

Local Youth Fatally Stabbed During Argument

A local high school student is dead and a suspect is in Chowan County Detention Facility following an incident late Sunday afternoon. The victim was Kenneth Earl Valentine, 17, who lived with his mother, Erma Valentine, in Edenton Manor Apartments.

Eddie Wendell Hedgebeth, 33, 310 East Church Street, is being held in lieu of \$25,000 bond on a charge of murder. Hedgebeth appeared in Chowan County District Court on Tuesday.

Judge Richard Parker of Elizabeth City instructed Hedgebeth of his rights and ordered a court appointed attorney to represent the suspect. Hedgebeth wore a bandage on his left arm which covered a wound he allegedly received in the fight.

The following series of events have been pieced together from interviews with law enforcement officers.

Hedgebeth and Valentine were among a group of Negroes at the corner of Oakum and Albemarle streets about 6:15 P.M. There was an argument and Hedgebeth was "rushed". He struck Valentine in the chest with a pocket knife.

The victim was placed in a car and rushed to Chowan Hospital. Hedgebeth was put into another car and apparently was "pushed out" near the detention facility on East Church Street.

James Welch, who was on duty at the time, heard a noise and went to investigate. He saw a hand on a window and then it disappeared. He found Hedgebeth just beneath the window.

Chief Deputy Glenn Perry was called and Hedgebeth was taken to Chowan Hospital where he was treated and released. It is unclear how Hedgebeth sustained his injury.

Valentine, a student at John A. Holmes High School, died at 7:20 P.M. The body was taken to Albemarle Hospital in Elizabeth City where an autopsy was performed Monday.

Police Chief J. D. Parrish said the investigation was headed by Capt. C. H. Williams, Sgt. Joe T. Norman and Patrolmen Leonard Bonner and Bill Phillips. SBI Agent Tony Cummings assisted, along with members of the Chowan County Sheriff's Department.

A probable cause hearing for Hedgebeth was set for April 7. However, Dist. Atty. Tom Watts of Elizabeth City is expected to put the case before a grand jury which convenes here April 6.

Public Parade

Strong Bait

The University of Alabama's plan to lure Dr. Joab L. Thomas has been successful. The chancellor of N. C. State University in Raleigh will become president of UA on July 1.

Search committees are usually armed with strong bait when they go after top educators. The Greater University of North Carolina was at a disadvantage at the outset in the Thomas matter since the chancellor is a native of Alabama and was lured from UA in January, 1976.

The University of Alabama can be proud of Dr. Thomas' decision to assume the top administrative post of a three-campus system. Naturally, the new position will give him added prestige, but with it goes awesome responsibilities.

In Tar Heelia, Dr. Thomas is one of 16 "big dogs" in the university system. In Alabama he will become "top dog." There is considerable discussion, and much concern, in North Carolina regarding funding of higher education. Dr. Thomas is not getting out of anything by going to Alabama since the battle lines are pretty well drawn between administration, faculty and lawmakers.

Furthermore, regardless of Dr. Thomas' ties to Alabama, our state was at a disadvantage in the process because of constraints which prohibit certain bargaining techniques. The financial package offered by Alabama just couldn't be challenged in this state.

Dr. Thomas has done a fantastic job during his four and one-half years at NCSU. In rural areas, in particular, he will be remembered for the Chancellor's Blue Ribbon Study Commission of the Agricultural Extension Service. This study could have turned into a witch hunt with a chancellor of less character at the helm. The study sets new benchmarks from which North Carolina's greatest educational delivery systems can improve the life of residents.

