

Olan Bell Will Serve Life for Rape

Bell Pleads Guilty Yesterday Afternoon

In a courtroom surrounded with armed officers, Olan (Shorty) Bell, 44, of Morehead City, pleaded guilty to rape yesterday afternoon in the courthouse, Beaufort. The officers were present to keep order in the well-filled courtroom. Bell was charged with raping a 6-year-old girl he lured into his house June 16.

Marines Return From Exercise In Middle East

Marines have been returning by Navy transport and by plane from Turkey where NATO forces participated Sept. 25-28 in Operation Deepwater. The aircraft carrier, USS Champlain, lay off the Carteret and Onslow coasts last week while aircraft flew into their land bases. The first helicopters to arrive at Lejeune from the carrier were from MAG-26. They came in at 11 a.m. Tuesday.

Marines participating in the show of strength operations in the Saros Gulf have been gone almost eight weeks. Marines returning from the Mediterranean came into Morehead City over the weekend aboard the USS Vermillion and the USS Thuban is scheduled to dock today. Operation Deepwater was a war game involving a hypothetical enemy.

Lejeune helicopter units joined with air units of the 2nd Marine Air Wing, Cherry Point, which was a composite element of the Fourth Provisional Marine Ground Task Force. Helicopters, flying from simulated carriers at the town of Gelibolu in western Turkey, landed a battalion task force on the first day of action.

These elements managed to penetrate into the deep part of the objective. When it came time for the Marines to be relieved, the same helicopters again came into operation, flying in fresh Turkish troops.

Officers who found Bell after the rape said he was out cold in the basement of his house. His clothes were bloody and he was very drunk. The child, who lived around the corner from the Bells, has reportedly recovered from the attack.

Mel West Tells of His Epic Voyage to Bermuda

Mel West left Morehead City yesterday enroute to New York to pick up his famous 15-foot motorboat, impossible. Mel and his uncle, B. L. Merrill, drove to New York by car, towing a trailer for the boat. In an interview Sunday night Mel said that he had actually never considered bringing the boat back any other way. "A Bermuda newspaper quoted me when I was joking with him about running the boat from New York to Morehead City 25 miles offshore," he says. Mel added, "so far as I can see now, my plans to cross the Atlantic will never materialize. I had planned to go up the Atlantic coast and leave from Maine, going to England by way of Iceland and the Great Banks."

He has been swamped with offers from magazines, tv stations, sporting goods dealers and marinas. Three magazines have already been ordered. See MEL WEST, Page 2

County Officials to Confer About Schools Next Month

School Absences Start Downward Swing Yesterday

School absences yesterday went slightly downward. In school were 505 more pupils than attended Friday. Many students have been out of school due to the flu. Although Camp Glenn and Morehead City Schools were closed Friday, the county health department estimated the number who would have been absent there. The total absences Friday, had those schools been open, would have been 2,103, according to the health office.

Absentees yesterday totaled 1,598. Lenwood Lee, principal of Morehead City School, said absences were down 130 yesterday at his school, as compared with Thursday. The Morehead City and Camp Glenn Schools were closed in the hope that spread of flu would be curbed. Mr. Lee commented yesterday that he felt quite encouraged and commended parents for cooperating in keeping their children away from crowded places during the three-day Friday-through-Sunday holiday.

Beaufort School closed at noon Friday and the homecoming game scheduled for Friday night was called off. Number of pupils absent at schools yesterday follows: Atlantic 147, Smyrna 113, Harkers Island 80, Beaufort 353, Queen Street 315, Morehead City 193, W. S. King 133, Camp Glenn 154, and Newport 110.

Elton Smith Gets Three Years

Elton Smith, Morehead City, pleaded guilty yesterday to assaulting officers with a gun. Smith was given a three-year sentence by Judge Walter Bone, who invoked two years' suspended sentence for Smith's violating probation and another year for assaulting the officers.

Smith threatened Sheriff Hugh Salter and Deputy Sheriff Bruce Edwards several months ago in the Crab Point area when the officers were summoned to get Smith who had been bothering his former wife.

Cases continued yesterday were those of John James Jr. and Ennis Thomas Bass, both charged with drunken driving and H. Earle Mobley, embezzlement. James now lives in Charlotte. Statements from two doctors were presented attesting to James' inability to be in court due to physical incapacity.

In the case of Delbert Ray Jones, charged with breaking, entering and larceny, bond was forfeited.

Vandals Cause Damage At Gloucester Friday

Thirty-five dollars damage was caused Friday night to automobiles parked on the R. J. Chadwick property at Gloucester.

The Chadwicks report that Friday night's destruction was continuation of acts of vandalism that have been going on for several weeks.

Not only have automobiles been damaged, but a large window in the Chadwick home was recently broken. The Chadwicks have offered a \$25 reward for information leading to the arrest of the persons responsible.



Glenn Adair ... wealthy church official

Mel West Gets Key to City From Mayor George W. Dill



Morehead City Mayor George W. Dill, left, presented a key to the city to Mel West Saturday afternoon. Mr. West was greeted at the municipal building and congratulated for his good try to make it to Bermuda in an outboard motorboat.

