



The Public Parade

Coming Home To Roost?

Once again American servicemen have been put in harm's way without adequate means - or authority - to defend themselves. It happened with the marines in Lebanon and now it has happened again with navy men on the USS Stark, where some 38 to 40 lost their lives when the ship was struck by a missile fired from an Iraq airplane.

Much is being made of the fact that the Iraq president has apologized, claiming the attack was a mistake. That could well be, but we would like to know what the pilot says, how he explains what happened under conditions which would make it awfully difficult to make a mistake.

It has only been a matter of a few months since the United States, while claiming to be neutral in the Persian Gulf war, was selling arms and anti-aircraft missiles to Iran, which used them during an offensive which penetrated deep into Iraq.

Who knows what bitter memories the Iraq pilot may have had as a result of that U.S. assistance to the enemy? Who knows whether some member of his family or some close friend may have been a victim of weapons made in the United States? Who knows whether he may have decided on his own initiative to even up the score when he had a chance, then claim it was all a mistake?

Until more is known about the details of the attack, we are not content to write it off as a mistake when it could well have been a partial return on our investment in Iran, a case of our own Sam "pigeons" coming home to roost in the form of a French-made Exocet missile.

Own Problems First

Down in Atlanta a federal grand jury is looking into whether

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Whitaker Says Lot Clearing Is Priority

By JACK GROVE

The remains of an industrial plant built in 1906 at the corner of First and Oakum Streets are still visible, but not for long, according to a town official.

Property at the location, owned by the town since at least the turn of the century, was leased by Chowan Veneer and used as a manufacturing site until 1984.

Town Manager Phillip Whitaker said that the Town of Edenton was responsible for clearing the lot of the remaining structures. He said that the street

department had been working on cleanup at the site since last year whenever the department's regular work schedule permitted.

"They're not caught up very often," Whitaker commented. "I'm going to see to it that it gets cleared," he said, adding that it is unsightly. "I intend to move it up on the priority list."

The manager said that it has been and still is the town's policy that the public can take what they want from remains as long as they get clearance from street superintendent William Skinner. He warned, however, "The public needs to get what they're going to get within the next month," indicating his desire for a speedy clearing of the lot.

The new town manager spotted the manufacturing remains his first day on the job when he began riding around town with the utilities director and street superintendent. "I wanted to become familiar with the layout of the town and ongoing town projects and become acquainted with some of the problems as well." He cited as examples drainage, streets, trees and the cemetery.

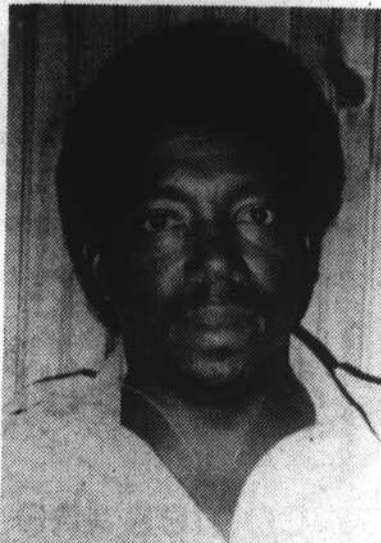
Jim Darnell, president of Chowan Veneer, said that the company opened a plywood operation on Coke Avenue in 1980. The veneer operation was subsequently moved in with the plywood plant and the company relinquished the lease in October of last year, with the last equipment moved by the end of the year.

He said that the town was anxious to use the property for recreation purposes and an agreement was reached with the town taking over control "with the property as is".

Darnell said, "The Town of Edenton has done an outstanding job in demolishing (the old mill) without costing the town a great deal of money." He estimated that only 25 percent of the mill still needed to be razed.

Robbie Laughton, the town's recreation director, said of the

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Derrick E. Wadsworth

Wadsworth Is Certified

Derrick E. Wadsworth of Edenton, sergeant for the N.C. Dept. of Corrections, has been certified as a Correctional Firearms Instructor for probation and parole officers and the N.C. Div. of Prisons.

