

**MORE LETTERS**

**'Silent Majority' Caused Animosity**

To the editor:  
To the person or persons who penned the letter from the "Silent Majority," you not only did me an injustice as well as those others you attacked or supported, but you caused tremendous animosity among the residents of Holden Beach. If we are to continue to have a quietly, friendly family beach we must all pull together and, although we may have some differences of opinion, we must work together.  
I would like to congratulate our new mayor and the five commissioners and hope that they, the silent majority and everybody else concerned about Holden Beach will work together to make the next two years the best two years in the history of the island.

Crawford A. Hart Jr.  
Holden Beach

**Provide Adequate Festival Parking**

To the editor:  
The Festival by the Sea this year was a great success, especially for the Holden Beach Police Department.

For months officials of Holden Beach had been advertising the festival. The only thing they don't advertise is that there is no parking at the beach and you will get a ticket.  
Next year when they say "Ya'll come for fun in the sun at the Festival by the Sea," remember the fun ends when you find the parking ticket on your windshield.

Adequate parking should be mandatory not only for the special events but also for our overflow of tourists in the summer.

Joseph R. Knowles  
Holden Beach

**Build Overpass; Make Memorial**

To the editor:  
Something has got to be fixed, straightened out or whatever way you may choose to say it. What happened on Nov. 1 at the intersection of Hwy. 130 and the 17 bypass should never happen again.  
I have heard many people say there should have been an overpass built there. Steve Smith and Misty Carmichael lost their lives there that day.

I think the D.O.T. and all parties connected with the existence of that intersection and any other intersection should take a long, hard look at them. If we need an overpass, let's do it before we lose more good young men and women.

I believe the parties concerned will do what has to be done to make a much-needed road one of the safest in North Carolina. If they do build an overpass, name it Smith-Carmichael Overpass.

Thomas J. Lewis  
Shallotte

**October Weather Near Normal**

Southeastern North Carolina residents enjoyed near normal weather for the month of October, except for rainfall which was above average and erratic.

Rainfall for the month totaled 4.19 inches, which was 1.22 inches above normal, according to the National Weather Service office in Wilmington.

It was dry for most of October, except for the first week when the weather service recorded four days with measurable precipitation.

The area received 2.96 inches of rain Oct. 5, which broke the old record for that date set in 1871 when 1.35 inches of rain was recorded.

After the first week of October, rainfall was recorded on only three days the rest of the month.

Average temperature for October was 64.9 degrees, which was .4 degrees above normal, the weather service reported.

A record high was tied Oct. 27 when the temperature reached 83 degrees. The record for that date was set in 1978.

There were no days when the temperature was above 90 degrees or below 32 degrees.

The region received 65 percent of the possible sunshine in October, which was exactly normal for the month.

The weather service reported 15 clear days, eight partly cloudy days and eight cloudy days.

Average wind speed for the month was 6.9 mph, which was 1.2 mph below normal, according to the weather service.

The peak gust was 28 mph from the northeast on Oct. 2 when a weak storm moved northeast over the Atlantic Ocean along a stationary front.



**SEMI-PALMATED PLOVERS** are dark gray-brown above and white below and have a single narrow black neck band.

**Identifying The Small Plovers**

BY BILL FAVER

One of the fascinations of watching birds along the shore is trying to identify certain look-alike species. Not only are there similar species with small variations between them, but birds of the same species may appear in spring plumage or winter plumage, or be immature or adult birds. This makes identification almost impossible and certainly a challenge. The group of small plovers in the "ringed" plover group are good illustrations of this complexity.



FAVER

The small plovers are about the same size as the Semi-palmated Sandpiper and the Ruddy Turnstone. Four small plovers may be seen along our coast during some time of the year and these are the Semi-palmated Plover, Wilson's Plover, Piping Plover, and the Killdeer. All four have distinctive rings around their necks, thus are called "ringed" plovers.

The Killdeer is easiest to sort from the others because of the double ring appearing under the throat and on the breast. The Killdeer is found in fields and

open places as well as occasionally on the beach. The Killdeer is the largest of the four plovers.

The Semi-palmated and the Piping Plovers are about the same size, but the coloration is the best identifying mark here. The Semi-palmated Plovers are dark above and white below with one narrow band that is black. The Piping Plovers are also white below, but are gray above almost sand colored and have narrow black neck bands that are often incomplete. Piping Plovers have yellow bills and yellow legs in summer, but they become dark in winter. Both species are here in the winter and the Semi-palmateds are here at other times as migratory birds.

The Wilson's Plover is a summer resident along the coast of the Carolinas and nests on beaches and spoil islands. The long, heavy black bill, the white line above the eye, and the dirty pink legs are good marks for identification as well as the wider black band around the neck.

So, to identify these plovers with a quick reference, we could choose these keys: Killdeer—two rings, larger; Semi-palmated—one ring, dark above, white below; Piping—one incomplete ring, white below, sand gray above; and, Wilson's Plover—one wide ring, thick black bill. Try your luck at finding these small plovers.

