

Taking A Break

Waccamaw Elementary School students take a break during testing last week to enjoy lunch outdoors on a beautiful spring day. Pictured (from left) are Chris Russ, Ashley Oliver, Steven Faircloth, Michael Stanley and Jonathan Simmons. Testing continues this week.

Brunswick Detectives Find Rape, Kidnapping Reports 'Unfounded'

Brunswick County sheriff's detectives investigated a reported rape and an alleged kidnapping last weekend and determined that both charges were unfounded, according to reports on file at the sheriff's office Monday.

A 23-year-old woman who lives in the Butler Mobile Home Park told Detective John Ingram that she and her children went to the home of an 18-year-old neighbor about a half hour after midnight Saturday morning. The woman said there were two other men in the trailer and that all the adults were drinking.

The woman said she passed out and left the trailer later that morning. She told Detective Ingram that her children said they observed one of the men having intercourse with her while she was unconscious. They said the man "ran out of the mobile home with no clothes on," the report said.

A further investigation of the incident has determined that no rape occurred, according to Detective Capt. Phil Perry.

A 21-year-old Leland woman's report of a kidnapping was also determined to be unfounded when the missing child was located unharmed in the company of a family member, detectives say.

Sunday afternoon, the woman told Deputy Matthew Jesson that she was in church singing with the choir when another woman took the child she was watching for a friend who had gone to Virginia. The alleged abductor drove off with the child in a white van with Georgia tags, the report said.

The incident was later found not to be a kidnapping, Perry said.

In other recent crime reports:

Someone stole a 38-inch riding lawnmower from beside the home of a sheriff's deputy who lives on Hickman Road near Calabash last weekend. The thief apparently waited until the deputy and his wife were at work, then loaded the mower into a truck and drove off. Deputy R.W. Long took the report and vaiued the mower at about \$858.

More than \$1,100 worth of jewelry and other items were stolen in a break-in at a home on Whitfield Drive, off Seashore Road, last weekend. The owner told Deputy Rebekah McDonald that his dog was upset and barking when he arrived home at about 7 p.m. Sunday. He found that someone either used a key or picked the lock to a garage door and entered the house. Missing were a .22-caliber rifle, four gold chains, three men's rings, a bracelet, two charms, two ladies' watches and a portable cassette player.

There was about \$700 damage caused in a break-in discovered Saturday evening on Moore Street, off Seashore Road. The Lumberton woman who owns the home told

CRIME REPORT

Deputy McDonald that she was last there in December, when everything was in order. Upon her return, she found that someone had broken out five windows and cut the window screens. The intruders apparently came in through a rear side window and used the toilet, smoked several cigarettes and drank a beer, the report said. Several rocks were found inside near the broken windows. The only thing found missing was a bag of assorted clothing, sheets and towels valued at about \$100.

A woman who lives on Mintz Road, Shallotte, told Deputy Brian Sanders that her \$1,143 video camcorder was stolen while she was out of town last weekend. She said she had loaned the camera to a friend who returned it to her house Saturday morning. When the victim returned with her husband, they discovered that the camcorder was missing. The woman told Sanders that her son had several friends in the house over the weekend.

Someone ransacked a mobile home on Bell Swamp Connector, causing an undetermined amount of damage before making off with about \$375 worth of property recently. The woman who lives there told Deputy Sanders that she was out of town when a neighbor called to report the break-in. The thieves apparently went "from room to room, throwing items on the floor," the report said. Missing was a .410 shetgun, a microwave oven, some antique money, a jewel box and a gold necklace.

A visiting soldier from Ft. Bragg had a radar detector stolen from his car while parked at his mother's home in the Liberty Lane Mobile Home Park off N.C. 130 Saturday night. The mother told Deputy McDonald that her son left the car parked in her front yard overnight with the door unlocked. The stolen equipment was valued at

Another radar detector was taken from a car parked at a home on Liberty Lane Saturday night. McDonald was told that the owner left his 1983 Chevrolet Monte Carlo parked outside at about 8 p.m. and discovered the theft at about 1 p.m. Sunday afternoon. Boot prints were found around the vehicle, which also had red sand inside, the report said. The radar detector was estimated to be worth \$200.

Deputy Sanders took a report from a woman who lives on Wildfire Lane, off Lanvale Road in Leland, "in reference to her car burning in the back yard." She said she called the fire department, which determined that the fire had been intentionally set, causing an estimated \$2,700 to her 1980 Cadillac.

A man who lives on Lula Street off Seaside Road, Ocean Isle Beach, told Deputy R.W. Long that someone broke into his 1985 Honda Accord and stole two stereo speakers and a sound equalizer Saturday night. The victim said the car was parked in the yard at the time of the break-in. The value of stolen property was estimated to be about \$270.

A car reported stolen from Ocean Isle Beach last week was later found by a Shallotte Police officer at a local body shop. The owner, who lives on Ocean Isie Beach Highway, reported her 1985 Pontiac 6000 was stolen Thursday morning. Deputy Joey Adams valued it at about \$800.

Someone who lives in the Fulford Mobile Home Park in Holden Beach was accused of stealing cable television service by an employee of Atlantic Telephone Cable last week. The man told Deputy Long that a co-worker had also reported the illegal hookup and disconnected it two weeks before it was seen back in operation.

A salesman at a Shallotte automobile dealership reported the theft of a dealer tag last week. He told Deputy McDonald that a customer took a 1990 Oldsmobile Royale for a test drive to her home in Ash. While there she reported that the license plate had been removed from the vehicle. It was valued at \$50.

Deputy Adams recovered a 1990s model Ford Mustang that he found "completely stripped" off the dirt portion of Makatoka Road last week. There was no visible vehicle identification number on the car, so its owner has not been determined. The vehicle was towed to a Shallotte

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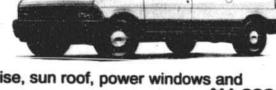
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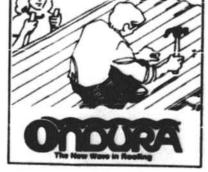
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