

After Frigid Sunday

Monday's Cold Weather Broke Record

Around Town

BY SAM C. MORRIS

If you don't write about the weather this week, then what is there to write about? It seems that people are thinking back to years ago to see when the thermometer has fallen to four degrees. This reading came from the official weatherman for Hoke County.

If you were out and around the county Monday and happened to notice any of the ponds, you would have seen that they were frozen over. Now if the temperature stays below freezing for Monday and into Tuesday, this should make the freeze-over of the ponds very thick. (Maybe even thick enough to get the weatherman to walk on his pond again. I believe that it was in 1977 that the pond was frozen solid enough for that to happen.)

Did you think about other times that it was this cold in Hoke County and the surrounding areas.

One time that comes to my mind was in 1940. This was the year that the National Guard went out camping for three weekends. The first was to a pond site near Philadelphia below Red Springs. The thermometer dropped to four degrees on the first night we were there and it was cold. Of course we had only two blankets and a canvas cot for warmth on that night.

There were icicles hanging from eye brows and eye lids the next morning.

Many men in Hoke County will remember that night and some of the things that happened. It was a sleepless night for many guardsmen.

The next two weekends were spent at Mott's Lake in the Fort Bragg reservation. It was still cold and most of us had prepared for it.

Yes, think back, and maybe Monday wasn't so cold!

Last fall at the South Carolina - North Carolina football game at Chapel Hill it was windy and cold. That is what Frank Teal, Clayton Buoy and Harold Gillis told me on the way back. I believe the temperature must have been in the 40s.

It is a good thing that the four of us were not at the game in Cincinnati on Sunday. They reported that the wind chill factor was 59 degrees below zero.

I don't know how the players could have played in that kind of weather, but how could fans stay in the stands at that time.

Bill Lindau said they had warm clothes and must have had good booze. I don't believe they make that kind of booze.

Anyway it was nice to watch it in my den on television with the temperature around 70 degrees.

Have you listed your taxes for 1982? If not, then now is the time. The lines will start forming during the last week of the listing period. So go on down to the courthouse annex and let them take care of you now.

A short note from Dot Cameron, Hoke County librarian, arrived in the mail last week. She stated that she appreciated all the cards from local people and that she should be going home this week. By home, this means to her daughter's home in Winston-Salem.

All we will say is hurry back Dot, we all miss you.

After the Carolina-Virginia basketball game, I asked my friend, Eddie Baker, who was No. 1?

His reply: "Clemson!"

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All of us will see some people in the next few months that we haven't seen in either two or four years. Yes, you are needed again. The political season is here. The candidates will all know you now.

Some have filed, others will soon do so. The deadline, I believe is February 1.

So if you want to run, file now!



It was that cold Monday morning -- The photo shows a pond off N.C. 211 a few miles west of Raeford under a coat of ice after a night in which the temperature dropped to 4 degrees in Raeford. [Staff photo.]

Dupree Files For Reelection

District Court Judge Joseph E. Dupree filed last week for reelection.

He has been serving since 1966 after serving two years as Hoke County Recorder's Court judge. Before going to the Recorder's Court bench, he served 14 years on the State Highway Patrol.

Dupree, 60, is a native of Johnston County. He is married to the former Helen Matthews, also a Johnston County native.

Dupree has been unopposed for reelection the past three elections. For his first term, he was one of 10 candidates for District Court judgeships when the state converted to the district system from the Recorder's Court system. Dupree was one of the three candidates in the first election who received clear majorities, which exempted them from going through runoffs.

District Court Judge Sol Cherry of Fayetteville was the first judge to file for reelection, signing up Jan-

uary 5. Beth Keever of Fayetteville, an assistant district attorney, filed January 4 for election to the seat being vacated by Judge Derb Carter of Fayetteville, who is retiring.

Judge Lacy Hair of Fayetteville filed for reelection to his second four-year term, and Judge Charles Lee Guy, also of Fayetteville, filed for a new term later.

Hoke and Cumberland counties make up the 12th Judicial District which has five District Court judges.

Dupree is one of the last non-lawyers holding a judgeship in the state. A new General Assembly statute allows only lawyers to serve as judges, but Dupree is exempted from this requirement under the grandfather clause.

Also filing last week for judge was Willie Swann, a Fayetteville attorney. His filing guaranteed a Democratic primary contest for Cherry.

Last Thursday, N.C. Supreme Court Chief Justice Joseph Branch



Judge Joseph E. Dupree

announced the appointment of Cherry to chief District Court judge of the 12th District effective February 1, succeeding Carter.

Hoke's Food Stamp Error 18.34, Not 30%

Hoke County's error in food stamps overpayments October 1979 through March 1981 amounted to 18.34 per cent.

A report published in a Fayetteville newspaper put the error for Hoke at 30 and a fraction per cent.

Dr. Sarah Morrow, secretary of the State Department of Human Resources, has reported that the state made \$6.5 million in overpayments and \$5.65 million in payments to ineligible people.

Incorrect reporting of income by recipients of food stamps has been blamed by one official for the excessively high rate of overpayments throughout the state.

That also is the most frequent

reason for errors nationwide, a U.S. Department of Agriculture official has said.

The state official, Bonnie Cramer, chief assistant to the State Social Services director, said a recipient is required to report any change made in his income for any reason, but many of these people have jobs that are changeable, and they don't report the changes.