Mel West was escorted into Morehead City Saturday afternoon in a manner befitting one of the town's most famous sons. Two police cars, with sirens going full blast, escorted the new Lincoln he was riding in, to the municipal building.

A crowd of about a hundred had gathered to welcome him home. Mayor George Dill headed the greeting delegation and gave Mel a key to the city.

T. T. (Tom) Potter, president of the Fabulous Fishermen, thanked Mel for taking the FabFish flag to Bermuda. Joe DuBois of the chamber of commerce thanked him for all the publicity he had given the area. Master of ceremonies Walt Niemi then introduced Mel's publicity agent, Charles Markey. Mr. Markey briefly discussed Mel's trip and said his future plans would be disclosed later.

Mel said that he was thankful for the number of people who

prayed for him and said that he felt that "God was my mate." He added that if he had known so many people were rooting for him he would have tried even harder to make the trip a success.

As soon as the official welcome was completed he was handed a memorandum from the Morehead City Police Department. It said:

- Dear Mel,
- Please add these items to your bill:
- 5 boxes of aspirins @ .25 \$ 1.25
 - 200 cups of coffee @ .10 20.00
 - 200 hours of no sleep @ 1.50 per hour 300.00
 - 25 new gray hairs (priceless) Extra electricity for tv, radio, lights 5.00
 - Recharge car battery for radio 1.50
 - Extra food 15.00
 - Worry tax 56.25
- \$400.00

It was signed by Sgt. Bill Condie, a long-time friend.

Judge Gives Woodrow Wilson Four-Year Prison Sentence

Woodrow Wilson, Beaufort, through his attorney pleaded guilty yesterday to unlawful entry of a home and assault on a female. Judge Walter Bone, presiding at this week's term of criminal court, sentenced him to four years on the roads.

The judge requested the clerk of court to attach to the prison committal papers a medical report on the defendant's mental state.

Wilson was charged with attempted rape. The victim of the assault, 12-year-old Gloria Jean Matthews, was the first witness on the stand. Under questioning by Robert Rouse Jr., solicitor, she said that one day last April she and a girlfriend were playing hopscotch in front of her house on Broad Street, Beaufort.

She said that the defendant, Wilson, came up to her and her girlfriend and asked them their names and where they lived. Soon, she continued, her girlfriend's mother came and took her home, and she, Gloria Jean, went into her house.

Man Follows She said that Wilson followed her and asked her where her mother was. She replied that her mother wasn't there, then went to the phone in the bedroom to call her sister for help.

She said she had dialed the number, when Wilson took the receiver and put it back on the hook. Then he stuck a knife at her chest and told her to get on the bed. She testified that he pulled her dress above her knees.

Gloria Jean said she heard her mother coming and when she told the man her mother was coming, he let go of her and she ran out of the house.

While she was telling her mother what had happened, she said Wilson came out of the house, got on his bicycle and rode away.

Claud Wheatly, attorney appointed to represent the defendant, cross-examined the girl. She said that the incident happened about 5 p.m. and that she had never seen Wilson before that day. She stated that she was in the seventh grade and that the girlfriend playing hopscotch with her was her same age.

Mother Testifies The child's mother, Hattie Bell Stewart (formerly Hattie Bell Matthews), testified that she had gone to get some fish while the girls

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Army to Cut Lax Reserve Units

Recent reductions in the active Army's strength make it imperative that the mobilization readiness of the Army Reserve be improved, according to M/Sgt. Daniel H. West, unit advisor for the Army's local Reserve units.

Ineffective units are to be eliminated, he said.

Sergeant West added that the need for reductions was caused by numerous factors, including a 300,000-man limitation upon paid drill spaces and the need to absorb into units the trained personnel being returned from active Army duty.

To be eliminated are those units which are not at full strength. Sergeant West pointed out that the availability of training centers, such as armories, will be factors in the determination of which units will be inactivated.

Court Opens; Jury is Named

The one-week criminal term of superior court opened at 10 a.m. yesterday in the courthouse, Beaufort.

After the grand jury was impaneled, Judge Walter Bone gave them their instructions, briefly, explaining that he was suffering from throat trouble. He said that since the jury had an experienced foreman, Kenneth C. Wagner, he would know what to do.

The judge asked the jury to inspect the county jail, hear indictments and determine whether there is reasonable probability that the defendant committed the crime described in the indictment.

Members of the grand jury, in addition to Mr. Wagner, are C. T. Whitehead, Ernest Guthrie, Robert Hudnall, George D. Willis, S. A. Perkins, Elwood Willis, John A. West, Paul Branch, Thomas Respass.

Dallas Arthur, Manley Willis, Amasa Murdoch, Clyde G. Willis, Julian Murphy, B. F. Willis, Clarence D. Adams and Thomas Eure. C. L. Davis was sworn in as grand jury officer.

