

the Sheriff's Star



"The Dean" looks back on 30 successful
years as Sheriff of Union County.
(See "Dean of Sheriffs is Quite A Guy," page 2)

We Salute:

An Imposing Line-up of Outstanding Sheriffs and Deputies

Sgt. Dean Longo

VERO BEACH — Chosen for his fine personality and his ability to deal with the public, Sgt. Dean Longo received an "Officer of the Year" award from the Exchange Club of Indian River County. Sgt. Longo is a Deputy in the Indian River County Sheriff's Department.

Charles Lamar English

MADISON — Madison County Deputy Sheriff Charles Lamar English was honored as the "Outstanding Graduate" during end of term ceremonies at the Law Enforcement Academy on the North Florida Junior College campus.

Sheriff Burton

BRADENTON — Manatee County Sheriff Thomas M. Burton, Jr.'s collection of fan mail includes a recent letter from the Kiwanis Club of Bayshore praising him for maintaining a high degree of professionalism in crime prevention and law enforcement which "contributes immeasurably to making Manatee County an outstanding area for individuals to reside in and to conduct business."

Bill Balkwill

SARASOTA — Bill Balkwill, a Sarasota County Sheriff's Department Resource Officer assigned to Sarasota High School, was named "Outstanding Young Law Enforcement Officer of the Year" by the Sarasota Junior Chamber of Commerce.

J. G. (James) Nicholson

BRADENTON — Manatee County Deputy Sheriff J. G. (James) Nicholson was named "Sheriff's Deputy of the Year" during ceremonies at the Bradenton Elks Lodge. He was praised for his off-duty apprehension of a fleeing bank robber.

Donald Brown

VERO BEACH — Indian River County Deputy Sheriff Donald Brown was named "Officer of the Month" after he was instrumental in preventing an escape from the Indian River County Jail.

John Carduck

DAVIE — Broward County Deputy Sheriff John Carduck deserved every bit of praise he received for rescuing a woman and four small children from a burning mobile home.

Alan Cason

LAKE CITY — Columbia County Deputy Sheriff Alan Cason was praised for his community service and described as a model for other officers to emulate when the Moose Lodge presented him with one of its "Law Enforcement Officer of the Year" awards.

Sheriff Joe Sheppard

Bobbie Ann Moore

SEBRING — Highlands County Sheriff Joe Sheppard shared the limelight with his Financial Administrator, Bobbie Ann Moore. He was honored as the "Republican of the Year," while she was chosen as the "Female Officer of the Year."

Sgt. Don Powell

PENSACOLA — Shot twice but saved by his bulletproof vest, Sgt. Don Powell, from the Escambia County Sheriff's Department, was successful in apprehending a convenience store robber. Later the Pensacola Exchange Club presented him with its "Officer of the Month" award.

**the
Sheriff's
Star**

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Joseph Conrad

DADE CITY — Pasco County Sheriff John M. Short praised Deputy Joseph Conrad for saving the life of Angela Marie Register, a three-year-old girl who stopped breathing after she was accidentally hit by a tossed orange. The accident occurred when the child was watching some adults toss oranges around. She fell to the ground and was beginning to turn blue when Deputy Conrad arrived on the scene. He administered cardio pulmonary resuscitation until an ambulance arrived. The child's condition was later described as "guarded but stable."

Robert Hansell

KISSIMMEE — Osceola County Deputy Sheriff Robert Hansell received a Distinguished Service Award from his boss, Sheriff Ernest P. "Kayo" Murphy, after he saved a man's life.

While on patrol around 1 a.m., Hansell checked out a man who was asleep in a pickup truck parked in a skating rink parking lot. The man said he had become sleepy while driving home, and had stopped to take a nap.

Hansell continued on patrol. Two hours later he came back to the parking lot and found the cab of the pickup truck on fire with the driver asleep inside.

Fortunately, the deputy was able to rescue the driver before the truck became engulfed in flames.

Theron A. Burnham

WINTER HAVEN — Presented posthumously, the American Legion's state "Lawman of the Year" award went to Polk County Deputy Sheriff Theron A. Burnham, who was killed while trying to apprehend a suspected murderer. The suspect was later convicted and sentenced to the electric chair.

Volunteers are the Sheriff's Eyes and Ears

Encouraged by Sheriffs, citizens all over Florida are getting involved in effective crime fighting projects. Some are called Neighborhood Watch, others are called Crime Watch, but they all have the same objective: to enlist volunteers as the "eyes and ears" of law enforcement.

Folks who enroll in the "Watch" projects are urged to be on the lookout for burglars, vandals and other types of criminals in their neighborhood. They are told to be "nosy neighbors," and to report to the local Sheriff's Department any suspicious activities.

In some communities the volunteers set up security patrols and also circulate information about various ways homes can be made more secure.

The volunteers are not armed and they are cautioned against attempting to make arrests or taking the law into their own hands. Their job is simply to stay alert so they can spot and report criminal activity.

