

THE CHOWAN HERALD

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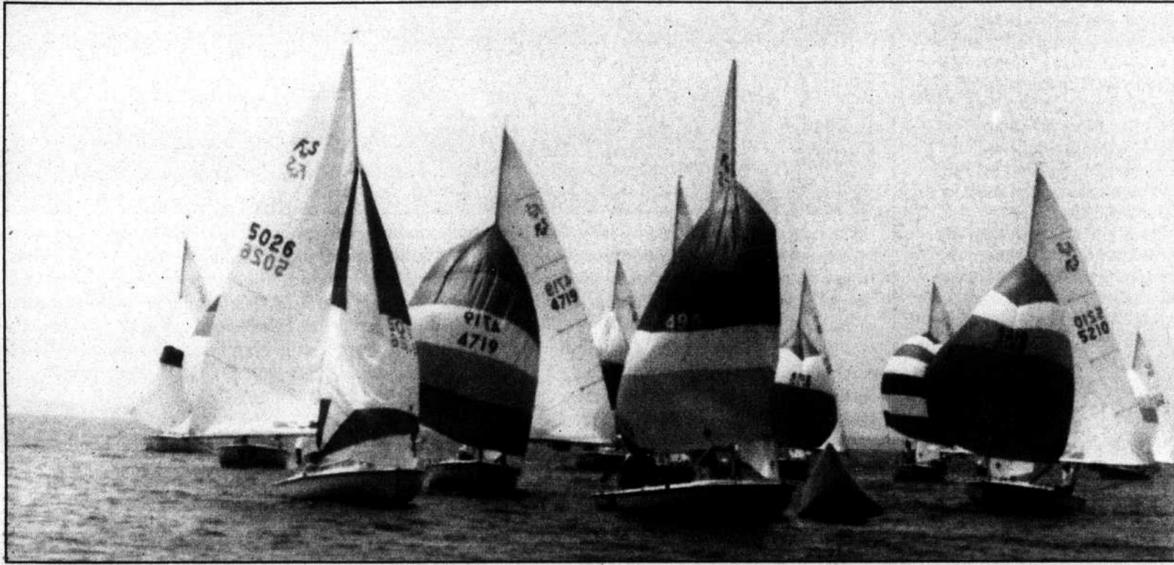
Vol. LXVII, No. 30

Sailboats race in Edenton Bay Challenge See 7-A & 10-B



Steamers near end of season 8-A
'People's choice' open through August 1-B

Sailing across the Bay



The Fifth Annual Edenton Bay Challenge, held here Saturday and Sunday, drew more than 100 participants from across the state and region. Local officials called the event a great way to display the exceptional sailing opportunities that exist on Edenton Bay. (Staff photo by Derrick Armstead) (See related photos on page 10-B of this week's edition)

Daylight bank robbery under investigation

BY DERRICK ARMSTEAD
Staff writer

A mid-morning crime has left the Edenton Police Department (EPD) searching for clues involving the robbery of a local bank.

Located at the intersection of U.S. 17 and Luke Street, Centura Bank — the scene of yesterday's crime — was under heavy police surveillance immediately following the incident, including the Chowan County Sheriff's Department, EPD, and other agencies.

Gregory Bonner, Chief of Police, stated that preliminary reports indicate that the suspects entered the facility at approximately 10:30 a.m.

"At this time it appears that the suspects were wearing wigs and face paint..." said Bonner. "Once again, at this time, it appears as if they, after making their way inside the bank, then told the (tellers) and others to get into the bank's vault."

According to police, six patrons were inside the facility when the incident occurred. There were no reports of injury.

Bonner added "an undisclosed amount" of cash was taken from the scene.

Officials were not able to provide a description of the suspects, only stating that "the suspects did

See ROBBERY On Page 3-A

Locals vie for school board vacancies

Denton cites desire to be involved in future of public education in town

BY JEREMY DESPOSITO
Cox NC Publications

Political newcomer David F. Denton has filed for one of three open seats on the Edenton-Chowan Board of Education.

Denton is a wildlife management technician employed by the State of North Carolina.

Denton, 40, filed for the District 2 seat held by Alice Jones. Jones, who held the seat 16 years, will leave the board after completing her present term. Jones will have completed her second six-year term, the maximum allowed in Chowan County, as well as having served four years of her predecessor's unexpired term.

Board of Education Chairman Glorious Elliott is also stepping down, after her second six-year term, leaving her at-large seat up for grabs.

Denton said he decided to see election to the school board because he wanted to be more involved in his daughter Jessica's education. Jessica Denton is a rising third grade student at White Oak Elementary School.

"I'm concerned about public schools, and I want to be involved more in the future of the school system and where it's headed," Denton said.

Denton also has another tie to the local school system: his wife, Joy, is a sixth grade teacher at

Chowan Middle School.

One of the school district's strengths is its high level of organization, Denton says. He'd like to see even more organization if he's

elected.

Any decisions he would make as a school board member would be

See DENTON On Page 3-A

Browder says he wants to make a real difference in the lives of local children

BY SEAN JACKSON
Cox NC Publications

Like his opponent in this fall's District 2 race for a seat on the Edenton-Chowan Board of Education, Ricky Browder has children in the local school system.

Browder, 37, filed on Friday for the seat that is being vacated by 16-year board veteran Alice Jones, who because of term limits is prohibited from seeking a third six-year term.

Browder will face David F. Denton, a state-employed wildlife technician.

