

The News-Journal

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Thursday, September 5, 1985

Police radios blackout TV's

By Ed Miller

The Raeford Police Department's radios are interfering with the broadcast frequency of television Channel 5, WRAL from Raleigh, a spokesman from Alert Cablevision said.

The radios are causing blackouts of the station because of signal interference, Alert Cablevision Manager Harrison Daniels said.

Piedmont Communications, a Fayetteville company, maintains the radios for the police department, Daniels said.

Daniels has talked to a representative of the company, he said.

Piedmont promised to fix the problem several weeks ago, said Daniels.

There has still been nothing done about the interference, said Daniels.

"I have not been contacted about it," said Piedmont Communications Manager J.D. Monroe.

"We'd have to take a look at it and see what the problem is," said Monroe.

Raeford Police Chief Leonard Wiggins said he does not know anything about an interference problem.

Thieves flee break-in site

After seeing a strange truck parked on the side of a road near his residence, a Hoke County man saw two men exit his house, get into the truck and leave.

George Wesley Johnson saw the two men who apparently stole \$329.14 in jewelry from his mobile home in the Harmony Heights subdivision, reports from the Hoke County Sheriff's Department say.

Johnson arrived at his home on August 14 at 11 p.m. to find his front door standing open, reports say.

The two men ran from the front door of the mobile home, got into the truck and headed toward Highway 401, according to reports.

The truck has been described as being a red Toyota, reports say.

In another area incident, James

(See BREAKINS, page 11)

Around Town

By Sam Morris

Just when you think that the summer is over, the hot weather returns. The forecast for Wednesday and Thursday is for the temperatures to be in the 90s.

It is good that the hurricane turned west and didn't bring us all the rain that would have come with it. We don't need any more rain at the present time. It is impossible to get into the fields with any kind of equipment. Most harvesting is being done by hand and being carried from the fields. This can be expensive.

Anyway it seems that the rain has stopped for a few days.

Most of the news that you hear or read about these days is bad. Crime seems to have taken over in our country. So it is good to be able to print news about someone who is honest.

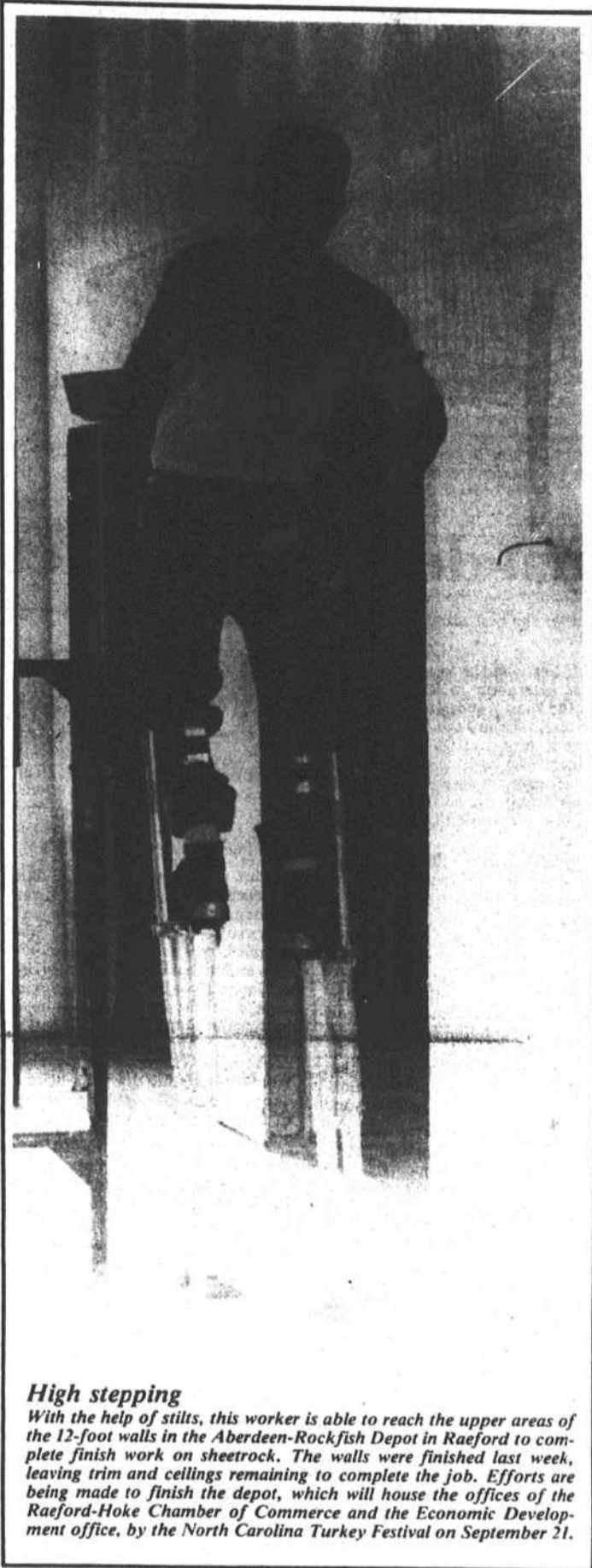
Mrs. Brenda Dunevant (with the Turkey Festival Bike-A-Thon) called to tell about her mother, Mrs. Rosa Scarborough finding a billfold with \$100 in it. I would say that nine out of 10 people would have kept the \$100 and destroyed the billfold. The billfold belonged to Clifford Wayne Huff of 212 S. Jackson St.

