

# The Warren Record

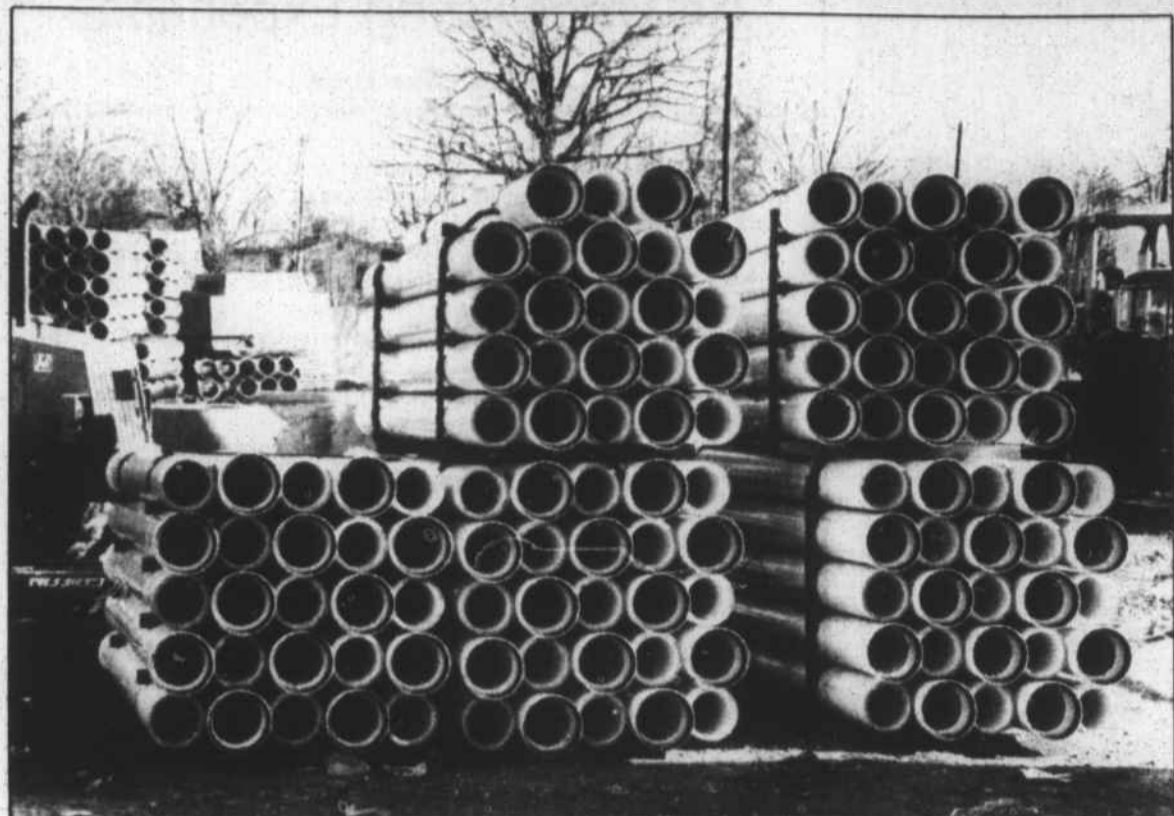
Volume 91

25¢ Per Copy

Warrenton, County Of Warren, North Carolina

Wednesday, March 23, 1988

Number 12



Looking like either a three-dimensional honeycomb or a mammoth version of Pan's musical instruments, these pipes await installation

and play their part in the Quick City Water and Sewer Project. (Staff Photo by Howard Jones)

## Farm Income Is Up By \$2 Million Here

### Drought Effects Seemingly Over

By DIANE DAVIS  
Staff Writer

Warren County farmers saw an increase in 1987 of profits from the sale of agricultural products, according to a report released recently by Russell King, Warren County Agricultural Extension chairman.

The Extension Service estimated Warren County's total farm sales for 1987 at \$29,062,671—approximately \$2 million higher than the farm income estimate for 1986. This shows that farmers are rebuilding from their losses in previous years due to the drought.

