

Military Briefs

Completes Navy training

Ernest Franklin Davis III recently graduated from basic training at R.T.C. Naval Training Center, Great Lakes, Illinois and from N.A.T.T.C. School in Pensacola, Florida. A 2001 graduate of Hoke County High School, he is the son of Ernest Davis Jr. and Alice McRae and the grandson of Magnolia Davis.



McRae joins the Navy

Brandon A. McRae, the son of Abigail McRae of Raeford, recently enlisted in the United States Navy.

A senior at Hoke County High School, McRae joined the Navy for guaranteed training under the Delayed Entry Program. This program allows young men and women to enlist up to one year before their actual entry onto active duty.

McRae departs June 18, 2002 for the Navy's recruit training (boot

camp) at the Great Lakes Naval Training Center in North Chicago, Illinois.

Following boot camp, he will receive training in the Navy's Seaman Apprenticeship Program.

According to Petty Officer Steven G. Pollock of the Spring Lake Recruiting Office, following his initial training,

McRae may go on to additional Navy schooling or be assigned to any one of the Navy's ships or duty stations around the world.

Seniors bring back medals

Four Hoke senior citizens went mining for gold in Robeson County and they brought back not only gold but silver and bronze. Evelyn Price, Thelma McAllister, Sallie Woods and Kathryn McPhatter were participants in the recent Senior Games in Lumberton.

A total of 18 medals were brought back by the seniors, nine of them by Price.

Competing in the 75-79 year-old age group, Price won in three categories: performing arts, literary arts and athletics. She placed first in "life experience" with "Senior Thoughts on Budgeting," and first in "short stories" — "What I Never Told Anyone." In the performing arts, she also won gold in the vocals and instrumentals categories — playing the keyboards and singing "The Windows of Heaven," and accompanying herself on guitar to "I Can't Even Walk With-

out You Holding My Hand."

In athletics, Price won gold in mixed bowling, silver in both horseshoes and the football throw and bronze in shuffleboard.

Competing in the ages 65-69 age group, Kathryn McPhatter won bronze for her literary arts poem entitled "My Birthday Entrance."

She won silver in both horseshoes and basketball throw; and bronze in football throw and mixed doubles bowling.

Thelma McAllister competed in the 75-79 age group. She won bronze for her acappella rendition of "Never Walk Alone" in the performing arts category. In athletics, she won silver in shuffleboard and bronze in the basketball throw.

Also in the 75-59 category, Sallie Woods won gold in mixed bowling.

Editor's note: The senior ladies are pictured on page 1A.

Around town

(Continued from page 1A)

be door prizes.

The tournament prize package: 1st place, \$500; 2nd place, \$400; 3rd place, \$300; 4th place, \$200 and 5th place, \$100 in merchandise. There will also be hole-in-one prizes and closest to the pin prizes.

Before I became ill it was always good to play in this tournament. I never won a prize but the fellowship with the other players and the worthwhile cause was well worth the price to place in this tournament. So sign up today.

I was sorry to hear last week of the death of J. C. McKenzie of Elizabethtown. He was born in Wagram and he left here on September 16, 1940 with Battery "F." He served with Battery "F" all during World War II.

After the war in the 1950s and 1960s, he was in charge of the water department for the City of Raeford. He was married to a Hoke County lady and lived in Elizabethtown after leaving Raeford until his death.

He was buried Saturday in that city. We offer sympathy to his family.

Several years ago Harold and Peggy Gillis and Mary Alice and I went to Columbia, SC to attend the funeral of Dr. John Ropp's brother. Last week Harold and Peggy went to Georgia to visit their son, Lee and family. They left on Sunday morning and they were in Columbia about the time for Sunday morning worship services. They went to the church where we had attended the Ropp funeral. They signed the guest book as it was passed down the pews.

After the service the lady sitting next to them had noticed they were from Raeford. One of the ladies asked if they knew John Ropp. When they replied yes, the lady said she was John's sister-in-law. The wife of John's brother whose funeral we attended. Yes, this is a small world!

