

# Marijuana crop 'harvested' in High Note

**JAY FELSBERG**  
Editor

The annual Alabama Department of Law Enforcement marijuana eradication is in full swing, with ALEA and National Guard helicopters in the air throughout Alabama.

It's a lot harder to find marijuana fields these days, as growers have broken the crop up into smaller plots and try to hide them in the woods. The plan didn't work Tuesday, June 23.

On Monday, Geneva County deputies working in cooperation with the ALEA were informed that state helicopters had spotted what appeared to be a large marijuana field in the woods about 1-1/2 miles north of Spring Creek Road on High Note Road in the High Note community.

Officers arrived at about 3:13 Tuesday and "harvested" 2,432 large plants with an estimated street value of \$4.8 million. The plants were up to eight feet tall but were not yet in the "bud" stage that produces the best-quality marijuana.

Deputy Jeff Lindsey said that the field was circular and showed signs of not being tended for some time. The field was about an acre in size.

The marijuana is being held at an undisclosed location and will be destroyed in the next few days.

"Congratulations to every-



**The marijuana plants were up to eight feet tall. JAY FELSBERG/Editor**

one involved," said Sheriff Tony Helms. The "harvest" is believed to be the largest done during this season's eradication program, Helms said.

"This is the first time in a long time we've made a seizure this large," Helms said.

Investigation continues into the case.

The public can give crime information by calling 684-5660.

•Officials in Coffee County announced a large marijuana seizure and an arrest Wednesday.

According to the Coffee County Sheriff's Office, a state helicopter spotted what

appeared to be cannabis plants near Highway 167. Officials then obtained a search warrant for the property of Larry M. Holland.

When law enforcement searched the property they located marijuana plants being grown both inside and outside of the property. Officials also located prepackaged items.

Officials estimate that the street value of the illegal items is about \$400,000 but they are still counting. Holland was taken into custody and charged with unlawful manufacture of a controlled substance first

**See DOPE, Page 3A**