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Mill Museum stands as permanent tribute to all those who worked there

BY REBECCA BUNCH
Editor

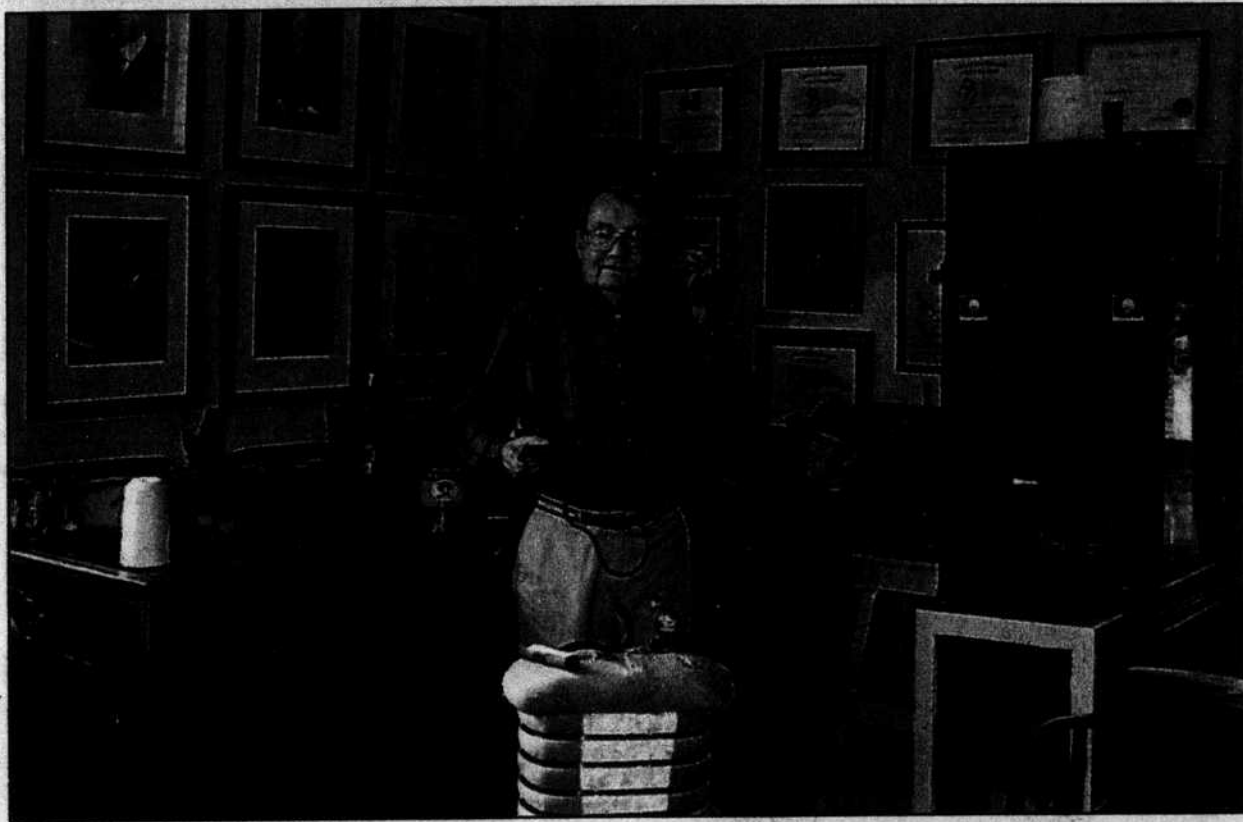
Junius Britton has a passion for collecting, one he has pursued wholeheartedly since age 14. Now that love for acquiring everything from Depression glass to old typewriters has been put to use in organizing a "Mill Museum" inside the former Edenton Cotton Mill.

Britton said he and his wife both have strong ties to the mill village, and that the project, while time-consuming, is a labor of love for him.

"My dad worked in the mill," he said. "He was called 'the Valhalla kid' because he rode a bicycle back and forth work from Valhalla."

Britton said the reason for putting together the museum was that creating it was something very close to his heart.

"I'm really doing this," he said, "as a memorial to all those who worked there."



Junius Britton tries out an old-timey telephone as he stands among some of the treasures he has amassed for the new Mill Museum at the former Edenton Cotton Mill. An open house will be held later this fall. (Staff photo by Rebecca Bunch)

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Rankins escapes, found after search

BY REBECCA BUNCH
Editor

Michael Rankins, 34, was recaptured Monday night at approximately 10:45 p.m. on Freemason Street following a communitywide manhunt.

According to Chowan County Sheriff Fred Spruill, Rankins escaped from the Chowan County Detention Facility at about 1:35 p.m. while officers "were getting him ready to be transported to Central Prison in Raleigh to begin serving a 12-year sentence for armed robbery."

Spruill said that Rankins "escaped through an unlocked door leading to an outside storage area while the officer was distracted."

