

THE SHERIFFS' STAR

PUBLISHED BY THE FLORIDA SHERIFFS ASSOCIATION — FIRST LINE OF DEFENSE IN LOCAL SELF-GOVERNMENT

SEPTEMBER 1974



Self-Protection Was The Name Of The Game

(See back cover)





viewpoint

"It's a Mistake to Call a Police Officer a Law Enforcement Officer"

The January, 1974, issue of THE SHERIFF'S STAR carried an article about Dr. George Kirkham, a Florida State University Criminology Department professor, and the changed perspective he acquired during a temporary hitch as a deputy sheriff under Jacksonville Sheriff Dale Carson. Since that time Dr. Kirkham has continued to work part-time as a Tallahassee police officer; and the following article excerpted from a speech he made to the Utah Peace Officers Association provides an update of his changing concepts and opinions.

I discovered that the occupation of a Police Officer, which I once thought was very simple, requires tremendous skill. You know it's a mistake to call a Police Officer a law enforcement officer really. Because we know from study after study, and I found out this summer that isn't what a Police Officer does most of the time. They most of the time deal with all kinds of problems, settling arguments and helping lost people, doing all kinds of things that aren't to be handled in terms of the criminal law. If all a Policeman had to do was to enforce the law, that in itself would be simple, but, it is all the other things that make the job so terribly difficult. I discovered, ironically, that the job of a Police Officer required far more human skill than any other practitioner in the art of behavioral science. He has to know more about, in a practical sense, how to handle human beings in trouble than a psychiatrist ever dreamed of. You know a psychiatrist sits on his couch and listens to the patient pulling out his woes; he doesn't confront the patient when that individual is paranoid, upset, hysterical, suicidal, depressed. Those things are behind him. But the Police Officer must confront this individual in exactly these kinds of situations. I dis-

covered also, despite my comments about the Police Officer functioning like a robot, that the job is an emotional job. The Policeman is an ordinary human being who is put in incredibly difficult positions of stress, where he must do things that would test the limits of any reasonable man. We fault Police Officers for behaving like a reasonable man in a situation, for doing nothing more than a reasonable man might be expected to do. Responding to an insult. Responding to the pressures building up on him. And yet we expect more of a Police Officer.

One of the things that I discovered, and this came as a surprise to me because I had always said that I had no temper at all and that I had unlimited frustration tolerance. Things never got to me. But it didn't work out that way, I saw so many things which really began to get to me in a sense. The victims of crime for example. You know to a judge, to jurors, a crime, people who suffer from it, particularly a brutal crime, it's hard to explain because I have been in those positions. It is just many words on a piece of paper you can read about. And I have in my prison work. The most hideous of crimes. And you don't get upset because they are just words. And they are far removed from your consideration of the act. But to give you an example, so many things like this have happened, last week I picked up an ambulance at the city limits, which was coming from Quincy, about 25 miles out of Tallahassee, and escorted it on an emergency run to the hospital. He was coming from the scene of a very bad accident, in which a drunk driver, who was very plainly drunk, had gone over the double line and hit head on a vehicle with a woman and small child in it. There were two ambulances I was escorting and the one had a little boy who was badly injured and a mother who was critically injured. Well, I got back to the hospital and the other officer who was escorting another ambulance behind us, got there and seeing the condition of the child and mother, and seeing the drunk predictably as so often happens, wasn't injured at all and thought of this as something of a joke. There is a strong need to grab that man and beat the hell out of him, which I refrained from doing. You know a couple of years before I would have looked at that situation or read about that situation, not seeing it, not having to see a mother with a two-month-old child, I would have been concerned with the social psychological damage of that man's drinking problem, which part of me still is.

You know I would like to take judges and jurors, talking about street mugging, and let them see an old woman I picked up off the street who was hobbling on down the street to eat her meal, her pension stolen by a street gang, her glasses broken, and let them experience the urge for vengeance. Time and again I would receive things like that and I would wish that I could find some pretense to shoot the person that did that. I would become so angry sometimes. And I was amazed that time and again Police Officers with far less education than I had seemed to show more control. They had gotten used to it. They seemed better able to handle these things. I began to be overwhelmed with many of these things.