The certification means officers will no longer have to leave Edenton for training.

The instructor will also be available to teach basic firearm safety to civic or social groups. Anyone interested in taking the course may contact Wadsworth at Washington County Prison Unit, telephone 797-4473, or at home, 482-8151.



CONTRAST IN CONDITION—The relatively modern town water tower contrasts sharply with remains of the old Chowan Veneer Plant, circa 1906, at the corner of First and Oakum Streets.

Hardees Plans Move To New Location

By JEANETTE WHITE

Planned construction in Edenton will give one restaurant and one residential group home new facilities next year.

Hardees Inc. and Oak Leaf Apartments, a residential group home for developmentally disabled adults, will be moving when construction is completed around June 1988.

The restaurant and apartments are on adjoining property on North Broad Street. The restaurant has purchased the apartment complex property and will soon begin construction of a new eatery between the two buildings.

When construction is completed, the old restaurant will be demolished and the property on which it sits and the apartment complex property will be used for a parking lot.

Council Okays Company Bid

Edenton Town Council accepted a bid Friday from T.A. Loving Company of Goldsboro to extend water and sewer lines on N.C. 32 West near the intersection of U.S. 17.

The extension will accommodate construction of a Travel Host Inn by developers Johnson, Dowdy Brothers and Thomas. Johnson and Dowdy Brothers are from Virginia and Bob Thomas resides in Edenton.

Thomas said the bid acceptance was one of the last details to be finished before construction of the inn begins by June 15.

The accepted bid was \$183,732. Of the five bids received, the next lowest was \$218,456 from George Raper and Son Plumbing of Elizabeth City. Highest bid was \$252,808 from Crain and Denbo Inc. of Durham.

Town Manager Phillip Whitaker said the new lines would extend past the planned motel and could provide service to existing businesses and any other construction at the site.

The Thomas group has agreed to pay the town \$85,000 and deed a 50 by 50-foot parcel of land to the town for a pumping station, plus any additional easements necessary.

Whitaker said some lines would be on the inn property, making the easements desirable.

Total cost of the project is \$208,419, including engineering, management service, construction and a five percent contingency fund.

Engineering for the project was by L.E. Wooten Company, of Raleigh and Greenville.

The town has committed \$69,162 of Senate Bill 2 Clean Water Monies for the project.

Charlie Franklin, director of the regional health center, said residents of Oak Leaf Apartments will be moved to a home planned on Luke Street adjacent to the back lot of Edenton United Methodist Church.

The facility is being built on one-half acre of land purchased for \$20,000 from Mrs. Judy Earnhardt Adams of Greenville. Total cost is estimated at \$150,000 to house five adults and one manager.

Franklin said construction will begin this fall using money from the U.S. Dept. of Housing and Urban Development. Albemarle Mental Health has a 30-year contract with HUD to repay the loan and the home will be owned by AMH upon payment.

The location was chosen after a site selection committee comprised of AMH Area Board members Mrs. Clara Boswell, chairman, George Jones and Ralph Cole and

County Manager Cliff Copeland looked at five locations and preferred the one owned by Mrs. Adams.

Franklin threw plaudits to Mrs. Adams after she cooperated in helping his group acquire the property.

