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State/Local

Section B

Page 1B, Orangeburg, S.C., Wednesday, December 1, 1993

Rowesville man arrested in Sept. attack on elderly man

By TERESA M. HATCHELL
T&D Staff Writer

A 26-year-old Rowesville man has been arrested in connection with a brutal attack and robbery that almost cost the life of an elderly Rowesville man on Sept. 4.

Orangeburg County Sheriff C.R. Smith Jr. said Tuesday that Albert Duane Govan, of Calhoun Street, Rowesville, was arrested Monday on charges of assault and battery with intent to kill, first degree burglary, armed robbery and grand larceny of a vehicle.

Govan was arrested in connection with the beating and robbery of Norman Hughes, 79, of Rowesville, who was found badly beaten and unconscious in his home on Sept. 4.

Sheriff Smith recalled the events of that day. He said authorities were notified at 8 a.m. of an abandoned car parked off Rowesville Road at the edge of a ditch. The South Carolina Highway Patrol checked and found that the car was registered to Hughes. Law enforcement officials telephoned Hughes' home but couldn't get an answer. So, a Public Service Commission officer who lives near Hughes went over to check on the elderly man.

Sheriff Smith said Hughes was found lying on the floor of his home bleeding from multiple head wounds. The Orangeburg County Emergency Medical Service was called and the Medivac helicopter transferred him to Richland Memorial Hospital; he was in critical condition in intensive care at first, but his condition slowly improved.

The attacker(s) apparently took Hughes' wallet and car. The car was found abandoned beside the road and the wallet, emptied of all money, was in the car. At the time, the state Law Enforcement Division's forensics team was called in to process the crime scene.

After two weeks of investigation by Detective Barbara Walters, an initial arrest was made in the case. Marion Clay Bowman, 36, of Oil Mill Street, Rowesville, was arrested and charged with assault and battery with intent to kill, burglary and grand larceny. Bowman was held for a few days in the Orangeburg-Calhoun Detention and released on $5,000 surety bond.

Sheriff Smith noted that Govan apparently left town after the incident and came home to Orangeburg for the Thanksgiving holiday weekend.

As of Tuesday night, Govan was being held in the detention center on $10,000 surety bond.

Please see **Police**, 2B

Joyce W. Milkie

Turkey on Turkey Day

There always is a time you remember because you did something stupid, embarrassed yourself, or just didn't connect properly.

I've had more than a few, but I thought, by this time, I was "age proofed" against doing dumb things. Not so. I found out the hard way!

Thanksgiving wasn't great for me this year. We were invited to Don and Debbie Schnadel's in Richland County for dinner – Tim, the girls, me – but I had a bad eye, achy bones – decided not to go. Goofed off most of the day, made the dogs feel important. Later I went to visit Mother at the nursing home, then, not too hungry, decided to get a bite downtown. Several restaurants were serving the fixins, but they were on the other side of town. Some were closed. I found one that was open and ordered. No turkey there. Ate , picked up the bill (which wasn't tallied) and put down the tip. Went to the counter and when the bill was added up, I found I was short a few bucks. I thought I had enough cash for a meal and didn't want to go to the Money Express – at that time, dark, lonely, etc.

So I hauled out my checkbook and was promptly informed they didn't accept checks. What to do? I had a couple of bucks in the car; I could call The T&D and ask one of the guys to rescue me; I could try to eke out my pennies and dimes and see if I could make it. While everybody in the place watched, I was red with embarrassment, the waitress looked at me with a straight face – and I tried once more to get her to take a check. No way. Thanksgiving or not, this was not their policy.

I hated to call the kids in the newsroom; they'd never let me forget it! A couple of gentlemen I had greeted as I went to pay my bill (ha!) were watching. One of them came up and plunked down enough to cover the deficit and – HE refused my check, too! But I thank him so much. (He shall remain nameless unless he gives me permission to tell.) Although I was ashamed – never again will go anywhere without mad money in my purse – his nice gesture saved me from further trauma. I tell you, this was not the best "Turkey Day" I ever spent!

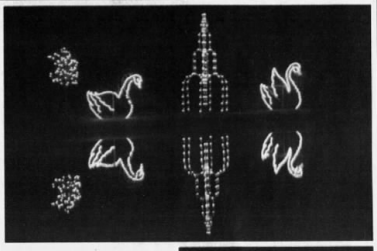
Sparky Woods got fired! In spite of my protests. I think it was wrong. I'm not even a dyed-in-the-wool Gamecocks fan. My son is, but I kind've favor N.C. State. But I'm fed up with the "win at all costs" attitude of alums, college administrators and the fans. The pros get the big money to be ferocious about winnings. Those kids are supposed to be there to learn. And, in life, losing sometimes is a reality.