Gov. Jim Hunt blamed the state's errors on county workers and said if it were up to him he'd dismiss workers unable to remedy the overpayment problem. He pointed out that count food-stamp programs are administered by

630 Hoke People Unemployed

Hoke County's unemployment rate for November was 8.4 per cent, up seven-tenths of one per cent from the previous month but 1.1 per cent below the rate recorded in November 1980, State Employment Security Commission figures show.

In November 1981, a total of 630 of the 7,500 in the county's work force were out of jobs, compared with 580 the previous month and 710 in November 1980.

Hoke was one of the 90 counties of the state which suffered a rise in unemployment from the October 1981 level. Swain had November's

PTA To Meet

The Hoke County PTA will hold its regular meeting Monday at 7:30 p.m. at J.W. Turlington School. Two officers will be installed.

highest rate -- 12.6 per cent -- followed by Robeson with 11.5, Person 10.8, Graham and Tyrrell 10.4, Duplin 10.3, Bladen 10.2, and Clay 10.

Orange County had the lowest rate in November -- 3.9 per cent, though this was three-tenths of a percent higher than the county's October rate.

Correction

The office of Hoke County register of deeds isn't up for election again till 1984.

The News-Journal erroneously included the position as among the county offices the voters will fill this year. Della Maynor, the current register of deeds, was reelected without opposition to a new four-year term in November 1980.

The deep freeze that hit Hoke County sent the temperature to a record low of 4 degrees Monday morning and kept it from climbing any higher than 24 degrees later in the day. The weather, however, was warmer Tuesday morning though still below freezing.

The frigid spell, which set in Sunday and was continuing through Tuesday, caused watering trouble for some farm livestock, killed batteries on some cars, including three school buses Monday morning, and sent fuel bills running up. But it brought no serious problems to law enforcement agencies.

Willie Featherstone, Hoke County Agricultural Extension Service chairman, said Monday afternoon a survey he made of farmers found one pig had died because of the cold weather, but that this was a weak one; and that some watering trouble for livestock was caused when pipes broke.

He said, however, most farmers could prepare to some extent for the cold weather in advance because of the warnings contained in weather forecasts. Some kept water running through their water lines through the night, preventing freezing.

Running streams continued supplying water, and windbreaks of trees also helped reduce the effects of the severe cold. Weatherstone added.

Over-all, he said, most farmers were prepared. Others made up for broken water lines by watering by hand or by putting in new lines. For protection outdoors, livestock were being provided with hay for bedding.

Weatherstone said calves born between December and the coming

of the frigid weather survived. Stress experienced by hogs from the cold, however, may be seen in seven to 10 days in cases of pneumonia.

Hank Richards, Hoke County school-community relations director, reported school operations were normal during the subfreezing weather, though three buses were immobilized by dead batteries, the fatalities resulting from the severe cold.

Raeford Police Chief Leonard Wiggins and Hoke County Sheriff David Barrington reported the weather brought no special problems for their departments.

Robert Gatlin, Raeford observer for the National Weather Service, said Monday's low was the coldest he remembers experiencing in his lifetime in Raeford. It's the coldest recorded officially in the past five years, the period when records have been kept. The chill factor created by winds, estimated at about 10 miles per hour, made the effects of the temperature at 4 degrees about 15 degrees below zero, Gatlin said. He said the 4 degrees came sometime between 6:30 and 7 a.m. The official thermometer, which is outside his house, showed 5 degrees when he left home at 6 a.m. Monday, and the colder mark when he returned.

The temperatures started dropping about 10:45 a.m. Sunday. At that time the thermometer showed 23 degrees which proved to be the highest of that day. The temperature dropped to 6 degrees before midnight, Gatlin said.

Featherstone suggested families prevent overheating and be careful in using wood for fuel in the cold weather, to prevent destructive fires.

Succeeds Roy Guin

Mrs. Patterson New City Canine Warden

Frances Patterson is Raeford's new city canine warden and also is the first Raeford animal control officer to be a sworn police officer.

Mrs. Patterson went on duty Friday as canine warden, succeeding Roy Guin, who resigned to enter private business. Then Monday morning she took the oath of police officer, which gives her all the authority of a regular city policeman. The same day was her third wedding anniversary. Her husband is Hoke County Deputy Sheriff Weaver Patterson, a former Raeford policeman.

Mrs. Patterson is a former Raeford Police Department dispatcher.

Like her husband, she is a volunteer in the Hoke County Rescue Squad and is an Emergency Medical Technician, also certified in cardio-pulmonary resuscitation.

Mrs. Patterson was working with

Spring Lake Ambulance when she came to Hoke County to work with the Hoke County Ambulance Service when it was started in 1978.

She left the ambulance service to work as a correctional health assistant on the nurse staff of the State Department of Corrections unit at McCain. After a year there Mrs. Patterson joined the Raeford Police Department as a dispatcher in March 1981.

She and her husband have one child, a 4-month-old son, Marion Joseph.

Mrs. Patterson is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Patterson of Fayetteville and is a native of Fayetteville. She is a 1976 graduate of Douglas Byrd High School there.

Mrs. Patterson went out on her warden's job "solo" for the first time Friday after spending a week with Guin on the job intraining.



Frances Patterson is sworn in by Raeford Mayor Pro Tem Graham Clark Tuesday morning as a police officer as Police Chief Leonard Wiggins watches. [Staff photo.]