



Testimony Continues In Murder Case

Jury Hears Of Alleged Violence In Trial

Looking Out For Dog

What do you do when you are adopted by a strange dog that is too good to send to the pound?

We faced that dilemma the other day when we found this mid-sized black dog, with brown face and feet, sitting on the stoop of our workshop. We tried to run her away, but each time she would go into the woods and, when our back was turned, come right back and make herself comfortable on the well-shaded stoop.

This went on for two or three days. Finally, a storm blew up just at dusk and a downpour set in. The dog went into the woods and we assumed she was going home or at least to where she knew she could find shelter.

Well, next morning when we went outside we were greeted at the door of our garage by a smiling, tail-wagging dog which had spent the night in dry comfort in our garage. She had on no collar or other means of identification, but she exhibited about the best manners of any dog we had ever seen. She would sit when we said sit, stay when we said stay and, among other things, shake hands and roll over.

This was when we decided she was too nice a dog to call the warden to pick up. At the same time, we knew we couldn't keep her since we are away from home weeks at the time. We decided to run a "Dog Found" ad in the newspaper and wait for results. Meanwhile, we would feed her and look after her. We deticked her and put a flea collar around her neck, to which she did not object in the smallest.

The ad brought a few re-
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After presenting physical evidence last week, the prosecution in the murder trial of Claude Augustus Felton, Jr. paraded a number of wit-

nesses before the jury this week prior to turning the case over to the defense yesterday.

Felton has been charged with the murders of Sarah

Ann Jones, 26 and her daughter, Falinda Brooks, 11 on August 28, 1988. Their bodies were found on a Sunday morning by another daughter, Toya, 12 at the time, in their Davis Place apartment. Ms. Jones had been stabbed and Falinda Brooks shot with a small caliber gun.

Several witnesses testified to Ms. Jones' fear of Felton,

her former boyfriend, after breaking up in June or July prior to the murders. Ms. Jones' sister, Barbara Bond, told the court that on August 14, 1988, Ms. Jones came to her apartment and related that Felton had attempted to run over her with his car.

Other witnesses said that Ms. Jones had told them of separate incidents where

Felton had pushed her down apartment stairs, struck her in the foot with a pistol, and had taken her to a deserted county road at night and swung at her with a hatchet and tied her to a tree.

Police officers testified that they had been called to Brit-thaven where Ms. Jones worked in the laundry room

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CONFER--Defense attorneys for Claude A. Felton, Jr. are shown conferring during his first trial in February of this year for a double murder committed two years ago. From left are Samuel B. Dixon, William T. Culpepper, III and Felton. That trial resulted in a mistrial when the jury couldn't agree on a verdict. Felton's re-trial began last week and may run into next week.

High Court Asked To Rule

By JACK GROVE

HERTFORD -- Superior Court Judge G.K. Butterfield Monday ordered health care providers and government agencies to turn over records in a child sexual abuse case in which four Edenton residents face charges.

The charges arose last year during a bitter child custody dispute between Donald and Darlene Harris. Mrs. Harris was accused, along with her fiance, Bruce Allen Bunch, of abusing her small son. Also charged were Robert F. Kelly and Willard Scott Privott.

Although the case is separate and distinct from the Little Rascals Day Care case,

Kelly, Privott and Mrs. Harris face multiple charges in that case as well. The Harris child had not been enrolled at the day care.

Defense attorneys have failed in previous attempts to get a look at the requested records through the normal discovery process in criminal proceedings. At a hearing before Judge Butterfield last month, the judge approved the issuance of subpoenas for the records from Chowan Dept. of Social Services, the local Headstart Program, Psychiatric Associates of Chesapeake, Va., Chowan Medical Center, UNC-CH Medical Center and a doctor.

The prosecution, represented by William P. Hart, special prosecutor and N.C. Assistant Attorney General, fought the release of the records Monday. He cited previous cases that, he said, showed that pre-trial release of such materials was improper.

Michael Spivey, Kelly's attorney, told the court that access to the records was essential to the investigation of the case and preparation for trial by the defense. He said

that he couldn't understand why the state was placing itself in the way between the defense and the holders of the records who were potential defense witnesses.

Keith Teague, Bunch's attorney, said that the defense needed the records to determine the competency of the child to testify against the defendants.

Hart accused the defense of circumventing the normal discovery process with the subpoenas and further said that the health care providers did not have to talk with the defense prior to trial.

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Swain Hosts Court Session

Renovations at the old Chowan County Courthouse and sessions of Chowan Superior Court have combined to cause problems for district court cases here. Recently, several sessions of district court have been cancelled due to unavailability of a court room.

With a special session of superior court beginning last

week for the Felton murder trial at the new courthouse, and which may stretch into next week, district court cases would have piled up had a solution not been found.

