

The Daily Edition

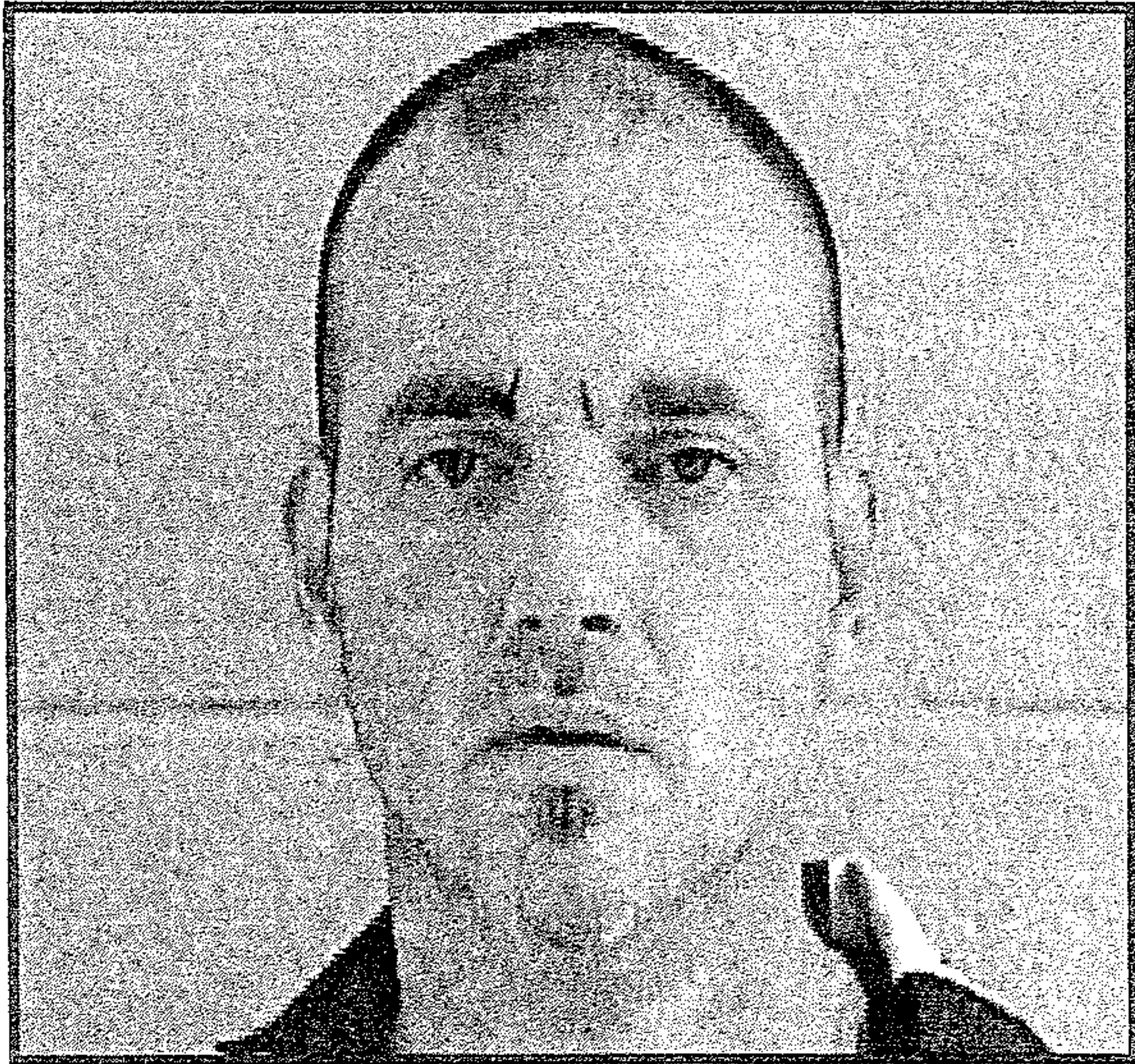
50¢

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Friday, March 23, 2018

Wreck goes from bad to worse

Guess you should have stayed at your friends house



Jeremey Gyurnek

Jeremey Gyurnek, 39, Louisiana Ave Etowah, was charged with DUI, Man/Sell/Poss of Controlled Substance. Trooper Lael Justice THP, was dispatched to a personal injury crash on I75 South bound at the 75 mm. Vehicle had struck a semi-truck and rolled over. The driver performed an LOC test before claiming his ribs hurt and that he needed medical attention.