Accompanying this article are pictures relating to "Watch" groups in Clay and Citrus Counties.



Clay County Sheriff Jennings Murrhee (right), Sergeant Tom Darby, County Commissioner Hank Bruning and Public Works Director John Bowles assisted residents of High Ridge Estates in putting up a sign warning criminals about "Crime Watch." The High Ridge Estates residents in the picture are (from left) O. E. DeWitt, John Bressan, Bill Cosgrove, Earl Chapin and Vernon Howard.



Citrus County Sheriff Charles S. Dean (right) with Citrus Springs Neighborhood Watch volunteers. The volunteers are (from left) John Martinelli, Fred McLean and Peter Musco.



The Whitehead Saga:

Dean of Sheriffs is Quite a Guy!



LAKE BUTLER — No single description fits Union County Sheriff John Whitehead. Some folks see him one way, some another, but they all agree he's quite a guy.

To the voters he's the hard-working Sheriff of Union County, who's on the job day and night, 24 hours a day, seven days a week.

To his fellow Sheriffs he's "the Dean" because he's been in office longer than any who are now wearing the star badge.

To battered political opponents he's "Whitehead the steam roller," whose election victories dominate the record books hereabouts.

To people in trouble he's "Whitehead the friend," who can open some doors and get the attention of some important people when help is needed.

The Host With The Most

To fanciers of chitlin's, bear meat stew, venison and roas'n'ears he's "Whitehead the genial host," whose annual October barbecues attract thousands of guests — including celebrities from sports, business, government and politics.

To close friends and associates he's "Whitehead the Good Ole Boy," who loves farming, hunting, fishing, and hand-rolled cigars.

To late-night revelers he's "Whitehead the entertainer," who never runs out of rollicking stories, and never seems to repeat any of them.

Fifty-seven years ago this husky, jolly, many-faceted Sheriff's Sheriff came into the world as the descendant of Union County pioneers.

He Came Home A Hero

He grew up on a farm that would have inspired Marjorie Kinnan Rawlings to write three or four more books; and he went off to World War II as a sailor.



The Sheriff's trusty Stetson has been tossed into the political arena nine times. Will he do it one more time?

Action in eight major sea battles made him a hero in the eyes of home folks — especially in the eyes of a pretty black-haired farm girl named Vivian who married him when he came home on leave.

His battle stars, plus a year's experience in the U. S. Navy Shore Patrol, made him a prime political prospect, and he was hardly out of uniform in 1946 before friends began urging him to run for something. They were certain he could be elected Sheriff or county commissioner. He wasn't so sure. He had just turned 23 and he felt his youth might prove to be a serious handicap.

He listened to the advice, took some readings on the political climate, bided his time, and, in 1948, announced he was running for Constable — a law enforcement position that held broad authority similar to a Sheriff's powers but has since been abolished. The decision was a good one. Whitehead won by a landslide.

Four years later he ran for Sheriff against three opponents, then entered a run-off against the incumbent and beat him three-to-one.

Youngest Sheriff in The State

Newspapers noted that Whitehead was the youngest Sheriff in the state, having turned 27, and the local political opposition tried to use this publicity to their advantage. "They called me 'that boy Sheriff,'"



"Criminals around here know I've got bloodhounds," said the Sheriff. "I've caught a lot of them."

Whitehead recalls. "I actually had to fight people to get them in jail." It was the custom in those days to test a new Sheriff — to see how tough he was — and local roughnecks gave "the kid" a hard time.

After Whitehead proved his toughness, he had fewer fights with young fellows he was trying to arrest.

"I won't never forget what happened with Jim Bob (not his real name)," Whitehead said, smiling. "The Highway Patrol troopers called me out of a football game one night. They had chased Jim Bob to home and couldn't get him, and when I got there I walked up the steps. I called him. He answered me. I said 'let's go.' He walked right out of the house. I said 'Get in that car.'

"The troopers couldn't believe it."

"I said, 'If y'all would let him know who's boss, he'd listen to y'all too. He knew I was comin' in there to get him.'"

No Lifetime Enemies

Somehow Whitehead managed to make arrests without making lifetime enemies. There was a certain bootlegger, for instance. Years ago Whitehead confiscated his brand new car and ran him out of the county. "Boy he hated me," Whitehead recalled. But now every time he comes up here (from South Florida) he comes straight to see me . . . usually brings me some fruit or something."

Bootleggers were an honorable lot back then, and catching them was a sporting proposition played by

a specific set of rules, according to Whitehead.

"We'd go out on the road between Baker County and here. You could always have a race. Those son-of-a-guns, if they didn't come by here with a load (of moonshine), they'd come by with a souped-up car just to run you."

Playing Coy With The Decoy

"They'd always have a decoy car runnin' for 'em. Heck, I caught a semi truck one time. The county used it for years. Just think what that cost. I hit them for a big load of cases of fruit jars . . . half-gallon fruit jars. I don't know how many thousands of gallons.

