



Man injured when chase ends in wreck

A man was seriously injured when he wrecked the stolen pickup truck he was driving Sunday morning while being pursued by Hoke County sheriff's deputies.

Angelo Elliott of Route 1, Bunn Level, was driving a 1978 Ford pickup truck about 4:20 a.m. when Sgt. P. Brock of the sheriff's department chased him, Trooper Kenneth Weston of the state Highway Patrol said.

Sheriff Wayne Byrd said deputies had questioned Elliott earlier that morning while responding to a tip on a "suspicious person."

He said Elliott was with the person the deputies were checking out and that Elliott gave deputies several names, none of which could be verified.

"It took me until twelve-thirty last night to ID him," Weston said this morning.

Deputies then discovered the truck was stolen when they checked its tags early in the evening and told Elliott he could not drive it anymore. Later, he apparently passed Brock in the truck at a high speed, at which time Brock turned around and followed him, Byrd said.

Weston said Brock was "about a quarter of a mile away — it was not a right on the bumper chase."

Byrd concurred, saying Brock was following the department's policy of staying back from the bumper of the vehicle being chased.

In a curve on Balfour Road near N.C. 20, Elliott lost control of the pickup truck and wrecked.

Weston said Elliott was taken to Southeastern Regional Medical Center in Lumberton for treatment, then to a hospital in Chapel Hill where he underwent brain surgery.

The truck was destroyed.

Man charged with armed robbery

A man suspected of robbing a convenience store clerk Thursday afternoon was arrested less than one hour later, according to a sheriff's department report.

Jett Howard Adams Jr., 24, of (See CRIME, page 12A)

Fund-raiser kicks off for area stage

While some of the groundwork literally has been laid for Hoke County's new Community Performing Arts Stage, the real work begins today.

Stage planners kick off a fund-raising drive today seeking to gather the remainder of the \$60,000 in materials and services it could take for the stage to come together.

"The total with every item — contracting costs, labor, materials, is \$60,000," said planning committee member Lynn Worley. "We're hoping with in-kind services and supplies that might be donated that we'll be able to come in under that amount."

Hoke commissioners recently added their \$5,000 commitment to an existing \$5,000 commitment to the effort and gave a nod to budgeting \$3,000 in the next fiscal year. Commissioners will vote on that additional funding at budget time this summer. The City of Raeford, who will provide in-kind construction services, will budget \$4,000 for the effort in fiscal year 1994-95, which also will be voted on this (See STAGE, page 8 A)



Dog gone

Eric Walters, a fifth-grader at Scurlock Elementary enjoys a hot dog at D.A.R.E. Day Thursday. Drug Abuse Resistance Education students — both graduates of and students in the current program — were treated to a celebration at McLaughlin Park complete with food and demonstrations by area emergency personnel. Students celebrated in conjunction with a national D.A.R.E. Day. See related picture, page 13A.

County honors volunteers at banquet

Five citizens, one business and one organization were awarded plaques for being outstanding volunteers of the year for 1994 at Tuesday night's volunteer dinner given at the Hoke County Civic Center.

One volunteer was chosen in each of seven categories: Daphne Beatty, youth; Pauline Oxendine, direct services; House of Raeford, business; Hoke County Extension Homemakers, group; Raz Autry, senior citizen; George Shook, general support; and Robert Curry, leadership.

The seven winners of the 1994 Outstanding Volunteers awards will go on to meet with the governor as part of their recognition, said Carol Birkhead of the

N.C. Cooperative Extension Service.

The dinner, sponsored by the county government, featured Dr. John Ropp as keynote speaker, who called attention to the "twenty and a half billion hours in one year" given by American volunteers.

Hoke County commissioners' Chairman L. E. McLaughlin thanked the volunteers in his greeting before the dinner.

"Without you, we could not exist," he said. "We plan to put Hoke County on the map with your help, with your success."

Bob Mercer, director of the Hoke County Department of Social Services lamented the recent deaths of prominent community volunteers Kay Thomas, Mabel Riley and Bertie Hardin. All have

died this year, Thomas in an automobile accident and Riley and Hardin from illness.

Recognition certificates and plaques were presented by Barbara Buie, director of the Hoke Reading/Literacy Council, Kristi Posey, director of the Community Schools Program, and County Manager Mike Wood.

The following volunteers received certificates:

• Youth: Daphne Beatty, Tamiaka Bruton and Mark McNeill.

