



West Craven Highlights

News From Along The Banks Of The Neuse



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SIX PAGES



Spinnakers flew in Smirnoff Regatta to Ocracoke over the weekend

Mike Voss photo

Budget Up, No Increase In Tax Rate *Residents To Pay 50 Cents Per \$100*

By Mike Voss
Editor

Vanceboro residents will not see a hike in their tax rate despite an increase of almost \$5,000 in the town's general-fund budget.

The tax rate remains at 50 cents per \$100 valuation.

The town's general-fund budget increased from \$208,814 last year to \$213,364 for fiscal year 1989-90, an increase of \$4,550.

The budget calls for \$75,000 to come from property taxes in

1989-90, an increase of \$5,000 over last year's budget.

The Sanitation Department has the largest piece of the budget pie with an allocation of \$61,567. The Street Department follows with an allocation of \$55,071. Last year the Sanitation Department was budgeted \$60,242 and the Street Department was budgeted \$58,523.

The Administration Department is allocated \$54,950 in the new budget, up slightly from last year's

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Spinnaker Start! *Editor Joins Crew For Weekend*

By Mike Voss
Editor

ABOARD THE BRILLIANT CUT
— Six seconds.

After racing about 23 miles, the crew of Brilliant Cut was six seconds behind the boat they had been chasing all day.

Through rain, light winds, and a beating sun, Brilliant Cut fought her way toward the finish line of the Smirnoff Regatta. The only thought was to reach the end of the line just off Ocracoke and put competition in the state's oldest regatta away for another year.

But to finish one must start. The seven-member crew began talking about a spinnaker start as crew members arrived Friday night. The conversation in motoring out to the No. 3 buoy on the Pamlico River off Indian Island was mostly small

talk, strategy for the next day and wishes for a southwest wind that would mean a spinnaker start.

Seven men settled in shortly after midnight Friday and got a few hours of sleep. Saturday morning came and more race preparations were made. Anxiety ruled the minutes before the race started. The crew waited and waited.

Spinnaker start!

Just what the crew wanted. The smiles spread as big and as fast across their faces as the spinnaker did in front of the 29-foot Elite. The race was on and the fun times were over with, at least for a few more hours.

Skipper Steve Norris was at the helm as Joe Sizemore plotted the Brilliant Cut's course to Ocracoke. Frank Richardson, Bill Sprinkle, John Hal and Todd Edwards hand-

led the sails. A reporter filled in where ever he could and tried to stay out of the way. Richardson, an Episcopalian priest, was in charge of the foredeck work. Sprinkle, an accountant, took charge of the activities amidship and Hal and Edwards manned the lines of the spinnaker and later, the headsail.

Edwards, the rookie on the crew, was put through the paces and emerged worn but not beaten.

"This was a pretty good crew and a good effort. I am pleased with how well we worked," said Norris after the race.

Light winds forced the race committee to shorten the race by about 10 miles. It was difficult to determine how the crew felt about the shortened race, but the look in their eyes indicated a desire to keep some rags in the air.

Brilliant Cut fell in behind Sea-Duction and Jonathan minutes after the race started. Norris decided to follow the two boats and try to overtake them because he thought it would lead to winning the Class C division or placing high. Jonathan took a course to the north, but Brilliant Cut stayed with Sea-Duction on a bearing of 120 degrees toward Ocracoke.

Brilliant Cut and Sea-Duction played a cat-and-mouse game with each other. Brilliant Cut put away Yaller Dawg early in the race, leaving her behind off the port stern. The crew broke into a little celebration once the Dawg was put away.

"You can't count her out. I've seen her come storming back and win when she was behind," warned

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Drive Opens To Protect The Wetlands

RALEIGH — An overhaul of state and federal policy is needed to save North Carolina's remaining wetlands, the N.C. Environmental Defense Fund said in a report released today.

To prevent further destruction of wetland areas in the state, the report calls for immediate adoption of a "no net loss" policy for wetlands development.

The report, "Carolina Wetlands: Our Vanishing Resource," calls for a legislative study commission to develop a comprehensive

wetland protection law for North Carolina to be presented during the 1991 General Assembly session.

The report also seeks interim measures to be enacted immediately while lawmakers wait on the legislative study commission report.

Among the interim measures are establishment of an Office of Natural Areas and Wetlands as part of a reorganization of state

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Airspace Concerns May Spur Coalition

By Mike Voss
Editor

Two meetings will be held here tomorrow to consider the impact on North Carolina and its coast of military activities such as low-level overflights, electro-magnetic radiation and use of exotic laser weaponry.