In the report, noted increases are shown for several of the commodities, the most significant being in forestry products. Forestry profits rose approximately \$1.3 million in 1987, from \$7,747,255 to approximately \$9,000,000. These profits are the leading factor of the increase of farm income for 1987.

Other bright spots of the 1987 season were soybeans, corn, small grains, commercial vegetables, cantaloupes, fruit, swine and beef cattle, with increases noted for each product.

In 1986, profits from commercial vegetables dropped significantly from the previous year, but 1987 showed that area much improved. The figure jumped from \$95,865 in 1986 to \$156,496.

Tobacco sales were down slightly from 1986, from \$7,788,975 to \$7,436,625 in 1987, but the demand for tobacco remained high throughout the 1987 season. Warren County's market average of \$1.58 per pound exceeded the government's average support price of \$1.44 per pound.

According to King, the tobacco market was "much more stable this year. There was a quota increase and more poundage was sold in the county this year." King also said that many of the tobacco-buying companies are looking for quality tobacco, so the tobacco market is turning into a seller's market, with each farmer trying to produce and sell the highest quality leaf possible.

Other reductions of the 1987 season included hay, poultry and eggs, and other livestock, not including swine and beef cattle.

"Poultry prices have flattened out," said King, noting the approximate six cents drop in the price per pound of poultry. "Poultry farmers are still selling about the same amount of poultry as last year, but the unit price per pound represents the decrease of profits in that area."

Some farmers began the 1987 season knowing that they would have to participate in government programs. Government payments for the 1987 season totaled \$317,500, an increase of about \$5,000 from 1986.

When asked what kind of year 1988 would bring, King said that it was difficult to determine. But he did say that there was "a definite trend of optimism within the farming community."

For farmers, it is a good sign that farm income did not decrease in 1987. The optimism for the new season and the thought that the farm crisis was over appeared to aid many of the area farmers.

### Banks Will Close On Good Friday

Banks in Warren County as well as the remainder of North Carolina are scheduled to be closed Friday, April 1, in observance of the Easter Holiday.

### Table Of Farm Income

Commodity	1986	1987
Tobacco .....	\$7,788,975	\$7,436,625
Soybeans .....	970,000	1,132,825
Corn .....	105,000	264,000
Small Grain .....	763,900	946,457
Hay .....	441,350	423,150
Commercial Vegetables .....	95,865	156,496
Cantaloupes .....	92,500	120,300
Cucumbers .....	321,550	363,274
Fruits .....	88,142	98,847
Forestry .....	7,747,255	9,000,000
Swine .....	2,041,993	2,361,708
Beef .....	1,005,670	1,438,950
Milk Production .....	1,318,350	1,391,200
Poultry & Eggs .....	3,611,515	3,166,770
Other Livestock .....	117,216	76,250
Other Crops .....	292,645	368,319
Government Payments .....	312,672	317,500
<b>Total Farm Sales .....</b>	<b>\$27,114,598</b>	<b>\$29,062,671</b>

### During Trial This Week

## Stabbing At Roseland Described To Jurors

When Judge Henry W. Hight, Jr. of Henderson convened Warren County Criminal Superior Court this morning (Wednesday), a jury of five men and eight women were to have received instructions to the court after hearing arguments from state and defense attorneys in a case begun Monday on a charge of assault with a deadly weapon with intent to kill.

The dramatic unveiling of the state's exhibit No. 1—a ripped T-shirt, crimson in color and caked with dried blood—done on two occasions by Randolph Baskerville, private prosecuting attorney of Henderson, had been used as evidence of an alleged stabbing that had taken place on Sept. 26 of last year.

Mrs. Elizabeth Myrick, a 33-year-old mother, was the defendant in the case resulting from an incident that had taken place at Roseland, a nightclub in Norlina. The complaining witness had been taken last Sept. 26 to Maria Parham Hospital for treatment of three stab wounds: one in the back, one in the abdomen and one in the chest.

