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In A Tri-Racial Setting"

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VICTIMS CLAIM 'MISTAKEN IDENTITY' IN ALTERCATION WITH LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICIALS

LANCE HARDIN FAMILY INVOLVED

ALLENTON—The family of Lance Hardin claims that an altercation with law enforcement officials which took place in his yard in the Allenton community on June 9, 1979 was the result of "mistaken identity" by the law enforcement officials.

According to citizens in the community, law enforcement people had been chasing a "speeder" all day without much success. Seemingly, said one observer, "they were upset, mad, fretted..." They took it out on the Hardins, according to the Hardins.

Lance Hardin, Sr. has been living in the Allenton community for a very long time. All of his children have been born and raised there, including 8 boys and 2 girls. He is a farmer and well respected in his community.

His home is located off highway 211 on Rural Road 2108, approximately 5 miles from Lumberton, near Allenton School.

District Court case set for July 20

On July 20 in Lumberton's District Court, James Dallas Hardin and his brothers, Richard Neal Hardin and Hilton Hardin, will go on trial for, among other things, failing to stop for a blue light, resisting arrest, driving under the influence, obstructing an officer and assaulting an officer.

All the charges are a result of an altercation with law enforcement officials which occurred in the yard of Lance Hardin, Sr. on June 9.

According to Mr. Lance Hardin, Sr. he was sitting in his house when he heard a fuss and went out to see what was happening. He found his sons involved in a tussle with Tommy Rogers, a Sheriff's Deputy; Hubert Covington, a highway patrolman; and countless other law enforcement people. According to Mr. Hardin "there must have been 25 of them, and maybe a hundred people looking on before it was all over." There were lawmen from the sheriff's office, the highway patrol and the Lumberton Police Department involved in the altercation.

James Dallas Hardin remembers it this way: "I was on my way home when I passed some law people parked on the side of the road not too far from the house...they had their blue light on. I passed on by slow...one of them said 'get that mess off the road.' I kept on going, the next thing I know they are following me on into my father's yard..."

According to the Hardins, that is where the trouble started. Sheriff's Deputy Tommy Rogers jumped out of the car and he and James Dallas began to struggle. Mr. Lance Hardin, Sr. came out in the yard and attempted to break up the fight between Rogers and his son, James Dallas, to no avail. Soon, he found himself in a confrontation with Highway Patrolman Hubert Covington who had drawn his stick & made as if to hit him. Lance Sr. grabbed Covington's stick. Utter confusion prevailed, according to witnesses. Sheriff's Deputy Rogers eventually drew his gun out and threw it on the Hardins, including Richard Neal who had been riding with his brother, James Dallas. Mrs. Hardin intervened in behalf of her husband and sons too. Another son, Hilton, was also involved in the altercation.

Lance Hardin, Sr. is bitter toward the law enforcement people, "if they had gone on like I told them nothing would have happened. They just wouldn't listen to reason."

According to Lance Hardin, Jr., another son who came up during the confusion, the sons were very concerned that their father not be struck on the head, because he was operated on for a brain tumor in 1968 and a blow on the head could prove fatal. He suffers from seizures.

Finally, after Lance Hardin, Sr. turned

his stick aloose, Covington struck him across the arm with his night stick, "fracturing my arm... chipping it."

Said Lance, Sr. "He (Covington) struck me because I told him not to hit my son. For that he hauled off and struck me across the arm."

Lumberton City Plice Chief, H.C. Britt, claims his men arrived after the confrontation with the Hardins began. "We were involved in the high speed chase but not in the incident at the Hardin home. That was all over when we got there."

Sheriff Hubert Stone, when contacted, said of Rogers, "He is a good and experienced officer, one of my better ones."

Stone noted that Rogers, as he recounted the story to him, did not consider it a case of mistaken identity. Stone said, "according to Rogers, Hardin was interfering in the pursuit of the speeding car...drawing us off...two times Deputy Rogers said Hardin stopped his car only to pull off as soon as he and other law enforcement people started getting out of their car to talk to

him." Sheriff Stone also said that an arrest had been made in the case of the speeding car.