The Military Activities Task Force, formed last January primarily to look at the effect of military operations on the state's coastal environment, will meet at 10 a.m. to hear recommendations from subcommittees.

The second meeting at 3:30 p.m. is expected to lead to formation of a statewide coalition to deal with the effects of military activities throughout the state.

Invited to that meeting are representatives of local governments,

citizen groups, environmental groups, real estate developers and "concerned" citizens from across the state.

Both meetings will be at the Holiday Inn.

When the Military Activities Task Force was formed early this year at the urging of the Coastal Resources Commission, it was charged with reviewing environmental problems related to military activity.

The task force is chaired by James W. Hamilton of Kinston, who said it was formed because CRC "wants to go over our guidelines" to see if new procedures are needed to keep military operations consistent with the state's coastal management plan.

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Pilot Trainer Takes Fear Out Of Flying

By Michael Adams
Special to the
West Craven Highlights

So, you want to learn to fly, but you're scared to try because you're one of those people who has problems with anything more complicated than parallel parking.

Well, don't despair. According to the Peer Bakke, flight instructor of Pamlico Airlines, you don't have to be an astronaut to be a pilot.

"You don't have to be a super human being to fly a plane," Bakke said before a short flight last Thursday. Bakke, a Norwegian native, is trying to resurrect a flight training program at

Washington's Warren Field that has been almost dormant for the last few years. Pamlico Airlines took over operation of the airport in May.

To demonstrate just how easy flying can be, Bakke took me — a notorious fumble-finger — up in one of the school's training planes. With a little help, I managed to take off and fly around Washington for about thirty minutes without crashing once.

Bakke did land the plane for me, but I was in control most of the flight. I had only flown once before, almost 20 years ago, so I was about as ignorant of planes as anyone alive.

Bakke said my experience wasn't unusual, that many peo-



Bakke at controls in one of training planes

ple are surprised at the simplicity of flying.

The flight school has three planes: a Cessna 162 for flying by

vision only, a Cessna 172 for instrument flying and a twin-

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White Finds Term As Page Interesting

By Greg Stroud
Staff Writer

Terrence White, a rising junior at West Craven High School, recently served Gov. Jim Martin as a governor's page.

The Governor's Page Program was established in 1973 and is designed to "motivate young people to become interested in state government, and by doing so, render a service to the state."

Pages serve in Raleigh for one week, working in one of the state's many offices. They work from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. each day, Monday through Friday, and receive \$100 for their services in order to cover the costs of lodging and meals. Pages run errands, answer telephones, do copying, and other general office tasks. They also have the opportunity to tour government buildings including the State Capitol Building, the Executive Mansion, the Supreme Court Building, the Legislative Building, the Museum of History and the Agriculture Building.

White served his week in the Administration Building office under the supervision of Program Director Mary Denning.

Ms. Denning referred to White as an "extraordinary page." Most impressive, she said, was White followed directions well and was quick to learn. "He didn't have any trouble grasping what to do," she said. Denning also remarked that White had received a great number of compliments from other state employees.

George Demick and Louis Columbo, a member of the Parole Commission, were responsible for White's selection as a governor's page. Columbo said White came highly recommended and felt he would be "an asset to the government, county and state."

White has been busy in other areas as well. After his service to the governor the week of May 22, White was chosen for a campership and attended the S.I.T.E.I (Student's Introduction To Engineering) camp at

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An Old Hand

Bill Butler has been fishing the waters of Streets Ferry for over 50 years. With that much time watching a cork, even boats and skiers have a hard time distract-

ing Butler from his main concern — hooking a few fish. Maybe it's not fish he's after, but just some quiet time in a peaceful surrounding. The fish may just be an added attraction. Butler apparently prefers a cane pole to the high-tech rods and reels in use today.

Leo Schwelzer Jr. photo

Rev. Royall Will Serve Vanceboro

By Greg Stroud
Staff Writer

Vanceboro United Methodist Church will soon be hearing a new voice reaching out from its pulpit.

Rev. Graham Lloyd Royall, a Goldsboro native, has been appointed to replace Claude Wilson, who has been appointed by the Methodist Conference to another church.

Royall, who has been at Vass United Methodist Church for the past five years, has been in the ministry for 26 years. He entered the ministry at age 24.

Royall completed his undergraduate work at Louisburg College and Methodist College in Fayetteville. He received his masters of divinity degree from Duke University.

In addition to the pulpit ministry, Royall has also been involved with alcohol-related programs and was

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