

Food Town Still Plans Raeford Store

The plan to build a Food Town supermarket in Raeford hasn't been changed.

Only the building schedule has.

This information came Tuesday morning from a spokesman at Food Town's home office in Salisbury.

It was given in response to a question put by a reporter for *The News-Journal*.

The question was asked because a rumor circulating in the Raeford area had Food Town

canceling plans to establish a store here because it had built a store at Aberdeen, about 20 miles west. The Food Town store in Aberdeen was opened early last week.

An announcement made by Food Town's headquarters last June said the Raeford supermarket would open in about a year. Construction, by Eddens & McTeer of Columbia, S.C., was to start immediately.

The Food Town spokesman queried Tuesday said the opening "depends on whether the

developers can get financing," but as of February 24, at a Food Town real estate meeting, the supermarket chain still planned to have a store in Raeford.

The spokesman pointed out that "financing has been a big hold-up" for building contractors throughout the construction industry because of high interest rates on loans.

The Food Town spokesman added that though the plan to build a Raeford store was still alive the store opening probably would be in 1982, rather than in this year.

The store is scheduled to be built on land leased by Food Town off the U.S. 401 bypass on Cole Avenue Extension. The store will cover about 18,000 square feet and contain probably 8 checkout counters. It will employ about 50 people, some parttime. Food Town employs all local people it can to staff its individual stores.

Food town reported last year the company had received a petition signed by over 1,300 people of the Raeford area asking the company to put a

store in the Raeford area. This report was contained in the company's June announcement of the plan to open a store here. At the time, the Aberdeen store was already on the Food Town schedule for construction.

The Raeford area currently is served by only one supermarket, the A&P in the Edenborough Shopping Center, though many smaller stores are operating in the area.

Last October, Eddens & McTeer reported the Food Town store would be part of a

\$1.4 million shopping center which also would include chain drug store and up to six local businesses. The center was scheduled to open next summer.

The shopping center was scheduled to be built on a 7.9-acre tract at Cole and 401 bypass. Negotiations for the purchase were completed in recent weeks, the October report said.

At the time, a ground-breaking for the Food Town store was scheduled for October 15.

The News - Journal

The Hoke County News - Established 1928 The Hoke County Journal - Established 1905
VOLUME LXXII NUMBER 46 RAEFORD, HOKE COUNTY, NORTH CAROLINA \$8 PER YEAR THURSDAY, MARCH 12, 1981

December's Was 8.6%

Hoke Jobless Rate 11.4% In January

Around Town

BY SAM C. MORRIS

The television was filled with basketball this weekend and will be the same for the next three weekends. Of course we won't have any games coming on at 11 a.m. on Thursday or at 1:30 p.m. the same day. The games will be played on Thursday, Saturday, and Sunday except for the final game, which will be on Monday night, March 30th.

The games were very exciting and most of them were really close. The Hoke County fans had more comments to make about the TV debut of Duncan Buoy and Rob McNeill. It seemed that the camera was found on them about everytime they showed a view of the crowd.

We expected to see Jake and Dpris Austin, and after the Clemson defeat could understand why Terry Houston and his wife didn't make the camera, maybe they will show up during the NIT.

Even after the defeats of the tournament, six of the conference teams will either go to the NCAA or the NIT. This is a good showing for the conference.

While on the subject of the tournament, it seems that sometimes I sing or hum in my sleep, when asked what song came out during my sleep, I was told it was an old tune that Gene Austin use to sing back in the 20s. I thought for a while and finally it dawned on me that it must have been "Blue Heaven."

It must have been too much basketball over the weekend.

I was convinced that was the case when Dr. John Ropp asked me Sunday morning how I felt and my reply was I feel fine and that the sky was a lovely "Blue."

Don't forget the Hoke County Booster Club's Golf tournament to be played this coming weekend at the Arabia Golf Course. Entry fee is \$25 and this includes green fee and cost for both days. So contact the Arabia club or the Booster club for complete details.

Drunk driving laws in other countries

YOU THINK THE DRUNK DRIVING LAWS ARE TOUGH HERE? -- How would you like to get caught in these countries?

Australia -- The names of drivers are sent to the local newspaper and printed under the heading -- HE'S DRUNK AND IN JAIL.

Malaya -- the driver is jailed; if he's married, his wife goes to jail also.

Finland, England & Sweden -- Drunk drivers receive an automatic jail term of approximately one year.

