

Beacon Asks For Maximum Award In Copyright Case

The Brunswick Beacon asked the U.S. District Court in Wilmington Monday to impose maximum statutory damages of \$150,000 against The Brunswick Free Press for three copyright infringements.

Judge W. Earl Britt, who ruled in March that the Free Press was guilty of the copyright infringements, heard arguments on damages from both sides.

In addition to statutory damages, the Beacon asked for award of attorney's fees and an injunction to restrain the Free Press from copying any material directly from the Beacon in the future.

The Free Press, which has served notice of appeal of the federal court's decision on the copyright law, asked for minimum statutory damages of \$100 per infringement, or \$300, requested the court to refuse the Beacon's request for reimbursement of attorney's fees, and assured the judge the Free Press will abide by the court's interpretation of the copyright law in the future without an injunction.

W. Thad Adams III, attorney for the Beacon, argued that the

"deliberate and continuing nature" of the Free Press' acts of infringement entitles the Beacon to \$50,000 for each of the three instances of copyright infringement of which the Free Press has been found guilty.

Adams told the court the Free Press continued to infringe on the Beacon's copyrights from the time in June 1983 when they were warned not to do so by Beacon publishers, until just a few weeks before the hearing on Monday.

Adams said the Free Press had disregarded a cease and desist letter from him in September, 1983, had disregarded advice of its own counsel in the matter, and had continued to infringe on the Beacon's copyrights even after Judge Britt's ruling in March.

Larry L. Coats, attorney for the Free Press, argued that the Beacon suffered no actual damages from the infringements, that the Free Press acted in good faith on advice of legal counsel, that a substantial award might force the newspaper out of business, and that the minimum award is appropriate in the case. Since the case involves heretofore

"untested law," the Free Press should not be required to pay the Beacon's attorney fees, Coats argued.

The only other similar case, heard recently in federal district court in Louisiana, was decided differently, Coats said.

He also asked the judge to declare the three principal stockholders of the corporation which owns the Free Press free of any personal liability for damages.

The three, co-publishers of the newspaper, are Bernard Charles (Rocky) Hopchas, his wife, Priscilla Schock (Lou) Hopchas, and her mother, Caroline Schock.

The Beacon's suit was filed against the three, personally, and their corporation, Schock-Hopchas Publishing Co.

Judge Britt said he would rule on the question of individual liability at a later time.

Eddie Sweatt, Beacon editor and publisher, testified in the case, as did Lou Hopchas, editor and co-publisher of the Free Press.

Sweatt's testimony centered around citing instances in which Beacon advertising had been reproduced, in whole or in part, in the Free Press.

In her testimony, Ms. Hopchas traced the history of the Free Press, which she said was started after she was fired as editor of The Brunswick Beacon after an editorial dispute with publisher Eddie Sweatt, who maintains that Ms. Hopchas quit her job.

Judge Britt decided to hear the personal testimony after agreeing with the Beacon's attorney that it was irrelevant to the copyright case before the court.

At the conclusion of the testimony, Judge Britt told attorneys for both sides he would advise them of his decisions in the matter in due time.

FUTURE SITE

HOLDEN BEACH BRANCH

- PENDING REGULATORY AUTHORITY APPROVAL -



UNITED CAROLINA BANK

ucb

HOLDEN BEACH
MOTEL
& CAMPGROUND



STAFF PHOTO BY EDDIE SWEATT

UCB Plans Beach Branch

United Carolina Bank made its intentions to open a Holden Beach branch office official Monday afternoon, erecting this sign on land it has obtained off the Holden Beach Causeway. City executive Leo Johnson has said

UCB hopes to open the branch in spring 1986, pending regulatory authority approval. North Carolina National Bank is also considering opening a Holden Beach branch office.

Calendar Of Events

Thursday, May 16

COVERED DISH DINNER and exchange student program sponsored by the Brunswick County Extension Homemakers to allow four foreign students completing graduate work in agriculture to share information about their native countries with the public. Bring a covered dish, 6:30 p.m.

THE FREE SPRING BAND CONCERT at the West Brunswick High School gym features a community chorus joining the band in a finale, "The Battle Hymn of the Republic," 7:30 p.m.

GAME NIGHT at the American Legion Post one mile south of Shallotte on U.S. 17, 7:30 p.m.

DEMOCRATS MEET at Shallotte, Supply and Southport I polling places to reorganize precincts. Officers will be elected, 8 p.m.

Friday, May 17

DEADLINE TO ENTER the Little Miss N.C. Fourth of July Pageant for girls ages 5-7. Call the Southport-Oak Island Chamber of Commerce for more information, 457-6964.

BRUNSWICK COUNTY DEMOCRATIC EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE meets to nominate three persons to the Brunswick County Board of Elections and to conduct other business, public assembly building, Brunswick County Government Center, Bolivia, 7:30 p.m.

GAME NIGHT at the Sunset Beach Volunteer Fire Department, 8 p.m.

Saturday, May 18

BLUE CRAB FESTIVAL with food, arts and crafts, music and entertainment, Little River, S.C., waterfront today and Sunday, 10 a.m.-6 p.m.