Almost all of the witnesses called had firsthand knowledge of a fight between the two women that night. Because none of the testimonies taken could give conclusive evidence of the presence of a knife, a motion to dismiss was made by the defendant's attorney. That motion, presented on two occasions, was denied.

Four possible verdicts could have come out of the case when the jurors completed their deliberations: (1) guilty of assault with a deadly weapon with intent to kill, inflicting serious injury (20 year sentence); (2) assault with a deadly weapon inflicting serious injury (10 year sentence); (3) assault inflicting serious injury (two year sentence); or not guilty.

At press time, Ronald Edward Price was expected to seek a reduction of his bond. He faces charges of second degree kidnapping and discharging a weapon in an occupied building. Robert Edward Norris, the Norlina youth charged with burning a schoolhouse and larceny of a motor vehicle was also scheduled to appear.

The trials of the persons arrested last September following the \$3 million marijuana bust in Halifax County in which authorities seized over 900 pounds of the

weed, over \$52,000 in cash and assorted firearms, scheduled originally for this week, have been continued.

Two of the four defendants received sentences totaling 44 years last Friday in Halifax County Superior Court.

Robert Paul Dreywore and Kimberly Kay Dreywore in Halifax County received sentences of 30 and 14 years, respectively. Dreywore faced charges of trafficking marijuana and conspiracy to traffic marijuana. Mrs. Dreywore was sentenced on one count of trafficking marijuana.

Through a N.C. Constitution provision, all fines, bond forfeitures collected or property confiscated may be given to a county's school system. According to Halifax County District Attorney David Beard, that school system will receive at least \$52,250, the cash confiscated there. The Dreywores and their associates, Dean D. Poland and Matthew Edwin Purdy, will still face charges here.

At press time, Judge Hight had disposed of the following unrelated cases:

Peter Alston, Jr. was found to have complied with the conditions of his probation.

Victor M. Clark was found to have paid in full and the order to show cause was stricken.

Maurice Wilson plead guilty to two counts of misdemeanor breaking and entering and two counts of misdemeanor larceny. The sentence of two years in the

(Continued on page 12)

### HealthCo Director Is Stepping Down

Phillip Williams, director for a number of years of the Vance-Warren Comprehensive Health Plan, Inc., has tendered his resignation, effective April 4, L. C. Cooper, chairman of the board of directors, announced this week.

According to Cooper, Mrs. Deborah Davis, clinical director, will serve as interim director for the organization until a replacement is found.

The Vance-Warren Comprehensive Health Plan, Inc. is the "umbrella corporation" for HealthCo, the facility located in Soul City, and the Warren Health Plan, the satellite located in the old Warren General Hospital Building.

### State To Receive More

## Decrease In Warren ABC Profits Indicated At Board Meeting

By THURLETTA M. BROWN  
News Editor

Profits received from Warren County's three Alcoholic Beverage Control (ABC) stores will be reduced by about 1.8 percent, Warren County Board of County Commissioners learned Wednesday night in a memorandum sent in September of last year by Charles E. Knox, chairman of the N.C. Alcoholic Beverage Control Commission.

According to the memorandum, the 1987 General Assembly raised the state's excise tax to 28 percent. Prior to that action, which increases the state's revenues by about \$15 million, the excise tax rate was 22.5 percent. Because the profit margin for county ABC boards is calculated after deducting state tax, a decrease in profits has been predicted.

A report submitted last March to the board of county commissioners by Macon Wemyss, supervisor of the Warren County ABC system, sales for 1986 were \$1,005,000. Sales for the previous year were \$970,077.

The Town of Warrenton and the Town of Norlina each receive 15 percent of net profits from their respective stores. Warren County receives 3.5 percent of gross sales and whatever surplus is left at the end of June. In 1987, five percent of the profits were earmarked for the Warren County Sheriff's Department for crime prevention due to alcohol abuse, as was an additional five-cent tax on each bottle of liquor sold.

