

## Wreck Demolishes Stolen Auto; Brings Federal Agents To Jackson

JACKSON — Five men are in the custody of the FBI and two others, all Negroes, are being detained in the county jail following a wreck near here Monday morning, in which a 1966 Chevrolet with a retail value of approximately \$4400, was a total loss.

The FBI entered the case after it was determined by State Trooper Bob Corey and Deputy Sheriff Grover C. Parker, who investigated the wreck, that the vehicle had been stolen from an automobile agency in Norfolk, Va.

David Claiborne was driving the brand new Chevrolet that had an actual mileage registering of only 279 miles. Driving at an excessive rate of speed he lost control on a curve three miles south of here, ran off on the left side of the highway, skidded approximately 200 feet back across the highway — hit a ditch on the

right hand side, and turning the vehicle over several times.

Claiborne and his passengers, Llewellyn Griggs and her husband, Willie Arthur Griggs, Anna Bufaloe, Bernard Smith and Jimmy Smith, were picked up at the wreck scene by friend, John Eddie Johnson, who was driving a white 1964 Chevrolet station wagon, with Jimmy Robinson and Levi Coleman as passengers.

Earlier the 1966 Chevrolet with its passengers had been to Seaboard and on the way back to Jackson had passed the 1964 Chevrolet and sideswiped it, continuing on its way.

The 1964 Chevrolet, following the 1966 model, was the first vehicle to reach the wreck scene, and Johnson picked up Claiborne and his passengers and drove them to a nearby farm house where they told officers they

"washed up" and were returning to the wreck scene when Trooper Corey, called to the scene, overtook the 1964 Chevrolet, traveling at 70 miles per hour.

Trooper Corey carried Claiborne and his passengers to a local physician's office for treatment of minor injuries. Llewellyn Griggs was admitted to Roanoke Rapids Hospital for treatment of cuts and bruises and released on Tuesday.

Both drivers were jailed when officers discovered they did not possess operator licenses or vehicle ownership cards, and further check by radio determined that the two vehicles were stolen from L & M Motor Co., in Norfolk, Va. When contacted the owner of the company told officers that a third vehicle reported stolen was located earlier on Monday in Norfolk. In addition to the automobiles, the motor company owner had reported to Norfolk police the following missing articles: \$4,000 in checks and cash from the office safe; over \$400 worth of mechanic's tools; \$50 worth of anti-freeze, an undetermined number of tires, floor mats, and other auto accessories.

Officers Corey and Parker discovered a fully loaded sawed-off shotgun in the 1964 Chevrolet and 10 gallons of anti-freeze in the trunk of the wrecked vehicle. Johnson is being detained in the county jail on charges of operating a vehicle without an operator's license, speeding 70 miles per hour in a 55 mph zone, and possession of a stolen vehicle.

Claiborne is being held in the jail on charges of driving without a driver's license, reckless driving and possession of a stolen motor vehicle.

In custody of the FBI at Raleigh are: Levi Coleman, Jimmy Smith, Bernard Smith, Willie Arthur Griggs, and Jimmy Robinson.

The two women passengers, Anna Bufaloe and Llewellyn Griggs, were released by the officers.



**STOLEN '66 DEMOLISHED**—This new 1966 Chevrolet, with an actual mileage of 279 miles, was completely demolished in a wreck near Jackson Monday morning. The driver, David Claiborne, Negro, and five passengers received only minor injuries. FBI agents entered the investigation after local officers discovered the auto was stolen from a Norfolk, Va., automobile agency.

## Roanoke-Chowan Peanut Crop Attracts Australian Visitors

RICH SQUARE — The peanut crop in the Roanoke-Chowan area brought three Australian peanut specialists to North Carolina Friday and to Rich Square on Tuesday. During lunch at the Rich Square Hotel the three men discussed their trip to this country with "Your Home Newspaper," comparing peanut production in Australia with that in Northampton County.

