

Fayetteville man sentenced for Raeford armed robbery

By Sherry Matthews
A Fayetteville man was sentenced to 14 years in jail in Hoke Superior Court Monday after he plead guilty to a November armed robbery of the Raeford Safeway Finance Company.

Michael Reynolds, 31, who originally plead not guilty to the charges, changed his plea after a jury panel had been selected.

Reynolds' lawyer, Raeford attorney Phil Diehl, called for the plea change following a short lunch recess.

Following the plea, Hoke Superior Court Judge Frank Brown ordered the defendant confined to the Department of Correction for 14 years.

The maximum sentence for armed robbery is 40 years.

Reynolds, who has been in jail for nearly four months under a \$10,000 bond, was arrested by local authorities December 9.

Raeford Police officers took the defendant into custody shortly after he was tried in Cumberland County on unrelated charges.

The charges show that officers believe Reynolds entered the Safeway Finance Company of Main Street armed with a "blue steel pistol" and forced two of three employees to lie on the floor.

A third employee was apparently made to open the cash drawer. Over \$900 was taken during the robbery, authorities say.

In addition to the 14-year sentence imposed in Hoke County, Cumberland County court records show that Reynolds received a 10-year sentence on March 1 for felonious possession of cocaine and marijuana.

The Hoke sentence will begin "at the expiration of all other sentences," court records show.

In other court action Monday, four area residents were indicted by the Hoke Grand Jury for breaking and entering, larcenies, assault and possession of controlled substances.

David Lee Green was indicted in connection with the November 3 break-in at Pete's Grocery in Hoke County.

Over \$400 in merchandise, in-

cluding 12 cases of soft drinks, a kerosine heater and a step ladder were taken during the incident.

James Franklin McNair, aka Jack, was indicted for the August 5 break-in at the Willie Woods residence.

An air conditioner and color television, valued at \$500, were taken during the incident.

The grand jury also indicted Jay William Quick for the November 6 assault on Steve Locklear.

The indictment shows that Quick allegedly shot Locklear in the legs with a 12-gauge shotgun.

Paula Kay Jones was also indicted Monday on charges of possession with intent to sell or deliver a counterfeit controlled substance.

The grand jury handed down a second indictment against Jones for selling and delivering a counterfeit controlled substance to a City-County Bureau of Narcotics agent.

Those indicted Monday are scheduled to make their first trial appearance during the April 9 session of Hoke Superior Court.

JRA eyeing plant expansion

By Sherry Matthews
Preliminary plans are being discussed to expand the Raeford JRA Industries plant by 20,000 square feet, JRA Industries President Edward R. Askew said last week.

"We are looking into making some additions to the plant, but at this point we are only in the planning stages," he added.

Although Askew was "not certain" of a timetable for the proposed expansion, he did say any additions could go completed "within the next six months."

The proposed expansion could mean additional jobs at the local plant, Askew said.

"We are not sure of anything at

this point, but overall, there is a need for an expansion at one of our two plants," he added.

JRA Industries, an Asheboro-based elastic yarn producer, bought the former Tex-Elastic Corporation plant last year for \$3.25 million.

The purchase included a 65,000 square foot manufacturing facility and a 6.2 acre site located on North Bethel Street in Raeford.

"The extra land was bought with future expansions in mind," Askew said.

"I think the Raeford site is better suited for building than the Asheboro site," he added.

The planned expansion could

mean adding more employees to the over 100 who staff the local facility.

In addition to the planned expansion, JRA has acquired an "up to \$2 million loan" from Branch Banking and Trust Company to be used for inventory needs, Askew said.

"At this point, we have not borrowed any money. We will borrow it only if we need it," the firm's president said.

According to Askew, the money will be used for purchasing additional yarns "if they are needed." "We are just protecting ourselves and the plant," he said.

... Employees living outside

(Continued from page 1)

Home and four other health department employees reside in other counties. The other four are making \$15,000 plus per year.

Holt is the only employee living

outside Hoke and who works in the county office complex making above \$15,000. Other workers making that much are scattered among the other county departments.

Records indicate that Holt was

hired in 1982 with the agreement that he move into the Hoke area by November 1, 1983.

Holt appeared before the commissioners in October to ask for an extension.



Nice perch
This bit of fungus growing on a Hoke County tree would make a nice perch for frog or squirrel.

... Man jailed after chase

(Continued from page 1)
and uttering a check that was made out to Cynthia Baldwin of Rt. 1, Lumber Bridge.

Cynthia Baldwin reported to Hoke Department of Social Services (DSS) personnel that her \$182 fuel assistance check had apparently been delivered to the wrong address, reports show.

Reports also show that the check turned up at the Jiffy Mart.

The 17-year-old Baldwin is scheduled to appear in district court this week on the two charges.

In related matters, two other Hoke residents reported missing DSS checks last week.

Leary G. Lowery of Rt. 1, Red Springs told deputies that someone had apparently removed his \$202 fuel assistance check from his mailbox.

Although no arrests have been made in the incident, authorities believe that the check was cashed

at an auto parts store in Robeson County.

A second missing check was reported last week by Paula K. Jones of Rt. 4, Raeford.

Jones told deputies that someone had taken a \$176 AFDC check from her mailbox.

The case remains under investigation, reports show.

In city crime, a Rt. 1, Wagram woman was arrested last week after being apprehended for the larceny of a \$19.98 suit from Pope's Store in Raeford.

Raeford Police Chief Leonard Wiggins said that officers apprehended Mildred McRae, 48, in the parking lot of Sky City after Pope employees reported the larceny.

McRae was charged with taking a blouse and skirt from the Pope's store, Wiggins said.

Following a tip from "a neighbor" last week, a Sanford

man was arrested and charged with larceny, Wiggins said.

Fred William Fincher of Rt. 5, Sanford was taken into custody in connection with the March 5 larceny of a grill owned by City Councilman Joe Upchurch.

The grill was not recovered, Wiggins said.

Police also took two Hoke youths into custody last week following a larceny that apparently netted the youngsters \$3.87 in candy.

The youths, a 13 and 14-year-old, were turned over to the juvenile authorities for disposition, Wiggins said.

Together, heart disease, stroke and related disorders kill almost as many Americans as all other causes of death combined, American Heart Association statistics reveal.



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<p style="text-align: center;">LAYS' QUICK START HOTDOGS 79¢ 12 oz.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">LUX OR DOVE LIQUID 99¢ 22 oz.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">DUKES MAYONNAISE \$1.29 qt.</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">FRESH GREEN CABBAGE 63¢ lb.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">RINSO DETERGENT \$1.29 49 oz.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">PEPSI OR COKE 99¢ 2 ltr.</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">LAYS' QUICK START BOLOGNA 79¢ 12 oz.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">JAMESTOWN SAUSAGE 79¢ lb. roll</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">FRESH GROUND HAMBURGER \$1.39 lb.</p>

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