Sept. 25, 1985

THE NEWS RECORD

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Winning Weekend:

Patriots Down Erwin Lions Clip Indians

-Pictures, Stories Begin On P. 8

Community Calendar

Cutshall Family Reunion

The Cutshall family reunion will be held on Sept. 29 at the Laurel Fire House beginning at noon. All relatives and friends are invited to attend.

Legion Auxiliary Bake Sale

The Ladies Auxiliary of American Legion Post 317 will sponsor a bake sale on Oct. 5 in front of the Ingles Supermarket on the Marshall Bypass. Proceeds from the sale and a flea market willl be used to purchase toys and other Christmas gifts for needy children in Madison County.

Anyone interested in contributing money, food or good new or used items should contact Bea Banks at 649-2436.

Hundreds of spectators gathered to catch a glimpse of the murder suspects as they were brought to Marshall for questioning.

Trooper Murder Suspects Captured

By ROBERT KOENIG

Three days of terror in the Spring Creek area ended last Tuesday afternoon with the capture of two escaped prisoners from an Arkansas county jail.

The three-day manhunt came to an end when lawmen surrounded the two men in the woods on Charlotte Branch in the Spring Creek section near the Haywood County line.

Some 23 lawmen surrounded the two men who, seeing they were outnumbered, threw down their weapons and surrendered without incident. Arrested were Jimmy Dean Rios, 23, and William Bray, 22. The two were taken immediately to Marshall where they were questioned and charged with first degree murder in connection with the Sept. 14 shooting of Highway Patrol Trooper R.L. Coggins.

The trooper's body was found slumped over the steering wheel of his patrol car on the afternoon of Sept. 24 by Arthur Fowler and his wife. The trooper's death began the three-day manhunt in the Spring Creek area.

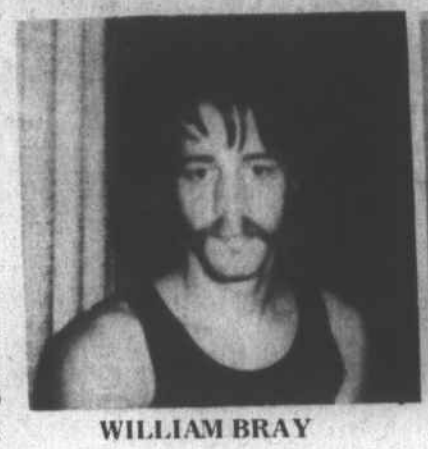
Hundreds of lawmen and Highway Patrol members joined the search for the two prison escapees within hours of the shooting. North Carolina National Guard helicopters equipped with infrared heating sensing equipment were called in to assist in the manhunt.

Despite the high technology equipment, in the end it was a hungry bloodhound named Brandy who finally led lawmen to the fugitives.

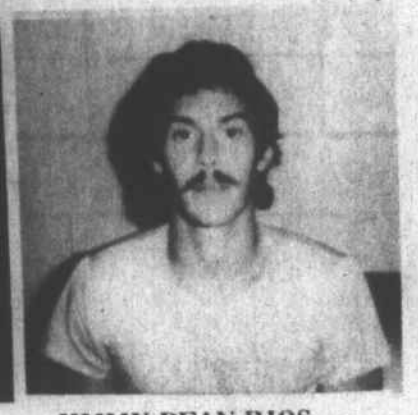
After two frustrating days of combing the Spring Creek area for clues, police received their most important lead on Tuesday morning when Rachel Gillespie, 75, of Spring Creek reported that her home had been broken into during the night.

Gillespie, fearful that the fugitives might attack her in her home, spent Monday evening at the home of a relative.

Shortly after receiving the tip from Gillespie, a tracking team was brought to the house to pick up a scent. The bloodhounds picked up the trail of the two fugitives and lead lawmen to the area in which Rios and Bray were captured shortly before 4 p.m.