An innovative option was found after district court was again cancelled last week. After meeting with County Manager Cliff Copeland Friday, Chief District Court Judge John T. Chaffin elected to utilize Swain Auditorium on a trial basis as a substitute court room.

Backed by a red velvet curtain, Judge J. Richard Parker sat on a high-backed chair at a desk placed on a low platform in front of Swain's stage as he presided over district court Tuesday morning. Desks were also set up for prosecution, defense, court clerk and the sheriff. A microphone and witness chair were set up to the left of the judge.

According to Chowan Deputy Court Clerk Alice Twiddy, the normal district court case-load each week is 50-55 cases. Due to session cancellations, Judge Parker had 143 cases facing him Tuesday.

Over 100 persons attended the session and were scattered through the first 15 rows of the three sections of seats. Although the proceedings were easily heard throughout the auditorium, a slight echo accompanied the speech of participants.

After each case was heard, the defendant was escorted to an area behind the stage where fines and court costs were collected.

Next week could have posed even greater problems for the local court system. In addition to the possible continua-

tion of the Felton trial, district criminal and district civil courts had also been scheduled for Tuesday. The criminal session was cancelled, however.

Marjorie Hollowell, Clerk of Chowan Superior Court, didn't know at press time Wednesday if the week-long
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Deer Labeled Hazard

Concerned about a large number of deer that are grazing the lands at the Edenton Airport, town council will consider establishing a controlled hunting program at the airport.

The town's Airport Advisory Board recently met with officials from the N.C. Wildlife Commission to hear proposed recommendations to eradicate the deer problem.

The board is following up on concerns raised by pilots using the facility. Deer hunting was banned at the airport five or six year ago and consequently the deer population

has grown substantially.

The board will make a presentation to the council at its regular meeting on September 11. The board is expected to recommend that council adopt a program that would allow bow and arrow, muzzle-loading gun and shotgun hunting. The board is not expected to recommend hunting with rifles.

Board chairman Bill Myers said recently, "We've got to make sure that the safety of the pilots and the users of the airport is addressed. The board will recommend a con-

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ALL IN A DAY'S WORK-- North Carolina Wildlife officers pause after chasing a black bear out of Edenton city limits and towards a forested area south of town Tuesday. They were summoned from adjoining counties to remove or capture the animal, which had been seen in various sections of Edenton since late Monday, including at D.F. Walker School.

Black Bear Rambles Through Town

By MARGUERITE MCCALL

Edenton had one and possibly two unusual visitors Tuesday - black bears. First spotted before dawn on the west side of town (Twiddy Ave. and West Gale Circle), a small bear, chased by Wildlife officers, fled to the east side of town and disappeared into a cornfield between the railroad tracks and Coke Ave.

At mid-morning, Edenton Police received a report that a large bear had been seen in the vicinity of D.F. Walker School.

Believing that Wildlife officers had tranquilized and captured the early morning bear, police feared this one might be a she-bear searching for her cub. If so, they knew she could be extremely dangerous.

Officers Chris Joyner and Wayne Forehand saw the animal crossing Freeman and Blade Streets. They maneuvered their cars in a wedge formation to corner it. The tactic didn't succeed.

"I started blowing my siren," Forehand said. "When the bear ran behind the school maintenance building, my only thought was to shoo it away, keep it from getting to the children. I chased it across the schoolyard toward the railroad tracks.

"I didn't know a bear could run so fast. At one point, it

stopped and just looked at me. It couldn't have been more than ten feet away and it didn't look frightened, just stared, then headed across the tracks to the cornfield.

"It was a good-sized bear, black, about five feet tall."

(A local hunter estimated
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Holiday Closings Announced

The Labor Day holiday will be observed Monday by most town and county services. Closings will include town and county offices, schools, court clerk's office, banks and post offices.

Also closed Monday will be the Chowan Senior Center and the Edenton-Chowan Food Pantry. Shepard-Pruden Library will be closed Saturday and Monday.

The offices of The Chowan

Herald will be open for business Monday.

Edenton trash pickup scheduled for next week is:

Monday - no collection;
Tuesday - East side pickup;
Wednesday - West side pickup; limbs and waste will be picked up on the East and West sides;

Thursday - East side pickup;

Friday - West side pickup.



"TIE A YELLOW RIBBON"--Edenton Jaycee Betz Ricks (left) and Chowan Director of Social Services, Patti Williams, hang a yellow bow on the door of Social Services. The Jaycees, in an effort to show support for the men and women of the Armed Forces, will be distributing yellow bows to local businesses on Saturday, September 1, from 10 a.m. to noon. Smaller bows to wear and display on car antennas will be distributed at the same time.

Invitation Extended

A special invitation is being extended to all area residents to take advantage of merchandise and service values at participating businesses during the County-wide Sale being held now through September first.

A special section inside this week's Chowan Herald features the merchants and values being offered.