No one from the highway patrol made a statement concerning the matter.

The charges are as follows:

Richard Neal Hardin, 24, is charged with obstructing an officer and assaulting an officer."

James Dallas Hardin, 26, is charged with failing to stop for a blue light and siren, resisting arrest and driving under the influence although he blew "O" on the breathalyzer, according to his arrest sheet.

Hilton, 27, is charged with obstructing an officer.

All are under \$300 bond. The father, Lance Sr. is not charged.

Lance Jr. says, "I just want people to know what happened. It was wrong what they did. If they can go in someone's yard and do something like this then all of us are in trouble. It just is not right what they did."

SHOTGUN BLASTS FATAL IN ROBESON

Lumberton—A Robeson County couple died in an apparent murder-suicide last Thursday night, while in an untreated incident earlier in the day an 11-year-old boy also died of a shotgun blast.

Sheriff Hubert Stone identified the dead couple as James Hunt and Letha Hammonds, both in their 30s, who shared a frame house on Route 2, St. Pauls.

Deputies were summoned to the home just before 9 p.m. Thursday and found the couple on the kitchen floor with the barrel of a 12-gauge shotgun protruding into a stomach wound on the man's body.

"We believe death in both cases was

instantaneous," Stone said

The sheriff said evidence at the scene made it apparent that the deaths were the result of murder-suicide.

In an incident earlier that day a youngster was shooting rodents with his cousin at a trash dump near Elrod died after accidentally shooting himself the sheriff said.

Stone said the boy, Richard Stabile, reportedly stumbled with a loaded .410 gauge shotgun in his hands. The gun discharged and the shot ripped through his upper left chest.

The youth was on vacation from his home in Baltimore, visiting relatives in Lumberton, the sheriff said.

Pembroke VFW News

On Sunday, July 22, the 8th District VFW meeting will be held at the VFW Post 670 in Fayetteville at 1 p.m. All VFW members and ladies are asked to attend. Meet at Sims Restaurant at 12 p.m. to ride together. Also, on this date there will be a gospel sing at the VA Hospital at 3 p.m. sponsored by the Pembroke VFW Post. Please attend one of these functions. Josh Locklear is hospital chairman and Harold B. Locklear is post commander.

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'Strike at the Wind' IS Doing Just Fine -An Uncritical Review-

by Bruce Barton

Rhoda Strong Lowrie

Derek Lowry returns as Henry Berry Lowrie. He was the original Henry Berry Lowrie. Lowrie has charisma, he's handsome too. He does a good job. He is believable as Henry Berry Lowrie, the baddest hero a fella ever had.

And the beautiful Brenda Carol Hunt is Rhoda. She is beautiful and is a songstress of the first order. She is outstanding, although she is still learning to say her lines out loud without sounding too loud. She improves nightly. Hope St. Pierre, who played Rhoda the first three years, is a tough act to follow. But Brenda is managing quite nicely, thank you. (Hope St. Pierre did not tryout for the part this year.)

LEADER AND THE BOY

Rev. Julian Ransom returns for his fourth season as the Leader. He is stentorian and majestic. He emotes very well. His stage presence is uncanny. He might be the best thing about the whole drama. It is hard to imagine someone else playing the part. His narration is magnificent.

Maurice Lowery, Jr. is the boy. He is a talented youngster. He is very good. He actually has more talent than the part calls for.

THE LOWRIE FAMILY

Moddie Strickland is Allan Lowrie, Jr.; Magdaline Lowrie is

Mama Cumbo; and Dora Chavis is Aunt Mary. All three are first rate. The youngsters who play Young Allen, Wesley and William are quite good too.

AND THE LOWRIE GANG

And what a gang, led by the irrepressible Carnell Locklear (Boss Strong) and talented Robert Bryant (Shoemaker John). Both are first rate comics, with a good sense of timing. They milk the audience for laughs. Both have been with the drama since its inception.

