



Trooper A. M. Bennett [center] inflates an air cast on the right leg of Alpheus Murdock Kearney, who was fatally injured in a car-motorcycle accident early Sunday afternoon in Ridgeway. Warren County ambulance driver Roy Lee Harmon [top] assists Bennett in applying the cast. Kearney was taken to Duke Hospital where he succumbed from injuries sustained in the accident. [Staff Photo by Don Stith]

Cycle Accident Is Fatal For Young Warren Rider

A Warren County motorcycle rider was fatally injured in a three-car collision near Norlina on Sunday afternoon. Trooper A. M. Bennett said that Alpheus Murdock Kearney, 21, of Route 2, Norlina, was killed in the accident.

Bennett reported that the accident occurred at 1:55 p. m. on Sunday afternoon on U. S. Highway 1 about two miles north of Norlina. Kearney died at Duke Hospital about 4:50 p. m. on Sunday.

According to the officer, Robert Louis Evans, 48, of Ridgeway and Mrs. Betty Peoples Raynor, of Route 3, Oxford, were the drivers of the other vehicles.

Reports on Sunday revealed that Kearney had allegedly taken the motorcycle without the permission of the owner. The motorcycle owner was listed as James Oliver Perry of Route 2, Norlina, a neighbor of the victim. Mrs. Perry, the owner's mother, said on Wednesday that the motorcycle was being used by Kearney at the time of the accident and

that the motorcycle was in Kearney's yard. She said that he had been given verbal permission to use the motorcycle at his discretion.

Damages to the motorcycle were estimated to be \$750 with \$250 to the Raynor vehicle and \$100 to the Evans auto.

Trooper Bennett said that the investigation indicated that Evans was traveling north of U. S. 1 and attempted to make a left turn into a service station parking lot. He pulled into the path of the southbound motorcycle. Kearney hit the right rear side of the auto.

Eyewitnesses at the scene reported that the impact knocked Kearney's helmet from his head and threw Kearney from the motorcycle. Trooper Bennett said that the motorcycle continued and ran into the left front of the Raynor auto, which was traveling behind Evans. Witnesses also explained that Kearney was applying brakes at the time of the collision.

Kearney was carried to Duke

Hospital after receiving multiple injuries and information indicated that he died there about three hours later.

The trooper charged Kearney with no operator's license, no registration and unlawful use of a conveyance before word was received of his death.

Evans was charged with failure to see that vehicle movement could be made in safety.

The State Highway Patrol listed the death as the sixth traffic fatality of 1977 for Warren County.

Funeral services for Kearney will be conducted Thursday (today) at 2:30 p. m. from the Ridgeway Baptist Church with the Rev. Frank Bullock and the Rev. H. B. Pickett officiating.

Kearney was a 1974 graduate of John Graham High School.

He is survived by his mother, Mrs. Wilhelmina Kearney of the home; two brothers, Larry of Patterson, N. J., and Julius of the home; one sister, Audrey J. of U.N.C., Greensboro; and his grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. Ozie Wilson of Macon.

Reaction To Article Stirs Talk In Town

By **BIGNALL JONES**

Few people interviewed Monday failed to have some sort of an opinion about a feature story about Warrenton which occupied the front page of the editorial section of The News and Observer Sunday morning. The article was by staff writer David Zucchini and the photos, including an eight-column picture of a block of Main Street from Market to Macon Street, and four smaller pictures, were by Gene Furr.

The article was headed "Warrenton," in large type and sub-headed "Charm Runs Deep In Little Town That's Searching For a Future."

The article seems to pretty well bear out the heading. Zucchini painted a picture of a small town of considerable charm, where the pace of life is slow, income low, and future unsure. He also made some quotes which the quoted would prefer had not been made, and some observations which did not exactly jive with the picture of Warrenton as it is entertained by some of those who make up its inhabitants.

