



West Craven Highlights

News From Along The Banks Of The Neuse



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Jobless Figures Increase

RALEIGH — Unemployment in Craven, Jones and Lenoir counties increased from September to October, according to figures released by the N.C. Employment Security Commission. Pamlico County's unemployment rate remained the same.

Craven County's rate of unemployment increased from 3 percent in September to 3.4 percent in October, the commission estimated.

It estimated that there were 1,110 members of the 32,790-strong labor force unable to find work in October. During September, there were 32,840 in the work force and 990 were without jobs.

Jones County saw its unemployment rate increase from 2.7 percent in September to 3.5 percent in October. The work force in Jones County totaled 4,050 in October and 140 were unable to find work. In September, there were 110 unemployed out of the 4,080-member labor pool.

Unemployment in Lenoir County increased from 3.4 percent in September to 3.6 percent in October. Lenoir County's work force numbered 29,860 in October, with 1070 without jobs. The county had a work force of 29,480 in September and there were 990 unemployed.

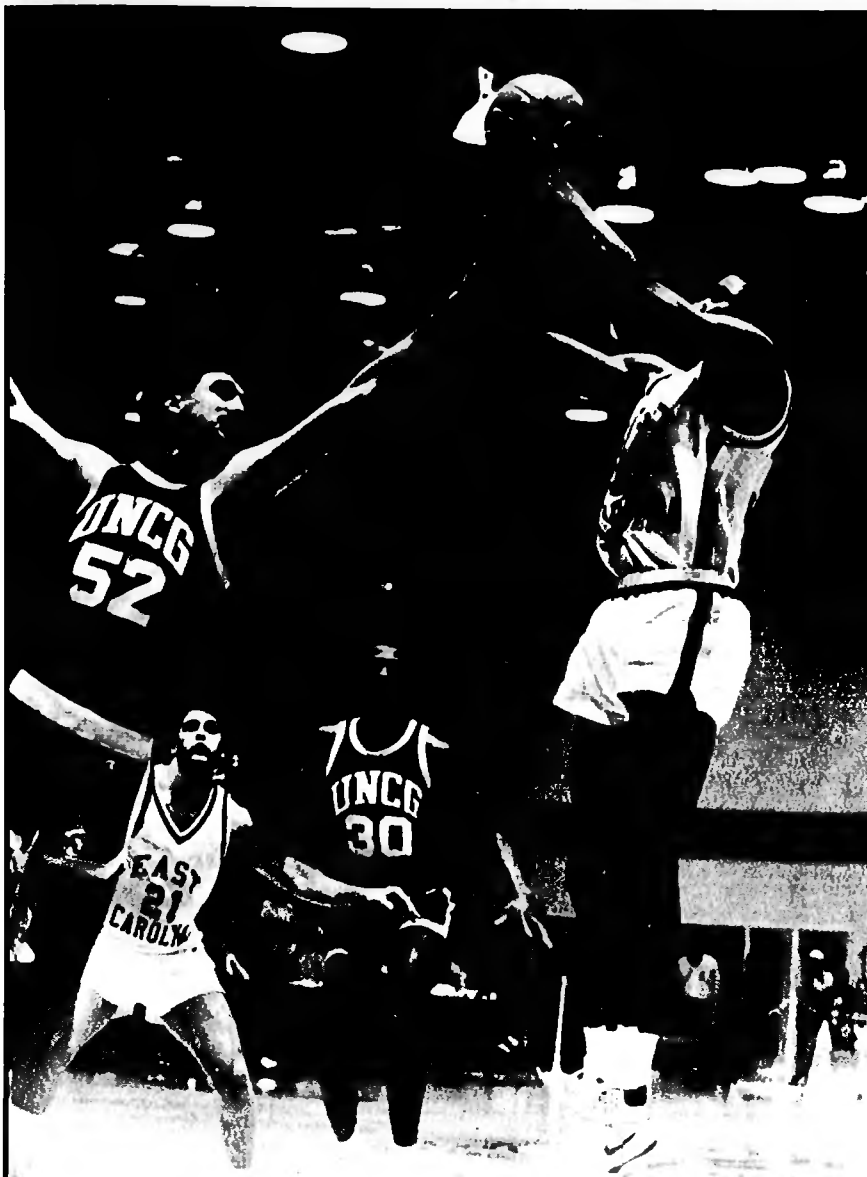
Pamlico County's unemployment rate was unchanged from September to October with a 2.9 percent rate. There were 4,870 people in the labor force during October and 140 did not have work. In September, the work force totaled 4,890 and 140 of that number were without jobs.

