

The News-Journal

**election '94
preview**
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INSIDE

The 2nd issue of our 86th year

RAEFORD, NORTH CAROLINA

25 CENTS

Wednesday, April 20, 1994

Two arrested for breaking into home of Hoke register of deeds

Two teenagers were arrested last Thursday for allegedly breaking into the home of Hoke County Register of Deeds Della Maynor.

Hoke County sheriff's Detective Arnold Wilson said Paul Jones, 18, of Route 1, Box 204F, and a 15-year-old boy were charged with felony breaking and entering

and larceny and with conspiracy.

The two are accused of stealing several items of jewelry and a 9 mm handgun from Maynor's Balfour Road mobile home.

Wilson said the stolen goods have been recovered.

Jones was taken to the Hoke County jail under \$10,000 bond.

The 15-year-old was taken to a juvenile detention facility.

Man arrested for cocaine possession

Eric Lashaw Melvin, 21, of 916 Burbank St., Fayetteville, was arrested last Thursday after deputies allegedly found drugs

and a hidden weapon inside his car.

A sheriff's department report said Melvin, driving a white 1981 Cadillac, pulled out in front of oncoming traffic while turning onto Rockfish Road from Arabia Road. A sheriff's deputy followed the car and stopped it just inside Cumberland County on Camden Road.

A search of the vehicle, Melvin and three passengers turned up a possibly 9 mm handgun, a pager, more than \$1,800 in cash, a pill bottle containing cocaine and two small vials, the report said. Melvin was charged with possession of a controlled substance and carrying a concealed (See Crime, page 5A)

Fruit stand closure causes buzz

Neighborhood buzz over alleged strong-arm tactics has a City of Raeford official befuddled.

City enforcement of a North Carolina State Plumbing Code requirement resulted in a newly established produce stand temporarily and voluntarily closing to bring their business up to standards, says Raeford Public Works Director Mike McNeill.

McNeill says he approached the management of the produce stand at the corner of East Central Avenue and N.C. 20 last Wednesday after receiving complaints about increased traffic and other problems from residents in the area.

"I told them they needed to get a restroom facility and display their tax stamp ... they closed voluntarily," says McNeill.

The owner, Deborah McDonald of Fayetteville, could not be reached for comment.

He says he since has heard talk all over town that he forced the stand to close and that the requirement for restroom facilities does not apply to produce stands.

"I don't know where they got that I made them close — it must be imaginations," he said.

Article 922.2.2 of the state plumbing code says, "Every building and each subdivision thereof intended for public use shall be provided with facilities in accordance with this chapter."

Raeford city ordinance article 5-103 states the city should enforce the state plumbing code.

McNeill said because the owner put poles in the ground, the stand is, in fact, a building and therefore falls subject to the plumbing code.

Since the stand's closing last Friday, portable toilets have been brought to the site, apparently so the owner can resume business on Wednesday.

McNeill said he did not know of other produce stands in the city needing to make adjustments to meet requirements at this time, but that he would continue to enforce the state plumbing code where any violations are made.

Students D.A.R.E. to celebrate Thursday

On Thursday, Hoke County students involved in the Drug Abuse Resistance Education program will enjoy a D.A.R.E. day filled with rewards for their participation in the program.

Fifth-graders currently enrolled in the program, as well as students who have already graduated from it, will be treated to food — hot dogs, chips, cotton candy and soft drinks — and will see exhibits and demonstrations by area emergency personnel in McLaughlin Park.

Activities in the park will take place from 11 a.m. until 1:30 p.m. Special guests at the event will include Raeford Mayor Bob Gen-



Campaigning: sheriff candidate Dave Barrington Jr. (right) and his wife, Ilissa talk with Judge Bill McIlwain.

Candidates take to the soapbox

The Public Affairs Department of the Raeford Woman's Club sponsored "Meet the Candidates" at the Hoke County Public Library last night.

The program, led by club member Jackie Gladden, was designed to acquaint voters with candidates running in local and state races.

The candidates were given three minutes each to tout their platforms. A social hour followed with refreshments served and time for conversation with candidates.

During the speeches, several local candidates espoused the strengths of Hoke County and affirmed their dedication to service of its people.

Incumbent school board member Bob Conolly said, "I'm running as a token of appreciation for what Hoke County has provided for my family."

Jean Hodges, who is running for county commissioner, said if elected, "I will work to regain Hoke County's positive image — I'm tired of us being called poor."

Commissioner Cleo Bratcher,

seeking re-election, said, "I love Hoke County. Out of a hundred counties in North Carolina, I would say Hoke County has one of the greatest potentials in the state."

Chairman of the present board of commissioners L. E. McLaughlin distributed a progress report on Hoke County naming additions to the county tax base through new businesses and outlining overall growth and development in the county during his time in office.

(See CANDIDATES, page 11A)

Group seeks school board help with high school band program

A group of some 45 people met with the Hoke Board of Education Monday night to express concerns over the band program at Hoke High School.

The school board heard the matter in executive session. After a 30-minute conference it took no action.

The Monday meeting, held six days later than usual, was also notable for progress made in plans for upcoming programs such as 90-minute block scheduling at the high school, an alternative school, and a summer enrichment program for students.

In addition, school board Chairman John D. McAllister recognized two Hoke County High School students chosen to receive scholarships through the North Carolina Teaching Fellows program.

Block schedule approved for next school year

A new 90-minute block schedule for Hoke High was unanimously approved.

The new schedule will divide the school year into two 18-week terms. During each term, students will attend four 90-minute

classes - two academic courses such as math or English and two electives.

Proponents say block scheduling will provide the opportunity for students to take more electives, allow time for more discussion and cooperative learning, and lighten the class load.

Currently, students keep up with six classes, most of which are academic, core courses.

Hoke High business teacher Phyllis Fahrenbruck said approximately 160 parents came to a meeting in the high school

gym last Thursday to discuss how block scheduling would affect students.

"They went away happy and knowing their students will be successful under this scheduling," said Fahrenbruck.

Superintendent Bill Harrison pointed out the new schedule, in addition to its instructional benefits, would save money on supplies, such as books, which would be turned in at the end of the first term and used by a different group of students during the second term.

(See SCHOOL, page 4A)

Around Town

By Sam C. Morris

The weekend weather was once again the dream for the folks who like outdoor activities. The temperatures were in the 70s and 80s and the rain came mostly during the early morning hours on Saturday. The wind and rain did away with many dogwood and azalea blossoms. It was still nice weather on Monday with the temperature around 80. The nights have been cool and the lows Monday morning was in the 40s.

The forecast calls for the highs Wednesday through Friday to be in the high 70s or low 80s, with the lows in the high 40s. Saturday, the high will be in the 80s and the low will be in the 50s. There is a chance of rain on Saturday. Only a chance!

I attended the Hoke County Democratic Party convention on Saturday at the courthouse. There were delegates

from most of the precincts and Jackie Hadden presided.

The business for an off year was mostly routine and the people elected to the various committees and the delegates to the district and state conventions didn't have any opposition.

A few of the candidates who are running in the May 3rd primary were introduced and they were given a chance to speak for a few minutes. Most of them stated the office they were seeking and requested that the people vote for them.

This was my kind of convention. The meeting was called to order at 1:00 and it was adjourned at 1:30. Short but sweet!

SINCE LAST WEEK I believe all the candidates in the county have put up more posters. It seems that on every vacant lot next to a crossroads you will find many signs. The wind and rain did (See AROUND, page 3A)



New screen

Residents at Open Arms Rest Home recently received a new movie screen thanks to the Raeford Junior Service League.