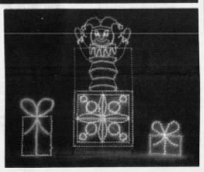
Guess everyone thinks of strawberries as being an All-American delicacy, and so they are. Now. But like so many delicious foods and beautiful flowers, they aren't really "native" to this country, but actually come from all the "eight corners" of the world. Just like the "native" peoples who inhabit this country!

For instance – most of us never knew (or maybe never cared!) that strawberries are native to Australia. Sure are. And tulips? Hey, they came from Turkey, who knows how many mags years ago.

Whether or not you like rhubarb (I do, love stewed rhubarb!) it is interesting to know that its native home is Manchuria. Forsythia is from China and petunias – well, they may not be All-American but they sure are from South America.

Wonder how many other things we just love to eat, smell, look at – may come from other parts of the world? But we do reciprocate. Many of our "native" growths are returning the favor, and other countries are enjoying our good things.





Garden Christmas

An ice fountain with swans reflecting in the Edisto Memorial Gardens pond and an animated jack-in-the-box popping are only a few of the lighted figures to be found in the Children's Garden Christmas. Motorists touring the half-mile drive-thru Christmas display are asked to enter the gardens from the Russell Street end so the displays have been set up for viewing from that direction. The tour is free and will be open from 6 to 10 p.m. each night through Jan. 2. (T&D photos by Amy Tripp)

Unemployment rate increases to 7.1 percent

By The Associated Press

COLUMBIA – The dip in South Carolina's unemployment rate was short-lived as it headed back up to 7.1 percent in October, the state Employment Security Commission said Tuesday, with two local counties having a higher rate than the state.

Bamberg County was the only in the four-county coverage area to make the top 10, coming in at eighth with an 11.1 percent unemployment rate for October, up from 10.9 in September.

Orangeburg County was ranked 18th at 8.7 percent, down from 9.2 in September.

Calhoun County was ranked 34th at 6.3 percent, down from 7.0 in September, while Dorchester came in with its usual low ranking, this time 39th at 5.3 percent, down from 5.4 in September.

The number of manufacturing jobs continued to drop and state officials were left hoping for a better holiday employment season to pull the number back down again.

After staying at 7 percent or above all summer, the rate had gone to 6.9 percent in September when thousands of education workers returned to their jobs.

The national employment rate also edged upward in October to 6.8 percent.

Federal Labor Department officials had said when they announced the national figure that it might reflect more people returning to the job market as the economy picked up. If the number who return to seeking jobs outstrips the ability of the economy to provide them, the unemployment rate increases.

Robert E. David, director of the Employment Security Commission, said the state's October increase was normal as seasonal slowdowns in construction, tourism and agriculture begin.

"We are hopeful that recalls in manufacturing and a strong holiday buying season will cause 1993 to end on an optimistic note," David said.

In October, however, South Carolina lost 400 manufacturing jobs, brining the loss from a year ago to

Please see **Jobless**, 2B

Here are unadjusted unemployment figures reported by the South Carolina Employment Security Commission. They do not include the seasonal adjustments used to calculate the statewide unemployment rate:

County	Oct.	Sept.
1. Marlboro	13.9	12.7
2. Clarendon	13.3	13.9
3. Barnwell	12.9	12.7
4. Williamsburg	12.4	13.3
5. Chester	12.2	12.5
6. Marion	11.9	12.0
7. Dillon	11.5	11.7
8. Bamberg	11.1	10.9
9. Darlington	10.8	11.5
10. Georgetown	10.5	9.4
11. Fairfield	10.3	8.9
12. Hampton	10.1	9.9
13. McCormick	10.0	8.6
14. Allendale	9.8	9.7
15. Kershaw	9.6	9.5
16. Edgefield	9.2	9.0
17. Sumter	9.8	9.2
18. Orangeburg	8.7	9.2
19. Lancaster	8.5	9.0
Abbeville	8.5	7.5
21. Horry	8.3	6.9
22. Jasper	8.1	9.2
Union	8.1	8.4
24. Colleton	8.0	7.9
25. Lee	7.9	8.1
26. Aiken	7.4	6.6
27. Florence	7.1	7.7
Chesterfield	7.1	6.4
29. Laurens	6.9	8.2
30. Berkeley	6.8	6.7
31. Oconee	6.6	6.6
32. Greenwood	6.5	6.2
33. Newberry	6.4	6.9
34. Calhoun	6.3	7.0
35. Charleston	6.2	6.2
36. Saluda	5.8	5.6
37. Anderson	5.6	5.8
Cherokee	5.6	5.6
39. Dorchester	5.3	5.4
40. Richland	5.1	5.2
41. Beaufort	5.0	5.5
42. Greenville	4.8	4.9
Pickens	4.8	4.6
44. York	4.7	5.5
45. Spartanburg	4.5	4.6
46. Lexington	4.2	4.3