(see Wreck pg. 2)



Dennis Coleman

Dennis Coleman, 48, Isbill Road Sweetwater, was charged with DUI, Simple Possession, MFG/Del/Sale or Poss. of Meth, Poss. of Drug Para., and Violation of Implied Consent.

Deputy C Rogers LCSO, observed a vehicle without activated headlights traveling South on Highway

see DUI pg. 3

Knoxville man charged in recent suntrust bank robbery

On Tuesday, March 13, 2018, Mark A. Stallings, 58, of Strawberry Plains, Tenn. was arrested for the March 5, 2018, robbery of the Suntrust Bank on Andrew Johnson Highway in Knoxville. Stallings appeared before the Honorable Dennis H. Inman, U.S. Magistrate Judge on March 14, 2018. He will remain in custody pending a

preliminary hearing scheduled for March 21, 2018.

Details of the robbery can be found in the criminal complaint and supporting affidavit on file with the U.S. District Court. According to the affidavit, on March 5, 2018, Stallings entered the Suntrust Bank and passed a note to the teller demanding

See Robbery P.5

Fist fight leads to stabbing



Jeffrey Everett

See Fight p.4

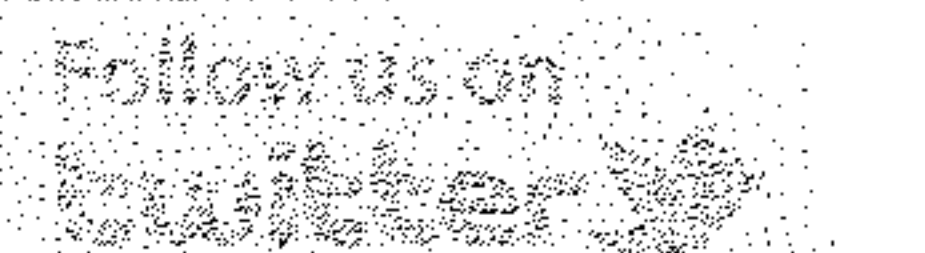
North Carolina Drug Ring Dismantled Gang-Affiliated

Group Was Major Supplier of Heroin, Cocaine in Triangle Region

One-time major suppliers of cocaine, heroin, and marijuana in North Carolina's Triangle region will be spending decades behind bars, thanks to local, state, and federal law enforcement partners determined to stop violent gangs that profit from narcotics trafficking.

A federal judge in December sentenced the ringleaders in the case, Maurio Mitchell and Mark Daye, to prison terms of 35 years and 30 years, respectively. In all, nine members of what was known as the Maurio Mitchell Drug Trafficking Organization, dismantled in 2016,

(see Drug ring pg. 4)



Verse of the Day

In your hearts, set apart Christ as Lord. Always be prepared to give an answer to everyone who asks you to give the reason for the hope that you have. But do this with gentleness and respect. —

1 Peter 3:15

Obituaries

See P.4

Wazzup

Dont forget to send your pennies to school for the Pennys for Patients. Such a wonderful cause.

Weather

Today: Partly sunny. High of 51F.

Tonight: Cloudy. Low of 40F.

Saturday: Rain. High of 58F.