Oscar Higgins, general manager, Stan Haines, plant engineer, and Noel Kefford, grower and director, Australian Peanut Marketing Board, Kingaroy, Queensland, arrived in San Francisco last Thursday night and flew from there to Raleigh on Friday. Renting a car, they drove from Raleigh to Rocky Mount for conference with Joe Sugg, executive secretary, N. C. Peanut Growers Association, who furnished them an itinerary of major peanut producing areas of the state.

Previous correspondence between the Australian Peanut Marketing Board and North Carolina peanut officials figured in the selection of the Roanoke-Chowan area for field and plant surveys.

The three peanut specialists will spend a month in this country visiting peanut producers in

### First NCHS Homecoming This Week

CONWAY — High spirits and bustling activity at Northampton High is a sign of something special at the high school. The "something special" is the first homecoming celebration at the two year old consolidated school.

Going all out for the first big event, a two day schedule of events has been planned to boost the Rams for their battle with the Scots of Scotland Neck on Friday.

Sounding the gun to begin the full calendar of activities will be a Powder Puff football contest between the Ramettes and the Scotties at 8 p.m., Thursday night to be followed by a bonfire and pep rally on the south campus.

Friday night's activities will begin with a barbecue supper, 5:30 - 7:30, sponsored by the Boosters Club. Proceeds will be used to reduce indebtedness on athletic field lights and football equipment purchased last year.

Game time is 8 p.m., with crowning of "Miss NCHS" planned during halftime.

After the game, a dance until midnight will be held in the school gymnasium with music by the "Chancellors." Sponsored by the Girls Monogram Club, the dance is open only to NCHS students, their dates, 1965 NCHS graduates and their dates. Designated dress is school clothes and socks. Admission of 50 cents per person will be charged to cover expenses.

### Jackson Folks Fair Winners

RALEIGH — Three Jackson residents won honors at the N. C. State Fair last week.

W. P. Morris of Jackson won second place and a cash award in the beef cattle herdmen's contest.

Richard McDowell won fourth place in the Hereford steer competition and Rodger McDowell placed second and sixth in the beef carcass classes.

### Chuckle

**JOKE'S ON WHO?**

"Look here," said the boss to the clerk, "What does this mean? Someone just phoned and said you were sick and wouldn't be in the office today."

The clerk thought for a moment and then burst out laughing. "Ha! Ha! The joke's on him. He wasn't supposed to call in until next week."

The general manager described Australian soil for peanut production as a deep rich red volcanic soil, vastly different from the sandy soil of the Roanoke-Chowan area. Major varieties produced in Australia are Virginia and Spanish.

Australia, according to the specialists, exports few peanuts as supply meets domestic demand with infrequent surplus, however, they explained, peanuts have been exported to the United Kingdom during those few seasons when a surplus did exist. Import of peanuts to supplement home production is low, Higgins

said, but American stock was imported last year because of limited harvest resulting from extremely dry growing season.

During the next month Higgins, Haines and Kefford will study peanut crops, mechanized equipment for production and harvest and processing plants to determine improvements in farming methods and technical advances that could increase peanut production in Australia.

Unescorted in their travels, the three men are recording their studies on film for viewing by other peanut interests in Australia upon their return.



**A BEVY OF BEAUTIES**—These lovely girls are contestants for the "Miss NCHS" 1966 title. One will be crowned fairest of all Friday night during halftime of the NCHS homecoming game. Seated from left are Doris Ann Ricks, senior, to be escorted by Judson Revelle; Tapp Vaughan, junior, escort Wayne Woodard; Lynn Brown, senior, escort Eddie Blowe. Standing from left are

Joanne Warren, freshman, escort R. A. Powell; Linda Whitehurst, sophomore, escort Wallace Martin; Donna Ricks, junior, escort Steve Joyner; Elizabeth Lewis, freshman, escort Benjie McKellar; Beth Daniel, sophomore, escort Linwood Woodard; Tapp Vaughan holds a picture of Carol Harrington, "Miss NCHS" 1965, who will crown the new title holder Friday night.

