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Bone Crusher Ranked Tenth Among Heavyweight Boxers

James 'Bone Crusher' Smith of Magnolia is ranked tenth in the world among heavyweight boxers. Currently he is training in Fayetteville to eventually take on the world heavyweight boxing champion. Even though he qualifies to fight the champion, Smith said, the match would not take place until he has defeated at least two more competitors for the title. Smith is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Jessie Smith of Magnolia and he is a 1971 graduate of James Kenan

High School. After a term of service in the military, Smith began his boxing career and currently has only one defeat which came in his first match. The boxer appeared Saturday at the Greeneyers annual fiesta. Bone Crusher is pictured above giving County Commissioner D.J. Fussell of Rose Hill some pointers on looking like a heavyweight boxer.

Duplin Board Plans Auction For Leftover Clothing

After raising \$5,000 in what some people have called "The world's largest garage sale," Duplin County planned an equally large auction.

More than 5,000 pieces of clothing remained from the piles, cartons and carloads of clothing donated from across the state to victims of the tornadoes that swept Duplin County March 28. An auction for the entire lot will be held May 31 at the New Duplin Warehouse in Wallace.

The victims had first pick of the clothing. Items left were sold at 50 cents each bringing in just under \$5,000.

"There's as much left as there was carried out," said Hiram Brinson, county civil preparedness coordinator, told the Duplin County Board of Commissioners meeting in Kenansville last week. Saying it was hard to estimate how much clothing remains, Brinson guessed that there were at least 5,000 pieces left.

Whoever buys the clothing will have to remove it as soon as possible.

After the disaster, warehouse owner Paul Phillips donated use of the building and paid utility bills. Phillips needs his building back, Brinson said.

The money raised from the garage sale and from the auction will go into a Duplin County disaster fund, Brinson said.

In other business at the commissioners' meeting, tax supervisor Frank Moore reported that new construction on the new tax listing for 1983 totals \$9,062,000. This figure compares with \$5,866,000 in new construction the previous year.

Hog parlors were the biggest single item accounting for the increase, Moore said. Last year was

the biggest year for new construction since 1980, he said.

The commissioners also heard Donald Hayman of the Institute of Governments talk about his study of job classifications of Duplin County employees. The study recommended 30 of 113 classifications in the county be upgraded to higher job classifications.

The commissioners took no action on the recommendation.

To raise the classifications would also raise salaries and thereby cost the county \$16,438 in salary adjustments, Hayman said. That figure does not take into account regular raises. He recommended that the county institute the change for the fiscal year that begins July 1.

The study did not include the Department of Social Services, the Health Department or the extension office, all of which come under state regulations for job classifications. The study compared positions in Duplin County governments with similar jobs in Bladen, Columbus, Sampson, Pender, Lenoir and Wayne counties.

Also during the meeting, the Board of Commissioners sat in its capacity as the Board of Equalization and Review to hear comments on the tax listing. The board satisfied a complaint lodged at its meeting two weeks ago by Cecil Bostic, who owns a perpetual care cemetery called Devotional Gardens.

Bostic had complained when the tax value of his cemetery jumped from \$29,000 to \$47,000. The board cut the valuation to \$33,200 by lowering the valuation of empty cemetery plots from \$125 to \$100 and dropping the value of a bell tower from \$7,887 to \$1,000.

Open Class Gets Mixed Appraisal

The open classroom concept practiced in five Duplin County schools was both praised and criticized by educators who responded to a survey reviewed last week by the Board of Education when they met in Kenansville.

The 23-question survey compared traditional classroom settings with open classrooms and was conducted

among county principals and teachers.

The largest portion of those educators surveyed said they believe open classrooms diminish a student's academic achievement.

School board members are trying to assess the open classroom structure in preparation for developing a systemwide building plan.

Open classrooms in Duplin County consist of large suites, where two or four classes are sometimes gathered. The students are taught by two to four teachers, depending on the size of the classes.

Of those educators surveyed, 38 percent of open classroom teachers thought group-style education decreased academic achievement,

while 26 percent thought performance was enhanced by open classes. Seven percent didn't know and 29 percent said it was about the same.

Of those working in more traditional elementary school classrooms, 46 percent believe open classes diminished academic accomplishments, as did 81 percent of junior high educators, 71 percent of high school educators and 65 percent of educators who are also parents.

Test scores show there isn't any significant difference between open class and traditional students, testing director Gary Sanderson said last week.