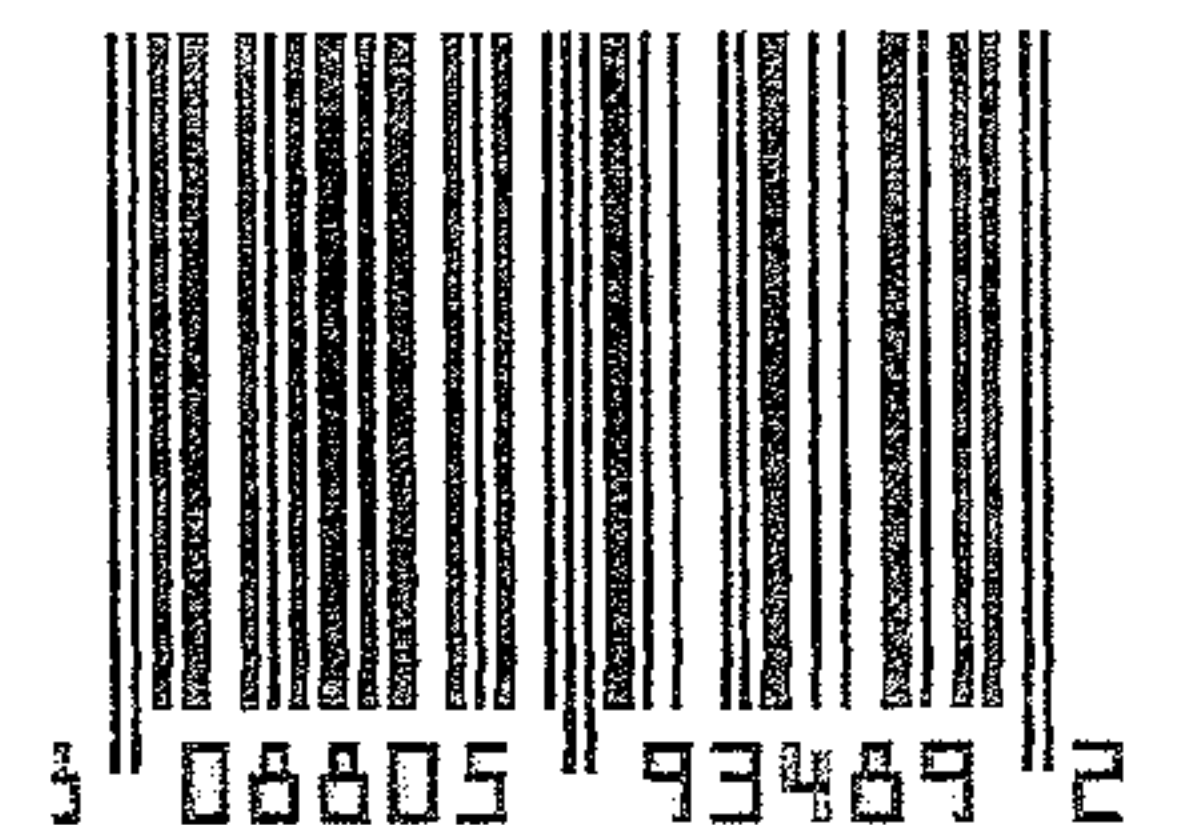
Saturday night: Rain. Low of 45F.

Horoscopes

Pisces 2/19-3/20

You possess all the tools and skills you need to put yourself on the map of prosperity now. However, you might share your current strategy with others, only to realize

(Continued on page 6)



Wreck

The driver and passenger were taken to UT Medical Center. While performing an inventory of the vehicle 2 scales, 7 Xanax pills in a plastic bag, a small bag of marijuana, 2 glass pipes, brass knuckles, 3 needles, a spoon, and hundreds of

small plastic baggies were located. The driver Jeremy Gyurnek claimed ownership of all the backpacks in the vehicle, except for the passenger bag which had no illegal items. At the hospital Jeremy was extremely lethargic, and fell asleep during sobriety test. The nurse confirmed

he had not been given medication. Trooper also located \$2840 dollars on Jeremy he stated he was going to buy a car. Jeremy was released from hospital and transported to Loudon Jail.

