

# Glue spill probe awaits recovery of 3

By PENNY BENDER Staff Writer  
SUSSEX — Investigators have not yet determined what caused an accident at a glue factory near Waverly two weeks ago, but a state agency reported Monday the three employees severely burned were wearing the required protective gear.

The three injured workers remain in burn units in two hospitals and hospital spokeswoman said they are improving. An investigation by the Virginia Department of Labor and Industry, the agency reviewing the spill, has not been able to talk with the men yet.

That holds up the investigation, said agency spokesman Monte Bostley. "The last report of the investigation is to talk to these people."

The one sure factor the investigator has uncovered is that the men were wearing protective gloves, shoes and safety glasses, which are required by the federal Occupational Safety and Health Administration, Bostley said. The department enforces OSHA regulations in Virginia. Injured in the spill of several tons of glue were Thomas Wall, 37, of Waverly; Bruce Adams, 28, of Wakefield; and Vernon Thomason, 28, of Sussex County. Wall, who suffered burns over 80 percent of his body, is listed in serious but stable condition at Medical College of Virginia Hospital in Richmond. A hospital spokeswoman said he is eating solid food.

Adam and Thomason also are listed in serious but stable condition at Sentara Norfolk General Hospital. Irvine Sparlock, manager of Sparlock Adhesives, where the spill occurred, said the building where the glue boiled over is closed so the accident can be studied. Most of the glue has been removed and is being stored on the premises until arrangements are made for dumping it at a landfill. The glue made of formaldehyde is not toxic, he said.

Of the cause of the spill, he said, "there are several possibilities. It hasn't been narrowed down to just one." Sparlock declined to comment further, citing possible lawsuits or insurance problems.

# Nike site in news

Continued from Page B1  
The county in 1975 when the Army deemed it surplus. Four years later, 22 containers of a highly toxic rocket fuel component were uncovered when workers found one of the buried canisters while digging a trench in the new park.

In June 1985, the defendant Nike site were in the news again when it was discovered the hatches and doors leading into the site were no longer padlocked and that children often explored the debris reaches where as much as three feet of stagnant water covered the floors.

# Route 3 report the beginning, resident hopes

By MATTHEW PAUST Staff Writer  
Don't expect Frank Delano's thoughts one to dance a jig just because the Virginia Department of Transportation has acknowledged that Route 3 in the Northern Neck is — in Delano's words — "a lousy road."

A recent department staff report, which recommended \$100 million in improvements to 73 miles of the narrow, curvy, hilly road that's the transportation artery for this largely rural region, is not enough.

"It's a top they're throwing at us," said Delano, a Warsaw house-keeper whose imaginative stunts have positioned him as the need for straightening and widening the two-lane route that extends through King George, Westmoreland, Richmond, Lancaster, Middlesex and Mathews counties. It ends in Gloucester County with a four-lane stretch shared with Route 14.

The report confirms what we've been trying to say all along, that it's a lousy road," he said.

But funding for the recommended work is dependent on politics, which traditionally favor the areas already developed and wealthy, he argued. The department has scheduled four public meetings next month to discuss the report, which is characterized as a draft by H. C. Bassett, the department's principal planning engineer on the project. The meetings, scheduled from 4 to 8 p.m., will be held at: • Montross, county board room, Oct. 28; • Warsaw, Northern Neck Electric Co-op auditorium, Oct. 27; • Kilmarnock, Lancaster County Intermediate School auditorium, Oct. 28.

Ranicki emphasized that the meetings will be informal, but that public input will be weighed carefully before a final report is written.

"A lot of times the public has a better idea of what's needed than we as planners can see. They get out and think we overlooked," he said.

The draft report has identified three areas of such importance that he has included interim measures to "back the line" of priorities in the district's six-year primary road improvement program: • Widening about 2½ miles to four lanes east from Montross to the Montross Elementary School; • Improving the intersection of routes 3 and 202 in Montross; • Realigning the intersection of routes 3 and 202 at Oak Grove.

Ranicki said these and other recommended improvements to the route can be included in the six-year program when it is updated in the spring.

He said that if recent trends are followed, allocations totaling \$175 million may be needed to complete fiscal 1992-93.

The draft Route 3 report identifies as high priorities projects along about 23.5 miles of the highway that are estimated to cost about \$13.5 million. Priorities include: • Montross, Delano said his group of concerned residents, who call themselves CORRIDOR — for Citizens Organized to Research, Reconnect and Improve Dangerous Old Route 3 — will continue their fight.

Officials in Newport News have tried in recent years to win federal grant money through this program for various projects.

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For each precious yesterday, Lovingly, Wil, Children and Grandchildren

### PUBLIC NOTICE CHARLES CITY COUNTY

The Board of Supervisors of Charles City County will hold a public hearing on Tuesday, October 13, 1987 at 7:30 p.m. at the Charles City Neighborhood Facility Building in the Multi-Purpose Room to consider a proposed change in the Zoning Ordinance to require a one hundred (100) foot setback on Route 108.

Fred A. Darden County Administrator

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# Pressure pervasive, military wife says

Continued from Page B1  
plants from wives at an Indiana base.

Mayfield said she did a great deal of voluntary work because of the bridge parties went into his personnel file, she claimed, saying she saw a copy of it.

# Pilot profits dropping fire from the sky

Continued from Page B1  
a child and by his late lease Stevens flew small planes. In the 1960s, he returned to his first love, aviation. Working with the foresters soon made it profitable, and landowners pay about \$60 per burned acre.

Foresters are right good people," said Stevens, who when dressed in his gray jumpsuit and aviator's helmet has the whistling fast and style of a stock car or hydroplane racer. They feel like kids to me," he says. He flew down to Southampton County to review a burn prospect July 15, a former helicopter pilot who suddenly disoriented and plunged 300 feet to his death. Stevens, who was driving the control panel, splitting his

# Grant approved

Continued from Page B1  
ment jobs and represents a continuation of redevelopment efforts in downtown Hampton. The Radisson Hotel, across the Hampton River from the project, received \$1.85 million from the same federal program in 1985.

From the standpoint of stimulating private investment and jobs for low-and moderate-income workers, the Hampton project came out pretty high," said William Thomas, manager of the Virginia office of HUD.

The HUD project qualifies for the program because it is adjacent to an area that the city has designated as a "pocket of poverty" for grant purposes. The area, which encompasses the city's downtown and some surrounding neighborhoods, contains a large percentage of low-income residents.

The project has been approved by residents of College Place, adjacent to the university and the development, because of concerns about increased traffic and parking problems.

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