

Around Town

BY SAM C. MORRIS

The hot, humid weather over the weekend was better for swimming than any other outside activity. It was not as hot as it has been this summer, but the humidity made it feel hot.

The forecast is for the same type of weather for the remainder of the week.

Watching the British Open, a golfing event that takes place in the British Isles every year, it was something to see the golfers all in sweaters. It was cold and damp in England over the weekend and the golfers were bundled up, so to speak.

It was good to see that the golfers didn't lose their tempers and maybe the folks across the water will forgive the outburst of a certain tennis player.

Arnold Palmer had a bad call according to the news media, but he took it all in stride, like we should do when participating in a sports event. An umpire doesn't call a base runner that is tagged as being a tie. He is either safe or out and we must abide by their decisions or the game rules must be changed.

Just remember when playing, to keep your head!

The storms the past two weeks have hurt not only the power lines, but also the crops of many of the farmers. Hail fell in some parts of the county and stripped corn and tobacco. The wind also did considerable damage to corn by blowing it down.

So you see if the hot weather doesn't get your plants the storms will come along and get them.

Jimmy Cribbs, who was mentioned in this column several weeks ago, was by the office to say hello last Friday. He was visiting relatives here last week.

Jimmy is city circulation manager for *The Durham Sun*, the afternoon newspaper in Durham. Jimmy says he likes the newspaper work after spending several years as a band director in a high school.

It was good to see him and talk about his job.

On Thursday afternoon another visitor to the office was Tom Burgess, who was office manager for the ASCS here in Raeford for 12 years. Tom is now living in Washington and working with the U.S. Dept. of Agriculture.

He hadn't aged much since going north, but he had grown a full face of hair. I hardly recognized him when he first came into the office.

Tom was on vacation and had driven down from Randolph County to spend the day with friends in Hoke County.

When asked about the security of his job since the Republicans had hit Washington, he stated that everything was fine at this time, but you just couldn't tell what would happen.

It was good to see Burgess and maybe he can ride the wave of the Reagan administration for many more months.

I also received a call from Jim Taylor last week. Jim was editor of *The News-Journal* for several years during the 1960s. He now works in the office of Congressman Stephen Neal of North Carolina. Don Abernethy also is in the same office.

Taylor said that we all would like Bill Hefner, Congressman of the Eighth District. As you know Hoke County will be in his district after the next election and will get a chance to vote for him. Jim was in high praise of Hefner and said we would find him to be a country boy with plenty of horse sense.

The former editor said that he was in the best of health and had been riding the wagon for ten years. He also stated that the Abernethys were getting along fine.

After several minutes of talking old times it was hard to say goodbye.

So you see the 'Around Town man' has been associating with people around the country.

It is always good to see and talk to your friends.

Commissioners OK \$5,000 For Literacy Council Also

Board To Consider Sunday Beer Sales

The Hoke County commissioners Monday night voted to give the Hoke County Board of Education the \$5,000 it had requested for the specific use of the Hoke Reading/Literacy Council to help continue the council's teaching of illiterate Hoke adults to read and write.

Commissioner Danny DeVane made the motion to provide the money from the county's contingency fund, and the motion was adopted by unanimous vote.

The action was taken within a few minutes after the request was noted by County Manager James Martin.

The Raeford City Council at its July 13 meeting voted 4-1 to provide \$5,000 for the Literacy Council's program from the city's federal revenue-sharing fund. The county and city appropriations are for the council's 1981-82 fiscal year, which began July 1.

SUNDAY BEER SALES

In other action in the commissioners' 85-minute midmonth meeting the commissioners by a 4-1 vote set the stage for legal sales of beer in Hoke County on Sundays. The motion, made by DeVane, authorizes the county attorney, Duncan McFadyen, to draw up a resolution allowing stores which have beer sales permits to sell beer on Sunday according to the provisions of the state law governing such sales. The motion provides the resolution be prepared for consideration by the commissioners at the commissioners' next midmonth meeting. This is scheduled for August 17.

The dissenting vote was cast by Commissioner Neill McPhatter, a minister.