The Daily Edition

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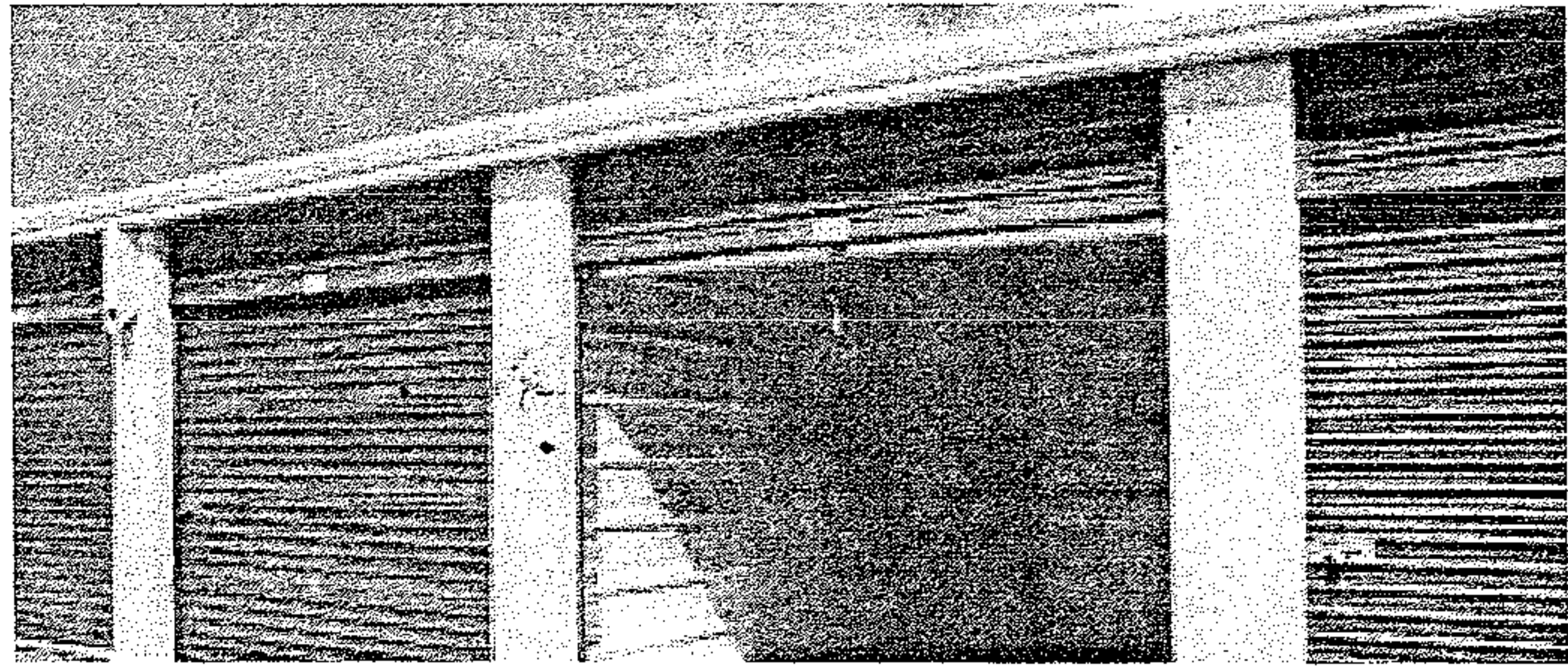
DUI

11 in the area of Pond Creek Rd. Deputy observed the vehicle traveling at a high rate of speed and initiated a traffic stop in the area of the Loudon/Monroe County line. Upon contact with the driver, identified as Dennis Coleman, Deputy observed Mr. Coleman spraying Listerine in his mouth as well as eating several Altoid mints. While speaking with Mr. Coleman Deputy also observed a large cooler in the passenger floor board. After asking Mr. Coleman what was inside it he advised there was beer in it and that he had been at a friend's house drinking. Mr. Coleman was asked to step out of the vehicle and to perform Standardized Field Sobriety. After exiting the vehicle a clear

pipe with burnt residue fell from Mr. Coleman's body. Deputy asked Mr. Coleman what the pipe was for and he advised it wasn't his. While conducting S.F.S.T Mr. Coleman advised he had an ankle injury. Deputy asked Mr. Coleman if he had an occupation and he advised he was currently hanging drywall. Mr. Coleman performed poorly on all stages. Compiling the totality of the circumstances Deputy placed Mr. Coleman under arrest for D.U.I and Possession of Drug Paraphernalia. While conducting an inventory list of the vehicle for tow Deputy found several straws with white residue within them in the center cup holders. Deputy also found 0.5 grams of a white powdery substance believed


see DUI ctd. pg. 7

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*note: the "Rotation List" is a list of wrecker services that provide service for wrecks, DUI's, breakdowns, etc. and are on an on-call basis for service. This list is approved by the Sheriff.

