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RAEFORD, NORTH CAROLINA

25 CENTS

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Chief deputy refutes Brown's testimony; contradicts sheriff

The chief deputy of the Hoke County Sheriff's Department fogged the picture being painted—by court testimony—of a November shooting at Cousins Club in Antioch.

Chief Deputy Wayne Gardner's boss, Sheriff Alex Norton, is on trial for his job; District

Attorney Jean Powell and County Attorney Duncan McFadyen accuse Norton, among other things, of driving away from the scene of the shooting rather than chasing down a car apparently involved in it.

Norton has testified he heard the shooting from

a nearby driveway where he was parked, then later drove to investigate after calling in Sgt. Josh Brown.

Brown has testified Norton didn't come to investigate the shooting at all; he said then-Detective Wayne Gardner showed up, then drove

off to seek the car involved in the shooting.

Gardner said Monday he did not drive to Cousins Club early November 4 upon hearing about the shooting over the car radio.

Instead, Gardner said, he responded from (See SHERIFF, page 12)



Out on a limb

Rescuers lower Jennifer Saleeby from the heights of an oak tree where she and Fred Smith landed Monday.

The two — strapped together — jumped from a plane near Raeford Airport, but their main and reserve parachutes failed and became tangled.

Chutists fall more than a mile into trees ... and walk away

A Fort Bragg soldier and a North Myrtle Beach resident on her second parachute jump fell for more than a mile into an oak tree near the Raeford Municipal Airport Monday evening. After a two-hour rescue effort the two walked away unhurt.

Fred Smith, an Army chief warrant officer, and Jennifer Saleeby had jumped from a plane strapped together in a tandem jump when their main chute malfunctioned.

"The first chute went behind us," Saleeby said. "He pulled the reserve and it went in front of us."

The two dropped from about 6,000 feet with

the chutes flapping and creating drag, Smith and Saleeby said.

Smith said he steered into trees to break their fall. "We did a good job of keeping things under control," he said.

"I heard the tree crack when we went into it," Saleeby said. That was her only concern as the two awaited rescue. During the rescue one limb broke just after a rescuer left it.

The two said their plane circled until friends from the airport arrived near the tree. They called out until they were found.

When the Hoke County Rescue Squad, EMS (See CHUTISTS, page 3)

DeVane, Dial asked to stop district plan

Hoke leaders take protest to Raleigh

Danny DeVane doesn't have much to say to make angry voters feel better about the new district plan.

DeVane and Adolph Dial, house representatives from the 16th District in which Hoke now lies, sit on a house board whose leaders proposed a plan which would split Hoke County into three House districts with one representative each.

Each of those districts covers parts of other counties. Each of three races—black, Indian and white—would dominate the population of one district.

Hoke citizens would make up a minority in each district; Robeson citizens would make a

majority in each.

DeVane says he has pushed for such a plan since he first ran for a House seat 10 years ago.

"All that was in the newspaper then," he said. "I'm not trying to hide anything."

At the Black Caucus meeting, DeVane pushed a plan that would carve a majority Indian district out of Robeson County and make a Hoke-Scotland one-member district.

At Monday morning's meeting, he revealed what may have been his motive for pushing the plan; he said an Indian district had been pre-decided in Raleigh.

"I was told that there was going to be an Indian district cut and I might as well go home and sell my people on it," he said.

Not everyone at the meeting agreed with DeVane.

"I don't buy your observation that you don't have any influence on that committee," Lumberton Democrat E. B. Turner said. Turner ran unsuccessfully for a house seat last year.

"The district is not pleased with what you and Adolph have done," he added.

"If you want to push your angle, we'll know that. If you want to represent the district, we'll know that, too."

George Paris, mayor of Red Springs, said the new districts are part of a secret political deal.

"Yes, again, another under the table deal has been swung here," he said.

He added an Institute of Government expert (See DISTRICT, page 12)



Rep. Pete Hasty at Raeford meeting.

"I was told that there was going to be an Indian district cut and I might as well go home and sell my people on it"—Rep. Danny DeVane

majority in each. At a Monday morning meeting at Edinborough Restaurant on S. Main Street, Raeford, angry voters from Hoke, Scotland and Robeson Counties accused those who drew the maps of splitting up the races, trying to destroy the counties and dirty dealing.

"There's nothing I can say that's going to ease your feelings," DeVane told the crowd.