"Mrs. Adams has worked very closely with us on this. We are

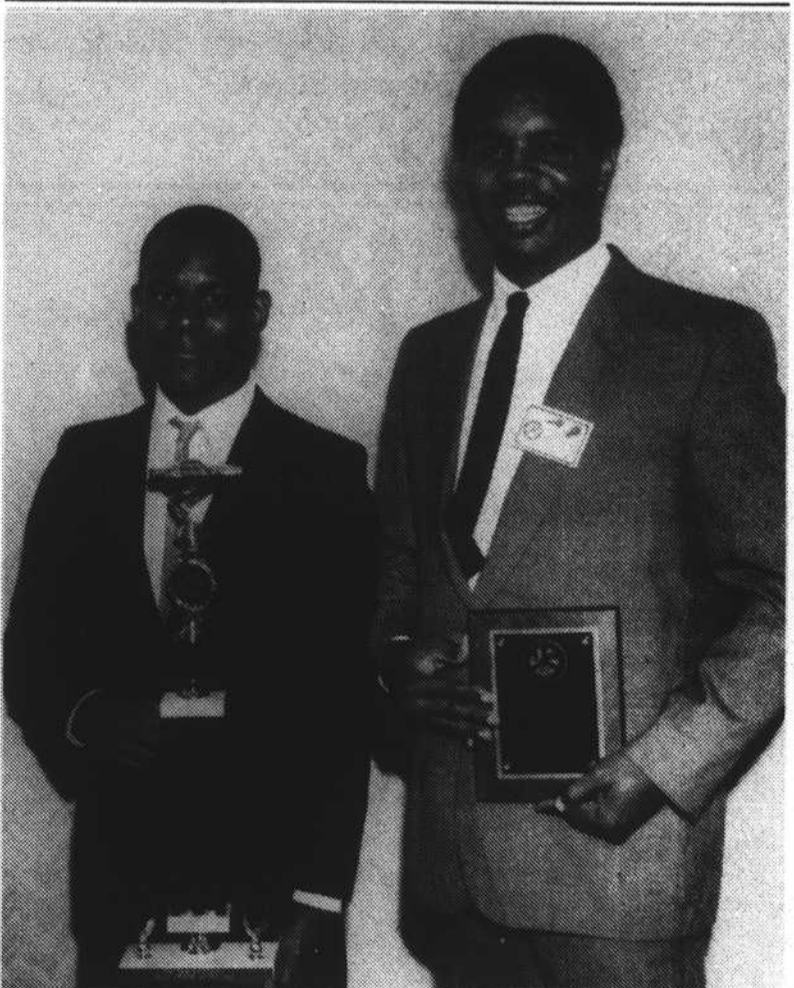
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Blood Drive Scheduled

The Edenton Jaycees will sponsor a Bloodmobile on Tuesday, June 2, at Chowan Hospital from 3 p.m. until 7 p.m.

Quota for this visit will be 100 units.

Everyone is asked to come out and donate a pint of blood so that others may live.



STATE WINNER—William Hill, Jr. holds the trophy he won for second place in the state driving rodeo in Burlington. His teacher, Tyrone Spellman, holds a plaque presented in recognition for teaching a winner.

Hill Captures Second Place

A John A. Holmes student has driven away with second place in the state driving rodeo held in Burlington on May 7 and 8. William Hill, Jr. won the honor, \$300 and a trophy for his efforts.

The rodeo, sponsored by the N.C. Driver and Traffic Safety Education Association, tests drivers in a four-part contest.

One part consisted of a two minute speech on the subjects of drinking and driving, seat belt use and the question of raising highway speed limits above 55 mph.

Another segment was a written test on rules of the road. The other two parts tested driving skills behind the wheel. One was a road test in the city of Burlington and the other tested skills on a driving course with sharp turns.

Hill's teacher, Tyrone Spellman, pointed out that he competed with students from some of the top schools in the state. "He just missed first place by a few points," Spellman said proudly. He said that this was the best any of his students had done in the past three years.

American Legion Rodeo Proves Huge Success

American Legion officials have expressed pleasure at what they termed the success of the second annual rodeo held Saturday night and Sunday. Proceeds from the

rodeo will benefit Edenton's American Legion Baseball program.

Saturday night's performance saw the "biggest and best crowd

in recent years in North Carolina", according to the secretary of Southern Rodeo Association.

Wallace Evans, athletic director of Post 40, said the goal of \$1,500 set to benefit the baseball program was surpassed.

He attributed the large crowd to the work done by E. C. Toppin, publicity chairman, and his committee. Evans said a Rocky Mount man told him, "I don't know who did your advertising, but I saw rodeo reminders everywhere I went."