Open classes began in the Duplin County schools in 1972. Wallace, Rose Hill-Magnolia, Warsaw, North Duplin and Kenansville elementary schools all operate open classes. Chinquapin elementary and primary schools, Beulaville and B.F. Grady elementary schools are traditionally structured.

Most of the educators who supported team-teaching — where more than one teacher shares a classroom — now teach open classes. According to the survey, 86 percent of open class teachers support team teaching and 14 percent did not. Team teaching won support from only 31 percent of traditional elementary teachers, 46 percent of junior high teachers, 25 percent on the senior high level and 57 percent from parent-educators.

Some of the team teachers were at the meeting. "I've had a lot of good from team teaching, but it's time we look in another direction," said Wallace elementary teacher JoAnn Rivensbark.

Laura Jackson, who also teaches at Wallace, said her class was cramped for space.

"We were like the proverbial sardines in a can," Mrs. Jackson said.

Mrs. Jackson said that she formerly taught 90 third-, fourth- and fifth-graders with two other teachers.

Kenansville Jaycee Chapter Receives 26 Awards In State

The Kenansville Jaycees attended the North Carolina Jaycee State Convention in Raleigh May 18 and 19 and brought back 26 awards and a second-place ranking among all chapters.

The Kenansville chapter has 35 members, 20 of whom joined in the past year. Along with recruitment of new members, the Jaycees helped organize four chapters within Duplin County last year. New chapters were established in Kenansville at the Correctional Center, Wallace, Greenevers and Beulaville.

The Kenansville Jaycees also

sponsored two very successful community fund-raising events which were recognized at the state convention. The Ashley Quinn benefit received second place in Division II Community Fundraising projects and the Lori Mitchell benefit received third place.

The Jaycees were also recognized for their efforts last year to organize an in-chapter family picnic, a Christmas program held at Whaley's Rest Home and Guardian Care, Easter Sunrise Services, and the community birthday calendar project. The chapter was also recognized for

workshops and programming in individual and community development and chapter management.

At the mid-year state Jaycee convention held in November of 1983, the Kenansville chapter was awarded the rank of the top chapter in the state. Ending the Jaycee year, the Elkin chapter moved into the top position and Kenansville, number two throughout the state. In the past year, the Kenansville Jaycees were led by President Woody Brinson, Vice-president Dennis Kirby and Carey Wrenn, Secretary Ronnie James, Treasurer Bob Bowen, State Director Wade Biddix, Directors Dean Teachey, Joe Reynolds and Randy Hammonds, and Chaplain Charles Sharpe.

The work of the Jaycees in Kenansville was a major reason the 1983-84 President Woody Brinson became the top local president at the state convention. Brinson received the Linn D. Garibaldi Award as the most outstanding local president. The Garibaldi Award is presented by the Charlotte Jaycees. Brinson was also named among the top 10 local presidents in the state and presented the Charles Hutchins Memorial Award. The 1984-85 president of the Kenansville Jaycees, Dennis Kirby, was named the North Carolina Jaycee of the Month of April at the state convention.

Farmers In 14 Counties To Get Additional Tornado Aid

Farmers in 14 North Carolina counties whose fields were damaged by tornadoes in late March will receive an additional \$300,000 in aid, U.S. Sen. Jesse Helms, said Thursday.

The money will be given to farmers in Duplin, Sampson, Robeson, Wayne, Bertie, Cumberland, Gates, Green, Hertford, Lenoir, Nash, Perquimans, Pitt and Scotland counties through the ASCS Emergency Conservation Program of the Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation Service.

On April 5, the ASCS granted the first \$300,000 to those 14 counties to help restore damaged farmland. The money was not enough to fully restore damaged farms, Helms said in a news release.

"This additional assistance will enable farmers who suffered damage in the April tornadoes to clean their fields and return to normal operations as quickly as possible," said Helms, who is chairman of the Senate Agriculture Committee.

The tornadoes that hit North and South Carolina the night of March 28 caused an estimated \$80 million worth of damage to more than 1,000 farms in this state. North Carolina's non-farm damage was estimated at \$101.7 million.

The ASCS can pay up to 64 percent of a farmer's loss up to \$62,500. On the second \$62,500 worth of damage, the ASCS can pay 40 percent. It can pay 20 percent of losses above \$125,000.

In Duplin County, three farmers reported slightly more than \$8,100 damage, according to David English, Duplin County executive director for the ASCS. A fourth man who reported damage has not submitted bills for clearing costs. The three farmers reporting damage will get \$6,556, English said.

