

## Oyster Festival Information Included In Special Supplement

State and National Oyster Shucking Champ Cathy Carlisle will appear on "Carolinas at Noon" Friday on WECT-TV 6 to promote this weekend's N.C. Oyster Festival. Celebrity judges for Saturday's state shucking championship will be Richard and Jill Rogers of WWAY-TV 3. A supplement inside this issue gives details of the festival.



## Southport Man Wins Mackerel Tournament

Michael Clemmons claimed \$25,000 Saturday as winner of the U.S. Open King Mackerel Tournament at Southport. The event set a state saltwater fishing tournament record with 544 boats entered. Story and photos on Page 11-C.



## Two New Area Golf Courses Reviewed

Two more championship golf courses have recently opened in the South Brunswick Islands, and there are at least six more on the way. A review of The Pearl Golf Links and Brick Landing Plantation can be found on Page 9-B.

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COME THANKSGIVING vacation, South Brunswick High School senior Bernard Flythe will be playing his tuba in the Macy's Thanksgiving Parade and on the Today Show as part of the McDonald's All-American High School Band.

## Coming Holidays Are Booked For SBHS's Favorite Bandsman

Don't bother calling him. Bernard Flythe's already booked up for Thanksgiving, Christmas and Easter. After that, who knows what's ahead for this talented 17-year-old bandsman?

Last Wednesday, the South Brunswick High School senior learned he has been chosen as a member of the 1987 McDonald's All-American High School Band, the first Brunswick County student to attain that honor. Band Director Steve Skillman called Flythe to the front to make the announcement before the full 75-member school band.

By Friday afternoon fellow students were already affectionately calling Bernard "McNard" and "Mr. McDonald." And Monday night, Skillman told Brunswick County Board of Education members, "We're just as proud of him as we can be."

Only two players from each state and one player from Puerto Rico, Guam, the Virgin Islands and the District of Columbia are named each year to the band. Only eight tuba players are selected.

Said Skillman, "It's very competitive. For a high school band

musician, it's right at the top.

"What I'm proudest of is he is a product of the Brunswick County School system," added the band director. Without the provision of band classes, equipment and opportunities for competition, he continued, "none of this would have been possible."

If this year's band follows the itinerary of past McDonald's bands, on Thanksgiving Day, it will march in the Macy's Thanksgiving Parade following a cameo appearance on the Today Show with weatherman

(See BANDSMAN, Page 2-A)

## Black Leaders Want County Manager Fired

BY RAHN ADAMS

"That's just not enough." That was the Rev. Alphonza Fullwood's response Monday to an apology from Brunswick County Manager John Smith over an ethnic joke he told last month to a local homebuilders group.

Representatives of the Cedar Grove and Southport Branches of the NAACP and the Brunswick County Citizens Association appeared at Monday morning's Brunswick County Commissioners meeting to "recommend" that Smith be fired for telling an anecdote about a black minister at the Sept. 22 meeting of the South Brunswick Islands Homebuilders Association (SBIHA) in Calabash.

County officials, including Smith, assured black leaders that the incident would not be repeated and encouraged them to "put this behind us."

Commission Chairman Grace Beasley also made a public apology on behalf of the county.

South Brunswick Islands Homebuilders Association Program Chairman Nick Newton, who had arranged for Smith to speak to the homebuilders, was also present at the commission meeting to defend the county manager.

Newton, who was the first speaker during the meeting's public comments section, reiterated that

association members were not offended by Smith's joke.

He said he felt the SBIHA's "rights were violated" when association member Kitty Nubel repeated the joke to her husband, Richard Nubel, news editor of the State Port Pilot, who in turn reported the incident to county commissioners in executive session on Sept. 23.

Newton called Nubel's handling of the incident "unethical and an invasion of privacy."

"Where does sensationalism end?" Newton asked reporters present at Monday's meeting.

However, while black leaders admitted their information was based on news media accounts, they said they feel "this type of remark from a county official does not do justice to serve and promote harmony among all citizens of the county," according to a letter read by the Rev. Winston E. Brown, president of the Southport NAACP.

The letter to commissioners was signed by Brown; the Rev. M.C. Herring, president of the Brunswick County Citizens Association; and Cedar Grove NAACP President Jesse A. Bryant.

"We are strongly protesting such a remark and attitude by any or all county officials," the letter said. "If this statement is true, we recommend the county manager's employment be terminated."

Ms. Beasley agreed that the Board of Commissioners would formally reply to the letter in writing.

Commissioner Chris Chappell said Smith's joke was "a little distasteful to me or anyone else," but asked black leaders to give Smith another chance.

"The only thing he (Smith) did wrong was not knowing Brunswick County and its people," Chappell said.

In his own defense, Smith apologized for the anecdote and emphasized that he supports the black community, saying his "door is open to everyone."

"It was a bad decision, and I admit to that, so it shows I'm not the smartest county manager in the world," Smith said of his choice in jokes. "All I can say is, I did make a mistake, and I humbly apologize."

However, Fullwood, who is pastor of St. John's Baptist Church in Bolivia, stated he cannot "effectively lead people and persuade people to be good citizens," when county officials think they can make a mistake, then simply ask forgiveness.