WILLIAM BRAY



JIMMY DEAN RIOS

The two fugitives apparently had been holed up within a short distance of the Gillespie home on Monday. They entered the house after watching her leave for the night, helping themselves to eggs, peanut butter, bread and several "Little Debbie" cakes, according to Gillespie.

The fugitives also made off with an old rifle, blankets, a quilt and winter gloves. Police recovered the items abandoned in the woods about 1 p.m. on Tuesday.

A seven-man team of State Bureau of Investigation agents lead by Jack Davis were among the first lawmen to reach the two fugitives. A second team of Madison County deputies, led by Frank Ogle, were also at the scene when the two fugitives surrendered. Ogle told The News Record, "I looked down and saw the bottoms of their shoes, and there were the tracks we'd been looking for. It was one of the prettiest sights I've ever known."

Along with Sheriff Ponder and Deputy Ogle, local deputies on hand for the capture included Ray Caldwell, Joe Davis, Ralph Ramsey, Gary Ogle, Charles Allen, Sammy Lunsford, Jackie Lunsford, Lamar Worley, Ricky Aldrich, Charlie Sexton, Don Shelton and Walter Honeycutt. Brandy and her handler, Steve Graves of the Burke County Sheriff's Dept. were also on hand.

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Dedrick Cody Resigns School Board Post

Madison County Board of Education member Dedrick Cody submitted his resignation from the board last week, to become effective on Sept. 30. Cody announced his decision to step down in a letter to Swan Huff of Hot Springs, chairman of the Madison County Democratic Party.

Cody also sent copies of the letter to members of the school board and school superintendent Robert L. Edwards.

A special law covering the appointment of school board members in Madison County requires that members notify the chairman of their local party. A successor is then appointed by the executive committee of the Madison County Democratic Party.

Two Enter Marshall Race

Anita Ward, Richard Kingston To Challenge Betty Wild

Anita Ward

By ROBERT KOENIG

The filing period for candidates for the November municipal elections closed last Friday at noon. Two last-minute challengers came forward to oppose Mayor Betty J. Wild and three candidates for the Marshall Board of Alderman stepped forward to challenge the incumbents.

Anita Ward, a teacher at Madison High School, and Richard Kingston, a Marshall harpsichord maker, entered the mayoral race during the final hours of the filing period. Ward entered the race on Thursday night. Kingston's entry was not official until Friday.

After making his candidacy official, News Record editor Bob Koenig reimbursed Kingston for his $5 filing fee (see related story on Page 4).

Marshall's three incumbent aldermen, John Dodson, Sammy Lunsford and Ed Niles, filed for re-election last week. They will be challenged by Faye Reid, Raymond "Gene" Moore and Charlie Sexton.

Reid is a Marshall native, a former member of the town's police force and the town's police chief. She ran unsuccessfully for the board once before.

Moore lives on Redmon Rd. and this is his first political campaign as a candidate.

Sexton is a former town employee and ran unsuccessfully for the board in 1983.

Dodson and Lunsford had been expected to file for re-election, but Niles' late entry in the race was a surprise. The Marshall pharmacist had said earlier that he did not plan to run again in November. Asked what made him change his mind, Niles said, "I was expecting some other people to file, but when they didn't, I thought I would."

Tobacco Tax Bill Passes Senate Committee

By A. L. MAY
News and Observer

Legislation to revamp the federal tobacco program and to cancel a scheduled 8-cent drop in the federal cigarette excise tax won approval in a key Senate committee Friday.

The 10-4 vote in the Senate Finance Committee marked a strategic victory for tobacco state senators led by Sen. Jesse A. Helms. The tobacco program legislation was inserted into a budget bill that will be difficult for opponents to amend or filibuster.

It is legislation that Congress wants to pass before Oct. 1, when the new federal fiscal year begins and the 16-cent cigarette tax is scheduled to fall to 8 cents.