**Corps Baffled Over Theft Of Dredge Pipe**

BY TERRY POPE

The getaway vehicle used in a larceny near Long Beach last week is believed to have been a farm tractor pulling a trailer.

Missing are from 15 to 18 sections of 36-inch diameter pipe used in a dredging project by the Wilmington office of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, reported Brunswick County Sheriff's Detective Billy Hughes.

Each pipe was 20 feet in length, said Hughes, and valued at \$19 per foot. Total loss for the Corps is around \$8,000. The pipe was reported missing last Wednesday, Nov. 6.

Corps employees told detectives they followed footprints from where the pipe had been taken. The path led to what appeared to be tire tracks left behind by a farm tractor towing a trailer, said Hughes.

The dredge pipe had been in a spot adjacent to the Atlantic Intracoastal Waterway, in an area known as "the Yellow Banks," a Corps dump site for dredge spoil, said Hughes.

The case remains under investigation.

In other reports on file at the sheriff's department:

■ Detectives say they may charge a Leland man with auto larceny, alleging that he took a vehicle owned by Sandra Harrellson, of Old Fayetteville Road, and then wrecked it on the same highway Sunday. The suspect, taken by ambulance from the accident site to the hospital, claims he did not steal the car.

"We're 99 percent sure he took it," said Chief of Detectives Phil Perry, who indicated charges are pending.

■ Two early-morning burglars were chased away after they broke into a Leland business around 1:48 a.m. Monday. The suspects were dressed in dark clothing and were wearing ski masks when they broke into the Easy Pawn Shop at Clairmont Plaza, said Perry.

Some people at another business saw the pair and chased them from

**CRIME REPORT**

the scene, said Perry. Also, a video camera recorded the break-in. Perry said detectives do have two suspects.

"Nothing is known to be missing from the shop at this time," he added.

■ A truck reported stolen from Kitchin Construction Co. in Warsaw was found abandoned in a field off of Buckeye Road (S.R. 1415) at Lanvale on Friday, stripped of its engine, seats and interior, Deputy Steve Mason reported. The 1984 Chevrolet pickup's body was also heavily damaged when it was discovered by Bobby Collins of Wilmington, who owns the property near Leland.

■ A car reported stolen from the parking lot of New Hanover Memorial Hospital in Wilmington was found abandoned on Old Town Creek Road (S.R. 1412) Saturday, just one-eighth of a mile from the victim's home, reported Mason. The 1978 Chevrolet Impala had the keys in the ignition when it was found.

■ Duke and Ralph are still missing from their Buckeye Road home near Leland. They are hunting dogs, a blue tick hound and a half-beagle, stolen from a dog pen last week, Mason reported. The suspect may have walked through the woods from Carol Lynn Estates subdivision to steal the 1 1/2-year-old dogs, valued at \$300, the report states.

■ Someone stole part of a sign on

Turnpike Road, at Folly Ridge, that had a painting of a deer on it, reported Deputy Pat Hewett on Monday. Damage was estimated at \$1,000.

■ A home on Randolphville Road near Bolivia was burglarized last Thursday, reported Detective Gene Carson. Missing is \$7,201 in goods, including some antique chairs, a computer, grandfather clock, television and silverware.

■ A \$2,500 riding lawn mower was stolen from a storage shed at a home in Hideaway Estates sometime between Oct. 24 and Nov. 5, reported Deputy Sheldon Carson. Damage was estimated at \$40 to a door.

■ Vandals drove through a rope fence at a home on Cotton Patch Road at Shallotte Point, causing \$350 in damage, Ms. Hewett reported. There is a suspect, she said.

■ A Thomasville resident returned to his Styron Landing home Friday

to find \$1,125 in items missing, reported Ms. Hewett. Suspects pried open a window and took tools, a sewing machine, microwave, vacuum cleaner and binoculars, sometime between Sept. 2 and Nov. 8.

■ Someone took a 1986 four-wheel Honda, valued at \$2,500, from the construction site at the new Supply Middle School off of U.S. 17 last Thursday, Ms. Hewett reported. The motorcycle was spotted in back of a suspect's pickup truck traveling down N.C. 211 toward Southport.

■ A Tyron resident had his Seabreeze Estates home broken into between Oct. 5 and Nov. 1, reported Ms. Hewett. A \$300 television is missing,

and \$400 in damage was reported.

■ Burglars took a stereo, valued at \$575, from a car parked at a home on Main Street in Navassa on Saturday, reported Mason.

■ Four Western mag wheels and two taillight covers, all valued at \$800, were stolen from Guyton's Wrecker Service on Old Fayetteville Road in Leland Saturday, reported Deputy Richard DuVall.

■ Two televisions valued at \$339 were stolen from a mobile home on Blue Banks Loop Road (S.R. 1422) in Northwest Community between Friday and Sunday, DuVall reported. A window was broken to gain entry.

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