

'Buddy' To Aid Brunswick Drug Eradication Effort

BY RAHN ADAMS

The Brunswick County Sheriff's Department has a new "Buddy" in its fight against drugs. According to Detective Sgt. David Crocker, head of the department's drug squad, Buddy is a narcotics dog that is being used throughout the county on drug searches.

"The biggest thing it (the dog) will do is save time on searches and help in finding hiding places (for drugs)," Crocker said. "We've had to hand-search a house, working from one side of the house to the other. Now we know we've missed some places."

The dog arrived Aug. 26 from a certified trainer in Fayetteville, after undergoing a six-week training pro-

gram, Crocker said.

He added that Buddy was actually the fifth dog trained for Brunswick County, because the first four dogs failed their training programs.

Crocker declined to identify Buddy's breed and would not allow the dog or its handler to be photographed due to threats that have been made against the dog. "Before the dog even arrived," Crocker said, "we picked up assassination plots."

As a result of those threats, the sheriff's department is having the dog insured.

Buddy cost \$2,000 and was paid for through private donations from "concerned individuals in the county."

The dog also will be used to help lawmen search air-

ports, docks, vehicles and even schools for a range of drugs that include marijuana, cocaine, heroin and Quaaludes.

"We want the school kids to be warned that we're coming," Crocker said, noting that the dog will be used to search locker areas and parking lots at schools in Brunswick County.

Though he wouldn't identify the breed, Crocker said the sheriff's department chose a dog that looks non-aggressive so that school children will not be afraid of it.

But in law enforcement circles, dogs like Buddy are known as "aggressive response-trained narcotics dogs," due to the manner in which they tip off their

handlers to where hidden drugs are located, Crocker said.

For example, if the dog found controlled substances in a school locker, it would become agitated and paw the locker to point out the hiding place; for that reason, he added, the dog is not allowed to search people.

The handler's job is to tell the dog where to sniff, then to reward the dog for finding the drugs, he said.

Crocker said Buddy will also save the drug squad on manpower in searches, since the only other personnel necessary are the dog handler and another lawman to uncover the drugs. In contrast, eight persons generally are involved in house searches.

Two Charged In Cocaine 'Sting'

A Long Beach couple face cocaine charges after accepting a drug package delivered by undercover agents.

Brunswick County Detective Sgt. David Crocker said the package contained less than one-half ounce of cocaine.

Heyward Putnam, 42, and Debra J. Belcher, 32, both of 212 Northeast 54th St., Long Beach, were taken into custody last Wednesday at their residence. Both were charged with felonious possession of cocaine and possession of drug paraphernalia.

Crocker said an inspector at Purolator Courier in Miami, Fla., notified the Metro-Dade Narcotics Squad about a suspicious package addressed to Putnam and Belcher.

After finding the cocaine, Metro-Dade repackaged the drugs and con-

tacted Brunswick County lawmen to set up the arrests.

Crocker said agencies involved in the operation included the Brunswick County Drug Squad, Long Beach Police and the New Hanover City-County Vice Squad.

Crocker said he appreciated Purolator's cooperation. Undercover agents, dressed as Purolator employees, delivered the drug package to Putnam and Belcher, and made the arrests.

A search of the suspects' home also turned up 12 syringes, Long Beach Detective Battista Delia said, accounting for the drug paraphernalia charges against the pair.

Putnam and Belcher were released from the Brunswick County Jail on \$2,000 cash bonds each, with court appearances set for Sept. 30.

Teen Pleads Not Guilty

A Brunswick County teenager, accused of killing one person and injuring two others by driving a truck into a Leland apartment in March, pleaded not guilty this week to charges that include murder and assault.

Christopher Brian Ennis, 16, Monday appeared before Judge Henry W. Hight Jr. in Brunswick County Superior Court in Bolivia.

The youth is charged with second-degree murder, two counts of assault with a deadly weapon, unauthorized use of a conveyance and having no operator's license.

At the time of the March 17 incident, Ennis was 15; however, he will be tried as an adult. He is represented by Wilmington attorney

Bruce H. Jackson Jr.

The murder charge against Ennis stems from the death of William Guy Bondurant II, 21, of Shasta Park Apartments in Leland.

According to a report filed by Highway Patrol Trooper J.V. Dove, Bondurant died from multiple injuries after Ennis allegedly rammed a 1986 GMC pickup truck into the Mt. Misery Road residence.

Ennis also is charged in the same wreck with assaulting two other occupants of the apartment: Brenda Smith, 19, and James Wagoner, 30.

Ms. Smith and Wagoner were treated and released from New Hanover Memorial Hospital in Wilmington following the incident.

Man Faces Drug Charges

The Brunswick County Sheriff's Department Monday arrested a Supply area man on drug charges.

According to warrants on file in Bolivia, Janek Darwin Hewett, 23, of Route 3, Supply, was charged with possession with intent to manufacture, sell and deliver marijuana; and possession of drug paraphernalia.

