

# Duplin Times

## PROGRESS SENTINEL

VOL. XXXV NO. 26    USPS 182-860    KENANSVILLE, NC 28349    JULY 1, 1982    16 PAGES THIS WEEK    10 CENTS PLUS TAX

### 18 Sentenced In Drug Investigation

Sentences were handed down Friday to 16 people in Duplin County Superior Court, following a 10-month-long undercover drug investigation which culminated with arrests in May.

All the defendants pleaded guilty before Judge James Strickland. Of a total of 26 warrants issued, these are the first to be brought to trial for felony charges involving cocaine, LSD, marijuana and other drugs.

The charged parties received various sentences, but most were reduced to probation and coupled with required public service work.

Many of the defendants also will receive fines and be responsible for repaying the court for the amount undercover agents paid in the buys. In some cases, driver's licenses were suspended.

All the defendants were ordered to stay away from drugs and drug users and required to pay the cost of court.

The following sentences were issued Friday:

Scott Dunn of Kenansville, found guilty of sale, delivery and possession of a counterfeit substance fashioned as amphetamines. Received two years suspended sentence, with five years probation. Must spend four days in jail and pay a \$250 fine, along with \$25 to the Sheriff's Department to repay for drug buys. Twenty-five hours of public service work for Kenansville or Duplin Co.

Tommy Knowles, Rt. 2,

Rose Hill. Guilty of sale, delivery and possession of LSD; sale, delivery and possession of marijuana. Five Years suspended sentence; five years probation; three years active sentence; \$250 fine; repay \$135.

Alice Knowles, Carol C. Trailer Park, Wallace. Guilty of sale, delivery and possession of marijuana. Two years suspended sentence; five years probation; two days in jail; \$100 fine; repay \$10; suspended drivers license for 30 days; 48 hours work.

Cregg Knowles, U.S. 117, Wallace. Guilty of two counts of felonious possession with intent to sell and deliver marijuana; two years suspended sentence; five years probation; four days in jail; \$500 fine; repay \$115; suspend driver's license for 30 days; 100 hours work for town of Wallace.

Dianne Walker Knowles, 206 College St., Wallace. Charge of sale and delivery was reduced to a misdemeanor simple possession of marijuana; \$100 fine.

Robert Lee Knowles, College St., Wallace. Guilty of two counts of sale and delivery of marijuana; two counts of possession; two years suspended sentence; must serve six months active sentence; work release allowed with five year probation; \$280 fine; \$750 repay.

David Harrell of Kenansville. Guilty of sale and delivery of cocaine and possession of cocaine; two counts of sale, delivery and possession of methaqualone;

nine years suspended sentence; five years probation; six years active sentence; repay \$3,849.

George Craig Craft, Box 6, Kenansville. Guilty of three counts of sale, delivery and possession of marijuana; three years suspended sentence; five years probation; 10 days in jail; \$750 fine; repay \$112.50; suspended driver's license for 90 days; 150 hours work.

James Owen Johnson, Jr., P.O. Box 465, Kenansville. Guilty of conspiracy to sell and deliver marijuana, two counts. One count of sale, delivery and possession of marijuana; sentence of two years suspended; five years probation; four days in jail; \$500 fine; repay \$37.50; suspended license for 60 days; 75 hours public service work.

Douglas Hall, Rt. 1, Beulaville. Guilty of sale and delivery of methaqualone; sale, delivery and possession of cocaine; six years sentence suspended; five years probation; \$1,000 fine; repay \$380; 72 hours work.

Lindsay Hall, Rt. 2, Box 183, Rose Hill. Guilty of sale, delivery and possession of marijuana; two years suspended sentence; five years probation; \$250 fine; repay \$10; driver's license suspended for 30 days; 48 hours work.

Martha Foy, Rose Hill. Guilty of sale, delivery and possession of marijuana. Two years suspended sentence; five years probation; four days in jail; \$250 fine; repay \$10; driver's license

suspended for 20 days.

George Dwight Kinsey, Rose Hill Trailer Park. Guilty of sale, delivery and possession of marijuana (two counts); two years suspended sentence; five year probation; four days in jail; \$250 fine; repay \$100; driver's license suspended for 60 days; 35 hours public work at town of Magnolia.

Armand Carl Fussell, Rose Hill. Guilty of sale, delivery and possession of counterfeit amphetamine substance; sale, delivery and possession of marijuana (two counts); two years suspended sentence; five years probation; six days in jail; \$600 fine; repay \$75; 75 hours work.

Farriss Blizzard of Beulaville. Guilty of sale, delivery and possession of marijuana; sale, delivery and possession of methaqualone. five years probation; three years active sentence; \$1,000 fine; repay \$210.

Ralmon Lee Sanderson, of Rose Hill. Guilty of sale, delivery and of marijuana, also intent to manufacture. Four months active sentence; five years probation after jail term; repay \$4.

Larue Hanford, Chinquapin. Guilty of conspiracy to possess of marijuana; two years suspended sentence; five years probation; \$250 fine; two days in jail.

Jessie Mae Sutton, Faison. Guilty of possession, sell and delivery marijuana; possession, sell and deliver LSD; three years active sentence; repay \$30 to Sheriff's Department.



