

Parachutists meet at Raeford Airport

Schedule change for 75th pageant

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Overflow crowd

A crowd of people, charged with cockfighting and witnessing a cockfight, lined up in front of Assistant

District Attorney Jean Powell last Wednesday to receive their court papers.

Special District Court session held for cockfighting trials

A crowd of close to 150 people arrested at a cockfight in the western section of Hoke County on February 8 gathered outside the temporary location of the courthouse last Wednesday to appear in a special session of District Court.

The defendants were part of the approximately 205 people charged as spectators after law enforcement officers raided the cockfighting site.

Due to the record number of defendants, Assistant District Attorney Jean Powell proceeded to call the docket in the parking lot.

During the court session, thirty-one defendants pleaded guilty and were fined \$200 and placed on five years unsupervised probation by District Court Judge Warren Pate.

Two of those who pleaded guilty were teenagers and were fined \$100 and given 90-day suspended sentences.

Two defendants pleaded not guilty, but were found guilty and were ordered to pay a \$300 fine.

Before the trial began, one defendant said "Look at the County Seal - it looks like jail bars."

"Yeah," another defendant said, "and look at those footprints on the outside looking in. That's

where we're going to be when they get done with us."

Those in the courtroom who overheard the remarks chuckled at the conversation.

Other banter heard in the courtroom goes as follows: "The day after they arrested us they started remodeling their courthouse—they knew they were going to be able to pay for it."

"When I get back home I'm going to bring my kids here so they can see what my money paid for," another defendant was heard to say.

"Six months, five years suspension, five years unsupervised probation, and \$200 fine," said Judge Warren Pate as he sentenced the first defendant.

Shock and discontent were heard throughout the courtroom.

Those in the courtroom seemed to think the sentence given was much too stiff.

Several of the accused stated firmly that although cockfighting is against the law in North Carolina, they felt they had done nothing wrong.

"It's no different than football or coon hunting, many of the accused said.

"I've been raising cocks since I

was eight years old, and I'll probably be doing it until the day I die," one defendant said.

Harold Frame, one of the defendants, said, "They made me kill the Germans, but they say I can't fight cocks. It's okay to kill a man, but not a rooster."

"It's natural instinct for roosters to fight," another defendant said, "It's just like a man and woman. They're fine until they have kids, then the fighting starts."

According to North Carolina Statute 14-362, the maximum sentence for "encouraging the use of a place being kept for the purpose of fighting cock" is six months.

That same statute authorizes a maximum fine of \$500.

"I feel quite satisfied with the judgement passed," Powell said.

Another official stated the sentence was "not to teach a lesson but to make the point that cockfighting is illegal and will not be tolerated in Hoke County."

"Until a law has been changed it is the obligation of the court to carry out enforcement of the existing law," Pate said.

The last battle cry from one of the defendants was "I'll fight till the last rooster."

Hoke County voters register for primary

Voter registration for the primary election on May 6 closed Monday, April 7, at 5 p.m.

According to Carolyn Shook, Supervisor of Elections, approximately 8,043 residents registered in Hoke County.

Among those registered were 454 Republican voters, 7,543 Democratic voters, and 45 voters who were not affiliated.

The effect of the constitutional amendment concerning add-numbered year elections, if passed by the voters on May 6, will include the terms served by members of the General Assembly, the Governor, Lt. Governor, Secretary

of State, State Auditor, State Treasurer, Superintendent of Commissioners of Agricultural, Insurance and Labor, Justices of the Supreme Court, District Court Judges, and District Attorneys, and Sheriffs and Clerks of the Superior Court.

Republicans running for Congress are Tom Hendricks, and William G. Hamby Jr.

The Republican ballot for Senator includes James T. (Jim) Broshill, Glenn Miller, and David B. Funderburk.

The Democratic ballot for Senator includes Terry Sanford, Theodore (Ted) Kinney, Clinton

H. Moore, Walt Atkins, Milton M. Croom, John Ingram, Fountain Odum, Betty Wallace, William Irwin (Bill) Belk, and Katherine H. Harper.

Those running for the office of Judge of Court of Appeals on the Democratic ballot are Sarah Parker and Joseph R. John.

The official Democratic ballot for District Court Judge contains the following candidates, William R. (Bill) Davis and Patricia Timmons Goodson.

Also listed on ballot for the office of the State House of Representatives are W. Paul Graham, John C. (Pete) Hasty,

Sidney A. Locky, Ronnie Robertson, and Daniel H. DeVane.

In addition the following are listed as candidates for County Commissioner, Thomas P. (Tom) Howell, James A. Hunt, Clyde A. Leach, Thomas M. (Tommy) Macko, Lawrence E. McLaughlin Jr., Mabel M. Riley, and Cleo Bratcher Jr.

"I think the election is a fascinating process," Shook said.

The Primary Election on May 6 will be held at various locations throughout Hoke County.

A list will be publicized at a later date indicating the locations of the polls.

Drop in CAT scores predicted in county

The California Achievement Test (CAT) is getting harder, and local educators are predicting that students' overall scores will drop this year.

"We're anticipating as much as a 12% ranking drop in the battery scores," Assistant Superintendent Dr. Ginny Hayes said.

However, students in Hoke County won't be alone. The state scores on the new test are predicted

to be 11 to 14 points lower this year.

