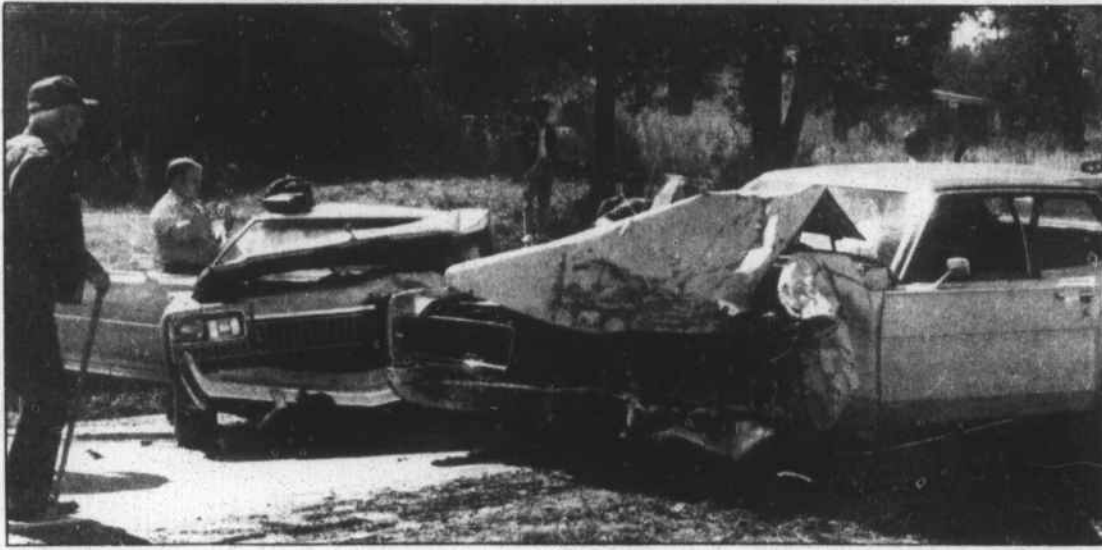


Aftermath Of Crash



Warren County Emergency Service personnel provide assistance to one of the three persons injured in a two-vehicle accident that occurred last Friday morning near Macon. One of the victims remains in serious, but stable condition in intensive care at Duke Medical

Center in Durham. The 1970 Ford and 1975 Buick involved in the accident sustained damages estimated at \$800 for each vehicle. Charges are pending following further investigation of the accident. See Story on Page 16.

Superintendent Asserts

Property Tax Hike Not Tied To Schools

By THURLETTA M. BROWN
News Editor

"The needs of Warren County's schools will not figure into any increase in property taxes," Superintendent Michael Williams said. "What remains is for the citizens to approve the sale of bonds and we need to be optimistic that will happen."

Those statements were made Monday night as the Warren County Board of Education held its regular monthly meeting and heard an update on the school bond issue and the critical needs funding request.

"The County Commissioners have made it very clear they cannot—and will not—raise taxes to pay back the bonds for school construction," Superintendent Williams said. "The county will sell only those bonds that can be repaid with the revenues set in place by the School Facilities Finance Act of 1987 and extended over a 20-year period," he explained.

According to a news release received recently from the N.C. General Assembly Legislative Services Office, the bill passed in July is expected to generate across North Carolina a total of \$1.36 billion in new funds for public education over the next ten years. The bill also rededicated an additional \$1.87 billion from state tax revenues to local public school construction needs. In addition, the General Assembly will invest across the state \$740 million to assume full finding of vocational education and of school secretaries, which will allow the counties to invest their share of those costs into other educational needs. Already, about \$35 million has been poured into the Public School Building Capital Fund and has been distributed to each county's account on a per-pupil or average-daily-membership (ADM) basis.

Warren County's share of the ADM funds is \$97,463. Allocations received by neighboring counties are: Franklin (\$194,334), Halifax (\$348,689), Vance (\$244,312) and Northampton (\$133,032).

