

Achievement Test Results:

Local Students On Par With Nation

Most Chowan County students scored at or above the national median on achievement tests given last April, according to figures released by the State Department of Public Instruction recently.

On the state level, ninth graders have continued a three year trend of scoring below the national median, as have Chowan County's ninth graders.

When statewide test scores were released recently, Governor Jim Hunt, a strong advocate of the testing program, was quoted as saying, "For the first time in history, students in our (N.C.) first, second, third and sixth grades are scoring at the national average in reading and math. Our students have traditionally lagged behind

the national averages in these critical skills areas. But these results show they are scoring at the same levels as their peers across the nation, and in some cases higher."

Chowan County's scores shown below are in grade equivalents and percentiles. The grade equivalent denotes the grade and month at which the average student tested in Chowan County scored. Since the tests were administered in the seventh month of the school year, the average student nationally would score 1.7 (first grade, seventh month) 2.7, 3.7, 6.7 or 9.7, respectively.

The national median score is expressed as the 50th percentile - meaning, that half of the tested students scored higher and half lower than the average for all students tested nationally. The largest improvement shown in Chowan County, compared with last year's scores, took place at the sixth grade level. For reading, 7.2 - 57 per cent in 1980 as compared to 6.3 - 44 per cent in 1979, a growth of 8 school months; for math, 7.2 - 59 per cent in 1980 compared to 6.7 - 49 per cent in 1979, a growth of four school months.

According to Mrs. Mary Horton, director of testing, there are many factors working together in the

system which are paying off for students. Since the advent of the State Primary Reading Program six years ago, which supplied additional monies to hire teacher aides and special materials, all primary grades (1-3) now receive these benefits. Seeing gradual improvement in the reading area, the school system continued this program and started concentrating more in the area of math. Through federal programs, reading and math labs have been operated in each school, giving students needed individual attention. The State's Testing Program, itself, has possibly provided students and teachers with added motivation to try harder to do as well or better than others. Slight reductions in class size on the State level also allows teachers to give students more individual attention, as do services of volunteers and parental involvement.

When test scores are returned to local school systems, they contain a wealth of compiled and individual student information, which enables administrators to pinpoint areas of strengths, and weaknesses and to take necessary steps to improve curriculum where needed. "There's still a lot of hard work to be done, but," Mrs. Horton believes, "the improved scores over the past few years are a tremendous credit to the schools, teachers, citizens who have become involved and, particularly, the students themselves."

Prior to the release this month of comparative local school system, regional and state scores and data, each school system received individual student test results. The opportunity to receive this information personally was made available to all parents during parent-teacher conference days established at each school during the week following the close of school for students. Those parents not able to attend the conference days received their child's individual test scores along with report cards which were mailed home.

Former Resident Suffers Injury

Ernest Ward, Jr., of Rocky Mount, former town clerk in Edenton, fell June 20 while on vacation at Holden's Beach. He broke his leg in four places.

Ward was hospitalized in Wilmington but has now returned home. He is working with the aid of a bedside phone, wheelchair and ramp.

Card Of Thanks

I want to thank each and everyone who visited my husband and myself while we were in the hospital. Thank-you also for your gifts, cards, prayers, and visits.

Wilford & Penny Turner chg.



EARNs SCHOLARSHIP — Recipient of the 1980 Extension Homemakers Association Scholarship is Becky Wagner, daughter of Rev. and Mrs. Donald Wagner of Rocky Hock. Miss Wagner is shown above at left with Mrs. W. H. Saunders, president of the Beech Fork Extension Homemakers Club, who nominated her for the award. Miss Wagner will continue her studies in nursing at Atlantic Christian College in Wilson this fall.

Earns \$500 Scholarship

Becky Wagner, Route 1, Edenton, has been named recipient of a 1980 N.C. Extension Homemaker Association Scholarship. The award is for \$500.

Miss Wagner is the daughter of Rev. and Mrs. Donald Wagner of the Rocky Hock Community.

A graduate of Bunn High School, Becky has just completed two years at Campbell University studying allied health. Her activities included active participation in the Baptist Student Union, the Outreach Team and the Stridders Club. Becky is an avid jogger and swimmer. She also plays the piano and organ.

Becky was nominated for the award by Mrs. W.H. Saunders, president of the Beech Fork Extension Homemakers Club. The award is based on scholarship, character and school and community activities. Becky will use the award to continue her studies in the field of nursing at Atlantic Christian College in Wilson this fall.