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Fight

Jeffrey Everett, 39, Hall Street Lenoir City, was charged with Domestic Assault Felony, Violation of Probation, and Failure to Appear. Officer were dispatched to West 2nd Ave Lenoir City on an Assault. The victim was transported to Ft. Loudon ER, where he was treaded and released. After an investigation by Bradley Brown LCPD, Jeffery Everett after a brief altercation where a few punched between victim and Everett were thrown. Witness stated victim walked away and Everett grabbed a kitchen knife and quickly advances on victim thrusting a knife in his back. Everett did admit this to Inv. Brown. Everett was placed under arrest.

Drug Ring

received a combined total of 119 years in prison. "Mitchell was the architect of the organization, and Daye provided the source of supply," said Special Agent Steve Jessup, an investigator on the case from the FBI's Charlotte Division and a member of the FBI-led Raleigh-Durham Safe Streets Task Force. Daye had a cartel connection in California that supplied the drugs, and Mitchell was affiliated with members of the United Blood Nation's Omega Line, a violent street gang operating within the Ra-

leigh-Durham area known as the Triangle. That partnership resulted in the distribution of significant quantities of illegal drugs—and violent acts that stemmed from those crimes.

"For the past five years, factions of the same Bloods gang have been fighting amongst themselves, largely over the drug trade," said Tim Thomas, a Durham Police Department detective and task force member. The culture of violence is so strong among rival gang factions that many have their own rap musicians who post music videos on social media platforms to intimidate and threaten their enemies. These "dis videos"—where targets were disrespected

Drug Ring ctd. pg. 7

Obituaries

Edelphia Whatley "Pee Wee" Allen age 94 of Lenoir City formerly of Cullman, AL passed away Wednesday morning, March 21, 2018 at her home. She was the second oldest living member of First Baptist Church. Pee Wee and her family formerly owned and operated Allen's Clothing Store in Lenoir City and later Allen's Antiques. She was formerly active in Suburban Women's Club and enjoyed working in her yard. Preceded in death by her devoted husband, Rayburn Allen; son, Charles Rayburn "Chip" Allen, Jr.; parents, Leman and Etta Moon Whatley; brothers and sisters:

Esmer Green, Daphine Turner, Hubert Whatley, Elwin Whatley, Haskell A. Whatley, Billy Whatley, and Peggy Goodwin. Survived by her son, Joe D. Allen; grandchildren, Charles Rayburn Allen III and wife, Barbie, Joby Allen, Allison Stanley and husband, Reiss; great-grandchildren, Brody, Brooks and Brian; sister, Betty Tidmore; many nieces and nephews. The family will receive friends from 1 p.m. to 2:30 p.m. on Sunday, March 25th at Click Funeral Home in Lenoir City. Funeral services will follow at 2:30 p.m. with Rev. Kenneth Phillips officiating. A private interment will be held in Lakeview Cemetery. Click Funeral Home, 109 Walnut Street, Lenoir City is in charge of arrangements.

Russell James Pickens age 39 of Lenoir City passed away suddenly Monday, March 19, 2018 at his home. Russell was a great family man, a very loving son and brother, even more a great husband and excellent dad. Russell gave his family a good Christian home. He was an avid U. T. football fan, loved to hunt and fish with his dad. He was a member of Grigsby Chapel United Methodist Church. Russell was an

employee of Thermall. Preceded in death by his father, James Lee Pickens. He is survived by his wife of 19 years, Christy Pickens; daughter, Amber Pickens; son, Cooper Pickens; mother, Janice Pickens; sisters, Terry Rogers, Julie Ritchie (Scott), and Jennifer Pickens; many aunts, uncles, nieces and nephews. The family will receive friends from 5 p.m. to 7 p.m.

on Friday, March 23rd at Click Funeral Home in Lenoir City. Funeral services will be held at 1 p.m. on Saturday, March 24th in the Click Funeral Home Chapel with Dr. Ronny Jones officiating. Burial will follow in Lakeview Cemetery with Rev. Danny Lee officiating. Click Funeral Home, 109 Walnut Street, Lenoir City is in charge of arrangements.

