

# The News-Journal

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RAEFORD, NORTH CAROLINA

25 CENTS

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## Mercer: JOBS program could lower social services costs

Hoke County is about to start a new state program aimed at getting people off welfare and into the work place.

JOBS—Job Opportunities and Basic Skills—is the most comprehensive job training program yet, said Bob Mercer, director of Hoke's Department of Social Services.

JOBS makes all parents (except those with a

valid excuse) who get money from the state to raise their families go through the program until they have been taught and trained enough to get a job and support the families themselves.

Those who decline to participate or drop out part way through lose their welfare money.

Mercer believes the program can work, but it will take sweat and cooperation from business-

men, from social workers, from county officials.

"The more involvement we get the more success we're going to have," he said.

Success will take "all of the business and governmental agencies in the county pulling together."

"The JOBS thing is going to permeate so many areas in the county that it's going to have to

be very carefully coordinated," he said.

"It's just programmed into a much larger, more progressive program," he said.

"We're going to have to go to zero and start over."

Mercer has been in social services long enough to see job programs come and go—does (See JOBS, page 6)



Rejection  
A Hoke lineman rejects a pass by Charlotte Garinger's quarterback early in a scrimmage between the Hoke High Bucks and the Southwest Conference champions. The Bucks emerged victorious. Story page 8.

## Board sets interviews for sheriff candidates

Hoke County commissioners announced yesterday they will begin interviewing candidates for the job of sheriff of Hoke County 7 p.m. Thursday.

Around Raeford, many people had expected commissioners to pick a new sheriff at yesterday's meeting.

Fifteen men and one woman have applied for the job; the closing date for applications was August 23.

Eddie Allen, Debbie Brewer, Daniel D. Brock, Wayne Byrd, Frank Crumpler, Larry Godbold, James Holt, Jim Knott, William Gary Lowe, Jim Madden, John McNeill, Weaver Patterson, Jimmy Riley, John Robertson, Thomas Rugg and David A. Stewart applied for the job.

Three do not live in Hoke County: Godbold, Holt and Stewart. Because they have not lived in the county for a year, they cannot hold the office.

Four are now members of the Sheriff's Department: Eddie Allen, Debbie Brewer, Weaver Patterson (assigned to the Hoke-Robeson Drug Task Force) and Jimmy Riley.

Frank Crumpler is the interim sheriff, as county coroner, he automatically took the sheriff's job when former Sheriff Alex Norton was removed from the job by a Superior Court judge August 5.

Hoke and other counties next to the bases; and made suggestions to the Army, the Air Force and to surrounding towns and counties on things they could do to "work together as good neighbors," Dougherty said.

Calling Hoke's zoning provisions "a bold step forward," Jim Dougherty, a state planner, told commissioners, "you have gone way beyond most of the other local governments."

The study commission recommended that counties adopt laws that new construction in noisy areas be soundproofed and that land owners and developers warn prospective buyers of the noise.

The study also recommended the Army and Air Force pay land owners a fee for land near the bases because the property values are lower. Both the Army and Air Force steadfastly refused to take such measures.

The Department of Defense paid most of the \$275,000 tab for the study, because, Army representative Glen Prillaman said, "Fort Bragg and Pope Air Force Base are national assets...and should rightly be protected."

The bases also provide "a certain economic stability to this area," said Omega Weeks, a chief of environmental planning at Pope AFB.

But Commission Chairman Wyatt Upchurch said Hoke County—a third of which is Fort Bragg Reservation—isn't getting its fair share.

Fayetteville, he noted, gets \$18 million pumped annually into its economy; Spring Lake gets \$17 million.

Raeford gets only \$57,000, he said.

"I have a problem with that," he said.

"It's not equally distributed at all," Dougherty admitted.

He recommended Hoke look for industries which can supply Fort Bragg's needs; one of the products of the study was a full understanding of what supplies the bases buy locally and what they

(See CANDIDATES, page 10)

## SAT scores jump 23 points

Hoke County students who took the Scholastic Aptitude Test last semester did better, on average, than any group of test-takers in the county for the last seven years.

"We're pleased that we've had a 23-point gain," said Lavetta Horton, associate superintendent for Hoke County Schools.

"We are real excited about this. It indicates some degree of improvement," she said.

In fact, Hoke's SATs, though still below state average, have risen at a much faster rate than that of either the state or the nation.

"Nationally, the trend has been dropping," Horton said.

Nationwide, the SAT is generally taken by juniors or seniors seeking entry into college. The test is intended to predict the performance of a student in college. The SAT is divided into two parts, math and verbal. The minimum score is 400, the maximum 1600.