The General Assembly also initiated with an additional \$95.5 million a critical school facility needs fund. "Our application for these funds has been filed well prior to the March 15 deadline," the superintendent said. "At this point, we cannot expect a decision from the Commission on Critical School Facility Needs until sometime in May... (and)... it is

almost certain this decision will come after the May 3 vote."

The superintendent explained that he had, in consultation with the staff of the state's Division of School Planning, developed a set of "what ifs" to ensure thorough analysis of how the county might best proceed.

Quick Usage of Critical Needs Funds Received:

With the \$3 million received from the fund, Warren County could quickly sell \$4 million in

bonds and construct a \$7 million middle school. An additional \$4.2 million in bonds could be sold in 1989-90 to complete the additions at Northside and Warren County High School and the multipurpose facilities at the remaining elementary schools.

Slower Usage of Critical Needs Funds Received:

With the \$3 million received from the fund, Warren County could quickly sell \$4 million in

(Continued on page 10)

Local Man Arrested After Another Shot

A Warren County man was arrested last weekend and will face charges of assault with a deadly weapon with intent to inflict serious injury in the March 23rd session of Warren County District Criminal Court.

Brent Clemon Perry, 45, of Rt. 1, Warrenton was arrested on Saturday, March 12, following investigations that disclosed incidents preceding the shooting of Wesley C. Perry, 25, of Rt. 3, Warrenton.

When Warren County Deputy R. A. Coleman responded to the call for assistance, he found that Wesley C. Perry had been shot

once with a .22 calibre pistol in the right side of his shoulder.

According to the report, Brent Perry allegedly shot Wesley Perry after having been attacked by the victim. Brent Perry had stopped the vehicle he was driving to give Wesley Perry a ride.

Brent Perry was released under a \$500 secured bond, a sheriff's spokesperson said.

Wesley Perry was taken by Warren County Ambulance Services personnel to Maria Parham Hospital where he was admitted.

(Continued on page 10)

Garage, Mobile Home Are Lost In Blazes

By DIANE DAVIS
Staff Writer

Several oxygen and acetylene tanks gave Macon firefighters something to worry about early Monday morning as they fought a fire which completely destroyed a garage in Macon.

The fire was spotted by a passing motorist who noticed flames coming from the roof of the building. After stopping to wake the owner, Victor Vaughan, of Vaughan's Backhoe Service, Macon Volunteer Fire Department was called to fight the flames.

As firefighters arrived on the scene, the building was fully engulfed in flames. They called

for help from the Warrenton Rural Fire Department.

"We became concerned about some acetylene tanks located inside the garage," reported William Cox of the Macon department. Acetylene is a highly flammable gas which is used for metal welding and cutting.

Although flames spewed from one of the tanks, none of them exploded, as firemen successfully removed the flammable gas tanks from the building.

Vaughan was said to have been cutting and welding a few hours before the fire started, possibly causing the flames.

One heavy work truck was lost in the fire, along with other personal items. Damages to the building and its contents have been estimated at \$20,000.

Another fire on Monday evening gutted Raymond Yancey's mobile home on Plainview Road, located off the Baltimore Road.

Chief Kenny Clayton of the Warrenton Rural Fire Department reported that the fire started due to some hot ashes from a wood stove that had been placed on the back porch. Winds apparently fanned the ashes back to life and scattered them over the porch.

Mrs. Yancey heard a noise, and when she opened the back door to investigate, flames were drawn into the house.

By the time firemen arrived on the scene, fire was coming out of every door and every window of the structure.

The mobile home was completely destroyed by the flames and damages to the trailer and the contents have been estimated at \$15,000.

In another fire investigation, a house fire last Thursday at the old Weston cottage on Bragg Street was determined to have been started by arsonists, according to a State Bureau of Investigation agent.