• Direct services: Barbara J. Buie, Shelia Felder, Diane Jones, Al Keller, John Magee, Emma Mims, Lucille Pen- (See BANQUET, page 6A)

UNC documentary features Hoke natives

A new documentary about the history of the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill features the late Paul Dickson III of Raeford as one of the key players in the development of the university as a center of free speech and intellectual inquiry. Also featured is the late Rep. David Scott Poole of Raeford.

The 90-minute "Crossroads on the Hill" aired on University of North Carolina Television Sunday night and will repeat at 10 p.m. Friday. Produced by Gary Hawkins of the North Carolina School of the Arts, it recounts the struggles the university encountered along the way to its current prominence as a leading institution in American higher education.

Dickson was president of the UNC-CH student body when in 1966 he led the challenge against a law banning Communist speakers on campus.

The law stated that no state-supported college or (See UNC, page 12A)



In 1966, Raeford native and UNC-Chapel Hill student body president Paul Dickson III (left) talks with banned speaker Frank Wilkinson during the Speaker Ban controversy.

Trailer park sign given 'attention'

A developer whose plans for rezoning a King Road tract were denied recently erected a sign saying a trailer park would be placed on the land. The developer, who would have built a 14-home subdivision, later said the sign was put up "to get attention."

Neighbors voiced opposition to the subdivision, and the subsequent commissioners' denial of the rezoning last week ticked off Julian Mann, owner of Mann and Co. and partner in T&M Investments, which owns the wedge-shaped, 7.97-acre tract near Rockfish.

The sign, sporting bright pink and purple letters announcing a federally subsidized trailer park, upset King Road-area residents.

Residents who called a number given for information on the sign were informed the developer would place a trailer park on the land because of opposition to "nice houses" being built there.

Mann said the request for rezoning was denied because of a lack of understanding about zoning on the part of the opposing residents and commissioners who voted for the denial. Commissioners Tom Howell and Riley Jordan voted against denial of the request.

"We bought that property to develop, and we intended to build nice homes," Mann said. "They (residents) weren't upset at the zoning, because they really didn't know about zoning. All they want is nobody to build nothing."

He said rezoning of the property from RA-20 (allowing two lots per acre) to R-15 (up to three lots per acre) would be a more restrictive zoning that would keep houses away from the "tiny bit of what I call wetlands" along the back of the property. R-15 zoning would require the subdivision to go onto a public water system.

The wetlands were among concerns of the residents who spoke up against the rezoning at last week's commissioners' meeting. They fear the installation of 14 or more septic tanks will ruin the quality of the water in the area.

Mann said he understands the residents not wanting homes to be built on the land, now woods and fields, (See DEVELOPER, page 5A)

Days Inn motel to locate in Hoke

A Days Inn motel will soon be under construction at the intersection of U.S. 401 Bypass and Teal Drive in Raeford.

Dottie Meacher, executive director of the Raeford-Hoke Economic Development Commission, said P&S Investments Inc. out of Richburg, S.C., will build the 50-room franchise.

"I really feel fortunate. It's going to be a beautiful motel," Meacher said.

She said grading by another company had begun on what was to be a 32-room Days Inn behind the ABC store at U.S. 401 Bypass and College Drive, but Days Inn wanted a 50-room franchise. The 32-room project has stopped.

A groundbreaking ceremony for the motel was held on the site today at 11:30 a.m. Among those making remarks will be P&S Investments President Paul Singal.

Meacher said the motel should be completed by Christmas.

Around Town

By Sam C. Morris

The weather Friday and Saturday made you think that winter was returning. The highs were in the low 60s and the lows were in the 40s. It warmed up on Sunday and the highs were in the 80s. Monday the temperature went into the 80s again. The small amount of rain Friday night didn't help settle the dust.

The remainder of the week, according to the forecast, calls for summer-like weather. The highs Wednesday through Saturday will see highs in the high 80s and low 90s and the lows for this time will be in the 60s. We could have some rain on Friday.

Maybe the cold weather is gone!

This is the last column before the primary. The date of the primary is Tuesday, May 3. The polls will be open from 6:30 a.m. until 7:30 p.m. There will be, for the first time in Hoke County, voting

machines in Raeford Precincts number one and five.

Scott Poole, chairman of the Board of Elections was by the office Monday and he said that the machine company would have instructors at the two precincts to assist people with the machines. Poole also stated that the ballots of these two precincts would be different from the other 11 precincts.

The posters of the candidates have increased over the past week and political literature is also arriving in the mail. There have been and will continue this week many feeds put on by the local candidates.

The talk, posters, etc. are all expected in the county during an election year. But they don't mean a thing unless the people go to the polls and VOTE. If you don't vote, then don't go around complaining how things are being run in the (See AROUND, page 4A)