## Only \$25,000 Available For New Roads Northampton County Board Chairman Calls Secondary Road Situation 'Rude Shock'

By JAMES WALLACE  
 Executive Editor

JACKSON — After plotting funds to complete the high school road and the Oconeechee Swamp road projects that were started last year, the Northampton County Board of Commissioners found that they had only \$25,000.45 to use for new secondary road projects for the current fiscal year of 1965-66.

The board acted at a meeting with new district commissioner, Don Matthews, and First Division highway officials at a special meeting on Wednesday, October 20, at the courthouse which was called for the purpose of assigning priorities to new projects under the secondary road program.

An official of the Northampton County Voters Movement, Jesse Castelow of Rich Square, who had attended the meeting to present the request of Negroes affiliated with the civil rights group, left the meeting with a commitment to use all of the remaining funds for the Nebo Church Road. Since it takes \$30,000 to grade, drain and surf each mile of road, this was not enough for even this project and it was decided to grade, drain and stabilize as much of the road as the funds will cover.

Division Engineer D. W. Patrick explained the 1965-66 allotment as follows: the new county allotment — \$84,190 with carry-over from last year's uncompleted projects of \$20,259.38, for a total of \$104,449.38. After holding over a 10 per cent emergency fund there would be \$94,004.45 for use this year.

Patrick stated that they would need \$30,000 to complete the widening and improvements to the high school road and \$39,000 to complete work started on

the Oconeechee Road from Barrows Mill to Mud Castle. This would leave only \$25,000 for new projects.

Chairman J. Guy Revelle told Patrick and Matthews that this information came "as a rude shock for we had a commitment from the former highway commission chairman and district commissioner that the entire cost of the high school road improvement project was to come from a special state fund." Revelle continued, "I wish I had that promise in writing" and he instructed County Attorney Grant to send a letter to the state highway commission and to Matthews asking that they check state records for some verification of the commitment.

Matthews told the board that he had checked with the commission since he took office this year and that he was certain that there were no "special funds available" to carry out the promises of the former commission and that he had no knowledge of the commitment.

Revelle told the officials, "As far as I am concerned the division office might just as well be in Norfolk considering that we have been kept in the dark over the past several years. I don't see why the state just doesn't

take over the running of the secondary road system anyway."

Patrick assured the board that

he would carry out any of the projects that they allotted money to and inform them when it was

necessary to cancel projects if right of way conflicts held up a (See ROADS, Page 5)



**ROAD FUNDS ALLOCATED** — The Northampton County Commissioners go over the 1965-66 secondary system priorities with the First Division highway officials and district road commissioner Don Matthews at a special meeting

on Wednesday. Twenty five thousand dollars was allotted to improvements to the Nebo Church Road after the year's allotment was used up in completing last year's projects.

### C Of C Gets Down To Business

WOODLAND — The first meeting of the recently formed Northampton Chamber of Commerce has been termed by President Charles E. Myers as "a very successful meeting."

The club's officers and directors with the county commissioners as invited guests met at a dinner meeting at the Quaker House on Tuesday night at 7 p.m. The Chamber went on record as endorsing the state road bond issue.

They set the second Wednesday night of each month as regular meeting date.

A by-laws committee for the organization was appointed. Serving on the committee are: Floyd Price, John Heller and Myers, E. B. Grant, county attorney, will serve the committee as consulting attorney.

The organization expects to derive their first money from each town in the county. Amounts donated by towns will be matched by the county.

Annual membership fees were set at: retail, business and professional, \$25; wholesale, manufacturers, and industrial, \$50; individuals, \$5.

## County Commissioners Approve Roanoke Rapids Hospital Study

ROANOKE RAPIDS — The Northampton County Board of County Commissioners approved the appointment of Horace Guthrie to represent the county on a three man study committee that will investigate the feasibility of forming a hospital district to include some of Northampton's townships to finance a modernization program of the Roanoke Rapids Hospital.

The move was approved at a joint meeting of the board with the board of Halifax County on Wednesday afternoon, October 20, at the Fairfax Restaurant.