South Africa -- The drunk driver is given a 10 year prison sentence, a fine of \$10,000 or both.

Turkey -- Drunk drivers are taken 20 miles from town by police and forced to walk back -- under escort.

(See AROUND TOWN, page 12)

In Reassignments Of 6 Educators Changes Altered Two Salaries

Reassignments of Hoke County school system administrators approved by the County Board of Education March 3 brings a pay raise for one and sends another to a lower state-paying position but the latter's reduction must be made up for at least a year under state law, County Schools Supt. Raz Autry says.

Since Floyd Caldwell is being transferred from his job of principal of Scurlock School to the same position at McLauchlin School, he will take an \$84 per month cut in his current pay of \$24,684 per year, Autry said. The reason is, the superintendent explained, a principal's pay is based partly on the number of state-paid teachers employed at the school to which he is assigned. State money provides the full salaries of all teachers at a school except those paid by the federal government and the county school board. The federal money pays the special reading teachers under the U.S. Elementary and Secondary Education Act, Title I; and county funds pay music and art teachers and assistant principals, who also serve as teachers. State money pays the salaries of regular classroom and special-education teachers.

Caldwell is moving from a school with 27 state-paid teachers (of a total of 30) to a school (McLauchlin), which has one music teacher (county-paid), a librarian,

and 14 classroom teachers. The school has kindergarten and first-grade classes.

Caldwell, however, won't have a change in pay because the State Teacher Tenure Act protects tenured employees from suffering pay cuts caused by transfers, Autry said in effect.

Milton Williams, currently a Hoke County High School assistant principal, is being promoted and automatically is getting a pay raise, by being assigned to West Hoke School as principal.

Williams is succeeding Woodrow Westall, who is moving to South Hoke as principal. Autry said that, though South Hoke has 30 teachers and West Hoke 27, Westall's pay will remain the same because each school has the same number of state-paid teachers: 26.

Records in the county schools central administration office show William's present pay as an assistant high school principal is \$1,623 monthly. It will go to \$1,701 monthly because of the promotion. The assistant principals, like the principals, work the full year, consequently are paid accordingly: Williams's yearly salary will be \$20,412; his present annual pay is \$19,476.

Don Steed, named the school system's business manager and finance officer, will get \$21,442 annually, his pay in his previous position of director of community school programs.

The others who were reassigned and their annual salaries, which will remain unchanged:

--Frank Richards, assistant principal of Scurlock, to director of community school programs, \$21,442.

--James Bowles, McLauchlin principal to director of remedial programs, \$23,556.

--Woodrow Westall, West Hoke principal to South Hoke principal, \$24,684.

--George Wood, South Hoke principal to Scurlock principal, \$24,684.

County Schools Supt. Raz Autry, who quoted the figures from the records, said the State Department of Public Instruction pays the entire amount of each salary, with none coming from the county board of education funds.

In reference to the changes, which he had recommended the school board make, he made these comments explaining the reasons for the recommendations:

--Bowles: "We needed some new leaders at McLauchlin. He has a degree in mathematics, which we felt can serve the school system

better; ... use that degree working with kids who failed the competency tests."

--Wood: Scurlock needed to go in a different direction. Felt Wood is a very progressive, knowledgeable educator... Felt he could carry Scurlock in a direction good for the school system."

--Westall: He could develop closeness of the faculty that South Hoke needs and solidify the community of South Hoke.

--Williams: He has proven at Upchurch Junior High School and Hoke High he is a good organizer, and he has experience and is willing to give time and effort to develop an elementary program. Mrs. Florence Cohen, a county schools director of instruction, feels Williams is one of the most outstanding principals in the system. She recommended him to Autry very highly. Dr. Lenwood Simpson, Hoke High principal, also recommended Williams to Autry.

--Caldwell: it was felt that with his experience at Scurlock he could give McLauchlin a different direction and has the ability to work very closely with the faculty.

Democrats' Precinct Meetings March 26

Democrats from Hoke County will caucus at their precinct polling places on Thursday, March 26, at 8 p.m. K.W. McNeill, chairman of the county Democratic Party announced today. Any registered Democrat is eligible to attend.

"These precinct meetings represent grass-roots democracy in action," McNeill said. "Democrats all over North Carolina will be gathering to elect delegates to their county Democratic convention and

to discuss and pass resolutions on issues that concern them."

He stressed that the Democratic Party is seeking broad participation in its meetings at both the precinct and county level.