DeVane said he opposed Sunday beer sales but felt that Hoke stores should be allowed to sell the beverage, in fairness. He brought

the subject up when he reported a request from local store owners to allow Sunday sales. The request pointed out that stores in neighboring Moore County are allowed to sell beer on Sundays.

Commissioner Mabel Riley said after the vote on DeVane's motion was made that, though she voted to authorize drawing and presentation of the resolution, this didn't mean she'd vote for legalizing Sunday beer sales.

The length of time between Monday night's action and the possible action August 17 was provided to give Hoke County people time to prepare responses to the proposal before the matter is voted on. The commissioners at the August 17 meeting may delay action, reject the proposal, or approve the proposal.

DeVane first made a motion to allow Sunday sales, then introduced the motion to authorize the

county attorney to draw up the Sunday sales resolution for presentation at the commissioners' next meeting, which is scheduled for August 3. He amended his motion, on the suggestion of Mrs. Riley, to provide that the resolution be presented for consideration at the mid-month meeting. Mrs. Riley suggested the later date to give Hoke people more time to consider the subject before the commissioners acted.

TRANSPORTATION PLAN

The commissioners at the meeting also voted approval of the Transportation Development Plan for Hoke County's human services agencies. Consequently, the agencies now are eligible to get federal assistance for transportation of senior citizens and developmentally disabled, among other clients.

Specifically, the approval clears the way for the Hoke County

Association for the Developmentally disabled to buy a specially equipped new van to take the disabled people to the crafts workshop at Laurinburg and back home. The van costs about \$11,000 but the federal government under Title XX will pay most of the cost. The remainder, the commissioners were informed, will be raised by the association, meaning the county government will not have any financial obligation. Ken Witherspoon, director of the Hoke County Department of Social Services also told the commissioners he sees no obligation on the part of the county to fund the project.

When the new van arrives, the senior citizens will be given the replaced van, which, though it has traveled about 113,000 miles, is suitable for trips within the county and needs only minor repairs, the commissioners were told.

The Transportation Development Plan was designed by the State Department of Transportation.

The Social Services Department becomes involved in the program through federal Titles XX and III. The Older Americans Act for senior citizens is connected with Title III.

SHERIFF CAR

The commissioners adopted a motion honoring the request of Sheriff David Barrington to replace the sheriff's department's wrecked 1978 model cruiser with a \$4,300 surplus 1979 model cruiser formerly used by the State Highway Patrol.

LOW FLYING

A memorandum read at the meeting advises Hoke County people having complaints about low-flying military aircraft to telephone the Raeford-Hoke County Chamber of Commerce, 875-5929, the time, date and area of the disturbance. The chamber will present the complaint to the proper military authorities.

The commissioners adopted a motion also that the State Department of Transportation be requested in writing to provide two people with a vehicle each for standby duty for Hoke County, instead of one, as is the present practice. The change is being asked because of the possibility of the recurrence of extensive storm emergencies such as occurred in the county July 11 when three limbs were knocked down on roads.

The commissioners adopted a resolution requesting the State DOT to widen and pave the North Raeford Fire Department's driveway.

The board adopted a motion asking the board of the Region N Council of Governments to delay action on a review of a Hoke County firm's application for a U.S. Farmers Home Administration loan of more than \$1 million to help finance establishment of housing for low-income people. The delay was asked to provide more time for commissioners to obtain information about the project.

The motion was made and adopted after Mrs. Riley, reading a COG paper on the project, said this was the first she heard of it, and that she doesn't even know where the project would be built. She said the paper was one of several she received in the mail Friday.

DeVane explained that the COG role was what is called an A-95 review, to determine whether the project did not conflict with an adjoining development. He couldn't offer information about the project other than that the COG reference appeared to concern a project planned for the Bethel Road area near Hoke County High School and that Benny McLeod was associated with it.

REAPPOINTED

The commissioners reappointed Mrs. J.M. McNeill and Mrs. Charles Hostetter to the Hoke County Public Library Board of Trustees for new six-year terms.

They also voted to accept \$875 additional state funding for maternal and child care.

