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Now
She's
Got
It!

Heather Leicester, the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Edward Leicester of Hertford, took advantage of a warmer day Sunday to try out her luck with roller skates.

After a few trial and error attempts Heather finally got the hang of skating and took off like a pro.



Singletary trial continues into second week of testimony

Hertford Attorney James D. Singletary took the stand in his own defense this week and denied testimony stating that he had told Douglas "Luckie" Cartwright how to burn down the Elliott House near Tyner.

Singletary also said that statements made to SBI agents in an interview on April 28, 1983 were taken out of context and were made in response to hypothetical questions.

Singletary is charged along with four other men in connection with the June 2, 1982 burning of the Elliott House on N.C. Highway 32 near Tyner.

Singletary is charged with conspiring to burn and burning an uninhabited dwelling, conspiring to burn and burning a building under construction and conspiring to burn and burning a building for fraudulent purposes.

According to a spokesman at the courthouse testimony, which began last Wednesday, was expected to end by late Wednesday and the case should go to the jury by Thursday morning.

In earlier testimony Cartwright told the court that he had been involved in an insurance fraud prior to the Elliott House fire, after losing money in a marijuana deal.

Cartwright said that he and Singletary had staged a fake burglary of his own house, and stored the "missing" items in Singletary's house, then filed an insurance claim.

Cartwright told SBI officials in March of 1982 that he, Singletary, Mitchell Duke Ivey, Larry Wayne Sanders and Peter Rosenthal were involved in the fire.

Two SBI agents testified late last week that Singletary admitted that he had instructed Cartwright on how to burn the Elliott House without getting caught.

Agent Walt House and Bill Godley testified that on April 28, 1983,

Singletary admitted in an interview that he "knew Luckie was taking me seriously" when he gave him the instructions.

The interview occurred after Singletary had failed to pass a polygraph test at the Chowan County Sheriff's office in Edenton.

House gave testimony corroborating Cartwright's

statements that Singletary had represented successfully a client in another arson case.

House said Cartwright had confessed on March 3, 1983 that Singletary instructed him not to use a flammable liquid when setting the fire, and to set the fire in the early morning hours when no one would be around to see it.

Cartwright said Singletary also told him to board the windows of the house so that no one would be able to see the fire until it was too late and to leave some back windows open to create a draft to fan the flames.

House added that Cartwright, in an interview on March 15, 1983, said he and Singletary walked through the house and that Singletary picked a piece of wood off of the staircase bannister and threw it to the base of the stairs.

Cartwright told House that Singletary said: "If I were going to start the fire, if I were going to do it, that's where I'd start it."

House then testified that Singletary admitted, with agent Godley present that he had instructed Cartwright

how to burn the house down without getting caught.

Godley said that Singletary admitted he had prefaced each remark he made to Cartwright with the words "If I were going to do it," when

he instructed him on how to burn the building.

In testimony on Monday Singletary said that he and Cartwright went out to the house to discuss renovations being done there. On the way there, Cartwright asked him about a case in which Singletary had successfully represented a client in an arson trial.

Singletary said that he had told Cartwright it had been a "stupid case" and he had declined comment any further.

Singletary testified that he knew the house's electrical system was outdated and dangerous and that it was then that he told Cartwright to remove any flammable liquids from the house.

He also denied throwing a part of the stairwell bannister down to the base of the stairs and suggesting that a fire be started at that point.

Singletary said he saw that the bannister spindles were coming loose, pried one off and threw it downstairs, indicating that the spindles had to be removed and thrown away.

Burning an uninhabited house and a building under construction carry a maximum sentence of 30 years, while all three conspiracy charges carry a maximum of three years each.

Burning a building for fraudulent purposes carries a maximum sentence of ten years.

Investigation continues in week-end robbery

A Perquimans County man was hit on the head with a stick and robbed of approximately \$500 to \$600 Saturday night at his store in Forestburg, between New Hope and Hertford.

According to Perquimans County Sheriff, Julian Broughton, Rob Turner, owner of R. W. Turner's Store, was alone at the store on Saturday evening when a black male entered the store between 7:15 and 7:30, hit him

over the head with a stick and took his wallet that contained between \$500 and \$600. The thief then ran out of the store to a car that was waiting outside, without attempting to take money from the cash register.

Turner was not seriously injured.

The incident is under investigation by the Perquimans County Sheriff's Department.

May Primary draws new candidates for local Board

By JANE WILLIAMS

Filing for candidacy for the May 8, 1984 Primary Election began on January 3 with seven candidates tossing their hats into the political arena in Perquimans County.

Perquimans County Commissioner Charles H. Ward, who currently serves as a commissioner from District II which is comprised of Parkville and Belvidere Townships, has filed for the seat of Lester H. Simpson, Commissioner from District I made up of Bethel and Hertford Townships.

Ward previously gained permission to serve on the board after his move from District II until the next election.

Heart Assoc. names officers

The following officers have been selected to serve as officers for the Perquimans County Unit of the American Heart Association for 1984:

President and Fund Raising Chairman, Elizabeth Thach; Secretary, Mary Dale Lane; Treasurer and memorial Fund Chairman, Roy Chappell Jr.; Public Information Chairman, Juanita Bivens; Rural Chairman, Paige Underwood; Schools Chairman, Elaine Pritchard; Business Days Chairman, Suzanne Haste; Special Gifts Chairman, Harriett Woodard; assisted by Helen Hunter and Helen Woodard.

Simpson has also filed for reelection to the District I seat. With Ward out of the running for a seat for District II, Perquimans County Commissioner Chairman Joe Nowell will face opposition for the

two available seats in that district from Thomas Nixon, a former commissioner, Arnold Everett White, a Belvidere farmer and Wayne Winslow, a salesman for Winslow Blanchard Motor Co.

Area vegetable meeting slated

According to Bill Jester, Perquimans County Extension Chairman, the second annual Area Vegetable School will be held Tuesday, January 24 at the Albemarle Commission Building (ARPDC Building) on Church St. Ext. in Hertford.

Registration will begin at 9:00 a.m. and the program will start at 10:00 a.m. Registration fee will be \$1.00. A barbecue lunch will be served.

Jester said that horticultural displays and exhibits will be provided by several agribusiness representatives for this meeting.

Exhibits will include topics such as drip irrigation, ag-computers and others.

The program schedule will be as follows:

10:05 — Drip and Overhead Irrigation by Doug Sanders, Extension Horticultural Specialist and Jester.

11:00 — Nematode Control by Cole Knotts, Washington County Agricultural Extension Agent.

12:00 — Lunch.

1:00 — Selling Vegetables by Computer by Tom Campbell, Pasquotank Agricultural Extension Agent.

1:45 — Sprayers and Their Selection by Rich Bonanno, Extension Weeds Specialist-Horticulture Crops.

2:15 — Control of Sweet Corn Insects by Tommy Harrell, Perquimans County farmer.

"This meeting was well received last year and I believe that we have a program this year that will be useful and educational," Jester said. "Start the year off right by attending a meeting that will help you in your farm operation."

Anyone interested in attending this meeting is encouraged to attend.



Surprised Honoree

Hertford Mayor Bill Cox was honored at a banquet given by his friends last Thursday night at

Angler's Cove. Cox is admittedly taken by complete surprise upon entering the door at the

restaurant. He is shown here being greeted by Gerri Carney. (See related story on Page 4.)