



CLAIMING ALL trophies in the air cannon event were (from left) West Brunswick entrants Rachel Pearce, Melissa Robinson, Jennifer Gore and Michael Turner.

## West Brunswick High Dominates First Countywide Physics Contest

BY AMY CAISON  
For The Brunswick Beacon

Popsicle-stick bridges, air cars propelled by rubber bands, miniature cannons shooting puffs of air to extinguish candles, eggs in odd-looking cradles.

Such was the stuff of hands-on physics competition last Tuesday, May 18, when students from each of Brunswick County's three high schools met in the first countywide physics contest, held at West Brunswick High School.

Competition coordinator Nancy Coble of West Brunswick said the competition will become an annual event. Its purpose is to allow students to use their knowledge of physics and their imagination to creatively solve problems.

West Brunswick dominated the contest, claiming first and second places in the bridge and egg drop events, and sweeping the air cannon event.

Junior Rachel Pearce's Popsicle-stick bridge took top honors for supporting a whopping 142.5 pounds, while Douglas Anderson and Willard Causey's bridge supported 120 pounds. The third-place entry, by South Brunswick's Chris Polanski and Christie Worden, supported 105 pounds.

In the air cannon event, students working alone or in teams designed an apparatus that would send a puff of air at least 15 feet and extinguish a candle. West's Jennifer Gore and Michael Turner placed first, followed by Melissa Robinson, second, and Rachel Pearce, third.

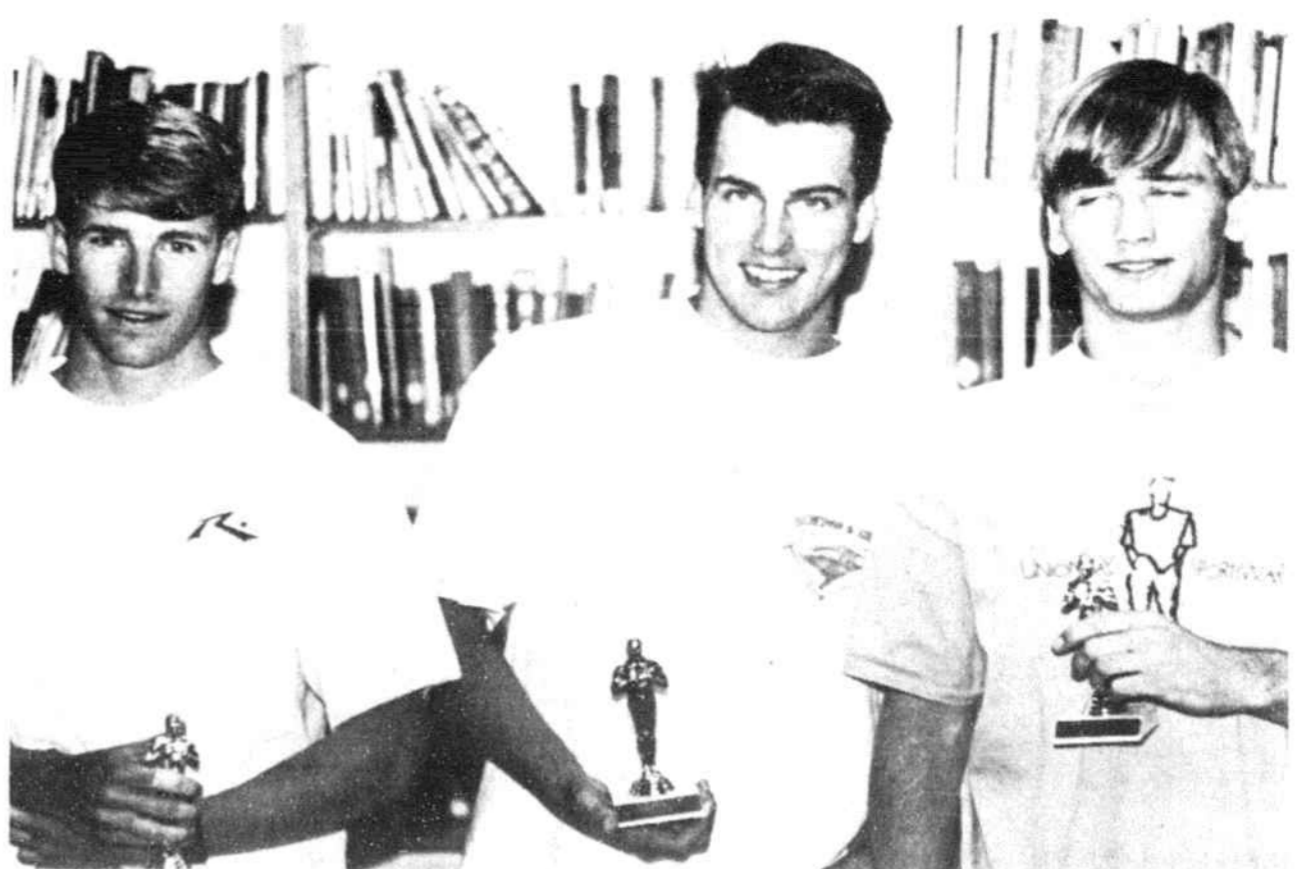
Students' air cars—fashioned from index cards, typing paper and paper clips and propelled by rubber band "motors"—were judged on distance traveled. South Brunswick swept this division with Chris Shephard capturing first place, and Chris Polanski edging out John Midgett for second place.