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STAR

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This picture was taken at St. Joseph Hospital after Sgt. James Jacobs and Deputy Fernando Ferro had been showing off the newest addition to the Charlotte County Sheriff's Department ambulance unit. (Photo by Fred Haitz, Port Charlotte)

BENT'S DEPUTIES LOG THOUSANDS OF MILES ON **ERRANDS OF MERCY**

PUNTA GORDA — What happens when a fast-growing Florida County suddenly finds itself without emergency ambulance service? Charlotte County was faced with such a dilemma eight years ago.

Working on a financial shoestring, the Charlotte County Sheriff's Department stepped in to try to fill this void. An ambulance was outfitted with financial and equipment contributions coming from department personnel and members of the business sector.

When J. P. (Jack) Bent was appointed Sheriff, he realized that the service being provided was less than adequate, and he, working with the County Commission, began an upgrading and expansion of the ambulance service which today is a model operation being imitated by other sheriffs' departments throughout the State.

"Emergency ambulance service is an area that a sheriff is not legally responsible for providing," Bent said, "but we couldn't sit back and see a community suffer from lack of this service."

At present, the Sheriff's Department has four ambulances serving the county, including the City of Punta Gorda. They are manned by specially trained regular deputies, providing 24-hour-a-day, 7-day-a-week emergency service.

In an effort to meet stiffer State specifications, Sheriff Bent is "experimenting" with four different types of emergency vehicles. Presently on the road are a Modular unit, Maxivan, Carryall, and a station wagon.

"There are advantages and disadvantages in each type 'rig'," Bent said. "Eventually we will have to settle for one type vehicle which both serves the purpose properly and also meets State specifications."

Two men are assigned to each "rig". All are Emergency Medical Technician (EMT) certified. Sgt. James Jacobs is in charge of the ambulance crew, being responsible for scheduling, equipping and maintaining the ambulances. Sgt. Jacobs has been a deputy-ambulance attendant since 1967. Deputy James Manganiello is the senior member of the crew, having been on the "rig" since 1966. Deputy James Vallier is a former doctor's assistant.

The cost of operating the ambulance service, including equipment purchases, is borne by Sheriff Bent in his annual budget. "It is an expensive operation," Sheriff Bent said, "but we are convinced that our department is giving excellent service at a lesser cost than would be realized through a subsidized private firm."

An added advantage to the Sheriff's Department is the fact that the ambulances can be used as patrol vehicles when not on an emergency run. The attendants have power of arrest and spend much time in keeping an eye on businesses during night hours.

"It isn't too often that a law enforcement agency gets a pat on the back, but an appreciative public quite often publicly and privately tosses bouquets to my deputies who man the ambulances," Bent said with pride.

BARTOW — What is green and white, flies so quietly at 1,000 feet it's practically noiseless, can light up a football field at night, can orbit a crime scene at 35 miles per hour, and can land in a field less than 1,000 feet long?

Enthusiastic raves from the Polk County Sheriff's Department would lead one to believe it's some sort of a giant "love bug".

But it's not. Actually it's a rather ordinary looking airplane called a Cessna Sky Sentinel, and (just like those plain girls who make fabulous wives) you have to get to know this contraption intimately before you can begin to understand its great virtues.

This, buddy, is no ordinary airplane. If it was, Sheriff Monroe Brannen would not have taken several of his deputies all the way to Santa Monica, California to look at it.

It was almost "love at first sight", because after kicking the tires, making a careful prop-to-rudder inspection and listening to the performance statistics, the Sheriff and his men decided this airborne crime fighting tool was what they needed. They agreed it would be superior to a helicopter for patrolling the big, wide open spaces and the many city thoroughfares in sprawling Polk County.

BRANNEN'S NOT SHOPPING FOR ANY POLK "CHOPPERS"

And so, they ordered one; they put it into use in April, and within a few months they began singing its praises. It proved to be effective in catching escaped prisoners, solving narcotics cases, locating drowning victims, tracking cattle rustlers, and even putting illegal garbage dumpers out of business.

"The Sky Sentinel," said Sheriff Brannen, "has proven to be the best investment our department could have made in an aircraft. It is a tremendous tool to use in the fight against crime, as well as being a good investment of tax dollars."

World Associates of Santa Monica designed and started producing the Sky Sentinel (a modified Cessna 172) several years ago. It is equipped to carry a pilot, a co-pilot or supervisor, and an observer.

