

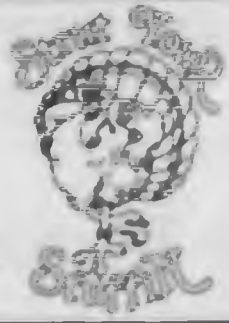
# The News-Journal

RAEFORD, NORTH CAROLINA

Covering Hoke County Like A Roof Since 1905

Wear T-shirts  
on Monday  
On page 2

N.C.  
TURKEY  
FESTIVAL  
Sept. 18-20



Volume LXXVIII Number 20 Thursday, September 4, 1986

25 CENTS



### Autographs

Grand Ole Opry star Jerry Clower signs autographs for some of his fans after a performance at Hoke High Stadium Friday night.

## Clower kicks off festival

The Labor Day weekend got off to a rousing start Friday night when Grand Ole Opry star Jerry Clower brought his down-home humor to the Hoke County High School Stadium.

"An Evening with Jerry Clower," produced by the North Carolina Turkey Festival, Inc., kicked off the Second Annual Turkey Festival three weeks early. The concert was sponsored by House of Raeford Farms, Inc. and Cuddy Farms, Inc.

"I love you because y'all think enough of your county to have a festival and honor one of your industries," Clower told the crowd of over 1,000 people. "This impresses me. I hope you have the best cotton-pickin' turkey festival in the world."

"I'll remember y'all every time I

eat a turkey." The entertainer acknowledged the workers who labor in two additional Raeford industries by saying, "If it weren't for you people, we wouldn't have any Burlington socks or Fabege Brut."

Wearing a bright red suit, Clower kept the audience howling for over an hour by telling his tales about life in Amite County, Mississippi. Many of the stories centered around Clower's favorite character, Marcel Ledbetter.

Throughout the evening, between stories, the comic entertainer took the opportunity to tell the audience why he loved the people who live in the small towns of the South.

"You ain't a bunch of pessimists, that's why I love you," Clower said. "I wanted to come

here because you aren't negative." "I also love y'all 'cause you're smart. The bigger the town, the dumber the people; Raeford is just the right size for y'all to be smart."

Clower, who does 200 shows a year, stayed on the football field for a good deal of time after his performance talking with his fans and signing autographs. The entertainer did not appear to be in a hurry to leave Raeford.

Before Clower took the stage, The Tennessee River Boys warmed up the audience with a blend of fast-paced, up-tempo country ballads. The band has had a three-year stand with Nashville, Tennessee's Opryland USA.

The crowd at the stadium Friday night also got a chance to hear (See CLOWER, page 3)

## DSS seeks to alleviate workload stress

By Sally Jamir

A Department of Social Services (DSS) income maintenance report given to Hoke County Commissioners at their August 18 meeting resulted in a special meeting of county officials and DSS representatives to discuss ways of alleviating workload stress on staff.

The August 28 meeting included County Commissioner Wyatt Upchurch, County Manager William (Bub) Cowan, Commissioner and DSS Board Chairman Neil McPhatter, DSS Board Member Joyce Griffen, DSS Director Ken Witherspoon and DSS Income Maintenance Supervisor Tanya Currin.

"The meeting was primarily an information-sharing session to let all parties know what's going on," Witherspoon said. "And to let them know what we're doing to solve problems."

Much of the heavy workload in DSS has resulted from the strict deadlines imposed upon the department by the federal government as well as new assistance programs being implemented this year.

Witherspoon explained that when an individual comes in to apply for assistance their financial resources must be verified with several different agencies within 20 days of when they file the application.

"If we do not request and receive back all required information by the 20th day, we are required to pay a \$50 penalty for each week afterward in which we do not have the information," Witherspoon said.

When the information is received, it must be processed and stored in the computer terminals and a check drawn for the client within 40 days after the application has been filed.

"The client must have the check in hand by the 45th day," Witherspoon said.

There are numerous cases each month which must be handled within these deadlines. (See DSS, page 12)

## Around Town

By Sam Morris

The weather last weekend felt like winter had arrived in August. The temperatures were in the 60s during the day and were in the low 50s at night. The rain and cold north wind dropped the wind chill factor much lower.

