



Lee Schweitzer Jr. photo

Graduate receives diploma at West Craven commencement

## 152 Seniors Finish School, Get Diplomas

### Scholarships Pave Way For Many Who Excelled

By Greg Stroud  
Staff Writer

Over 150 anxious seniors crossed the stage last Wednesday to receive their high school diplomas from West Craven High School, marking the end of 12 long years of academic pursuit.

Stacy McCarter was the class valedictorian. Ms. McCarter received the largest amount of college scholarship money in the class. With an overall package that exceeds \$26,000, she received the Sallie Southall Cotten Scholarship of the Vanceboro Jr. Women's Club, the Joseph Pogue Scholarship at the

University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill and a scholarship from Standlyne. In addition, for achieving high marks on the PSAT, she was a recipient of the National Merit Scholarship sponsored by the College Board. McCarter will attend college at UNC-Chapel Hill.

Christy English was the salutatorian. She received an Alumni Honor Scholarship to East Carolina University.

Patricia Raelene Gaskins won the most scholarships. She will begin her college career at Craven Community College. She was the first

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## Project Graduation Called Big Success

By Greg Stroud  
Staff Writer

A party was held at Twin Rivers Mall in New Bern for the 739 graduating high school seniors from the three Craven County High Schools. The event, known as Project Graduation, was sponsored jointly by the New Bern-Craven County Board of Education and the community at large.

The event was planned through the efforts of a community-based committee chaired by Mrs. Tema Barnes of Havelock.

Area high school teachers pitched in and manned the various booths set up at the event, with the excep-

tion of the casino, which was handled by the New Bern chapter of the North Carolina Jaycees. West Craven High School teachers were in charge of the refreshments and food service. Pizza Hut, McDonalds, Kentucky Fried Chicken, Woodruff Distributors (Engle Snacks), Sheraton, New Bern Golf and Country Club, and the Coca-Cola Company provided a wide variety of food for party participants.

County school officials were pleased with the success of the event. Madeline Bryant, director of student services, said, "It went very well. Attendance was up from last

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## Campground's Changes Made To Increase Fun

Yogi Bear's Jellystone Park just outside Bridgeton on U.S. 17 is under going renovations that will bring the area's first full miniature golf course, a new gameroom and a pizza parlor.

Owner George Shaffer is excited about the additions, which should be completed by the end of June.

"We feel there is a real need in the community for these facilities. When I was a kid, we had movies and miniature golf to keep us out of trouble. Really, youngsters only have the movie theaters in the New Bern area," he said.

The 18-hole golf course will cost players approximately \$2 per game. The course will be open from 9:30 a.m. to 10 p.m. during the summer months.

The pizza parlor will provide a basic menu and will be open from 11 a.m. to 10 p.m. Although no definite

plans are in the works now, he said he may consider delivery service in the future.

The gameroom will contain two pool tables and approximately 12 to 14 video games.

One last addition is under construction, but may not open this season. This will be Craven County's only "commercial swimming pond." While the campground already has a swimming pool for campers, this facility will be open to the public. Shaffer said the reason a pond was considered instead of a larger pool is insurance rates are considerably cheaper for a pond. "It has the advantage that it is easier to get out of in the case of cramping than a pool," he said.

The new additions are designed to benefit the entire community, not just campers, Shaffer reminded.



Lee Schweitzer Jr. photo

### Sign Of The Times?

Two members of Greenpeace post a sign warning of dangerous levels of dioxin in the Neuse River. Recent studies show that the Weyerhaeuser pulp mill between Vanceboro and New Bern is discharging dioxin into the river. Weyerhaeuser officials admit the studies' findings but say the company is monitoring the river and recent samples show "undetectable levels." Greenpeace and two others environmental groups placed the signs last Thursday on the Neuse and last Wednesday at the Weyerhaeuser mill near Plymouth. Dioxins are chemicals many scientists say are harmful to human and animal life in certain amounts.

