

## Military Briefs



PO 3rd Class Clifford McNeill IV with his parents, Mac and Surrie McNeill.

## McNeill a graduate of nuclear power training

Petty Officer 3rd Class Clifford J. McNeill IV, US Navy was among 334 graduates from Naval Nuclear Power Training Command in Charleston, South Carolina on May 24.

Naval Nuclear Power Training Command is the starting point for all prospective Naval nuclear propulsion plant operators. More than 3,000 enlisted and 400 officer personnel who met the program's tough selection standards begin training each year. Enlisted personnel enter Nuclear Field "A" School following the completion of recruit training.

After Nuclear Field "A" School the students progress into Nuclear Power School which, in a classroom

setting, provides the basic knowledge necessary to understand the theory and operation of naval nuclear propulsion plants.

The Nuclear Power School introduces thermodynamics, reactor principles, radiological fundamentals, and other specialized subjects.

Nuclear Power School graduates continue training at one of the Naval Nuclear Propulsion Program's prototype plants or moored training ships, where they will qualify prior to assignment to the fleet.

McNeill is the son of Mac and Surrie McNeill of Raeford. He is a 2000 graduate of Hoke County High School.

## Local charities receive checks from 'Racehorsemania'

By PAT ALLEN WILSON  
Editor

Last week Carolina Horse Park Foundation handed out \$8,100 in checks to charities selected by local artists to receive proceeds from the sales of wooden painted ponies displayed to advertise the Stoneybrook Steeplechase this past April.

Artists and students volunteered their time to paint 48 of the 4' x 2 1/2' racehorse cutouts that were shown around Moore and Hoke counties to advertise the 51st running of the steeplechase at the equine park. Dubbed Racehorsemania, the creatively decorated horses were displayed at the steeplechase then auctioned off the day of the races.

Racehorsemania was also featured in the 50th running of the Steeplechase at the Five Points horse park. The first auction featured more than 30 decorated horses and raised \$4,000.

Said Roger Secrist, president of the Carolina Horse Park Foundation, "Racehorsemania has the potential to make major differences in charity organizations." He said such an event at a Memphis track recently raised \$1.5 million for designated charities.

Hoke high and middle school students were among those artists who decorated the ponies and both benefited from the auction. The Haven, a no-kill animal shelter, also benefited from the sales of several of the creatively decorated horses.

Many of the painted horses reflected a red white and blue patriotic theme and the World Trade Towers disaster was remembered on some. There was a pony covered with colorful stained glass and one covered with pennies.

Some horses had star themes. "Rockin' Horse" had Elvis Presley for a rider, and there was a horse covered with famous horses of the silver screen: Gene Autry's "Champion" and Roy Rogers' "Trigger."



Artists and recipients of Racehorsemania proceeds stand on the tower steps at Carolina Horse Park at Five Points.

Hoke County Family & Youth both created and gained from a painted pony called "Lightning."

The Haven benefited from "Neck & Neck," "See Jack Run," "Wild Thing," and "Feng-Shui — All the Way."

"Jump into Spring" and "Cabin Branch" benefited the Carolina Horse Park Foundation, and "Revelation," painted by Rockfish's Dr. Tony Santangelo, benefited the Raeford Kiwanis Club's Special Olympics project.

"Time Machine" was painted by

Zelma McGuan, James Updegraff and Miriam Street, and benefited Hoke East Middle School.

Germaine Patterson, Brian Bullard and Teresa Marion painted "Cool Winnings" for the benefit of Hoke County High School.

Under the sponsorship of Raeford's Jean Hodges of Hodges Associates, Elizabeth Havercraft created "My Fair Filly" for the FTCC Advertising Design School. The "Filly," designed after Eliza Doolittle, was bought by Raeford Mayor Bob Gentry.

## Habitat relies on donated money, labor

STAFF REPORT  
Special to The News-Journal

Raeford/Hoke Habitat for Humanity wishes to thank the citizens of Raeford and Hoke County, as well as the military community, who have been helping in our collection drive for aluminum cans.

The collection trailer is situated at Central Avenue and NC 20 intersection — next to the open-air market.

Habitat appreciates everyone's effort to help fill the trailer, as they are still very much in need of funds to begin building the third home for the R/HHFH.

Of course any other cash donations are equally welcome and needed. They can be made out to R/HHFH and sent

to PO Box 732, Raeford NC 28376.

As stated in an earlier staff report printed in The News-Journal, the Habitat for Humanity program relies strictly on community support through donations and labor. The cash flow will improve once habitat for Humanity will have built more homes since all Habitat homeowners do pay for their homes in monthly installments for 30 years.

Those payments are, however, kept low due to no interest charges involved and due to the low cost of the homes because of the donated moneys and labor.

Anyone who wishes more information may contact Raeford/Hoke Habitat for Humanity at 875-8866.



The decorated ponies were displayed at the Stoneybrook Steeplechase.



30 years each

These employees recently marked 30 years each of service with the Burlington Raeford plant. They are, from left, front row, John McKoy (top prep.), Patricia Campbell (quality control), Lessie M. Ross (color control); back row, James McKoy (shop), Clifton Sampson (shop), and Robert Stephens (top prep.).

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