Large observation windows mounted in the sides of the cabin give the observer excellent visibility; and a special optical system featuring 10 x 50 power binoculars and a 3.5 million candle-power spotlight enables him to observe as much from 1,000 feet as a helicopter observer can see from 500 feet (at least that's what those enthusiastic fellows at the Polk County Sheriff's Department tell us).

Special modifications described as a STOL (short take off and landing) kit allow the Sky Sentinel to fly in a tight circle at 35 miles per hour, and land in an area the size of a football field.

This winged crime stopper is completely IFR (Instrument Flight Rules) equipped, and has a four-channel radio for communicating with the Sheriff's Office and all of its mobile units. Other radio gear includes an inter-city frequency and a special surveillance channel.

A list price of \$52,000 makes the Sky Sentinel competitive with helicopter prices, and, according to Capt. Ray Willis, who supervises Sheriff Brannen's aerial arm, operating costs are also something to brag about. Capt. Willis said \$4.87 kept the craft aloft for one hour in the early months of operation. This included gas, oil, maintenance and insurance — but not the salaries of the pilot and observer.

He added the cost was expected to go up to about \$5.70 per hour when the warranty expired, "but this is still a bargain com-



THAT'S

pared to the 25 or 30 dollars per hour it costs to operate and maintain a helicopter."

Chief Pilot Frank Kendall, a retired military flight instructor, pointed out there is a great fatigue factor in a helicopter because it is constantly vibrating and this is very wearing on the pilot and the observer. "In the Sky Sentinel," he said, "there is little or no vibration. This allows us to remain more alert and do our jobs better for longer periods of time.

"Most helicopters can only stay airborne for about one and a half or two hours," Kendall added, "but with the Sky Sentinel we can stay aloft for up to eight hours on a single tank of gas for extended partols and surveillance."

Deputy John Lyons, the aerial observer, said the craft is equipped with a special muffler which allows it to fly as low as 1,000 feet without attracting attention on the ground.

"Departments using helicopters, however, have received complaints about the racket they make, and in some areas officers are hesitant to use 'copters after midnight because of the noise factor," he added.

Of course, there are a few things 'copters can do that the Sky Sentinel can't do — like landing on hospital rooftops, or pulling shipwrecked boatmen out of the water — but we had to find that out from other sources, not from the Polk County Sheriff's Department.

Polk County Sheriff Monroe Brannen (in photo at left) is well satisfied with the Sky Sentinel which tip-toes through the sky on muffled wings most of the time, but can make itself heard with a big siren under the fuselage when the need arises. In the picture below, Sheriff Brannen poses with (left to right) his pilot, Frank Kendall; observer, Johnny Lyons; and Capt. Ray Willis. In the background is the Sheriff's Department Aerial Patrol office at the Bartow Air Base.



PLANE TO SEE



FT. MYERS — When the youth organization that Mrs. Jean Loaiza and two other ladies were raising money for folded up, the money was divided among the women to go to their favorite charities. Mrs. Loaiza presented her share to Lee County Sheriff Frank Wanicka for the Florida Sheriffs Girls Villa.



ORLANDO — Sheriff Mel Colman (right), of Orange County, and Florida Sheriffs Boys Ranch Trustee Ed Pickerill (left) accepted a check for almost \$1,000 from Paul Kittinger, President of the Central Florida Power Boat Association. This group each year sponsors the Silver Dollar Regatta, in Ocoee, to raise money for the Boys Ranch.

BRADENTON — Longboat Key Fire Chief Robert Cannon (left) presented Manatee County Sheriff Richard Weitzenfeld with a check for the Florida Sheriffs Youth Fund. Chief Cannon is President of the Manatee County Firemen's Mutual Aid Association which made the donation in memory of Madelon Snyder who was the Secretary-Treasurer of the Association for many years.



People who write worthless bad checks are known as Bad Check Artists and often go to jail. Good Check Artists write very worthwhile checks for the Florida Sheriffs Boys Ranch and Girls Villa; and while they also go to jail sometimes, it's only to present the checks to their Sheriffs.



