

## New City Waste Water Facility

# Plant Bids Action Seen By September 14

### Around Town

BY SAM C. MORRIS

The humidity has been high for the past several days, but it has been nice as far as the temperature goes. The 80 readings in the daytime should suit most folks.

The crops are looking better and with the price of tobacco, the farmers are smiling once again. Let's hope they can continue to smile for the remainder of the fall.

Linwood Huffman called me last week and corrected me on the comments made about Charles Wheeler. It seems that I had gotten David and Charles mixed.

He stated that David had gone to Duke and had played football there. Charles went to the University at Chapel Hill and obtained a degree in journalism. Linwood said that he was working on the paper in Winston-Salem the last time he heard from him. Linwood and Charles were in school together at Hoke High.

I believe Charles played football also and was the center on the team. David played linebacker to the best of my memory.

When you reach a certain age, it is hard to get all the facts straight about people younger than you.

Thanks, Linwood, for setting the record straight.

A letter received this week follows:

Dear Sam:  
To give you our new address, and say again, I enjoy *The News-Journal*.

We've been in Wisconsin 10 years; my mother-in-law passed away in May and feel there is not much to keep us here.

We chose Albuquerque to be near my sister, Sarah Neal Keay, also son, daughter in Phoenix, Ariz. and another daughter in Fort Worth, Tex.

We spent 4th of July week at Emerald Island for McKeithan Family Reunion. The crops, garden and all the greenery were beautiful.

Sincerely,  
Merle & Otto Jaretz  
3801 Hermosa Dr. N.E.  
Albuquerque, N. Mexico 87110  
Merle McKeithan is from the Rockfish Community of Hoke County. She has a brother still in the county named Cecil McKeithan. Always good to hear from former Hoke Countians.

After running the letter last week from Lucy Gray Peebles, I realized that many newcomers may not know who she is.

Lucy Gray worked here in the 1960s and was a reporter for *The News-Journal*. She did the most of the writing for the jubilee edition that was published in 1961. She worked with Jim Taylor for a number of years.

It was good to hear that she is in good health and I know that she would welcome any Raeford friends the next time they are in Raleigh.

The baseball season gets underway again with the All-Star game being played in Cleveland on August 9th. The regular season will start the next day. The owners will decide this week if they will have a split season.

I have read many articles on who was the winner of the strike, but can't make up my mind if anyone was a winner. I do know that baseball could be the loser in the long run.

As the baseball strike ends, the football season is just around the corner. The "Hall of Fame" game in Canton, Ohio was on the tube last Saturday afternoon.

The next thing you know basketball will be with us.

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**By County Commissioners**  
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## Heat System, Compactor Actions Put Off

The Hoke County commissioners postponed Monday for further study action on correcting defects in the Lester Building heating and airconditioning system and helping purchase a new compactor for the county-Raeford city landfill.

The commissioners at their regular meeting for August decided to study other equipment for comparison with the compactor offered by the low bidder, E.F. Craven of Greensboro. The bid was \$149,789 of the Craven offer to allow \$8,800 for the 1958 model drag line; and \$158,589 if the commissioners declined the trade-in offer.

The only other bid was \$179,910, and was submitted by Bemis Equipment Co.

The county will pay 75 per cent and the city the rest of the cost of the equipment.

The commissioners' acceptance of the Craven bid had been recommended by City Manager Ronald Matthews.

In connection with the proposed purchase, the commissioners adopted a motion made by Com-

missioner Mabel Riley that in the future the commissioners have input on writing the specifications for equipment to be purchased.

Commissioner Danny DeVane said that since the city manages the landfill, the county ought to let the city manage it. Mrs. Riley replied that she was not saying the county should manage it but that the county should have more input in buying equipment. DeVane made the motion, which was adopted, to table action on the bid till the next meeting, which is scheduled for 7:30 p.m. August 17.

John Balfour, chairman of the board of county commissioners, said "there's a lot to be considered" in buying equipment for that amount of money.

In reference to the Lester Building heating and airconditioning system, Mac Sessoms of Raeford Plumbing & Heating Co. told the commissioners the cost of correcting it was estimated at \$55,000.

In other business the commissioners voted to donate \$100 requested to the pool being es-

ablished by the North Carolina Association of County Commissioners to defend counties against court suits filed by railroads and other utilities challenging property taxes.

The county is expected to be asked to contribute more on a pro-rata basis.

The pool is an outgrowth of a suit a railroad has filed against Mecklenburg County, discussion by the commissioners indicated. Balfour said that if the railroad wins its suit, then Hoke County can expect similar challenges from utilities companies using right-of-way easements.

He said 86 or 87 of the state's 100 counties would be affected.

Balfour added, however, that after Hoke's 1982 countywide property re-evaluation is completed, there won't be much difference between private individual and railroad property.

The commissioners also adopted a motion to have a letter sent to the commanding general of the XVIIIth Airborne Corps. at Ft.

Bragg asking that the Corps look at a County Parks and Recreation site drainage plan.

