

Two Men Rob Station At Pistol Point; Flee

Two Negro men in their early twenties obtained from \$250 to \$300 in an armed robbery at Chuck's Esso near Ridgeway around 3 a. m. on Friday morning and made their escape after being fired on twice by a motorist who approached the station.

Bloodhounds, brought to the scene from the Halifax Prison Camp, followed the trail of the men for around three-quarters of a mile before losing it in the right lane of I-85.

Two men were at the service station, operated by Churchill Curtis, at the time of the robbery.

Deputy Sheriff Bonnie Stevenson, who investigated the robbery with Deputies Dorsey Capps and Theo Vaughan and SBI Agent Pat Kelly, yesterday gave the following account of the robbery as they pieced it together:

The two men left their car headed north on I-85 and crept through a bean field near the station to the rear of the station. Sylvester Davis, an employee of the station, was sitting on the outside of the building at the time. The rob-

bers crept up and struck him on the back of the head, stunning him, and carried him into the service station where one of the men pulled a pistol and told Jack Bishop to open the cash register and give him the money.

After the men had taken the money from the cash register, they asked Bishop if there was any more money in the station. Bishop said that there might be some money in another room. He was told to bring it. Bishop went into the room and locked the door behind him and the robbers fled.

As the robbers were leaving Irvin Cleaton and James Hayes drove up. When Davis yelled that the station had been robbed, Hayes pulled a pistol and shot twice at one of the fleeing men.

The men, who scattered as they left the service station, came together again in the bean field and traveled through it for around three-quarters of a mile. Bloodhounds followed the trail to where they evidently got into a waiting car on I-85.



Miss North Carolina, Patricia Johnson, is shown in her presentation gown for the Miss America Pageant, to be in Atlantic City, September 2-6. A gift from Cone Mills, the dress is by North Carolina designer Luther Winborne Self. It is made of French lace over Cone's chiffon crepe, has princess lines, a portrait neckline and is adorned with pearls, iridescents and tiny pink bows. Floor-length panels of the chiffon drape from back of the shoulders.

Many Traffic Cases Are Heard In District Court

Drunk driving, driving after licenses had been revoked and other traffic cases were responsible for the majority of cases before Judge Julius Banzet in Warren County District Court last Friday.

McKinsie Silver was sentenced to jail for 10 days when he pled guilty to a charge of drunk driving. The sentence was suspended for 12 months upon the condition that he surrenders his driver's license for 12 months, except as allowed in limited driving privileges granted the defendant, and pays a \$100 fine and court costs.

Jessie James Branch pled guilty to a charge of drunk driving. He was ordered to surrender his driver's license for 12 months and to pay a \$100 fine and court costs.

John Austin Shaw, charged with drunk driving, was found not guilty.

Joseph Simms was ordered to pay court costs when he pled guilty to a charge of public drunkenness.

Robert Jeffress, charged with speeding, entered a plea of nolo contendere. Prayer for judgment was continued upon payment of costs.

James Freeman entered a plea of guilty to a charge of fishing without a fishing license. Prayer for judgment was continued provided the defendant pays court costs, including cost of capias.

William Henry Ferguson was ordered to pay a \$25 fine and court costs when he pled guilty to a charge of reckless driving.

Patsy King Smith, found guilty of falling to have vehicle inspected, was ordered to pay court costs.

Larry Dean Strange was sentenced to the roads for 30 days when he pled guilty to a charge of reckless driving. The sentence was suspended for two years provided he does not go on the premises of the Shadow Club at Norlina or Hunt's Motor Lodge at Norlina for two years and pays a fine of \$25 and court costs.

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Retail Sales In Warren County Over \$16,000,000

Based on sales tax collections, gross retail sales in Warren County for the fiscal year ended last June 30, amounted to \$16,258,843 the State Revenue Department reported this week. Actual sales taxes on the three percent state sales tax was \$325,043.68.

Warren County ranked 21 in gross sales tax collections.

At the state level, sales taxes received during the year were \$226,882,623 on a gross sales volume of \$10,638,483,772.

In Warren County apparel accounted for gross sales of \$92,843; automotive, \$4,940,248; food, \$5,037,292; furniture, \$801,885; general merchandise, \$3,183,530; building materials, \$464,062; unclassified group,

\$648,059.

Mecklenburg County led the state in gross sales of \$1,345,017,019 and sales tax collections of \$28,876,195.42. Camden County was at the bottom with gross sales of \$2,900,651 and sales tax collections of \$50,113.79.

