

## By Hoke School Board

# Director Named, Drug Policy Adopted

### Around Town

BY SAM C. MORRIS

The weather for the past few days has been wet. It has rained off and on about every few hours.

I left Raleigh Thursday morning and it has been raining the same way all through South Carolina, Georgia and into Northern Florida.

According to the forecast we will have more of the same through the weekend.

This column is being written Friday, May 28 at the Ponce de Leon Lodge in St. Augustine, Florida. It is not raining at the present time and the temperature is around 93 degrees.

Thursday morning Mary Alice and I along with Harvey and Pearl Warlick left Raeford for Raleigh for a tour to Florida. We left home about nine o'clock and arrived in Raleigh about 11 a.m. We had lunch and were awaiting the arrival of the bus to be picked up at one p.m. The bus was an hour late and then they took a lunch break, so we didn't leave until around three o'clock.

We headed out of Raleigh on U.S. 70 to Smithfield and then on I-95 headed for I-26 and our first night stop was in Charleston, S.C.

About a mile out of St. Pauls the bus blew a tire and we made it to the truck stop at the intersection of I-95 and N.C. 20. It took approximately 45 minutes to change the tire and then we loaded up and started out again at six p.m. We had been gone from Raeford for nine hours and we were just 20 miles from home. (You would have thought Neil Senter was along.)

Anyway we made it to Charleston by about 9:30 and after eating we got to bed about midnight. This is staying up late for this writer.

Friday morning we had a guided tour of Charleston and then headed for Savannah, Ga. We had lunch at the Pirate House, one of the top tourist places in Savannah and from the prices, it should be tops in the entire United States. The food was good and it was buffet style and you could eat all you wanted. After being up half the night and then eating breakfast, something I don't do often, I wasn't too hungry.

After lunch we had a guided tour of Savannah and it was well worth the time. I spent many months at Ft. Scriven during World War II, but didn't see all the things that were on this tour.

The Guide was a member of the Historical Society of Savannah and it was amazing to see all the old homes that they have had restored in the past few years. Some of the money came from the government on grants to preserve historical sites, but most of them were restored by individuals that the society had talked in to making an investment.

Of course these old places in both cities mean a lot to me because I like to see the historical places kept up for the many people who can see what this country started from and the hard work it took to get it where it is today.

As I write this, the other three tourists are out checking the grounds of the lodge. So until next week when I will be seeing all of you, it is so long from Florida.

Now that the registration books have closed for the June 29th primary, the most important thing is still ahead. That is to VOTE.

If you are going on vacation or will be out of town on that date, go by the election board office and see the options for you to cast your vote.

It wasn't worth anything to anybody to register, if you don't vote.



## High Winds, Hail, Rain Sunday

# Storm Damages Trees, Crops

Hoke County was hit by high winds, heavy rains, and hail Sunday afternoon.

The hail caused considerable damage to tobacco, corn and other crops, and gardens in sections of the county.

The powerful winds knocked down trees in Raeford and elsewhere, and several along a stretch at the Blythe farm in southwestern Hoke were felled. A boat in that area was reported severely damaged when it was struck by a falling tree.

The rains left pools of water standing in fields.

The winds which struck the southwestern area were described by some residents as a tornado.

One farmer, Robert Wright of northern Hoke, reported his tobacco crops heavily damaged by the hail. He has crops in his home farm and elsewhere in the county.



**WIND BLOWN** -- This tree was one of an unknown number blown down Sunday afternoon by strong winds which swept Hoke County Sunday afternoon. This tree, a chinaberry, is shown in the back yard of Noah Hendrix's home at 410 W. Sixth Ave., Raeford. Hendrix says the falling tree knocked out the light bulb at the back entrance and may have damaged his air conditioner and fuel tank [at right] but it did miss his house, just barely.

# Hoke Unemployment Up .1% In April

Hoke County's rate of unemployment rose a tenth of a percent in April from the March rate but was 1.2 per cent lower than the rate for April 1981. State Employment Security Commission figures show.

The April 1982 rate was 10.4 per cent of the labor force of 7,760 people.

The statewide rate for April was 8.2 per cent, down 1.5 per cent from the March rate. The national rate for April was 9.2 per cent, .3 lower than the March figure.

Hoke was one of the 11 counties in which the unemployment rate increased in April from the March rate.

It also was one of 36 counties which had double-digit unemployment rates. Swain County in the

southwestern mountains had the state's highest rate for the third consecutive month -- 26.1 per cent, and this is .7 percent higher than Swain's rate in March.

Orange County, for the sixth consecutive month, had the state's lowest rate -- 3.3 per cent. Glenn R. Jernigan, ESC chairman, credited the decline in rates in counties

which experienced it to probably the return to jobs of workers temporarily unemployed, though shorter work weeks prevail.

# News-Journal Honored by Group

The News-Journal has been given the 1982 Willard G. Cole Award "for distinguished coverage of the Heart Story."

The award certificate is signed by Dr. R.D. Freeman of Jefferson, president of the North Carolina Affiliate of the American Heart Association, and Edmund I. Adams of Sparta, chairman of the affiliate board.

James Street, Jr., associate executive director of the state affiliate, in wrote that he was sending the

award at the request of the affiliate's vice president and president-elect, Dr. Jerome Ruskin of Greensboro.

"On behalf of Dr. Ruskin and the Affiliate," his letter adds, "please accept our continued gratitude for the splendid support you have given to our programs."

The letter was addressed to "Paul Dickson, editor, Raeford News-Journal."

The Cole Award is named in honor of Willard G. Cole, the Eastern North Carolina newspaper publisher who won a Pulitzer Prize in the late 1940s for his fight against the Ku Klux Klan in his home county.