The rains for the past month have raised the water table in most parts of the state to about normal. This is good because it has helped with the water shortages in many cities and counties.

The forecast is for the temperature to be in the 80s for the remainder of the week.

It is always a good feeling for me when good things happen to a man that was born and raised in Hoke County. Since I have been in the newspaper business in Raeford since 1935, very few letters come to the office or writings about former Hoke Countians that I can't

(See AROUND, page 3)



Bob Inskip

## Inskeep to be parade master of ceremonies

By Sally Jamir

The North Carolina Turkey Festival begins on the morning of September 18 and anticipation is building over planned events, not the least of which is the official Turkey Festival parade.

"There has not been a parade like this in Raeford," said Lynne Maxwell, Festival Committee member.

According to Maxwell, WRAL morning radio personality Bob Inskip "fbi" has been confirmed as master of ceremonies for the parade which starts at 5:30 p.m., September 18 on Main Street.

The Turkey Festival is being promoted by WRAL-FM 101 where the popular radio announcer has been since 1974.

Inskip, who was voted "Best In The Triangle" by Spector Magazine, describes himself in his biographical sketch as "creative, eclectic, and semi-normal."

Inskip explains that "the 'eclectic' part comes from his variety of interests—from being a part-time student at Duke's Divinity

## Hoke commissioners OK \$3.35 million in bonds

By Sally Jamir

Members of the Hoke County Board of Commissioners on Tuesday unanimously voted to adopt an order authorizing \$3.35 million in school bonds and passed a resolution calling for a special bond referendum to be held on November 4.

The vote followed a public hearing held for the bond order Tuesday morning at which were present members of the Hoke County School Board and area residents.

In a brief presentation at the beginning of the hearing, Superintendent Dr. Bob Nelson referred to documented studies which attested to the great need of the county for improvements in school facilities.

"There is an estimated \$21 million needed for school facilities improvements in Hoke County," Nelson said. "It is not realistic for us to request that amount."

Nelson said that with the \$3.35 million requested, the short range needs of the county could be met and facilities could be put into the condition necessary in order to prepare for long range needs.

The bond debt will be retired

by revenues from the two half-cent sales taxes rather than an increase in ad valorem tax, Nelson said.

Several of those present at the public hearing spoke in favor of taking steps to air-condition the school buildings in order for the physical environment to be conducive to learning and good morale.

Commissioner Wyatt Upchurch requested a feasibility study to be done on school air-conditioning construction by the school board.

School Board Chairman Bill Cameron responded that a study of this nature was requested a couple months ago and that arrangements would be made to begin work on it.

After the public hearing was adjourned, County Attorney Duncan McFadyen read the bond order. Commissioner Neill McPhatter moved to adopt the bond order and Commissioner James Hunt seconded the motion.

After a reading of the referendum resolution, Hunt moved to accept the resolution and Commissioner Cleo Bratcher seconded the motion.

The referendum will be voted on

November 4 by all qualified voters in the county. The last day to register for voting is October 6.

In other business, commissioners granted a request for funds and services from the Turlington School PTA for use in a project to install air-conditioning units in the Turlington School auditorium.

The request, presented to the commissioners by Mack Seasons of Raeford Heating and Air Conditioning, included \$2,000 to help the PTA in their fundraising activities in order to purchase air-conditioning units.

The Hoke County Board of Education has granted \$5,000 to the project and the PTA will be raising matching funds in order to buy the air-conditioning units for \$7,500.

The request also includes a provision of labor and electronics by the county.

Duct work and labor expense for the project will be donated by Raeford Heating and Air Conditioning, Inc. Both Raeford Heating and Melton's Electric Heating and Air Conditioning will be working on the project. (See \$3.35 MILLION, page 12)

## Perkinson will speak in Raeford at Literacy Sunday observance

By Sally Jamir

Literacy Sunday will be celebrated this year on September 7, with guest speaker Alvin P. Perkinson, President of St. Andrews Presbyterian College, Laurinburg.

Literacy Sunday is observed in conjunction with International Literacy Day, September 8, promoted by the North Carolina Literacy Association (NCLA).

The celebration will be held at 3 p.m. in Raeford United Methodist Church. This year Literacy Sunday will have the theme "Literacy Overcomes Handicaps". The public is invited.

