

## Bugged Out!

Some Holden Beach residents say the town isn't doing enough to control a pesky mosquito problem. See the story on Page 9-A.



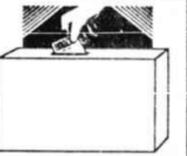
## Breaking Ground

A handful of local towns are ready to try something new: stepped-up septic tank monitoring. See the story on Page 3-A.



## Election '92

Wondering who to vote for in the local primaries? Profiles are in this week's issue. See Pages 1-B through 4-B.



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## Four Democrats Want Chance In State House

BY SUSAN USHER

Four Democrats want to represent the newly-restructured two-member 14th District in the N.C. House of Representatives.

The new district includes most of Brunswick County and parts of Columbus, New Hanover and Robeson counties.

Rep. E. David Redwine is hoping to keep his seat, while three others—Shirley T. Greene, Dewey Hill and Michael T. Mills—want to gain a seat. Two of the four will emerge from the May 5 primary with a spot on the ballot in the Nov. 5 general election, in which they will face Republican Kelly Holden of Shallotte.

All the primary candidates responded to *The Brunswick Beacon's* candidate questionnaire.

Rep. Leo Mercer of Columbus County withdrew from the race earlier, leaving Redwine the only incumbent in the running.

The candidates' lists of top issues facing the district's representatives during the coming term are similar, with improving education and the economy and reducing crime making all the lists, followed by health care.

### E. David Redwine

Redwine supports improving excellence and accountability in the classroom; improving teachers' salaries; making classrooms safe so "kids can learn and teachers can teach," and improving student test scores.

In addressing the problem of crime, Redwine's focus is on punishment. He advocates increasing

prison space so that criminals will serve more of the sentence given them by the court system, as well as increased use of intensive probation and house arrest.

He voices continued support for the tourist economy and giving the state's economic development department the tools it needs to attract high-paying jobs to the area. Also, Redwine supports efforts to increase workplace safety and advocates the state's helping to provide infrastructure such as water and sewer to attract industry.

While believing that the issue of available and affordable health care needs to be solved at the federal level, Redwine said North Carolina must continue to try to find solutions for its own uninsured and underinsured as well.

Redwine's performance earned him a ranking by the N.C. Center for Public Policy Research of 18th most effective of the 120 members of the House, based on surveys of fellow legislators, the media and lobbyists.

In announcing his re-election bid, Redwine pledged "to work for the betterment of our state without regard for party or special interest."

The Shallotte native says his purpose in seeking office is to improve the quality of life for his community; Redwine says he likes working with people and helping them to solve problems and improve their lives.

"Experience and effectiveness are the keys to good quality representation in the General Assembly," he said. "I have both of these qualities" (See FOUR, Page 2-A)



STAFF PHOTO BY DOUG RUTTER

## A Real Nail-Biter

Kelli Carlyle had cause for concern Saturday, as her Cubs were involved in a close ball game against the A's. The Cubs won the game 11-6 as the Supply-Shallotte Dixie Youth Baseball League opened its 1992 season at Supply Park. For more coverage, see the sports pages.

## OFFICERS SEARCH FOR CLUES

# Body Identified As Missing Woman

BY TERRY POPE

Law officers hope a badly-decomposed body found near Maco last week will hold clues as to how the woman died.

Charlene Page Thigpen, 24, of Wilmington had been missing since Feb. 27 when her body was discovered last Thursday lying beneath a discarded sofa off of Saw Mill Road (S.R. 1425).

"As of now, we're treating it as a homicide that occurred here," said Brunswick County Sheriff John Carr Davis.

Brunswick County Detective Phil Perry and New Hanover County authorities are assisting SBI agents with an investigation. Lab tests may

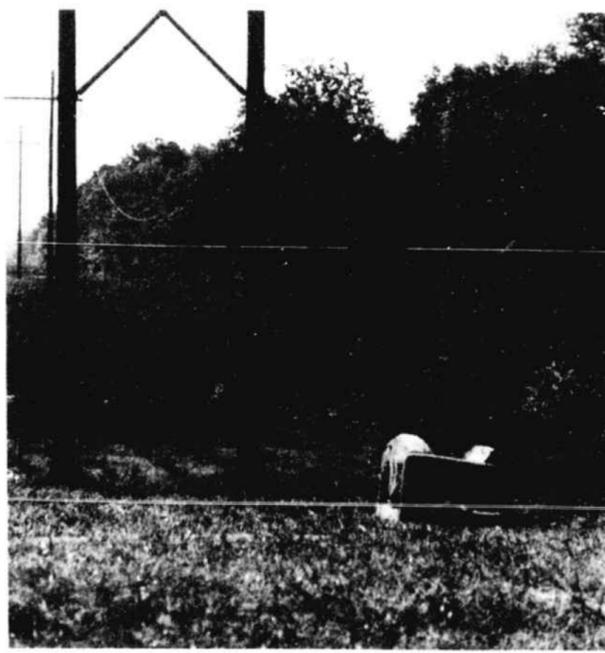
be able to determine a cause of death, but officers are not overly optimistic.

