

16-year-old sentenced to five years in jail

By Ed Miller
A 16-year-old Raeford youth was sentenced to five years in prison after being found guilty in Hoke County Superior Court last week of breaking, entering and larceny and two counts of attempted safecracking.
Bruce Harris, of 403 Crawford Wright Road in Raeford, was sentenced after Judge Robert L. Farmer found him guilty of breaking into the Hoke Concrete Works, the Hoke County Board of Education, the Hoke Cotton Warehouse and the Universal Sports Center.
According to warrants, Harris stole \$7 from the Hoke Concrete Works, tried to open the vault at the Hoke Cotton Warehouse, stole \$74 from the Hoke County Board of Education and took three guns, nine fishing reels, a case of traps and 40 boxes of assorted calibre gun ammunition from the Universal Sporting Center.
In an unrelated case, another Raeford youth, 17-year-old James Kenneth Harris, of 213 Reaves Street, was sentenced to a total of

four years in prison after being convicted of violating his probation, according to court records.
James Harris, of no apparent relation to Bruce Harris, was convicted of two counts of larceny and one count of breaking and entering in Moore County, records say.
Harris is currently serving three years in prison for those convictions and is slated to begin serving two years as soon as that time is up and another two years when his second prison term is finished, records say.
Harris was on probation after being convicted of larceny, simple assault, shoplifting and three counts of breaking, entering and larceny in Hoke County, records say.
In another case, a Greensboro man was sentenced to two years in prison for embezzling \$528 from a Hoke County woman in an apparent insurance scam.
Larry W. Stevin is currently serving a prison term in Iredell County but was brought back to Hoke for trial.

According to a warrant, drawn by A.R. Mauney, of the State Department of Insurance, Stevin, 44, took the money from Mrs. M.V. Peele.
His sentence is to run concurrently with the one he is now serving, records say.
James A. Watson, currently of the Harnett County Youth Center, was sentenced to six months in prison on a probation violation, according to records.
Watson was given a 15 month suspended sentence after being convicted of solicitation to commit a felony in Hoke County on April 5, 1982, records say.
The 21-year-old man broke probation when he was convicted of breaking, entering and larceny three times in Moore County, according to records.
Watson's six month term is to run concurrent with sentences already being served, records say.
Favien McPhaul, also known as Sambo, and Mary Cobb were both sentenced to two years in jail suspended for three years on

supervised probation after being convicted of possession of marijuana with intent to sell, records say.
McPhaul was also charged with maintaining a dwelling for the purposes of selling controlled substances, records say.
Cobb, 32, and McPhaul, 37, both live on Rt. 2, Box 495 2-A, in Raeford, according to warrants.
They were arrested on November 2 of last year.
James Luther Parker, of Rt. 1, Box 107 A, Red Springs, was sentenced to three years in prison after being convicted of assault with a deadly weapon with intent to kill inflicting serious injury, according to records.
Parker was convicted of shooting Vonzell Porter in the back, records say.
Work release was recommended for the man because the court ordered him to pay \$5,000 in restitution to Porter.
Richard Lee Harris, an 18-year-old Raeford youth was convicted in last summer's break-in at

Moore's in the Edenborough Shopping Center.
Harris was also charged with assault with a deadly weapon on November 10, 1984.
According to a warrant for the man's arrest, Harris took \$3,304.74 worth of merchandise from the department store.
Harris was sentenced to three years in prison to run concurrently with a sentence he is now serving, records say.
Timmy Watson, a Raeford resident, appealed a 90 day suspended sentence from Hoke County District Court and received a two month active sentence instead, according to records.
Watson was charged with being drunk and disorderly on October 15, 1984 and received the suspended sentence along with a \$75 fine, records say.
Upon his appeal, he received the two month sentence and a \$10 fine.
John Fairley, a Raeford resident, appealed an eight month sentence given him for trespassing

and injury to personal property and real property and received a one year suspended sentence, records say.
For his December 15, 1984 charge, Fairley was placed on supervised probation for two years, fined \$100 and ordered to pay restitution of \$175 to Maggie Smith, according to records.
Archie Issac McMillian, a Red Springs resident appealed a driving while impaired (DWI) conviction in which he would have been sent to jail for two years, records say.
Upon his appeal, McMillian was sentenced to one year suspended for two years supervised probation, a 14 day sentence and a \$500 fine, records say.
John Henry Love was sentenced to two years suspended for three years supervised probation after being convicted of possession with intent to sell and distribute, records say.
Love, a Raeford resident, was arrested on September 28, 1984.



PIESTA

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Suicide investigated

By Ed Miller
Suicide has been ruled the official cause of the death of a man found in a Hoke County field Monday afternoon, Sheriff Dave Barrington said Tuesday.
A .38 calibre Smith and Wesson pistol was still in the hand of Robert Guy Ritchie Jr, of 609 North Main Steet, Landis, when deputies arrived on the scene just after noon Monday, Barrington said.
The victim's index finger was in the trigger guard of the gun, a report from Deputy C.E. Harris says.
According to the report, Ritchie was in the driver's seat of his 1977 Ford pick-up with a bullet wound in his right temple and an exit wound in his left temple.
Ritchie's truck was found by Shea Crawford, an area resident, on the Seaford Farm on Highway 211 West, according to Barrington.

According to the sheriff, the bullet could not be found.
A black holster was found on the seat of the truck and there were bullets for the gun found in the victim's jacket pocket, according to reports.
Found in the passenger's side of the truck was a cooler with beer in it, according to the report.
"There is no doubt it was suicide," Barrington said.
Powder burns were found around the entrance wound, according to the report.
The man apparently killed himself 8 to 12 hours before his body was found, deputies said, noting there was still ice in the cooler.
According to Barrington, Ritchie was familiar with the area because of previous hunting experiences.
A missing person report had been filed on Ritchie at the Landis Police Department on Monday.

Hwy. 401 meeting slated

By Ed Miller
A local delegation is being put together to attend a meeting with Board of Transportation officials

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regarding the 1986-1995 Transportation Improvement Program.
Highway 401 is currently on that list but it may not remain there if local residents do not push for it, Hoke County Commissioners said Monday night.
According to a letter from Department of Transportation (DOT) Secretary James E. Harrington, the meeting will be at 2 p.m. on May 29 in the Randolph Technical Institute Auditorium.
Any residents wishing to attend the meeting should make arrangements with Raeford-Hoke Economic Developer, John Howard.

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