According to the NCLA, approximately one million people in the state are not able to: read the directions on a medicine bottle; read and complete job applications; write a simple card or letter; read their children a story or help them with homework; or understand work place instructions or safety precautions.

Statistics published by NCLA say that 87 percent of the prison population in North Carolina is functionally illiterate. Seventy-seven percent of the poverty households in North Carolina are headed by an individual with less than a high school education.

It has also been found by NCLA that North Carolina is rated 42nd

among the states in terms of literacy.

Literacy Sunday will celebrate what has been done to alleviate the problem of illiteracy in the state.

Among the people to be recognized during the celebration will be "The Student of the Year", "The Tutor of the Year" and "The Supporter of the Year".

St. Andrews Presbyterian College makes it possible for the physically handicapped to receive college degrees.

Rev. C. Ansley, Chairman of "Literacy Sunday" said that Perkinson's presence in Hoke County would emphasize the seriousness of illiteracy.

"Illiteracy is indeed a handicap, but one that can be overcome," Ansley said.

Hoke Reading-Literacy Council (HRLC) is now recruiting students, tutors and other volunteers for future training sessions as part of its services expansion.

The sessions, starting September 15, will be given in conjunction with the Project Literacy U.S. (PLUS) campaign being conducted this month.

PLUS is a joint effort of the Public Broadcasting System (PBS), its member stations, and ABC and its affiliates to raise awareness of the different ways there are to combat adult illiteracy.



Alvin P. Perkinson

PBS member stations participating in PLUS in North Carolina are the University of North Carolina Center for Public Broadcasting and WTV1, Charlotte. There are also six commercial television stations affiliated with ABC in North Carolina which are participating.

The ABC programming was kicked off on September 3 with a documentary about PLUS narrated by Peter Jennings. Other programs which will focus on illiteracy include "This Week With" (See PERKINSON, page 12)

School, to being a community volunteer in the Yokefellows program, a prison volunteer group."

"I just love him," Maxwell said. "He's smart, he's good, and he has a great sense of humor."

Inskip will emcee the parade from the reviewing stand which will be positioned in front of city hall.

Maxwell said that so far 70 units are scheduled to be in the parade and more are expected.

Four bands have agreed to march in the parade, along with color guard units and a variety of floats, over 25 thus far.

"Some of our animated friends may be dropping in for an appearance," Maxwell said.

The turkey dinner is to be held during and after the parade from 4:30 to 7:30 p.m. at the Hoke High School Gibson Cafeteria.

Festival committee member Darlene Clark said that 1200 to 1500 people are expected to attend the dinner which will be prepared by the Hoke County Schools Food

Service Association.

"We will be anticipating a large crowd," Clark said. "Necessary arrangements have made to serve more people this year. And there will be the addition of take out lines. People can take their meal out to the courtyard area and listen to music which is scheduled from 6:30 to 10:30 that evening."

The Hoke County Swingers, a square dance group, will perform as will Tom Rogers and the Country Boys, a bluegrass band.

Tickets for the dinner are \$4 and can be purchased from Women's Club Members as well as Harriet McFadyen and Mrs. Tom Phillips.

On Friday, September 19, several events will take place including the tennis tournament, the golf tournament, the N.C. High School Turkey Bowl, and an outdoor beach music concert featuring "The Catalina's" and "The Band of Oz".

On Saturday, September 20, Main Street will be blocked off for booths featuring crafts, exhibits and food sales. There will be continuous entertainment on two stages as well as a tennis tournament, car show, horse show and the Turkey Olympics.

An activity added to the festival this year is the Children's Corner. On Saturday this area will be located on Main Street in the empty lot near the Southern National Bank (across from the cleaners) from 2 to 4 p.m.

A play area will be provided for children as well as planned activities, according to George B. Barth II, M.D., Children's Corner coordinator.

"Varied entertainment will be provided, designed for children ages two through 12," Barth said. "There will be lots of paper to draw on, noodles and string, beads for children to make things out of and maybe a puppet show."

Barth stressed that the Children's Corner was not a day care service. Children have to be supervised by a responsible adult during their stay at the corner.