

## Vehicle Is Stolen, Break-Ins Occur After Jailbreak

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Staff Writer

A man wanted by Mecklenburg County officials on charges of breaking and entering and larceny, scaled the fence behind the Warren County jail, where he was being detained, and bolted for freedom.

Stephen Calvin Forrest, 25, escaped Sunday afternoon after overpowering Mack Williams, jailer, who had opened Forrest's cell to admit a "weekend inmate." Forrest lunged toward Williams, knocked him down, ran down the stairs and scaled the fence.

Jailer Williams called immediately to report the incident and a search involving both Warrenton Police and Warren County Sheriff department personnel was begun.

Reports placed Forrest in the woods behind Car Quest Auto Supply on E. Macon Street, and later on the Norlina Road. He has continued to elude law enforcement officials.

Forrest had been arrested on July 23 by Warren County Deputy Mack McCowan at a Lake Gaston residence. Mecklenburg County officials had been expected in Warren County on Monday to transport the offender back to face charges there.

A series of weekend crimes in Warren County are believed, but unproved, to be attributable to Forrest.

The Child Development Center, located in the basement of All Saint's Episcopal Church at the corner of Front and Franklin Streets, was entered by a person or persons who gained entry through a window at the back of the building. Entry is believed to have been accomplished by breaking the rear window and then using a trash can, found upside down on Monday morning, as a booster to reach the broken window.

According to Robert Harris, All Saint's senior warden, equipment valued at about \$50 was taken. "A drill motor with three drill bits, as well as other small items, are missing," he said, "but we are so fortunate that none of the church property was damaged or stolen." No property has been reported missing from the Child Development Center.

Front Street Auto Sales, a business located directly across Franklin Street from the church, was also entered. According to Fred Powell, owner, someone gained entry into the building by picking the lock on the front door of the establishment. "He must have known something about that," Powell speculated. One of Powell's dealer license plates was found Monday affixed to an automobile in Powell's inventory. "I guess he couldn't find the keys," Powell said.

Forrest Knisely, owner of R & H Service Center, a business next door to Front Street Auto Sales, reported Monday that his establishment had been entered and a customer's car stolen. The 1984 Ford LTD belonging to Dr. Samuel Massey was taken early Monday morning. "I was here at the shop until 1:15 a.m., or so," Knisely said. The vehicle had been locked inside of the shop awaiting repairs.

Also missing are the keys to a Warren County ambulance also there for repairs, which is still on the lot of the establishment.

According to Knisely, a person or persons gained entry by cutting the glass in a door on the body shop side of the building.

Although no change, cigarettes or parts were taken, Knisely found an empty Coke bottle on his floor, believed to be the last trace of the man, polite enough to close the door behind him as he exited from R & H, before vanishing to points unknown.



Taking a break during the antique car tour which made stops in Warren County last Wednesday are Mrs. Maggie Hayes (left) and Mrs. Emma Evans, both of Norlina. Mrs. Hayes donned a costume befitting the period of the 1911 Empire automobile which was driven on the tour by her son, Irving Hayes. The four-cylinder car, made

in Indianapolis, was restored in 1955 by her late husband, Roy Hayes. The annual tour, which is sponsored by the North Carolina Regional Group of the Horseless Carriage Club of America, is the only tour of its kind east of the Mississippi River. Local chairpersons were Fred and Ann Mulchi of Norlina. (Staff Photo by Howard Jones)

## Norlina Is Home For New Course

In excess of \$51,000 has been spent to date in preparation for the new cosmetology program to be offered this fall by Vance-Granville Community College.

Similar in concept to the welding and calculus classes offered already by VGCC to Warren County students, the cosmetology course will be housed at Norlina Middle School. Under the current agreement, VGCC provides the instructional staff and materials; Warren County provides the building.

Because the building that has been scheduled for use by VGCC instructors had been used previously as an instructional shop, about \$15,000 in renovations was necessary. According to Dr. Elton Newbern, VGCC vice president, included among the renovations were the installation of additional heating and air conditioning systems and a dropped ceiling; new plumbing for wash stations; new electrical wiring for styling stations; and new floor covering.

An additional \$36,000 has been spent to purchase equipment for the 30 stations, the minimum number required by the state cosmetology board. Among those items purchased are styling station furniture, basins, styling equipment and dryers.

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## Principal Howard Goes To New School

A former Warren County principal, has been named principal of Southern Alamance High School in Graham.

Ben Howard, 42, has replaced Gordon Isley, who retired.

Howard taught and coached at John Graham High School from 1970-79. He was also principal at Vaughan Elementary School from 1979-82, and principal at John Graham Middle School from 1982-84. He left the John Graham position in 1984 to become principal at Woodlawn Middle School in Mebane.

The administrator is a graduate of East Carolina University. He has served on the board of the N. C. League of Middle Schools and has been named in Who's Who in Outstanding Men in America. Howard is president of the Alamance County Principal's Association.

Howard is married to the former Helen Andrews of Afton. The couple reside in Haw River with their two children, Beth, 18, and Jeff, 15.

## Heat Wave Brings Some Problems To Growers In Warren County

Warren County has suffered with much of the state in several days of temperatures over the 90-degree mark and isolated sections of the county are feeling the effects of prolonged dryness, according to reports from the county's official weather observer and the agricultural extension office.

Extension Chairman Russell King said the intense heat has caused some local tobacco to begin "firing up" in the fields. Growers who do not have access to irrigation facilities are reporting the condition more than those who are watering their crops, he said.