Cars Collide East of Beaufort

A car driven by William Clifton Rose, Harkers Island, ran into the rear of a car driven by Carl Sadler, Beaufort, Sunday afternoon.

The accident occurred at 4:15 p.m. on Highway 70 eight miles east of Beaufort.

Sadler told Highway Patrolman W. J. Smith Jr. that he had slowed to avoid hitting an oncoming car. Sadler was headed west. Mrs. Sadler was shaken up when the Rose car struck them from the rear, otherwise there were no injuries.

Sadler was driving a 1949 Nash and Rose a 1952 Ford. Damage to each car was estimated at \$200.

Boy Scouts Win Football Tickets

Five county Boy Scout troops reached their goals in the Boy Scout roundup this fall. Each troop that added five or more new members got tickets to a college football game.

Troops 334, Morehead City, and 201, Beaufort, attended the East Carolina - Appalachian game at Greenville Saturday night. Troops 130, Morehead City, 228, Marshallberg, and 407, Stacy, will attend the UNC-Virginia game at Chapel Hill Nov. 30.

Scoutmasters of the winning troops are Gerald Davis, 334, Ethan Davis Jr., 130, Graydon Glover, 201, R. A. Sellers, 228, and J. T. Lewis, 407.

Governor Hodges to Replace Ports Authority Members

All members of the present State Ports Authority are to be dismissed. New appointees are expected to be named this week.

Gov. Luther Hodges stated Friday at Raleigh that he had reluctantly come to the conclusion that a new ports authority should be appointed.

These developments followed close on the heels of an SPA meeting at Charlotte last week, a meeting described by ports authority public relations personnel as a "routine meeting."

Via the grapevine, however, it was learned that the SPA usually has a closed meeting prior to the publicly-announced open meetings. Whether the impending fireworks were discussed then has not been ascertained.

It is entirely probable, however, that none of the SPA members, including the ports director, Col. Richard S. Marr, knew the ax was about to fall.

It was further conjectured that Colonel Marr may have hoped to stave off the inevitable by presenting a glowing report on port successes and increase in port business during his tenure.

Colonel Marr submitted his resignation to the governor Friday. The resignation becomes effective Dec. 31.

Tide Table

Tides at the Beaufort Bar

HIGH	Tuesday, Nov. 5	LOW
6:40 a.m.		12:27 a.m.
6:56 p.m.		1:00 p.m.
Wednesday, Nov. 6		
7:16 a.m.		1:07 a.m.
7:34 p.m.		1:42 p.m.
Thursday, Nov. 7		
7:48 a.m.		1:45 a.m.
8:06 p.m.		2:22 p.m.
Friday, Nov. 8		
8:21 a.m.		2:21 a.m.
8:43 p.m.		3:00 p.m.

Terms of the present SPA members expired June 30. They are, in addition to Chairman Edwin Pate, Raymond A. Bryan, vice-chairman, a Goldsboro contractor; W. Avery Thompson, Lake Waccamaw lumberman, secretary-treasurer; Harold E. Coffey, Lenoir furniture manufacturer; Harvey W. Moore, Concord industrialist; J. Harry White, Winston-Salem tobacconist; Henry A. Linberger, Belmont manufacturer.

Not only had the governor become dissatisfied with administrative policies of the SPA, but several members of the authority itself have privately objected to ports policies. Because they were in the minority, however, they found it practically impossible to effect changes.

Among objections to ports policy, in addition to SPA's unwillingness to locate the ports office at a neutral point, was the frequent meeting of one or two SPA members and the director where decisions were made without consulting the entire authority.

Colonel Marr became executive director of the state ports Jan. 1, 1954, succeeding Col. G. W. Gillette.

Former SPA Chairman Makes Comment Yesterday

Edwin Pate, former chairman of the State Ports Authority, told THE NEWS-TIMES yesterday, "I think both state ports are showing continued and substantial growth and both are on the way to bigger tonnage." In relation to the Morehead City port, he said, "Southern Railway will be helpful to the port and that entire area."

Speaking by phone from his bed where he was fighting flu, Mr. Pate said that he and all the members of the authority now have in their hands letters from the governor stating that they would not be reappointed.

The term of appointment is four years. Mr. Pate and the other ousted authority members have been serving since June 1953. Unless new appointments are made at the expiration of that term, the former members continue to serve.

Mr. Pate took issue with certain newspapers which reported that the State Ports Authority did not request funds for capital improvement at Morehead City during the

current biennium. Mr. Pate pointed out that the SPA requested \$1,050,000 but the budget commission cut out the request. Eight hundred thousand dollars was eventually appropriated for Morehead City.

Dietitian Assumes Work At Morehead Hospital

Miss Stella Propst, Gastonia, joined the Morehead City Hospital staff as dietitian yesterday. Miss Propst replaces Miss Hattie Smithson, who for many years has been in charge of the hospital kitchen.

Miss Propst for the past five years was assistant dietitian at Memorial Hospital, Gastonia. Her acceptance of the position here was announced by Miss Vivian May, director of nurses. Miss Propst at present is living in the nurses' home.