"Anyway . . . you just had to figure it out. Lotta times the decoy car would try to pull you off . . . come by flyin' but the load drove real careful. The decoy, he'd try to get you after him. He wouldn't go far before he'd take a side road on you. He wouldn't try to outrun you, just stay ahead of you.

"So, what we'd do, we'd just get off him and come right back and wait for the load to come through. Now the loaded car, once you pulled in to stop him, would give you a race too, but he wouldn't give you a race until you put the light on him."

There were many tricks to the illicit trade, Whitehead said. "Bootlegger told me the way he'd do . . . If he had a load he would blow his horn at me and wave. He said he got by me several times that way.

"He said if he didn't have a load he'd turn his head and drive by acting suspicious. I stopped him several times when he didn't have a load."

Contrary to the way it's done in comic strips, Sheriffs and bootleggers seldom had shootouts. It was a catch-me-if-you-can situation, and Sheriffs had to be in good physical shape.

Marathons With Moonshiners

Whitehead remembers the footrace that occurred when ten state, federal and local officers raided a big moonshine still out by the Baker county line. "We

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Although no longer a full-time employee, the Sheriff's wife, Vivian, still supervises the preparation of meals at the county jail.

Sheriff John Whitehead has devoted 35 years to a law enforcement career that began with the U. S. Navy Shore Patrol, but his happiest hours have been spent on his farm — a rustic, peaceful place that would have inspired Marjorie Kinnan Rawlings to write three or four more books about bygone days in rural Florida. He was born here 57 years ago, and he plans to live here when he retires.



Dean of Sheriffs continued

caught two of those boys . . . had run 'em all over the woods. I'll never forget. They sat down and said, 'We gonna get (Senator) Ed Fraser and (Representative) John Crews to pass a law there can't but two revernoors run two bootleggers.' "

Moonshiner marathons were commonplace and a Sheriff had to be resourceful as well as fleet of foot.

"I caught one man by myself one time, but it was a trick that wouldn't work but one time," Whitehead said. "This fellow Joe was runnin' a big still between here and Lake City. I slipped in to check the 'buck' (mash) to see if it was ready to run, and here he come. I hid, but he had a dog with him. The dog barked and Joe broke and run. I tied out after him, but he was long-legged and I wasn't gainin' on him."

"After I ran about four or five hundred yards I called somebody's name. 'He's comin' right to you,' I yelled. Old Joe made a turn. I called somebody else's name. I said 'Comin' right to ya.' Old Joe just made a circle and finally give up.

"Joe sat down on a log. We was talkin'. He kept lookin' around. I said, 'Whatcha lookin' for, Joe?' He

said, 'Where them other fellas?' I said, 'Hell, ain't nobody out here but me and you.' He said, 'Lord'a-mercy! You won't never pull that on me again!'"

On The Job Around The Clock

During the first seven years of Whitehead's career as Sheriff he had only one deputy, A. A. Sweat, who stayed with him 28 years and retired just last year. "Me and that one man run it right by ourselves, seven days a week, right around the clock," Whitehead said.

He hired his mother to handle the office work, and his wife, Vivian, was in charge of the jail. The Sheriff and his family lived in the jail for 13 years, with Vivian serving as cook, jailer, matron and radio dispatcher. As soon as the children got up to around ten they were taught to pinch-hit as radio dispatchers. The children took turns handling the Sheriff's Department radio on Sundays particularly, while the rest of the family were attending church services.

Today Whitehead's payroll includes six full-time deputies, five correctional officers (jailers), two secre-

taries, two jail cooks, some part-time correctional officers and eight trained volunteer reservists who help out with a variety of law enforcement duties.

Vivian is no longer a full-time employee, but she continues to help out by supervising the preparation of meals at the jail. She also continues to fill her role as a political asset, and she has often been described as a major factor in the Sheriff's success.

\$2,200 Out of His Own Pocket

In his first campaign for Sheriff, Whitehead promised to modernize the department by installing a radio communications system. His opponent told taxpayers, "This guy is gonna cost you a buncha money," but Whitehead retorted that he would buy the radio equipment himself.

After he was elected, Whitehead paid \$2,200 out of his own pocket for a base radio station and two mobile units. Years later, when the Sheriff's Department went off the fee system of financing, Whitehead sold the radio equipment to the county and got his money back.

Early in his first term, Whitehead put Deputy Sweat in a uniform and was one of the first small county Sheriffs to make this progressive move. It was so unusual that Sheriff P. D. Reddish, from neighboring Bradford County, sent a deputy over to look at the uniform and get details about the supplier and the cost.

Whitehead was also one of the first Sheriffs to put a deputy on a salary. He told Sweat: "You're gonna make \$200 a month whether you arrest one person or 50."

Florida's Sheriffs were on a fee system then and were paid fees for making arrests, transporting prisoners and other services. It was customary, Whitehead said, to pay deputies according to the number of arrests they made. No arrests, no pay.