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Robbery

money. The arrest of Stallings is the result of the joint efforts of the FBI Safe Streets Task Force, comprised of the FBI, Knoxville Police Department, Knox County Sheriff's Office, and Knox County Major Crimes Unit. Assistant U.S. Attorney Kelly A. Norris will represent the United States in court proceedings. Members of the public are reminded that an indictment constitutes only charges and that every person is presumed innocent until his or her guilt has been proven beyond a reasonable doubt. On Tuesday, March 13, 2018, Mark A. Stallings, 58, of Strawberry Plains, Tenn. was arrested for the March 5, 2018, robbery of the Suntrust Bank on Andrew Johnson Highway

in Knoxville. Stallings appeared before the Honorable Dennis H. Inman, U.S. Magistrate Judge on March 14, 2018. He will remain in custody pending a preliminary hearing scheduled for March 21, 2018.

Details of the robbery can be found in the criminal complaint and supporting affidavit on file with the U.S. District Court. According to the affidavit, on March 5, 2018, Stall-

ings entered the Suntrust Bank and passed a note to the teller demanding money.

The arrest of Stallings is the result of the joint efforts of the FBI Safe Streets Task Force, comprised of the FBI, Knoxville Police Department, Knox County Sheriff's Office, and Knox County

Major Crimes Unit. Assistant U.S. Attorney Kelly A. Norris will represent the United States in court proceedings.

Members of the public are reminded that an indictment constitutes only charges and that every person is presumed innocent until his or her guilt has been proven beyond a reasonable doubt.

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ORANGE BLOSSOM

2018

DUI con. from pg. 3

Drug Ring con. from p.4

to be Cocaine as well as 0.5 grams of a white crystallized substance believed to be crystal meth, both were located within a tobacco can inside the center console of the vehicle. Mr. Coleman was read the Tennessee Blood/Breath Consent Advisement to which he refused to provide a blood sample. Deputy Rogers then transported Mr. Coleman to the Loudon County Jail without incident. All events did occur within Loudon County, TN. Mr. Coleman was also charged with Violation of Implied Consent, Simple Possession of Cocaine, Possession of Meth

on social media—often resulted in violent encounters, Thomas said. “They were more about sending a message than music.”

The FBI case against Mitchell’s organization began in the summer of 2015 in response to a spike in gang violence in the area—the result of the Bloods’ turf wars surrounding the drug trade. In January 2016, the task force initiated a court-ordered wiretap of Mitchell and others.

The evidence revealed that the organization was receiving large quantities of cocaine in the Triangle area—much of it shipped from California in containers used to package furniture—and that gang

members were being used as distributors and enforcers.

During the three months the wiretap was in place, evidence showed that Mitchell and his associates distributed 23 kilos of cocaine. When the group members were arrested in April 2016, task force members seized 7.6 pounds of cocaine and 3.5 pounds of heroin. Also seized were weapons, kilo presses—which the traffickers used to form powder cocaine into bricks—and jewelry, including a \$50,000 wristwatch.

The traffickers were charged federally with a variety of drug trafficking offenses, because federal sentencing

guidelines provided lengthier prison terms than state charges. The nine members of the Maurio Mitchell Drug Trafficking Organization, all convicted in 2016 and 2017, were sentenced in October and December 2017.

“A lot of these guys have been known locally to law enforcement for their criminal activity, and many have significant records,” Thomas said. “We hope the federal charges and long prison terms in this case send the appropriate message to anyone with intentions to fill the criminal void they left behind.”

In addition to FBI and Durham Police Department personnel, members of the Ra-

leigh-Durham Safe Streets Task Force include officers from the Durham County Sheriff’s Office and the North Carolina State Highway Patrol. Also taking part in the Mitchell investigation were the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms, and Explosives and the Internal Revenue Service’s Criminal Investigation division.

“This was a great team effort,” Jessup said. “Dismantling the Maurio Mitchell organization made the community a safer place.”

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