

Charge dismissed against Trooper Hall

The Mercury learned Tuesday that one of the written complaints against local Trooper John Hall has been dismissed by an investigating team as being "unfounded." Executive Officer Gene Peter, whose department ultimately oversees all internal investigations of Kentucky State Police Officers, said that the investigation of Trooper Hall had failed to produce substantive evidence to indicate any impropriety in Hall's actions.

Peter said that there still remains one other written complaint against Trooper Hall which is still under investigation. Sources indicate that the remaining complaint was filed by a resident of a neighboring county as a result of an incident which occurred at July's Blackberry Festival.

While Peter said he could not release

the names of the persons who filed the complaint, he did say that the complaint which has already been dismissed was very vague, and that it charged Hall with various and sundry allegations. However, he said that when investigators arrived in Carlisle to follow up the complaint, it was "very hard to come up with specifics."

Peter said last when the investigating officers arrived for an interview with the complainant, he brought in several other witnesses who testified against Hall on various different charges. Peter said of the surprise showing of additional complainants, "That's not the way we operate. We couldn't find anything substantive."

Peter also said that when the investigation was made public, Commissioner Marion Campbell began to

receive several letters of support for Trooper Hall from local residents. Trooper Hall said Tuesday afternoon when hearing about the results of the investigation that he was never "seriously concerned" about the allegations. He said that "considering the source from which it (the complaint) came, and the fact that I have not violated any Kentucky State Police policies or laws," he was concerned only that the implications could "shadow his credibility as a law enforcement officer."

Trooper Hall also said that he was "very grateful for the support generated" by the people of Carlisle and Nicholas County. The investigation of the second charge against Hall should be wrapped up by next week, Peter said.

Local merchants meet with council to discuss parking meter removal

A group of local merchants gathered last Tuesday night in an unofficial meeting with the Carlisle City Council over the Council's proposal to remove parking meters downtown.

Since the meeting was unofficial, council could take no action, but decided to bring the matter up for discussion at next week's regularly scheduled meeting.

Speaking for the merchants, Jimmy Carter told the assembly that the "idea of taking the meters out is great, but traffic still must be controlled."

The merchants expressed their fears that all of the primary parking spaces in the city's business district would be tied up during business hours if some measure of control were not utilized. They named specific problems in the areas of out of town commuters who meet in town for car pools, employees

of local businesses and government agencies, and those persons who live in apartments directly in the center of the business district.

"If we must choose between no control and parking meters," Carter told the Council, "we'd rather have the meters."

Councilman James T. Vaughn raised the possibility of a two-hour limit on downtown parking. The idea was well received, but some raised questions about the enforcement of such a policy. Councilman Clarence Card said that he "thought it was all right the way it was."

Councilman Card and Mayor Power both expressed concern over the loss of revenue that removing the meters would cause. This year's budget has already estimated income from meters at \$6,000. "I don't see where we

could make that up," said Card. The councilmen all said that the move was only intended to help the local businesses attract customers.

The group then discussed several possibilities concerning downtown projects including the construction of a parking lot and the removal of the old practice of paying traffic tickets out of town shoppers.

No definite conclusions were reached at the meeting.

Councilman Vaughn said that at least one good thing did come from the situation, "it did bring you merchants together and get you out to this meeting." Vaughn encouraged local merchants to attend all meetings of the City Council.

The issue is scheduled for further discussion at next Monday's Council meeting.



Watching the meet

Jonathan Moss and Gary Berry watch intently as the 100-yard dash event finishes past them at last week's Quarter Track Meet. The

meet was held in conjunction with the Nicholas County Fair. — Mercury photo.

Park board's case heard

Nicholas County Parks and Recreation Board member Larry Wills and County Judge/Executive Reese Smoot were in Frankfort Monday to discuss funding of the proposed ball park near the new armory. And Wills said that the results of that meeting were "very

productive." The pair first met with J. S. Seckon, Executive Director of the Bluegrass Area Development District and Mary Knatz, from Bluegrass AID's Department of Management Services. At that meeting, Wills said Seckon displayed a

very cooperative attitude toward the proposed park. Although the 1982 budget of Bluegrass AID is expected to be cut by 31 percent, Wills said that Seckon was hopeful the \$2,000 anticipated by the local Board could be obtained from Hill funds. Wills also said that Seckon would provide assistance in coordinating fund raising activities for the local Park Board.