Wide Range Of Charges Slated To Be Heard During Court Term

Cases involving burning of a school house, kidnapping, trafficking marijuana, taking indecent liberties with children and first-degree rape will be heard next week when Presiding Judge Henry W. Hight, Jr. of Henderson convenes the March 21st session of Warren County Criminal Superior Court.

Robert Edward "Eddie" Norris, 16-year-old from Norlina, will face charges of burning a schoolhouse and larceny of a motor vehicle. Already sentenced to 20 years in prison during a recent session of Johnston County Superior Court for crimes associated with the fire that left \$1.2 million in damages at the Four Oaks Elementary School, the youth will face charges here concerning the Nov. 19, 1986 fire at Norlina Middle School that resulted in \$7,000 in damages. The auto larceny charge relates to the theft of a vehicle on Dec. 24, 1987 from East Street in Norlina.

The youth was arrested on Dec. 26, 1987 by Northampton County deputies, who found him asleep in a stolen vehicle parked on Interstate 95, near the Virginia border. Prior to the trial in Johnston County, Norris had been housed in the Warren County Jail under bonds totaling about \$149,000.

Ronald Edward Price of Roanoke Rapids will face charges of second-degree kidnapping and discharge of a weapon on occupied property. Price, who was arrested on Nov. 16, 1987 after holding his estranged wife hostage at Camp Willow Run near Littleton, had been placed under \$30,000 bond before being transferred to John Umstead Hospital in Butner for psychiatric evaluation.

Four defendants will stand trial on charges associated with the \$3 million marijuana bust that occurred Sept. 29 of last year. Robert Paul Drewyore of Virginia Beach, Va.; Dean D. Foland of Naples, Fla. and Matthew Edward Purdy of Marathon, Fla. will each face charges of trafficking marijuana and conspiracy to traffic marijuana. Kimberly Kay Drewyore will face one count of trafficking marijuana.

The four defendants were arrested in a bust that seized about 900 pounds of marijuana, \$52,000 in cash and various weapons and were confined to the Halifax County Jail on bonds of \$200,000 each. Although arrested in Halifax County, the defendants had rented a cottage in Warren County in which 250 pounds of marijuana, \$1,000 in cash, two AK-47

rifles, an M-1 carbine for a .357 calibre Magnum and a .44 calibre revolver were found.

Thomas Austin Woodard, Sr., 35, of the Afton community, will face charges of taking indecent liberties with children, first-degree rape and incest. Following arrest, he was placed in the Warren County Jail under a \$35,000 secured bond.

Chairman Named

The Leukemia Society of America, North Carolina Chapter has announced that the 1988 Spring Bike-A-Thon Chairperson for the town of Warrenton will be Dr. Jim Holt.

The funds from sponsors in the upcoming Bike-A-Thon will be used in North Carolina for the Society's research and patient-aid programs. Anyone wanting additional information should contact Dr. Jim Holt at 257-1106.

Unknown Men Are Credited With Saving Trucker's Life

Two unidentified persons with values akin to those emulated by the "Lone Ranger" assisted in the rescue yesterday of a Warren County man in nearby Halifax County.

Albert Tuck of Rt. 2, Warrenton, was pulled to safety by the two strangers following an accident about two miles south of Ita, a crossroads in Halifax County.

After rescuing Tuck from the scene of the accident, they summoned rescue and fire department personnel.

Tuck had been driving an 18-wheeler belonging to Taylor

Mustian. The vehicle, which had been loaded with logs, went out of control as it rounded a curve.

Following impact, the vehicle caught on fire and was completely consumed before the flames could be extinguished.

The driver was transported to Halifax Memorial Hospital in Roanoke Rapids by the Enfield Ambulance Squad, where he was treated for bruises in the abdomen and hip and head lacerations before being released.

The identity of the two "unmasked men" remains unknown.



Warrenton Rural firemen are shown battling a blaze Monday night which gutted the mobile home of Raymond Yancey, causing approximately \$15,000 in damage. The fire is believed to have

started from some hot ashes that were placed on the back porch just before the fire started.

(Photo by Brenda Clarke)