

**MORE LETTERS**

**Correct Mistake**

(The following letter, written to Transportation Secretary Tommy Harrelson, is printed here at the request of the writer. Editor's note.)

I am writing you today with an extremely heavy heart. The citizens of Shalotte are still reeling from the horror and tragedy of the horrendous auto accident last Friday, Nov. 1. This accident was at the intersection of Highway 130 and bypass 17, approximately .5 miles west of Shalotte.

This accident left two people dead. Steve Smith, a young businessman who owned Photographic Concepts of Shalotte was killed instantly. Misty Carmichael, a junior at West Brunswick High School, died Saturday from injuries sustained during this wreck.

My point in writing this letter is the fact that this horrible accident would never have taken place if an overpass had been constructed during the building of the Shalotte bypass. I can recall, all during the construction, local people wondering just how many would die at this intersection before the state would realize what a blunder had been made.

West Brunswick High School is approximately one half mile beyond this intersection. It is a very real estimate that 70 percent of the students pass through this intersection twice daily.

We, the people of Shalotte and Brunswick County, cannot sit quietly while that killer intersection exists. It reminds me of a game of Russian Roulette; we know that it will kill again, we just don't know when.

Tommy, you and I have been friends for many years, and friends depend on each other all their lives. I am depending on you to look into this very serious matter with the same zeal and determination that you and I display at election time. Making mistakes is easy. That intersection is a mistake. The real problem is when we know that a mistake has been made and we choose not to correct it. Let's not fall into that category.

Jamie Milliken  
Shalotte

**This Highway Is A Dieway**

To the editor:  
The Shalotte bypass intersection at Highways 17 and 130 is a Dieway. It is a sad place for everyone that remembers Friday a.m. Nov. 1.

Are the traffic lights timed properly? Should trucks have better warnings? Do log trucks need to slow down and be more responsible? Was the money the Dept. of Transportation saved by not building an overpass worth the lives lost and the sadness of so many families and friends of Steve Smith and Misty Carmichael? Will the saving be worth the next deaths?

Should we put up a sign marking the bypass as a "Dieway." How about a memorial overpass? The Smith/Carmichael overpass?

Philip Morgan  
Shalotte  
(Photographer at the scene)

**Fishing Column Is Now Missed**

To the editor:  
I would like to comment on how much I enjoyed and now miss Capt. Jamie's fishing report that the *Beacon* ran this past summer.

I work at a Sunset Beach restaurant and I could almost go by Jamie's weekly report to tell my customers what the fresh catch would be each day.

Jamie, good work. You sure had my attention.

