

# Former janitor gets probation for sale of marijuana to inmate

**By Ed Miller**  
A former Upchurch Junior High School employee was in District Court last Friday on charges of possession of marijuana with intent to distribute and sale of a controlled substance to an inmate.

Chavis Eugene Adams, of Raeford, was sentenced to not more or less than two years in jail, but the sentence was suspended for two years supervised probation upon the payment of a \$500 fine and \$100 restitution to be used for the Sheriff's drug fund, court records say.

Adams, 27, was arrested May 1 at the school after sheriff's deputies had arranged to have an inmate from Sandhills Youth Center purchase an amount of marijuana from him.

Adams was ordered by the court to testify truthfully in cases pending against Connie and Michelle Bratcher, records say.

The Bratchers, arrested soon after Adams with his cooperation, were the alleged source of Adam's marijuana, according to sheriff's reports.

In an unrelated case, three Raeford residents were in court last week on charges of welfare fraud.

Jean T. McGregor was found guilty of illegally taking welfare funds and was sentenced to one year in jail, suspended for three years supervised probation, a \$250 fine and \$973 restitution to be paid to the Department of Social Services (DSS), court records show.

For her alleged attempts of welfare fraud, Tonya Scrivin, 20, was also given two years supervised probation and a \$250 fine.

Scrivin, whose warrant said her offense occurred around April 29 of last year, was ordered to pay \$560 restitution to DSS.

Lorene Lowry received a sentence of two years supervised probation and a \$250 fine for welfare offenses occurring around April 15, 1983, court records said.

Lowry was also ordered by District Court Judge Warren Pate to pay \$352 restitution to DSS, court records said.

In another case, a Raeford man, Joseph Roper, was sentenced to 120 days in jail last week for the beating of Bessie Mae Harris.

The active sentence was suspended for one year supervised probation and \$100 fine, court records say.

According to Roper's arrest warrant, he hit Harris repeatedly around the face and body with his fists.

Roper, 17, was ordered by the court to enroll in school and remain a student until his probation is finished, court records show.

An 18-year-old Raeford man was given five years supervised probation and fined \$500 for carrying a concealed weapon, records show.

Ronald Huffman, who was arrested March 13, was also ordered to submit to any mental health counseling for alcohol and drug abuse. The counseling was recommended by his probation officer after Huffman was also charged with consuming alcohol and driving while having a provisional license and simple possession of marijuana, court records show.

For these latter charges, Huffman's probation was continued,

records say.

Warren Love, 30, was given three years probation and a \$250 fine after he was convicted of selling alcohol without a license on May 5, records say.

Love, of Raeford, was charged after he sold two beers and some liquor to an Alcoholic Beverage Control (ABC) officer without a permit.

In another case, John Frank Hobson, aka "Po Dick" was also in court charged with selling alcohol without a permit.

According to court records, Hobson was also given three years unsupervised probation and fined \$250.

Ricky Bounds, of Raeford, was fined \$250 and given two years supervised probation after pleading guilty to putting a cigarette into the eye of Jerry Jordan, records say.

Bounds was also ordered by the court to pay \$155 restitution to Jordan.

Frank Icenhour, of Raeford, made a court appearance charged with unauthorized use of a motor vehicle.

Icenhour, 18, was sentenced to two years supervised probation and ordered to return to school and to graduate, court records say.

Johnny Leon Spence, 41, was sentenced to three years supervised probation and fined \$500 after he was found guilty of driving while impaired (DWI).

Spence was arrested on April 1 and April 11 for DWI, court records say.

Spence was also ordered to undergo any rehabilitation program recommended by his probation officer, records say.



**Dried arrangement**  
These wild flowers and weeds have been parched by the sun and dried by the recent rainless weather and 90° temperatures in Hoke County.

# ...Stabbing sends Raeford father to hospital

(Continued from page 1)  
On June 1, the company reported that three and one-half spans of number 4 copper wire were discovered missing from poles on Bethel Road.

The wire was worth about \$265, the report said.

Again, last Tuesday, CP&L reported seven spans missing from poles on highway 211.

This time, number 2 wire was said to be missing, and the value was put at \$265, reports said.

Robert McNeill reported last week that he caught three men taking gas from his fuel pump and farm trucks.

Stephen Bryant, 19, of Lumber Bridge, Gary Cummings, 25, and Junior Cummings, 34, both of

Raeford, were arrested after McNeill caught them allegedly taking gas from his truck with a hose they had apparently taken from his gas pump, reports said.

The gas was valued at \$30, reports said.

A spokesperson for the sheriff's department said, as of Monday, none of the men were in jail.

