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March 9, 2000

Vol. 68, No. 10 Hertford, North Carolina 27944

# THE PERQUIMANS WEEKLY

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MAR 08 2000  
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## One killed, one injured in gun battle

### Alleged fight over dice game leads to death

SUSAN R. HARRIS  
Editor

An alleged fight over a dice game in a Hertford club early Sunday morning left one man dead and another in Pitt Memorial Hospital.

Terrence Daniel Overton, 20, of Pearl Street, Elizabeth City, was pronounced dead on arrival at Chowan Hospital early Sunday morning. According to Hertford Police Chief Dale Vanscoy, Overton was shot in the head.

Jeremy Riddick, 22, of Meads Trailer Park, Hertford,

was hit in the right leg, Vanscoy said. He was transported to Chowan Hospital and was then airlifted to Pitt. Vanscoy said doctors at first said Riddick's leg would require amputation, but were later able to remove part of the bullet from his bone and are trying to save the leg.

Vanscoy said officers were called to the scene around 3 a.m. Sunday after Riddick was shot in front of the Upright Social Club on Edenton Road Street. Officers called an ambulance and began securing the scene.

While Riddick was receiving medical attention from rescue personnel, someone approached an officer reporting that someone else was hurt around the corner on Dobbs Street. Officers went to that

location and found Overton in the passenger seat of a parked burgundy Mazda with a head wound. A second ambulance was dispatched and transported Overton to Chowan Hospital, where he was pronounced dead.

The initial altercation, according to police interviews of witnesses, began over an illegal dice game in the back of the club. Overton allegedly got upset over the game and was removed from the club. Once outside, witnesses said he was involved in an altercation with some individuals from Hertford.

It was at that point, Vanscoy said, that Riddick was shot in front of the club.

"Then it became a running gun battle (from in front of the club) towards Dobbs Street,"

Vanscoy said.

That was the point at which law enforcement officers were called in. Vanscoy said officers arrived to find about 75-100 people on the scene and Riddick injured outside the club. A few minutes later, police were notified of the second victim.

Vanscoy said he immediately called in the SBI. Five agents, including a lab technician, were sent from across Northeastern North Carolina to help process the crime scene. A Perquimans deputy and two Chowan deputies also offered assistance. Vanscoy said his department does not have the resources to process such a large crime scene without help.

Officers remained on the scene until around noon, then

began interviewing witnesses and possible suspects.

Police are looking for two shooters, Vanscoy said. Evidence recovered indicates that two shooters bearing two different types of guns were involved in the shootings. Good leads have turned up, but Vanscoy no one has been taken into custody nor any arrests made.

"We've got some good leads," Vanscoy said. "We've been going nonstop. We're going as hard as we can. Hopefully, we'll soon be able to make an arrest."

It's not only the shooters who may face consequences resulting from the incident. Vanscoy said the dice game being run in the club was illegal, and will be investigated. He said that he had delivered

documentation to the Alcohol Law Enforcement office in Edenton last Thursday about complaints and problems at the club. He said the ALE has a nuisance team that had already been asked to investigate the club, which is owned by Earl Foreman and managed by Kevin Foreman.

"This just adds one more incident to the numerous complaints we've had about the club," Vanscoy said.

Vanscoy said the nuisance team will interview residents who live near the club, work with the town attorney and other officials to check compliance with local ordinances, and check compliance with state laws. If found to be a nuisance and/or to be breaking local or state ordinances, the club may be shut down.

### Police investigate shooting near HGS

SUSAN R. HARRIS  
Editor

Hertford Police received reports of males shooting at each other from vehicles near Hertford Grammar School last week, but Chief Dale Vanscoy said there are few clues in the case.

Central Communications notified officers that two calls had been received about shooting from vehicle windows. The first was from someone who said a white male fired from a two-tone pickup truck on Edenton Road Street. The second caller said that black males in a burgundy car were in the east parking lot at Hertford Grammar School and had fired at a vehicle matching the description of that reported by the first caller.

Vanscoy said he answered the call, but could find no vehicles matching the description of either the car or the truck.

The chief said that he has gathered from interviews in the neighborhood that the burgundy vehicle pulled into the parking lot at Hertford Grammar School, then pulled back out. Both vehicles were seen on Perry Street, which turns off of Dobbs in front of the school. That is where shots appear to have been fired, Vanscoy said.

The incident is still under investigation.

### STUMPIN' IN HERTFORD



PHOTO BY SUSAN HARRIS

Ed Wilson, a Democrat seeking his party's nomination for lieutenant governor, was in Hertford Friday meeting voters. While downtown, he spoke with Carl Lewis, a Hertford businessman presently overseeing the renovations on the Church Street building that will house Inteliport, Inc.

### Dog dead after alleged attack

#### Owners say dog docile, but neighbor said canine attacked

SUSAN R. HARRIS  
Editor

The death of a family pet in the Bethel community may show the importance of pet owners following state and local animal control ordinances, according to Animal Control Officer Ron Priddy.