They voted to delay action on a request made by Bill Niven for an additional \$200 travel expenses for Occupational Safety and Health Agency work. The commissioners provided \$200 in the 1981-82 budget for the purpose.

Accompanying Rain Storm In Hoke

Lightning, Falling Limbs Cut Power

About 300 homes lost their electric power early the night of July 14 in areas north and east of Raeford when a half mile of line was broken by tree limbs blown down by wind which accompanied a rain-and-lightning storm. Scattered power disruptions were reported elsewhere throughout Hoke County.

The storm dropped 1.8 inches of rain on Raeford, Robert Gatlin, Raeford observer for the National Weather Service, reported his official gauge at his Harris Avenue home showed. He said two inches of rain were reported to have fallen elsewhere in the Raeford area.

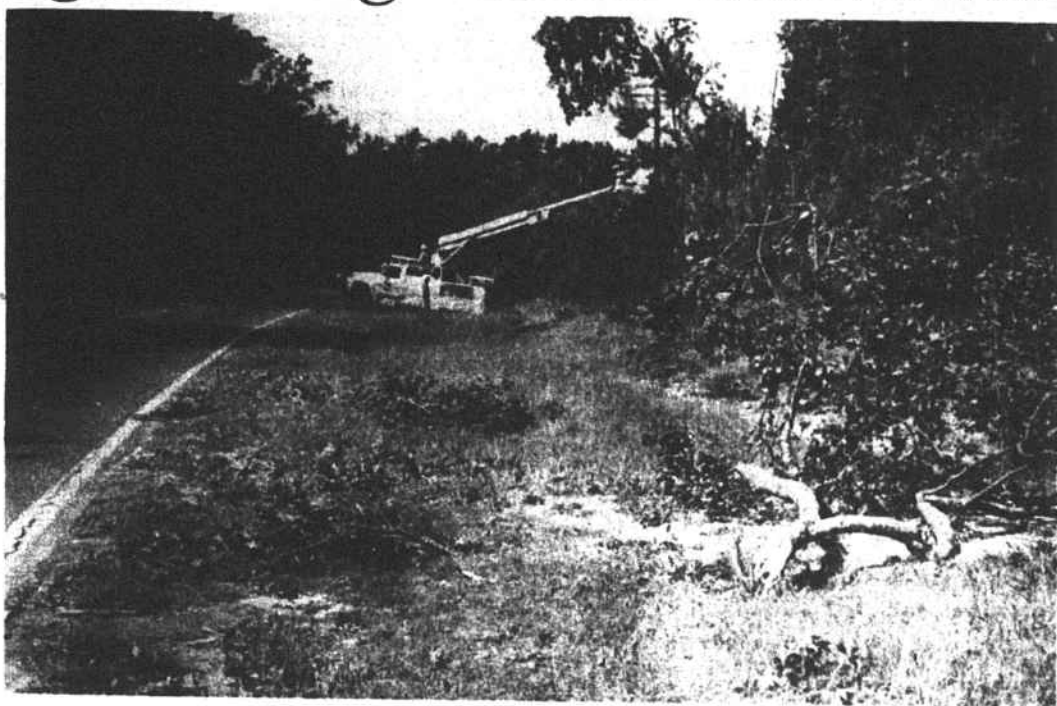
Gatlin said this brought to over six inches the amount of rain that has fallen in the area since July 1.

On the afternoon of July 11, a storm dumped about four inches of rain on parts of Hoke County outside of Raeford, an inch on at least one section of Raeford, and lesser amounts ranging down to none at all on the city and other areas of the county.

Lightning that accompanied the July 11 storm sweeping the southeastern section of the county started a fire that destroyed an unoccupied tenant house, and other lightning strikes damaged at least one home and appliances in others, though not setting fires.

Carolina Power & Light Co. reported scattered power outages were caused in Hoke County by lightning and tree limbs knocked down by the wind and hitting power lines during the July 14 storm. Power was restored by 11 p.m. the same day.