"There's no way to put it back together," he said later. "They've got 26 or 27 solid votes to take it the way it is right now."

DeVane blamed the Tri-County Black Caucus for spoiling hopes for a district with one representative that would cover only Hoke and Scotland Counties.

He cited a May 11 meeting of the Black Caucus in Raeford at which he said he was "raked over the coals."

While he was under fire from the blacks, he said, he didn't get any support from the rest of the community for his plan.

"Not one single person stood up and told me

Business to recycle pallets

You've seen them. Those wooden things underneath stacks of cardboard boxes in a warehouse. The things the forklifts grab to move all those boxes around.

They're called pallets, and there's a new company in Wayside that recycles them.

Wheeler's Pallets moved into a building on U.S. 401 North just three weeks ago; Stephen Wheeler, the owner, employs around 15 people.

They take broken pallets from clients in business and industry either for a fee or to sell on the open market.

Millions of broken pallets are thrown

away each year; recycling them could save a lot of space in trash dumps and a lot of trees in forests.

Wheeler was welcomed yesterday by the Raeford-Hoke Planning and Development Commission at the old Depot Building with a wine and cheese reception.

Festival brings magic to town



Eddy Wade, one of two magicians to perform at this year's Festival.

The North Carolina Turkey Festival is not that far off, folks. Here it is the end of June; that leaves only about a month and a half before the fun starts.

But not to worry, the magic elves who bring you the festival have been hard at work.

One of them (actually festival board member Kristi Posey) has already lined up all the musicians and magicians for this year's festival.

Magicians? That's right. For the first time, a magic show will add to the festival's sparkle. In fact, this year's theme is "It's Magic."

To be held at Armory Park Friday, September 20, at 6 p.m., the show will feature David VanDerveer of the Fearless Airborne Conjury.

VanDerveer is a walking encyclopedia of circus skills. He combines comedy, magic, juggling, unicycling, trick shooting, knife throwing and the delicate art of the bullwhip.

His most famous trick has earned him the nickname "The Chainsaw Juggler." Nuff said.

VanDerveer will be preceded by magician Eddy Wade, who specializes in the classics of magic, like sawing folks in half, eating fire and levitating.

It's all everyday stuff to Wade.

The magic show will have something for all ages; the youngest will delight to the show opener, balloon sculptures by Rosie the Magic Clown.

Tickets for the show will cost \$2. (See FESTIVAL, page 4)

Welcome Home party is Sunday

Organizers of Hoke County's "Welcome Home" party are hoping 500 people will gather at Old Armory Park Sunday to welcome back the troops from Desert Storm.

At 2 p.m. free hot dogs, popcorn and soft drinks will be served.

At 2:30 a short program including a parachute drop and music will be held.

Hoke's ceremony is being held as part of the statewide "Salute to the Troops" celebration proclaimed for June 29-July 4 by Governor Jim Martin.

In addition to the food and ceremony, a clown and the N.C. Turkey Festival Turkey will appear and there will be free balloons.

Participants are urged to bring blankets or lawn chairs.

The event will be held rain or shine.

Around Town

By Sam C. Morris

After a week of hot and humid weather it cooled off Monday. I don't remember the humidity any higher than it was last week. If you did any outdoor work or exercise, you would be wet from head to foot. The cooler temperatures Monday will only spoil us for the long summer ahead.

There has been rain two or three times and I have heard reports from two to four inches of rain. We needed the rain and it will help with the crops and especially with the gardens.

The forecast calls for the temperatures to begin rising Wednesday. On Wednesday and Thursday we'll see the highs in the 80s and the lows in the 60s. By Friday and Saturday the highs will be in the mid-90s and the lows in the 70s. Maybe we will have a thunderstorm in the latter part of the week.

The season for peaches, watermelons and cantaloupes has come. The peaches should be plentiful by the weekend. Usually we have the melons by the 4th of July. If we don't have any hail the crops should be super.

Since receiving the call about a Raeford High School football team from Maurice Fleishman of Fayetteville, I have come up with 11 names on the 1920 team. They are Bab Ausin, Alfred Cole, Roland Andrews, Doug McFadyen, Hog McLean, Frank Culbreth, Crawford Wright, Donald McQueen, John Wilson, Lewis Upchurch and Buck Currie.

Some of these names came from a torn picture given to me by the late Josephine Hall. She could name all but two people in the picture. The picture was torn and some of the players were (See AROUND, page 12)