

Assault charges swapped after high-speed chase, tussle

By Ed Miller
A Hoke County Sheriff's deputy was led on a high speed chase, assaulted at chase's end and then accused of beating up the suspect, according to sheriff's reports.

Deputy Ronnie Lowry had not been charged as of Tuesday of assault after the November 21 incident, according to Sheriff Dave Barrington.

A Hoke County resident, Johnny Lee Scott, has been charged with resisting arrest and assaulting an officer, reports say.

Scott was released the same day of arrest under \$1,200 bond, Clerk of Court's records show.

At 12:05 a.m., Lowry was leaving Farm Chemical Corporation on routine patrol when he observed a car travelling very fast down rural road 1432.

The car was coming from Arabia and ran the stop sign at rural road 1105, reports say.

Lowry proceeded from Farm Chemical, down 1105, in the same direction of the car.

When the deputy got to Dundarrach, he noticed the car on the other side of N.C. 20.

According to the deputy's report, he then turned on his blue light and siren and went after the car.

Even at speeds up to 85 and 90 miles per hour, the car would not stop, reports say.

Shortly thereafter, the car made two more turns then stopped in a driveway.

When Scott got out of the car, he was swaying and smelled of alcohol, reports say.

Lowry asked the driver for his operator's license and attempted to arrest him on driving while impaired charges, but was told that Scott was not going anywhere, reports say.

Scott then turned to go in his house and Lowry "grabbed him by the arm," reports say.

The man then turned and hit the deputy and wrapped his arms around Lowry's waist in an apparent attempt to take his gun, Lowry said in the report.

At some point during the struggle, the pair fell on the ground, and Scott hit his head on a flower pot, Barrington said.

Lowry could not get handcuffs on the man.

Joe Scott, father of the subject then came out of the house and told Lowry to "leave now," reports say.

Lowry then went back to his car and called for assistance.

As he was giving directions to Deputy Sergeant Billy Morrison, Lowry saw Scott through a window getting something out of a closet.

Fearing a gun, the deputy back-

ed down the road about 100 feet, reports say.

When Morrison arrived on the scene, he saw Scott leave his house through a side door and run into the woods nearby.

Lowry and Morrison looked for Scott until Major Jimmy Riley,

Sergeant Ronnie Odom and Deputy Joshua Brown arrived.

They joined the search for a short time, but it was decided to obtain warrants for arrest and return later.

At 3:02 a.m., a call was received by the Sheriff's Department saying

that a man was being treated at Cape Fear Valley Medical Center.

The man was saying he had been assaulted by a Hoke County deputy.

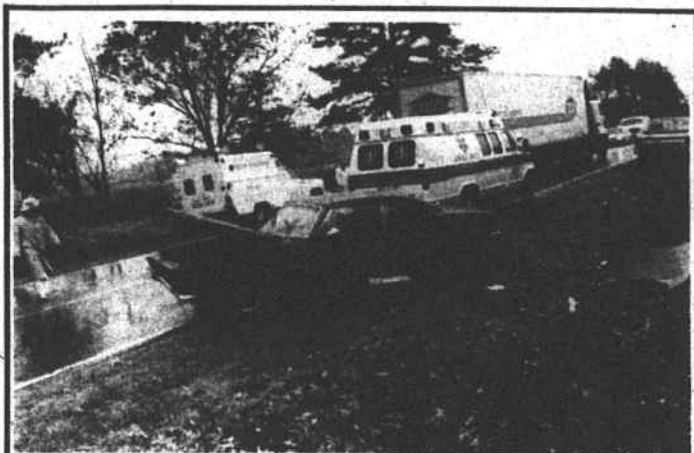
According to reports, the man turned out to be Scott.

Morrison and Lowry went to

Fayetteville to get him, and Scott tried to hit Lowry again at the hospital, reports say.

Finally, at the request of his father, Scott surrendered and went with the deputies.

He was brought back to Hoke County and arrested, reports say.



Cold dog day

In a car that she had only owned one day, Diana Antonelli swerved to miss a dog and hit a telephone post on U.S. 401 last Wednesday. Antonelli was taken to the hospital with a deformity of the knee cap, a possible broken leg, members of the Hoke County Rescue Squad said. Antonelli is from Fayetteville.

Break-ins one a day

By Ed Miller
Break-ins once again averaged one per day as seven residents were plagued by incidents in Hoke County last week.

On last Friday, John W. Winston was victimized as his home was broken into.

A screwdriver was apparently used to enter the home, Hoke County Sheriff's reports say.

Out of the house was taken a 19 inch color television, a black and white television, a component stereo system and about 75 record albums.

The total worth of the stolen items was about \$2,655, reports say.

Arabia Golf Course was broken into on the same date and a total of \$3,187 worth of merchandise was taken, reports say.

Included in the take was 60 cartons of cigarettes, 96 dozen golf balls, two full sets of golf clubs and two golf bags.

According to reports, the person reporting the crime may have ridden by the course while the apparent robbery was taking place.

There was also damage done to Arabia's alarm system, reports say.

On last Thursday, Linda Dial reported the theft of a Yamaha dirt bike and a three-wheeled vehicle.

Together the bikes were worth about \$1,350, reports say.

On last Monday morning, Lary Laverne McBride reported the theft of her television and video tape recorder.

Reports say that thieves entered the home breaking the latch on the front door.

A total of about \$612 was taken from the home.

Virgil's Drive-In was broken into on December 1, reports say.

Intruders broke a window, unlocked it and entered, reports say.

According to reports, \$50 in candy bars, chewing gum and cake was taken.

Two days prior to the December 1 break-in, Virgil's was again robbed.

About \$43 in chitterlings and candy was taken in this break-in, according to reports.

Robert M. Walkup reported the apparent theft of his tires and rims for a loss of \$60.

Steve Phillips reported that Deer Track Racquet Club was broken into on December 2.

Taken from the cash register of the club was about \$35, reports say.

Money from a cracker and drink machine was also taken.

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