"It is our goal to organize every precinct in the county and to continue to build on this strength at the County Convention. We urge all Democrats to attend these meetings and to show their interests in good government."

Advanced By March 3 Victory Hoke Plays Beddingfield

Hoke High's Bucks will play Beddingfield of Wilson Friday in the first round of the Eastern Regional 4-A high school basketball playoffs at Wilson in the Hunt High gym.

The Bucks advanced to the Easterns by upsetting defending state 4-A champion Southern Wayne 72-61 or the Southern Wayne court at Dudley March 3.

Hoke, on the short end of the 43-41 score at the end of the third period, outscored the Saints 29-20 in the final quarter. Southern Wayne led 31-30 at the half.

Buck forward Marvin McKoy took the individual scoring honors for the game tallying 25 points, followed by Southern Wayne guard Lynwood Robinson.

Geno Bratcher contributed 18 to the Hoke total. The other Buck scorers were Johnson 9, Eldred Blue 4, Moore 4, Hollingsworth 10, and William Blue 2.

The other Southern Wayne scorers were Artis and Royal 2 each, Carlton 18, Graham 4, Ashford 8, and Price 6.

Hoke is going into the regionals as Division IV's lone representative. Bowman of Anson County, which defeated Hoke for the division title, was eliminated March 3 by Broughton of Raleigh, 67-58, at Holiday Gymnasium in Raleigh.

The victory over Southern Wayne

put Hoke High's record at 11-16 for the season to date. The Bucks broke even in 12 conference games, including the division tournament contests.

Unlawful Burning Target Of Chief

Raeford Fire Chief Robert (Buster) Jackson said Thursday he was going to bear down on unlawful burnings in the city limits.

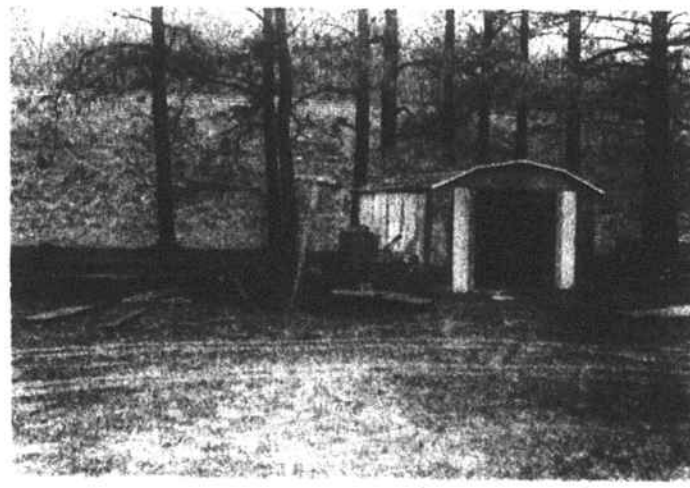
Raeford firemen have been called out in recent weeks to extinguish fires set to burn off grass and brush and got out of control. One damaged a utility building after it spread from a neighboring yard.

Jackson said it could have been much worse; it could have burned a home.

He reminded property owners again of the city ordinance which prohibits setting fires outdoors in the city limits unless a burning permit is obtained. Jackson said a permit is issued only when conditions for burning are safe (no wind and vegetation not too dry), and for burning beyond 50 feet of a building.

The city ordinance is taken from the state fire code.

There will be no more yard burning within the city limits without a permit, he said.



WHAT COULD HAPPEN -- This storage building was damaged by a fire that spread from another yard when the blaze got out of control while grass was being burned off. Raeford Fire Chief Robert Jackson said the fire had been set unlawfully [no burning permit had been obtained]. [Staff photo.]

The summer tourist business, however, provide most of Swain's jobs; consequently, unemployment is highest in Swain during the winter, and also high in late fall and early spring.

Dare, another county heavily dependent on tourists, showed a 20.2 percent unemployment rate in January, and had 12.2 percent in December. The January 1980 figure was 18.3 percent.

Sixteen other counties had unemployment rates higher than Hoke's and one -- Vance -- had the same rate in January. All are small, predominantly rural counties.

The rates in Hoke's neighbors were 10.9 percent in Cumberland, 7.4 in Moore, 13.1 in Robeson, and 9.1 in Scotland. All showed increases from their December rates.

A total of 88 of the 100 counties showed significant increases over their December rates, the report adds, "reflecting the efforts of the end of the holiday sales period, cold weather, high interest rates and a sluggish economy."

The rate remained the same in (See JOB LISTING, page 12)