The commissioners also voted to transfer funds within the Hoke County Social Services Department public assistance budget and to add an additional state allocation of \$5,581 to the day care budget.

They also authorized an additional \$100 for expenses for Bill Niven, county Emergency Management Agency director, to attend an Occupational Safety and Health safety school this week. The addition is to the \$200 the commissioners have pledged in expenses for Niven to attend a similar school during the year.

County Manager James Martin informed the commissioners that the new telephone number for all offices in the County Courthouse Annex is 875-8751. The former number for the building, the county manager's office, and the county finance department was 875-2034. The tax collector and tax supervisor each had a different number.

The Raeford City Council will receive by September 14 recommendations from Moore, Gardner & Associates regarding bids for construction of the city's new waste-water treatment plant.

This was reported to the council Monday night at its regular August meeting by Hi Marziano of Moore, Gardner, an Asheboro engineering firm that services as engineering consultant for the city.

He said he feels advertising for bids can be started this week in the local newspaper and next week in a regional newspaper.

The bids on the project, whose cost is estimated at \$900,000, are expected to be taken about September 9, he added.

A federal Economic Development Administration grant will pay \$720,000, State Clean Water Bonds money \$90,000, and the city the remainder of the cost. The plant is necessary to meet federal Environmental Protection Agency requirements particularly for future industrial development.

In connection with the city financing of its share of the plant's cost, the council adopted a resolution authorizing City Manager Ron Matthews and City Attorney Palmer Wilcox to proceed with arrangements to have the State Local Government Commission try to sell \$64,000 worth of city bonds on the commercial bond market.

The \$25,000 balance of the city's share of the project's cost has been provided in the city budget.

Matthews said before the resolution was adopted that plans to obtain a U.S. Farmers Home Administration loan of \$64,000 fell through when FmHA funds became depleted. He explained that the FmHA loan would have been preferable since the interest rate would have been about 5 per cent and the city would have had 40 years to repay the loan.

If the bonds are sold on the commercial bond market, he said, he understands that the interest rate will run to about 10 per cent and the city will have 12 to 20 years to pay off the bonds.

In other action, the council adopted a motion to approve Moore, Gardner's making a raw-water study for Burlington Industries here at a cost of \$8,000, but postponing action on an extension of the study of the city's water needs through the year 2000 at a cost of \$7,000. The study for Burlington will be done and the proposed extension would have been done by Moore, Gardner.

Burlington will pay up to \$8,000 for its study, known as Part II. The extension to city water resources is known as Part I. Marziano explained that the information obtained in the Burlington study could be used in the Part II study. Since city water is involved, the City Council's approval of a contract between the city and the engineering firm for the Burlington study was necessary.

The City Council approved a bid to provide a compactor for use at the city-Hoke County landfill, on condition the county commissioners approve also. The city will pay 25 per cent and the county the remainder of the cost of the equipment. The bid was a net \$149,789 and was submitted by E.F. Craven of Greensboro.

Matthews asked the council to specify that the equipment be a Rex compactor, which the council was informed is made only for landfill use. He said the city's share of the cost would be \$38,636.67.

The county commissioners at their monthly meeting Monday night voted to postpone till their August 17 meeting action on the purchase to give them time to get more information. The commissioners also adopted a motion stating that in connection with future purchases of equipment, the commissioners should have input in writing the specifications. Matthews told the council, however, that County Manager James Martin had participated in discussions with him and City Public Workers Director Bill Sellars the past two years and had agreed with them that the Rex compactor was the one that should be bought. (The commissioners' motion indicated the commissioners themselves, not only the county

### Tony Thacker In First-Year Competition

## Hoke Skydiver National Runnerup

Tony Thacker, 19-year-old son of Mr. and Mrs. Gene Paul Thacker, placed second for the Senior Class over-all championship of the National Parachuting Championships in his first competition in a national event.

The nationals were held recently at Muskogee, Okla.

Thacker, who has been skydiving only about a year, competed against 19 others in the class for first-year jumpers. He won the runnerup honors by scoring high in accuracy and in style. In the accuracy competition he came a total of 46 centimeters from the target on eight jumps. In style, he scored 9.2 of a possible 16.

The senior was one of the two classes in the nationals. The other was the Master, for more experienced jumpers.

Thacker said Friday in answering questions put by a reporter that he had made 320 jumps, including 40 at the national championships -- and that on 95 per cent of them he had been instructed by his father, Gene Paul Thacker, a fixed-base operator at Raeford Airport, runs the Parachute Training Center there and is a veteran of parachuting.

Tony Thacker said that his father is one of the best -- "maybe the best" -- of the parachuting-style coaches in the United States.

"That's why we get 40 to 50 people here each year" to study style, and they come from different countries, he added.

Asked whether he had been injured on a jump, he replied, "no," and he had had only one malfunction of a parachute on a jump. He said this one occurred at the nationals in Oklahoma: his main parachutes brakes "knotted up," and, feeling he couldn't make a safe landing with them in that condition, he used his reserve parachute.