"Warrenton," Zucchini wrote, "has an innocent side, as smooth and handsome as its rows of fine old homes. It is a charming and traditional place, a lovely place in springtime. It is blessed with proud and gracious citizens." Very pleasant reading, and we hope true. "But Warrenton, if not a dead town, is hardly in the prime of life. About 1166 people live here in 1950. The latest census puts the present population at 1063. That's nine fewer than in 1930 and only a few more than in 1950."

That is the meat of the article. Some of the quotes and observation are not too flattering and a few should not have been made.

In answer to a question more than one citizen said he thought some of it was good and did not like some of it. Another citizen did not like the picture of Main Street, but said otherwise the article was alright. A lady asked early Sunday morning, "Did you see the nice article about Warrenton in The News and Observer?" But at the post office the next morning there was some suggestions "that something should be done about it." There have been some promises of writing The News and Observer. But a nice lady from the country greeted me with "That was a mighty nice article about Warrenton in The News and Observer." A minister said "I like some of it and some of it I did not, but I think the writer said some things that needed saying."

An elderly lady with pretty firm views said "I think it was awful." A merchant "I think it was pretty good." Another lady merchant, "I think it was splendid." A businessman, "It is going to hurt the town, and it should not have been published." A black man, "I did not like it; it recalled some things that should not have been brought up."

And then there were those who wanted the local newspaper to take The News and Observer to task, a few who blamed the local paper, some who had no opinion and a number who said they had not read the article.

Line Construction Start Is Scheduled

Work on the construction of a sewer line from Soul City to Warrenton, by way of Norlina, will probably be started next Monday, County Manager Charles Hayes said yesterday. Hayes said that the contracts had been signed by the contractors and brought to his office Monday where agreements for the county were signed.

A meeting of the contractors and county representatives has been planned for today (Thursday), Hayes said, and construction should start Monday unless some unforeseen problem should arise.

Peace Pipes Puffed, Brotherhood Is Talked At Annual Indian Rites

Representatives of once mighty Indian nations gathered in a clearing at the southeastern tip of Warren County Saturday and buried the hatchet.

Amid the smoking of peace pipes, chiefs of the Sioux, Cherokee and Shoshone tribes spoke of brotherhood with their Haliwa hosts as the 12th annual Pow-Wow got under way on the grounds of the old Haliwa School.

Waccamaws and Meherrins and delegates from tribes across the nation joined in the celebration which has become a spring ritual of the Haliwa Tribe of Warren and Halifax counties.

After recognition of special guests by Mrs. Lucetta Rudd, Chief W. R. Richardson of the Haliwas called the festival to order in inviting visiting chiefs and tribal representatives to smoke peace pipes. Two pipes were puffed by the dignitaries. One was a Haliwa tribal pipe, the other was the host chief's personal pipe.

"Today is a day for brotherhood among all Indian tribes of America," Chief Richardson reminded the smokers as the pipes changed hands.

Six-year-old Wa-Yahsti (Little Wolf) Richardson, a great nephew of the chief, did a ceremonial dance which drew applause from spectators who encircled the Pow-Wow arena.

A highlight of the event was the crowning of Miss Joanne Richardson as tribal princess. The new princess, daughter of Mrs. Mary E. Richardson and a senior at John Graham High School, was crowned by Miss Brenda Lynch, whose one-year reign as Haliwa princess drew to an end last weekend.

The procession of princess candidates was led by the fifth runner-up, Quetta Harris, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Herbert H. Harris. Fourth and third runners-up Cynthia and Orinthia Richardson, twin daughters of Mr. and Mrs. Eugene Richardson followed in the second car that entered the clearing.

Miss Teresa Lynch, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Oliver Lynch finished in the tribal balloting as second runner-up and Miss Wanda Daniel, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Percell Daniel was chosen first runner-up. All candidates were escorted to the speakers platform by Chief Richardson.

The chief, whose Indian name is Talking Eagle, lived up to his name by reading the full text of a bill passed April 15, 1965 by the North Carolina General Assembly which formally recognized the Haliwa Tribe as the third largest Indian Tribe in North Carolina.

