

# The Warren Record

Volume 87

25¢ Per Copy

Warrenton, County Of Warren, North Carolina

Wednesday, June 6, 1984

Number 23

1 Has  
Idleburg

Juanita of Rock-  
Va.; Elizabeth  
Koontz and  
and, Truitt of Win-  
Ga.; Mary Ella  
on Abbott and  
and, Bill of Flor-  
S. C., and L. H.  
e and wife, Janet of  
ax.

se unable to attend  
Evelyn Holtzmann  
nan and husband,  
of Barrington, Ill.;  
ces Bolton Steven-  
and husband,  
nce of Poquoson,  
Patsy White Eagan  
husband, Bobby of  
Kong, B.C.C.; Nell  
r Stallings and  
nd, John of Hen-  
n; Maggie Jean  
ard Dorton and  
nd, Harold of  
if Shores, Fla.; and  
Seaman and wife,  
Anaheim, Calif.  
ee red carnations  
added to a flower  
gement of white  
s in memory of  
ased members  
ia Macon of Mary-  
Tommy Felts of  
ix, Va., and Pete  
of Galax, Va.  
arrangement was  
ted to Mrs. Bessie  
in appreciation of  
forts on behalf of  
lass through the

group closed the  
n by joining in  
ord's Prayer.

e

®

ly

him  
day  
our  
cial  
ard!

RU

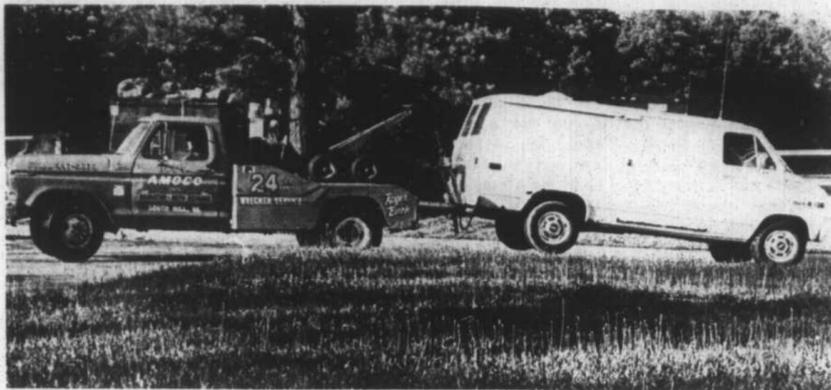
6

is just one  
handsome  
d budget!

you  
for  
pat,  
port.  
ner.

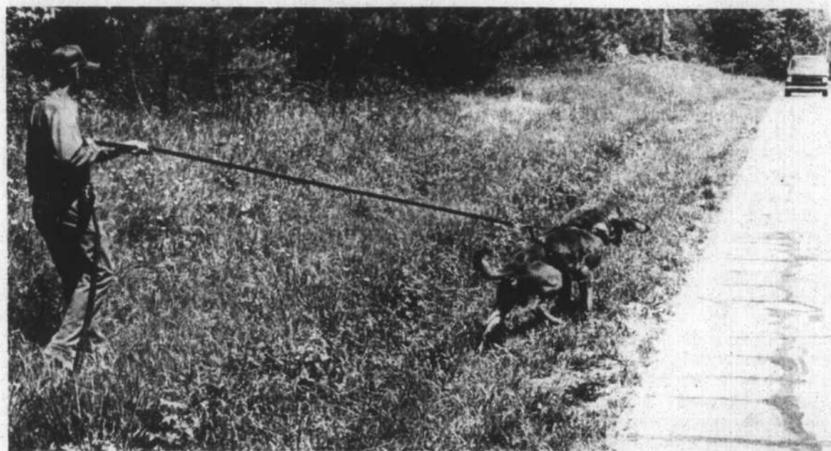
TURE

Warrenton



A South Hill, Va. wrecker operator tows a stolen prison van from the playground at Mariam Boyd Elementary School's playground early Friday morning, hours after six death row inmates used it to escape from a maximum-security prison near

Boydton, Va., 25 miles north of Warrenton. The van was discovered here at 1:30 a. m. Friday by Warrenton Police Officer James McCowan and touched off the largest manhunt in Warren County history. (Staff Photo)



A Virginia bloodhound handler and his dog follow the trail of at least one of the escaped convicts on Saturday morning. This particular hunt, one of scores conducted by more than 200 officers through-

out Warren County, was begun following the discovery of a stolen prison guard jacket believed left by a fleeing escapee near the home of Sam Cheek south of Warrenton on Highway 401. (Staff Photo)

## Search Is Continuing For 4 Escaped Killers

### Big Reward Is Offered

An extensive ground and air search for four convicts believed involved in more than a dozen deaths in Virginia entered its sixth day today, centered in Warren County but spreading into neighboring counties as a reward of \$10,000 per escapee has produced a steady stream of possible sightings daily.

The manhunt, largest ever undertaken in Warren County, began shortly after 1:30 a. m. Friday when a stolen van was found on the edge of the playground at Mariam Boyd Elementary School. Inside, lawmen said, had been six men — five blacks and a white — who fashioned an ingenious escape plan at the maximum-security prison near Boydton, Va., 25 miles north of here.

That plan succeeded when the six death row inmates overpowered a dozen guards and two nurses, robbed them of some \$600, and tricked guards into letting them have the prison van.