Thieves steal drugs in Hopkins robbery

In what Hopkins Drug Store owner David Zachary said looked like a professional job, the Main Street pharmacy was robbed of a variety of Schedule I Narcotics Monday night. Zachary said that the thief or thieves apparently entered the front door of the store sometime Monday night and went

straight to the "high potency stuff." That growth is what Wills feels will be the park's major asset. He said Tuesday that when industries consider locating in a community, they often ask themselves, "What does this area have to offer our employees?" And, says "See Park Board, page ten

Coy's lawsuit in final stages of preparation

Attorney Jim LeMaster told the Mercury last week that his client, James W. Coy, Route 1, Carlisle, "definitely" still intends to file a suit in response to his firing from the Carlisle Police Department in May by Mayor William Power.

LeMaster said Friday that the final stages of preparing the lawsuit are being undertaken at the present time, and that the suit would definitely be filed by the end of August.

Once again, LeMaster declined to comment on any specifics of the suit, even declining to disclose who exactly would be named in the complaint. LeMaster would only say that he felt his client had no other course of action at the present time.

When asked how strong of a case he thought he had, LeMaster replied that he never gives his clients any sort of percentages concerning their chances. He would only say, "We have some things that are in our favor, and they have some things that are in their favor."

LeMaster has said that the suit will be filed in Nicholas County Circuit Court. However, there is still "a possibility" the suit will be filed in federal court.

City Attorney Stockton Wood has told the Mercury that if the Mayor is named individually in the case, he has "a strong case." Wood said that the Mayor has the statutory power to fire policemen.

In a special emergency meeting of the City Council May 29, the Council overwhelmingly objected to the firing of Coy without a hearing, and with no

official reason. However, at the June 8 regular session meeting, Council chose not to override the Mayor and reappoint the former patrolman. In addition, City Attorney Stockton Wood said that Coy had apparently waived his right to hearing at the May 29 emergency Council meeting.

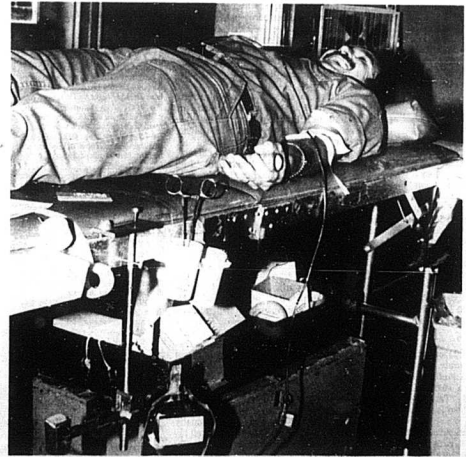
Once the suit is filed, it becomes a matter of public record. More detailed information will be available at that time.

Stolen auto set ablaze

An automobile stolen from Woody's Auto Repair Shop on the Upper Jacktown Road last Thursday night was found the following day in flames near East Union.

The auto, owned by William Tolliver, Route 4, Carlisle, had been left at the garage for an estimate on repairing its front end. The 1979 Mercury was in a parking lot at the garage with the keys in the ignition.

Deputy Sheriff Ralph Brookshire said he checked the serial number on the incriminated car, and they proved it was the one stolen from Woody's. However, Brookshire said that local law enforcement officers had no significant leads on the person or persons who perpetrated the crime. The car was totally destroyed.



David Snapp dies following work accident

A 23-year-old Nicholas County man was killed Friday in Franklin County when the telephone pole he was working on fell and crushed him, according to county officials.

David L. Snapp of Route 2, Carlisle, was working on the top of a telephone pole when he apparently loosened the supportive guy wire, causing the pole to fall.

Snapp, an outside plant technician for South Central Bell Telephone Co., apparently was readying the pole for removal and replacement.

The husband of Charlotte K. Snapp, who was a native of Nicholas County, a graduate of Nicholas County High School and a member of the First Baptist Church.

Other survivors are his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Eugene Snapp, Carlisle; two brothers, Bobby Snapp, Paris, and Gayle Snapp, Lexington; and his maternal grandfather, Raymond Rowlings, Carlisle.

Services were held at 2 p.m. Monday at the Mathers-Gaunce Funeral Home with burial following in the Carlisle Cemetery.

School finances listed inside

In accordance with state law protecting the citizen's right to know, the 1980-81 financial statements for the Nicholas County Board of Education is published on pages 4 and 7 inside this week's Mercury.

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Blood donor

Wayne Capps didn't seem to be in too much pain Monday afternoon as he donated blood at the Central Kentucky Blood Center at the Carlisle Methodist Church. Capps was only one

of many local persons who donated approximately 106 pints of blood Monday. — Mercury photo.