

Flat Nose

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him that he may have a good thing on his hands, and Odom began working with him.

"He called my cousin, Bill, an attorney in Rock Hill, S.C., and told him he wanted to copyright the act," Godbold recalled. "Bill didn't believe it so we rode out on a Sunday afternoon. Flat Nose climbed a tree for us and I signed him on Monday."

Godbold, who works for Elizabeth Weaving in Grover, first brought Barney and Flat Nose to this area about a year ago when they did a free, private act for a young leukemia patient. They came back to KM in June to do a show for Plonk Brothers, which has provided clothing for Godbold for many national appearances with Flat Nose.

Godbold has been flying back and forth to Raleigh this week to visit Barney and Flat Nose. Flat Nose will have to remain hospitalized for about a week and Barney plans to stay the entire time.

"There was a guy from the Humane Society up there the other night who was sort of having a negative attitude," Godbold reported. "He asked us if we hadn't had him climbing trees would he not have had this heart problem. But Flat Nose did this on his own. He's always climbed on his own. Barney just trained him to go at his command for safety reasons, so if he fell someone would be there to catch him."

Flat Nose has been booked almost every Tuesday and Thursday and every weekend over the past five

years. He's been on vitamins and heart worm pills for sometime.

Flat Nose, 9, is thought to be the first celebrity dog to have a pacemaker.

"I understand they've used animals in the past to do surgeries before they did it in humans," said Godbold, "but to our knowledge he was the first celebrity dog to have a pacemaker installed and I'm sure he'll be watched very carefully." He'll surely be watched closely by the insurance company which carries his \$1.2 million policy.

Flat Nose, who sees a vet in Hartsville, S.C., once a week, suffers from a condition called arrhythmia, or irregular heartbeat. The abnormal beating of the heart has caused him to occasionally lose consciousness when his heart did not supply enough blood to the brain. A temporary pacing wire was implanted to regulate the heartbeat, followed by implantation of the permanent pacemaker wire in the heart and the attachment of a generator.

Godbold hopes his future, even though it appears uncertain at this time, will continue to be bright.

"I'm not going to let him do anything until November," said Godbold. "He's scheduled each year at the Southern 500 in Darlington, where he's the guest of Dale Earnhart. Dale and Barney are good friends. But I don't think I'll let him do that this year."

"Barney has another dog, Peeper, who is Flat Nose's son, that can climb also, but not as well as Flat Nose. He's been climbing a year and was on Johnny Carson a couple months ago. If anything were to happen to Flat Nose, his son would take over."

Weatherly's Bill Lodged In Senate Committee

Cleveland County's freshman Republican lawmaker, John Weatherly, is determined to get his windshield wiper-headlight bill passed in the next session of the General Assembly.

As for this year, the issue is lodged in a Senate committee after passing the N.C. House by a 5-to-1 margin.

Weatherly says he's pleased the measure passed the House and still hopes the bill will be passed through the committee when the General Assembly convenes for its short session in May of 1990.

The bill, if enacted into law, would require motorists to burn their headlights whenever it is necessary to run their windshield wipers because of rain or fog. Failure to comply would be classed as an infraction and penalty for a violation would be a \$5 fine, no court costs, no driver license points and no insurance points. Weatherly says his bill has the support of the N.C.

Highway Patrol and the Carolina Motor Club and he feels it would prevent some weather-related accidents and deaths.

The bill would require student driver courses and educational programs of the Department of Motor Vehicles to persuade and educate motorists to use headlights as an "I can see you and you can see me defensive driving practice." Weatherly said highway experts say the ability to be seen and to see the other vehicle is greatly improved when headlights and taillights are burning.

Weatherly says his first year in the House has been enhanced by working the bill through the legislative process.

"The experience has really helped me learn the process and learn what it takes to get legislation enacted," he said before returning to Raleigh Monday for what lawmakers hope will be the last week of this session.

Bank

From Page 1-A

Additionally, the completion of the transaction will be subject to the successful sale of stock associated with Home Federal's mutual stock conversion. Shares of stock offered as a part of Home Federal's conversion will be shares in Omni. The membership of Home Federal will be given the first priority to buy shares in Omni. The proposed transaction is expected to take place by the end of this year or early 1990.

Omni owns Home Federal Savings Bank, Salisbury, North Carolina and Citizens Savings, F. S. B., Concord, North Carolina. Omni was formed and acquired the two institutions in December 1988. Omni's stock is traded on the NASDAQ System under the symbol "OCGL."

Many thrifts in recent years have converted from mutual to stock ownership as a way to raise capital or net worth-the reserves thrifts are required by law to set aside."That's what the move will do for Home Federal," Tate said. "Our capital base is good now, but this just strengthens it." The stock sale will add to the capital.

In a prepared statement, Jordan and Tate stated that "we believe the proposed transaction offers tremendous advantages to both Omni and Home Federal. Both will benefit from the transaction with the results being a thrift institution with stronger financial and managerial resources, and greater geographic and operational diversification than if Home Federal continued to operate on its own. The multi-thrift holding company format, with Home Federal keeping its name and local orientation, recognizes the cooperative nature of the transaction."

Jordan said the Kings Mountain thrift offers a chance for Omni to expand into nearby small cities, "the kind of market that we are targeting."

Tate stated that "Home Federal's normal business of accepting savings and making loans will continue without interruption throughout the conversion process. After the completion of the transaction,

Home Federal will continue to operate independently under its present management and staff. Savings account holders will continue to hold accounts in each institution identical as to dollar amount, rate of return and general terms and such accounts will continue to be insured by the Federal Savings and Loan Insurance Corporation. Borrowers' loans will be unaffected by the conversion, with the amount, rate, maturity, security and other conditions remaining contractually fixed as they existed prior to the transaction."

Tate also said that "questions relating to the proposed conversion will be answered in the proxy ma-

terials to be sent out by Home Federal after all regulatory approvals of the proposed plan of holding company conversion have been obtained." Tate stated that questions at this time may be answered by telephoning or writing him at Home Federal or Jordan at Omni.

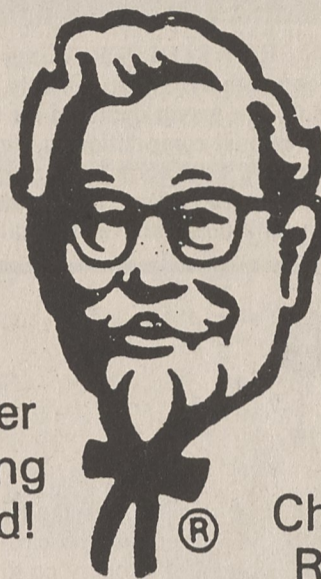
At June 30, 1989, Omni had consolidated assets of approximately \$406,818,000 with eight offices serving Rowan and Cabarrus Counties.

Home Federal had assets at June 30, 1989 of approximately \$101,784,000 and has its home office in Kings Mountain and a branch in Gastonia and in Bessemer City.

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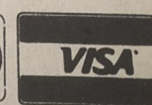
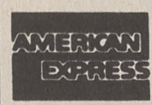
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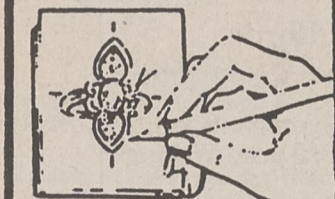
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