According to the ESC figures, 81 counties reported unemployment rates at or under 5 percent for October. Currituck County had the lowest rate with 1.8 percent and Graham County had the highest with a 14.4 percent rate.

The state's unemployment rate for October was 3.8 percent, up from September's 3.1 percent. The national unemployment rate was 5 percent in October, down from 5.2 percent in September.

Area County Jobless Rates

Craven	3.4%
Jones	3.5%
Pamlico	2.9%
Lenoir	3.6%



East Carolina's Kevin Staples sights in a jumper as UNC-G's Jeff Watson defends. The Pirates' Reed Lose blocks out Marvin Dawson (30). (No Kroschmal photo)

Dawson's Homecoming Special

Former Eagle Standout Plays Before Family At ECU

By MIKE VOSS
Editor

GREENVILLE — Monday night's game against East Carolina University was "the biggest game to me on the schedule," said Marvin Dawson minutes after the Pirates handed Dawson and his teammates from the University of North Carolina at Greensboro

a 68-49 loss Monday night in Minges Coliseum.

Dawson, who grew up and played high school and junior college basketball just down the road in Craven County, was able to take the court in front of his mother, father, sister and brother, who made the trip from Vanceboro and his girlfriend from Greensboro.

Just about the only thing to spoil Dawson's "homecoming" was the loss.

"I was looking forward to coming home and playing. Some of my teammates from West Craven (High School) and Craven Community College were here to watch me."

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Improvements To Highways, Phones Asked

Vanceboro Residents Tell Panel Thoughts On Planning Growth

Making improvements in telephone service and to U.S. 17 were two suggestions Vanceboro area residents made to committee members of Craven County 2001. The comments came last week at a public meeting held at the Vanceboro Town Hall.

After watching a video presentation by the Craven County 2001 committee, residents said they tended to agree with the message of the video. That message is that either the county controls growth or the growth will control the county as the 21st Century approaches.

Lonnie Pridgen, a member of the project's finance committee, noted: "It's 13 years until 2001 — not a lot of time to get things evolved."

George Dimick of Ernul expressed his concern over telephone communication. He noted that Vanceboro area residents faced long-distance telephone charges when calling Havelock, Cherry Point Marine Corps Air

Station and other areas in the county. Dimick said that many residents near and in Vanceboro worked in the long-distance locations.

"It's long-distance to call there and one in 10 that work there are from Vanceboro. The county is divided by lack of communication, that some places in the county are long-distance," said Dimick.

According to Dimick, he and Vanceboro man have been trying to solve the problem since 1974.

Vanceboro Mayor Jimmie Morris told the committee that "Highway 17 is a major problem for the county." The U.S. 17 issue has been echoed at three previous meetings of the committee in New Bern, Cove City and Havelock.

Pridgen echoed Morris's remarks, saying that the highway needed to be four-laned. "That would do more for this area than

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3 Eagles Named All-Area Players

Becton, Bizzell And Brown Cited For Gridiron Prowess

The 1988 Wendy's-Washington Daily News All-Area football team is a coach's dream — it has a little bit of everything.

Players from Chocowinity, Bath, Columbia, Creswell, Mattamuskeet, Belhaven and Jamesville of the Tobacco Belt Conference; Roanoke, Williamston and Plymouth of the Northeastern Conference; and Washington, West Craven and D.H. Conley from the Coastal Conference were eligible for selection to the all-area team selected by the Washington Daily News sports staff.

The 25-member squad has a quarterback, Bryan Tuten at Bath, who mastered the complex wishbone option and led his team to a Associated Press No. 1

Class 1-A ranking for five weeks of the season.

The team also has three running backs that each rushed for over 1,000 yards during the season.

The team has just three players weighing 200 pounds or more — Greg Smith of Washington, Fred Leigh of Creswell and Darren Bizzell of West Craven — but it features some extremely hard hitters and some players who may not have had the physical tools but made up for it with heart, courage and determination.

The team has speed in Joe Randolph and Chris Cherry; quickness in Washington's Jeremiah

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New Report Says Proposed Range In N.C. Not Harmful Electronic Warfare Practice Would Cover Coastal Area

By MIKE VOSS
Editor

The Navy says the Mid-Atlantic Electronic Warfare Range in eastern North Carolina will have no adverse effects on people or animals.

