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Sheriff starts over on Brittany Locklear case

Task force formed, all to be interviewed again, DNA check stepped up

By VICTORIANA SUMMERS
Staff writer

Sheriff Hubert Peterkin organized a special task force last week to take another look at the unsolved murder case of five-year-old Brittany Lynn Locklear.

She was deliberately drowned on January 8, 1998 in a drainage ditch off Ryan McByrde Road and U.S. 401 South after being sexually molested and abducted.

More than 100 friends, family, neighbors, witnesses, school personnel, and possible suspects will be interviewed or

"re-interviewed" under the supervision of Chief Deputy Troy McDuffie, according to Peterkin, who will manage the inquiry.

"We are starting the investigation from scratch," Peterkin said. "We are not just talking to people. We will investigate

the cold case like it would have just occurred.

"I called a meeting last week to initiate this with my staff."

Peterkin said there are a "couple" of concerns revolving around the new homicide inquiry into Brittany's death.

"Since there are going to be people who are probably re-interviewed, some of them may get upset," Peterkin said. "We think it is essential that we examine all the facts of this case from the beginning so we can finally bring this killer (See BRITTANY, page 8A)

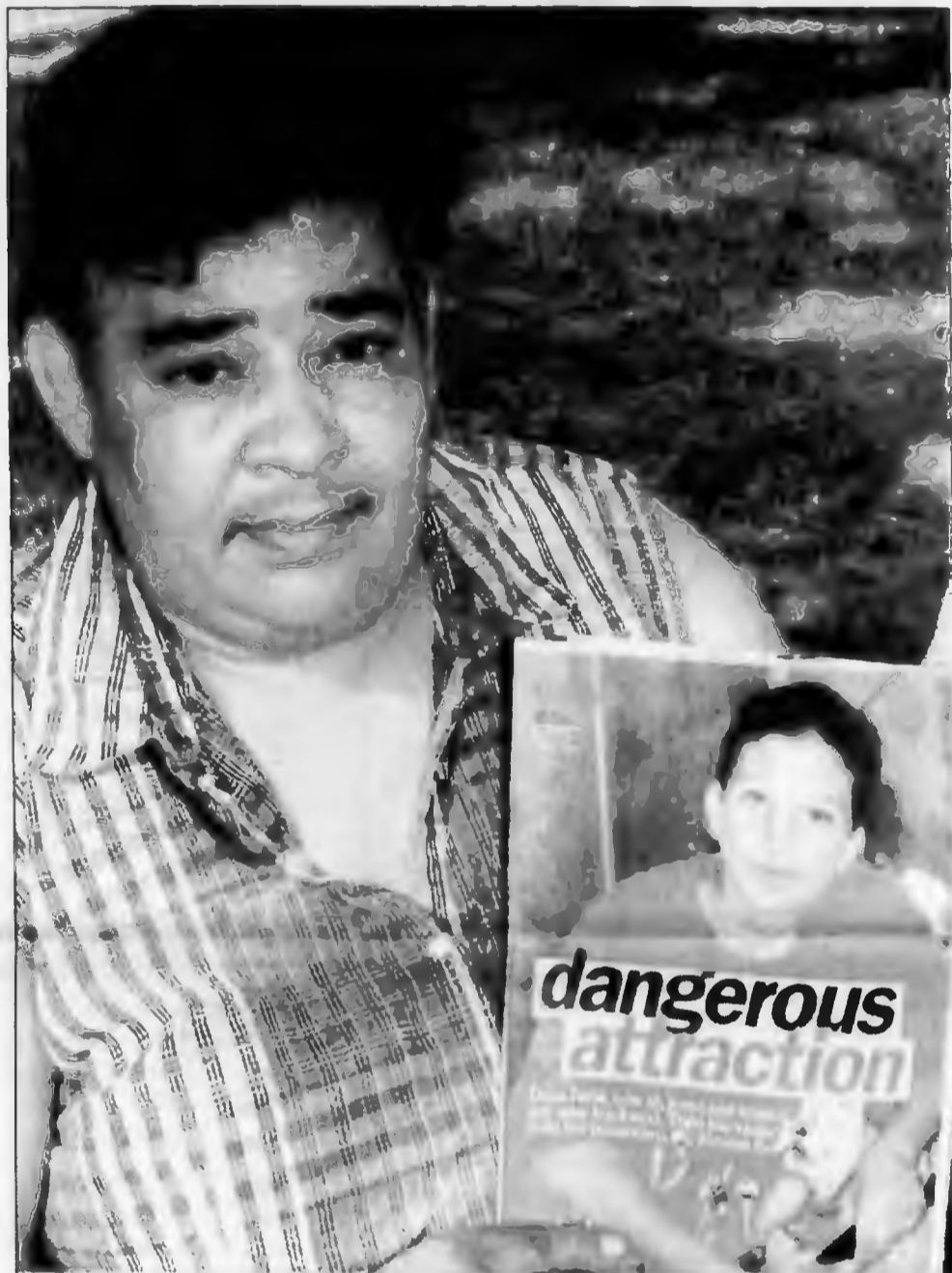
Pevia again on TV

By Victoriana Summers
Staff writer

A story in the national magazine Cosmo Girl about South Hoke kidnap victim Dana Pevia titled, "Dangerous Attraction," led TV talk show host Montel Williams to invite Pevia to be a guest on his show.

The episode, which was taped last week in New York City, will be aired during this season, according to Wanda Pevia, mother of Dana, who accompanied her to the show.

Dana, 17 and a Native American, was 11 years old when she disappeared from her South Hoke home while she waited for the school bus. Allegedly lured away by her teen neighbor, Hector Mojarro Frausto, he has since been captured and is awaiting (See KIDNAPPED, page 8A)