Seven \$500 awards are given annually to girls and women seeking higher education in North Carolina. For information on the NCEHA Scholarship contact your local Extension Homemakers Club or your County Extension Office.

Letter To The Editor

Dear Editor, Everybody in and around Edenton are very much aware of the opinion of some of our prominent citizens concerning the proposed shopping center. Now it's time for us simple folks of rural Chowan to speak up.

Edenton needs this shopping center. I like K-Mart and other large stores like it. Most of them (especially K-Mart) have a larger selection of clothing than any store in Edenton and at reasonable prices.

More places to shop would bring in more people from the surrounding area and that, my friends, would surely mean more business for the other stores, gas stations and of course, the restaurants.

And another thing - I cannot believe that anyone would not welcome more jobs to the county.

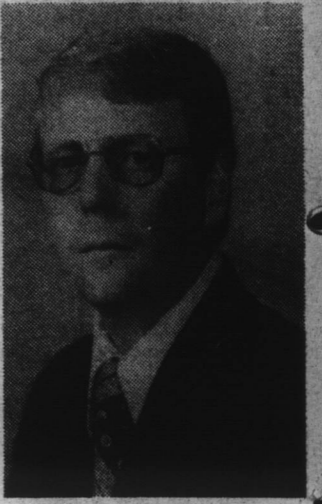
I also think Mr. Dixon was

way off base in his letter last week. Nothing has been said about destroying the historical part of town.

We are in favor of bigger and better stores but that doesn't mean we aren't proud of our town and its past. I would be the first to admit that Edenton is a beautiful and interesting place to visit. But the people that tour Edenton aren't going to be coming back every day or every week. In fact, most of the time, their visit here is a one time thing. The price of the tours are only a drop in the bucket compared to the money that a modern department store could ring into our fair community.

Is it not possible to be the best of both - Historical and beautiful - proud of our heritage and the lovely homes of days gone by, but also proud of modern Edenton, progressive with a bright future.

Mrs. George Moore



AGENT RECOGNIZED — Roy Forehand of Edenton has been recognized as a member of the Home Security Leaders Club for the year 1979-80. The Annual Leaders Conference was held at Ponte Vedra Beach, Fla. June 23-28.

TOO LATE TO CLASSIFY YARD SALE — Sat. July 19, 9:00 - 1:00. Near Whiteman's Store. Look for signs. July 17chg.

Men's Fellowship District Meeting Is Scheduled

The Albemarle District of the Christian Men's Fellowship will meet at the First Christian Church in Washington Tuesday at 7:30 P.M.

The speaker will be Rev. James Bussell, minister, First Christian Church of Williamston.

The dinner will be country fresh vegetables, country style ham and fried chicken, ice tea or coffee, and dessert, only \$3.

With fellowship unlimited, all Christian men invited.

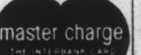
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MACKS MANAGER'S SALE 9-10 Mon.-Sat. 12:30-7 Sunday Northside Shopping Center MAKES LOW PRICE \$1.27 PEPSI OR COCA-COLA WHY PAY MORE? BIG 2-LITER. NO DEPOSIT, NO RETURN. MAKES LOW PRICE 67c RIT POWDER DYE WHY PAY MORE? CONCENTRATED TINT AND DYE. LIQUID RIT. . . \$1.47 MAKES LOW PRICE \$1.97 KERI LOTION WHY PAY \$2.577 FOR DRY SKIN CARE. 6.3-8Z. MAKES LOW PRICE \$5.88 TERRY SHORT SETS WHY PAY \$7.99? ASSORTED STYLES AND COLORS. TO CHOOSE FROM. S, M, L. COMPARE . . . TRAVEL KIT \$2.76 NIGHT GUARD 10-02. \$1.87 WHITE RAIN 7.5-02. \$1.14 MAXWAY MULTI VIT/IRON 100-07. \$79 BLUE DRESSER HAIR COND. 12-02. \$79 Q-TIP 170-07. \$49 FLICKER RAZOR \$1.34 J&J BABY SHAMPOO 11-02. \$1.81 EXODRIN 100-07. \$1.97 HONEY OF GLAY 3-02. \$3.17 MAKES LOW PRICE \$1.46 PERM REPAIR CONDITIONER WHY PAY \$2.277 TO REPAIR AND CONDITION DAMAGED HAIR. CONTAINS HAIR REGENERATING AGENTS. 2-02. MAKES LOW PRICE \$44.97 ADULT LAWN SWINGS MAKES LOW PRICE \$65.97 CHILDREN'S SWING SETS WE SELL FOR LESS . . . everyday!