Rodeo posters were seen as far away as Williamsburg and the Legion Post received calls about the rodeo from Richmond.

"There were a lot of Virginia people who were here," Evans said. He said that cowboys from as far away as New York, Texas and Florida participated in the competition.

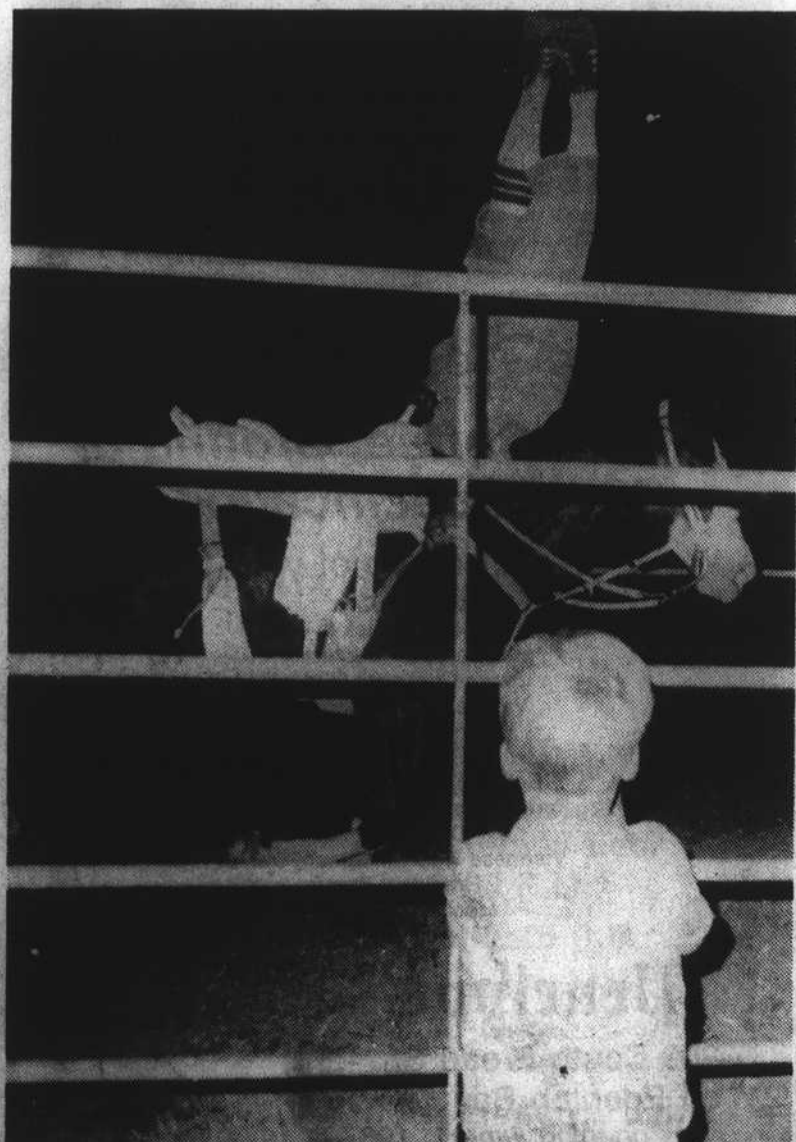
Evans continued, "I feel like it was very successful - better than last year. We intend to continue having it as long as we break even. We feel like we owe an obligation to the community to provide good, family entertainment.

"On behalf of the boys who play baseball, we'd like to thank everyone who helped and supported the rodeo. It will benefit the boys taking part in the baseball program.

"We couldn't believe Saturday night when people just kept coming and coming."

This year's baseball team will be led by Lin Jordan, coach, Jim Hunter, assistant coach, and Mar-

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RODEO EXCITEMENT—Four-year old Chris Mize looks on in awe as a rodeo clown displays his trick riding abilities at the second annual Chowan County rodeo Saturday night. With standing room only, the rodeo was hailed as a big success. (Staff photo by Gail Basnight)