"We don't want parents to be upset because this will be happening all over the state," Hayes said.

The decline in test scores is being predicted because of a State Board of Education decision to replace the 1977 version of the test with an updated 1985 test.

This week, students across the state are taking the test which

measures achievements in math, language and reading.

"The purpose of the test is to give us information to see where we are being effective in our program," Hayes said.

"It's kind of like a report card on the school system."

Local scores will be compared with scores made by students throughout the United States.

The test shows educators the

progress being made by students, but Hayes said the test is not used for the purpose of passing or failing a student.

Hoke County students began the testing procedure with a practice test on Monday; regular testing was begun on Tuesday.

The state is picking up cost of administering the test to students. (See CAT, page 2A)



In appreciation

Former editor of The News-Journal Warren Johnston walks away from the podium at the new Armory on April 1 carrying material for a new suit. The material, made by Burlington Industries, was presented to Johnston by The Raeford-Hoke Chamber of Commerce and The Committee of 100 in appreciation for all the work he has done for the community. The presentation was made during "Hoke County Appreciation Night."

Johnston begins job as managing editor

Warren Johnston, editor of The News-Journal for the past three years, has left Raeford to take a job with The Natchez Democrat in Natchez, Mississippi.

Johnston has assumed the duties of managing editor at the daily Natchez newspaper.

In August 1982, Johnston began his work at The News-Journal as an associate editor. He was named editor of the newspaper in June 1983.

Active in community affairs, Johnston served as the chairman of both The 1985 North Carolina Turkey Festival and The Hoke County Higher Education Founda-

tion. He was also on the board of directors for the local Kiwanis Club and a member of The Hoke County Adolescent Pregnancy Task Force.

Ron Anderson has been named associate editor of The News-Journal.

Anderson began his work with the Raeford paper as an editorial assistant and reporter in November 1985.

Before moving to Hoke County, Anderson was employed as a reporter and photographer at The Chowan Herald in Edenton, North Carolina.

Educators attend convention

The American Association of School Administrators Convention in San Francisco attended by nine local school administrators in February was "an extremely good education program for board of education members," Hoke County School Superintendent Dr. Robert Nelson, said.

Those who attended from Hoke County were Dr. Robert Nelson, Don Sneed, Glenn Langdon, Harold Gillis, Renda Cameron, Bill Cameron, Walter Coley, Bobby Wright, and Dr. Ginny Hayes.

"It helps to prepare us to deal with school administration at a local level," Nelson further commented.

According to Nelson, "the conference provides the opportunity for the board members to learn about new approaches, new techniques, new technology, and offers them a chance to compare situations and achievements with other educators and administrators."

Some of the topics discussed were pertaining to organization and school administration.

Every facet of school operation was covered from janitorial aspects to the operation of school buses.

Local funds used to send the educators to the conference totaled \$7,270, state funds totaled \$1,470.

(See CONVENTION, page 2A)

Around Town

By Sam Morris

Summertime is still with us and has been for the past week. The temperature has been in the 80s for the past several days. We did have thunder and lightning last Thursday afternoon and evening, but we didn't get any rain in Raeford. I was told that about 1 1/2 inches fell in the Arabia section of the county. They had approximately two inches in Fayetteville. With the pollen like it is today, a good rain would help.

The forecast is for rain during the coming week and for the temperature to be in the 60s and 70s.

A letter received last week follows:

Mr. Morris:
My mother, Mrs. Ella Toywick, passed away the 18th of March, and I wanted to let you know to stop her Journal and to tell you how much she enjoyed it.
(See AROUND, page 2A)



April showers

Flowers in Hoke County gardens drink up the much-needed rain that has fallen recently in the form of April showers.

Suspended sentences are revoked in District Court

Four area residents were sentenced in district court last week after they violated probation on previous charges.

Lonzo McKoy, 654 Ginger Circle, Fayetteville, was sentenced to an active prison term of one year.

McKoy, 33, reported to serve a seven-day active prison term for a previous offense and was found to be in violation of his probation.

According to records, McKoy was given a breathalyzer test which showed he was not in a sobriety condition.

Leon McMillian, Oakwood Drive, Lot 24, Raeford, was sentenced to a one-year active prison term under identical circumstances.

McMillian's lack of sobriety was a direct violation of the terms of his probation from a previous offense.

Another area resident, John Blake of Rt. 1, Box 130, Wagram, was also found to be in violation of his probation.

Blake, 65, was sentenced to an

active prison term of not less than 12 months, and not more than 18 months.

Mary Bullard, Rt. 1, Red Springs, was found to be in violation of probation from a previous offense.

Bullard was sentenced to not less than 12 months and not more than two years active prison term.

Also, George Hollingsworth, Rt. 1, Box 169, Red Springs, previously convicted of cashing worthless checks, was sentenced to a 30 day active prison term.

Hollingsworth, failed to pay the fine and court costs for his prior conviction.

Since Hollingsworth could show no lack of financial ability, his failure to comply with the prior judgement showed no just cause or legal excuse.

Howard Haywood Jacobs, 220 Yarkin Trail, Raeford, pleaded guilty last week to DWI.

Jacobs, 42, was arrested on (See SUSPENDED, page 2A)