

The News-Journal

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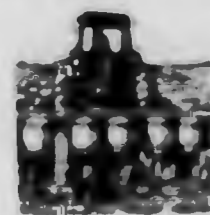
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Volume LXXVIII Number 9

Thursday, June 19, 1986

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School facilities

Hoke County Board of Education members Bobby Wright, left, and Eddie McNeill study ways of improving the county's school facilities at a recent board meeting. The school board hopes that money from a proposed \$3.6 bond issue will greatly improve the quality of local facilities.

Photo by Don Anderson

\$3.6 million bond issue Ok'd by board of education

By Sally Jamir

Members of the Hoke County Board of Education passed a resolution for a \$3.6 million bond issue at their regular meeting last Tuesday night.

The bond issue, if passed, would provide monies for the renovation of and additions to county school facilities.

The Hoke County Board of Commissioners discussed a resolution for the bond issue at their meeting Monday night, but tabled a decision until after a joint session with the school board to be held Monday, June 23.

If the bond issue is approved by the commissioners, they will in turn adopt a resolution making necessary fundings relating to the proposed bond and authorizing the filing of an application with the Local Government Commission.

Dr. Bob Nelson, Hoke County Schools superintendent, presented to the school board correspon-

dence from New York Bond attorneys Brown and Wood in which Gundars Aperans, representative for the firm, reviewed the bond issue calendar.

According to the calendar, application procedures must be completed thirty days prior to the election day on which the bond referendum would be voted.

The board is considering an election date of September 30, separate from the general election, for the referendum.

Nelson related that county attorney Duncan McFadyen questioned Aperans about the feasibility of getting all procedures completed before the September date if begun in early July. McFadyen conveyed Aperans assurance that the deadline allowed sufficient time for completing the application.

In other business, the board approved a bid from Eastern Urethane, Inc., for the re-roofing

of the South Hoke Library.

The contract price for the company's re-roofing job is \$5,489 and would include a ten-year manufacturer's warranty.

Business Administrator Don Steed presented to the board the offer from Sandhills Youth Center of the services of six young men at a cost of \$1.00 per day to work with the school system's maintenance department.

In addition, the board reviewed the new bus system. Steed said that under the new system the high school students would be separated from the Upchurch and Turlington students and be completely independent from that of the combined Upchurch routes.

The system would have different systems for each of the student groups, K-4, fifth to eighth grade, and ninth to twelfth grade.

It was reported that there were some behavior problems with the (See BOND, page 2A)

Drug detection dog "Skipper" sniffs out drugs at local residence

A Hoke County man was arrested on several charges in connection with controlled substances on June 12 according to the Hoke County Sheriff's Department.

Robert Benjamin Ray, 54, Rt. 1 Box 171 BB, Lumber Bridge, was arrested on charges of possession of manufacturing equipment designed for manufacturing illegal whiskey as well as several other charges related to controlled substances as a result of investiga-

tions by Detective C.E. Harris and others at the Hoke County Sheriff's Department and the City/County Bureau of Narcotics (CCBN) in Cumberland County.

Harris stated in a report that "as a result of information received from a confidential informant that Ray was in possession of a quantity of illegal drugs, Harris obtained a search warrant for investigative purposes.

The search was conducted by

Detective Harris, Detective J.R. Riley and R.C. Hart, agent with the CCBN, using their drug detection dog "Skipper".

The dog's actions indicated that there was marijuana and cocaine at the Ray residence. After investigation of the mobile home, Harris and the others found a substance on which a field test was done. The reaction to the test done by Harris was positive, records say.

According to records, 30 mari-

juana plants were found growing in buckets at the end of a path that leads from the yard. Photos were taken and evidence collected.

A search of two buildings in the yard turned up parts of a liquor still.

In addition to being charged with possession of manufacturing equipment designed for manufacture of illegal alcohol Ray faces charges of possession of cocaine with intent to sell and deliver,

possession of marijuana, manufacture of a controlled substance (marijuana), and maintaining a dwelling for the purpose of selling and keeping narcotics.

According to Harris, Ray "was incarcerated Thursday, obtained a lawyer on Friday and bond was set at \$2000."

Ray appeared in court on Friday.

Roger Gibbs of Rt. 2, Fayetteville, an employee of the Cable

Dairy Company, reported a breaking and entering at West Hoke School on Turnpike Road and Rt. 3 at 4:55 a.m. on June 6.

Records say Gibbs noticed the school had been broken into while he was delivering milk.

Gibbs said that the school offices had been entered and the kitchen ransacked. The cabinets and desks were opened and the con- (See "SKIPPER", page 3A)

Around Town

By Sam Morris

I have been thinking about searching the files and seeing if we have ever had weather the way it has been this year. The winter was not too cold, but the dry, hot weather this time of year is something new for me.

We finally got rain on Sunday and Monday and it was a much needed rain. Last week the thermometer hit 101 degrees and was in the 90s for the rest of the week. Now this is two weeks before summer is officially supposed to be here. What can we expect for the remainder of the summer?

I can't say what the rainfall has been this year in Hoke County, but in Durham and Wake counties, the rainfall is approximately 7 to 8 inches behind for the year. This could become serious because we are running behind every month so far.