Some have said that these two, along with Julian Ransom, are just about irreplaceable.

And their cohorts (Frank Carter as Henderson; Timothy Lloyd as Zack; Q.B. Cummings as Steve; and Jon W. Locklear as Calvin and the Fire Dancer) are magnificent, each in their own right. Q.B. Cummings projects especially well in the amphitheatre setting.

OTHERS IN THE CAST

Bob Durrett as the sheriff and Juliana Morgan as Dolly add immeasurably to 'Strike at the Wind' in their first seasons. The sheriff, Bob Durrett, comes across in a very nice manner. He under plays the role beautifully.

And Bruce Alvin Proctor does well with a meaty role, although every once in a while he has a problem with convincing the audience that he is a wise guy with integrity. He comes off occasionally as a burlesque performer. One expects him to break out in a tap dance routine or fall down in a lemon meringue pie. But he tries mightily. That's what counts in an outdoor drama.

Lee Wiggins returns as Lina McNair. She has made the part her own after three years.

And Steve Pate is his usual nasty self as Harris. He plays a nasty guy with vim and vigor.

But Tom Cope comes off a little too smart slecky as Reverent Sinclair. He was perfect as Zack in past years but too mincing for Rev. Sinclair. He does not know

how to act pious in a condescending manner; a prerequisite for the part.

Ruby Hammonds performs wonderfully as Polly. Her smile lights up the stage. She's a comer, with lots of talent and lots of stage presence.

And Plummer Locklear returns as Donahue, skulking in as nasy a strut as you have ever seen. Edwin Shaw performs adequately as Saunders.

The townspeople are beautiful; and the home guard

hams it up nastily. Everyone performs with enthusiasm.

The outdoor drama tells the story of Henry Berry Lowrie and the folks around him, including black, white and Indian supporters and protagonists. The things that happen to him and them reinforce our notion that race is the least interesting aspect of a human being. Good guys and bad guys come in every shade and hue. It's the intent and integrity of a man's heart, not the color of his skin that is important. That's the story of 'Strike at the Wind'.

1st Smiths Resident Elected to LRDA Board of Directors



Emma Lee Locklear

Running on a platform that said "Balance our Representation," Emma Lee Locklear became the first resident of Smiths Precinct to be elected to the Lumbee Regional Development Association's Board of Directors last Thursday night. Her platform further stated: "I feel that the LRDA Board of Directors

should represent all areas equally." Responding to her candidacy, 91 persons voted for Locklear over the incumbent board member, John R. Jones who received 46 votes. A former employee of the agency, Henry W. Oxendine, received 35 votes.

Locklear resides in the Prospect Community where she is presently serving as Chairman of the Smiths Precinct. She is an active member of Prospect United Methodist Church. Married to Percell Locklear, she is the mother of four children: Percell, John, Tina and Trinia.

Locklear received her education at Pembroke State University and Appalachian State University. She has been in the field of education for 17 years. As of July 1, she became an employee of the Robeson County School System. Prior to the merger of the two systems, she was a guidance counselor for the Maxton City Schools.

Mrs. Locklear's election is pending approval of the existing Board.

PEOPLE AND L AND THINGS... C E S

HOUSEHOLD SURVEY TO BEGIN -PSU'S FOUNDATION AND ENDOWMENT BOARDS TO MEET WITH DR. GIVENS

An interviewer from the Center for Urban Affairs and Community Services of NC State University may knock on your door sometime this month and ask you to participate in a household survey.

The purpose of the survey is to find out the needs which citizens of Robeson County may have for services, such as housing, jobs, or child care. About 170 households have been selected for the survey. The interviewers will be asking questions about the services that are available from several local agencies and organizations, such as the county Health Department, the schools, and the Department of Social Services. Individual answers will be kept confidential. However, the final results of the survey will be used by local governmental agencies to determine if more services are needed and how the services they now provide can be made better.