In the eight month period from July 1 of last year through the end of February, Warren County ABC sales were down 1.23 percent. Sales in October of '87, the first month in which the new tax rate was used, gross sales for the three Warren County ABC stores totaled \$93,608.20. The comparable percentage decrease in state sales is 4.93.

The board also tabled a decision on proposed revisions of the Warren County subdivision regulations. Although only members of the Warren County Planning Board were present for the public hearing that preceded the meeting, input was received by the board on the proposed revisions.

In his introductory remarks, O. L. (Butch) Meek, Warren County Planning Board Chairman, said the proposal had been made to make it easier for persons to sub-divide small land tracts. According to a letter submitted earlier to the board by Meek, increased residential development on both Kerr and Gaston lakes, along with land

development in other areas of the county, has resulted in a need to simplify the subdivision process. Meek also noted that there existed a need to clarify certain requirements to ensure uniform compliance and to "protect the county's legal interest."

A minor subdivision has been defined as "a subdivision consisting of no more than five lots, abutting a public or private road,...(which)...requires no new road construction or water and sewer extensions."

The following changes were recommended: (1) that a technical review committee be created, consisting of a planning board representative, the county's building inspector and the county's environmental health coordinator; (2) that weekly meetings be held by the board to review and approve proposals; and (3) that a clearer definition of monetary guarantees required by developers be included.

According to Meek, the proposal had been reviewed by the N.C. Department of Natural Resources and by the county attorney. "They found no errors."

A decision on the proposed revision was tabled following concerns from the board that pro-

visions for trash disposal and fire protection be included in the regulations. The board of county commissioners will review the matter again at its mid-monthly meeting.

The commissioners did give their stamp of approval to a proposed revision of Section I-II of the Warren County Zoning Ordinance that governs use of accessory buildings on lake front property, following a public hearing held earlier Wednesday evening. The revision had been proposed to eliminate confusion about the location of the front yard for lake front properties. The text of the approved revision is: The accessory building...shall be placed in the rear yard only on corner lots, and in the rear or side yard of other lots; except waterfront lots where...(they)...shall be allowed on the side or in the front yard." The front yard of lakefront properties was defined as being on the "road front side."

In other business, the board: —Set April 13 at 9 a.m. as the time for the Board of Equalization and Review.

—Endorsed the participation of Walter Gardner as vice chairman for a three-person steering committee. (Continued on page 4B)

## Cutting, Flimflam Act Reported By Deputies

A case of violence leading to facial lacerations for a Warren County man and reports of a possible flimflam scam to which area residents should be alert are among the incidents under investigation this week by the Warren County Sheriff's Department.

Willie Hedgepeth, 31, of Rt. 3, Enfield sustained cuts in his face requiring eight to 10 stitches following an altercation early Sunday at Club 43.

According to a report filed by Warren County Deputy Harold Seaman, investigating officer, Hedgepeth had been involved in a disagreement with Elzia Arlanda Silver, 22, of Rt. 2, Enfield. Silver allegedly used a razor to slash a one and one-half inch cut on Hedgepeth's temple and a three-inch cut on the left side of his face.

Silver was charged with assault with a deadly weapon and inflicting injuries before being confined to the Warren County Jail under a \$2,500 secured bond.

Also at Club 43 Sunday morning, a 1977 Oldsmobile was reported stolen by David Cooper of Nashville. The license tag of

the two-door white vehicle was reported as AVK-1675. Deputy R. A. Coleman is the investigating officer.

Ms. Helen Moss of Manson on March 21 reported the theft of a gas range. Deputy R. A. Coleman is the investigating officer in the case.

The flimflam scam was reported on March 19 by J. M. Overby, who had contracted with four males to paint and repair buildings. The men began the job and were paid \$1,600, but they did not complete the contracted work: repairs to the roof of a residence remain undone and the paint applied to a barn has begun to run.

According to the report, the men are traveling in trucks, as well as a gray car with a vinyl top.

Deputy Harold Seaman is the investigating officer. Persons with knowledge of this or of any other unsolved crimes are asked to contact the Sheriff's Department. All information will be kept in confidence. Sheriff Theodore Williams reminded.