Some Months — No Pay

Whitehead had to operate his department with the money collected from the county as fees. If there was anything left over, he was allowed to compensate himself up to a maximum of \$4,800 a year. Unfortunately, there were many months when the Sheriff was unable to draw any compensation, and several years when his compensation did not reach the maximum figure.

Sweat was fortunate to be drawing a salary of \$200 a month, but this was not all gravy. He had to furnish his own patrol car in the beginning, and the Sheriff paid for gas and oil. When Sweat's car wore out, the Sheriff bought the department's first patrol car.

When Whitehead became Sheriff, he inherited a lot of collectable bonds from his predecessor. Right then and there he vowed that the county would not lose any more money on unpaid bonds. The county has not lost a dime since then, Whitehead said, but there have been times when he has had to dig into his own

pocket to pay off bonds that were in default.

Numerous newspaper articles have been written about Whitehead's wide circle of influential friends. It's true that he has been on a first name basis with governors, judges, cabinet officials, state and U. S. Senators, business leaders and other notables; and his charisma becomes strikingly visible each fall when he holds his annual barbecue. Thousands flock to the farm where the Sheriff was born — the humble, the hangers on, the great and the near-great — and the host puts in a full day strengthening his friendships and political ties.

What John Wants He Usually Gets

"I've been able to get things done by knowin' these people. If you know people and sit down with them and break bread . . ." he begins, then his voice trails off. He pauses to think of examples.

He recalled the prisoner in a nearby county who wanted to be near relatives in Union County while serving his jail time. "The circuit judge knew me personally," said Whitehead, "so he gave the prisoner time to serve in my jail instead of the jail down there."

Because there are state prisons nearby and the state does not transport prisoners to funerals of close relatives, Whitehead gets calls from many areas of the state asking for help. Deputies escorted to Miami a state prison inmate whose brother had been killed in Viet Nam. As usual, after the funeral the prisoner's family paid the expenses incurred by the Sheriff.

Recently, deputies escorted a state prisoner to St. Petersburg and turned him over to a plain clothes policeman. The St. Petersburg officer accompanied the prisoner to the funeral, took him to the family residence for a bite to eat afterward, then returned him to the deputies.

Whitehead takes full responsibility for the prisoners who are released to attend funerals, and none has escaped. He screens them carefully.

Bloodhounds Are a Necessity

The proximity of state prisons increases Whitehead's work load substantially. He estimates that cases originating in the prisons account for 90 percent of the court work in Union County. He and his deputies join the chase when prisoners escape, and therefore bloodhounds are a necessity.

Whitehead's three K-9 deputies have become famous for their tracking ability, and he considers them an effective crime deterrent.

"Criminals around here know damned well I've got bloodhounds," he said. "I've caught a lot of them. They know if they come over here and they have to jump out of a car and hit the woods, that I'll put a dog on their trail. They know that. The word's around. In other words, if a man jumps out of a car in Union County, we catch him."

"We haven't had a peepin' tom case in ages. They

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The Whitehead Charm Wears Well

This charisma of John Whitehead's — this innate charm that has made him a world class politician — how durable is it? Does it wear thin if you're exposed to it day in, day out?

For answers we went to Pauline Bielling, who has been the Sheriff's secretary for 19 years. Her comments told us what we wanted to know.

"He's a good boss," said Pauline, "so understanding, kind and considerate. If I have a problem, I talk to him and all of a sudden it seems I have no problem at all.

"He may not tell people what they want to hear, but he gives them good advice.

"He loses his temper once in a while, but that just makes him more human.

"He's a very smart man. When investigators are at the end of their rope he can tell them just what to do.

"He goes out of his way to help people and he has told us, 'The buck should stop here. Try to help people when they come here instead of sending them somewhere else.' "

Pauline said she finds her job interesting and rewarding after almost two decades and each day brings something new. While she was volunteering this the interviewer couldn't help but notice that she too has an abundance of charm, and he was prompted to conclude that the Sheriff's terminal case of geniality is contagious.



Pauline Bielling has been Sheriff Whitehead's secretary for 19 years.

Dean of Sheriffs continued

know I've got the dogs. One time I took a dog and tracked a peepin' tom right from a window to a bar-room door. I said, 'Who just come in here a few minutes ago?' and they said, 'So-and-so, but somebody done took him home.' I just went straight to his house. The man come out. I could tell it was him from the way the dogs was actin'. I arrested him and got a conviction."

Whitehead has a barrel full of good and bad memories from his long career. The good ones involve times when he helped people, or when he got special recognition such as being elected President of the Florida Sheriffs Association.

The bad ones include the time two of his deputies were shot and killed; or the two times fleeing armed robbers shot into his car.

Good Memories Outnumber Bad

One of the Sheriff's most chilling experiences occurred last year when two Union Correctional Institution inmates armed with knives held a secretary hostage for almost 10 hours. Whitehead joined prison officials in working out a strategy to end the

crisis; and he was greatly relieved when the secretary, a young woman he had known from birth, was finally released. She suffered a knife wound that was not critical, and went back to her job as soon as she was able. One inmate was killed and the other critically wounded.