When asked to provide additional details of Rankins' escape, the sheriff said he was unable to do so at this time. He added that an investigation is being conducted to determine

exactly how Rankins was able to make his escape from the jail.

Spruill said he was also unable to say whether any officers would face disciplinary action as a result of Rankins' escape.

"That is an internal matter," he said. "And anyway I couldn't say until we know exactly what happened."

He also said he could not yet say whether any of his department's procedures with regard to the transporting of prisoners would be changed in light of the incident, again citing the ongoing nature of the investigation.

Assisting in the search, according to Spruill, were officers and K-9 units of the sheriff's office, the Edenton Police Department, Pasquotank County Sheriff's office,

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Mayor given authority to name waterfront study commission

BY REBECCA BUNCH
Editor

Mayor Roland Vaughan has received the approval of the Edenton Town Council to appoint a waterfront development committee to, in his words, decide on its "best use" and to identify funding sources that will help achieve that use.

Council gave its okay after a brief period of discussion during last Tuesday night's meeting.

In response to Vaughan's statement that he hoped to have

a committee in place by the end of September, Councilman Jimmy Alligood asked how many people the mayor planned to ask to serve.

"If it (committee) gets too big, you're going to have problems," he predicted.

"I have not decided on the number yet," the mayor said. "I'll make that decision and bring it back to you by the end of the month."

Councilman Willis Privott observed that the proposed waterfront study committee idea has drawn considerable

interest from the public.

"Everywhere I go," he said, "people are asking me, what's the mayor talking about?"

Vaughan said he was well aware of the considerable interest the public had in the plan.

"I don't think we will have any trouble getting folks to serve," he said. "I've already had numerous phone calls, including two today."

He said the timetable he had in mind would have the committee short-lived. Vaughan said he would like to see the group study issues relating to

the best use of the waterfront, "look at diverse points of view," and then complete their work within six months. In the interim, he said, he would want to see them give periodic updates to the council about their level of progress.

Councilman Privott asked the mayor whether he intended to meet with the committee himself.

Vaughan indicated that he expected to meet with the committee once to brief them and "then turn them loose and see where they go with it." He said

it would be the committee's job to listen to people's ideas and then "narrow those ideas down to the best ones."

He said he was pleased to see so much interest already expressed by the public and would think carefully as he worked to decide on the list of appointees.

"This will give us a good start and good input from people who are genuinely interested. This committee will be designed to incorporate diverse ideas that already exist. I think it's safe to say that at this time, we're not using it (waterfront) to its best

advantage and this committee will be a way we can look for greater insight into what might be done."

During the recent council committee meeting where Vaughan initially suggested appointing a committee, he told the council he was thinking the study group might consist of five to seven members, with some of them knowledgeable about boat manufacturing and marine contracting.

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Skip Long and Chris Mangum (center of pix) were the guest speakers at a Saturday morning breakfast organized by Bob Harrell (right) of the Albemarle Recreation Center and Diana Wilson Jones of the Rural Center in Raleigh. (Staff photo by Rebecca Bunch)

Partnership between DSS, businesses and churches sought to get clients off welfare

BY REBECCA BUNCH
Editor

Discussing ways the community can help Chowan County residents move from welfare to gainful employment was the focus of a breakfast meeting held here Saturday morning.

Special guests at the breakfast were Skip Long, executive director of the Jobs Partnership of Raleigh; Raleigh businessman Chris Mangum, who serves as business coordinator for the Partnership; and Diana

Jones Wilson, senior policy associate for human resources for the North Carolina Rural Economic Development Center, Inc., in Raleigh.

As a number of local ministers listened, Mangum said the Partnership involves "businesses and churches sharing a common vision and goal, and partnering together to achieve that goal. The ultimate goal is not just a job, we want people who are hurting to achieve financial self-sufficiency."

He said the "heart of the pro-

gram" was developed upon principles established by Dr. Tony Evans of Dallas, TX and centers around helping people who perhaps have never before held jobs find personal and professional success.

The principles upon which the Partnership operates are based on Biblical teachings, Mangum said. He said that through human resources and development classes held by community colleges, participants learn some crucial interpersonal skills, including hav-

ing a positive attitude, living with integrity, appropriate ways to resolve conflicts, and striving for excellence. Combining appropriate interpersonal skills with strong job skills, he said, will make a prospective employee a lot more attractive prospect to a potential employer.

"They know they're getting someone who not only has job skills, but someone who has

See WELFARE On Page 6-A

'Exploiting weaknesses' gives Hertford County edge over Edenton Aces, 34-13

From Cox NC Publications
staff reports

Demont Moore scored three touchdowns as Hertford County stopped the visiting Edenton Aces, 34-13, in non-conference football action last Friday night.

Moore ran for scores of 55 and 11 yards and caught a 38-yard pass from Torn Parker for another touchdown. He finished with 210 yards rushing on 19 carries and one reception for 38 yards.