In the egg drop event, students had 30 minutes to build a device to protect a raw egg when dropped from heights of 5, 10 and 12 feet.

Fashioned from straws, sheet paper and stick pins, the entry from West Brunswick teammates Chris Carlisle, Jessica Benton, Scott Lewis and Donnie Milligan took first. Classmates Willie Gore, Bryan Fleming, Keane Bellamy and Ernie Smith placed second, followed by North Brunswick's Jo Gasailo, Kyung Lee, Shannon Dorsey and Sharod James in third place.

In a drawing, Valerie Barajas of North Brunswick and Keith Holden of West Brunswick won graphics cal-

culators donated by Wayne Hanson, coordinator of the Science and Mathematics Alliance, Southeast Regional Partnership, Wilmington.



SOUTH BRUNSWICK'S (from left) Chris Shephard, Chris Polanski and John Midgett swept the air car competition.



RACHEL PEARCE'S (far right) Popsicle-stick span held 142.5 pounds to win the bridge-building competition. Runner-up teams were (from left) Chris Polanski and Christie Worden and Douglas Anderson and Willard Causey.

PHOTOS CONTRIBUTED

### CLUB BRIEFS

## VFW Post 7288 Installs New Auxiliary Officers

New officers of Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 7288 Auxiliary, Calabash, were installed May 23.

They are Cathy Sommers, president; Mae Maloney, senior vice president; Lee Koch, junior vice president; Dot Hoffman, treasurer; Florence Cook, secretary; Catherine Corrick, chaplain; Kay Kielbasa, conductress; Mitzi Bernatsky, guard; and Gloria McQueen, patriotic instructor.

On Memorial weekend, VFW members and auxiliaries will be in various areas accepting donations for the red poppies made by disabled veterans. Proceeds go to a relief fund which helps needy veterans and their families.

June 12 is the group's next trip to the Veterans Hospital in Fayetteville. Memberships will bring refreshments and cupcakes and play bingo with the veterans.

The next meeting is Monday, June 21, at the post. Officers will meet at 6:30 p.m., and the regular meeting begins at 7:30. Five-year pins will be given to the auxiliaries, followed by cookies and punch.

### Seniors Meet June 3

Town Creek Senior Citizens will meet Thursday, June 3, at 1 p.m. at Town Creek Township Park at Win-

nabow.

Jan Reichenbach, health educator with the Brunswick County Health Department, will present a program on "Coping with Caregiving." Refreshments will be served.

Visitors are welcome, said spokesman Marie E. Young.

### AARP Dinner

Calabash American Association of Retired Persons (AARP) Chapter 3640 will hold its semi-annual covered dish supper and silent auction

on Thursday, June 3, at 6:30 p.m. in the Calabash Firehouse on Persimmon Road.

Proceeds from the auction will be contributed to the Make-a-Wish Foundation.

Members should bring their dishes by 6:15.

Guests are invited. Entry fee will be a favorite dish plus auction items.

### NARFE Meeting June 1

The National Association of Retired Federal Employees

(NARFE) will meet at Thomas' Restaurant, Calabash, at 9 a.m. June 1.

Following breakfast, a business meeting will be held.

President Nancy Williams is recruiting volunteers for the nominating committee.

Featured speaker will be Bill McDavit of Sunset Beach. His topic will be azaleas.

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