

# The News-Journal

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RAEFORD, NORTH CAROLINA

25 CENTS

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## High School to experiment with outcome-based teaching

Hoke County High School will experiment with a new theory of teaching next semester if teachers and administrators can work out a calendar.

School Board members agreed informally last night to see if a relatively new theory — outcome-based education — can improve student performance in two courses taught at the high school. And Superintendent Bill Harrison predicted it would do

just that.

Ninth grade English and Algebra I classes will be divided into nine-week quarters instead of six-week periods. Students in those classes will be graded at the end of each quarter; if they pass the material covered in that quarter, they move on. If not, they take the quarter over.

Teachers call the program Short Term Achieve-

ment and Reward: STAR.

STAR is a way of using the theory of outcome-based education; all students will learn the material to pass a course, even if it takes some longer than others.

"We would...like to make it very difficult for students to fail," said Billy Colston, a math teacher at the high school.

Part of the program would be a system of make-up classes after school run by paid teachers, paid or sponsored peer tutors, video lessons and computer-aided learning.

Students would be assigned to that network as they begin to fall behind, not after they had already failed, Colston said.

(See EXPERIMENT, page 9)

## Construction halted at Rockfish school

### Land not suitable for septic tanks

Construction was stopped Thursday on the new Rockfish Elementary School after state officials told Hoke County's building inspector the land will not support the school's septic system.

The state Department of Environment, Health and Natural Resources had found December 16 the land would support the school's septic system, said Don Steed, assistant superintendent for Hoke County Schools.

Billy Coxe, the county inspector, revoked the schools' building permit Thursday morning.

The school system must have permits from the department's Division of Environmental Management and Division of Health Services in order to build the school.

After builders graded the site, on Rockfish Road near Rockfish, the state's data changed, Steed said. That data had shown the soil would barely accommodate the septic system to start with.

"The original data, even though it was marginal, said it was fine," he said yesterday.

The grading changed the contour of the land "drastically," Steed said.

School officials learned of the state's conclusions on the soil Thursday after a meeting Wednesday between engineer Bill Piver, hydrologist Fred Smith and architect Owen Smith.

Parts of the school foundation had already been laid when the project was halted.

The work stoppage leaves the schools with four options, Steed said:

- buy more land (if available) to put the septic system in,



Rockfish School construction site.

- get utility rights from neighboring land owners to put their septic tank there,
- install an expensive sewage treatment system or
- make a deal with the City of Raeford and build a pipeline to pump sewage to the city's treatment plant. This option is the most expensive, Steed said.

Most of the land for the 30-acre school site was donated to the schools from the estate of Adrian Williams; the Board of Education also bought five acres of the site.

The school site first came into controversy when School Board members John McAllister, Bill Cameron and Charlotte Kelly voted to table a recommendation from a site

(See SCHOOL, page 5)

## Third firm offers transportation free for Hoke dialysis patients

A Fayetteville clinic which had benefitted from Hoke-funded transportation for some of its patients has joined two other clinics in offering free transportation to patients suffering kidney failure.

Nephrology Associates of Fayetteville is the last of three clinics which serve Hoke County dialysis patients to offer the free service. Its transportation service started Monday morning.

Nephrology Associates was the only area clinic to benefit from \$22,000 in funding through Hoke County's Department of Social Services, said department head Bob Mercer.

That money, which came from funds for

elderly and handicapped and Medicaid, sent seven to nine patients to Nephrology Associates Fayetteville office three times a week, Mercer said.

Nephrology Associates' offer came on the heels of an identical offer last week from Dialysis Care of North Carolina, which operates a dialysis clinic in Pinehurst.

That offer partly prompted Mercer to kill the transport program, which had just run out of money. The funding had started before Mercer came on board as director January 2, 1991.

"We knew we would already be terminating our transportation program so I said,

"Great!" he said.

But Mercer's move generated an angry call Friday from Kent Webb, the kidney doctor who leads Nephrology Associates. However, at the end of the call, Webb mentioned his clinic would also offer free transport to patients, Mercer said.

That same day, Mercer's secretary Kay McMillan noticed a van providing transportation to a Laurinburg dialysis clinic parked in the DSS lot; Mercer said he wasn't even aware of the Laurinburg clinic's service until then.

