

BRUNSWICK COUNTY GRAND JURY

Six Men Indicted For Sex Offenses

Six Brunswick County men were indicted by a grand jury Monday on 34 felony charges alleging they had sexual relations with children.

The indictments were brought as the result of six unrelated investigations, according to Detective Nancy Simpson of the Brunswick County Sheriff's Department.

"I just happened to have them all ready to go to the grand jury at the same time," Simpson said. "I've been catching up on a backlog of cases. I probably have four times this many yet to come."

Most of the defendants have given statements admitting that the acts took place, she said.

All of the victims were below the age of 16 when the alleged incidents took place between May, 1992 and April 1994, the indictments say. Some were less than 13 years old.

The grand jury agreed Monday that the following defendants should be prosecuted in superior court:

- William Daniel Garner, 26, of Cherrytree Road, Winnabow, on five counts of taking indecent liberties with a child, three counts of first-degree statutory rape, two counts of statutory sexual offense and two charges of felonious incest. The alleged victim was under the age of 13 at the time of the incidents.
- Donald Edwin Minton, 37, of

Main Street, Shallotte, on three counts of taking indecent liberties with a child, two counts each of first-degree statutory rape and felonious incest and one charge each of statutory sexual offense and crime against nature. At the time of the alleged offense, the victim was under the age of 13.

■ Robert Mearl Wilder, 19, of Easterly Drive, Supply, on five counts of taking indecent liberties with a child under the age of 16.

■ Robert Marion Burcham, 35, of Eagle Drive, Shallotte on one charge each of taking indecent liberties with a child, statutory sexual offense and crime against nature. The alleged victim was under 13 at the time.

■ Larry Franklin Keel, 25, of

Route 3, Leland, on two charges alleging a crime against nature and one count of taking indecent liberties with a child under the age of 16.

■ Gary Lee Walrath, 38, of Easterly Drive, Shallotte, on two counts of taking indecent liberties with a child under the age of 16.

Also indicted were:
 ■ Darryl Alexis Hewett, 27, of Cedar Grove, Supply, on a charge of second degree kidnapping. He is accused of "unlawfully confining and restraining and removing (a woman) from one place to another without her consent" on March 6.

■ Phillip Kennedy, 23, of Wilmington on a charge of second degree burglary. He is accused of breaking into a home on Cedar Hill Road, Leland, on the night of Feb. 22.

Shallotte Police Get State Grant From Governor's Safety Program

The Shallotte Police Department has received an \$8,500 grant from the Governor's Highway Safety Program for enforcement of the state seat belt law.

Police Chief Rodney Gause said the grant will mainly be used for overtime pay of officers who will be working extra hours to crack down on seat belt violations.

The police department plans to strictly enforce the seat belt law as part of a campaign that will start May 1 and continue through Sept. 30.

"We're going to be stationed at different places in Shallotte like the bypass, Main Street and the back streets," Gause said.

"This is a warning. We want peo-

ple to know. We don't want to write tickets. We want them to buckle up," he added.

The grant will not require any matching funds from the town, Gause said.

Jones Ford clears the air

In this age of heightened environmental awareness, Jones Ford is doing more than what is required to help protect our environment. One of the areas in which we take extreme precautions is the servicing of your car's air conditioning system.

For many years, R-12 refrigerant was used in A/C systems. R-12 is currently being replaced with a new, more environmentally friendly R134a refrigerant which is found in all 1994 Ford Motor Co. cars and light trucks. Unlike R-12, R134a does not contain chlorofluorocarbons (CFCs), compounds which damage the earth's ozone layer.

The Environmental Protection Agency has issued a set of rules governing the use of R-12. These new regulations greatly changed the way all service departments work on automobile air conditioners. Already, many of our service customer have noticed the changes. In order to acquaint you with them, we're answering commonly asked questions concerning the service of air conditioners:

Q: Even though R-12 refrigerant will no longer be used in new automobile air conditioning systems, can Jones Ford continue to service my 1992 car?

A: Yes. While the A/C systems in new Ford cars and trucks will be environmentally friendlier, many recent and older-model vehicles with CFC air conditioners will need servicing. Jones Ford has invested in the state-of-the-art equipment and training necessary to safely service both types of air conditioning systems. So, if you need any type of air conditioning service performed, rest assured that Jones Ford can handle it.

Q: Why must all of the refrigerant be removed if a leak is discovered?
 A: If our service technicians detect a leak, they must remove all of the system's refrigerant in order to comply with EPA regulations. When we service a system which utilizes R-12, we use EPA-approved recycling machines that safely pull the refrigerant out of the air conditioner and into a holding tank here it is cleaned and recycled before being returned to the air conditioner.

We take extreme measures in order to provide a safe, healthy environment for the customers and employees of Jones Ford. Because we care about our dealership, we care about our community and we care about you.

If you have any additional questions concerning air conditioning service or any other type of automobile maintenance, please call our service department at 754-4341. We'll be happy to assist you.

FREE Roadside Assistance Jones Ford is with you down the road

When you leave Jones Ford with a new 1994 car or truck, we'll stay with you all the way. We're happy to introduce free roadside assistance to all 1994 Ford owners.

This service is one of the most comprehensive roadside assistance programs offered by any of America's major car companies, and it's absolutely free. Other manufacturers may offer roadside service, but only for their luxury models or they'll charge you for service calls.

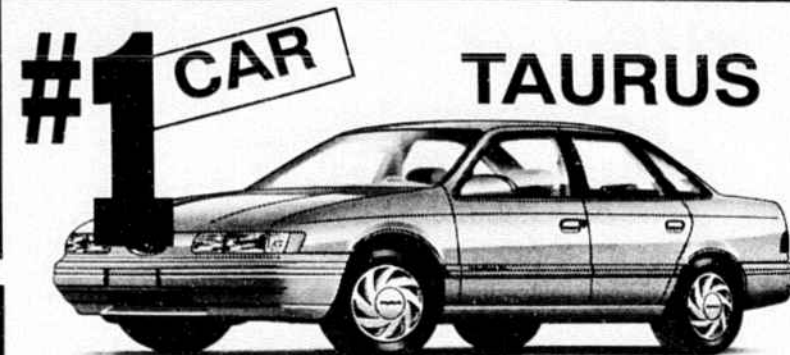
With Ford's free roadside assistance, you never have to worry about breaking down, running out of gas, or locking your keys in the car. Services—such as towing, fuel delivery, battery service, lockout assistance and tire changes are available 24 hours a day, seven days a week.

Purchasers of F-Series trucks and 1994 cars and light trucks, as well as Red Carpet Lease customers, can rest assured that someone is there to help in an emergency situation. Here are some program highlights:

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| <p>F-Series Preferred Care</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Three years/36,000 miles •Unlimited tow coverage •Tire change •Fuel delivery •Lock-out assistance •Battery jump starts •\$1,000 emergency travel expense reimbursement •24 hours/seven days a week | <p>1994 Ford Cars and Light Trucks (excluding F-Series)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Three years/36,000 miles •Towing •Tire change •Fuel delivery •Lock-out assistance •Battery jump starts •24 hours/seven days a week | <p>Red Carpet Lease</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Term of lease •\$75 tow id dispatch •Tire change •Fuel delivery •Lock-out assistance-Battery jump starts •\$500 emergency travel expense reimbursement •Trip routing •24 hours/seven days a week |
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