A Brunswick County magistrate's order filed Monday said Hewett's arrest stemmed from his alleged possession of approximately one ounce of marijuana.

Hewett was released from custody on a \$200 unsecured bond. His court date was set for Oct. 27 in Brunswick County District Criminal Court in Bolivia.

Second Man Sought In Break-In

A 33-year-old Leland area man faces a stolen goods charge stemming from a home break-in and high-speed chase early Saturday near Leland.

Rodney Wayne Robinson, 33, of Route 1, Leland, was arrested and

charged with possession of stolen goods late Saturday by the Brunswick County Sheriff's Department. He has been released on \$500 unsecured bond.

Sheriff's officers are still looking

for a second suspect.

According to Capt. Phil Perry of the Brunswick County Sheriff's Department, the break-in was discovered around 1 a.m. Saturday at the Barbara Hollis residence on Lincoln Road.

Perry said officers on routine patrol checked a suspicious vehicle parked behind a business near the Hollis residence.

The officers then discovered that the home had been entered; several firearms and other goods worth ap-

proximately \$1,000 were stolen, he said.

Perry said the deputies were returning to the vehicle they had checked earlier when they met it on the road. A high-speed chase ensued, with the suspects leading lawmen into the Dupont Road area.

The suspects abandoned their vehicle and escaped on foot, he said.

Robinson was arrested later that day. He is to appear in Brunswick County District Criminal Court on Oct. 13.

Pigotte Indicted For Robbery

A 29-year-old Shallotte area man charged with raping an elderly Shallotte woman in July was indicted this week on a robbery count in connection with the case.

The Brunswick County Grand Jury Monday returned a true bill of indictment against Terry LaSalle Pigotte for common law robbery.

The indictment stemmed from the July 15 sexual assault and robbery of the woman at her Main Street residence.

According to the indictment, the woman's purse was stolen in the rob-

bery. The purse contained money and personal belongings valued at \$66, the indictment said.

Pigotte was taken into custody in Florida on Aug. 1 by Brunswick County Sheriff's Sgt. Lindsey Walton and Shallotte Police Lt. Rodney Gause; the suspect initially was arrested on an unrelated warrant for felonious larceny.

Pigotte is being held in the Brunswick County Jail under a \$176,000 total bond.

FLIP SIDE RECORDS, INC.
754-7555
Twin Creek Plaza, Shallotte

TOP 40'S
NEWEST RELEASES
COMPACT DISCS
POSTERS
VIDEO TAPE RENTALS

THE BRUNSWICK BEACON
Established Nov. 1, 1962
Telephone 754-6890
Published Every Thursday
At Main Street
Shallotte, N. C. 28459

SUBSCRIPTION RATES IN BRUNSWICK COUNTY

One Year	\$7.50
Six Months	\$4.00

ELSEWHERE IN NORTH CAROLINA

One Year	\$10.00
Six Months	\$6.00

ELSEWHERE IN U.S.A.

One Year	\$12.50
Six Months	\$7.00

Second class postage paid at the Post Office in Shallotte, N. C. 28459, USPS 777-780.



Glidden LABOR DAY SPECIAL

Glidden Exterior #3600
Sugg. Retail \$19.99
Sale Price 13.99
SAVE \$6.00

PLUS...
Receive an extra \$1.00 off per gal. up to 5 gal. when you clip out this can and bring it in!

Open Labor Day 8 AM-12 Noon
Sale good thru Sept. 7 on in-stock paint only

COASTAL PAINT CENTER
Mon.-Fri. 7:30 AM to 5 PM
Hwy. 179, Next to Roberto's, 579-4133

LAWNBOY YEAR END SALE

20% OFF
NOW THRU OCTOBER 15th
While Supply Lasts



LAWN-BOY SUPREME 8125.
20" SELF-PROPELLING MOWER WITH FAMOUS LAWN-BOY QUALITY. BUILT TO START EASY, MOW EASY, AND LAST.

- Positive traction, rear wheel drive
- Lawn-Boy two-cycle engine—no messy oil to check or change
- Trims close either side
- Large capacity quick release rear bag
- Full two-year limited warranty
- Tough but lightweight cast aluminum deck

Our Reg. List		NOW AT 20% OFF
•LAWNBOY MODEL 8241 21" Side Bag Self Propelled	\$499.95	\$399.96
•LAWNBOY Model 8125P 20" Rear Bag Self Propelled	\$499.95	\$399.96

*STOCK ITEMS ONLY



The Energy Barn/Rent-A-Tool

SMITH AVE., SHALLOTTE (919)754-8809



CLEARANCE

50% OFF EVERYTHING
(EXCEPT T-SHIRTS)

25% OFF T-SHIRTS
(EXCEPT OYSTER FESTIVAL SHIRTS)

LABOR DAY WEEKEND THURSDAY THRU SUNDAY

SALT PEDDLER

AT HOLDEN BEACH
BESIDE HOLDEN BEACH GENERAL STORE
473 OCEAN BLVD. WEST, 842-4808
OPEN 7 DAYS A WEEK

RAISIN