Hoke's average SAT scores rose from (See SCORES, page 6)

## Hoke praised by study leaders for accommodating Fort Bragg

Leaders of a study of land uses for Fort Bragg, Pope Air Force Base, Camp Mackall and surrounding counties and communities praised Hoke County commissioners for being the first to include special provisions in its zoning law regarding land near the military bases.

The Joint Land Use Compatibility Study, finished in April, identified noise problems caused by low-level flights and artillery bombing on the bases; showed how many jobs and how much money were pumped into the economies of

## Turkey Festival to get taste of Desert Storm

North Carolina Turkey Festival goers will get to see some of the heroes of Operation Desert Storm in person as the Army's 82nd Airborne Division brings its Desert Storm Homecoming Events Mobile Exhibit Team to the Turkey Festival.

They'll see some of the men and machines that made the Persian Gulf war so short; exhibits include an M1 tank, an M3 Bradley, a M109

self-propelled howitzer, a Humvee with tow and a MICLIC mine field clearing vehicle.

Plus, the 82nd Airborne will bring in two helicopters, an AH-64 Apache, and an OH-58 Delta, an infantry display, and a working dog team.

The display will be set up in the parking lot behind Southern National Bank all day Saturday, Sept. 21.

## Festival gets more sponsors

Additional companies have become sponsors of the N.C. Turkey Festival.

With the Festival only two weeks away, organizers are trying to finalize their fundraising efforts.

Any business wishing to become a sponsor should call Diana Pressley at the Raeford-Hoke Chamber of Commerce at 875-5929 or Marvin Lynne Maxwell at home at 875-3818.

So far, the following businesses and industries have become sponsors (updated lists will be printed in upcoming editions of *The News-Journal*, the most recent additions in bold):

**Aberdeen Bottling Co.**  
Associated Posters  
Auto Parts and Equipment  
Barbee Pharmacy  
Bird in Hand

Cape Fear Farm Credit  
Carolina Power and Light  
Carolina Telephone and Telegraph  
Carolina Turf  
City of Raeford  
Clayton Brooks  
County of Hoke  
**Dickson Press, Inc.**  
**Donald R. Johnson, DDS, PA**  
Dr. Charles Inman  
Dr. R.G. Townsend  
Dr. Ramnik Zota  
Edinborough Restaurant  
Enviro-Chem Company  
Farm Chemicals, Inc.  
Fast Shop Food Mart  
First Citizens Bank  
Heilig-Meyers Furniture  
Hodges Associates, Inc.  
Hoke Cable, Inc.  
(See SPONSORS, page 6)



Labor Day fun  
Crystal Malloy, 5, enjoys a ride on a pony at House of Raeford's annual Labor Day Employee Appreciation Day, held Monday at Arnory Park.

## Man gets 50 years in shooting death

An Antioch man was sentenced to 50 years in prison for the murder of a Council man in February.

Abel Hernandez was convicted of second degree murder for shooting Gumaro Coronado Lopez, 24.

He shot Lopez in the head seven times as he lay in bed at the home of Hernandez' estranged wife.

Hoke County Sheriff's Lt. Debbie

Brewer and Raeford Police Officer Jackie Jordan responded to a report of a multiple shooting at 3:30 a.m. February 10 in Kaynuir Mobile Home Park off Highway 401 Business.

They arrested Hernandez and confiscated a .22 caliber pistol used in the shooting. Hernandez had broken into the trailer, where he reportedly used to

(See SENTENCED, page 10)

## Around Town

By Sam C. Morris

The weather has been nice for the first four days of this week. The temperatures have been in the 80s during the day and the lows at night have been in the 60s. It was dry Monday and this was the first day in some time that we haven't had some rain.

According to the forecast, the remainder of the week will see the temperatures rise to the high 80s during the day and will be in the high 60s at night. After getting soaking wet on the golf course last Friday I wouldn't rule out rain for any day of the upcoming week.

In talking with Julian Butler and John Balfour during the week, it seems that the cotton crops have been hurt by the wet weather. The rain has caused the bolls to rot on the plants. Also some of the tobacco in the fields haven't been harvested because of the shortage of barns to cure the tobacco. Since the leaf

is wet it takes longer to cure the tobacco. Many of the cotton farmers will start to defoliate their fields next week. The cotton picking should begin in about three weeks. It could continue on into October.

Since writing in this column last week about the opening of schools and the children being beside the highways in the early morning hours, I read where parents are protesting about the early pickup in a neighboring county.

So let's all of us who are going to work early in the morning be extra careful as we drive along the highways. The school children must be up and out by the roads about daylight to reach school in time for their classes. Please watch out for them!

Last Wednesday Congressman Bill Hefner was in the county. He had lunch (See AROUND, page 6)