Because of the limited amount of damage, Duplin County will not need the additional money, English said.

Though the tornadoes caused more than \$1 million damage in the Tabor City area of Columbus County, there was very little damage to cropland, according to R. Coke Gray, the county's ASCS executive director. Columbus County was not included in the 14 getting additional money through the ASCS program.

Seventy-eight claims totaling \$66,350 in damage have been submitted by Sampson County farmers, according to Barbara McGowan, ASCS administrative assistant in Sampson County. She said only seven farmers have received grants from the ASCS.

She was uncertain whether any of the additional appropriation will be needed to pay claims in Sampson County.

In March, Worth Gurkin, Sampson's ASCS executive director, estimated it would cost more than \$300,000 to restore farmland and make up for planting delays.

Farmers needing such assistance to restore damaged farmland should contact their local ASCS office.



Susan Gail Collins

Joy Melody Lanier

ND Announces Top 1984 Seniors

Susan Gail Collins and Joy Melody Lanier were announced last week at the North Duplin High School 1984 Valedictorian and Salutatorian.

Susan Collins, the valedictorian, is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Jack D. Collins of Faison. Joy Lanier is the daughter of Betty Jo Lanier of Faison and Edwin Lanier of Warsaw.

As a senior, Susan was a Morehead Award nominee and commended in the 1984 National Merit Scholarship program. She served as chief marshal, treasurer of the Beta Club, associate editor of the school newspaper, assistant business manager of the yearbook, attended Governor's School East, participated in the North Duplin band and the all-county band, and was a member of the science club. While in high school, Susan received awards in physical science, health and physical education, geometry, algebra II, physics and English III. She plans to attend the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill and major in physics.

Salutatorian Joy Lanier plans to include God, friends and the experience of transferring during her high schools years in her address at commencement exercises.

"God and friends have been an important part throughout my entire life," Joy said. "God has helped me through many times during high school and played a major part in determining my future. Friends are like my second family and school like a home to me. Schoolwork has always been just another chore, like the responsibilities have at home and to enjoy."

"One of the best things in high school is spirit," Joy said. "I have looked forward each year to spirit week because it is a time to dress up and show your crazy character!"

Joy plans to attend Mount Olive College and become a certified public accountant or a nurse. During high school she has served as a marshal and a member of the Beta Club, science club, Future Homemakers of America, pep club, foreign language club, and all-county chorus.

In Duplin's James Kenan High School, Thomas Faison was named valedictorian and Mitchell Kernstine, salutatorian. Camille Grady was named valedictorian and Terri Loomin, salutatorian, at East Duplin High School. At Wallace-Rose Hill, Beverly Bryant is valedictorian and Vicky Kelley, salutatorian.

Man Sentenced To 20 Years For Ax Murder In Tin City

A man on trial for the first-degree murder of his roommate last January was given a 20-year prison term in Duplin County Superior Court last week after pleading guilty to a lesser offense.

Calling the murder "especially heinous, atrocious and cruel," Superior Court Judge Samuel Britt sentenced Benny William Herring, 48, to 20 years in prison for the second-degree murder of Elijah "Cook" Faison Brown, 75.

Herring and Brown shared a house in Tin City, a community on the eastern edge of Wallace. The body of Brown was found in the residence Jan. 15. The victim's face had been

repeatedly struck with an ax and his left leg had also been struck.

Eleven jurors were seated on Monday in the first day of Herring's trial last week. Selection of the last juror and an alternate was expected to begin Tuesday morning when the defendant entered his surprise guilty plea.

"The victim must have suffered tremendously," Britt said, bringing audible groans from the packed courtroom as he held up an 8-by-10 inch color photo of the victim's mutilated face.

Dr. Robert Anthony of Chapel Hill, who performed an autopsy on Brown, told Britt during the sen-

tencing hearing the victim was alive, in his opinion, when "all 14 of the blows were inflicted." He said ax blows "into the brain" caused Brown's eventual death.

Defense attorney William E. Craft placed Duplin County Sheriff's Deputy Alfred E. Baysden on the stand. Baysden testified that both the defendant and the victim had been drinking at the time of the incident. He said Herring had been treated and released at Pitt Memorial Hospital for a small stab-type wound on his neck the night of the incident.

"The defendant contends the reason for the assault was because he was also in danger," Craft said.