Gross sales in adjoining North Carolina Counties were: Vance, gross sales of \$59,812,075, and sales tax \$1,327,852.47; Franklin, gross sales of \$110,238,527, and sales tax \$2,537,484.91; Nash County, gross sales of \$137,164,202, and sales tax \$2,917,305.97; and Northampton County, gross sales of \$19,546,903, and sales tax \$374,686.08.

One Killed, One Hurt In Tractor Accident

A 12-year-old boy was killed and another boy was seriously injured in a tractor accident at the home of Albert Hargrove on Thursday afternoon of last week.

Killed when the tractor overturned in the yard of the home was Darrell Owen, 12, of New York. Taken to Duke Hospital where he remains in a critical condition is Maryland Hargrove, driver of the tractor.

Sheriff Clarence Davis who went to the scene of the accident with Coroner Bobby Blay-

lock, said this week that nine young people were riding on the tractor when it was driven into the yard where it overturned. He said that a witness to the accident said that the tractor was not running at a high rate of speed when it turned into the yard. David said that seven of the nine children on the tractor were from New York State and were visiting in the county.

Coroner Blaylock said yesterday at an inquest will not be held until after the driver of the tractor can be questioned.

Grant Made To Operate Head Start In Warren

One hundred and thirty-five children in Warren County are expected to be enrolled in Warren County for a Head Start program which will begin on September 8 and run through May, 1970, under the direction of the Franklin-Vance - Warren Opportunity, Inc.

W. Aster Kirk, director of the Mid-Atlantic region OEO has informed officials of FVW Opportunities that Governor Scott notified the regional office of the grant to the local agency in the amount of \$487,262. Of this grant, \$393,246 will be used to operate centers for 360 children in the three counties.

Expected to be enrolled, in addition to the 135 children in Warren County, are 120 children in Vance, and 105 in Franklin.

Children are being recruited now for the 1969-70 term interested persons may contact the Head Start office at the Law Building, 116 Young Street, Henderson.

The Head Start program will deal with a wide range of problems of Area children and their families. Enrollees will receive free health and dental examinations and follow-up treatment for defects discovered. Two hot meals will be served daily without charge to children, and social and psychological services will be provided to those children with a need for them.

The program will enroll 15 children in each of 24 classes. It is stated that these classes aim to create an atmosphere of love and concern which will make the centers a happy place for the children and their

families. A variety of equipment and materials are on hand for exploration and use. The staff is sympathetic to the needs of young children and skilled in designing daily activities for children.

Head Start personnel hope to have the support and cooperation of the total community. The program is based on the philosophy that through cooperative efforts, a community can meet the needs of all children. The "Volunteer" Services of many persons are needed. Three adults are desired in each classroom daily, one of which will be a volunteer. People of all walks of life are invited to help.

Pre-school aged children will be selected for the program on the basis of need with children nearest to compulsory school age receiving preference. Family income will be used to determine eligibility without regard to race, creed, color, or national origin.

The Program space will not be confined to Head Start Classrooms and play grounds. The whole community: stores, libraries, fire stations, and farms, are included in the child's experience. Once a month an extended field trip will be made to such places as museums, airports, and TV stations. Visits to the child's home by the Head Start teacher is also an important part of the program.

Man Is Badly Hurt In One-Car Wreck

A Warren County man was seriously injured in a single-car accident around 11:30 o'clock on Monday night near the I-85 intersection at Ridgeway.

Edward Coley, driver of the car, was taken in an unconscious condition to Duke Hospital where his condition remains serious.

Deputy Sheriff Bonnie Stevenson, who accompanied Highway Patrolman V. R. Vaughan to the scene, said yesterday that Coley had pulled away from Chuck's Esso near the intersection and driven down the ramp into I-85. He said his car crossed the median and wrecked on the opposite lane. The car was practically demolished.

Mr. and Mrs. Sneed Willis of South Hill, Va., were guests of Mrs. H. E. Coleman on Tuesday.

Sportswear Team To Play In Tournament

The Carolina Sportswear Girls Softball Team will play in the tournament at Doyle field in Roanoke Rapids on Sunday, Aug. 24, at 1 p. m. The team, coached by Bernard Williams and James Champion, has a record of 15 wins and four losses for the season.

Girls who will play in the tournament are Judy Rich, Loretta Lynch, Shirley Edwards, Jackie Stogall, Betty Weaver, "Ginger" Novell, Debbie Blackwell, Rosa Felix, Pauline Champion, Wilma Lynch, Myrtle Hayes, Diane Kilian, Harriet Sakrowski, Lib Floyd, and Mary Hight.

