

## Defendants' Bonds Range From \$5,000 To \$900,000

The following people were indicted by a special Brunswick County investigative grand jury last Thursday on charges of cocaine trafficking by possession and conspiracy to traffic cocaine.

Unless otherwise indicated, all are charged with equal counts of trafficking and conspiracy, i.e. "two counts" would indicate one count on each charge. Also indicated are the dates of the alleged offenses and the amount of cocaine involved in each, typically either 28 grams or more or 400 grams or more.

The penalties are the same for both crimes and vary with the quantity of drugs involved. For offenses involving less than 200 grams, the mandatory minimum sentence ranges from seven to 15 years. For more than 400 grams, the sentence ranges from 35 to 40 years, with a \$250,000 minimum fine per count. However, the fine can be reduced based on defendants' cooperation with the prosecution.

Specifics of the alleged offenses were not available.

•Alan Dale Brooks, 23, Shallotte, one count trafficking by possession, 400 grams or more, Feb. 25, 1985, fugitive.

•Perry A. Brown, 25, Route 2, Supply, two counts, 28 grams or more, May 28, 1985, released, \$10,000 bond.

•Scott Brown, 22, Supply, four counts, Dec. 15, 1984, and May 25, 1985, released, \$10,000.

•Edgar Lee Caison, 41, Supply, 12 counts, six offenses 28 grams or more, between May 3 and July 2, 1985, released, \$25,000.

•Kevin Caison, 25, Supply, 12 counts, 400 grams or

more, Nov. 9, and Dec. 27, 1985, released, \$10,000.

•Jerry Clemmons, Supply, two counts, 28 grams or more, Dec. 1, 1985, released, \$10,000.

•Wade Coleman, Holden Beach, two counts, Dec. 15, 1984, released, \$10,000.

•James Sinclair Cromartie, 32, Oxon Hill, Md., 14 counts, varying quantities, Nov. 1, 15 and 21, 1984, Feb. 25, March 25 and Aug. 18, 1985, released, \$25,000.

•Cleron Tucker Culley, Shallotte, four counts, 28 grams or more, Nov. 15, 1984 and Feb. 25, 1985, released, \$10,000.

•James Drufus Griffin Jr., 44, Holden Beach, four counts, 28 grams or more, Aug. 1, 1985, and Jan. 15, 1986, released, \$10,000.

•James Elmer Hatcher, Route 1, Winnabow, 10 counts, 28 grams or more, Dec. 25, 1985, and Feb. 15 and April 19, 1986, 400 grams or more, Dec. 2, 1985, released, \$5,000.

•Eddie Roderic Jones, 22, Shallotte, four counts, 400 grams or more, Nov. 9 and Dec. 27, 1985, released, \$10,000.

•Fotios Kamsiklis, 27, Greenville, eight counts, 400 grams or more, Dec. 16, 1985, and March 1, 5 and 15, 1986, Pitt County Jail.

•Charles William Lancaster, 33, Supply, two counts, 400 grams or more, June 5, 1986, released, \$10,000.

•Ronald Lee, 37, Dunn, four counts, 28 grams or more, Aug. 13, 1986, and May 7, 1987, warrant still outstanding.

•Grady Ford Long, 28, Route 3, Shallotte, four counts, 400 grams or more, Nov. 28, 1985, and 28 grams or more, Dec. 1, 1985, released, \$10,000.

•Tami Miller, 28, Lillington, six counts, 28 grams or more, Dec. 24, 1985, and 400 grams or more, Jan. 28 and Feb. 11, 1986, to turn herself in sometime this week.

•Francisco Navarro, Fort Myers, Fla., eight counts, 400 grams or more, June 2, Aug. 18, Nov. 9 and Dec. 16, 1985, warrant returned not to be found.

•Kenneth Dean Newsome, 36, Whiteville, two counts, 28 grams or more, March 15, 1986, released, \$10,000.

•Leslie Ronald Newsome, 43, Ocean Isle Beach, two counts, 28 grams or more, March 15, 1986, released, \$10,000.

•Clarence Virgil Roberts, 40, Holden Beach, 12 counts, 28 grams or more, May 25, 1985, Aug. 1, 1985, Dec. 24, 1985, and Nov. 15, 1986, released, \$10,000.