BARBECUE PORK DINNERS will be sold beginning 11 a.m. at the Town Creek Volunteer Rescue Squad Building, intersection of U.S. 17 and N.C. 87 South at Winnabow, \$3 per plate.

CAPE FEAR WOMEN OF ACHIEVEMENT DINNER sponsored by the YWCA at the Ramada Inn, Wilmington, to honor achievements of women in the business, professional and volunteer sectors. For more information call the YWCA, 799-6820.

CHAPTER 36, SPECIAL FORCES ASSOCIATION meets in regular session at the Bolling Spring Lakes VFW Building, 1:30 p.m.

GAME NIGHT at the Calabash Volunteer Fire Department, 8 p.m.

Sunday, May 19

SONG FESTIVAL at the Winnabow Volunteer Fire Department on Governor's Road featuring local groups. The public is invited to attend; with a freewill offering taken for the fire department, 3 p.m.

Monday, May 20

HOLDEN BEACH COMMISSIONERS conduct a public hearing on two rezoning requests at the town hall, 9 a.m.

BRUNSWICK COUNTY COMMISSIONERS meet in regular session, 6:30 p.m.

Tuesday, May 21

HOLDEN BEACH COMMUNITY WATCH meets at the town hall, with all residents welcome, along with their suggestions for making the town "a secure and better place to live," 10 a.m.

UMPIRE CLINIC by the Brunswick County Parks and Recreation Department for those interested in umpiring Dixie Boys Baseball begins at Town Creek Township Park, Winnabow, and continues Thursday. No charge. Coaches invited also, 7 p.m.

ORGANIZATIONAL MEETING to elect officers and a bylaws committee for a Brunswick County Animal Welfare League, public assembly building, Brunswick County Government Center, 7:30 p.m.

Wednesday, May 22

BRUNSWICK TOASTMASTERS, CLUB 5095 meets at the Ship's Chandler Restaurant, Southport, 7 a.m.-8 a.m. Guests welcome.

ANNUAL ARMY JROTC AWARDS PROGRAM at West Brunswick High School. The public is invited, 6 p.m.

Meet Your Friends At...



Walt's Flaming Star

5808 E. Oak Island Dr. Long Beach, 278-6248
A private club for members and their guests.
Memberships available

May 16 **Rock & Roll With Stratus**

May 17 & 18 **Crossroads Band**
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Now you can own every current top hit record and cassette that you may ever want for only \$1.00 (plus Postage & Handling) every time you purchase another at regular price (usually \$8.98). Sounds incredible — but true! You could save up to \$200.00 or more. Discount booklets make excellent gifts for relatives and friends. Satisfaction Guaranteed or your money refunded.

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HOLDEN BEACH CAUSEWAY, Phone 842-2699

Students To Attend 'Close-Up' Program

Students from three Brunswick County high schools will gather in Raleigh on May 16 for the "North Carolina Close-Up" program.

"Close-Up" is an educational program designed to allow students and their teachers to interact with state officials, legislators, representatives from the news media and other organizations through panel discussions, seminars and question and answer sessions.

Attending the program this year from West Brunswick High School will be Penelope Tippett, Missy Johnson, Pamela Piyier, Justin Turner and their instructor, Bill Shoemaker.

From South Brunswick High, attending will be Sarah Quick, Todd

Hart, Robert Vereen, Chantal Wall and their teacher, Ms. Willistine McMillian.

Attending from North Brunswick High will be Monica Richardson, Tyrekia Troy, Bussie Wilson, Kevin Soders, alternate Kathy Galloway and teacher Ms. Ava Thomas.

North Brunswick has also sent a national "Close-Up" team to Washington, D.C., this year. Attending the national event were Melinda Hearn, Tammy Fowler, Tynekia Troy, Jeffrey Harrell and teacher

Ms. Ester Troy.

The state "Close-Up" program began in 1978 and was modeled after the national "Close-Up" program, which allows teachers and students to use the nation's capitol as a classroom in the same manner that Raleigh will serve as a classroom this week.

Brunswick County educators also sponsor a county "Close-Up" program for ninth-graders each year, allowing students a hands-on view of county government operations.

INSIGHT INTO EYESIGHT

CHRIS MOSHOURES
OPTOMETRIST

THE NEW LOOK OF CONTACTS

People who have been wearing glasses for years and switch to contacts are amazed at the new look it gives them. THEY know they're wearing corrective lenses, but nobody else can tell. The small, thin, plastic lens fits directly over the cornea; and when the eye moves to look at something, so does the contact lens.

There are other advantages to this new look. When nearsighted people wear glasses, this tends to make their eyes look smaller than they really are. People who are farsighted and wear glasses find that the reverse is true. However, with contact lenses there is no distortion looking out and no distortion looking in. Your eyes look just like they should, with the same natural shape and size that is really you.

Of course contact lenses do require more care than glasses. You do have to learn how to insert and remove contacts and how to keep them germ-free. Yet most people are finding that this is more than outweighed by the many advantages which contacts afford.

In the interest of better vision from the office of:
Chris Moshoures, O.D.
Pine Street, Shallotte
754-4020

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