A partner in the Edenton-based Northeast Guttering Company, Browder has two sons at John A. Holmes High School and another child who will be starting school soon.

"I want to make a difference in the lives of my kids and in the lives of other children," Browder said

See BROWDER On Page 3-A

Laughton returning to Recreation Dept.

BY DERRICK ARMSTEAD
Staff Writer

After serving fifteen years as director of the Edenton-Chowan Parks and Recreation (ECP&RD), Robbie Laughton decided that it was time to take a break.

Now that that's finished, he is set to engage on a second tour-of-duty with his former employer—although, he believes that it would more appropriate to say that he, well, never actually departed.

"I feel like a part of me never left the recreation department," said Laughton.

Laughton added, "I had very, very deep feelings about the or-



Laughton

ganization. Running the recreation department is something that I really enjoyed, and the main reason that I left was because of the hours

involved, I mean we were talking over 70 hours per week, every night, and every weekend."

Subsequently, he said that the arduous workload heavily impacted his personal life.

"There was very little family

See LAUGHTON On Page 3-A

Goodyear president pays visit to county

BY DAVID CRAWLEY
Publisher

EDENTON - John Polhemus, President of Goodyear - North America, visited Chowan County last Wednesday. Polhemus, who was recently elevated from President of Goodyear-Latin America to the 102-year-old



Charlie Creighton, at left, greets Goodyear Company President John Polhemus. Also on hand were a host of local dignitaries. (Staff photo by David Crawley)

corporation's top spot in North America, was welcomed by Charles Creighton, President of Colony Tire and other representatives of the locally owned and regionally recognized tire and automotive service company.

Also on hand to welcome the new Goodyear head were Mayor Roland Vaughan, Town Manager Anne-Marie Knighton, and Chowan County Manager Cliff Copeland.

Founded in 1976, Colony Tire had its beginnings in the oil and tire industry. In the first twelve years, the Edenton-based company added a number of locations with complete tire service and installation, repair and field service. They also built a new, modern truck tire retread plant

See GOODYEAR On Page 12-A

Construction timeline is offered

BY RUSSELL G. HADDAD
Cox NC Publications

Construction of a \$50.5 million natural gas pipeline through the northeast won't start late this year as originally planned, but should begin by March

2001, officials said Tuesday.

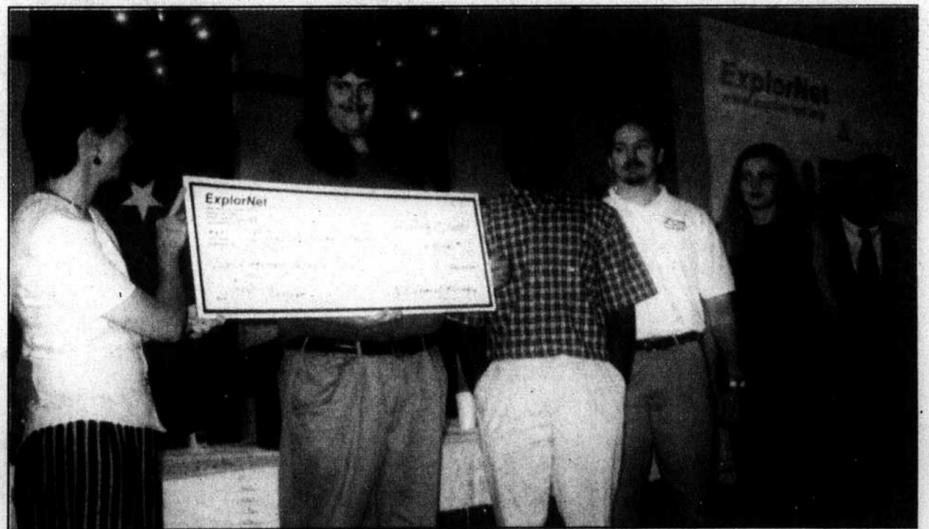
After the digging has begun, the pipeline could be completely installed by the end of 2001 or as late as March, 2002, said Clayton Morgan, project manager for Carolina Power and Light. The pipeline will deliver natural gas to six northeastern counties.

"Once construction starts it goes pretty quickly," Morgan said.

"Everybody I talked to is excited about it coming east. It will put them on par with people in the rest of the state who have natural gas."

Morgan made his remarks during a public hearing on the

See PIPELINE On Page 3-A



ExplorNet Chief Information Officer Clayton Henkel, at left, presents a mock-up of a \$12,000 check to employees of the Edenton-Chowan Schools. The check represents start-up money for a new technology program at John A. Holmes High School. (Staff photo by David Crawley)

Seed money presented to schools

BY REBECCA BUNCH
Editor

Officials from ExplorNet of Raleigh, NC were on hand for last Thursday's Back to School Breakfast to present a welcome gift to the Edenton-Chowan school system: a \$12,000 check representing seed money for the Computer Recycling

Project at John A. Holmes High School.

The funds will be used to pay for materials for the Computer Engineering Technology class at the school. These include computer motherboards, processors, drives, video and sound cards, etc., that the students can use to construct state-of-the-art computers.

The curriculum was developed by ExplorNet in conjunction with the North Carolina Department of Public Instruction (DPI). Its purpose is to teach high school students the high-tech skills they need to upgrade old computers into high-speed, modern units. The students

See SCHOOLS On Page 12-A

Sign Up This Week For

9am - 6pm @ Edenton-Chowan Recreation Department
Old Armory Building, Broad Street

Soccer, Football & Cheerleading