Earlier Friday, by a closer vote of 10 8, the committee defeated an amendment by Sen. Bill Bradley, D-N.J., to raise the cigarette tax to 20 cents per pack.

Helms told reporters things had gone the way he'd planned. His announcement Wednesday that he would drop his fight to cut the tax was merely part of a strategy, he said.

"My intentions have been solely to save the tobacco program," Helms said in an interview.

Sen. Daniel P. Moynihan, D-N.Y., a vocal opponent, called the affair an "unseemly" example of congressional dealing, with a tax-writing committee adopting tobacco legislation it knew little about.

After a one-day delay to quell a revolt by farm-state senators who first wanted action on other commodity programs in the 1985 Farm Bill, the tobacco-state senators got what they had wanted. They traded their acquiescence on the 16-cent tax extension for the Finance Committee's vote to include the tobacco program legislation in the bill designed to reduce federal deficits by $38 billion over the next three year.

Helms' has offered his legislation to "save" the tobacco program by enacting terms accepted by major cigarette manufacturers in exchange for their pledge to buy 800 million pounds of tobacco surpluses that threaten to bankrupt the grower-financed program. The bill would give the companies lower price supports and new way in setting marketing quotas.

Helms' bill would make buyers and growers of tobacco equal partners in bearing the program's future costs.

During three days of maneuvering and sometimes bitter rhetoric about the way Helms' tobacco bill was handled in the Finance Committee, there was virtually no debate about the legislation's merits. Several committee members, including those who supported the bill, admitted they really didn't know much about the complicated tobacco legislation.

Moynihan attacked the tobacco program as "ancient, convoluted, secretive, and almost certainly it is bad." The New York Democrat, however, told reporters that the most votes the opponents could muster were four on the 19-member committee.

Helms had the backing of a solid majority of the Republicans on the panel and he had the strong support of Senate Majority Leader Robert J. Dole and Finance Chairman Robert Packwood, R-Ore.

Helms had made a controversial vote in 1982 to help pass a tax package that doubled the cigarette tax. In an interview, he said that vote had helped get him the help this year of Dole and other Republicans.

"Everybody thought I was a fool in 1982 on the tax bill, but we got a lot of support for that this time," Helms said.

Helms said his chairmanship of the Senate Agriculture Committee helped win the backing two Democrats who are members of both the finance and agriculture committees.

Sens. David Boren, D-Okla., and David Pryor, D-Ark., had accused Helms Thurday of making an "end run" in the Finance Committee to solve tobacco problems while trying in the Agriculture Committee to cut price supports for major commodities such as wheat, corn, cotton and rice covered in the 1985 Farm Bill.

Boren and Pryor dropped their opposition Friday after the Agriculture Committee Thursday night voted out a farm bill that kept those price supports high.

Agriculture aides to Helms criticized a report in The News and Observer Thursday that said Helms had "yielded" on the farm bill to allow the vote and give the Democrats their victory.

The story omitted Helms' statement that he had planned to give the Democrats a chance to vote before Boren's maneuver. Democrats as well as Republicans on the Agriculture Committee had used delaying tactics on the farm bill earlier in the year.

Anti-smoking forces, who have been pushing to double the tax to 32

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Motorcycle Accident Kills S.C. Man

An South Carolina was killed on Dougett Mountain Saturday morning when he fell from his motorcycle in a sharp curve. Walter Frederick Samland, 25, was pronounced dead at the scene of the accident, five miles south of Spring Creek on N.C. 63.

The accident occurred at about 11 a.m. Samland died of severe injuries sustained in the fall from his motorcycle.

Witnesses said the victim fell from the motorcycle after losing control of it in a curve. An oncoming pickup truck driven by Kenneth Robert Kullman, 24, of Lancaster collided with the motorcycle, narrowly missing the fallen cyclist. Earlier published reports which stated the GMC pickup hit the victim were incorrect.

The accident was investigated by Trooper R.P. Richard [illegible]

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