Other members of the committee will be Commissioner Frank Neal of Roanoke Rapids and the chairman of the hospital board.

The hospital board is considering the need to raise \$1,500,000 by taxes to underwrite the expansion and modernization program. Initial discussion centered around the possibility of including Gaston, Pleasant Hill, Seaboard, Oconeechee and Jack-

son townships in a special tax district that would be legally obligated to support a specialized hospital tax rate.

The committee is to study the matter and report back to the individual boards of commissioners when they are ready with

recommendations. Chairman J. Guy Revelle said that the board was interested in the study and also what act the Halifax commissioners would take as well as what areas of Halifax County would be included in the district.

## Patrol Car Is Wrecked In Chase With Stolen Car

GASTON — The second stolen vehicle wreck with a highway patrol car in as many months occurred near here Saturday afternoon when a pair of youths made an effort to evade the long arm of the law.

While the two vehicles did run together, damage was listed as minor to the patrol car. The other car, a 1961 Buick stolen from Raleigh early Saturday morning, according to the highway patrol, came to rest in a gulley.

A 15-year-old Spartanburg youth has been arrested, accord-

ing to State Trooper B. E. Edwards, and charged with larceny of an automobile, reckless driving and assault with a deadly weapon, to wit: an automobile.

Another companion youth was being sought through upper Northampton County late Saturday by the highway patrol, county sheriff's officers and members of the Odom Farm blood hound squad.

Trooper Edwards caught the youth driving the car after he jumped from the vehicle as it veered off Interstate 95 just south of the N.C. 48 overpass. The youth gave his name as Gene Reese, 15, of Spartanburg, S. C. However, Edwards reported "this may not be true. He didn't have a driver's license, anything that would identify him on his person when I arrested him," the officer said.

Officers from several agencies were combing the area late Saturday for the missing youth, at which time he was identified. Reese would not give the name of his companion, according to reports.

The episode was the second time in less than two months a stolen car was involved in a chase on Interstate 95, resulting in a wreck.

Recently a Navy man lost his life while riding in a stolen car during a high-speed chase with law officers in Northampton County.

Saturday's particular incident started in the area when the youth drove away from a service station near Halifax on U.S. 301 without first paying for gasoline ordered.

An "all points" lookout was ordered and Trooper Edwards had stationed himself at the intersection of N.C. 46 and Interstate 95, some distance south of where the two cars ran together.

As the car passed his station, Edwards gave chase with speeds reaching as high as 85 mph. As he pulled alongside the stolen vehicle south of the N.C. 48 overpass, the Buick struck Edwards' patrol car.

The Buick then pulled to the edge of the super highway, and as the car was still moving, the youths jumped from the vehicle and let it crash into the gulley. Damage was estimated to be several hundred dollars to the Buick and approximately \$100 to Edwards' patrol car.

## Northampton Road Bonds Endorsements

JACKSON — The people of Northampton County have proved their awareness of road needs by endorsing the \$300 million State Road Bond issue.

Among endorsements already received by R. L. "Scoopy" Grant, county chairman, Governor's Committee for Better Roads, are towns of Gaston, Gaysburg, Seaboard, Jackson, Severn, Conway, Milwaukee, Woodland, Lasker and Rich Square, Jackson, Gaston and Seaboard Lions Clubs, Conway Woman's Club, Woodland Men's Club, Jackson Business Improvement Association, Northampton County Chamber of Commerce, Lasker Home Demonstration Club, executive council of Jackson Elementary PTA.

Other clubs and organizations interested in endorsing better roads for North Carolina are urged to send endorsements to Grant immediately.

Passage of the road bond issue will not require a tax increase as bonds will be retired with continuation of the one cent per gallon gasoline tax now being applied to the Scott \$200 million road bonds to be retired in 1966. Without the road bonds, only 50 per cent of needed road improvements can be made, whereby passage of the issue 70 per cent can be completed. These percentages have been released by the committee for better roads.