Whitehead said his good memories far outnumber his bad memories, and, although he's been in law enforcement some 35 years, counting his Navy experience, and his term as constable, he still enjoys every day on the job.

Retirement is something he is not ready to talk about, but he admits it is pleasant to contemplate. If and when he hangs up his badge, he expects to move to his farm, look after his cattle and horses, and enjoy spending more time with his family.

His tight-knit family circle includes his wife, Vivian; his mother, who is now 84; his two sons who live on the old homestead farm; his daughter, who lives in town; their three spouses; and five grandchildren.

One Pew is Not Enough

They all worship together every Sunday, the Sheriff said, and it must be quite a sight to see him

arriving at the First Christian Church with 13 kin-folk in tow.

All indications confirm that Whitehead is at the peak of his popularity. He was unopposed the last three times he ran for reelection, and thus became the first Sheriff to run solo in Union County's history.

The onetime "boy Sheriff" who is now a seasoned old timer must be doing something right. "What's your secret?" he was asked. "What advice would you give to a young fellow who wants to run for Sheriff?"

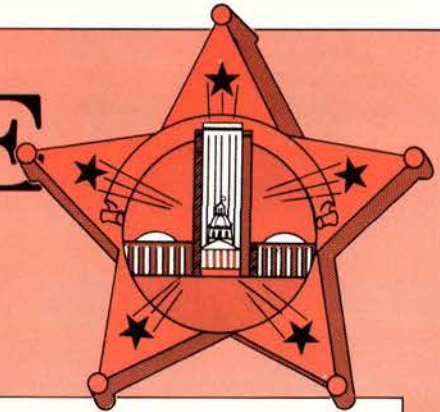
"I'd tell him you'd better have some qualifications," Whitehead said. "People are demanding more experience. However, before you can be Sheriff you've got to be elected. You've got to be able to get along with people, and they have to have confidence in you.

"You've got to like people and you must also have the ability to make people like you. The first thing you've got to do is convince the people that you'll be honest and fair and humble.

"Don't lord it over people. They may not like you arrestin' them, but you should make them think: 'Well, gosh, he's decent to me. He's fair with me,' and that person will wind up havin' a good taste in his mouth when he gets out of jail.

So there it is, the Whitehead formula. It has worked wonderfully well these many years for the old master. Perhaps someday it will work just as well for some young fellow who's sittin' up there in Union County right now thinkin' about runnin' for Sheriff and just bidin' his time.

LEGISLATIVE REPORT 1982



As is our custom, we have rounded up and summarized the bills passed by the 1982 Florida Legislature which have to do with law enforcement. One very important bill is not on the list because it is really not a law enforcement bill, but its passage should have a profound effect on local law enforcement.

Chapter 82-154 increased the state sales tax from 4% to 5% and while the state gets one half of the benefit, counties and cities get the rest of the money to give property tax relief and fund programs which have been starving for adequate appropriations.

One of the most critical statewide needs is in the area of local jail construction, renovation and expansion. The Sheriffs of Florida can be expected to actively seek the additional funds needed to carry out their responsibilities as keepers of the jails.

Don't Drive With Drugs or Drink

Chapter 82-155 (Committee Substitute for Six Senate Bills)

Members of the Florida Chapter of MADD (Mothers Against Drunk Drivers) wanted a mandatory jail term for first offense convictions of intoxicated drivers. A compromise resulted when Sheriffs pointed out that there would not be enough room in the county jails to

house everyone convicted for DWI. The law now requires 50 hours of community service for the first conviction, a fine of \$250 to \$500 and suspension of the driving privilege for not less than 180 days or more than one year. A mandatory sentence of ten days in jail is imposed after the second conviction occurring within 3 years along with a fine of \$500 to \$1,000 and loss of the driver's license for not less than five years. A third

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LEGISLATIVE REPORT

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conviction within 5 years carries a mandatory term of 30 days, a fine of \$1,000 to \$2,500 and a minimum ten year loss of driving privileges if the third conviction occurs within ten years.

In addition to cracking down on drunk drivers, the law now extends to drivers who are under the influence of drugs. When a law enforcement officer has reason to believe a driver is under the influence of drugs, he can ask the driver to submit to a urine test just as drunk drivers can be asked to take a breath test. As with a breath test, a driver can refuse to take a urine test, but his license will be suspended for three months the first time and for six months the second time he refuses. This same implied consent provision (by accepting a license) has been extended to the administration of blood tests so a law enforcement officer can require a person to submit to a blood test if there has been an accident involving a death or serious injury. Effective July 1, 1982.

