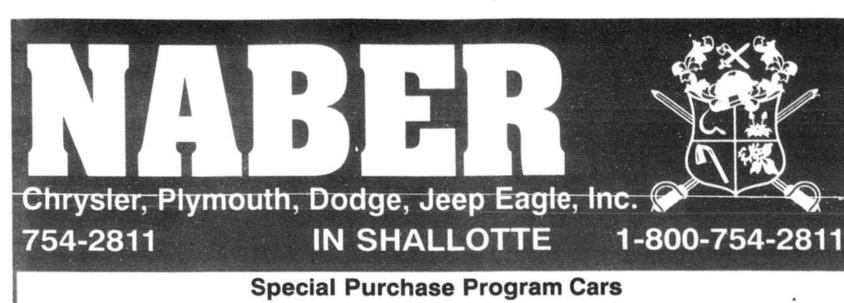
Brunswick Big Sweep Nets 17,040 Pounds

Brunswick County's 696 volunteers picked up 17,040 pounds of trash and litter on local beaches during the eighth annual Big Sweep on Sept. 17.

Statewide, more than 12,300 volunteers removed approximately 195 tons of debris from beaches, rivers, lakes and streams. Big Sweep is the largest statewide waterway cleanup in the country.

There were only five counties in the state that reported more pounds of trash than Brunswick, and only four counties with more volunteers.

Some of the more unusual finds throughout the state included a buried automobile, bag of undelivered mail, vial of catgut sutures and a plastic Easter egg with a dollar bill inside.



Robbery Suspect Nabbed

BY ERIC CARLSON

A man suspected of threatening the use of a weapon to rob a Boones Neck convenience store was arrested in Wake County last week and is expected to be charged here after his release from prison on another conviction. a Brunswick County Sheriff's detective said Monday.

The suspect, Kenneth Wayne Allred Jr., 20, was living on Lake Paula Drive in the Tanglewood Subdivision of Supply at the time of the offense, said Det. Gene Caison.

On May 10, Allred allegedly walked into the nearby Bill's Quick Stop with his hand hidden in his pocket and demanded money from the cash register.

"He told the man he would blow him away if he didn't open the drawer," Caison said. "The man said no and slapped his hand away. Then he (the suspect) ran out of the store."

The robbery attempt was captured on the store's surveillance video camera. At first, sheriff's deputies were unable to identify the young man, who was clearly visible on the tape, Caison said. Then Ocean Isle Beach Police Investigator Danny

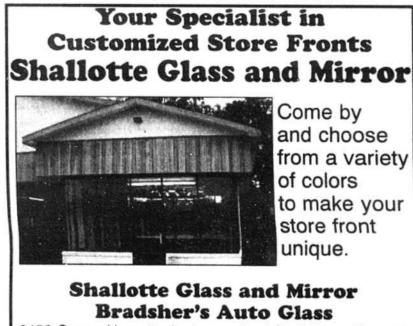
Hunter was shown the tape and told detectives he recently saw the young man at a Shallotte pawn shop.

Store employees also recognized the suspect and showed Caison a pawn ticket from some items the man had brought into the shop. The address shown on the ticket was about a mile from Bill's Quick Stop, Caison said.

After obtaining the suspect's name, Caison did a computer records check and discovered that he was also wanted in Wake County on a probation violation. Caison asked probation officials there for a photograph of the suspect and prepared a photo lineup. Both witnesses at the attempted robbery scene identified Allred as the man who tried to hold them up, Caison said.

A few days later, Allred was arrested on the probation violation. He is currently serving a five-year sentence for forgery at Western Correctional Facility in Morganton, Caison said.

The detective said that upon his release, Allred will be charged in Brunswick County with attempted robbery with a dangerous weapon.



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