OCALA — Marion County Sheriff Don Moreland (left) received a donation to the Florida Sheriffs Boys Ranch from James Richardson, Chairman of the Board of the Sun Bank of Ocala. Moreland was a member of the Squeeze-Off team that won the 1974 International Orange Juice Squeeze Off Championships in Orlando. Other team members are (from left) Ray Kinsey, Carl Perry, Frances Tompkins, Glen Smith and Hunter Foster. (OCALA STAR-BANNER Photo)

HOLIDAY — Jeanne Eddinger of Hugo's Furniture Store presented Pasco County Sheriff Basil Gaines with two checks — one for the Florida Sheriffs Boys Ranch, the other for the Girls Villa. (Photo by Wade Godfrey, Jr., ST. PETERSBURG TIMES)



Good Check



TAMPA — Sgt. John Syron, of Hillsborough County Sheriff Malcolm Beard's Crime Prevention Division, thanked members of American Legion Post No. III for generous donations to the Florida Sheriffs Boys Ranch and Girls Villa.

FT. MYERS — The Okaloa Chapter, Order of DeMolay, put on a spaghetti dinner to raise money for the Florida Sheriffs Boys Ranch. Lee County Sheriff Frank Wanicka accepted the check from (left to right) Chuck Ellis, Robert Burges and Wade Schieber.



JACKSONVILLE — The Chief Petty Officers Advisory Group, of the Jacksonville Naval Air Station, raised \$1,000 and presented it to Sheriff Dale Carson as a donation to the Florida Sheriffs Boys Ranch. Chief John Malloy passed the check to Sheriff Carson while (from left) Don Brown, Ed Renckley and Jim Beasley looked on.



NEW PORT RICHEY — A check for \$1,000 was presented to Pasco County Sheriff Basil Gaines (right) by Jack Lovejoy, President of the Eagles Club, Suncoast Aerie No. 3153.



Artist Gallery



CLEARWATER — Pinellas County Sheriff Don Genung (right) accepted checks for the Florida Sheriffs Boys Ranch from officers of two citizen band radio clubs — Kenneth L. Coutre (left), Treasurer of the Sparkling City C. B. Club and William C. Johnson, President of the International Order of Ding-A-Lings.



CLEARWATER — The Florida Sheriffs Girls Villa was better off by \$1,000 after Pinellas County Sheriff Don Genung accepted a donation from officers of the Sea Gull's Coffee Club of Largo. Presenting the check were (from left) Mrs. Helen Graham, Vice President; Mrs. Harry Thorson, President; and Mrs. Wally George, Past President.



CLEARWATER — After making a speech to the Seminole Women's Club of Pinellas County, Sheriff Don Genung was presented with checks for the Florida Sheriffs Boys Ranch and Girls Villa by Club President Mrs. Ervin Heisley (left) and Program Chairman Mrs. Walter Benz.



The subject was collective bargaining, and the group discussion leaders were (from left) John Riley Smith, Director of Services, Jacksonville Sheriff's Department; Jack Skelding, Tallahassee attorney; Paul F. Pothin, Executive Director of the Institute for Management; Berwin Williams, Director of Research and Development for the Sheriffs Association; and a representative from the Florida Department of Commerce, Division of Labor Conciliation and Mediation.

And Now—“Sheriffs



Host Sheriffs Mel Colman, Ernest P. (Kayo) Murphy and John Polk (from left) received a standing ovation of appreciation from an audience of some 230 Sheriffs and guests.



Honored with distinguished service awards for apprehenders of a Florida Highway Patrolman were Ralph Starling, private citizens from Levy County. Morris and Starling represented both men. He is shown here with Levy County Sheriff Pat Hartley (right) and Sheriff President Raymond Hamlin (left).



of Administra-
ector, American
and Joe Shuck,

ORLANDO — Into the spaced out entertainment galaxy revolving around Disney World, Circus World, Sea World and other Central Florida figments of fantasy came Florida's Sheriffs on July 9 to attend the 61st Annual Conference of the Florida Sheriffs Association. However, there was nothing "Mickey Mouse" about the issues they faced; and nothing make-believe about the results. During the three days of business sessions and group discussions at the Carlton House Resort Inn they fabricated a "Sheriffs' World" of hard nosed reality in which they dealt with the problems of collective bargaining, the intricacies of constantly changing criminal laws, and the vagaries of recent court opinions. It was an outstanding professional conference hosted by Orange County Sheriff Melvin Colman, Seminole County Sheriff John Polk, and Osceola County Sheriff Ernest P. (Kayo) Murphy. It was, moreover, a reminder that Sheriffs — as a viable breed — are still alive, and well, and vitally concerned about the advancement of professional law enforcement.