Chapter 82-58 (Committee Substitute for Senate Bills 298 and 101)

Adds a new section to the statutes, requiring the use of child restraint devices for children five years or younger. Parents operating a car, van or pickup truck must protect their children by using a crash tested, federally approved child restraint device. For children through three years of age, it must be a separate carrier and for children four through five years, it can be a carrier or a seat belt. The purpose of the bill is to have state and local law enforcement officers make the public aware of the danger of injury and death from unrestricted movement by young children in cars. No one is to be convicted of this non-moving, non-criminal charge if, prior to the time of court appearance, the person is able to prove to the Clerk of the Court that a restraining device has been purchased. The penalty for a violation is \$15. Effective July 1, 1983.

Chapter 82-3 (House Bill 21)

Permits chief administrative officers of schools, or persons they appoint, to take into custody and detain any person who is trespassing on school grounds provided they have no legitimate or lawful business there. These school officials are protected from civil and criminal liability for false arrest, false imprisonment or unlawful detention. A law enforcement officer must be called to the school as soon as a trespasser is taken into custody. Effective July 1, 1982.

Chapter 82-5 (House Bill 178)

The "State Anti-Paramilitary Training Act" makes criminal the instruction in the use of firearms and destructive devices when the intent is to unlawfully use the training to cause a civil disorder in the United States. A civil disorder is a public disturbance involving a grouping of three or more persons which may pose a threat of, or actually cause, damage to property within the United States. Violation of this law is a felony of the third degree. Effective July 1, 1982.

CRIMES, PUNISHMENT and FINES

Penalties for crimes committed in Florida fall into seven categories:

Capital felony — life imprisonment with no parole for 25 years or the death penalty (no fine provided for)

Life felony — life or a term of years not less than 30; a fine not exceeding \$15,000

Felony of the first degree — a term of imprisonment not exceeding 30 years; fine not to exceed \$10,000

Felony of the second degree — a term of imprisonment not exceeding 15 years; a fine not exceeding \$10,000

Felony of the third degree — a term of imprisonment not exceeding 5 years; a fine not exceeding \$5,000

Misdemeanor of the first degree — a term of imprisonment not to exceed one year; a fine not to exceed \$1,000

Misdemeanor of the second degree — a term of imprisonment not to exceed 60 days; a fine not to exceed \$500

Destruction of Drugs

Chapter 82-88 (Senate Bill 73)

The huge amounts of drugs which have been seized by law enforcement agencies in recent years have resulted in serious storage problems when all the evidence had to be retained until trial. This new law permits law enforcement officers to remove samples and weigh the seized drugs and then destroy the remaining portion, after obtaining a court order. The seizing agency is also permitted to photograph or video tape the illegal drugs. Effective upon becoming law, April 5, 1982.

Chapter 82-2 (Senate Bill 103)

Stiff penalties have been previously established for persons found guilty of possessing or smuggling large quantities of marijuana, cocaine, heroin and PCP. This law provides that any person who conspires with, or is otherwise involved in the planning or carrying out of a smuggling operation, will be as guilty as the person who carries out the actual delivery or sale. Effective October 1, 1982.

Chapter 82-193 (Committee Substitute for Senate Bill 241)

Amends the statutes having to do with the Parole and Probation Commission so that the Commission can turn certain of its responsibilities over to designated representatives and give Commission members more time to devote to reviewing cases before them. Effective upon becoming law, April 21, 1982.

Chapter 82-131 (House Bill 1173)

Florida law prohibits the carrying of concealed weapons without a license, but this law makes one exception. It is now lawful to carry a concealed weapon or other weapon for self defense within the interior of a private car, van or truck "if the weapon is securely encased or is otherwise not readily accessible for immediate use." To further clarify the meaning of the new law, "Readily accessible for immediate use" is defined as carrying a weapon, "on the person, or within such close proximity and in such a manner that it can be retrieved and used as easily and quickly as if carried on the person." "Securely encased" is also spelled out and means "in a glove compartment, whether or not locked; snapped in a holster, in a gun case, . . . or in a closed box or container which requires a lid or cover to be opened for access." In other words, a concealed weapon cannot be "readily accessible" or must be "securely encased." However, in no case may the firearm be on the person. Effective upon becoming law, April 5, 1982.

Chapter 82-192 (Senate Bill 166)

Requires the Bureau of Crime Compensation, of the Division of Workers' Compensation, to pay the medical expenses for an initial physical examination of rape victims, unless a victim is covered by insurance. If the insurance does not pay the full amount, the Bureau is to pay the balance, up to \$150. Effective July 1, 1982.

Chapter 82-135 (Committee Substitute for Senate Bill 263)

This act relates to spouse abuse and declares that the services of a spouse abuse center are not just for married persons, but also for separated or divorced spouses. It also permits these centers to house the children of abused spouses. Provides funding mechanisms for centers. Persons may now file complaints alleging spouse abuse with the Clerk of the Circuit Court. Penalties are provided for persons who violate restraining orders. Effective July 1, 1982.

Chapter 82-21 (Senate Bill 425)

Provides it shall be a felony of the third degree when a person vandalizes a church, synagogue, mosque or other place of worship and the damage exceeds \$200. Effective upon becoming law, March 15, 1982.

