

Second Southport Store Receives Bomb Threat

For the third time in as many months, a prankster made a fake bomb threat to a Southport retail business Sunday night, according to a crime report filed at the Brunswick County Sheriff's Department Monday.

CRIME REPORT

bullet holes in the front left side. Damage was estimated to be about \$640.

Responding to a call from the Food Lion grocery store at River Run Shopping Center, Deputy Mary Cron spoke to the assistant manager who told her that a cashier at the store had received three unusual calls shortly before 9 o'clock that evening.

The employee said a voice came on the line the first time and spoke, but she was unable to understand what was said, the deputy reported.

When the second call came in, she said she heard nothing over the receiver before the caller hung up.

The third time the phone rang, a voice said, "You've got a bomb in your storeroom, you stupid (expletive deleted)." The cashier said the caller sounded like "a young white male," according to the report.

Sheriff's deputies searched the store, but no bomb was found, Deputy Cron reported.

Another business in the same area recently received two bomb threats over the store's loudspeaker. Both times, the reports were deemed to be pranks after a search was unable to uncover any sign of an explosive device. The calls were blamed on someone broadcasting over the intercom from outside the building.

In other crime reports:

■ An Ocean Isle Beach businessman reported the theft of a new \$2,800 equipment trailer from his farm on Russtown Road sometime in the past two weeks. The man told Deputy Sgt. Gene Browning that he left the trailer parked about 14 days ago. When he went to move it last week, the 1994 Carson trailer was gone.

■ Two shotguns, a rifle and a pair of rods and reels were stolen from a storage room at a home on Sturgeon Drive in Leland last week. The victim told Deputy Brian Sanders that he discovered the theft Sunday evening. Missing was a .270-caliber rifle with scope, a 12-gauge shotgun, a 20-gauge shotgun and the fishing tackle. The deputy found the rear window of the home pried open. He valued the stolen items at \$1,676.

■ Someone apparently used a 1972 Ford Mustang for target practice on Cedar Hill Road near Leland Friday night. A 25-year-old man told Deputy Sanders that he let his girlfriend use the car and she ran out of gasoline at about 6:30 p.m. When he went to retrieve the vehicle, he found it had two flat tires and 11

on U.S. 17 outside Shallotte Thursday. The man told Deputy Randy Robinson that he left the truck at about 7 a.m. to have a tire changed. When he picked the vehicle up at around noon, he said the pistol was missing. It was valued at about \$49.

■ More than \$500 worth of fishing tackle was stolen from the garage of a Lumberton man's mobile home on Maiden Lane, Supply, recently. Deputy Hamilton found that the thief pried open the door to get inside, causing about \$10 damage to the door jam. Missing were five rods and reels.

■ Someone reportedly entered a residence on Lewis Loop Road in Bolivia and took a compact disc player from beneath a bed sometime in the past two weeks. The victim told Deputy Hamilton that the thief left behind the box in which the \$500 CD player was stored. There was no sign of forced entry to the home. "She advised it was possibly taken by a family member or friend of the family," the report said.

■ A grass trimmer and a chain saw valued at more than \$500 was removed from a storage building outside a home on Randolphville Road in Bolivia sometime in the past two weeks. The shed was unlocked, but Deputy Rebekah McDonald reported that the owner "had not given anyone permission to enter and/or carry away the items."

■ Deputy Sgt. Joey Scoggins took a report from a Leland woman who said her son's bicycle was stolen from beside their mobile home on Grant Way, off Vernon Road, Thursday night. She said her son parked the 18-speed mountain bike at the end of the trailer Thursday afternoon and found it missing at about 10 a.m. the next day. The lock securing the bike had been broken off. Deputies later recovered the \$200 bicycle from a woman who said her son found it behind a Phoenix convenience store.

■ A retiree who lives in the Sea Pines subdivision near Southport reported the theft of a 10-speed mountain bike from his yard two weeks ago. Deputy Jerry Gray estimated its value at \$159.

■ A woman who lives on Maco Road near Leland reported that her home was broken into twice while she was in the hospital late last month. According to her son, a thief came in through an unlocked door on Oct. 24 and stole 37 video games. She told Deputy Steven Trull that her son also said her videocassette recorder was stolen on Oct. 29 by someone who broke in through her daughter's bedroom window. A possible suspect was identified. The total value of stolen items was estimated to be about \$1,750.

■ Detectives are investigating a reported larceny from a Bolton trucking company by an employee who lives in the Bolivia area. Deputy Cathy Hamilton's report states that the man allegedly had a check made out to himself for \$2,262 without authorization. He is also believed to have stolen a telephone pager valued at \$180.

■ A Shallotte man reported the theft of a .25-caliber autoloading pistol from his vehicle while it was parked for service at a repair shop



STAFF PHOTO BY ERIC CARLSON

A Gift From Gordon

Cane Faircloth of Holden Beach slides across the glassy face of a wave near the Holden Beach Fishing Pier Tuesday. Faircloth had a morning of epic surf all to himself as an unexpected head-high swell arrived, courtesy of Tropical Storm Gordon, lingering off the coast of South Florida.



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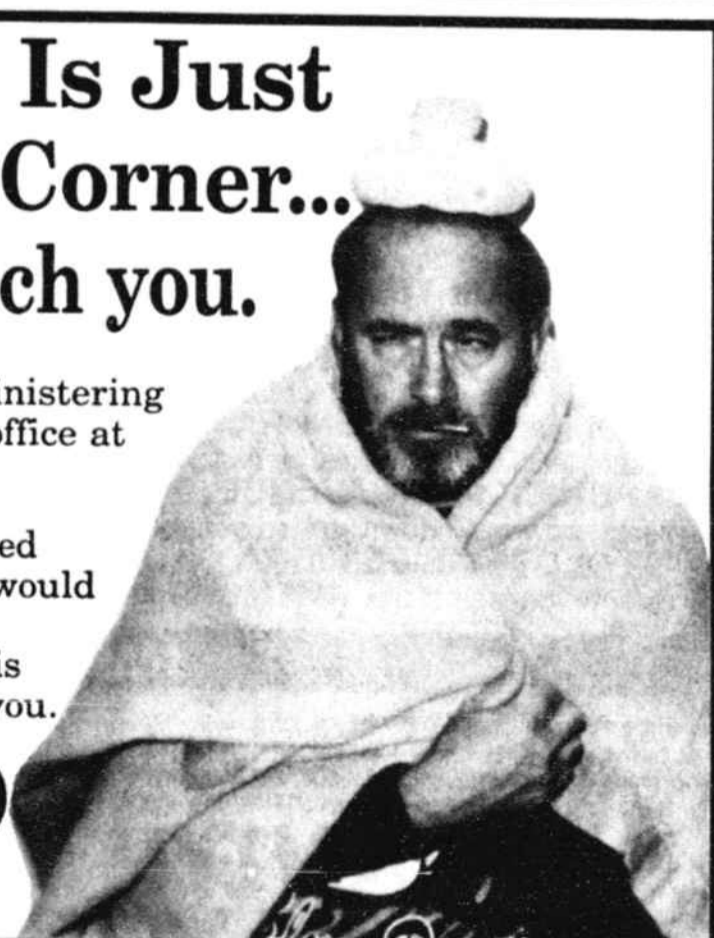
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