Priddy was called last week first by a man who said he shot at a dog who attacked him, then a day later by a family who reported that their docile pet had been shot and killed. Circumstantial evidence indicates the two, who live in the River Park neighborhood, are probably talking about the same animal.

Priddy said he was called around 11 p.m. last Monday night by Sidney Sheldon. Sheldon told Priddy he had shot at a dog that had attacked him twice. Sheldon said he did not know if he had hit the dog and asked Priddy to come and

locate the animal. Priddy said Sheldon feared the animal would attack him.

Priddy investigated immediately, but found no evidence of a dog or that an animal had been wounded on the property.

A day later, Priddy said he got a call that a family pet had been shot and killed in the same neighborhood. Priddy's subsequent investigation led him to believe that both calls to him were probably about the same dog. But he said because he never saw the dog, he is not 100 percent certain.

Pamela Graham called The Perquimans Weekly last Wednesday and said she found her dog, Banjo, dead at her back door around 11 a.m. on Feb. 29. When her husband, a nurse, came home, he turned the dog over and found a bullet hole in the animal's stomach.

Graham said she and her husband are angry, shocked, and worried that their family's puppy or another of the number of dogs in her neighborhood may meet the same fate.

"I'm worried that it might happen to someone else," Graham said last Wednesday. "Some people just don't realize that people's pets are like members of their family."

Graham said she was looking for answers to what happened to Banjo, a 3-year-old American bulldog, and why.

Graham said that a neighbor, the occupant of one of about 30 mobile homes in her waterfront neighborhood, had made threats to her husband and 7-year-old daughter that he would kill the dog if he caught him in his yard again. Graham said neither Banjo or his 1-year-old son were in the man's yard at the time he made the threats. Graham said she did not know the man's name. Aside from those threats, Graham said no neighbors had ever complained about her family's dogs.

In fact, Graham said one dwelling in the neighborhood is home to a large pack of hunting dogs, while other residents' pets include a Doberman, a pair of German Shepherds, and lots of smaller dogs.

Graham said she couldn't find the dogs when she looked for them around 9 a.m. last Tuesday. Around 10:30, she looked out the front door and saw blood. She found Banjo at the back door around 11.

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### Girl suspended for year for PCMS bomb threat note

SUSAN R. HARRIS  
Editor

A Perquimans Middle School student was suspended last week after admitting that she penned the bomb threat that disrupted school Feb. 28.

Middle school principal Anne White confirmed Friday that the student, whose name was not released because she is a juvenile, was suspended for 365 days in accordance with state law.

House Bill 517, Stop Threats/Acts of School Violence, was signed into law last July. The statute makes school-related bomb threats or hoaxes a Class H felony, and requires an automatic 365-day suspension from school.

"We followed those state guidelines to the T," White said. "(Winfall Police) Officer (David) Shaffer took out a (juvenile) petition, so we feel that it's in the hands of law enforcement at this time."

Director of Curriculum Chris Barber said the school system is not responsible for providing homebound education for the student during the suspension period.

"You hate for any child not to receive an education (for a full year), but you cannot jeopardize the education of 500 students," White said of the suspension.

The incident may not be

over for the suspended student's parents. HB 517 also states that parents or legal guardians will be held liable for costs resulting from the disruption or dismissal of school or school activities. White said that portion of the law will be handled by a judge when the student goes to court for the juvenile petition.

A teacher found a note that indicated there was a bomb in the school last Monday afternoon. Students left the building per emergency evacuation procedures and gathered in the ball park behind the school, where they stayed for almost an hour and a half.

The principal said the student confessed Tuesday morning.

White said the school's safety committee met to discuss the incident later in the week. The full faculty also discussed the matter at a meeting Thursday afternoon. At both meetings, White said school personnel discussed policy and what might need to be done to update procedures. She said safety policies are continuously studied for improvement.

Notices were sent to parents of middle school students Tuesday afternoon explaining what happened, that appropriate measures were immediately taken, and the penalties for bomb threats and hoaxes set out by state law.

### County to adopt official flower

ANNA GOODWIN MCCARTHY  
Correspondent

With all the golden daffodils and hues of Spring popping up on green lawns, it is no wonder that the Perquimans County Commissioners have flowers on their minds.

The commissioners discussed naming a county flower during their meeting Monday night.

They said information must be obtained about the flowers of surrounding counties before a decision can be made. These statistics are needed to prevent the commissioners from approving a flower that

has already been chosen by another North Carolina county.

The commissioners will name the flower of Perquimans County during their next meeting.

While discussing the creation of county symbols, the commissioners also brought up the fact that Perquimans County does not have a seal. They voted to adopt the seal that they had been using on their stationary.

In similar news, County Commissioner Charles Ward said that he had been notified that Hertford will now be distinguished as "Historic" Hertford on several maps.

### WEEKEND WEATHER

THURSDAY  
High: 82  
Low: 57  
PARTLY CLOUDY

FRIDAY  
High: 79  
Low: 51  
PARTLY CLOUDY

SATURDAY  
High: 68  
Low: 47  
SCATTERED SHOWERS