"People in high positions have a responsibility," Fullwood said. "I'm not sure you (Smith) can effectively perform (county manager's post)."

Fullwood said any statement like the joke in question creates an atmosphere for "racism to flourish."

## Brunswick And Wilmington Murders Believed Linked

BY RAHN ADAMS

Two Wilmington men are dead in what investigators late Tuesday called related shootings—the first occurring early Tuesday outside a Wilmington bar, the other discovered later Tuesday morning near Grissetown in Brunswick County.

"At this time, we are going on the assumption that the Brunswick County case and the Wilmington case are related," Brunswick County Sheriff's Capt. Phil Perry said late Tuesday.

According to Perry and Wilmington Police Capt. Jimmy Williams, no arrests had been made in either case by late Tuesday, and both investigations were continuing.

Perry said lawmen Tuesday were looking for at least two persons who left the Wilmington murder scene together.

Perry identified the victim in the Brunswick case as Michael Edward Baker, 33, of Green Meadows Drive, Wilmington.

Williams identified the Wilmington

shooting victim as Nick H. Patelos, 31, of Kenwood Avenue, Wilmington. According to Williams, the first shooting apparently occurred just after midnight Tuesday morning outside Friendly's Bar and Lounge on Market Street in Wilmington.

Witnesses told lawmen that two men—one of them identified as Patelos—left the bar after playing pool inside, then exchanged gunfire in the parking lot of the bar.

Patelos was dead by the time emergency personnel arrived on the scene, Williams said.

Williams said Tuesday that investigators had not identified the other man involved in the Patelos shooting. They also did not know if the other man was injured in the exchange of gunfire.

He added that a white female and two white males left the shooting scene in a 1976 Ford Econoline van owned by Baker—the same vehicle located later Tuesday morning by Brunswick County lawmen.

According to Perry, Baker's body was found by a newspaper deliveryman Tuesday around 5:40 a.m. in a service station driveway at the intersection of U.S. 17 and N.C. 904 in Grissetown.

Baker, who was dead on the scene, apparently died of multiple gunshot wounds, Perry said.

An autopsy was to be performed Wednesday at the regional medical examiner's office in Jacksonville, he said.

Shalotte Volunteer Rescue Squad transported the body from the scene to The Brunswick Hospital in Supply. Perry said that shortly after Baker's body was discovered, sheriff's deputies located the Ford van abandoned about one mile east of the scene on N.C. 904.

The vehicle was taken to the sheriff's department's impoundment lot in Bolivia for investigation purposes.

The SBI is also involved in investigation of the double murders.

## Diana Morgan Sworn In As Clerk Of Court

BY RAHN ADAMS

Former Chief Assistant Clerk Diana Morgan was sworn in this week as Brunswick County's new Clerk of Superior Court, a job she has performed since July when former Clerk Greg Bellamy was indicted on a cocaine charge.

Resident Superior Court Judge Giles Clark of Elizabethtown administered the oath of office to Ms. Morgan at noon Tuesday in the clerk's office at the Brunswick County Courthouse, one day before her 30-day term as acting clerk was to expire.

"I have known Diana and have worked with her in this office for about 14 years," Clark said. "I know she is very capable, very competent, very efficient and very qualified."

"I feel she'll serve well as clerk of court for Brunswick County."

Clark also noted that Ms. Morgan's appointment as permanent clerk was recommended to him by the Brunswick County Bar Association, the Brunswick County Democratic Executive Committee and other county officials.

Clark said other Brunswick County residents considered for the clerk's post included Magistrate Roney Cheers; Charles Glisson and Joe Stanley, both of Shalotte; and Lona Caudill of Leland.

Clark said Ms. Morgan's experience and qualifications were the determining factors in her selection.

Ms. Morgan, 35, of Long Beach, said Tuesday she intends to seek

election to the clerk's post as a Democrat in 1988.

Her annual salary will be approximately \$34,000, she said.

"I am very grateful for Judge Clark's confidence in me, and to everyone else who's been so much help," she said following the brief swearing-in ceremony. "I'm just going to try to do the best job I can."

She added that some promotions and other staff adjustments will be made in the clerk's office.

"There will be some changes in the office, but those will be due mainly to personnel and shifting roles in the office now that I'm not going to be doing some of the things I have done in the past," she said.

Ms. Morgan, who has 14 years ex-

perience in the local clerk's office, has been overseeing its operation since July 22, when Bellamy announced he was taking an unofficial leave of absence to await trial on a cocaine possession charge.

Bellamy, 38, of Holden Beach, resigned the clerk's post Aug. 31 after pleading guilty to the felony count in Brunswick County Superior Criminal Court.

His sentence included a two-year suspended term and two years of supervised probation, during which time he is not allowed to hold public office.

On Sept. 8, Clark appointed Ms. Morgan acting clerk. State law provides that an acting clerk can serve up to 30 days.



DIANA MORGAN takes the oath of office as Brunswick County's new clerk of court from Judge Giles Clark Tuesday in Bolivia.