



Badges awarded

Michael Hardin, Alton Godwin and Josh Averette, were given wolf badges during award presentations in September.



Cubs given high award

Josh Witherspoon (right) and Jeff Baker (left) were given the God and Family Award for September. The award is one of the highest presented to cub scouts.



Webelo awarded

Stephen Clark, a webelo scout, was presented with the Arrow of Light award for September. The award is one of the highest awards earned by a Webelo scout.

Cub Awards Given

Cub Scout Pack 404 awarded over 20 boys with promotions or recognition during September.

Those awarded were:

--Michael Hardin awarded a wolf badge.

--Stephen Ashley awarded a bear badge.

--Stephen Ashley and Telly Stephens awarded gold arrow-points.

--Telly Stephens, Allen Hendrix, Robby Williams, Michael Branch, Josh Witherspoon, and Jeff Baker were all awarded silver arrow-points.

--Kevin Lippard, Alex Schwarber, and Larry McGuire, were awarded one-year pins.

--Stephen Ashley, Josh Witherspoon, Nathan Stec, Andrew Lamont, and Matthew Warren, were awarded two-year pins.

--Josh Witherspoon was promoted from cub to Webelo

--Stephen Clark was promoted from Webelo to Boy Scout.

--Stephen Clark received the Arrow of Light Award, one of the highest awards a Webelo scout can receive.

--Josh Witherspoon and Jeff Baker received God and Family Awards, one of the highest awards a cub scout can receive, and

Webelos Den 1 received the attendance award for September.

Geurts Participates In Big Pine Exercises

Army Pvt. Reba D. Geurts, daughter of Virginia R. Sands of Rural Route 1, Aberdeen is one of about 240 soldiers from Fort Bragg, who participated in Ahuas Tara (Big Pine) II, an exercise involving U.S. and Latin American forces in Honduras.

According to Pentagon officials, the exercise tested plans and procedures for operations, command and control of joint operations with the armed forces of nations in the Caribbean basin and Central America. The exercise also demonstrated the deployment and sustainment capability of U.S. forces to a different environment and terrain.

Big Pine II is the latest in a series of combined exercises that began in 1965.

Geurts is a telecommunications specialist at Fort Bragg.

Her husband, Wouter, is the son of Wouter Geurts of 5007D Lawndale Drive, Greensboro and Natasha G. Caul of Rural Route 1, West End.



Welcoming guests

Sue Peck (standing) Area Coordinator for the Four County Community Services was on hand Friday for the re-opening of the Bowmore Community Center. Guests and friends attended the open house

ceremonies where many were honored for their service in getting the remodeling of the 100-year old building completed.

Higher Prices Still Needed To Save Soybeans

By Willie Featherstone, Jr. County Extension Chairman

Soybeans: Higher soybean futures prices in the range of \$10-\$11/bu. will be needed to ration available supplies against projected usage for 1983-84.

Continued hot, dry weather during August and early September has resulted in a US soybean crop of 1.53 billion bushels, 33% below last year's 2.3 billion and the smallest crop since 1976.

The North Carolina crop, as of September 1, is forecast at 29.3 million bushels, 44% less than last year's record production.

Soybean supplies consisting of the new crop plus a 450 million bushel carryover will be less than projected utilization of 2.0 billion.

Thus, higher prices will be needed to ration the demand. Soybean carryover next September will be reduced to a "pipeline" level of about 125 million bushels.

The strong basis and narrow spreads between delivery months suggest pricing for nearby delivery. Just as in 1974 and 1980, the peak in 1983 prices is expected to occur early in the marketing year. Short-term storage may be profitable.

Hogs: Hog prices have increased slightly since last month to the \$46-\$47/cwt. range.

This level just covers variable costs indicating losses of \$12-\$14/cwt. for large operations.

Stable to declining prices are foreseen for fall and winter as continued liquidation proceeds.

Cattle: Continuing drought,

reduced estimates of the '83 corn crop and poor pastures have caused feeder prices to drop to what will be the year's lowest levels.

If there is substantial improvement in precipitation in the next few weeks, 6-7 cwt. steer prices ought to increase to the \$56-\$60 range by mid-October. Buying opportunities abound. 450 lb. steers bought this fall and fed on a (non-droughty) corn silage-corn diet to gain 1 3/4 lbs./day will breakeven with variable costs if spring prices equal this fall's.

The odds are that spring prices will be a good \$5/cwt. above this fall's. With a droughty corn silage-corn ration to gain the same amount, spring prices need to be \$2.50-\$3.00 above those this fall to cover variable costs.

Buying higher weights and lowering gains will lower breakeven prices for those buyers relying on high corn rations.

Flue-Cured Tobacco: Further cuts in 1983 crop size have resulted in improved prices and reductions in the proportions acquired by Stabilization. When markets initially opened, weak demand offset the effect of the lower effective quota.

As drought continued, estimates of current production dropped, e.g. the September forecast was 4% below a month earlier.

The year's production is down 20% from 1982 levels with only 11% due to reduced acreage.

In North Carolina 1983 yields are estimated at only 1,890 lbs. compared to 2,140 lbs. last year.

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