Florida Sheriffs Manual Editor Iven Lamb (left) and Circuit Court Judge M. Daniel Futch, Ft. Lauderdale, brought Sheriffs up to date regarding laws of arrest, laws of search and seizure, criminal statutes and civil rights liability, based on 1974 legislative action, court decisions and attorney general's opinions.



s' World"



Supreme Court Justice Ben F. Overton was the principal speaker.

He was introduced by Pinellas County Sheriff Don Genung.



Sheriffs Association President Raymond Hamlin wielded the gavel throughout three days of meetings.



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orris and Richard
as unable to attend
being congratulated
ffs Association

Sheriffs' World

(continued)

Sheriffs come to conferences looking for answers to their problems and spend hours in meetings hoping a speaker or another sheriff will have a solution.



No Fantasy Here - Strictly Business



Sheriff O. L. Raulerson (left) inquires about the technical aspects of establishing 911 as a universal emergency telephone number.



Sheriff W. A. Woodham getting the feel of helicopter controls.



Sheriffs Melvin Kelly and Basil Gaines discuss the high cost of law enforcement.



Sheriff Roy Lundy (facing camera) and Sheriff Jim Holt discuss the merits of helicopter patrols.



Treasurer J. L. McMullen (standing) reports to the Boys Ranch-Girls Villa Trustees.

Disney World characters Pluto, Chip and Dale with Holmes County Sheriff Wilburn Raley.



Governor Reubin Askew (left) with Santa Rosa County Sheriff Harvell Enfinger.



Among Those Present...



State Senator Jim Williams with Sheriff Walt Pellicer (left)



State Senator Bruce Smathers and wife Nancy.



Minnie Mouse



Former Florida Senate President Jerry Thomas (right) with Martin County Sheriff Jim Holt.



Commissioner of Education Ralph Turlington



Former Florida Senate President Mallory Horne.



Lieutenant Governor Tom Adams



Organizations and individuals who have given large gifts to the Florida Sheriffs Youth Fund, Florida Sheriffs Boys Ranch and the Florida Sheriffs Girls Villa become members of the Builders Club by giving \$100 or more. They qualify as Lifetime Honorary Members by giving \$1,000 or more.

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Winn Dixie Store No. 641, Bartow
Winn Dixie Store No. 685, Bartow
Mr. & Mrs. Richard K. Wittcoff, Miami
Mr. & Mrs. Vernon Wright, Live Oak

Photo At Right

SAFETY HARBOR — The ladies in the Safety Harbor Volunteer Fire Department Auxiliary raised \$1,000 for the Florida Sheriffs Girls Villa to use in the purchase of fire fighting equipment. Pinellas County Sheriff Don Genung presented a Florida Sheriffs Association Lifetime Honorary Membership plaque to (left to right) Betty Ostendorp, Lucille Phillips, Barbara Douglas and Ann Casner.



FSA LIFETIME HONORARY MEMBERS



SAFETY HARBOR — Members of the Safety Harbor Volunteer Fire Department donated \$1,000 to the Florida Sheriffs Boys Ranch for the purchase of fire fighting equipment. Pinellas County Sheriff Don Genung (holding award) presented a Florida Sheriffs Association Lifetime Honorary Membership plaque to (left to right) H. Douglas, H. Fox and David Casner.



BRADENTON — Sheriff Richard Weitzenfeld (center) of Manatee County presented two awards to Mr. and Mrs. George F. Fisher. One was a Builder's Certificate from the Florida Sheriffs Boys Ranch and Girls Villa; the other was a Florida Sheriffs Association Lifetime Honorary Membership plaque.



SANFORD — Seminole County Sheriff John Polk (left) presented a Florida Sheriffs Association Lifetime Honorary Membership plaque to Mr. and Mrs. Leslie C. Weiss of Altamonte Springs in appreciation for the memorial fund they established at the Florida Sheriffs Girls Villa in memory of their daughter.



OCALA — For his generous support of the Florida Sheriffs Boys Ranch, Broward Sanchez (right) received a Florida Sheriffs Association Lifetime Honorary Membership plaque from Marion County Sheriff Don Moreland.



TAMPA — Sheriff Malcolm Beard of Hillsborough County, presented a Florida Sheriffs Association Lifetime Honorary Membership plaque to C. L. Whaley in recognition of his contributions to the Florida Sheriffs Boys Ranch.