BRYAN LEARNING CENTER RECEIVES GIFT

A gift of \$100 was presented this week to Bryan Learning Center (Robeson County's school for Kerner, a student of the Wayne County Easter Seal Society of Inkster, Michigan, in memory of Geneen's great grandfather, Mr. French Chavis. Mr. Chavis died June 15, 1979 at the age of 89. His daughter, Ms. Charis McNeil, a resident of Livonia, Michigan, is employed with the Easter Seal Society.

Geneen is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Samuel Kerns of Pembroke.

FOOTBALL PHYSICALS PLANNED FOR FUTURE PSHS PLAYERS

Dr. M.L. Brooks will be in his office July 20 and July 24 at 8 p.m. for the purpose of giving physicals to prospective football players for Pembroke Senior High School. All boys interested in playing football must have a physical in order to play. Mr. John W. (Ned) Sampson, athletic director, stated that the physicals are recommended on these dates in order for the players to begin practice on August 1.

GOSPEL SING PLANNED JULY 28

The Cumberland County Association for Indian People's Senior Citizens Club is sponsoring a Gospel Sing on July 28th at 8 p.m. at the Jaycees Fairground. There is no admission charge and everyone is invited to come out and participate in the program.

During intermission baked goods will be auctioned off and there will be a drawing for an a.m./f.m. radio, 8 track tape stereo combination and a 21-inch black and white t.v. Tickets for the drawing are only \$1 and you need not be present to win.

LUMBERTON TOBACCO MARKET OPENED JULY 18

The Lumberton Tobacco Market opened yesterday, July 18 at 9 a.m. according to W.C. Williford, Sales Supervisor. Two full sets of buyers were on hand for the opening sales. Eight big warehouses are in operation to give tobacco growers the best service possible.

Williford noted that the new stabilization support price schedule rewards farmers for good grades. It also reduces prices on poor grades in 1979. Farmers are cautioned to take special care in grading and cleaning up tobacco before placing in on the tobacco market.

A very large percent of tobacco from Robeson and surrounding counties goes into Foreign Trade. Foreign buyers are becoming more particular about quality and cleanliness of tobacco. Williford urges growers to take special care to deliver tobacco to the warehouse floors in the best condition possible.

PSU's Foundation and Endowment Boards of Directors will have a luncheon and business session at Pembroke at noon Friday with Dr. Paul R. Givens, new PSU Chancellor. The luncheon will be in the chancellor's dining room of the PSU cafeteria. This will be followed by the business session.

By virtue of his position, Dr. Givens is a member of the boards of directors for both the foundation and endowment.

PEMBROKE PLANS PUBLIC HEARINGS

Pembroke has scheduled a public hearing at Pembroke Town Hall to consider two applications to amend the town's zoning ordinances from R-A (Residential Agricultural) and I (Industrial) to C-3 (Highway Business District.) concerning tracts of land fronting highway 711.

Petitioners are A. G. Dial and Grover C. Oxendine.

The public hearing will be at the same meeting the town's council will also consider an amendment of the town's code of ordinances which would require petitioners to provide a survey plan and description of said change with such application.

PSHS BAND BOOSTERS TO MEET

There will be a meeting of the PSHS Band Boosters on Friday, July 20 at 8 p.m. at Pembroke Senior High School. The meeting is very important to band students and parents. They will have an opportunity to see the new band uniforms.

PROSPECT ATHLETES' PHYSICALS

Physicals for all Prospect School athletes will be given at the school on Wednesday, July 25, at 5 p.m. All athletes are urged to be present. Football practice will begin at Prospect School August 1 at 6 p.m.

Rev. Charles Young Plans Revivals in Area



Rev. Charles Young

The Rev. Charles Young and his Evangelistic Team will be in Lumberton at the Recreation Center on Friday and Saturday, July 20 and 21 at 8 p.m. He will appear at Pembroke Senior High School on Sunday, July 22, at 8 p.m. The public is cordially invited.