## Farm Life Holds 1989 Graduation

By Terri Jamleson  
Staff Writer

While other schools throughout Craven County prepared for graduation last week, Vanceboro's Farm Life Elementary School fifth-grade students were taking part in a graduation ceremony of their own.

The school auditorium was packed last Wednesday to capacity as about 750 students, parents, family members, classmates and teachers observed the "pomp and circumstance" of graduation.

The program included presenting awards to third- and fourth-grade students for making the Honor Roll, earning the Presidential Physical Fitness Award and awards for per-

fect attendance.

Principal Richard Bowers said, "Almost 75 percent of the school had chicken pox (sometime during the school year). Anyone who had perfect attendance deserves to be recognized."

Fifth-grade students then sang a selection of farewell songs, including "What Would Our Lives Be Like Without Music," "Battle Hymn of the Republic," and "Believe It or Not."

The fifth-grade students who earned them were presented with the President's Scholastic Achievement Awards and recognized for making the Honor Roll. They were

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## Gov. Martin Vows To Clean Up Rivers

RALEIGH — Gov. Jim Martin pledged stronger regulation to clean up eastern North Carolina rivers but promised no additional money for the effort in a meeting yesterday with a group of eastern North Carolina fishermen.

Tammy Paul, whose husband is a third-generation fisherman at Core Point, said the meeting was "very worthwhile."

"Maybe now the river will have a chance," she said. "We have done everything we can."

One river, the Pamlico, was described by a marine fisheries official last week at a public hearing in Greenville as being "commercially dead."

During the hour-long meeting in the governor's office in the state capitol, Martin said state agencies will work together and better co-

ordinate their efforts to deal with the environmental problems affecting the rivers, a spokesman for the governor said.

Ed Sweeney of the governor's eastern office in New Bern said Martin did not pledge any money for the effort. The governor did promise stronger regulations for waste water treatment plants along the Pamlico-Tar River basin, Sweeney said.

Martin met yesterday afternoon with Etles Henries, Etles Henries Jr., Gray Paul and Tammy Paul, Beaufort County fishermen; David McNaught, director of the Pamlico-Tar River Foundation; Dr. William Hogarth, director of the state Division of Marine Fisheries; Ernie Carl, deputy secretary of the state

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## Summer Reading Game At Library On June 30

The annual Summer Reading Game at the Vanceboro-Craven County Public Library will begin June 30.

"On Beyond Reading" is the theme for this summer's statewide game.

Children who were in kindergarten through the sixth grade during the just-completed school year are invited to register for the summer reading project.

This summer's program is designed to encourage children to read and use their imaginations while they discover new interests and abilities and share the fun and joy of reading.

Children may register for the Summer Reading Game at the library beginning June 30. Registration will continue through July 17.

Each child who signs up to explore the world of books will receive special materials designed for this summer's program. Each child who reads and reports on at least 10 books during July will

receive a certificate signed by Gov. Jim Martin and will also receive a library book bag. In addition to the prize for reading 10 books, a library button will be awarded if 20 books are read. If 30 books are read, a rainbow pen will be awarded. If 50 books are read, a t-shirt will be given. A backpack will be given to children who read 75 books.

As part of the Summer Reading Game, children may attend Story Hour every Wednesday at 4 p.m. The Story Hours will feature special guests, short movies, stories and special events.

The 1989 statewide Summer Reading Game is sponsored by the State Library, a division of the Department of Cultural Resources and is funded through Title I of the Library Services and Construction Act.

For more details of the Summer Reading Game, call the Vanceboro-Craven County Library at 244-0571.



Ric Carter photo

### Dusty Trail

Flying a plane just above the ground takes courage. But flying a plane low while doing some crop dusting takes courage and skill, especially when making those fast climbs at the end of a run and those steep drops at the beginning of a

run. The aerial applicators are probably the nearest thing to the barnstorming pilots of 50 and 60 years ago. Those pilots in the infant days of airplanes also needed courage and skill. But today's low-level aviators help improve crop yields and help put more food on the world's tables.