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PERQUIMANS WEEKLY

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35 cents

Drug bust

Probation violator charged with possession

SUSAN HARRIS

A Perquimans man who broke his probation is awaiting an appearance in court in Albemarle District Jail.

Steven Bernard Bailey, 30, last known address 577 Burnt Mill Road, was apprehended by Sheriff's Department Investigator Shelby White on June 5 after a brief foot chase.

Sheriff Eric Tilley said deputies were on the lookout for Bailey, who had broken his probation imposed after being found guilty on drug charges in both Perquimans and Camden counties. Warrants had been issued in both jurisdictions for his arrest.

White was on routine patrol in the Bethel township when he spotted Bailey walking down the road. Bailey also spotted the deputy, and ran into the woods. White gave chase and caught Bailey. Upon taking him into custody, White allegedly found 11 grams of crack cocaine in Bailey's possession, and charged him with possession with intent to sell crack cocaine.

Bailey was placed under a \$130,000 secured bond for the probation violations and the new charge.

"This is a case where someone was given a second chance by being put on probation instead of serving active prison time," Tilley said. "And it goes to show you that probation doesn't work for some people."

We made it!



PHOTO BY PHIL HARRIS

Chief marshal Tamara Gregory leads the class of 2007 onto Memorial Field during commencement exercises Saturday morning at Perquimans High School. One hundred fifteen students earned high school diplomas during the ceremony. Please see story and more photographs on page 10.

Youth charged in theft cases

SUSAN HARRIS

Two 15-year-olds are detained in a juvenile facility on charges that they stole a four-wheeler, a truck and items from the concessions stand at the county softball fields in Winfall.

Sheriff Eric Tilley said Monday that the pair was detained pending the receipt of juvenile petitions because the crimes they allegedly committed are felonies and because of the nature of the crimes.

"We thought it was best that they be detained," Tilley said. He added that detaining a juvenile before paperwork comes through requires consultation with juvenile justice counselors. He said a judge will decide whether to extend the detention when the youth appear at hearings scheduled for this week.

The charges resulted from a crime spree the weekend of June 1.

Someone in the neighborhood of the Winfall softball fields heard an unusual noise outside around 4:30 or 5 a.m. on June 2. They looked outside and saw two youth riding a four-wheeler. The witness saw where they left the four-wheeler and into what home they went, then called the information into central communications.

Sheriff's deputies responded to the call, finding the juveniles and the four-wheeler where the caller had reported.

Tilley said one of the 15-year-olds admitted involvement in stealing the ATV when he was questioned.

During the same night, the concession stand at the ballpark was robbed. Tilley said candy, hot dogs, drinks and other items were stolen from the building, which had also been robbed a week before.

The truck, a Ford Ranger, was found wrecked on New Hope Road early on June 2. Tilley said the truck was owned by Bellwether, the company contracted by the county to read water meters, and was left at the water plant in Winfall when the crew left work on Friday afternoon. The water plant is near the ball fields. The truck sustained \$5,000 in damages, and is considered totalled, Tilley said.

The ATV and a number of items from the concessions stand were recovered, Tilley said.

'Connected' kicks off Summer Breeze series Sunday

Smooth jazz will kick off this season of concerts on the grounds of the Newbold-White House on Sunday at 5:30 p.m.

The Elizabeth City-based jazz quintet "Connected" will fill the afternoon with classy jazz entertainment that ranges from the New Orleans style to the contemporary sounds of today.

The concert will bring familiar names to Perquimans. Connected was formed in 1996 by Northeastern High School Band Director Wayne James. James is a noted performer in the area, playing trumpet, flugel horn and saxophone. He was soon joined by keyboard artist Dennis Figgs, music teacher at Sawyer Elementary School. The group also includes ECSU Director of Bands Ellard Forrester on drums, ECSU



'Connected' will bring the smooth sounds of jazz to the Newbold-White House Sunday for the kick-off of the season's Summer Breeze concert series.

Assistant Director of Bands Maurice LeFlore on saxophone; ECSU alumnus Chabra "CJ" Mercer on bass and Andrea Morris on

vocals. The group travels the festival and club circuits from Greenville to Fredericksburg, Va. and

can be found with regularity at The Bistro in Kitty Hawk's Beach Bread Company.

On July 22, a light classi-

cal program will be provided by the Albemarle Strings, back by popular demand. This concert will be held at the historic Perquimans County courthouse.

Singer/songwriter Connie Mason, Maritime Heritage Officer from Morehead City, will bring a dose of Eastern North Carolina music, history and humor on Aug. 19.

These concerts offer free entertainment for the whole family. Lawn chairs and picnics are welcome at the June and August concerts. In case of rain or unbearable heat, the June and August concerts will move to the Perquimans County Recreation Centre.

This concert series is sponsored by the Perquimans County Restoration Association, the Perquimans Arts

League and Summer Breeze FANS, local businesses that have made donations to the series.

WEEKEND WEATHER

THURSDAY
HIGH: 75, LOW: 61
ISOLATED T-STORMS

FRIDAY
HIGH: 77, LOW: 61
ISOLATED T-STORMS

SATURDAY
HIGH: 84, LOW: 66
SUNNY