Lumbee River Electric Membership Corp. linemen restored the power by 10 p.m. the same day by switching to the Red Springs substation from the Wayside sub-



Tree limb and smaller branches lie scattered on a shoulder of U.S. 401 Business, north of Raeford, where the July 14 wind dropped them. In the background, a Lumbee River Electric Membership Corp. truck and workers are at a place where a tree was knocked down during the storm and fell on a power line, breaking the line. [Staff photos.]

station in Hoke County, then worked to cut down the tree limbs and put the line back.

The line runs north from N.C. 20 at Central Avenue in Raeford along Central beyond the city limits on U.S. 401 business, which Central becomes after leaving the city limits.

LEMC customers in that area and eastward to Arabia lost power.

Nelson Royal of Red Springs, an LEMC first class hot lineman,

replying to questions, said the line came down about 7 p.m. and that if the crew he was working with got it back up by 1 p.m. July 15 "We'll be tickled to death." The time it could be put back depended on what shape it was in.

Royal, who explained about the switch in substations, said the transfer was temporary till the line could be re-erected. If July 15 proved to be hot, as the day before had been, the Red Springs substation couldn't handle the extra load of the Wayside substation and its regular lines at the same time.

A hot day brings long and extensive use of power-consuming airconditioners and other cooling devices.

Royal said that throughout the LEMC system, "at least 4,000" customers lost their power when

tree limbs were blown down on lines by the storm. LEMC serves customers in Cumberland, Scotland, and Robeson counties, as well as Hoke. Carolina Power & Light Co. has customers in the same area.

Royal said the power was restored to most of the customers by midnight July 14, and the others by 4 a.m. July 15.

The crew he was working with worked elsewhere in the system, then went back to the U.S. 401 line north of Raeford at 7 a.m. to cut down the broken tree limb and get the line back in place.

A small tree also was brought down by the wind about a mile and a half north of the line's area in the front yard of Sister Anna's home, 185 U.S. 401, but the house was not struck.

Sales Tax Collections Up

Hoke County's one per cent sales tax brought the county net collection of \$27,834.14 and the state's three per cent sales tax produced \$32,145.92 in May, the State Revenue Department reported last week.

In May 1980, the state sales tax collections totaled \$69,233.13, from retail sales of \$4,077,380.

The county's one per cent tax collections in May 1980 totaled \$26,271.48.

Hoke Boy, 12, Drowns

A 12-year-old Hoke County boy drowned Saturday while swimming with his family near Pembroke.

The victim was Dwayne Locklear, of Rt. 1, Shannon. He was pronounced dead at Southeastern General Hospital in Lumberton.

The accident happened about 3:30 p.m. at Pine Lake Park off State Road 1339, the Robeson County Sheriff's Department reported.

The funeral was conducted Tuesday afternoon in Zion Hill Baptist Church by the Rev. Steve Brewer, Manford Locklear and Milton

Hall. Burial was in the church cemetery.

The boy is survived by his parents Mr. and Mrs. Laudell Locklear; his brothers, Timothy and Mark Lee Locklear of the home; his sister, Miss Melinda Gail Locklear of the home; his paternal grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. Odell Locklear of Shannon; his maternal grandmother, Mrs. Strawdy Jones of Shannon; his paternal great-grandmother Mrs. Della Jones of Shannon.

McNeill Funeral Home was in charge of the arrangements.

In Hoke Superior Court

McCall Cleared Of Kidnap, Rape

Clyde Murda McCall, 26, of Rt. 3, Box 224-A, Raeford was cleared Thursday of charges of kidnapping and second-degree rape allegedly committed the night of June 18, 1980, against a Raeford girl then 17.

In Hoke Superior Court, Judge

Coy E. Brewer, Jr., granted a defense motion to dismiss the kidnapping charge, then a jury found McCall not guilty of the rape charge.

The jury was selected the afternoon of July 13, and the trial consumed the next three days.

The sheriff's department had quoted the alleged victim, Ina Elizabeth Lentz, as saying she was hitchhiking home alone after leaving the home of a friend on Turnpike Road when she was given a ride by a male riding alone. She was quoted as saying the man told her what he intended to do, and

when the car stopped at an intersection, she jumped out and ran into a field. The driver, however, the report said, chased her and caught her, then beat and raped her.

The warrants were issued against McCall June 25.