

Area police arrest eight for heroin

Addicts will be hurting, said Hertford Chief

Local and state police departments arrested eight Hertford residents Monday following a year-long undercover investigation of heroin and cocaine distribution.

A grand jury of the Perquimans County Superior Court has issued indictments on seven of the eight on charges of the sale and distribution of controlled substances, keeping a dwelling place for the sale and delivery of controlled substances, and one charge of assault with a deadly weapon with intent to kill and inflicting serious bodily injury.

The Hertford Police Department led simultaneous early morning raids on four different residences in town at 7:30 a.m. Monday. The HPD executed search warrants at each residence and has served 27 arrest warrants in connection with their investigation.

The HPD was assisted by officers of the State Bureau of Investigation, the Perquimans County Sheriff's Department, the Chowan County Sheriff's Department, the Edenton Police Department, the state Alcohol Law Enforcement Division, and Assistant District Attorney Frank Parrish.

"A lot of people with habits are going to be hurting next week," said Hertford Police Chief Marshall Merritt. According to Merritt's sources, the police have uncovered the major distribution ring of hard drugs in the area.

"We've dried up Hertford for a while," Merritt added.

Along with seizing a large amount of drug paraphernalia and small quantities of what police believe may be either heroin or cocaine, police also seized items including stereo equipment, watches, vacuum cleaners, bicycles, camera equipment, televisions and radios conservatively estimated to be worth about \$4,500, and another \$1,100 in cash.

The vacuum cleaners have already been identified by a representative of Electrolux store in Elizabeth City, which is currently involved in an embezzlement case.

Much of the electronic equipment has been identified as belonging to Thorton's Furniture Store in Elizabeth City. Some items actually still had the Thorton's Furniture's sales tags on them.

Those arrested yesterday are:
•John Henry Aske, 22, of Apt. 1 Lowe's Apartments on Market Street. He is charged with two counts of the sale and delivery of heroin and one count of keeping a dwelling place for the sale of controlled substances (i.e. drugs).

He is being held in Albemarle District Jail on \$30,000 bond. If found guilty, he faces up to 25 years in prison.

•Fred Julian Harvey, 29, of 317 Gum Street. He is charged with two counts of the sale and delivery of heroin, one count of conspiracy to sell and the delivery of heroin, one count of keeping a dwelling for the sale of controlled substances, and one count of assault with a deadly weapon with intent to kill and inflicting serious bodily injury.

The assault charge stems from a recent knifing that police believe may have involved a drug sale. He is being held in Albemarle District Jail on \$50,000 bond. He faces up to 45 years in prison.

•Wadell Harvey, Fred Harvey's brother, 20, of 323 Grubb Street. He is charged with one count of hindering and delaying a police officer in the performance of his duty. He was arrested while allegedly trying to stall officers during the Monday morning raid of his home.

He was released on \$400 bond for the misdemeanor offense.

•George Harvey, brother of Wadell and Fred, 26, of 323 Grubb Street. He is charged with two counts of conspiracy to sell and deliver heroin, one count of selling and delivery heroin and one count of keeping a dwelling for the sale of controlled substances.

He is also in Albemarle District Jail on \$40,000 bond. He faces a possible 35 years in prison.

•Annette Johnson Harvey, wife of George Harvey, 23, of 323 Grubb Street. She is charged with two counts of the sale and delivery of heroin, one count of aiding and abetting the delivery of heroin and one count of keeping a dwelling for the sale of controlled substances.

She is being held in Albemarle District Jail on \$40,000 bond. If found guilty, she could be sentenced to 35 years in prison.

•Linda Gregory Harvey, wife of Fred Harvey, 27, of 317 Gum Street. She is charged with one count of possession of heroin, one count of aiding and abetting the sale and delivery of heroin and one count of keeping a dwelling for the sale of controlled substances.

She is being held in Albemarle District Jail on \$30,000 bond. She could be sentenced to 20 years in prison.

•Mickey Louis Johnson, 27, of 211 South Edenton Road Street. He is charged with one count of the sale and delivery of heroin, one count of the sale and delivery of cocaine, one

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Strike up the band

Clarence "Shack" Shackelford, Ila Gray White and Irvin Bibb (top photo) get ready to lead the Hertford Fife and Drums during last weekend's Edenton Tea Party in Edenton. At right, Charlie Skinner keeps the beat.

Neighbors surprised

Residents of the area around 323 Grubb Street didn't know what was going on when they saw the numerous cars parked outside the house early Monday morning.

"I was out in the backyard," said Jim Mills, who lives across the street, "and there were all of these cars on the street."

"I heard a car door slam, and I thought maybe the house next door was on fire. Then I heard someone say 'Police,' and then 'Search warrant,' and I knew it wasn't a fire. 'I got inside out of shooting's way.'"

The neighbors never suspected that the two-story white and red house — the home of George and Annette Harvey — could possibly house what may be the largest drug distribution center in the area.

The Harveys, along with six other persons, were arrested Monday morning and charged with selling heroin.

Naturally, the eight arrested persons have not been convicted of these crimes, and won't be tried until next January. And judging from their neighbors reactions of what sort of household the Harveys kept, they would be innocent of everything except perhaps having themselves a good time.

