

# Drunk Driving Cases Fill Court

Four Raeford residents and three out-of-towners were found guilty in Hoke County District Court last week on various alcohol related charges.

John Bartha III of Raeford plead guilty to driving under the influence (DUI) and driving without being a licensed operator. District Court Judge Joseph Dupree gave Bartha a 90-day suspended sentence with 12 months of unsupervised probation. The judge also instructed Bartha to pay \$150 and court cost.

The defendant was also ordered to surrender his driver's license and not operate a vehicle for 12 months. Judge Dupree granted Bartha limited driving privileges. Under the suspended sentence Bartha must also enroll and complete the alcohol and drug abuse school within 90 days.

George Vatrice Beatty, also of Raeford, was found guilty of failing to stop at a flashing red light and careless and reckless driving after drinking.

Judge Dupree gave the defendant a 30-day sentence and instructed him to pay \$100 and court cost.

Beatty must also enroll and complete the alcohol and drug abuse school, under the judge's orders.

A third Raeford man plead guilty to DUI charges in District Court on Thursday.

Paul Billinger Jr. of Raeford plead guilty to DUI charges and was given a six month suspended sentence with three years of unsupervised probation.

Judge Dupree instructed the defendant to pay \$300 and court cost in the action.

In addition, the defendant was ordered not to operate a motor vehicle for three years except as provided by law.

Judge Dupree also instructed Billinger to enroll and complete the alcohol and drug abuse school within 90 days.

Ruby Dammons Russell of Raeford also plead guilty to DUI charges in District Court Thursday.

Judge Dupree gave the defendant a 90-day suspended sentence and ordered her to pay \$150 and court cost.

Russell was also instructed to surrender her driver's license for 12 months but was granted limited driving privileges.

In addition, the defendant was ordered to enroll and complete the alcohol and drug abuse school within 90 days.

Three out-of-town visitors to Hoke County also were in court on alcohol related charges.

Alexander Harrington of Fayetteville plead guilty to DUI and was given a 90-day suspended sentence with 12 months unsupervised probation.

Judge Dupree also ordered the defendant to pay \$150 and court cost plus surrender his driver's license for a 12 month period. The

judge granted Harrington a limited driving permit.

In addition, Harrington was instructed to enroll and complete the alcohol and drug abuse school within 90 days.

Angelia Robbins Lyerly of Rockingham plead guilty to careless and reckless driving after drinking and was given a 30-day sentence on that charge.

The judge also instructed her to pay \$100 and court cost in the action and enroll and complete the alcohol and drug abuse school within 90 days.

John Anthony Violette of Fayetteville plead guilty to DUI charges and was ordered to pay \$300 and court cost plus surrender his license for two and a half years.

In other court action Thursday, Barbra Weldon aka Martha Monroe, aka Martha L. Flowers was found guilty of larceny and was given an active sentence on that charge.

Weldon was charged with the apparent larceny of merchandise from the Maxway Store in the Edenborough Shopping Center.

According to the warrant, Weldon had apparently taken seven pairs of jeans and one slip from the store.

The defendant, after being sentenced, gave notice of appeal.

Jeffrey Fellows of Raeford plead guilty to simple assault and battery in District Court on Thursday.

Fellows was charged with assaulting another man by "throwing him to the pavement and hitting him with his fist", according to the warrant.

Judge Dupree gave the defendant a prayer for judgement in the case and instructed the defendant not to assault anyone for three years.

In an unrelated incident, Roscoe Baxley Jr. of Rt. 2, Raeford plead guilty to possession of marijuana and drug paraphernalia.

The judge ordered Baxley to be confined to the Hoke County Jail for 30 days on those charges and instructed him to pay \$50 and court cost in the action.

In further court action, the following persons plead guilty and were sentenced in Hoke court on Thursday:

--Curtis D. Grimble of Fayetteville plead guilty to speeding (46-35) and was given a prayer for judgement upon payment of court cost.

--Vivian Carlo Joyner of Fayetteville plead guilty to speeding (65-55) and was given a prayer for judgement upon payment of the court action.

James Chris Cammach III of Mont Hill plead guilty to exceeding a safe speed and was ordered to pay cost of the action.

