

Reading Program Highly Successful At White Oak

Results of a recent evaluation of the state's Primary Reading Program funded by the 1975 General Assembly have revealed that students who participated in the program achieved significantly higher reading achievement scores than students in matched comparison classes.

White Oak School was selected to participate in the Primary Reading Program during the 1975-76 school year. John Guard, principal at White Oak School, state that he and his staff were very pleased with the results which were shown at White Oak. "Cost tests for both the benefit classes and the comparison classes exceeded the national average", he added. In addition, "the benefit classes showed a more significant gain as a result of the teacher and additional

allotted aides having had the opportunity to receive special inservice training and funds for special reading materials." White Oak will be participating in the state's Primary Reading Program again this year.

According to State Supt. A. Craig Phillips, these results can prove to be of significant benefit to primary grade children in Edenton-Chowan Schools because they "show us where to allocate our state resources to best assure that every child in North Carolina learns to read."

The Primary Reading Program was established in 1975 to identify more effective means of teaching reading to children in grades one through three, said Phillips. The initial appropriation of \$750,000 provided resources to fund 117 primary grade classes.

Each of the 117 classes in 40 schools throughout the state were provided money for a teacher aide, inservice training for the classroom teacher and aide, supplies and materials, comprehensive testing, and extra consulting services. Teachers were encouraged to use adult volunteers in the program, said Phillips,

although no money was provided for that phase of the program.

Through a carefully controlled evaluation, the money put into the first year's operation of the Primary Reading Program has been proven to be effective in raising reading achievement of children in grades one through three, Phillips noted. The 1975 General Assembly appropriated \$2,000,000 for the second year of the program. This makes possible the funding of an additional 188 primary classes during the 1976-77 school year. Phillips emphasized that reading achievement of students participating in the second year of the program will also be carefully monitored.

The evaluation proves that providing teachers additional resources to teach reading in grades one through three can make a difference in reading achievement of children, said Phillips.

Vision To Remember



Every bride wants to be a vision to remember on her wedding day. Dr. Lichtman, leading Philadelphia optometrist says: "For those who can wear them, soft contact lenses correct many common visual problems and are virtually invisible when worn, giving the eyes a natural appearance." From the first sound of the wedding march to the last flash of the cameras and the tossing of rice, you go through the day with ease.

Initiative is a combination of brains and energy but blah blah and bustle can sometimes fool people.

Everyone is a coward, about some things, and justly so.

Chowan Teachers

Attend Primary

Reading Institute

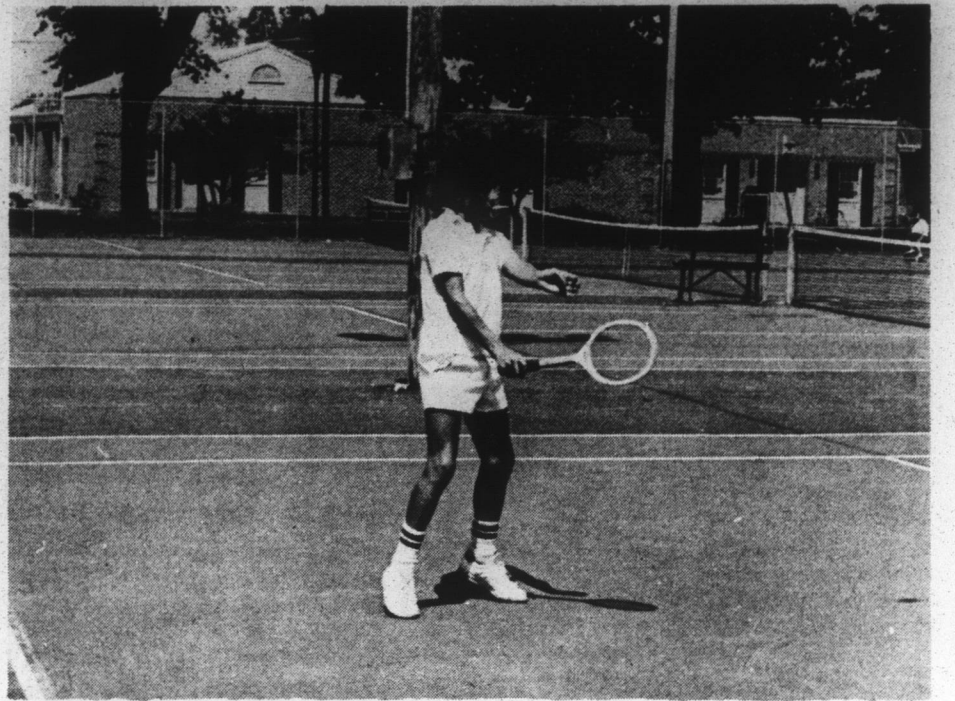
Teachers from Chowan County recently attended the Primary Reading Institute for Region 1 held at Chowan College in Murfreesboro. The Institute, sponsored by the State Department of Public Instruction through the Division of Reading and coordinated by Emily K. McCleary, state reading consultant for the Northeast Regional Education Center, was the initial phase of the staff development activities for the Primary Reading Program.