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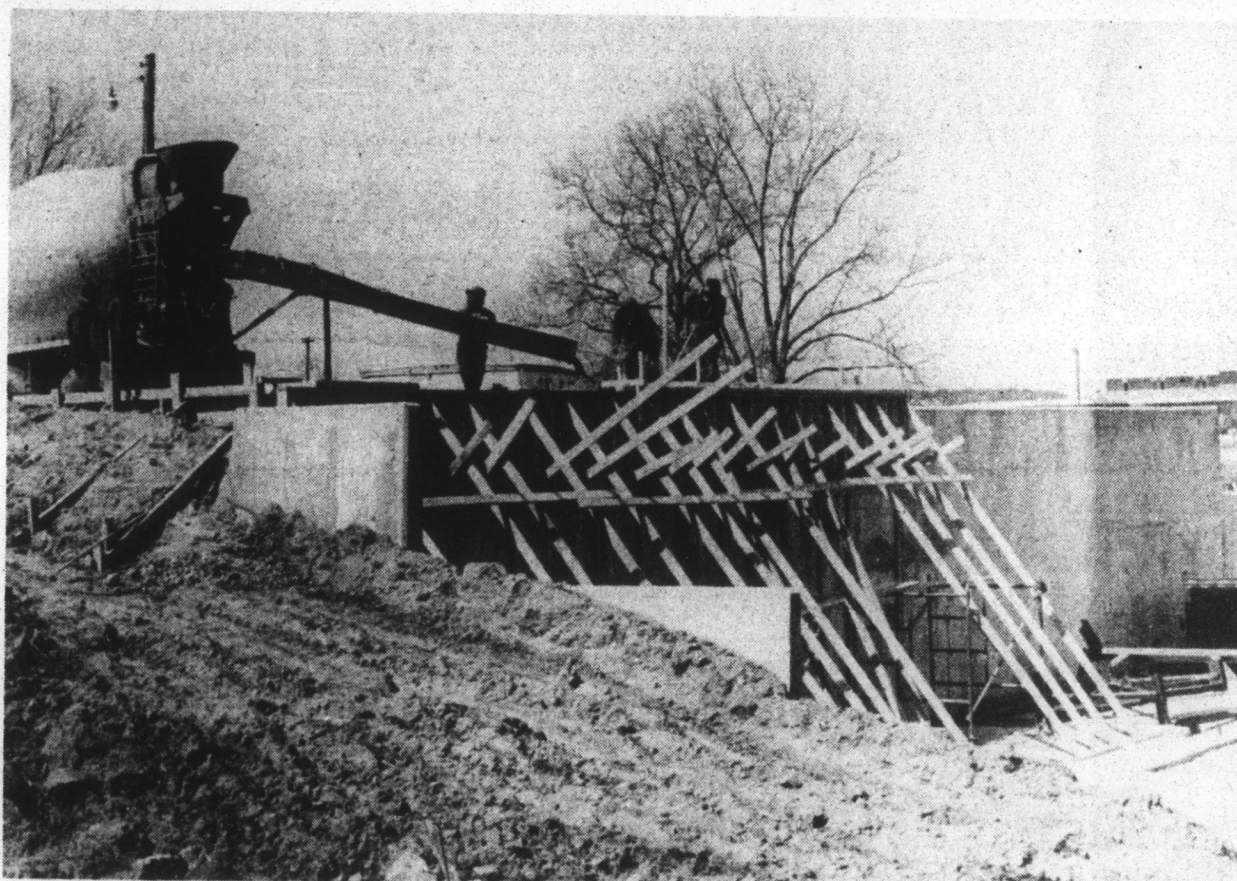
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PROGRESS CONTINUES — Construction of a garbage transfer station by the Town of Edenton continues. Here workmen are shown pouring concrete at the site near the Street Department, off North Granville Street. (Staff Photo by Luke Amburn).

Seven Counties Rally For Water Quality

Local government representatives from seven Northeastern North Carolina counties met recently to explore expansion of water quality work to include the Albemarle Sound Basin.

The meeting resulted from a recent resolution adopted by the Albemarle Regional Planning & Development Commission. The resolution, sponsored by Currituck County, calls for continued investigation, monitoring, etc., of water in the area.

Donald Flowers, Jr., ARPDC executive director, convened the meeting to ascertain the role of the

regional organization in assisting in expanding the existing program.

The Chowan Regional Task Force, organized by the State Department of Natural Resources & Community Development, has also expressed concern over pollution which is being detected in the Albemarle Sound.

Also, Currituck County is expressly concerned about the possible diversion of water in Tidewater Virginia.

C. A. Phillips, chairman, Chowan County commissioners, said Wednesday morning that the NR&CD is the proper conduit for all allied efforts to perform field work, assemble data, etc. Also, he said the state department is also

working closely with Gov. James B. Hunt, Jr., and the congressional delegation in Washington, D. C., on behalf of the region.

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Third Annual Herring Run Set For May Third

The third annual Herring Run in Edenton is scheduled for May 3. The event is chiefly sponsored by Coca-Cola of Elizabeth City.

The Tidewater Strider sanctioned event will have races of 10,000 meters (6.2 miles); 5,000 meters (3.1 miles); and a one-mile fun run. All races will begin promptly at 1:30 P.M. with late registration set for 12:30 P.M.