--James J. Dial of Red Springs plead guilty to speeding (82-55) and was given a 30-day sentence and ordered to pay \$25 and court cost.

--Clayton Scott Thompson of Raeford plead guilty to driving without a license and was given a 30-day sentence and ordered to pay \$25 and cost of the action.

--Mary Kemp Thomas plead guilty to speeding (47-35) and was given a prayer for judgement upon payment of court cost.

--Gordon W. Williams of Lumberton plead guilty to speeding (65-55) and was given a prayer for judgement upon payment of the court action.

In unrelated cases, Tommie Brunson of Rt. 1, Raeford plead guilty to peeping in a room occupied by a female and was given a six-month suspended sentence with two years supervised probation.

Judge Dupree also instructed the defendant to pay \$100 and court cost and stay away from the victim's premises for two years.

Earl Bullard of Rt. 1, Red Springs plead guilty to two separate DUI charges and was given consecutive sentences on those charges.

Judge Dupree gave the defendant a six-month suspended sentence with three years of supervised probation and ordered him to pay \$150 and court cost in the first action.

On the second DUI charge, Judge Dupree sentenced Bullard to another six-month suspended jail term with three years supervised probation.

In addition, the judge ordered Bullard to surrender his driver's license and spend three consecutive weekends in the Hoke County Jail.

In further court business, the following judgements were handed down by Judge Dupree.

--Bill Junior McCain of Raeford plead guilty to shoplifting a \$1.95 bottle of Thunderbird wine from the A & P Food Store.

Judge Dupree ordered the defendant to spend 30 days in the Hoke County Jail.

--Timothy Purcell of Raeford plead guilty to the simple assault of a 12-year-old and was ordered confined to the Hoke County Jail for 30 days and instructed to pay \$35 and cost of the action.

--William Ira Smith of Rt. 2, Raeford plead guilty to the larceny of an otoscope from Dr. Townsend's office and was given a six-month suspended sentence with two years supervised probation and was ordered to pay \$100 and court cost.

## Sgt. Baldwin Is Decorated

Newly promoted Staff Sgt. Wayne Baldwin, son of Lucille Arnold of 1709 Holmes Court, Raeford, has been decorated with the Air Force Achievement Medal of RAF Chicksands, England.

The medal is awarded to airmen for achievement or meritorious service and acts of courage.

He is a 1977 graduate of Hoke County High School, Raeford.



## Service award

On July 27 Ralph T. Walters completed 30 years service with Burlington Industries Incorporated. Ralph began his career on July 27, 1953 at the Fayetteville Plant in the Weaving department. He held numerous jobs there in the Weaving department. On March 22, 1976 Ralph transferred to the Raeford Plant Weaving department where he has held the job of weaver. In recognition of his 30 years of service, Ralph has received a service certificate, diamond service pin and a Cross pen and pencil set.

## ... PCB Tests Continue

(Continued from page 1A)

ed for Wilson's dismantling business, showed normal levels of lead, but his family members had high readings.

"Blood lead level readings for the family members were above the Hoke average, but well below the state cut off," Horne said.

Only one young girl within the family had an extremely high reading that was above the state cut off of 50 parts per milliliter.

Over 50 parts is considered a health hazard especially in children.

"She will have to have more detailed blood lead level tests before we can be certain," Horne said.

According to Horne, the initial tests do not indicate that lead is in the blood.

"These tests tell us that something is there, but further testing has to be done before we can be sure it is lead," Horne said.

Horne still believes it is too early to "name the culprit."

"It would be hard for me to call at this point. We are dealing with very small numbers and a lot of mixed results," Horne said.

Although Horne is hesitant to place blame on anyone, he admits that residents from other parts of the county do not have the high blood level readings.

"I have not seen any high levels from any other part of the county so far," Horne said.

"These people who have had higher lead readings could possibly be connected with Wilson and the battery dump sites, but it is too early to name a culprit," Horne said.

Horne and his staff are continuing to administer the free blood tests and are actively trying to locate more Wilson employees and their families.

"We will continue to test and retest until something can be determined," Horne said.