REHEARSALS ARE UNDERWAY for The Liberty Cart's seventh season which begins July 9th. Randolph Umberger's colorful drama about the development of early North Carolina and the nation will be performed every Thursday through Sunday evening at 8:15 p.m. in the William Rand Kenan, Jr. Memorial Amphitheatre in Kenansville. The 1982 summer season will also include

five performances of the popular rock musical Godspell by The Liberty Cart's professional cast and crews. Godspell will open on Wednesday, July 21 and will be performed on the following four Wednesday nights. For information call: (919) 296-0721, or write: The Liberty Cart, P.O. Box 470, Kenansville, NC 28349.

### County Fair Solicits Business Support

The Duplin County Fair is hoping to gain support from area businesses through an ad campaign which they kicked off at a special meeting last Thursday night. Salesmen will be contacting businesses in the Duplin, Wayne and Lenoir areas concerning the purchase of ads in the fair program. They will stress the theme of unification of Duplin County and pride in its number one industry, agriculture. Merchants are encouraged to participate in the program as a means of "keeping Duplin money in Duplin."

The tabloid will contain 16 pages, ten of advertising and six of information, and will be circulated to 17,000 households through the Wallace Enterprise and The Duplin Times. 8,000 additional copies will be distributed the week of the fair. Classes at James Sprunt Technical College have volunteered to do the layout work, decreasing the cost of production.

Merchants can purchase a full-page ad for \$400, a half page for \$200, a quarter page for \$100 and a 5"X2" and there will be no political advertising. The deadline is August 1.

For more information, contact Kenneth Lanier at Pro-

duction Credit Association in Wallace.

The Agribusiness Council, sponsors for the Duplin County Fair, also encourage businesses to set up booths and exhibits on fair grounds. Commercial booths will be available for \$50 and \$65 inside of Kenan Auditorium. Booths must remain on display the entire time of the fair, October 4-9 from 4 p.m. until 10 p.m.

Space for larger displays such as farm equipment will be available outside. To reserve these areas, the council

requires only that the exhibitor be a member of the Agribusiness Council and an advertiser in the fair program.

"The hardworking agricultural community of this county has achieved the enviable feat of making Duplin County number one in agriculture production among the 100 counties of North Carolina and one of the top 50 in the whole United States," said David Byrd, commercial exhibit chairman for the fair committee. "This tremendous earning power of

Duplin County, more often than not, goes to reward business in the neighboring counties. We are convinced that a successful county fair will do a lot toward making people aware of the excellent opportunities for business and trade right here at home. It is because of this that we are asking you to support and take advantage of the fair to advertise your business."

The next regularly scheduled meeting of the fair committee will be Thursday, June 8 at 8 p.m.

### Duplin Board Adopts Budget

KENANSVILLE-One commissioner's opposition to some spending provisions was not enough to prevent adoption of a 1982-83 fiscal year budget of \$8,533,855 by the Duplin County Board of Commissioners Monday.

The Vote to keep the tax rate at 70 cents per \$100 assessed valuation, the same as for the current fiscal year, was unanimous. The owner of property valued at \$50,000 will be billed for \$350 in county property taxes this fall.

Voting for adoption of the budget were Commissioners Franklin Williams, W.J. Costin, Allen Nethercutt and Chairman Calvin Turner.

Voting against the budget, yet approving the tax rate, was Commissioner D.J. Fus-

sell, who, without elaborating, said he disagreed with some of the spending called for in the budget.

The new budget exceeds the current budget by \$255,987 with increases spread across the board.

Residents of Oakwolfe Fire District in northern Duplin will pay 76 cents per \$100 valuation to support the volunteer fire department. The added 6 cents is expected to bring in \$8,404.

County employees will receive an increase in \$400 each in pay. Employees paid partially by the county will receive an increase proportionate to the percentage of their salaries paid by the county.

The county expects to collect \$4,416,370 from the 70-

cent tax on the basis of a 95 percent collection rate and an assessed valuation of \$664,115,833. A 100 percent collection would bring in an additional \$232,440. Last year, the levy brought in \$4,255,193.

The county expects \$837,095 from federal revenue-sharing funds. Last year it received \$931,769. The revenue-sharing fund is being used in the county's current budget, such as \$546,800 for social services and law enforcement, \$240,000 for school capital outlay and \$76,055 for James Sprunt Technical College in Kenansville.

The school system will receive \$1,890,586 in current expense and \$235,664 in capital outlay funds. An ad-

ditional \$100,000 will be placed in a special capital reserve account for future school construction. Last year, the school system received \$1,747,200 in current expense and \$246,600 in capital outlay funds from the county. The school system allocation is the equivalent of 35.28 cents of just over half the tax rate.

James Sprunt college will receive \$282,550 in current expense and \$76,055 in capital outlay funds from the county.

Law enforcement, including the sheriff's patrols and the jail, will receive \$631,148.

Tax supervisor Frank Moore said 22,500 tax bills will be mailed from his office June 30.

