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Woman's story brings charges



By Nancy McCleary
Staff writer

Floyd Lee Cahoon was charged Wednesday with 14 additional violations involving a second woman he is accused of sexually assaulting and torturing while holding her hostage.

Cahoon

Cahoon, who is 44 and lives on the 2900 block of George Owen Road, rolled his eyes

at times as he was questioned by a magistrate but nodded yes when asked whether he understood the charges against him.

The new warrants were rolled up and tucked into an upper pocket of Cahoon's jail-issued orange jumpsuit.

Cahoon was charged Oct. 28 with raping and kidnapping a homeless woman while holding her prisoner in his home for five days.

The latest charges accuse Cahoon of holding 30-year-old Brooklyn Barrett for three days at his business and home.

"I hope he likes being handcuffed and shackled," Barrett said when she learned Cahoon had been charged.

The Fayetteville Observer does not normally identify the victims of sexual as-

See CHARGES, Page 4A

Kerry 'sorry' for Iraq remark

Democrat says joke was botched

By David Espo
The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Sen. John Kerry apologized Wednesday to "any service member, family member or American" offended by remarks deemed by Republicans and Democrats to be insulting to U.S. forces in Iraq.

Six days before the election, the Democrats' 2004 presidential nominee said he wanted to avoid becoming a distraction in the final days of the battle for control of Congress. He added that he sincerely regretted that his words were "misinterpreted to imply anything negative about those in uniform."



Kerry

In a brief statement, Kerry attacked President Bush for a "failed security policy." Yet his apology, issued after prominent Democrats had urged him to cancel public appearances, was designed to quell a controversy that party leaders feared would stall their drive for big gains next week.

North Carolina Democrats quickly distanced themselves from Kerry.

"We absolutely disassociate ourselves from any criticism of our troops, misunderstood or otherwise," said Democratic state party Chairman Jerry Meek. "The Republicans want John Kerry to be an issue in the final days of this campaign so they don't have to talk about the president's record in Iraq. Our brave troops in harm's way deserve better than a failed strategy."

Meek is from Fayetteville. Larry Kissell, Democratic candidate for the 8th Congressional District, said, "John Kerry's committee called my campaign yesterday and offered to put me on his slate of endorsed candidates. I said 'No, thank you' — that we may be a

See KERRY, Page 4A

A STORY OF SURVIVAL

Michelle Johnson's life was a series of struggles after she fled Hurricane Katrina. But just as her situation seemed hopeless, she found a friend, a mentor and a savior.



Staff photo by Stephanie Bruce

Michelle Johnson adds rice to her jambalaya at Straight 'Outta' New Orleans restaurant in Fayetteville. Owner Joe McGee, left, hired her to be the chef.

At last, a feast of fortune

By Greg Barnes
Staff writer

Michelle Johnson didn't know anything about Hurricane Katrina when she loaded her three children onto a Greyhound bus and headed for New Orleans. Johnson was tired of living in Dallas. She left her job and gave up her apartment. She was lonely. She missed her close-knit family. She wanted desperately to be home.

Katrina wasn't part of the plan.

When Johnson stepped off the bus in New Orleans, her awaiting family had one question.

"You crazy?"

"Why?" she responded.

"We got a hurricane coming."

From that moment on, Johnson's life became one struggle after another until she finally landed on her feet in Fayetteville.

See FORTUNE, Page 4A

'ARE YOU A JELLY BELLY?'

Police shape-up memo gets chief shipped out

By Travis Reed
The Associated Press

WINTER HAVEN, Fla. — Police Chief Paul Goward was tired of looking around his department and seeing blubber hanging over the belts of some of his officers. So he sent out a memo exhorting the "jelly bellies" to shape up.

In the end, the department lost 190 pounds — all of them belonging to Goward. He was forced out as chief because some of his officers took offense at the memo.



Goward

The Oct. 11 memo bruised feelings on the 80-member force, drew at least one anonymous letter of complaint from officers about the chief's management style and made his department the butt of jokes about fat cops and doughnuts.

"If they got their feelings hurt to See JELLY BELLY, Page 4A

Clash is a rematch of 2004

■ This time, Alex Warner is a Republican in his challenge of state Rep. Rick Glazier.

By Andrew Barksdale
Staff writer

Voters for the House District 45 race will choose between two candidates with contrasting ideas on moral issues, taxes and spending.

The Democratic incumbent, Rick Glazier, and Republican challenger Alex Warner will square off for the second time Tuesday. Glazier defeated Warner by 123 votes in a 2004 primary.

Warner says Glazier has a "liberal voting record. We are as different as



STATE HOUSE DISTRICT 45

night and day. If he is on the left, I'm on the right."

Warner opposed Glazier's attempts in 2005 to give in-state tuition to chil-

dren of illegal immigrants. He also opposed Glazier's efforts to raise taxes on cigarettes to help pay health-care costs.

Glazier favors the right to have an abortion, while Warner does not except for cases of rape, incest or a life-threatening complication. Warner wants to amend the state Constitution to ban same-sex marriages. Glazier said the idea is unnecessary since state law already defines marriage as between a man and a woman.

Glazier beat Warner in the 2004 primary. Both were Democrats then. The state had redrawn district boundaries.

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TOMORROW

■ Weekender: Trace Adkins headlines the CMT Tour coming to the Crown Arena.
■ Sports: Golf programs bring national acclaim to what is now Methodist University.

WEATHER

■ Some showers, then cooler; high of 71. 8B