Wanda Pevia, mother of kidnap victim Dana Pevia, displays a story published in Cosmo Girl magazine, about Dana's disappearance and abduction from South Hoke.

3-county rampage kills 1, injures 4

Former Raeford man jailed, accused of stealing van, running over victims

By VICTORIANA SUMMERS
Staff writer

A former Hoke County resident who recently moved to Fayetteville allegedly stole a van, went berserk and drove across three counties, running over people and eventually killing one.

The 25-year-old Abdullah El-Amin Shareef was apparently suffering from a history of drug use and psychological complications.

Authorities say he used the vehicle repeatedly like a battering ram toward pedestrians. Shareef allegedly left one Linden man — his third victim — to die under the mangled wreckage of the stolen van after he struck him with it. Lionel Beal Bass, a 54-year-old grandfather, died after apparently being crushed by the van.

Authorities say Shareef then stole the victim's pickup truck, wrecking it later in Fuquay-Varina after he rear-ended a motorist. Prior to the fatality wreck in Linden, Shareef injured two others further south in Fayetteville and one in

northern Cumberland County with the van, which was reportedly stolen from the City of Fayetteville. In Fuquay-Varina, Shareef allegedly struck his last victim as he stood in the front yard of his father-in-law's home on N.C. 217.

Shareef's rampage led from Cumberland through Harnett County to the Wake County line, where he was finally apprehended in Fuquay-Varina. He ran from authorities clad only in a T-shirt and boxer shorts before they seized him.

Shareef, of Green Street, Raeford, was charged by the Cumberland County Sheriff's Office with murder and one count of attempted murder. He is being held without bond. No motive is known for the deadly episode. Another pending charge of attempted murder is being filed against him in Harnett County. He is currently being evaluated at Dorothea Dix Hospital in Raleigh, a facility for treating mental illnesses, where he was hospitalized immediately following the incidents.