Edenton coach Jay Swicegood said the Aces (1-2) were outzied by Hertford County (3-0) and hampered by mistakes all night.

"We're not able to match up front with Hertford County. They controlled the line of

scrimmage all night long. Our first series that we had we had a dropped pass on the 3-yard line," said Swicegood.

"Hertford County did a real good job of shutting down the run. They had a very swarming defense and it was a very physical football game for us. We've got to maintain consistency with the mental attitude of eliminating mistakes. They were able to exploit some of the weaknesses we had last night."

Trailing 14-0, the Aces attempted to mount a comeback in the second quarter when Robert Nixon scored on a 7-yard pass from Shaun Rankins with 33 seconds left in the half. The momentum that had swayed Edenton's way didn't last long, though.

The Bears answered the score with the long touchdown pass to Moore with 10 seconds to go before intermission.

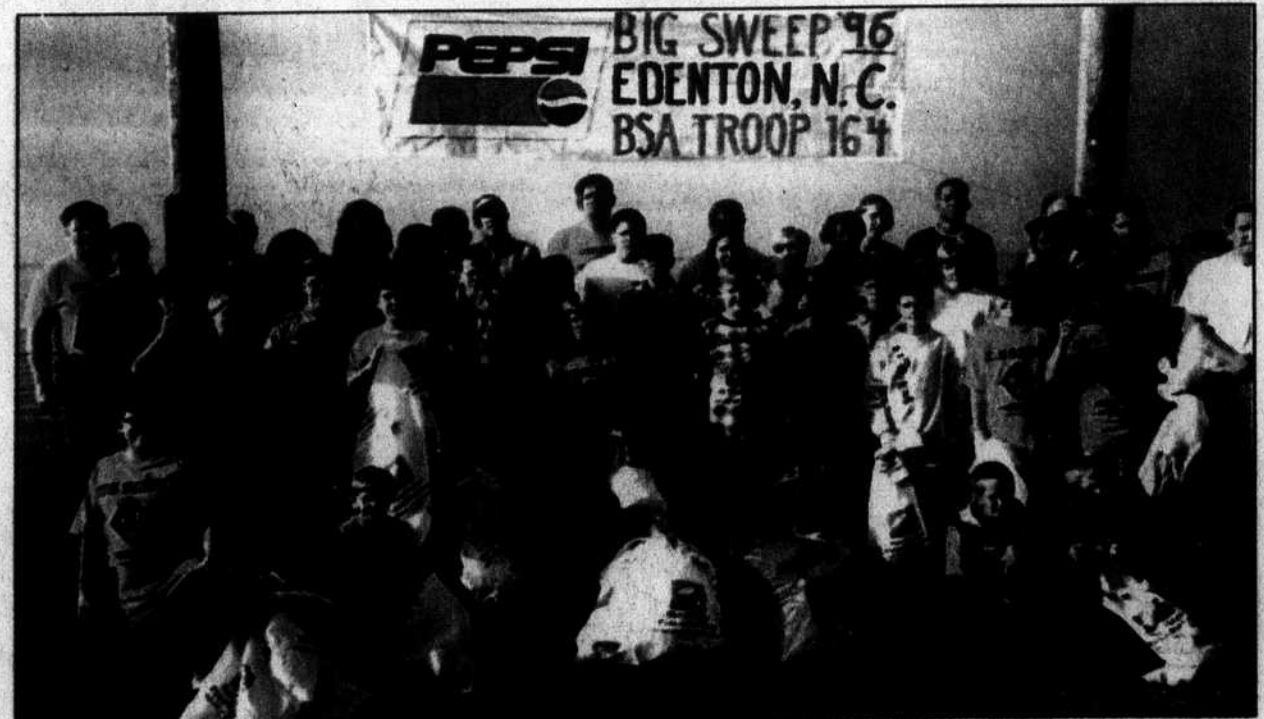
"We had a mental breakdown in the secondary and that gave Hertford County the momentum back," said Swicegood.

The Aces lost more than the game, however. They also lost starting quarterback Chris Williams in the first quarter when he sustained a cracked collarbone. Swicegood said Williams is expected to miss three to four weeks.

The senior was 2-for-4 for 18 yards and no interceptions when he left the game.

He was replaced by Rankins, who went 4-for-13 for 29 yards

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BIG SWEEP IS THIS WEEKEND

Chowan County's 1997 Big Sweep campaign will help clean up roadways and waterways throughout the community this Saturday, Sept. 20. Groups or individuals interested in helping are asked to contact Scott Alons, chairman, at 482-7437 or Nancy Morgan at 482-8431.

Tickets are \$15 in Advance
\$20 at Gate

Sponsored by The American Legion
Post 40 Baseball Booster Club

7TH ANNUAL SHRIMP FEAST

Sept. 20th • 5 to 8 P.M. • American Legion Fairgrounds

Call 482-3183 or 482-8739
after 5:00 P.M.