Crime Prevention

Chapter 82-11 (Senate Bill 450)

The "High Intensity Crime Prevention Program Act" was created to develop and implement a comprehensive, coordinated crime prevention and control program in three project counties, which can later be adopted by other areas. Dade, Broward and Palm Beach Counties were selected for implementation of this Strike Force approach and \$171,000 was appropriated. During the 60-day program a Citizen Crime Prevention Strike Force will focus on a residential burglary and commer-

cial robbery prevention program; a Crime Stopper Anonymous Unit will assist law enforcement officials in detection and resolution of certain specific crimes; the Tactical Anti-Robbery Unit will provide surveillance of high crime areas and assist in the apprehension of criminals; and the Private Sector Involvement Unit will carry out an educational program with government officials, criminal and juvenile justice agencies, school districts, private businesses and professional associates. An evaluation of the program's success is to follow completion of the program. Effective upon becoming law, March 11, 1982.

Chapter 82-89 (Committee Substitute for Senate Bill 89)

Establishes the Florida Crime Prevention Training Institute within the Department of Legal Affairs to train law enforcement officers and other interested persons in the most effective crime prevention techniques. Graduates of the training program will be able to take the information back to their own local areas and either establish or improve crime prevention efforts. The Institute is being run by the Help Stop Crime office and three training sessions are planned for the coming year with hopes of expanding it when additional funding is available. Effective upon becoming law, April 5, 1982.

Chapter 82-62 (Committee Substitute for House Bill 296)

During the 1982 Legislative Session, members of the House of Representatives and the Senate learned much about the serious problem of child abuse and neglect. For example: in 1979, the number of reported cases of sexual assault on children in Florida increased by 600 percent; 70 percent of all sex offenders have themselves been the victims of a sexual assault; studies of prison populations indicate that as many as 80 to 90 percent of inmates were abused as children; 65 percent of the dependent children admitted to state hospitals in 1978 had histories of abuse and neglect. With these and still more statistics in mind, the legislature determined that the prevention of child abuse and neglect is to be a priority of the State of Florida. The Department of Health and Rehabilitative Services has been directed to develop a plan to deal with the problem and to submit the plan no later than January 1, 1983. Effective upon becoming law, March 29, 1982.

Chapter 82-210 (Committee Substitute for Senate Bill 842)

Amends the current law to provide that it is a felony of the third degree, instead of a misdemeanor of the first degree, for a boat operator to refuse to stop upon the order of a law enforcement officer or to try to elude such an officer. Effective July 1, 1982.



Florida Sheriffs Youth Fund HONOR ROLL



On these pages the Florida Sheriffs Association gives special recognition to generous supporters of the Florida Sheriffs Youth Fund and its child care institutions: The Florida Sheriffs Boys Ranch, Girls Villa and Youth Ranch. Those listed as "Builders" have given gifts totaling \$100 or more.

Those listed as "Lifetime Honorary Members" of the Florida Sheriffs Association have given \$1,000 or more. Builders receive certificates suitable for framing. Each honorary lifetime member receives a plaque, a lifetime identification card and a lifetime subscription to The Sheriff's Star.

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TAMPA — Hillsborough County Sheriff Walter C. Heinrich (right) presents a Lifetime Honorary Membership to Mr. and Mrs. E. R. Waith.



WAUCHULA — Hardee County Sheriff Doyle W. Bryan presents a Lifetime Honorary Membership to Mrs. Anna Cowart; and (left photo) accepts from Hollis Coker a Florida Sheriffs Youth Fund donation of \$1,897 representing the proceeds from the Third Annual Hollis Coker Invitational Golf Tournament. The benefit tournament was held in Hardee County.

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PUNTA GORDA — Charlotte County Sheriff Glen E. Sapp presents Builder Certificates to Mr. and Mrs. Guy E. Summers; Mr. and Mrs. Oliver G. Wells; Mr. and Mrs. Argus R. Young; and Mariano T. Tiongco, who accepted on behalf of himself and his wife.



Wells



Young



Tiongco



LIVE OAK — Florida Sheriffs Youth Fund Public Relations Director Jim Mason (right) presents a Builder Certificate to Publix Markets, South Oaks Mall, represented by Dick Houghton, Store Manager.



DELAND — Volusia County Sheriff's Department Deputy Steve Saboda accepts a gift of \$62 donated to the Florida Sheriffs Youth Fund by the sixth grade students at Woodward School. The students donated money received as Christmas presents.

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Deputies Schooled in Traffic Management

JACKSONVILLE — Aided by financial assistance from the Governor's Highway Safety Program, Deputy Sheriffs from six counties completed 120 hours of schooling in Police Traffic Management at the University of North Florida. Afterward they posed with Russell J. Arend (right), Director of the University's Institute of Police Traffic Management; and Robert Wilkerson (third from right), representing the Governor's Highway Safety Program. The Deputies are (from left) Sgt. David Parker, Alachua County; Sgt. Dennis Glasscock, Jacksonville; Sgt. Arlan Roan, Lee County; Lt. James Kersey, Palm Beach County; Cpl. David Dees, Martin County; and Sgt. Joe Leiter, Monroe County.