Following the bill's reading, the chief asked the audience (Continued on page 9)



A young Indian brave takes part in ceremonial dancing held Saturday during the 12th annual Haliwa Pow-Wow held in Warren County. Additional pictures of the annual spring ritual may be found on Pages 7 and 9. [Staff Photo]

Warren Warehouse Sale Is Confirmed

Currin's Warehouse, for over 30 years a family tradition in Warrenton, was sold last week by Mrs. Betty Currin, widow of the last surviving heir to the legacy. Mrs. Currin has sold the warehouse to W. J. Renn and his wife. The deed was dated April 12.

Renn is a prominent farmer and businessman locally and in the Henderson area. He has been affiliated with numerous warehouses in the area, Mrs. Currin said. She added that

Renn was a good choice to continue the same kind of business carried out by the Currins for so many years.

Mrs. Currin noted that the warehouse will keep the name, Currin's Warehouse, for the present time and that she will be connected with the business.

She pointed out that the same staff members will again be with the warehouse and that Mrs. Belle Bright will be the (Continued on page 3)

Two Prisoners Escape, Are Quickly Recaptured

Two prisoners confined to the Warren County unit of the Department of Correction enjoyed a short-lived escape on Tuesday afternoon. Walter Gaines and Jerry Plowman scaled the fence at the unit during the middle of the afternoon. They were recaptured about a mile from the camp in dense woods before dark.

Prison officials said that bloodhounds used in tracking the men netted them near the Greenwood community.

Gaines was serving an active two-year sentence for previous escapes. Plowman was serving a five-year sentence for breaking and entering and an additional 90 days for a previous escape.

The Warren County unit had a prisoner to escape last week also. The three escapees all scaled the 10-foot wire fence which is covered with 18 to 24

inches of stainless steel razor ribbon wire.

Meanwhile, the authorities said that a 24-hour surveillance for Nathaniel Tunstall, who escaped last week, was called off on Wednesday (April 13) but that the investigation is continuing.

Tunstall, a Henderson native, was last spotted in the Henderson area on Saturday night. He remains at large.

Police And Deputies Probe School Entries

Deputy sheriffs and police officers from two towns are still searching for clues that will lead to the arrest of persons involved in the break-in of three Warren County schools over the weekend.

The John Graham High School was broken into Friday night. Entered were the principal's office and the home room of Ben Howard and the gym. Reported missing was \$3,000 in change but considerable vandalism was reported.

Four window panes were broken, several doors were prized open, objects were torn up, papers scattered and other acts of vandalism reported. Chief Freddie Robinson said the break-in occurred at the Warrenton school between Friday and Saturday night.

Norlina police report that the Norlina High School cafeteria was broken into Friday night and 48 soft drinks were stolen. No vandalism was reported at the Norlina school.

A Sunday night break-in of South Warren Elementary School was reported to the Sheriff's Department by the

principal, Otis Hawkins, on Monday morning. Deputies Dorsey Capps and Leon Paynter investigated. They found that entry was made by breaking the glass and unlocking a rear window. All classrooms were reported entered and ransacked. Doors were forced by breaking glass and considerable vandalism was reported.

Sheriff Clarence Davis said yesterday that his department is continuing the investigation. He said that he did not believe there was any connection between the break-in at North Warren and the two county high schools.

District Judge

To Hear Excuses

The District Court Judge will hear any jury excuses from jurors drawn for the April 25th Civil Session of District Court on April 22 at 9:30 a. m. All of those jurors drawn who wish to be excused, should appear before the Judge on the 22nd.



DEATH VEHICLE—Scene of the tragic accident on US Highway 1 Sunday afternoon which claimed the life of a Norlina resident. The motorcycle the victim was riding straddles the northbound lane.



Warrenton Police Chief Freddie Robinson (left) and Officer Bobby Bolton examine a broken window that was believed to have been the point of entry in a weekend break-in at John Graham High School. Chief Robinson said investigation of the break-in is continuing. [Staff Photo]