Shareef had been residing at a half- (See RAMPAGE, page 8A)

SBI probe of jail complete, DA to review report

By Victoriana Summers
Staff writer

The State Bureau of Investigation has completed its probe into the jailbreak by four inmates from the Hoke County Jail on October 28.

The final report, stemming from a five-month investigation and almost 200 hours of interviews, was recently turned over to District Attorney Kristy M. Newton, according to SBI supervisor Jerry Weaver.

Newton, with the unofficial blessings of the county commissioners, requested a criminal inquiry be conducted by the SBI

last November.

Conflicting reports of how the escape actually occurred — either through a small,

Some board members hoped the probe would show if human error was involved in the escape, or if other improvements

"Right now, we are having to use a tremendous amount of overtime for jailers to work double shifts and deputies to also help staff the jail.

-Chief Deputy Troy McDuffie

back window or rear door of the jail annex — and overcrowded conditions at the time of the escape led to the routine request by the DA's office. The four escapees were recaptured shortly afterward.

needed to be made by county officials to prevent further jailbreaks.

"In the preliminary interviews, it did not appear there was criminal intent on the part of the staff in Hoke's jail," Weaver

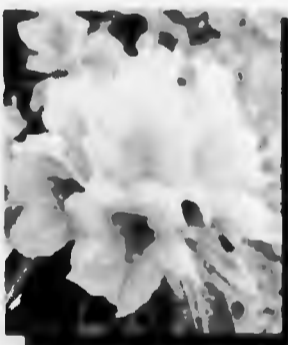
said. "It was only up to the SBI to gather the facts surrounding the escape.

"It is now totally up to the District Attorney to determine if any criminal activity occurred based on the information we presented to her," he said.

"However, we can definitely say those inmates did not escape out the narrow window in the jail annex as was originally indicated by local law enforcement. We determined this was not the case after interviews were conducted."

Newton said she is still reviewing the SBI's report. She declined to comment if (See JAIL, page 7A)

This Week



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The Moving Wall, coming here in Sept.

Moving Wall to be here for Festival

The Moving Wall, which memorializes the dead of the Vietnam War, is coming to Raeford the week of September 11 to 18, the week of this year's North Carolina Turkey Festival.

A half-size replica of the Vietnam Veterans Memorial in Washington, D.C., the mobile wall is constructed of aluminum panels and has been traveling for 20 years to locations that sponsor it. Hoke County lost seven men in the Vietnam War. They are memorialized on a plaque located in Raeford City Hall.

Since it was first displayed in 1984, the wall has traveled to N.C. only a few times, and usually to large cities.

Three Vietnam veterans from California, John Devitt, Gerry Haver, and (See MOVING WALL, page 3A)

New Food Lion planned for Davis Bridge area

By VICTORIANA SUMMERS
Staff writer

A new, multi-million dollar Food Lion grocery store complex is proposed in the Davis Bridge area east of Rockfish. A rezoning application was submitted to the county yesterday, according to Hoke Planner Linda Revels.

"This is a wonderful opportunity for more commercial development in Hoke," Revels said. "It will also be a convenience to citizens who reside in that area."

Pioneered by Fayetteville developer Joe Riddle, president of Riddle Commercial Properties in Fayetteville, the future Food Lion will represent the second one Riddle would open in Hoke County. His first venture, the Food Lion shopping center at Hoke Landing on U.S.

401, opened in March to receptive shoppers from surrounding subdivisions. Located approximately eight miles north of Raeford across from East Hoke Middle School, Hoke Landing also accommodates a Family Dollar Store and Video Hut in the shopping plaza.

Riddle is requesting the Hoke Planning Commission and the board of commissioners rezone the approximate 28 tract at Davis Bridge to highway commercial. Formerly owned by Dan Ratley, the road frontage area of the land on Davis Bridge Road is already zoned neighborhood business. Riddle wants permission to rezone also a residential-agricultural portion of the tract in the rear to highway commercial. It would pave the way for a consistent zoning for the (See FOOD LION, page 7A)