"We may not know anything for a while," said Davis.

The body is believed to have been beneath the couch for more than a month.

Ms. Thigpen was a Myrtle Grove Middle School teacher in Wilmington who was last seen at a convenience store two months ago. The former basketball standout at the University of North Carolina at Wilmington has a six-month-old daughter and was separated from her husband.

Two employees of Rowe Tree (See BODY, page 2-A)



STAFF PHOTO BY TERRY POPE

A TATTERED COUCH marks the spot where workers discovered the body of Charlene Thigpen near Maco last week.

## May 5 Day Of Choices For Brunswick's Voters

"The shouting and the tumult dies, the captains and the kings depart..." the poet Rudyard Kipling wrote, and it could have been descriptive of the coming election day, when political rhetoric and campaign fervor will give way to the quiet act of citizenship.

Tuesday, May 5, is primary election day in North Carolina, when Brunswick County voters will choose presidential nominees, as well as those for governor and lieutenant governor, and a number of other state and county party standard-bearers as well.

The Democratic ballot will offer six choices for president, only two of which, Jerry Brown and Bill Clinton, are now viable. Tom Harkin, Bob Kerrey, and Paul Tsongas have dropped out of contention, but the sixth choice, "No Preference" may get the most votes as voters across the country have expressed dissatisfaction with their options.

The Republican ballot is more straightforward, with the names George Bush and Pat Buchanan the only ones appearing, along with the same "No Preference."

Republicans also have a choice of Lauch Faircloth, Larry E. Harrington, Eugene Johnston and Sue Myrick for U.S. senator and Robert C. Anderson and Scott C. Dorman for U.S. congressman, 7th congressional district.

Democrat candidates for Congress, 7th District Rep. Charlie Rose and Sen. Terry Sanford, do not have primary opposition.

Gubernatorial choices for Republicans are Gary M. Dunn, Jim Gardner and Ruby Thompson Hooper, while Democrats may vote for M. Wendell Briggs, Jim Hatcher, James B. Hunt Jr., Lacy H. Thornburg and Marcus W. Williams.

In the lieutenant governor's race, Republican candidates are Doris Rogers Huffman, Art Pope and Trip Sizemore, while Democratic candidates are Jim Crawford, Charles P. Ginn, Edward Renfrow and Dennis A. Wicker.

State auditor candidates include Democrats Ralph Campbell, Franklin Freeman and Charles M. Hicks. Republican J. Vernon Abernethy is unopposed.

The Republican candidate for Commissioner of Insurance, Mike Causey, is also unopposed, while Jim Long and Charles Paxton are

the Democrat contenders.

In the Commissioner of Labor race, Democrats will choose between John C. Brooks and Harry E. Payne, Jr., and Republicans between Nelson Dollar and Henry McKoy.

For Superintendent of Public Instruction, two Democrats, Bob Etheridge and Owen Phillips, and three Republicans, Teena S. Little, Vernon Robinson and Tom Rogers, appear on the ballot.

There are two Democratic candidates for Associate Justice, Sidney S. Eagles Jr. and Sarah Parker. I. Beverly Lake Jr. runs unopposed on the Republican ticket.

Three seats on the Court of Appeals have attracted six Democrats, but only two Republicans. Steven A. Bernholz and Jack Cozort have no Republican counterpart, but John C. Martin and John Hill Parker are Democratic contenders for the seat whose Republican candidate is Ronald E. Bogle, and a third seat is sought by Democrats Joseph R. John Sr. and M. Gordon Widenhouse, as well as Republican Ralph A. Walker.

In the State Senate race, 18th Senatorial District, R.C. Soles, Jr., Claude Spivey and Ron Taylor are Democrats in contention, while Jim Whitworth, Republican, runs unopposed.

The State House of Representatives, 14th District, race offers Democrats Shirley T. Greene, Dewey Hill, Michael T. Mills and E. David Redwine, while Republican Kelly Holden has no opposition.

Some northern Brunswick County voters will vote in the 98th District, with only Democratic candidates Thomas E. Wright and Johnnie Fields on the ballot. Those who are not listed with the Board of Elections supervisors may show the location of their residence on a map provided at their precinct and be advised in which district they should vote for a state house representative.

County races have attracted a large field of candidates. The District 3 county commissioner nominee choices on the Republican ballot are Steve Foster, Joseph Tyler Lenins, William Sisk, Bob Slockett and Tom Yeagle. Their Democratic counterparts are M.E. Sharpe, William R. Thorsen and Wayland Verren.