•Rocky Lee Robinson, 25, Route 3, Supply, four counts, 28 grams or more, Dec. 15, 1984, and May 25, 1985, released, \$25,000.

•Arnold Douglas (Doug) Smith, Supply, six counts, offenses on Dec. 25, 1985, and Jan. 31 and Feb. 15, 1986, according to Brunswick County Sheriff's Department now serving 15-year sentence in N.C. Department of Corrections for first degree burglary and armed robbery and drug offenses.

•Lloyd Neil Strickland, 36, Route 1, Winnabow, 18 counts, varying quantities, nine offenses between Dec.

25, 1985, and Feb. 24, 1987, held on \$900,000 bond, Brunswick County Jail.

•Charles Ronald Strickland, Tabor City, six counts, 400 grams or more, May 15, July 1 and Aug. 15, 1986, held on \$600,000 bond, Brunswick County Jail.

•Petros Tholiotis, 27, Greenville, six counts, 400 grams or more, Dec. 16, 1985, March 1 and May 15, 1986, Pitt County Jail.

•Donna Truesdale, 31, Fort Myers, Fla., nine counts, 400 grams or more, Nov. 9 and 28 and Dec. 29, 1985, being extradited from Florida this week.

Jack Truesdale, Fort Myers, Fla., 33 counts, 400 grams or more, 12 offenses between Nov. 1, 1984, and June 5, 1986, being extradited from Florida this week.

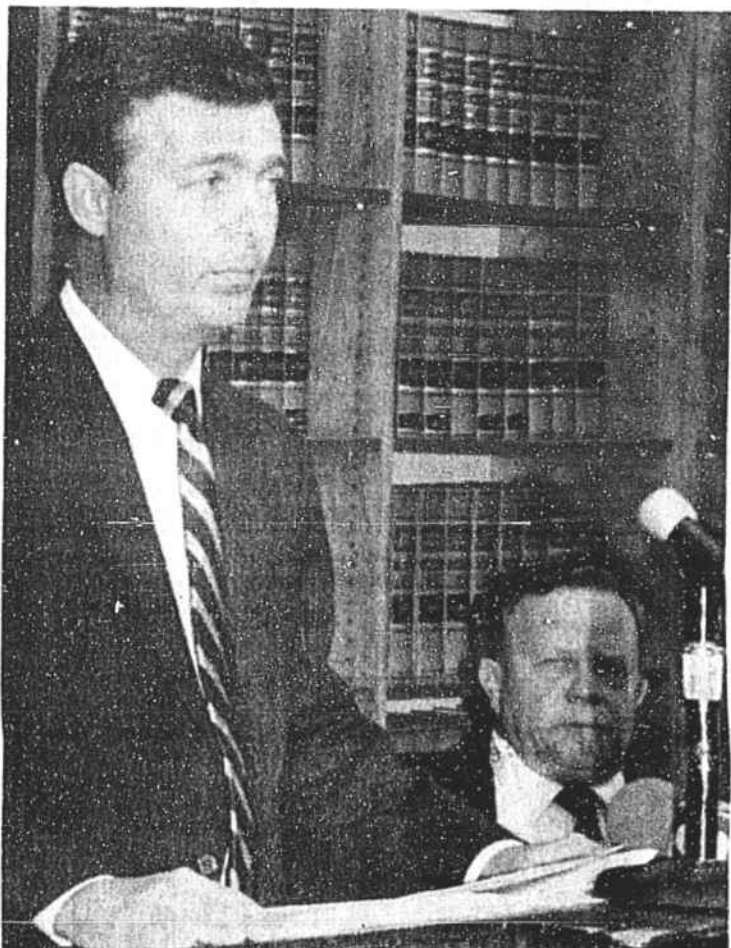
•Olaf Dale Varnam, 35, Route 2, Supply, 46 counts, 400 grams or more, 22 offenses between Feb. 1, 1985, and June 5, 1986, released, \$100,000 unsecured bond.

•Ronald Dale Ward, 32, Route 1, Nakina, four counts, 400 grams or more, May 15, July 1, Aug. 13 and 15, 1986, held on \$600,000 bond, Brunswick County Jail.