From the prison, a spokesman for the Warren County Sheriff's Department said, the van headed north, then abruptly turned south and headed directly to Warrenton. Following its discovery, hundreds of law enforcement officials headed into Warrenton, some from as far away as Asheville. Police and National Guard helicopters joined in the search at daybreak, jarring many residents from sleep at early light.

Teams of highly trained prison guards and law enforcement officers began combing the area, and a command post was established at the Lions Den on the Warren County Fairgrounds.

Soon came the sightings which were to send search teams into every area of the county. Reports were received of vehicles in Afton



JAMES BRILEY



LINWOOD BRILEY



WILLIE JONES



LEM TUGGLE

## Lawmen Occupy Warren Buildings

By HOWARD JONES  
Six extremely dangerous prisoners—escapees from Virginia's

death row compound in neighboring Mecklenburg County, Va. — rolled into Warrenton

aboard a stolen prison van late last Thursday night and the town hasn't been the same

since. Neither has the county, as search teams have crisscrossed the normally quiet farming country, bringing apprehension to residents unused to the sight of armed men patrolling with dogs and the sounds of helicopters hovering overhead.

## Motorist Had A Close Call

Shortly after midnight Thursday, Andrew Lee Davis was returning home from his job at Maria Parham Hospital in Henderson when two men ran toward his car as he drove down Main Street in Warrenton and called to him. His response was not unusual for a driver in the rural, friendly town.

"I thought they might be somebody I knew, so I stopped," Davis said. Davis, 33, immediately recognized that the men were strangers, but not in time to prevent one man from jumping into the front seat while the other jumped in the back seat.

The men were two of six escapees from a Virginia maximum-security prison in Boyd-

ton who had fled to North Carolina and were to be the subject of a massive manhunt throughout Warren County before dawn.

Davis said the convicts instructed him to begin driving out of town and inquired about whether he knew how to get drugs.

Davis indicated he became suspicious when the men told him they would go as far as he would take them.

"We were getting to the outskirts of town, and I was scared," he said. "I figured if they were going to hurt me, they were going to do it where there were still houses around, so I stopped."

Davis stopped his car and managed to wrestle

free of his abductors, but not before having a knife pulled on him.

As he tried to get out of the car, the two men grabbed him and in the ensuing struggle, Davis was able to free himself.

When he fell to the ground, the two men jumped from the car and fled, Davis said.

"Evidently they were scarer than I was," he commented. After the incident, Davis said he went to a nearby house and called police.

A homemade knife was found by officers in Davis' automobile.

Davis, who is married and the father of four children, said it "passed through my mind" that he might be killed, but he did what he had to.

The intense manhunt has been at the root of most conversations when as many as two persons have gathered, and at least two buildings in Warrenton have been affected as never before.

They are the Warrenton Lions Den, where a command post was established early Friday morning and the John Graham Middle School gymnasium, where elite teams of law enforcement officers trained to recover prisoners have been headquartered.

The number of persons at each place has

(Continued on page 8)

## Handouts Carry Sketches Of Death Row Escapees

Although two of six death row prisoners who escaped from a Boydton, Va. maximum security prison last Thursday were captured within 24 hours, law enforcement officials were still faced with the task of disseminating information about the remaining four to the public both as a warning and for identification purposes.

The Federal Bureau of Investigation has printed a total of 16,000 fliers on the four convicts who as of press-time still remained at large. These fliers have been distributed throughout Warren and neighboring counties.

The information given below on James and Linwood Briley, Willie Leroy Jones, and Lem D. Tuggle, Jr. was con-

tained in the fliers. Information of Earl Clanton, Jr. and Derrick Lynn Peters, who were apprehended without incident Friday afternoon at Willoughby's coin-operated laundry in Warrenton, was obtained from law enforcement officials.

J. BRILEY — James Dyrall Briley, 27, was convicted in the October 1979 robbery and shooting deaths of Harvey Wilkerson, 26; and Judy Barton, 23; and Harvey Barton, 5, in their Richmond, Va. home. Briley, who has a brother living in Martin County and an aunt living in Durham,

is black, 6-3 and weighs 180 pounds. Another brother, Anthony, is serving several life sentences for murder in another Virginia prison.

TUGGLE — Lem D. Tuggle, Jr., 32, was con-

L. BRILEY — Linwood Earl Briley, 30, is the brother of James. He was convicted in the September 1979 robbery and shooting death of John H. Gallaher, a Richmond disc jockey. He is 5-9, 170 pounds and has a medium brown complexion. Linwood and James were sentenced to death for their part in 11 murders tied to a gang they led which terrorized Richmond in the 1970s.

JONES — Willie Leroy Jones, 23, was convicted in the May 13, 1983 slayings of two retired storekeepers — husband and wife — in Charles City Va. and the burning of their home. He is black, 6-0, 160 pounds.

(Continued on page 8)



Television cameramen line a Warren County roadside Saturday morning as a search for four escaped convicts from Virginia's death row is concentrated on the outskirts of Warrenton.

The press coverage of the event is believed to be the most intense ever here. (Staff Photo)



Russ Edmonston, an N. C. Department of Crime Control and Public Safety spokesman, shown at center, briefs newsmen standing in front of the Warrenton Lions Den, which was converted into a command post to coordinate the intensive manhunt for six escaped convicts. (Staff Photo)