



Tommy Lindsay of Hoke County, right, is congratulated by Will Maxwell of Cape Fear Farm Credit on completion of the annual Master Farm Management Seminar. The seminar, funded by Farm Credit Associations of North Carolina, and held at N. C. State University, is designed to teach financial management skills.

Lindsay receives award

A Hoke County resident completed the Master Farm Management Seminar, an annual event at North Carolina State University designed to teach farmers and owners of agriculture-related businesses financial management skills.

Tommy Lindsay attended the January seminar, conducted by the North Carolina Cooperative Extension Service and funded by the Farm Credit Associations of North Carolina.

"We had 38 individuals, men and women, participate this year," said Dr. Arnold W. Oltmans, extension economist at N. C. State. "Seminar presentations were designed to enhance the farmer's ability to know and understand his or her financial status, to increase profit potential

through good financial management and to teach other management skills that will improve farm and business operations."

Topics covered in the seminar included development of business and personal goals and objectives, strategic planning, and income tax issues. The seminar also addressed labor management and communication issues, environmental issues affecting agriculture, as well as information on transferring farm ownership to the next generation of family members.

Individuals interested in attending the 1998 session of the Master Farm Management Seminar should contact their local North Carolina Cooperative Extension Service Center or Farm Credit Association

Cow conference scheduled

If you are a cattle producer, you don't need someone to tell you that times have been tough. The up and down price cycle characteristic of the cattle industry takes its toll on all producers. But producers that limit their inputs and maximize efficiency are the ones who survive long term. All indications are that this current cycle which began in 1990 has bottomed out and is slowly turning up again. It is projected that feeder calf prices may reach the \$80/lb. range by 1998.

Many producers reduced size, some sold out, and some just get by while others do well. This month and next the North Carolina Cooperative Extension Service will offer a four-session "cow college" to area cattle producers in Hoke, Scotland, Richmond, Moore, Cumberland, Robeson and Bladen counties. There will be central sites for these meetings: Raeford, Laurinburg and St. Pauls. Below are the dates and locations of each:

session: Steve Bodinsky from Pfizer will speak on their new wormer Dectomax and sponsor a meal. There will be an optional field demo at 5 p.m. on controlled winter grazing. The program begins at 6 p.m.

• March 25, Laurinburg — session 2, 7 p.m.

• March 27, St. Pauls — session 2, 7 p.m.

• April 1, Laurinburg — session 3, 7 p.m.

• April 3, St. Pauls — session 3, 7 p.m.

• April 8 — session 4; field day to be determined by the group.

Topics to be addressed will include forage utilization, saving money with alternative feeds, use of EPDs for selection, marketing, fencing and health. In general, the groups will focus on things that producers can and should be doing to survive long term and be successful. If you would like to attend, contact Bert Coffey at (910) 997-8255 by Monday, March 17.

Finding job opportunities with internships

By Kristin Guthrie
Staff writer

Hoke County is currently working hand-in-hand with the University of North Carolina at Pembroke in a pilot program aimed at better preparing preservice teachers for a career in the field.

About a year and a half ago, East Carolina University, the University of North Carolina at Wilmington and the University of North Carolina at Pembroke received a special appropriation from the North Carolina General Assembly to implement an improved teacher training program entitled model clinical schools.

Specifically, the University of North Carolina at Pembroke received \$100,000 to establish model clinical school programs in Robeson, Bladen and Hoke counties. Since the model clinical idea was considered to be a pilot program, the three participating counties met and decided to try the new program at one elementary school per system.

In Hoke County, South Hoke Elementary was nominated to take on the responsibilities of the new program. Ever since South Hoke agreed to pilot the new idea, they have been working diligently to help implement the program to its fullest.

The goals of the University of North Carolina at Pembroke pilot program are:

- To improve the quality of teacher preparation, induction and continuous professional development by establishing partnership relationships

with selected schools in the University of North Carolina at Pembroke service area.

- To close the gap between theory and practice by grounding conceptual frameworks and theoretical models in the real world.

- To utilize the collective talents, energies and resources of partnership institutions to produce measurable improvements in classroom learning for all students.

- To redefine the role of "cooperating teachers" in the public schools to include more involvement in preservice teacher preparation.

- To encourage continuous involvement of the university in the public schools as teachers, advisors, researchers and learners.

In layman's terms, the University of North Carolina at Pembroke wants for school-related parts of the community to be more involved in teacher training.

Their pilot program makes a conscious effort to pair preservice teachers with experienced teachers for more hands-on learning opportunities.

The experienced teachers, or cooperating teachers as they call them, play an active role in helping the preservice teachers develop into capable professionals. "The teacher has a more guiding role," said Caroline Locklear, a second grade teacher at South Hoke Elementary.

The pilot program calls the teacher mentoring time "coaching." During the coaching cycles cooperating teachers and preservice teachers are given the opportunity to collaborate on ideas that will lead to the unveiling of some

of the best teaching techniques.

In the past, cooperating teachers were not trained to be mentors, but this new program requires them to be. Suzanne Murphy, another second-grade teacher at South Hoke, just recently went through the cooperating teacher program, and she thinks it's a great new idea. "The new teachers are not as much on their own," Murphy said.

In addition to building stronger bonds among cooperating and preservice teachers, the pilot program also proposes to extend the time preservice teachers spend out in the classroom from one semester to two. "It makes it more realistic for teachers coming out (graduating). They are better prepared with experience for a year.... There's not such a culture shock," South Hoke Elementary School Principal Mike Sutton said.