King said tobacco in irrigated fields still looks good across the county. He estimated 30 percent of the local crop has been primed at least once.

Rainfall throughout the area has been inconsistent, King observed, noting that test fields scattered over the county attest to the spotty precipitation. Oine,

for example, is particularly dry, he said, while a test field at Odell which has not been irrigated looks "fairly good."

King said the intense heat often poses a problem for livestock and poultry producers, who must sometimes take unusual measures to keep their animals from overheating.

Gray Williams at the Perdue Farms hatchery said he has received no reports from poultry

farmers of excessive problems caused by the heat. The birds are kept in a controlled environment which automatically activates fans and foggers as needed, he said.

In spite of the heat, the records show the summer's weather to date has been more favorable than last year when the crop season started dry and continued dry during crucial growing months.

## Lightning Draws Blame For Ticket Booth Fire

Only two small fires have been reported here this week.

Macon firefighters were summoned on both last Wednesday and Thursday to a vacant lot in Macon owned by Joe Ross. The lot is located across the street from Haithcock's Grocery, off

U.S. 158 Bus. According to Malvin Haithcock, Jr., brush there caught fire on July 27 "for no explained reason."

Arriving firemen remained on the scene for about 15 minutes to extinguish the flames, but were summoned back the following day, again just after 2 p.m., to a fire just a short distance from the site of the original flames. No damage estimate was available.

Sunday night's storm has been blamed for a fire reported at 11:35 p.m. in Norlina. According to Randy Garrett, Rosemart Food Stores manager, lightning struck an abandoned "shack" located in the pines across U.S. 1. "I was here in the store and it sounded like a stick of dynamite had gone off," he said.

According to Ebin Willis, Jr., Norlina Fire Department fireman, the old, abandoned ticket booth, once in use by the now defunct drive-in theatre, was ignited. No damages have been reported.

## All Commissioners Ready For Election

All seven incumbents on Warrenton's board of commissioners have filed for re-election, according to spokesperson Lori Myrick in the town office.

Mayor B. G. White has made no announcement of his intention in the municipal vote set for Nov. 3.

Commissioners Eddie Clayton, Phil Daniel, Bobby Edmonds, W. A. Miles, Ray Shearin, Charles White and A. A. Wood have paid the filing fee and requested a spot on the November ballot, Miss Myrick reported.

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## Warren, Vance Report

### All Industries 'Clean'

Warren and Vance counties were among 21 North Carolina counties whose industries reported generating no hazardous waste during 1986.

Information concerning generation, storage, treatment and disposal of hazardous waste in North Carolina is contained in the just-released 1986 annual report of the N.C. Department of Human Resources.

The report revealed that approximately 2.14 billion pounds of hazardous waste were generated in the state last year. Well over half the amount was generated in Mecklenburg County.

Also reporting no generation of hazardous waste was neighboring Northampton County. Franklin and Halifax each reported hazardous waste production of less than 500,000 pounds.

Of the total amount of hazardous waste handled during 1986, more than 89 percent was treated in North Carolina.

The report pointed out that the number of generators of hazardous waste in the state had decreased from 806 in 1981 to 655 last year, and that total billions of pounds of hazardous waste generated had dropped from a high of 7.3 billion pounds in 1983.

## New Firm To Be Represented When Warrenton Market Opens

The Warrenton Tobacco Market will open on Wednesday, Aug. 12, at 9 a.m. with the first sale at High Dollar Warehouse, Mrs. Alice R. Robertson, sales supervisor, has announced.

Second and third sales will follow at Farmers and Centre warehouses, respectively.

Tobacco companies represented on the 1987 market include The Austin Company, American Tobacco Company, W. A. Adams Company, R. J. Reynolds Tobac-

co Company, J. P. Taylor Tobacco Company, C. W. Walters, Inc., Thorp-Greenville Tobacco Company and Eastern Processors of Rocky Mount, a new company for this market.

Sales are also scheduled for Thursday, Aug. 13, beginning at Farmers and followed by Centre and High Dollar warehouses.

The following week's sales are set for Monday, Aug. 17, and Wednesday, Aug. 19, the sales supervisor reported.

## Perry Re-Election Bid Is Official At Norlina

E. L. (Bill) Perry, mayor of Norlina, has filed for re-election to the office he has held for 14 years.

Perry was first elected to office in 1971 and served five terms until, at the age of 51, he left local politics to enroll in college. He graduated in May 1983 from Atlantic Christian College in Wilson and the following November was voted in again to the office which he has held to the present time.

Perry is a retired employee of the former Seaboard Air Line Railroad, which he served as a telegraph operator-agent for 28 years. He was the depot agent at the Norlina station when it closed in 1974.

Active in the religious and civic life of the community, Perry is a past master of the Masonic Lodge, past patron of the Eastern Star, past president of the Norlina Ruritan Club and member of VFW Post 4096. As president of the Norlina Library board, he was instrumental in getting a surplus army coach to house the town library.

At Atlantic Christian College, Perry earned a B.A. degree in History, with a minor in Literature. He was president of

Pi Gamma Mu, an international honor society of social science, and also received an award for short-story writing.

Mayor Perry served in the Army Air Corps, Pacific Theater.

In announcing his plans for re-election, Perry stated he is proud of the accomplishments of the present town board. He singled out the fact that taxes have not increased during his years at the helm of the town board. Also significant, he said, were changes

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PERRY