A statement on the award certificate by Cole reads: "The public and its news media should unite under the banner of 'Education for Survival' to combat the tragic waste of human resources resulting from cardiovascular disease."

## Collections Higher

The collections of the state's three per cent sales tax in Hoke County from February 1981 through January 1982 totaled \$882,965, the State Department of Revenue reported.

This was 3.92 per cent -- \$33,331 more -- than the total collected in the previous year.

## Hoke Sales Tax Collections Up

A total \$84,102.81 in Hoke County's one per cent sales tax was collected during the quarter ending March 31, compared with \$84,053.38 in the same quarter of 1981, the State Department of Revenue reports.

The net proceeds are the remainders left after the costs of collections are deducted. The collection cost for the 1982 quarter was \$751.81, and for the same quarter of 1981 it was \$691.52.

Of the proceeds collected in the 1982 quarter, \$71,378.97 went to the county government, and \$12,723.21 to the Raeford city government.

The net for the quarter ending December 31, 1981, was \$85,561.65 after deduction of \$764.85 cost of collection.

## Correction

The caption under a picture of the 1982-83 Hoke County NCAE officers in last week's *The News-Journal* should have read "Jacqueline Gladney" instead of "Gadney."

# Hoke Student Going To West Point

Thomas Curtis Gilchrist, Jr., recently had the rare opportunity of choosing which of five institutions to attend for his higher education -- appointments to the U.S. Military Academy, and the U.S. Naval Academy, and scholarships to Davidson College, Duke University and Howard University of Washington, D.C.

He reported his decision Monday: he will leave July 1 to start his plebe year at the Military Academy at West Point, N.Y.

At West Point he will join another Hoke County student, Earl (Bucky) Oxendine, Jr., who is due to graduate from Hoke High on Friday. Oxendine was notified in February of his appointment, in a letter written by the academy superintendent, Lt. Gen. Willard Scott, Jr., who also notified Gilchrist in a letter dated March 31. Oxendine lives in Raeford.

Gilchrist, whose parents live on Rt. 1, Raeford, had the choices mainly because of his high academic achievement. He will graduate June 12 from the North Carolina High School of Science and Mathematics at Durham. This school is for exceptional high school students, and Gilchrist has been attending it the past two years. His first two years he spent at Hoke County High School.

The scholarship to Davidson carries the name of Lunsford Richardson, the founder of Vick Chemical Co. The scholarship to Howard is an ROTC award.

Gilchrist, besides studying, also

played basketball at Hoke High and at the state school. At the latter he was in the N.C. State Honors Course. He also was a dormitory assistant at the state school.

In the summer of 1981, he

attended another state school for gifted and talented high school students -- the Governor's School at Winston-Salem. There he was vice president of his class and was on the staff of the school annual.



Thomas C. Gilchrist, Jr., with certificates of appointment to the Military and Naval academies and letters advising him he won scholarships.

The Hoke County Board of Education Monday night acted on personnel appointments requests to transfer students from Hoke to neighboring counties' schools and from one school district to another within the county system, awarded an auditing contract for 1982-83 and adopted a student drug-abuse policy for trial for one year.

The board by unanimous vote accepted County Schools Supt. Raz Autry's recommendation that Scurlock School Assistant Principal Marilyn Semones be appointed director of instruction for Grades Kindergarten through Six in the school system. She will succeed Florence Cohen, who is leaving the school job to join her husband in operating a Fayetteville dinner theater which they bought.

Board Chairman Bill Cameron told *The News-Journal* Tuesday morning he would change his vote on the appointment of the new instruction director to "no", because he does not believe the position should be filled at this time (before the school budget is finally approved). The law allows a board member to change his vote if the change is made before the minutes of the meeting at which he voted are read at the next meeting. He said "no personality" is involved in his feelings about filling the position.

The board by a 4-1 vote accepted the superintendent's recommendation to appoint Marion Brock McNeill music director for West and South Hoke Schools, succeeding Betsy Floyd, who is getting married and moving to Wilmington.

Susan McGougan was named an interim teacher at McLaughlin School by unanimous vote to accept the recommendation of the superintendent.

The board voted to grant requests of several parents to transfer their children to schools in neighboring Moore and Robeson counties principally because of transportation problems. The board also granted requests, for transfers of students primarily for the same reason to schools districts other than those in which their homes are. Board member Ruth McNair abstained from voting because, she said, she couldn't make up her mind.

The board turned down two student transfer requests on grounds the medical reason was not serious enough to warrant the transfer, and granted a request on medical grounds for the reason that they considered the medical situation urgent enough to warrant a transfer.

In a separate action on transfer requests, the board voted 4-1 to grant requests of about a dozen school system employees to transfer or allow their children to remain at the schools where their parents are employed. The "no" vote was cast by board member Mina Townsend, who contended the action on so large a number of requests from school employees was unfair to non-employee parents.

On the appointment of Mrs. Semones the vote followed a discussion in which board member Walter Coley supported appointment of a school psychologist instead of a director of instruction to succeed Mrs. Cohen. He pointed to drug problems. Autry, however, said that in considering the need for a psychologist and the need for an elementary grades supervisor he decided to recommend the latter because this work would serve for the good of a greater number of children. He also said it is possible that funds might be found for employment of a school psychologist for the next school year but he couldn't promise anything.

He said the school system has one psychologist now, but employed exclusively for exceptional children in the system.

Coley voted in favor of the motion, however.

The "no" vote on appointment of the new music teacher was cast by board chairman Bill Cameron. He said he opposed the appointment because he believed such appointments should be made only after a school budget is adopted (by the county commissioners). Autry argued, however, that a commitment to employ a music teacher should be made by the board beforehand; otherwise, he indi-