Specific details about exactly how the preservice teachers will spend their two semesters is not finalized yet, but the proposal is for teachers to spend extended periods of time in the public school, perhaps a couple days per week, during the first semester and a full internship during the second semester.

These ideas of "coaching" and extended internship time are new to the area and South Hoke Elementary is proud to be a part of the pilot program. More concrete requirements for the program should be decided upon by the time the model clinical program goes into effect in the Fall 1997.

Even though this pilot program is

being implemented in this area through the University of North Carolina at Pembroke, the ideas are being discussed state wide. The Dean's Council on Teacher Education of the University of North Carolina has developed a proposal for state-wide partnership school network designed to:

- Strengthen relationships and shared responsibilities among schools, colleges and universities and communities in the initial preparation, induction and continuing professional development of skilled North Carolina school staff.

- Build on the successes of current model clinical teaching programs and establish professional development partnerships for the initial preparation, induction and continuing professional development of school-based personnel.

- Extend and improve school-based components of both the initial preparation and continuing professional development programs.

- Strengthen the link between theory and practice of teaching and learning, thus narrowing the gap between what is known to be effective practice and how it is applied.

- Focus and share resources of colleges and universities, schools and communities to improve curriculum and increase learning.

Overall, this pilot program is striving to improve teacher training in Hoke County and around the state by better utilizing the resources available through cooperating teachers and school-related community organizations.

Census pollsters come to area

The nation's basic data on employment, unemployment and characteristics of the labor force will be collected the week of March 16, when employees from the Commerce Department's Census Bureau will be in the area to conduct the Current Population Survey (CPS). Data collected from the CPS — which has been conducted monthly since 1942 — are kept strictly confidential and will provide Americans with up-to-date information on the nation's work force.

In addition to the labor force data,

the March CPS will include additional questions on income, poverty, noncash benefits (such as food stamps), health insurance coverage, migration and work experience.

Information collected in the survey is used by government officials and policymakers to chart the effectiveness of government assistance programs, determine trends in migration patterns for planning locations of schools and transportation systems, and gauge the economic well-being of the country.

On April 4, the Department of

Labor in Washington will release labor force statistics for the United States based on the data provided by local households for the March CPS. The Census Bureau releases annual income and official poverty figures in the fall.

Local households selected for the survey will receive a letter from Martha Farnsworth Riche, director of the Census Bureau, informing them of the survey. Census Bureau interviewers carry an official identification card with their photograph and signature.

UNC-P to host area math fair

The University of North Carolina at Pembroke will host the 1997 Math Fair on March 27 at the Givens Performing Arts Center.

Approximately 350-400 students in grades 7-12 from the southeast North Carolina region will compete

in Algebra I, Geometry, and Algebra II tests. Schools from Wilmington to Charlotte and the central coastal region through the Piedmont will compete. The testing begins at 9:30 a.m., with the awards presentation taking place at 12:30 p.m. on March 27. The

winners in the respective categories will advance to the State Regional Tournament April 29.

For more information on the Math Fair, contact Carol Brewer, UNCP Department of Mathematics and Computer Science, at (910) 521-6417.

Read and use the classifieds.

Project grad donations

Project Graduation contributors as of Feb. 21 were:

Ricky Sandy, P.O. Box 846, Raeford

Harry Walters, P.O. Box 846, Raeford

T.B. Upchurch, P.O. Box 440, Raeford

Raeford Salvage, P.O. Box 611, Raeford

Raeford Oil Company, P.O. Box 430, Raeford

B&J Eggs, 206 W. 5th St., Raeford

A&G Con., 300 Isabel Lane, Raeford

W.E. Carter, P.O. Box 750, Raeford

Barbee Pharmacy, 118 Campus Ave., Raeford

Hoke Family Medical, P.O. Box 665, Raeford

Contributors as of March 4 were:

Buie Funeral Home, P.O. Box 767, Raeford

Universal Pawn and Sports, 632 W. Prospect Ave., Raeford

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Notice of Meetings of the Hoke County Board of Equalization & Review

Pursuant to N.C.G.S. 105-322 the Hoke County Board of Equalization and Review will meet as required by law.

PURPOSE OF MEETINGS

To hear upon request, any and all taxpayers who own or control taxable property assessed for taxation in Hoke County, with respect to the valuation of such property, or the property of others, and to fulfill other duties and responsibilities required by law.

TIME OF MEETINGS

The Board will convene for its first meeting on Monday, April 7, 1997 at 7:00 p.m. The Board will adjourn for the purpose of accepting requests at its second meeting Monday, April 21, 1997 at 8:30 a.m. Meetings will be held in the Commissioners' room of the Pratt Building, 227 N. Main St., Raeford, N.C. Requests for hearing must be received no later than March 31, 1997, 5:00 p.m.

In the event of earlier or later adjournment, notice to that effect will be published in this newspaper.

The schedule for the hearing of appeals timely filed, will be posted at the office of the assessor, serving as clerk to the Board of Equalization and Review, and will also be provided to individuals and organizations that have requested notice pursuant to G.S. 143-318.12.

All requests for hearing should be made to
DALE TEAL, Clerk
Hoke County Board of Equalization and Review
P.O. Box 217 227 N. Main St. Raeford, N.C. 28376
Telephone 910-875-8751 TOLL FREE: 1-800-597-8751

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