# More Arrest Warrants Issued Against Hunt

By Sherry Matthews

Two new arrest warrants for passing bad checks have been served on Hoke County Commissioner James Albert Hunt.

In addition, a criminal summons for another bad check has been issued, but not served.

According to Cumberland County court records, an arrest warrant was issued against the nine-year commissioner last week after he apparently failed to show for a court date on July 7.

Hunt was to appear in Cumberland District Court on charges that he wrote a \$2,000 worthless check.

The arrest order had not been served against the commissioner at press time.

A second arrest order was issued against Hunt for writing a \$190 worthless check on a closed account in Scotland County.

Scotland records indicate that the warrant was served on Hunt in mid-August.

Records show that the county board vice-chairman posted the \$200 secured bond to avoid a fourth stint in jail.

In addition to the warrant, another worthless check summons has been issued against Hunt in Scotland County.

The simple worthless check was apparently written in April for \$195.47.

The Scotland summons was issued last week but has not been served yet, records show.

The new warrants come on the heels of a Scotland County arrest order against Hunt for failing to comply with an earlier District Court ruling.

Hunt failed to meet payment deadlines on 22 worthless checks for which he has already been convicted.

A condition of Hunt's 22 six-month suspended sentences was that the commissioner pay off the over \$5,000 in bad checks; \$2,000 of the total owed was to be paid to the clerk's office by July 28 and \$1,000 each following week until the balance of the action and restitution in each case was paid in full.

Scotland records indicate that none of the monies had been paid and an arrest warrant was issued.

Since early June, the commissioner has been plagued by financial and legal difficulties that have resulted in 13 arrest orders and three stints in jail.

In addition, the commissioner has been given some 35 suspended sentences from Hoke and surrounding counties and further court appearances have been scheduled for late August and September.

In addition, the commissioner apparently owes well over \$9,000 for worthless checks, court costs, and restitutions.

All of the bad check charges have been filed as misdemeanors and the convictions do not require Hunt to resign from office.

## Auto Break-ins Hit Area

Break-ins and thefts from automobiles plagued Raeford and Hoke County residents last week, law enforcement authorities have reported.

Larry Pittman of Raeford reported that someone broke into his car while he was at football practice last Tuesday.

According to Raeford Police Chief Leonard Wiggins, someone had attempted to steal a car stereo out of Pittman's vehicle.

The stereo was not stolen, but \$20 in damage was reportedly done to the car, Wiggins said.

In an unrelated incident, Reggie Pickler of Raeford reported that someone had stolen a Sear's scanner out of his car last Monday morning.

According to Chief Wiggins, Pickler's car was parked at the Convenient Mart when the crime apparently took place.

Also on Monday, Alton B. Britt reported that someone had taken two stereo speakers out of his car.

Britt's car had been parked in the House of Raeford parking lot when the larceny apparently took place, the police chief said.

No suspects have been identified in these cases, but investigations are continuing, Wiggins said.

## ... Mission School Opens

(Continued from page 1A)

by Criner's office. He is the only fulltime employee.

"I visit most of the schools and see that they comply with what they are required to do," he said.

The new Hoke County school,

which will be located in Lumber Bridge, is being set up under auspices of the Trinity House of Prayer Holiness Church.

The site of the school will be on a 65-acre "privately owned Cherokee Indian reservation," Maynor said.

"This is a tribal Christian school operated for Cherokee Indians by the Cherokee Indians of Hoke County Inc.," Maynor said. For enrollment the school requires:

--That students must be Cherokee Indians, and not affiliated with any other group or tribe of Indians.

"That students must be an enrolled tribal member of the Cherokee Indians of Hoke County, Inc.

--The student must want to attend the school.

The state general assembly stopped requiring that teachers be certified to teach in private schools after pressure was applied by a lobby sponsored by religious groups.

State law does allow principals to test students wishing to transfer from a private school to a public school to determine in which grade they should be placed, Criner said.

If a student is not academically prepared, he may be placed in a lower grade than his age group," he said.

The Cherokee Indian Christian Mission School of Hoke County, Inc. has received a non-profit "tax-exempt" charter from the state, Maynor said.

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