The House and Senate of the North

College Circuit

Mother watches son, daughter graduate together



Tony Crawford

Crawford graduates

Tony Crawford is to receive a bachelor of arts degree in therapeutic recreation from Belmont Abbey College. He participated in graduation ceremonies May 11 and is currently serving an internship at Southeastern Regional Rehabilitation Center at Cape Fear Valley Medical Center to complete his degree.

Crawford is the son of Carolyn McIntyre, Paulette Crawford and George Maynor.

Elma Patterson Mitchell believes she was "blessed" with the best Mother's Day present ever.

On Saturday, May 11, her two oldest children, Jeneene LaShon Patterson and Jamie Lamont Patterson, graduated together from North Carolina Central University in Durham.

Miss Patterson received a bachelor of science degree in public health education, and Mr. Patterson received a master of science degree in athletic administration.

Mr. Patterson plans to pursue his doctoral degree at the University of Georgia in Athens.

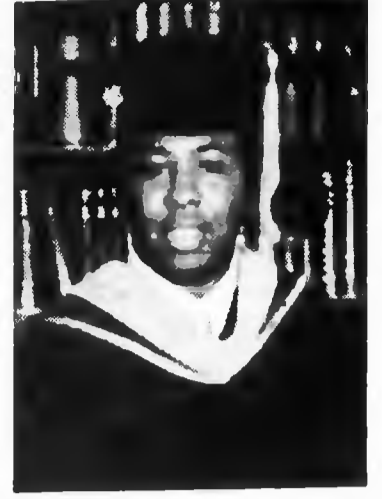
Miss Patterson plans to pursue a job with the Cumberland County Public Health Department.

Their paternal grandmother is Lena Ellerbe of Raeford.

Attending the graduation ceremony were the Mitchells, Elma, Tony and Amber; their aunt, Shirley McNeill Burkett of Red Springs, and



Jeneene L. Patterson



Jamie L. Patterson

her sister Wanda Patterson McRae of Tacoma, Washington.

The family celebrated the

graduation of the siblings at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Gaston Patterson Jr. in Durham.



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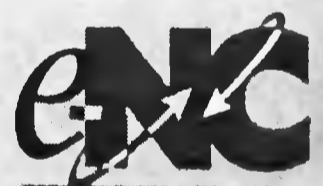
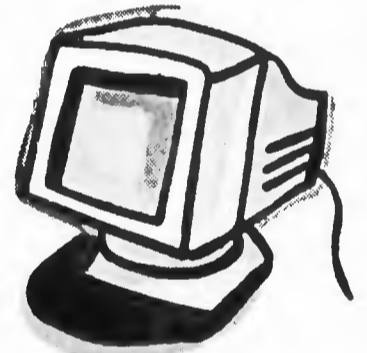
WEDNESDAY,
MAY 29, 2002

6:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.

EAST Hoke
Middle School

Free
Food!!

Door
Prizes!!



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"Connecting
Raeford/



**GRAND
DRAWING:
FREE
COMPUTER
WITH
ONE YEAR
FREE
INTERNET
ACCESS**

I hated to read about the spending of the county commissioners in the paper last week. The comments by some of the members didn't help the situation. When small Hoke outspends all the surrounding counties, then something is wrong. Maybe the board should take a course in how to handle the budget.

Sunday morning I was told that a telephone line and a fax machine were in the homes of all the county commissioners, being paid for by the taxpayers.

It seems that all the day's activities by county workers are faxed to them. If they must be running the county every day from their homes, why do we need a county manager? If three or more fax details to each other, does this mean they are having secret meetings?

It is time for the voters of the county to start thinking of what will happen in the years ahead if these officers are reelected to run our county. Think about it!

Jonathan Byrd, son of Mr. and Mrs. Jimmy Byrd, of Columbia, SC was in the top ten of the Colonial Golf Tournament in Fort Worth, Texas this past weekend.

He received over \$120,000 for his finish.

This should help reach the figure that will keep his card for next year. Keep up the good play, Jonathan. We also hear that Jonathan is getting married in December of this year.