Instead Of Monday

Three School Suits To Be Heard In Raleigh Today

Booster Tickets Are On Sale

Season tickets for the John Graham High School athletic events were placed on sale last Thursday night following a kick-off dutch barbecue supper at the Warrenton Lion's Den by the John Graham Boosters Club.

Invocac was given by Harold Skillman. Following the supper Thomas Watson presented Fred Bartholomew, principal of the school, who after a few brief remarks, in which he stated that Enfield, a conference foe, had dropped football and a make-up game would have to be found, presented Gerald Poplin new assistant principal of the school. Bartholomew said that Poplin, a former coach, would assist in the coaching at John Graham. Poplin expressed his pleasure at being at the Warrenton school.

Presented by Bartholomew, Coach Harvey Brooks briefly discussed football prospects at John Graham. He said that 38 boys remained from the 43 who had turned out for practice. He said the boys were unusually light this year, but were fast and several are giving good promise. He predicted that John Graham would again have a winning season.

Following Coach Brooks' remarks, Tom Watson, ticket chairman, and B. G. White, secretary, distributed tickets to be sold by a number of the Boosters.

Bartholomew said that John Coleman, former star athlete at John Graham, would teach the 8th grade at the Mariam Boyd school this year, and would coach junior varsity football.

John Graham's football season will open on Sept. 5 at Park View, near South Hill, Va., with the first home game being played with Weldon on Sept. 12. On Sept. 19 the Jackets will be at William R. Davie and on Sept. 26 at Louisburg. The home game with Enfield, scheduled to be played on Oct. 3, has been cancelled. Principal Bartholomew said it is hoped that a make-up game can be arranged.

John Graham will play Norlina here on Oct. 10, and Zebulon here on Oct. 17. After playing at Gaston on Oct. 24, the Jackets will play their last home game of the season with Murfreesboro on Oct. 31, and will close the season at Littleton on Nov. 7.

Opening Date For City Schools Is Announced

Plans to open the Warrenton City Schools are going forward in spite of efforts to obtain an injunction this morning in Federal Court to prevent its operation.

Supt. Fred Bartholomew announced yesterday that teachers would report to work on Aug. 28, and that all students enrolled in Warrenton City Schools would attend school one-half day on Friday, Aug. 29. Monday, Labor Day, will be observed as a holiday and the first regular day of school would be held on Sept. 2.

Registration for first graders at Mariam Boyd School will be Tuesday, Aug. 26, from 9 a. m. until 4 p. m.

A child must be six years old before October 6 if it is to enter school. Bartholomew said that there are several things

the parents should do before the child may enter school. The state law requires that the child have a physical examination and that he must be inoculated against whooping cough, diphtheria, tetanus, poliomyelitis, and smallpox.

Bartholomew said that school medical examination forms and birth certificates are necessary to register the child.

Around 900 pupils have been enrolled in the Warrenton City Schools for the 1969-70 school year. Of these some 312 are enrolled in the high school, about 10 less than enrolled last year. Enrollment at Mariam Boyd is slightly under 600. Enrolled in the student body are seven Negro children and around 25 Haliwa children. There are no Negro members of the faculty.

Suits against the Warrenton, Littleton-Gaston, and Scotland Neck School districts created by the Legislature, scheduled to be heard on Monday, August 25, will be heard this morning (Thursday) instead.

A consolidated hearing on the suits challenging the constitutionality of the three separate school units will be held in U. S. District Court in Raleigh with Judge John Larkins and Judge Algernon Butler presiding.

A federal marshal several weeks ago served notice on Mayor W. A. Miles that the board of town commissioners would be a party to the suit and on Dr. Sam Massey, chairman of the Warrenton Board of Education, that the board of education would also be a party to the suit.

J. Roger Peeler, Warren County superintendent of schools, was closed Tuesday afternoon with an attorney for the NAACP preparing a deposition to be used in the trial.

During the past three months the U. S. Justice Department and black families have filed for injunctions to prevent the opening of separate schools in Scotland Neck, Warrenton and Littleton-Lake Gaston this fall.

The suits claim the separate units would seriously hinder desegregation efforts in the Halifax and Warren County school units, where the three separate units are located.

Both county school systems are already under court desegregation orders. Chief U. S. District Judge Algernon Butler approved the geographic desegregation plan for the Warren County School Board earlier this month. However, the plan does not take into account the withdrawal of Warrenton or Lake Gaston from the Warren County unit. And, Judge Butler said his approval of the plan does not affect the lawsuit challenging the creation of the separate districts.