Barbara Jones  
Shalotte

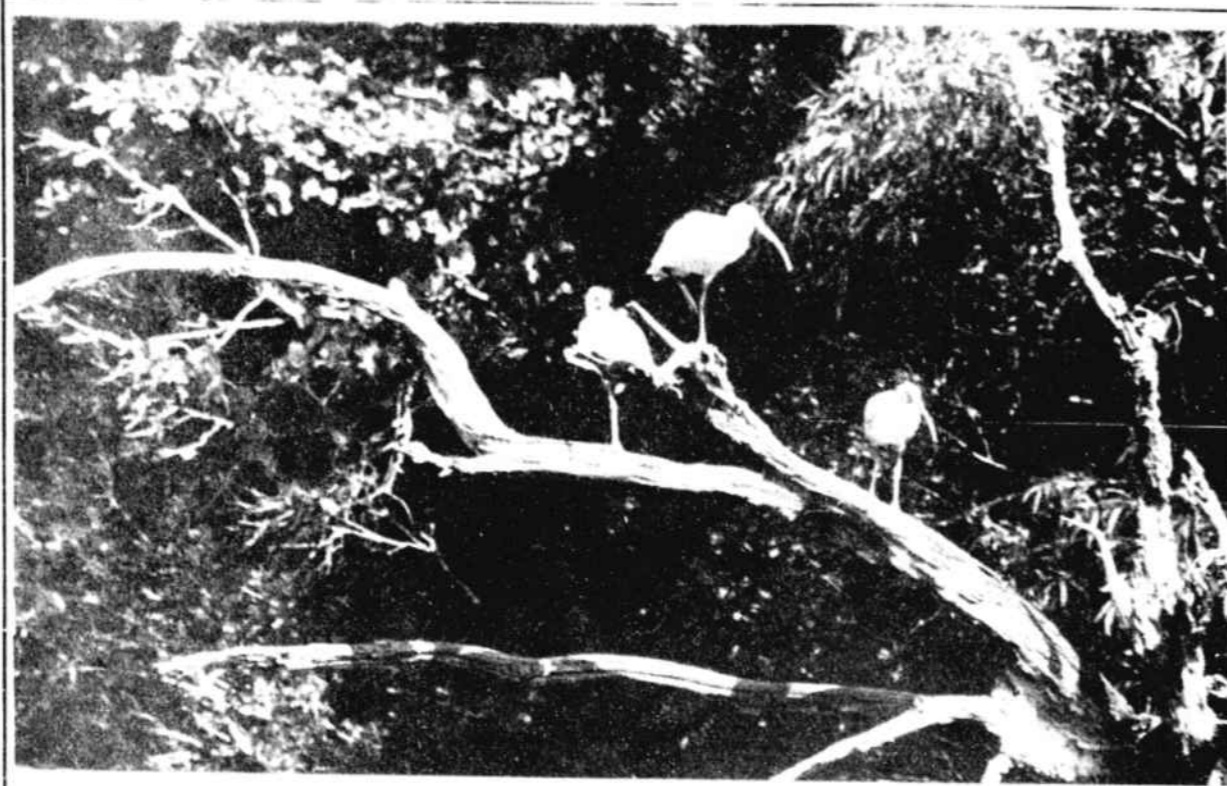
**Consumers Have Rights**

To the editor:  
In all the business courses I've taken, I learned that the job of the business owner is to satisfy the consumer. Now with these small business owners, the owner/manager is right and the consumer is wrong. The consumer has no rights unless you are willing to pay out a lot of money to get justice.

The small business owner can destroy, damage, tear or ruin your personal property; but it's not their fault or manufacturer's.

It is now time for these small business owners to accept their responsibility. Admit that they are negligent and stop blaming their negligence on the consumer or the manufacturer.

Hazel Marlow  
Calabash



HABITAT such as this for the White Ibis and other water birds is being lost and this means we will lose the birds as well.

PHOTO BY BILL FAVER

**Loss Of Habitat Is A Problem**

BY BILL FAVER

There was a time not too many years ago when we could expect to find a good number of "white birds" almost anywhere we had some open water and some trees for perching and cover. These could be the areas for nesting, or rookeries, or just a place where the birds might come to rest and to feed. Many of those places, even in our own county, are gone now, victims of progress. Loss of habitat may not seem too important to us when it happens little by little, but taken as a whole throughout our country, it has become a serious problem.

But it is only a problem if you care about God's creation and the place all creatures have in it. It's a problem only if you believe having a variety of plant and animal species is important to providing for us humans the beauty and diversity we enjoy and the balance of ecosystem we depend upon for our own well-being. In other words, it's important if you care about the "good" and not just what we can do today.

Habitat can be defined as the place where a plant or animal has "a habit of living at." We know that white birds (herons, egrets, and ibis) can be found where they have the proper habitat. That usually will consist of some fresh water that is shallow, usually with some surface vegetation such as water lilies. Low shrubs and trees around the water are desirable for cover and protection. A food source is also a part of the need and some areas meeting the criteria for water and cover no longer provide the small fish and crustacea because of water pollution.

Some changes in habitats are natural, taking place because of storms and other processes that destroy desirable areas. These natural changes are usually slow and infrequent and sometimes repair themselves to provide other types of habitats. The birds and plants and animals often move to find other natural areas to their liking. The problems with the non-natural changes caused by us humans in habitat destruction is that there are fewer and fewer places for the birds and animals to move once they are ousted. When we lose their habitats we lose them as well. And, too often, continued loss of habitat also means loss of the species to extinction. We, who care about life, ought to do better than that!