Thacker has participated in skydiving competitions before, but never in a nationwide event before he went to Muskogee. He said he has won in Carolina Council, North Carolina - South Carolina Conference, meets. Last year, he said, he won the over-all championship for accuracy in the competition for novices. More recently he placed first in style and accuracy in the Intermediate class in a Council meet held in May and June.

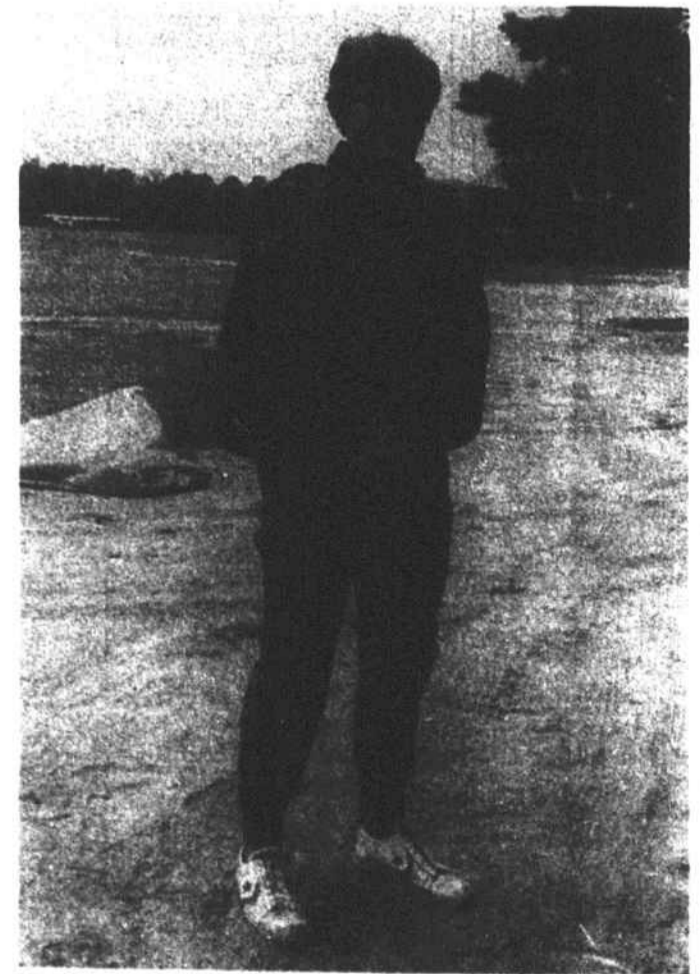
His next competition will be in

the Intermediate class in a Council meet August 22 at Raeford Airport drop zone.

Thacker is a 1980 graduate of Hoke County High School and is a student at Campbell University at

Buie's Creek. He is majoring in military science and will be a sophomore when he returns to college late this summer.

The Thackers' home is at the edge of the airport.



Tony Thacker in skydiving outfit at Raeford Airport. [Staff photo]

## City Employee Hurt In Car-Truck Collision

William Roy Guin, 44, Raeford city animal control officer, was injured Friday morning in a traffic accident at South Main Street and Harris Avenue and was admitted to Moore Memorial Hospital at Pinehurst.

Raeford Police Maj. J.C. Barrington said he was struck in the chest by the steering wheel of his city pickup truck when it collided with a 1975 Chevrolet being driven by Melinda Sue Pate, 16, of Rt. 2, Raeford.

Barrington said Guin was driving his truck, a 1980 Ford, south on South Main and the 1975 Chevrolet Miss Pate was driving was being turned east onto Harris after traveling south on Main when the collision occurred.

Barrington said Miss Pate was charged with running a flashing red light.

About \$250 damage was done to each vehicle, he said.

No one was injured but a total of about \$1,100 damage was done when two cars collided Saturday about 10 a.m. on rural paved road 1203 at the intersection of 1311 in

the city limits.

Police Sgt. G.P. Brown the investigating officer, reported Tommie Arlandor Graham, 17, of Box 622, Raeford, was charged with passing at an intersection. Graham said he tried to pass to avoid hitting the rear of the other vehicle, which was being driven by Evaline Annette Grace, 40, of Rt. 2, Raeford, the officer said.

Brown said both cars were traveling east on 1203 when Eveline

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### Falls Onto Electrical Wires

## Accident Kills Roofer At Upchurch

A 42-year-old Fayetteville roofing contractor was electrocuted about 10:20 a.m. Tuesday when he tripped and fell onto 220-volt lines on the roof of the main building of Upchurch Junior High School.

Hoke County Sheriff David Barrington reported the victim was John Latham Parker of 469 Teal Court.

He said the accident happened while Parker was working on the roof. He said Parker fell backward onto the wires, which lead from the main power line to the building, and became entangled in them.

The sheriff said members of the Hoke Rescue Squad and Hoke County Ambulance Service brought

the body down from the building.

Dr. Ramnik Zota, a Hoke County medical examiner, said the cause of Parker's death was an accident.

The body was taken to Crumpler Funeral Home in Raeford, then to Highland Funeral Service in Fayetteville.

Parker was self-employed.

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