Since Robert Gatlin has stopped his weather charis, it is hard to keep up with the rainfall.

It seems that the dry weather has hurt many of our gardens in the county. Raz Autry said last week that he wouldn't get his seed potatoes back from what he planted. Wilson McBryde said Sunday that his corn wouldn't make this year.

Now these are just two, but I am sure that many others are finding their crops drying up in the fields. Maybe the rain of Sunday and Monday will help the late planters, but it might be too late for the crops that should be coming in at this time.

It looks as if Congress will pass the reform tax bill this year. According to all reports it has the most changes ever before accomplished since the tax laws went into effect.

The reason that its passage seems so certain is that if they start amending it, the entire structure of the law will fall apart. It is hard to read about it and say how it will help or hurt an individual. We will just have to wait and see how much our auditor will say to pay the (See AROUND, page 2A)



Public hearing

A large crowd gathers Monday evening for a public hearing on the county's budget for 1986-87.

Large crowd attends budget hearing

By Sally Jamir

The Hoke County Board of Commissioners held a public meeting for the proposed 1986 to 1987 revenue sharing and general fund budgets at a special commissioners' meeting Monday night.

A large crowd turned out for the hearing in which county residents voiced their opinions and concerns about the proposed \$5,782,887 budget.

Public concerns were raised about the property tax included in the budget which, if passed, would increase by six cents over last year.

There was discussion on the benefits, in terms of revenue, from the additional one-half cent sales tax to be decided on by the legislature.

Chairman John Balfour en-

couraged the public to support through letters the passage of the House Bill 1542 which would enact the tax levy.

Commissioner Wyatt Upchurch expressed the opinion that the budget "should not be tied down until we hear about the one-cent sales tax outcome" in the General Assembly.

Concerns were raised by the public in reference to the Public Assistance Programs, particularly the Aid to Families With Dependent Children Program. The opinion was expressed that the programs were not a wise use of funds.

Barbara Buie, project director of the Hoke Reading-Literacy Council, commented on the adult literacy program and the conse-

quences for the county if the issue of adult illiteracy is not addressed.

Buie stated in reference to public assistance recipients that "many people receiving services do not have high school diplomas, cannot read and write."

The possibility of a central communications systems for the city and county was discussed. Balfour indicated that such a system would make the user responsible for service payment.

Sheriff's Department services were discussed, some comments indicated that the department was undermanned.

County Manager William K. (Bud) Cowan indicated that the officer to population ratio was ap- (See HEARING, page 3A)

Ex-coach sues; educators won't comment

The local board of education is not commenting on a \$75,000 law suit filed against Hoke County by former basketball coach Gregory Killingsworth.

"We can't afford to acknowledge or deny any comments he (Killingsworth) has made," Director of Personnel for Hoke County Schools Gloria Williams said on Monday. "We're suggesting that school board members not make any comments."

"We have read in the newspapers what everyone else has read, but as of Friday, we have not

received any legal documents," Williams said.

What the papers say is that Killingsworth has accused the Hoke County Board of Education of deliberately damaging his professional reputation by not renewing his contract in 1985. Killingsworth, who taught and coached at Hoke County High School from 1983 until 1985, is seeking \$50,000 in actual damages and \$25,000 in punitive damages.

In a complaint filed by attorney James R. Nance Jr. in Cumberland County Superior Court on Wednesday, June 11, Kill-

ingsworth claims that when he was hired by the local school system, he was told that the county had a policy requiring all head coaches and administrators to live in Hoke County.

Killingsworth moved from Cumberland to Hoke County when he began coaching and teaching duties at Hoke County High School, according to the complaint.

The former coach moved back to Cumberland County in February 1985 after he was told

(See BOARD, page 3A)

Raeford man sentenced for 1981 shooting

A Raeford man received a one-year sentence for a shooting incident which occurred in 1981 in this week's session of district court.

Matthew Neal Ray, 41, of Rt. 3 Box 223, Raeford pleaded no contest to a common law misdemeanor charge of "attempting to discharge firearm into an occupied dwelling."

According to records, Ray was arrested on January 15, 1981 for willfully discharging a shotgun into the mobile home of Annie J. Davis, Rt. 3, Raeford, while several people were inside.

Judgment included a recommendation for a work release during the one-year sentence.

Franklin Bernard Hill, 608 Arnold Street, Aberdeen, pleaded guilty to charges of possessing marijuana, passing in a "no passing" area and driving 115 mph in a 55 mph zone while fleeing and attempting to elude arrest or apprehension by a law enforcement officer.

In addition, Hill, 16, pleaded guilty to charges of failing to pull over to the right-hand side of the road and stop when approached by

a police vehicle which was displaying the appropriate light and signal and not being licensed as a driver by the Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV), records say.

Hill was arrested at 2:00 p.m. May 17 near the intersection of NC 211 and RP 1214 in the vicinity of Raeford and Timberland.

Records say Hill was sentenced to not less than nine months and not more than twelve months, suspended for two years, placed on supervised probation for two years and fined \$350.

(See DWI, page 2A)



Togetherness

Revonda Brown and her son, Johnny, 11, spend a moment together before Johnny leaves for summer camp. Mrs. Brown is participating in the local "Parents Helping Parents," program. (See story on page 8A)