

Men's Softball Action

Men's Softball action on Thursday paired Raeford Merchants and Hard & Heavy. Hard & Heavy took the game 17-8. H&H pulled in six runs in the fifth inning as N. Singletary gathered a home run.

The 8:30 round went to Hollingsworth Barbers 15-5 over Ephesus A's. HWB in the third inning collected 6 runs and Thomas hit two homers.

The night's final game was a victory for the All-Stars 11-3 over Jones Intercable. For the All Stars P. Maynor was 3-4 with a homerun in the sixth inning.

Competition continued on Friday as the Raeford Merchants downed Ephesus A's 28-7. J. Madden led the Merchants 6-4 at bat.

The second game of the night

was a close one as Hollingsworth Barbers defeated Beasley's 11-10. Hollingsworth was led by McDonald and Roper both 4-2 at bat.

The wrap-up softball action for the week Hard & Heavy pulled past the All-Stars 16-14. R. Leggett was 4-4 for Hard & Heavy and M. McDougald was 3-2.

STANDINGS

	W	L
1. All Stars	10	4
2. Hard & Heavy	10	4
3. Beasley's	9	4
4. Hollingsworth Barbers	8	6
5. Jones Intercable	8	5
6. Raeford Merchants	3	11
7. Ephesus A's	0	14

Tar Heel League Scores

June 21 Lion's Club 1, Carter's Pig-N-Chicken 0

June 23 Lion's Club 10, Howard Clothiers 4

June 24 Lion's Club 17, Raeford Plumbing & Heating 8

STANDINGS

	W	L
1. Lion's Club	7	3
2. Howard Clothiers	6	3
3. Carter's Pig-N-Chicken	4	4
4. Raeford Plumbing & Heating	1	8

Ladies' Softball Results

June 23 - Kershaw Body Shop 10, Hollingsworth Barbers 5.

Jaycees 20, Faberge 12.

June 16 - Jaycees 18, Hollingsworth Barbers 8

STANDINGS

	W	L
1. Hoke Jaycees	3	0
2. Kershaw Body Shop	2	1
3. Hollingsworth Barbers	1	2
4. Faberge	0	3

St. Mary Service

Eldress Elois Campbell of Raeford, pastor of Solid Rock Holiness Church, Campbell Village, will render a service at St. Mary Holiness Church the second Sunday in July. Sis Roberta Harden will be in charge of the service.

Bishop George McKoy is pastor.

Liniment League

June 21 - A.M.E. Zion 11, Raeford Methodist 9.

1st Baptist 9, Presbyterian 5.

TEAM STANDINGS

	W	L
1. A.M.E. Zion	2	0
2. 1st Baptist	2	0
3. Raeford Methodist	0	2
4. Presbyterian	0	2

Nation's Winged Symbol Struggles To Survive

By Rebecca R. Kirtland
National Geographic News Service

WASHINGTON -- The unchallenged star among North American birds, the American bald eagle came to prominence on the nation's seal 200 years ago. Now it has been honored with a presidential proclamation that makes 1982 the "Year of the Eagle."

With its fierce unconquerable glare, mighty talons, and tremendous wings that permit the eagle to glide effortlessly on wind currents hour after hour, the eagle is a living symbol of freedom, courage, and strength.

But fame hasn't spared the species from dropping to dangerously low numbers. Once it ruled North American skies; now it is endangered in 43 of the 48 con-

tiguous states and threatened in the other five. It is not found in Hawaii, but thrives in Alaska.

Hunt and Peck

The second largest bird of prey, or raptor, in North America after the California condor, the bald eagle is well adapted to swooping down upon a small creature, gripping it with those long curved talons, and tearing flesh with its hooked yellow beak. It also has an "eagle eye," extraordinary eyesight five or six times keener than a human's.

But there is no truth to the rumor that eagles snatch babies from carriages. James Ruos, bird specialist at the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, said: "Eagles can lift two pounds easily, but they can lift up to six pounds for only a short time and with very labored flight." Bald eagles eat mostly, fish, anyway.

The birds have more often been victims than predators. They were hunted in vast numbers until 1940, when the Bald Eagle Protection Act made it illegal to shoot or kill bald eagles, punishable by a fine of up

to \$5,000 and a year in prison.

In the '50s and '60s bald eagles came close to extinction when pesticides in the food supply seriously damaged their ability to reproduce. The compound DDT was banned in 1972, and "since 1974, reproduction has been increasing, but very slowly," Ruos said.

There are now some 1,400 nesting pairs in the lower 48 states.

But the comeback of the eagle will be a long process. "Once the environment is cleaned up enough to no longer affect reproduction, it takes another five or six years for the new eagles to mature," he said.

Aerial Acrobatics

At sexual maturity, the eagle develops its adult plumage, characterized by a gleaming white head and dark body. The male courts the female with lavish displays of aerial acrobatics, and the pair mates for life. Weighing an average 8 to 11 pounds with a 6½-foot wingspan, the male is smaller than the female. She weighs 10 to 14 pounds and has an astonishing 8-foot wingspan.

Compulsive nest builders, the pair returns to the same nest and adds to its structure year after year. According to the Fish and Wildlife Service, the largest recorded nest measured 20 feet deep, 10 feet wide, and weighed 2 tons.

The greatest threat to the bald eagle today is the steady loss of habitat, but eagles may be learning to coexist peacefully with a higher level of human disturbance.

"There are reports of eagles nesting successfully on golf courses in Florida and in recreational areas in the Northwest," Ruos said. "The real key is that the public leave the eagles alone during this critical time when they are establishing new nest sites."



12.2% Unemployed In May

Hoke County's unemployment rate was 12.2 per cent in May, the State Employment Security Commission reported last week.

The state rate was 8.7 per cent, and the national rate 9.1.

In May, 970 of Hoke's 7,920 workers were unemployed.

Hoke Beekeepers

The Hoke County Beekeepers Association will meet Thursday at 8 p.m. in the Agricultural Extension Service office in the Lester Building on South Magnolia Street.

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