•Ralph Louis "Chuck" Wheeler, 40, Whiteville, 22 counts, varying quantities, 10 offenses between Dec. 24, 1985, and Feb. 24, 1987, released, \$100,000 unsecured bond.

•Alvin Bryan Willis III, 32, Shallotte, 24 counts, varying quantities, 12 offenses between Nov. 1, 1984, and May 15, 1986, released, \$25,000.

•Johnny Dale Wood, 19, Route 1, Winnabow, 400 grams or more, one count trafficking by possession, June 11, held on \$150,000 bond, Brunswick County Jail.



DISTRICT ATTORNEY MICHAEL EASLEY fields questions on cocaine trafficking indictments returned by a special investigative grand jury last Thursday as Sheriff John Carr Davis listens. Thirty-two people were indicted on a total of 300 counts.

## Grand Jury Is First Of Its Kind In State

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with the counts listed in the 300 indictments revealed Thursday.

With its special powers, said Easley, "the grand jury was able to do in four months what it would take 25 agents to do."

Both Easley and Cuyler Windham, assistant director of the SBI, praised the new law.

"I don't think there's any question," said Windham, "that it's a very good tool."

This grand jury is the first of its kind in the state, and its sweep a test of the law that allowed its creation, according to Easley. As vice chairman of the state association of district attorneys, he was instrumental last year in helping obtain passage of the controversial bill that allows this special type of grand jury. The law expires in 1988 if not reenacted by the General Assembly.

The grand jury can compel testimony, something law enforce-

ment officers can't do. This jury heard more than 20 hours of testimony, Easley said, though he would not specify the number of witnesses called or how often the jury met.

Those who cooperated with the grand jury were indicted along with the rest, with "no forbearance given for cooperation."

According to Easley, the investigative grand jury is appointed by a three-judge panel following petition of the state Attorney General's Office and Supreme Court. The judges are not identified and the petitions are sealed.

Citing the need for a "comprehensive education program" on drug abuse, Easley said he thought 90 percent of the defendants in the investigation would not have gotten involved had they known "the gravity of their conduct."

Florida Connection  
Cocaine trafficking has brought a

different kind of drug smuggling to Brunswick County. Instead of ships with large quantities of marijuana aboard, said Easley, "We're being nicked and dined to death." Cocaine is transported in small quantities, in cars, pleasure boats and the like, and can be easily hidden. Much of it comes up the coast from Florida, a smaller amount directly from the Caribbean islands and South America.

The alleged offenses involve more than 200 pounds of cocaine, which Easley sells on the street for approximately \$2,000 an ounce.

They occurred over a period of about 2½ years, from November 1984 to the present time. They were the subject of an investigation by the DEA and SBI, with the cooperation of the sheriff's department.

DEA Special Agent Grimes has been a drug enforcement agent for 15 years and was involved in he cocaine

trafficking undercover operation.

According to Grimes, several persons were the major source or sources of cocaine in Florida.

He told reporters four or five of the defendants would travel to Florida to meet with their source, return to the area and break the drug into smaller quantities for distribution to others.

"Just because all were involved doesn't mean they all knew each other," he continued. "But a common thread runs throughout."

Law officers said this operation temporarily affected cocaine trafficking in southeastern North Carolina and Brunswick County. But both Grimes and Windham said the drug problem across the country is out of control. For every dealer caught, they suggested, another takes his or her place.

"The coke problem is so bad," said Windham, "it can't be stopped. But this will help."

## Commissioners Begin Final Budget Work

(Continued From Page 1-A)

Represented by Bill Turner, assistant to the superintendent, the school system asked commissioners for an additional \$234,000 in capital funds, for a total of \$1.5 million for equipment and facilities.

May Moore, a teacher, reinforced the request, saying "We are coming out at the seams and I think you know that. We need the money now because it takes a year to plan a new school."

"The teachers very much favor your doing the best you can for the schools," she added.

The new money would be used to add 12 classrooms to South Brunswick High School, where 20 mobile classrooms are in use, and could begin planning a new school for the Supply area. There's a possibility state funds will be available for that school's construction.

After the hearing, Commissioner Chris Chappell said he supported the request.