Now Mrs. Scarborough returned the billfold and money to Mr. Huff and would not take the reward offered. She just wanted the money to go to the rightful owner.

She is a widow and all her income is from her Social Security.

Now doesn't this make you feel good to find an honest person making the news. We need more

(See AROUND, page 11)



High stepping

With the help of stilts, this worker is able to reach the upper areas of the 12-foot walls in the Aberdeen-Rockfish Depot in Raeford to complete finish work on sheetrock. The walls were finished last week, leaving trim and ceilings remaining to complete the job. Efforts are being made to finish the depot, which will house the offices of the Raeford-Hoke Chamber of Commerce and the Economic Development office, by the North Carolina Turkey Festival on September 21.

Furnishings are needed for depot

With the old Aberdeen and Rockfish Depot nearing completion, supporters of the renovation are looking for furniture to make the station the offices of the Raeford-Hoke Chamber of Commerce and Economic Development Commission.

Little money will be left for furnishings after the renovations are

complete.

To make the empty offices into a place of professional business, many things are needed to furnish the depot, including a conference table, some matching chairs for the table, antique coat racks, free-standing bookcases or credenzas, large oriental rugs, lamps, filing cabinets, wing-back chairs, three

camel-back sofas, a large wooden desk, end tables and wall decorations.

Anyone wishing to help with these furnishings should contact Beverly Pasternak at 875-5929 or come by the offices of the Raeford-Hoke Chamber of Commerce.

College reps pleased by signups

By Ed Miller

Officials for the Hoke County Satellite branch of Sandhills Community College are pleased with pre-registration figures for this fall's classes.

There are about 50 people pre-registered to take classes from the college, said Local Director Betty High.

"The exciting thing is that all of the college credit courses have made," said High.

Although there are enough students in the college credit English, math and business courses to support the local college, no classes are closed out, said High.

"People should come register the first night of classes," she said.

Classes at the community college

begin next Monday night.

According to High, recruitment efforts have been concentrated over the last month.

High has been talking to workers in local manufacturing operations for a number of weeks trying to get them to sign up for adult education classes, she said.

"I knew my efforts were paying off when I registered a man who I had talked to on third shift from one of the local plants," High said.

Although the college is running well now, future operations of the satellite will depend on how many students can be enrolled and will stay enrolled.

Funding for the college next year

County opposes waste unit

By Ed Miller

Members of the Hoke County Commission passed a resolution Monday morning opposing a proposed hazardous waste treatment plant in Scotland County.

"This board as leaders in county government strives for a healthful environment and jobs for our citizens and further is aware that the location of a waste treatment facility as proposed in Scotland County could affect adversely the citizens of Hoke County," according to the resolution.

GSX Corporation is planning to build a waste treatment facility at the Laurinburg-Maxton Industrial Park.

"Should we oppose something that's not in our county?" Commissioner Wyatt Upchurch asked.

The waste treatment plant could effect people in the southern part of the county, said Commissioner James Albert Hunt.

"I personally oppose it," said Hunt.

According to a GSX spokesman, after contaminated water has been treated at the plant and all hazardous material removed, the water will be placed into the Lumber River.

The water will have been treated by GSX and, upon approval of officials working for Scotland County, sent to the Laurinburg-Maxton Waste Treatment Plant where they will again treat it before it is dumped into the river, said GSX spokesman Dan Jones.