### Williams Replaces Atkinson As Head Of NDHS

By Sharon Overton

Johnny Williams Jr., former principal of North Duplin Junior High School, took over as head of North Duplin High today. He is replacing Jake Atkinson, who announced his retirement early last week after he was offered the junior high position.

Atkinson, 59, said he was not pressured into retiring. "They (central office) said I had a job," said Atkinson. "But I already had the job I wanted. If I had wanted to go to the junior high, I'd have gone. I decided it would be best to retire."

Atkinson has been principal at North Duplin since 1975. He was asked to transfer to NDJH because of what Superintendent L.S. Guy called "a need to strengthen

the program (at the high school) through some administrative changes." Guy said there was "no major problem" with Atkinson's work, but that the administration "lacked long-range planning."

"We wish he (Atkinson) would stay. He's been very good to us," said Guy.

Williams, who has been principal at NDJH for the past eight years, was the only candidate considered for the high school job. "Mr. Williams has strengths in construction," said Guy. "He's an outstanding public relations person and a great organizer and planner."

Williams is a native of Teachey and a graduate of Charity High School. He was drafted into the Army following high school and spent most of his time serving in

Korea. He later attended A&T State University in Greensboro where he received his BS degree in biology.

Williams' career as an educator began with a teaching position at Rose Hill Elementary. He was eventually promoted to vice-principal at the Rose Hill-Magnolia school. In 1974, he received his certification in administration at A&T and took the job as principal of North Duplin Junior High.

Williams and his wife Lottie have two sons, an eighth grader at Charity Middle School, and a junior at A&T. Mrs. Williams teaches at Rose Hill-Magnolia.

Williams has high expectations of his new position at NDHS "It's a challenge that I'm looking forward to," he



NDHS GETS NEW PRINCIPAL-Johnny Williams closes out his office at North Duplin Junior High School in Faison and prepares to move into a new one at North Duplin High. Williams was named principal at the high school after Jake Atkinson resigned early last week.

said. "It will be different, but I feel I can meet that challenge."

Supt. Guy stated that, as

of last Tuesday, no candidates were being considered to fill the vacancy at the junior high

### Duplin Youth Drowns

Vincent Colon Pickett, 17, of Route 1, Chinquapin, son of Willie Pickett, drowned last Monday.

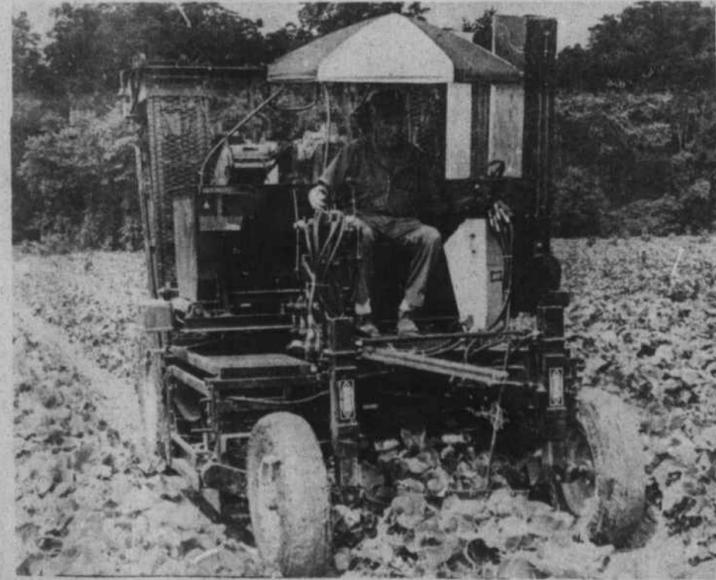
Hiram Brinson, Duplin County emergency services director, said the drowning occurred shortly after 2 p.m. Monday in a rain-swollen creek near Cleveland Bridge on N.C. 50 two miles south of Chinquapin.

Brinson said several youths were at the bridge. Pickett jumped in the normally small creek from the bridge railing. The swift current carried him further than he expected and he panicked, according to Brinson.

Brinson said the other youths jumped in the water to pull him out but were unable to do so.

All the small streams in southern Duplin County and the Northeast River are reported to be swollen from recent rains.

Brinson said the Chinquapin Rescue Squad was called at 2:56 p.m. The Rose Hill Rescue Squad, which also has a boat, was called to assist. The body was recovered at 5:57 p.m. Monday.



CUCUMBER HARVESTER-Calyppo farmer W.R. Keebaugh has one of three existing cucumber pickers. This machine will pick the cucumber from the vine and not damage the vines. Keebaugh says the machine is made in Clyde, Ohio by Mach-Weld. Though it is made in Ohio it was designed by engineers at N.C. State University. The original machine is still doing its job near La Grange, it was put together at NCSU. For the machine to operate properly the cukes have to be in 60 inch middles, normally cukes are in 38 to 40 inch middles. The machine also

trains the vines to stay on the rows, not to wander in the middles. This means the machine must travel down each row at least every three days. A single driver or operator can tend 25 acres of cukes with the machine. According to Keebaugh the machine will pay for itself in about three years. The cost around \$30,000. A problem with this years operation, the wetness of the fields. The machine will gather about 10 acres of cukes a day. A crew of 10 workers will gather about two and a half acres a day.