Two days of the six days of staff development activities included teachers, aides, principals and supervisors participating in the program during the 1975-76 school year as well as participants from the 8 sites new to the program this school year. On-going staff development activities will be continued throughout the school year in the 13 administrative units participating in the Primary Reading Program.

Dr. Craig Phillips, state superintendent of public instruction, keynoted a joint opening of both the Early Childhood and Reading Institutes. The two institutes ran concurrently and shared many evening activities.

The focus for the week was "Reading - the Child." Instruction centered on classroom organization and management, diagnosing, approaches to teaching reading, parent and community involvement, the role of volunteer, child growth and development, and the training of aides. All participants were encouraged to share and evaluate their own ideas, as well as explore new methods and materials to meet the individual needs of children.

Among the participants were: Ida Hall, Vera R. Murrill, Joyce O. Evans, Ruth S. Spencer, Helen Roberts, John E. Guard and Londa Gosnell.



TOURNAMENT—Bobby Hutchison, above, is shown competing in the Junior Finals of the Edenton-Chowan Recreation Department tennis tournament, underway this week. This weekend competition in the men's and women's divisions will be held. Registration is limited to Chowan County residents only.



A steam-powered tricycle built in 1769 could carry four people and go at two miles per hour.



ATTEND INSTITUTE—Six staff members from Edenton-Chowan Schools recently attended the Early Childhood Institute held at Riverview Elementary School in Murfreesboro. Mrs. Mary Ann Bunch, left and Mrs. Christine Fleming were among those attending. Others were: Electra Hurdle, Jo Anna Lawrence, Priscilla Lewis and Nancy Noble.

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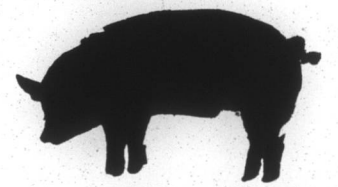
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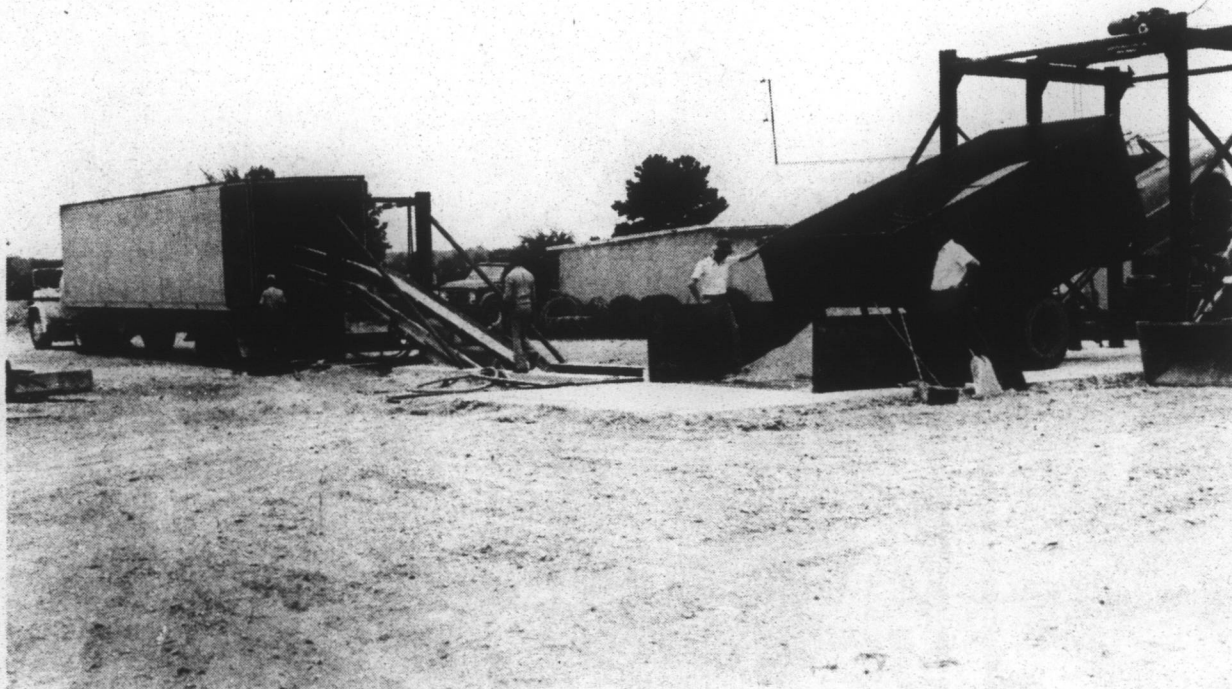
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