Halifax County's desegregation plan was rejected by the Department of Health, Education and Welfare last winter. When the Legislature authorized Scotland Neck to withdraw from the Halifax system, the county school board reverted to a freedom of choice plan.

The federal government filed the suit against Scotland Neck in a joint suit which also listed the Halifax County School Board. The suit asks the court to declare the separate unit unconstitutional and force the county unit to desegregate.

Father And Daughter Drown At Kerr Lake

HENDERSON—A club outing at Kerr Lake near Henderson resulted in a drowning tragedy which claimed the lives of a Virginia man and his daughter Sunday afternoon.

The Vance Sheriff's Department identified the victims as George A. Saunders, 41, restaurant operator of Route 1, Holland, Va., and his 18-year-old daughter, Nellie E. Saunders, who was to have entered Hampton Institute in Virginia as a freshman next month.

The double tragedy occurred about one o'clock Sunday afternoon in the Bullocksville Park area at Kerr Lake, said Sheriff Linwood B. Falkner. The bodies were subsequently recovered by the Vance Rescue Squad in eight to ten feet of water, some 25 feet from the shore.

Both the father and daughter went under the water after a ten-year old son and brother, George H. Saunders, called for help as he was riding a rubber raft in a cove at Bullocksville Park, explained Deputy Sheriff K. K. Roberson. The boy moments later reached shore safely.

Mr. and Mrs. Saunders have

Poor Peoples Meeting To Be Held Here On August 27

A poor people's public hearing for Warren County citizens will be held at the Warrenton Baptist Church on next Wednesday, Aug. 27, at 8 p. m. under the sponsorship of the Economic Development Corporation.

Black representatives from national organizations will attend the meeting where they will listen and look at local problems and frustrations. Mrs. Eva Clayton, field secretary, said yesterday in announcing the meeting. They are coming to see for themselves our poverty, she said.

Mrs. Clayton said that the meeting will offer Warren County poor citizens an opportunity to speak out about "the way the folks are messing up your life and that of your child."

Educational opportunities and the opportunity to attend a good school will be discussed as well as free school lunches, Mrs. Clayton said. "Whatever your problem," she said, "come and talk about it."

Homecoming To Be Held At Wise

Homecoming services will be held at the Wise Baptist Church on Sunday morning, Aug. 24, the Rev. Wade Tucker, pastor, announced yesterday.

Following the morning service a picnic dinner will be served on the grounds.

All former members of the church and friends are invited to attend.

Sportswear Factory To Hold Open House

Carolina Sportswear Factory will hold open house Sunday afternoon, Aug. 24, from 1:30 to 5 p. m.

John Andrews, plant manager, this week emphasized that "everybody's invited." The local plant, which manufactures knit shirts for men and boys, is in its 13th year of operation.

Open house Sunday will include tours of the plant with explanation of the plant's operations. Refreshments will be served and favors given to the old and young attending.

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Mrs. Hight Manager Super Dollar Store

Mrs. Elizabeth Hight has been appointed manager of the new Super Dollar Store which will open here this morning.

Super Dollar Store, Inc., of Raleigh now has 50 stores operating in North Carolina and Virginia.

Mrs. Hight lived and attended school in Henderson prior to her marriage to Albert Hight of Warrenton. Before coming to Warrenton she was employed with Elfrids Department Store in Henderson.

Mrs. Hight, the mother of three children, has been living in Warrenton for the past 22 years. For the past nine years she was employed as receptionist and assistant for Dr. J. F. Wiggins, and more recently has been employed as bookkeeper for Comer's Plumbing and Heating. She and her family are members of the Warrenton Baptist Church.

Rescue Calls

Warren County Rescue Squad made nine calls last week, Bill Hall, an official of the squad, reported yesterday.

He said the calls included one to a Warren County home where one person was killed and another was hurt in a tractor mishap.

Unusual Catch

Three northeastern North Carolina men made an unusual summer catch of fish in Gaston Lake last Friday when they caught three well-eyed pike weighing 19 lbs. This type fish, a good fighter, is usually caught only when the water is real cold during the winter months.

Making the catch with M. C. Clary of Mason, an employee of Warrenton Furniture Exchange, were Bill Timberlake and Clinton Parker of Woodland.

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OPEN CLUB

Fred Hise, president of the Henderson Club, announced this week that the club would hold its 30th anniversary celebration on the 2nd of October. The club was organized in 1939 and has since that time been a source of pleasure and recreation for its members.