

THE DISPATCH

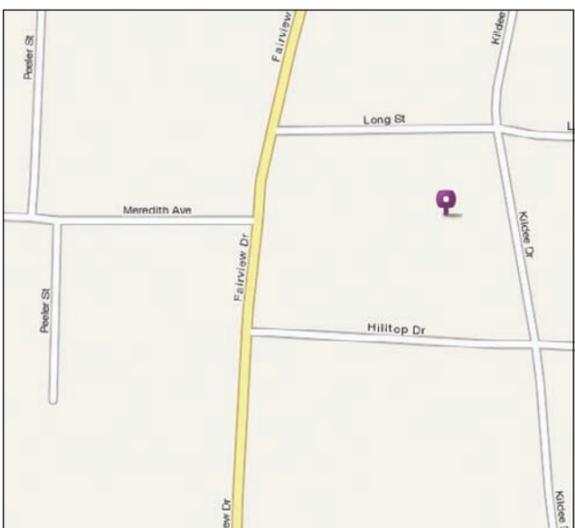


LEXINGTON, NORTH CAROLINA | SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 10, 2011 | 50¢

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FOOTBALL: Ledford rallies to topple Green Dragons, 38-35. 1B

Police break up meth lab at house



DARRICK IGNASIAK/THE DISPATCH

Some of the items removed Friday from this house at 702 Kildee Drive, which Lexington police officers allege was used to make methamphetamine, can be seen at the far left of this picture.

Warrant served on home after monthlong probe

BY DARRICK IGNASIAK
The Dispatch

The Lexington Police Department working with the State Bureau of Investigation busted a methamphetamine lab on Kildee Drive Friday, the culmination of a monthlong investigation.

Lexington Police Chief John Lollis said the home at 702 Kildee Drive has been under police investigation. Officers, with the help of Davidson County Sheriff's Office investigators, were able to collect enough evidence to obtain a search warrant, executing it Friday.

"Our vice officers received a tip about some suspicious activity here," Lollis said during an interview outside of the home on Kildee Drive Friday. "They began their investigation and were able to identify there was some involvement with illegal drugs. From there, the investigation continued. They were able to show that there might be a meth lab operating here."

At 11:30 a.m. Friday, agents with the State Bureau of Investigation specifically trained in meth lab investigations, executed the forceful entry of the house. The

Lexington Fire Department and the Davidson County Emergency Management Services were on hand for possible fire hazards and for decontamination of suspects or any others in the home.

"There was a dynamic entry," Lollis said. "(Authorities) were prepared in case they met some kind of resistance, so they had to force the front door open. There were people in the residence, but nobody was injured."

Lollis said SBI agents found evidence of a meth lab at the home. The police chief said authorities

are investigating the size of the operation.

"We don't believe it was an extremely big operation," Lollis said. "It was a nice tidy little meth lab."

Investigators were conducting interviews as well as collecting evidence from the scene Friday afternoon.

"There may be arrests as early as (Friday), but it may take us a while to complete it," Lollis said.

In regard to the meth lab, Lollis said he suspects those operating it were doing so for both consump-

► POLICE | 3A

REMEMBERING SEPT. 11

Sheets students recall victims

BY DENEESHA EDWARDS
The Dispatch

Red, white and blue sparkled proudly from flags, clothing attire and accessories Friday at Sheets Memorial Christian School where a ceremony was held to remember the lives that were lost as a result of the attacks on 9/11 and to honor the emergency services workers who sacrifice their lives every day.

More than 150 kindergarten through eighth-graders along with teachers, parents and family

► SHEETS | 5A



DONNIE ROBERTS/THE DISPATCH

Emma Welch, 5, talks to her mother, Heather Dennis, prior to the beginning of a 9/11 Memorial Service on Friday morning at Sheets Memorial Christian School.

MURDER CHARGE

Man jailed under no bond

BY DARRICK IGNASIAK
The Dispatch

The 21-year-old man charged in the Aug. 31 homicide of a High Point man on Meredith Avenue was in the Davidson County Detention Center without bond Friday.

Johnnie Myris Coley II of 306 Leonford St. was placed Thursday in the detention center after being extradited from Richmond, Va. Coley has been charged with murder in the death of Tremel Bethea, 21, of Baldwin Avenue, High Point. Coley, who has a court date of Sept. 27 in Lexington, was arrested the night of Aug. 31 in Richmond as a result of a joint effort by a Lexington Police detective, the N.C. State Bureau of Investigation, the U.S. Marshals Service and the Richmond Police Department.

Lt. Robby Rummage with the Lexington Police Department said Coley's last known address was 1701 Fairfield Way, Richmond, Va., when he was initially arrested in Virginia. Police later learned that Coley, who waived extradition last week in Virginia, had resided on Leonford Street.

Officers were dispatched to the 600 block of Meredith Avenue near Dixie Street at 1:47 p.m. Aug. 31. Police arrived to find Bethea lying in the road with a gunshot wound. He was pronounced dead at the scene with a single gunshot wound to the head, according to a search

► MAN | 2A

Newsroom put emotions aside to report on 9/11 attacks

"TERRORISTS STRIKE U.S." screamed the headline across the top of the front page of The Dispatch on Sept. 11, 2001. "Two towers collapse; planes crash" the subhead above the story stated. The headline on a second story on the front page read "Aircraft strikes the Pentagon." Next to it appeared a news brief: "Emergency blood drive under way" detailing efforts taking place here in Lexington.

A picture filled the width of the front page and took up the top half of the newspaper. The image taken from the video showed the first

CONNECTIONS



CHAD
KILLEBREW

collapsing while the second tower burned. Two other photos, one of an inside page with a story about military bases in North Carolina considering moving to an alert status.

Ten years ago, The Dispatch

was a true afternoon newspaper. The presses started about 11 a.m., and delivery began shortly thereafter, with newspapers arriving in racks about lunchtime and at homes throughout Davidson County all afternoon. So we were on deadline that morning when the terrorist attacks began.

Jill Doss-Raines, now our lifestyles editor and then a reporter, was listening to her radio when the announcer said a plane had struck a tower of the World Trade Center. She told the rest of us in the newsroom what she had heard. I began scanning the news wires, and then Executive Editor

Bob Stiff turned on the television in his office.

I was standing in Bob's office when the plane hit the second tower. I first thought it was a second explosion from the first impact due to the camera angle, but soon I realized it was a second plane. At that moment we knew this wasn't an accident.

During the next few minutes, employees began gathering in Bob's office as news spread. I recall tears rolling down some co-workers' faces. I had returned to my desk when an Associated Press news alert came across

► NEWSROOM | 5A

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RELIGION



County pastors reflect on impact of Sept. 11.
6A