DPS reports several arrests made over Thanksgiving weekend

By SHELIA ANTLEY
T&D Staff Writer

Officers with the Orangeburg Department of Public Safety were kept busy this holiday weekend responding to a number of incidents and making numerous arrests, including one of a 19-year-old woman who attacked two other women with a razor box cutter.

Authorities responding early Sunday to a report of a fight in the parking lot of the Huddle House restaurant on John C. Calhoun Drive found two female victims, one 19 and the other 20 years old, who had been cut by a female suspect wielding a razor box cutter.

The victims were both taken to The Regional Medical Center by EMS and were treated in the emergency room.

A hospital spokeswoman said Tuesday that the 19-year-old victim was registered in the emergency room at 5:43 a.m., and treated for a laceration to the face. She received stitches and was released at 7 a.m.

The 20-year-old was treated in emergency at 5:31 a.m., for two lacerations to the shoulder. She also received stitches and was released at 6:40 a.m.

DPS Maj. Joseph Keitt said Tuesday that Sabrina Lorraine Sistrunk of 520 Riggs St. was arrested Sunday and charged with two counts of assault and battery of a high and aggravated nature.

She is being held at the Orangeburg-Calhoun Detention Center on $5,000 surety bond with a 10 percent option set Monday by Municipal Judge Ronald Salley.

Detective Leon Porter is investigating the incident.

And, in an unrelated report of assault, a 17-year-old victim stated being inside Tammie's Convenience Store on Whaley Street Sunday when he was called outside. Once outside, he was knocked unconscious by an unknown person.

The victim came to in the emergency room on TRMC where he told police he had been robbed of a gold chain and charm valued at $500. A

Please see **DPS**, 2B

Officials say agricultural research, education must grow with population

By GENE CRIDER
T&D Staff Writer

BLACKVILLE, S.C. – Agricultural research and education need to be increased in a world with an ever-growing population which needs more food and clothing, agriculture officials said Tuesday.

Clemson University Vice Provost Milton Wise, S.C. Commissioner of Agriculture D. Leslie Tindal and other agricultural officials gathered at the Clemson University Edisto Research and Education Center in Blackville on Tuesday to celebrate the 100th anniversary of the first class to enter the university.

The Edisto Research Center, created in 1937, is one of Clemson's off-site spots for agricultural research and training.

Americans are not as hungry now as people are in other countries – countries where 70 percent of the people work in agriculture and yet still don't have enough to eat, Wise said during his speech. In other countries, like Japan, food can cost an inordinate amount of money, he said.

"What do they not have?" he asked. He said the people of those countries do not have a university system that serves the people, like Clemson University.

"This indeed is your university and we want you to keep that in mind and use it as such," he said. The Edisto Research Center and the university works closely with farmers, the USDA and other agencies and businesses to help agriculture, he said.

The earth's population has grown from 1 billion in 1830 to 5 billion in 1987 – and grows by "300,000 souls" every day – increasing the amount of food and fiber the world needs, Wise said.

He then questioned who could say that cooperatives are not needed to serve the agricultural needs of the world.

Even so, the political clout of agriculture been lost, he said, and people need to look hard at their representatives in state and local government and look toward a more "level-headed" kind of legislator.

In the future, farmers should look towards greater use of electronic communication – especially

Please see **Agriculture**, 2B

Stressing need for agricultural research

Clemson University Vice Provost Milton Wise (at podium) and state Commissioner of Agriculture D. Leslie Tindal (right) spoke on the importance of agriculture and agricultural research at the Clemson University Edisto Research and Education Center in Blackville on Tuesday. The two stressed the need for increased agricultural research during a time when less people are entering the field and more people are dependent upon the food it brings. The center was celebrating the centennial of the first class to enter the university. (T&D photo by Gene Crider)

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