Refreshments will be provided after the race. Hosts will be Little Rascals Day Care, Coca-Cola, Steve Hampton and Bank of North Carolina.

Trophies are being donated by Edenton Cotton Mills. They will be presented to winners in each division.

Other sponsors include: Peoples Bank & Trust Company, Tarheel Bank & Trust Company, Chowan Medical Center and Chowan Hospital.

T-shirts will be given free to the first 200 entrants to register.

Proceeds from the event will be donated to the American Heart Association.

For further information or applications call 482-4120 or 482-8604.



TERRY WILLIAMS

Radio Station Changes Owners

Edenton Broadcasting Company, Inc., has purchased WCDJ radio station. The new corporation assumed control of the broadcasting media on March 11.

The purchase was from Albemarle Broadcasting Company, Inc., headed by Terry Jones.

Edenton Broadcasting officers are: Robert E. Lee, president, and John Baggett, vice president, both of Gatesville; I. F. Self, secretary-treasurer; and Terry Williams, vice president and general manager, both of Edenton.

The new owners said WCDJ has established a fine reputation in the community and their aim is to strengthen the market. There was no immediate announcement of significant changes.

Williams went to work at WCDJ on a part-time basis in 1971. In 1977 he became a regular employee and was assistant general manager at the time of the change in ownership.

Williams, 26, has been active in community programs and projects in the area. He served as

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'Catfish' Hunter Is Guest Speaker

James (Catfish) Hunter of Perquimans County will keynote the Community Development Awards banquet, sponsored by the 10-county Albemarle Area Development Association. The event will be held April 9 at the American Legion Building on West Queen Street Extended. It starts at 7 P.M.

Ed Brown of Hertford, AADA president, said this banquet is one of the highlights of the year in the Albemarle Area and he hopes people from throughout Northeastern North Carolina will plan to attend. Thirteen communities are in competition for awards. Carolina Telephone Company is a primary sponsor of the program.

Claude Jones, chairman of AADA Community Development Committee, announces that tickets are now available at the County Agricultural Extension offices in each of the counties. Those who desire to attend are encouraged to purchase a ticket early since space is limited.



EVIDENCE ORDERED SOLD — Supervisor Ray Elks of the N. C. Wildlife Resources Commission, right, is shown with two enforcement officers who participated in a February 20 undercover case which resulted in the arrest of Chowan County's only licensed fur dealer. Shown with the evidence confiscated, most of which was ordered sold Tuesday, are: Horace Cahoon, left, and George Sawyer.

Fur Dealer's License Is Suspended By Court

Chowan County's only licensed fur dealer was put out of business Tuesday after pleading guilty in District Court to unlawful possession of untagged fox. Earl Fernando Parks, 77, of Gliden, can apply for a new license after July 1.

Judge Richard Parker of Elizabeth City sentenced Parks to 30 days, suspended upon payment of \$50 fine and costs. The judge then accepted the recommendation of a Wildlife Resources Commission protector in confiscating 71 dried skins and five frozen whole fox.

The confiscated items are to be sold, after being properly tagged with the proceeds to go to the Enforcement Division.

The whole animals were directed to be retained by the division for use in further undercover work. Judge Parker ordered that the stretchers be returned to Parks.

Parks purchased a whole fox and two raccoons from an undercover agent, K. R. Craft, on February 20. The agent testified that Parks paid him \$30 for the fox and \$10 for the raccoons. A later

search of the premises turned up four more whole fox and the 71 dried skins. The agent said the skins sold for up to \$30 in the wholesale market.

Judge Parker could have charged the defendant and additional \$41 per skin for "replacement" of the animals.

Officer Craft said he approached Parks after receiving information that the elderly man was dealing in illegal game. He was assisted by Officers George Sawyer and Horace Cahoon.

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HITTING THE JACKPOT — Chowan County's Special Olympics was the most recent recipient of St. Anne Catholic Church's special Bingo Fund. Mrs. Betsy Kelly, Special Olympics coordinator, is shown accepting the \$250 check from Elliott Atstupenas, treasurer of the Bingo Fund. Mrs. Kelly reports more than \$900 has been either received or pledged to support the first project of this kind in Edenton - Chowan Schools. (Earlier pictures and story on Page 5-A).

Shop In Edenton Every Friday Night 'til 9 o'clock