In District 4, county commissioner candidates include Republicans (See MAY, Page 2-A)

## Attempt To Serve Warrants Leads To Felony Drug Arrests

BY SUSAN USHER

An attempt to serve outstanding out-of-county warrants on a couple staying at Sunset Beach resulted in arrest of the two on felony drug charges.

Chief J.B. Buell said that when he went to the Barringer residence at 608 E. Main Street last Wednesday at around 2 p.m., he spotted drug paraphernalia and asked permission to search the premises.

That search, agreed to by the occupants "reluctantly," he said, resulted in warrants charging Robert H. Barringer Jr., 46, of Air Harbor, Greensboro, and Sunset Beach, and Ruth Elizabeth Waters, 31, who listed her second address as North Anderson Street, Morganton, with possession with intent to sell or deliver marijuana and possession with intent to sell or deliver cocaine.

Officers seized approximately 38 grams of marijuana, 12 grams of cocaine and 3 grams of hashish, assorted prescription-type drugs not yet identified; several semiautomatic weapons; and drug paraphernalia that included automatic rollers and pipes.

Additional charges may be filed once results from the SBI lab are received, said Buell.

The confiscated drugs had an estimated street value of \$3,000. Sunset Beach Police Department stands to receive 75 percent of a \$6,500 controlled substance tax levied against the two by the N.C. Department of Revenue for failure to purchase tax stamps on the drugs. Buell said this is a first for the department and that the money "will be put to good use."

Barringer and Miss Waters were also served with the outstanding warrants from the Guilford County Sheriff's Department for failure to appear in court on similar drug charges in that county. The Guilford department took the two suspects into custody and also confiscated a Porsche owned by Barringer which was allegedly used to transport drugs.

In Guilford County, Barringer was released on \$70,000 cash bond and Miss Waters on \$50,000 cash bond. Barringer was admitted to a drug center for evaluation and treatment on a judge's order, said Buell.

The Brunswick County warrant was served on Miss Waters Monday in Guilford County; Barringer cannot be served until released from the center, Buell said. No local court date has been set for either of the two.

Buell was assisted in searching the Sunset Beach premises by Lt. David Crocker of the Brunswick County Sheriff's Department narcotics unit, SBI agents Kelly Moser and Teresa Church, and Sunset Beach Lt. Sam Grantham and Patrolman Ed Rudloff.

## CANDIDATES RUNNING...

**Name:** E. David Redwine  
**Age:** 44  
**Address:** Ocean Isle Beach  
**Occupation:** Vice president of insurance, realty firm; businessman  
**Education:** Shallotte High School; B.A. in history, East Carolina University  
**Family:** Wife Penny; three children ages 15, 13 and 7  
**Previous Experience:** N.C. House, 1984-; co-chairman of the Appropriations, Justice and Public Safety Committees; House Chairman, Seafood and Agriculture Commission; member, Legislative Research Committee; Council of State Governments, 1991; chairman, Brunswick County Democratic Party, 1978-1982; trustee, BCC, 1982-1990; president, South Brunswick Island Chamber of Commerce, 1981; N.C. Battleship Commission, 1982; Brunswick County Parks and Recreation Board, 1978



REDWINE

**Name:** Shirley T. Greene  
**Age:** 53  
**Address:** Barnesville  
**Occupation:** Semi-retired farmer and businessman  
**Education:** Pre-standard and standard degrees, American Institute of Banking; L.L.B. and J.D., LaSalle University; honorary Bible degree, Fredricksburg Bible College.  
**Family:** Wife Vivian  
**Previous Experience:** Served on Virginia Child Neglect and Abuse Commission, 1973-1977; adjunct professor at five universities; U.S. Feed Grain Council; National Board of Directors, National Corn Growers Association



GREENE

**Name:** Dewey Hill  
**Age:** 67  
**Address:** Lake Waccamaw  
**Occupation:** Self-employed businessman  
**Education:** Whiteville High School; business management courses, UNC-CH and Cornell University  
**Family:** Wife Muriel; two children ages 47 and 42  
**Previous Experience:** N.C. Milk Commission, 1983-1987; president, N.C. Food Dealers Association, 1985; director, National Grocers Association, 1987-1991; president, Columbus County Shrine Club, 1969, and Whiteville Rotary Club, 1985



HILL

**Name:** Michael T. Mills  
**Age:** 34  
**Address:** Bolton  
**Occupation:** Self-employed attorney  
**Education:** Acme-Delco High School; B.A., UNC-CH, 1979; J.D., UNC-CH, 1982  
**Family:** Single  
**Previous Experience:** Chairman, 7th Congressional District Young Democrats; N.C. Youth Advisory Council; assistant N.C. attorney general; administrative assistant and special counsel to U.S. Rep. Charlie Rose



MILLS