ST. AUGUSTINE — Mrs. Ralph Nemo received a Florida Sheriffs Association Lifetime Honorary Membership plaque from St. Johns County Sheriff Dudley Garrett for her generous contributions to the Florida Sheriffs Boys Ranch and Girls Villa.

NO BRICKBATS HERE

Strong Leadership

PUNTA GORDA — In a letter to Charlotte County Sheriff Jack Bent, Harold J. Parce, President of Forward, Inc., expressed gratitude to the Sheriff's Department for cooperation given in Driver Improvement — Defensive Driving courses taught by several deputy sheriffs. The letter noted that five deputies are certified to teach defensive driving. "These men do an excellent job of imparting knowledge," Parce said. "They are well informed, have a professional attitude and take sincere pride in their classroom presentations. We feel this is a fortunate community to have this strong leadership in the Driver Improvement program. With the present traffic fatality death rates in our own county, and all over the nation, we appreciate the efforts being made by your Department and the men involved in the program, and are pleased to be a part of that effort."

Search For Excellence

The search for excellence goes on and on among Sheriffs and their deputies, and it was manifested in recent months when:

—Bradford County Sheriff Dolph Reddish attended an intensified management course at the National Sheriffs Institute.

—Lake County Sheriff Guy Bliss attended a three-day field seminar on management communications also sponsored by the National Sheriffs Institute.

—St. Lucie County Sheriff Lanie Norvell, a graduate of the FBI National Academy, attended a one-week refresher course at the Academy.

What We're Paid For

ORLANDO — Cpl. J. A. Dendinger holds a Citation for Bravery presented to him by Don Tarsney (left) of the National Police Officers Association. Orange County Sheriff Mel Colman (right) said the deputy handled a potentially tragic situation "very professionally" when he was able to disarm a mentally retarded youth who had threatened to kill his mother and sister with an automatic weapon. "We're paid to help people," Dendinger said.



Law enforcement isn't all brickbats. Sometimes there are bouquets too — awards, honors, special recognition — and that's what this page is all about.



Alertness Pays Off

FT. MYERS — The alertness of Lee County Deputy Bob Moore resulted in the solving of eight breaking and entering cases and his subsequent selection as Lawman of the Month for Southwest Florida. According to his boss, Sheriff Frank Wanicka, Moore was responsible for the apprehension of four adults and one juvenile. "It was Deputy Moore's professionalism which resulted in the initial break in these cases," Sheriff Wanicka said.



National Award

WEST PALM BEACH — Master Detective Magazine selected Lt. Richard L. Sheets (center) to receive its National Police Officer of the Month award on the basis of his record of distinguished service to his community. Sid Doroshov (left) represented the magazine at the presentation and Palm Beach County Sheriff William R. Heidtman cited some of the cases Lt. Sheets has worked in the past few years on his way to national recognition.

Found Just In Time

WAUCHULA — Using airboats, officers from the Hardee County Sheriff's Department, the Game and Fresh Water Fish Commission and the Highway Patrol teamed up to locate a Boy Scout who had gone camping without medicine he needed to stay alive. They knew Gustova Aranegui was canoeing somewhere on the Peace River with his Boy Scout troop. On the second day of the search, the scouts were found and Gustova received the medication which would prevent his kidneys from becoming blocked.

Sheriff Receives "Superior" Audit

MOORE HAVEN — Most public officials feel they received a good audit from the Auditor General if he has only found a few problems to be corrected. Glades County Sheriff Roy D. Lundy apparently has a higher standard. Auditor General Ernest Ellison did not make a single negative comment in the report on the Sheriff's accounts and records from October 1, 1972, to March 31, 1974.

Even a perfect audit usually has no superlatives, just comments such as "properly enforced, promptly remitted, budgets were properly prepared, supported by appropriate vouchers, properly filed, properly insured." But the report on the Sheriff's books, in two different places mentioned that records were "well kept".

Hats off to Sheriff Lundy for a job "well done".



Sheriff Chosen

SANFORD — For his efforts to improve conditions at the Seminole County Jail and because of his professional excellence in the performance of his duties, Sheriff John Polk (left) was voted the Law Enforcement Officer of the Month Award by the Sanford Jaycees. The plaque was presented by Jaycee President Dick Gishler. (Orlando SENTINEL-STAR photo by Ray Powell)

Deputies Among Grads

WASHINGTON, D.C. — The 97th graduating class of the FBI National Academy included four officers employed by Florida sheriffs. Herschel Dean, Investigator, Jackson County; Henry R. Hiday, Sergeant, Office of the Sheriff, Jacksonville; Jerome Hudepohl, Agent, Brevard County; and Robert G. Herron, Captain, Palm Beach County, received 12 weeks of executive level training in police ethics, behavioral sciences, police management, recent court decisions and police problems.