Navy officials made the statement in a supplemental report to a draft environmental impact statement on the range. The report was received in Washington Friday.

The use of the range for electronic warfare has been opposed by citizens — largely private pilots — who are fighting the expansion of military restrictions on air space along the coast. One spokesman for the opponents, Cecil Bradley of the Eastern Aviation and Air Space Association, said he felt the Navy's conclusions were wrong.

Meanwhile, it was learned Friday that the Department of Defense is developing a new agency to handle military air space matters — the Military Airspace Management System. The plan came to the attention of a private pilot in Washington, Barry Gutfield, who received a reply to a letter he had written to Assistant Secretary of Defense Gordon A. Smith about military air space.

Bradley, chairman of the Eastern Aviation and Airspace Association's executive committee, said his group was concerned

with microwaves and other electronic emissions in restricted air space and the electronic warfare ranges. Bradley said there is information that various electronic equipment affects non-military planes, other electronic equipment and human and animal life.

"We're not the only ones opposed to it," he said. Bradley also cited an incident in Nevada where he said evidence tended to show that military use of electronic warfare equipment resulted in the death of cattle.

The supplement to the environmental impact statement had been sought by several special interest groups. Controversy over eastern North Carolina air space surfaced about two years ago when the Marine Corps planned to expand restricted space over all or parts of Beaufort, Craven, Carteret, Hyde and Pamlico counties. Opposition grew when the proposed electronic warfare range was made public. The draft environmental statement was distributed in June, followed by an aircraft noise supplement and the electronic warfare range supplement released this month.

Military services say they need the expanded military operational areas for low-level training. The Marine Corps has held sever-

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Foggy And Froggy

While the foggy morning on the river recently was no problem for these boaters, the sounds of croaking frogs may have disturbed the early-morning quietness for the boaters. A slow, leisurely ride down the river is a good way to start off a day. Just substitute problems for

the boat and one can imagine those problems floating out of sight and out of mind. If they are going fishing, well that's another time-honored way of forgetting one's problems for a short while. (Ric Carter photo)

West Craven Sweeps Greene Central

By JIM GREEN
Sports Writer

Senior forward Lamont Harris converted both ends of a two-shot foul with 15 seconds remaining, leading the West Craven varsity boys' basketball team to a 64-58 victory over Greene Central Tuesday night.

The West Craven girls got 24 points from Chundra Croell and 16 from Linetta Bryant and overcame 40 turnovers to post a 55-39 triumph over the Lady Rams.

In the boys' game, Lee Becton scored 18 points, Tony Jenkins chipped in 15 and Harris and Johnny Gatlin added 10 each as the Eagles evened their record at 1-1.

Greene Central, 0-1, was naced

by 14 points each from Tyrone Streeter and Kenny Ormond.

Harris earned a trip to the free throw line after the Rams' Reggie Hill intentionally fouled him. Harris calmly sank both shots to give West Craven its margin of victory as the Eagles took possession after the free throws and ran out the clock.

Greene Central had cut the lead to four, 62-58, when Streeter made both ends of a two-shot foul with 27 seconds left. The Rams tried to press, but Hill fouled Harris with 22 seconds remaining. Harris missed the one-and-one, but Greene Central lost the ball on a turnover and had to foul.

The game was tight the whole

way as Greene Central had a one-point lead three times in the first half and West Craven managed a seven-point lead twice.

Down 22-15 midway through the second quarter, Greene Central used a 8-0 spurt — sparked by back-to-back dunks from Tyrone Sutton and Streeter and four free throws by Sutton to take a 23-22 lead with 3:19 remaining in the first half.

The lead switched two more times before Gatlin swished a baseline jumper with eight seconds remaining as the Eagles took a 32-31 halftime lead.

"We could've quit when they had those two big dunks," West Craven coach Lorenzo Jones said, "but we didn't. The kids

kept scrapping and finally, in the fourth quarter, they made some good things happen to give us the momentum back. The guys hung in there the whole way."

When Hill converted the front end of a one-and-one with 3:40 left, Greene Central had pulled within one, 54-53. But Becton and Tony Jenkins converted offensive rebounds into baskets and Harris hit two free throws with 43 seconds left to boost the Eagles to a 62-56 advantage. West Craven played the final three minutes in a semi-delay offense.

In the girls' game, West Craven used a 15-2 run over the first four minutes of the third quarter to

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