"That's a real service to Hoke County," he said.

(See PATIENTS, page 5)



Painting the town

Girl Scouts from eight area troops celebrated their organization's 80th birthday by painting slogans on downtown store windows Sunday.

## Hoke man charged with rape, kidnapping

A Lumber Bridge man was charged Friday with kidnapping and raping a Greensboro woman last month.

Donovan Anthony Chisum, 21, of Route 1, was charged by Hoke sheriff's detectives with first degree kidnapping and second degree rape and held in Hoke County Jail on \$150,000 bond. Warrants were also pending against Chisum charging him with assaults against women and violating his probation.

Chisum reportedly got the Greensboro woman to give him a ride to Hoke County February 20 where he faced the assault charges, according to Mike Underwood, a detective with the Hoke County Sheriff's Department.

While in the Rockfish area, Chisum allegedly attacked the woman in the car. She attempted to flee, but Chisum allegedly dragged her back to the car and later raped her, Underwood said. Chisum later took the woman "to the beach," Underwood said, where authorities are also investigating an alleged rape.

Witnesses near the Davis Bridge area reported at the time they saw a white or Indian woman running and screaming for help down Rockfish Road with no shirt or bra.

Deputies, called to investigate, found an earring, the bra and a shirt with blood on it.

The woman initially reported the rape when she returned to Greensboro.

## Body identified; was that of Fayetteville man

Hoke detectives say the body of a murder victim found in woods near North Raeford Fire Department has been identified.

The body was identified as that of Christopher James Parker, 21, of 6560 Amanda Circle, Fayetteville, said Wayne Gardner, a detective with the Hoke County Sheriff's Department.

Parker, a black man, had been shot seven times with what appeared to be a .25 caliber handgun. He had been shot five times in the right shoulder, once in the chest and once in the right wrist, Gardner said.

Parker was identified by medical examiners through his dental records and by the State Bureau of Investigation through fingerprints, Gardner said.

Detectives believe Parker was killed elsewhere, then dumped in woods a quarter of a mile from the

fire department.

"We're starting on that today," he said of the murder investigation.

## Wilson charged with two more sex crimes

Hoke detectives charged Donald Greg Wilson on Friday with 14 more sex crimes against two boys.

Wilson, 30, of Route 5, Raeford, was charged with 14 counts of first degree statutory sex offense against two boys; if convicted, Wilson could be sentenced to a life term in prison for each alleged crime.

This latest development brings the total to 61 charges of sex offenses against what is now four young victims.

(See CRIME, page 4)

## Around Town

By Sam C. Morris

The rain last Friday was needed in Hoke County. For the next two days you couldn't have asked for a weekend to be more perfect. The temperatures were in the low 80s and high 70s and this was ideal for outdoor activities. Monday was perfect weather again, but then the rains came in on Tuesday.

The forecast calls for a cold front to come through after the rain and temperatures will drop about 40 degrees. The highs for Wednesday and Thursday will be around 50 degrees. The temperature will begin to rise on Friday and it will reach into the high 50s. On Saturday we will see the mercury climb again into the 60s. The lows for this period will be in the low 30s and high 20s.

The warm weather has caused the peach trees to start blooming. Raz Autry said Monday that one variety of peaches that doesn't bloom until April are now starting to bloom. He is watching the thermometer and is concerned about the low this week. This is early for peach trees to bloom. We can have frost until around the 10th of April, but the weather for the past several years has been above

normal.

Let's hope that the peaches will survive this year!

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The political season is once again with us. You can see bumper stickers for many candidates appearing on cars and there are many posters in stores and other businesses around the county. If you haven't been contacted by someone running for office, just wait; your time will come.

Monday night in a television poll, we saw the Democratic candidate for president leading President George Bush for the first time. This comes as a surprise to many politicians. Maybe this will get someone on the ball to try and turn the economy around in the country.

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In a recent item in this column concerning a program given at Raeford High School in the 1920s or 1930s, the program had advertisements from businesses that were in the county at that time. The program listed 18 businesses that had ads.

I started thinking about these businesses last weekend and I noticed that of (See AROUND, page 9)