though they are allowed to participate in the graduation exercises.

Bradshaw Named May 8, Resigned June 12

Hoke High Hunting Again For New Coach

Charles Bradshaw, appointed Hoke County High School's head football coach May 8, resigned June 12 to become head coach at Garner High School, seven miles south of Raleigh.

Dr. Lenwood Simpson, Hoke High's principal, said Monday afternoon in reporting the resignation, quoted Bradshaw as saying, among the other reasons he was resigning, that he wanted to go to Garner as head coach. "Which," Simpson added, "he told me for the first time was his first choice."

"We already have begun the search for a new head football coach," Simpson said.

He said Bradshaw came into his office at 4:30 p.m. Thursday and resigned, giving these other reasons also: the difficulty he has had in selling his home in Johnston County; and his wife's inability to find a job in this area.

Officially, the Hoke County Board of Education accepted Bradshaw May 8 for employment as a health and physical education teacher, since the board does not

hire coaches. Bradshaw was named to fill the vacancy created by the resignation earlier this spring of Coach Clyde (Soupy) Campbell, who left to return to Lees-McRae College at Banner Elk as head coach. Campbell is a graduate and a former assistant grid coach of Lees-McRae.

Bradshaw, 32, was coming to Hoke, a 4-A school, from South Johnston High School, a 3-A institution, after four years there as head coach following four years as

an assistant football coach at Jacksonville, N.C., High.

Bradshaw's wife is a language-arts teacher at Johnston Technical Institute.

Bradshaw was one of 12 applicants interviewed before he was chosen, and about 20 in all applied for the Hoke job. Simpson said. He said that in the new search for a head coach some of the people considered with Bradshaw and some new applicants would be talked to.

The Board of Hoke County Commissioners Monday night adopted a 1980-81 county budget of \$3,251,064 and set the tax rate for the new fiscal year at \$1.01 per \$100 property evaluation, the same as the present year's.

The 1979-80 budget, based on estimated revenues for the entire year, which will end June 30, was \$3,137,853.

Along the few changes the commissioners made in County Manager James Martin's proposed budget was a 10 per cent raise and a \$1,500 adjustment in the county manager's salary. Martin had not recommended a raise in his present salary, which is \$21,348 annually. He had recommended 10 per cent cost-of-living raises for most county employees, and the commissioners adopted the budget with these provided.

The action on the budget was taken during the commissioners' mid-month meeting in the board's conference room. The mid-month meeting followed a public hearing, which lasted about 10 minutes, on the proposed budget. It was held in the courtroom of the Courthouse.

The commissioners granted a Hoke County Library request to switch funds from one item to the Bookmobile to continue the operation of the Bookmobile through the new year. The request for the transfer was made by Library Supervisor Dorothy Cameron during the public hearing. Mrs. Cameron told the commissioners the Bookmobile served 119 Hoke County rural families.

During the mid-month meeting in the discussion of the library fund, board chairman John Balfour pointed out that the state is no longer supporting county Bookmobiles. This had been done through the regional library systems. Another comment during the discussion was Bookmobiles in the state are being phased out.

In making the motion to give Martin a raise, Commissioner Danny DeVane said the increase would bring Martin's salary in line with the salaries of other county managers in this area of the state.

In other work on the budget, the commissioners approved a 10-cent tax rate for the county's 10 fire districts. The revenue from the tax rate and federal revenue-sharing funds help support the rural volunteer fire departments. The approval of the rate for the districts brought the Rockfish rate up from 6 cents per \$100. The Rockfish fire department board had requested the increase. The other districts already had a 10-cent rate.

West Hoke had asked the commissioners to raise its rate to 15 cents per \$100, anticipating a cut off by Congress of federal revenue-sharing funds. The commissioners were informed Monday night, however, that West Hoke believed now it (See TAX RATE, page 9)

"I sincerely hope," Simpson said, "to employ a man with good credentials who is interested in coming and staying for a period of time necessary to give the football program stability and success."

Of Bradshaw's resignation so soon after Bradshaw was appointed, Simpson said, "I regret this happened, for the sake of the students at the high school. I will make every effort to see we employ a good man that has their interest at heart."