**17 POUNDS OF MARIJUANA INVOLVED**

**Indictment Accuses Pair In Drug Operation**

BY FERRY POPE

Two men accused of trying to purchase 17 pounds of marijuana from undercover officers in July were indicted on various charges by a Brunswick County Grand Jury Monday.

True bills were returned against James Samuel McGill, 41, of Rembrandt Drive, Fayetteville, and John Wesley Farcloth Jr., 28, of Route 4, Lumberton.

Both men were indicted on charges of conspiracy to possess marijuana and felonious possession of more than 1/2 pounds of marijuana.

McGill was also indicted on a charge of maintaining a vehicle for keeping a controlled substance. His 1981 Toyota truck was seized in the alleged incident, according to court records.

According to the warrants filed by Brunswick County Sheriff's Detective R.D. Todd, the men acted together in an attempt to purchase 17 pounds of the drug on July 9.

Todd, of the narcotic's division, was assisted by SBI undercover agents when the drug deal allegedly unfolded at a convenience store parking lot in Shalotte.

The grand jury also returned true bills against the following:

■James Glenn Maynard of Leland, was indicted on charges of murder and assault with a deadly weapon with intent to kill inflicting serious injury. He is accused of killing Alex Dale French and of shooting Darryl Wooten in the hand during an incident in the Lincoln Primary School parking lot on Oct. 3. Both victims are from Leland.

■Russell Edwards, 33, of Tabor City, was indicted on a charge of assault with a deadly weapon with intent to kill inflicting serious injury. According to the warrant filed by Brunswick County Sheriff's Detective Larry Joyner, Edwards is accused of shooting Terry Norris, of Route 4, Shalotte, twice in the chest with a handgun on July 21.

■Rodney Dewayne Burton, 31, of Route 3, Leland, was indicted on a charge of felonious driving while impaired after having been convicted of three or more offenses involving impaired driving within the past seven years.

According to the warrant filed by State Trooper D.A. Lewis, Burton was arrested in Brunswick County for DWI on March 10. He had been convicted in Brunswick County District Court of DWI charges on

Dec. 9, 1987, and of two DWI charges on March 11, 1987, the indictment states.

■Charles "Chuckie" Harvey Lee, 21, of West 9th Street, Southport, was indicted on charges of first-degree burglary, felonious larceny and felonious possession of stolen goods.

Lee is accused of breaking into a home on East Leonard Street, Southport, on Oct. 8. The home was occupied by two people at the time of the alleged break-in, between 10:30 p.m. and 5:30 a.m., the indictment states. He is accused of taking a wallet, \$65 and a class ring from the home.

■Judy E. Ward, 41, of Winnabow, was indicted on a charge of felonious welfare fraud and a charge of Medicaid fraud. She is accused of receiving \$1,160 from the Aid To Families With Dependent Children (AFDC) welfare program from Sept. 1, 1987 to June 30, 1988, after

failing to tell a case worker that her husband's employment made the family ineligible for assistance.

Another indictment alleges that Mrs. Ward wrongfully received \$1,315 in Medicaid assistance during the same time period. The charges were filed by Brunswick County Department of Social Services investigator Wayne Campbell.

■Ray Weibens Duncan, 32, of Long Beach, was indicted on a charge of habitual driving while impaired. According to the arrest warrant filed by Southport Police Officer Willie Richardson, Duncan was allegedly driving while impaired on Oct. 6 after having been convicted of three or more offenses involving impaired driving within seven years.

The warrant states Duncan was convicted of DWI in Brunswick County District Court on Nov. 24, 1985 and July 12, 1989; and in Rockingham County Superior Court on Feb. 15, 1991.

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would like to thank everyone for their participation and contributions to the big success of the

**CHAZ RUSS BENEFIT**  
held at the Brunswick County Bowling Center, Saturday, Nov. 2

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