Computer And Deputy Co-Star in Solving Lee County Rape Case

FORT MYERS - With the aid of a computer, common sense, experienced background and a keen imagination, Agent Tom Wallace of the Lee County Sheriff's Department was able to solve a rape case.

The unusual method of solving the rape of a 20-year-old white female, began at 9:00 p.m. on July 19, 1974. Agent Wallace was notified by the girl that a Negro male had picked her up at a prominent intersection in Fort Myers where she was hitchhiking. The man had taken her to an isolated area where she was raped at knife point. As the rapist drove away, the girl was able to read some of the numbers in his license plate and wrote them down. A check of the tag number revealed that it did not meet the description of the vehicle driven by the assailant.

After a statement to the Agent by the girl, it was believed that she had basically written down the correct number, possibly with only a digital error. Agent Wallace immediately contacted the Data Processing Center and requested they run a program for specific information about the type of vehicle she had described. Wallace's previous experience enabled him to understand how the programs are set up.

The computer obtained a list of 2,562 vehicles matching a general description. On page 40 of a 44 page printout, Agent Wallace found a vehicle matching the description and was a single

digit off the license plate number given by the girl. The name given on the printout was taken to the records division. A prior record was established. Mug shots of the suspect and others matching the general description were given to the girl for identification. She gave a positive identification on the man shown on the printout. The suspect was taken into custody. A search of the vehicle revealed the knife used in the attack, and the subject was held for trial.

After the solving of this crime, the Data Processing Center established a general program that can be used effectively for similar cases. The information may be obtained within one hour now, instead of the three day wait that Agent Wallace had. This computer program system will be a definite asset to the Sheriff's Department.

Drug Crackdown

LIVE OAK — County Commissioners voted funds to increase Suwannee County Sheriff Robert Leonard's staff, so that one deputy could be assigned almost exclusively to drug abuse cases. This action was in line with recommendations made by a Drug Problems Study Committee. The committee chairman was Harry Weaver, Executive Director of the Florida Sheriffs Boys Ranch.



That Ain't No High Cotton

STARKE — Bradford County Deputy Sheriffs Glen Moore, John Dempsey, Steve Backus and Samuel Eunice (left to right) destroyed this high and healthy stand of marijuana, but were unable to find the owner.



Santa Rosa's Youngest Deputy

MILTON — Larry E. Pearson, 20, was congratulated by Sheriff Harvell Engfer after he became the youngest deputy sheriff ever hired in Santa Rosa County. The new deputy is an amateur wrestler and holds the title of Gulf Coast Amateur Champion.



Dean Of Florida Cabinet Honored

TALLAHASSEE — Plaudits extended to Agriculture Commissioner Doyle Conner during a testimonial dinner attended by more than 500 residents of six counties included a plaque expressing the admiration and appreciation of the Leon County Mounted Sheriff's Posse. The plaque was presented by Leon County Sheriff Raymond Hamlin (right), President of The Florida Sheriffs Association.

Fortunately It Fizzled

BRADENTON — Sheriff Dick Weitzenfeld (right) and Ed Hoss inspected fragments of a fire bomb that exploded, but fortunately caused no damage, at the entrance of the Manatee County Sheriffs Office. The bomb had apparently been made from a bar glass, and the wick was soaked with Sterno and gasoline. (ST. PETERSBURG TIMES photo by Betty Kohlman)



Self-Protection Was The Name Of The Game

FT. MYERS — Some were old, some were young, some wore faded blue jeans, some chose expensive pantsuits. They carried a wide assortment of weapons ranging from small derringers to heavy calibre pistols, shotguns and rifles, and the name of the game was “self-protection” for 115 women who enrolled in a “Home Firearms Safety” course sponsored by Lee County Sheriff Frank Wanicka. In the beginning there were questions like “where do the bullets go . . . how do I crack it open . . . which is the front of the bullet?” — but after three days of instruction the ladies not only learned how to shoot, but also how to handle their weapons safely. Their enthusiastic reaction encouraged the Sheriff to plan similar sessions for the future.