However, commissioners hesitated to say they would increase the tax rate for that purpose, instead preferring to "find" it within the proposed budget.

John Lewis spoke on behalf of the Brunswick County Senior Council, seeking assurances that the county will work toward implementation of a 911 emergency system. A mapping system tentatively in the budget will start that process, indicated Chairman Grace Beasley.

Another senior, Fannie Keaton, said the elderly served by the Shallotte Senior Center are circulating a petition to encourage the county to enlarge the facility. "We've just outgrown our place," she said.

A third senior, Bill Dunn, asked the status of a senior citizens bus requested a year ago.

There were a smattering of other comments.

Jimmy Jones of the Bolivia Volunteer Fire Department asked the county to increase its support of the volunteer fire departments, which are slated to receive \$10,000 each, plus have access to a district fund. The request had been for \$12,500 each.

Jess Parker asked the county to consider building a permanent branch library in Leland. "Some people say they don't use it," he said of the existing facility. "I don't blame them. I wouldn't either except to check out a book."

Another citizen, Christine Doshier, told commissioners, "I'm against raising taxes."

Bill Turner also asked commissioners for \$10,000 to help the Volunteer and Information Center meet its budget and Ouida Hewett asked for continuing support of the county Arts Council.

Mary Ann Lama of the Domestic Violence Shelter program in New Hanover County, asked commissioners to continue their support of that program. The facility served 60

Brunswick County women and children last year.

The directors of a new shelter to be located in Brunswick County, Home Harbor Home Inc., earlier asked commissioners for up to \$14,500 to help with the relocation and set-up of a house donated for its use. The shelter will be located between Supply and Bolivia.

When no additional speakers came forward, Beasley asked for additional comments. Hearing none, she adjourned the hearing, only to have one audience member Eileen Kellagher, object. Kellagher said she didn't hear the call for adjournment.

At the commissioners' meeting

Monday, she advised the board the office of the Attorney General had told her hearings could be reconvened.

She also suggested the budget put on public display should indicate changes in funding within individual departments and that the budget should reflect the county's priorities.

"What's with parks and recreation?" she asked. They're not used every day. The sheriff's department is and it always gets cut. The schools always get cut.

"For the number of residents we've got, that (parks and recreation) is a heck of a lot of money, a hungry monster."

## Area Gets Inch Of Rainfall

The rain finally came—in a slow drizzle and in showers.

By the end of the period June 9-15, 1.01 inches had fallen, according to Shallotte Point meteorologist Jackson Canady.

Also during the period he recorded a maximum high of 88 degrees, which occurred on the 10th, and a minimum low of 63 degrees, which occurred on the 11th.

An average daily high of 84 degrees

combined with an average nightly low of 69 degrees for an average daily temperature of 76, which Canady said is about normal.

The outlook calls for near-normal temperatures and precipitation.

Temperatures should average in the upper 60s at night into the upper 80s during the daytime, with about three-quarters inch of rain expected.

"Typical early summer weather," observed Canady.

## County Schools Hire New Personnel Officer

BY MARJORIE MEGIVERN

The Brunswick County Board of Education, in a special meeting Tuesday night, hired Dr. John A. Kaufhold as assistant superintendent in charge of personnel.

Kaufhold begins work around July 1, filling the position formerly held by Stephanna Tewey, who retired June 30 to go into private business.

The 43-year-old Pennsylvania native is presently superintendent of schools for the Camden County School District. He will be hired at a salary "in the neighborhood of

\$40,000" in state funds, said Superintendent Gene Yarbrough, plus a local supplement of 5,500. He was selected from 32 applicants interviewed for the position.

Kaufhold earned his doctorate and master's degree in education from the University of Virginia and his bachelor's degree from Westchester University.

Yarbrough said Kaufhold will be in charge of personnel and some curriculum duties, in which he has had wide experience.

### Pets Recommended

Zelma Babson, animal control supervisor for the Brunswick County Health Department recommends the following animals as pets of the week:

•Black male German shepherd and labrador retriever;

•Black and white female mixed cocker spaniel;  
•Black and beige female kitten, five to six weeks old.

These and other animals can be seen at the animal shelter just off Hwy. 211, from 8 a.m. till 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday.

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