"They were always quiet, considering all the teenagers in there," said Mills. "They made less noise than we would if we had a house full of teenagers."

"I wish I had five cents toll for every car that drove up that driveway. There were always two or three cars going back and forth. Each one had maybe four or five people in it. It's a wonder the house didn't tip over, there were so many people inside."

"They (the Harveys) were nice to me whenever I met them," Mills added.

Ed Nixon, who has lived next door to the Harveys since early this summer, wasn't too happy to see police suspicions rest on the house next door. But Nixon, a former police officer, never thought the Harveys

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Experience the issue in Tuesday's election

Next Tuesday's election for the two seats on the Hertford Town Council appears to have become a race where the question is not "What set of issues stands to vote for?" but rather "Who is the best-qualified man for the job?"

There are no real issues in the campaign, or more exactly, all three candidates agree on what issues there are. The problem for the voters is which of the three candidates can best carry out the town's plans for improvement?

All three candidates for the two open seats — incumbents T. Erie Haste and John Beers, and newcomer Joe Towe White — were asked about their qualifications for the job.

Haste emphasizes his eight years experience, not only on the town council but also with the state's Coastal Resources Commission, for which he has been appointed three times by two different governors.

He has also just been appointed by the county Board of Commissioners to the Albemarle Sound Basin Restoration Project, which will investigate pollution in the Sound basin area and the problem of diversion of water to Tidewater Virginia.

"A town councilman is obligated to keep informed of local needs," said Haste, "and by seeing the problems and solutions in other areas, I can relate their solutions to our circumstances and better resolve the problem in the best interests of the people."

He added, "I think a town councilman's participation in area affairs, both political and civic, will help keep him better informed of the needs of the people."

"I think the responsibility of a councilman is to commit whatever time is necessary when called upon to evaluate a particular situation. He is constantly looking for ways to improve the manner local government serves the people, not only in areas of daily needs, but also in improving the looks of the town."

According to these criteria, Haste said he has proven his qualifications to return to the council.

Beers also believes his experience is helpful to him in his position, but he also adds another qualification. "Of course, experience is one of the best teachers you can have," he said.

"But I have always loved to serve the people, and I've tried to dedicate myself to the town of Hertford."

"I think one has to have dedication. You can't run just to run, or run just for a change. You have to run with a feeling of sincerity and honesty. This is where it all lies."

Beers has been accused of being "the quiet one" on the council, and he admits being quiet, but he doesn't feel that he is just sitting there.

"I'm not an orator," he said. "Some people do an awful lot of talking, but they don't really do anything. You should speak when you've taken time for consideration and thought."

"Besides, no one can take credit for anything the council does. We have input from all the members. The accomplishments we've made can't be put on one individual."

"I think the hardest thing for a councilman is to make a decision that will benefit the majority and not a select few," Beers concluded.

White, the only candidate without any experience in government, believes he is at an advantage just because he is new.

"I think inexperience is an asset," he said. "I don't have any set ways. I'm open-minded, and I can listen to what is going on and make an opinion from that."

As to whether he would be snowed under by all the technicalities of the position, White said, "We have plenty of good attorneys to help me out, and I can talk to past members of the board if I need help."

About his opponents' experience with other governmental work, White said, "Well maybe they're spending too much time on other boards. They talk about all the other activities they're involved in. I'm not involved in other activities. I'm interested in the town of Hertford."

"I think I can stay in touch with the people. I don't have to belong to a lot of organization to stay in touch. I'm out enough that people can see me, and if they have something to say I'll listen."

The townspeople will decide for themselves which man they think is best next week. The polls open 8 a.m. and close at 7:30 p.m. Voters can go to either Hertford Grammer School or the County Courthouse.

Witness heard in arson trial

By JACK GROVE and TOM OSTROSKY

Opening arguments and witness testimony began in Perquimans County Superior Court Tuesday in the trial of a Belvidere man accused of burglary and arson.

The case involves charges of arson and burglary against Bud Wayland White. White is accused of burning down the home of Rev. Carl Yow of Belvidere last October.

Assistant District Attorney Frank Parrish characterized his opening

statement — describing the state's contention of what happened last October 26 — as "coming attractions" of what to expect in the trial.

Parrish said that witnesses would testify that White was picked up within a mile of the site of the fire while police and fire officials were responding to the fire.

Parrish added that testimony from investigators would show that the fire was arson, and that a witness would testify that White told him the Yow house "will soon be a pile of ashes."

Parrish's first witness, Deputy Joe Lothian of the Perquimans County Sheriff's Department, testified that the night of the fire he had checked Yow's house before the fire and "the house was as it should be."

While on duty that night, Lothian received a call of a fire in Belvidere. He called the fire department and Sheriff Broughton.

The following morning, he went by the house and saw that two thirds of it

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This week

Perquimans High School celebrated homecoming last week (see page three), the Pirate football team topped the week off with a victory over Manteo (see page eight).

Weather

Fair and mild through Saturday. Highs in the lower 70s, lows in the lower 50s.



Patrolman Mike Jasielum (left) and Corporal Robert Morris (right) look over the items taken from the homes of George and Fred Harvey following Monday morning's drug arrests. Police conservatively estimate the value of the goods to be \$4,500.