Many residents of Scotland County oppose the plant, said Scotland County Manager John Q. Byrd.

"They have implied that they would be coming in here with an unreasonable number of trucks from all directions," said Byrd implying that trucks containing hazardous waste would be passing

through Hoke County.

Jones said that most of the waste to be treated at the plant will be generated in the Charlotte area and will come down U.S. Highway 74.

"I don't look for a large amount to be coming through your county," said Jones.

Commissioner Upchurch made the motion to pass the resolution.

As part of the resolution, a clause was included saying, "this resolution is in no way intended to...appear to be opposing industrial development, but as a means of assuring the citizens of Hoke County that their welfare and safety is being considered above any benefits which we might accrue from such a facility."

The resolution also shows that Hoke County Commissioners do not intend to jeopardize the good standing of GSX Corporation.

"Somebody has to accept this (See COUNTY, page 11)

Hoke CAT scores moving up

By Ed Miller

In places where Hoke County was the lowest in the state on California Achievement Test (CAT) scores, students are improving and local schools now rank above others systems in the state.

In reading and language tests on the second and third grade levels, where Hoke students were the worst in the state in 1983, progress has been made, said Hoke Superintendent Dr. Robert Nelson.

"In our second and third grades, reading and mathematics were the places we were lowest in," said Nelson.

"The thing that is of significance to me is that we are increasing the rate of our children's achievement," said the superintendent.

As he has in the past, Nelson compared the Hoke Schools' quest to catch other school systems to a footrace.

One has to run faster than another racer, catch and pass that racer to get ahead, Nelson said.

"We are running faster than we've been running," he said.

"I think the evidence shows that we have been running faster and catching and passing some people who had been running faster than us," said Nelson.

Reading scores for the second grade averaged second year, fifth month, or 2.5.

While 2.5 is slightly below the 2.7 level when the test was taken, results in comparison with other school systems in the state show that Hoke is no longer on the bottom.

There are two school systems in the state lower than Hoke and another two reflecting scores equal to those of the local schools.

There are 13 school systems in the state showing lower scores than Hoke's second graders in math, according to test results.

Hoke second graders earned an average score of 3.0, two months ahead of where they should have been at test time and the national average.

Nine school systems rank below Hoke in third grade math achievement tests, results show.

"There's no doubt that we are going to continue running faster than other people," said Nelson.

Other test results show that second graders in Hoke County score at or above the national average in all other testing areas.

Hoke's second graders averaged a score of 3.2 in spelling, 2.8 in language and 2.7, the national average, on the total testing battery.

Third graders, while hitting the 3.7 national average on total battery scores, averaged fourth grade, third month, 4.3 in spelling and 4.0 in language, according to results.

Total battery scores also show local second graders standing on the national 50th percentile while third graders are on the 48th national percentile.

What that means is that Hoke second graders, on the average, on total test battery scores, earned marks equal or better than 50% of all other second graders in the nation.

Third graders scored better than 48% of all third graders in the nation under the CAT system.

First grade total battery scores show Hoke students scoring at the 58th percentile.

Total battery scores in other grades show Hoke students scoring better than the national average also.

Total battery sixth grade scores averaged 6.8, one month better than the national average and at the 51st percentile.

Ninth grade scores also reflect a 51st percentile standing with an average total battery score of 9.8, according to results.

In the effort to keep Hoke schools gaining on the competition, the local school system will be one of 40 to 45 systems in the state working to establish the North Carolina Effective Teaching Program, said Nelson.

About one-third of the state's school systems will be beginning the program this year, he said.

Twelve local administrators and staff members have been through a 30 hour course of study that allows them to teach other teachers the basics of the program, said Nelson.

The program sets up progressive steps for teaching with each step described as being "planned and research based," said Nelson.

Half the program has already been presented to teachers with the second half to be provided soon, Nelson said.

"I think it's going to have a tremendous impact on school," said the superintendent.



Helping hand

Raeford Policeman Dick McNeill (left) aids EMS and Rescue personnel as an unidentified Mocksville man is readied for a ride to the hospital. The man was injured in an accident which occurred Tuesday afternoon near the state Highway 211 cutoff. McNeill gives a hand to Hoke Rescue Squad members David McNeill (left center) and Gene Hasty (front center) and Hoke EMS personnel Susan Manning (rear right) and Jimmy Stewart (right).

Photo by Pam Frederick