Junior Deputy Essay Contest Winners

BARTOW — When Junior Deputies sponsored by Polk County Sheriff Louie T. Mims were invited to enter an essay contest on the subject: "What Being a Junior Deputy Means to Me," the three youngsters pictured here were the winners. They are (from left) Brad Brooks, second place; Lorena Sanchez, first place; and Kim Morgan, third place. Pictured with them are (from left) Auxiliary Deputy Mary Newsome; PTA President Bob Boatfield and Sheriff Mims.



Sneaking up on a sniper, Bodree assists Nelson while Joyce stands guard.



Dropping 300 feet at a fast clip, Kevin Joyce learns the ropes of rappelling.

Air Force Trains Special Services Team For Sheriff

CRESTVIEW — After Okaloosa County Sheriff Larry Gilbert was sworn-in last year, he announced that he planned to cooperate closely with the military police and security officers at Eglin Air Force Base, a large military installation which covers much of Okaloosa County and has a heavy impact on the local economy.

That decision has paid off for both agencies in many ways. Just one example on the Sheriff's side of the ledger is his highly trained Special Services Team (SST) of deputies trained at the air base to handle crises such as hostage and terrorist situations.

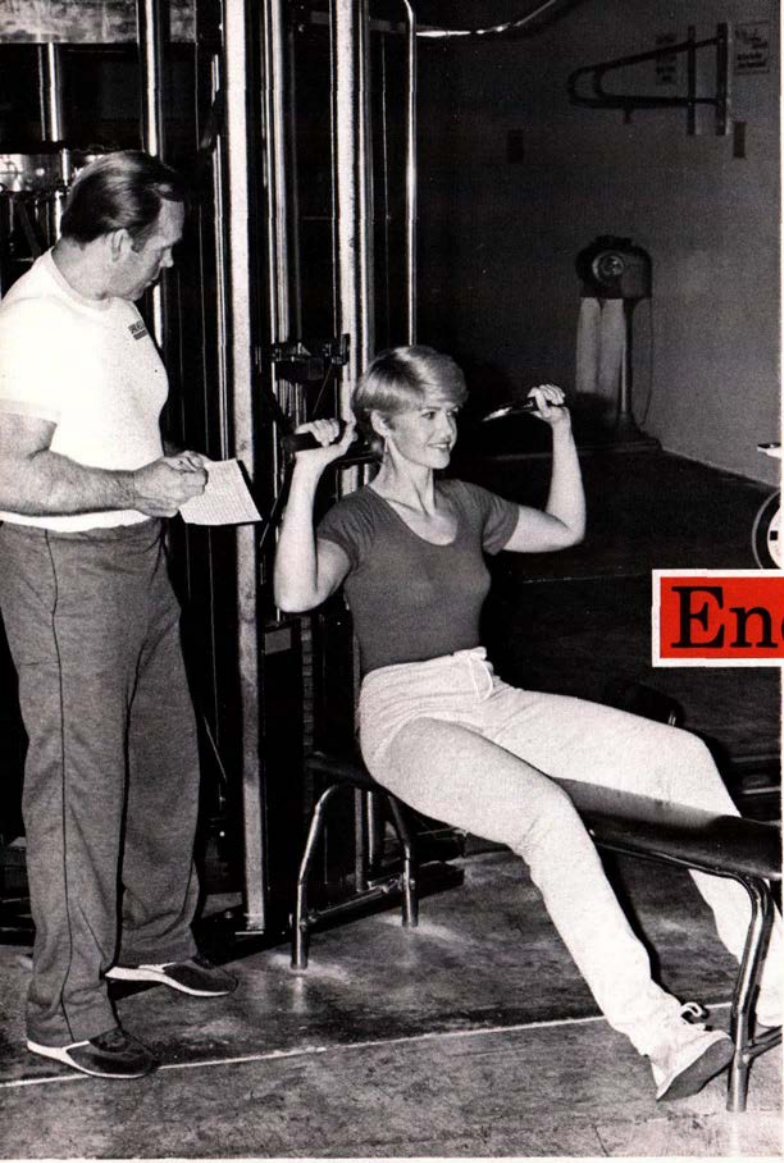
The deputies were put through two weeks of tough training in classroom sessions and in field exercises. Much of their physical conditioning was done in a building where temperatures reached 120 degrees.

To graduate, the four-man team had to act out the rescue of hostages held by a terrorist on the second floor of a building. They passed the test and were praised for their good work by Sheriff Gilbert.

"It pays always to be prepared," said Gilbert, "and this is the way to be prepared."



Sheriff Larry Gilbert (center) poses with his Special Services Team (SST) deputies. They are (from left) Kevin Joyce (team leader), Michael Bodree, Bobby Adams and Joe Nelson.



End