Becky Jackson was the victim of an alleged theft last Thursday as someone went into her unlocked car and took a portable tape deck and tape, sheriff's reports said.

Police Chief Leonard Wiggins reported that Mary Ann Rodes, of Raeford, had her wallet taken from her pocketbook.

Rodes gave someone a ride as she was driving down the road, and when she let her passenger off, she noticed that her wallet was missing, Wiggins said.

Rodes reported that there had been about \$100 in cash in the wallet, and that the wallet was worth about \$20.

Quintella Jefferson reported the apparent theft of her bicycle to police last Tuesday.

Jefferson left the bike in the lobby of her apartment building at the Raeford Apartments, reports said.

The bike was reportedly worth \$100.

Police reports also show an alleged vandalism at the F&R Grocery on Magnolia Street.

There were some windows broken, the report said.

A juvenile was caught allegedly trying to take a flashlight from the local Maxway last Saturday, police reports show.

The light was worth \$1.99, the report said.

In other crime, Raeford Police Chief Wiggins reported that he had a complaint last Saturday of a missing truck.

Enviro Chemical Company reported Saturday the theft of a

1979 Chevrolet pick-up worth \$3,810.

Police recovered the truck and arrested William Van Allen, who is an employee of the company.

Allen, 20, was charged with larceny, Wiggins said.

Police reports also show that Cutter's Corner was broken into last Tuesday.

A total of \$983 worth of various items was taken including a color television and some jewelry.

Police are looking into the matter.

James Marion McNeill reported to Hoke County deputies that his house was broken into two weeks ago and that \$125 in cash and \$25

in "other things" were taken.

According to the report, someone tried again to break into his home on May 29.

The report said that this time there was only a screen removed from an outside window.

Queen City Constructors, of Fayetteville, reported the alleged theft of 4,500 pounds of wire from their construction site on U.S. Highway 401 North.

The wire was of different sizes and was reportedly worth about \$2,035.

The case is under investigation.

In another apparent battery theft, the Department of

Transportation (DOT) reported to sheriff's deputies that a battery, marked as property of the state, was taken from one of their vehicles.

The alleged thief cut through a fence behind the DOT shop to gain entry, the report said.

There was \$50 in damage done to the fence and the battery itself was reported to be worth about \$50.

A county resident, Ethel Hardin, reported that her house was broken into last Wednesday.

Hardin told deputies that her color television set, worth about \$1,150 was taken.

There are no suspects in the case.

# ...Hoke County reduces tax hike proposal

(Continued from page 1)  
Wyatt Upchurch favored a raise of 5%.

There was also much discussion among board members about the county's inequality in pay scales and a requested 15% hike in teachers' salaries.

"When our county deputies work the hours they do, 12 months

a year, on their salaries, and our teachers work 10 months (for much more money); we have not got our priorities right," Upchurch said.

"When a deputy steps out of his house each morning, he puts his life on the line," Hunt added.

Upchurch said he is not against raising teachers' salaries, but he is concerned that low pay may hurt

the quality of future deputies and the morale of present ones.

In a meeting Tuesday with Sheriff Dave Barrington, the commissioners discussed the possibility of adding five more deputies to the department and eliminating 60-hour work weeks.

If the extra deputies could be added, there will be more men on patrol at a given time in the county and morale in the department will be raised, Barrington said.

At present, county deputies work 12 hour shifts with no overtime, Barrington said.

Since he came into the depart-

ment, the population of the county has increased from 14,000 to 22,000. The department has not been increased since 1974, the sheriff said.

In other discussion Monday, commissioners proposed:

- Putting \$37,500 in a contingency fund for the Airport Authority.
- Letting the Hoke Board of Education have 60% of the county's share of the one-half cent sales tax revenues for next year with the stipulation that this percentage be reviewed each year.

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SAT.-SUN. 1:20-3:20-7:10-9:10

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SHOWS MON-FRI 3:20-7:10-9:10  
SAT.-SUN. 1:20-3:20-7:10-9:10

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SAT. & SUN. 1:00-3:10-7:00-9:10

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**WAT STREET**  
MON-FRI 3:20-7:10-9:10  
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**A.A. Meetings**  
Wed. 8 p.m.  
**Nursing Home Dining Room**

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Would you be able to identify with this lament concerning a father's missed opportunities with his children. "If only I'd laughed more... If only I'd delighted to listen more... in more praise... in showing more gentleness to my wife... If only..."

Indeed, no father is perfect. But as imperfect as he may be, let's not overlook his efforts. After all, isn't the attitude of the heart what really counts?  
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