

Storyteller shares gift with kids...3-A



Salute to African-American citizens in county.....1C-8C

Wright Bros. serial: Chapter 8 - "Flying Experiments" ..... 7-A

# THE CHOWAN HERALD

Vol. LXX, No. 9

Published in historic Edenton . . . The South's prettiest town.

Single Copies 50¢



## Transit bus sustains damage in collision

An inter-county transit bus operated by Kevin Hinds of Elizabeth City sustained damage to its left side Monday afternoon after being struck on North Broad Street by a 2000 Ford Focus auto operated by Carol Watson of Edenton. Officer Rhonda Copeland of the Edenton Police Department said that Watson was charged with failure to yield the right of way. Authorities said they believe damage to the bus, which included a cracked gas tank, was about \$5,000-\$6,000, while Watson's car was totaled. (Staff photo by Debbie Collins)

## Chowan man killed in EC gunfight

BY BEN DECK  
Cox NC Publications

A Chowan County man was shot and killed and an Elizabeth City man was shot and wounded on Terry Street in Elizabeth City in a weekend altercation where both sides

say only the opposition was carrying guns.

The dead man, whose name was not available at presstime, was shot in the side just after 3 a.m. Saturday, Pasquotank Sheriff Randy Cartwright said.

The man and two others had

been riding in a white Pontiac Grand Prix, and had followed another car into the driveway of 607 Terry Street. The occupants of the two vehicles tell very different stories about what happened when the cars stopped, however.

"Somebody had a gun,"

Cartwright said. "We've got some polygraphs lined up to try to determine the truth."

As of Monday afternoon, sheriff's deputies had a batch of conflicting stories to sift through.

See KILLED On Page 3-A

## Weekend brawl leaves two with gunshot wounds

BY ROBERT SHILES  
Cox NC Publications

A brawl Friday night in the Chowan Court housing development ended with two local men being shot with a small-caliber handgun.

Police Saturday were still trying to sort out exactly what happened just prior to responding to a 9:15 p.m. call about gunshots in the vicinity of Davis Place, an apartment complex in Chowan Court, police Chief Gregory Bonner said.

According to Bonner, a warrant has been issued charging Daniel "Bootsy" Herrar, 19, of 133 East Gale Street, with assault with a deadly weapon.

Bonner said that although Herrar apparently had the gun in his possession, there is some question about who actually fired the weapon.

"We're still trying to sort things out," Bonner said. "There are going to be some charges against additional people."

Bonner said that according to witnesses, several individuals were on the property at Davis Place when Herrar

started fighting with Joseph Kearsse, also believed to be 19, of 215 Shannonhouse Road, Edenton. During the struggle, Herrar struck Kearsse on the head with the gun, and immediately others who were standing by joined in the fight.

It's at this point, Bonner said, that events become unclear.

Travontaye DeAngelo Cofield, 18, of 4117 Walker Drive, Edenton, was shot in the back of the head either as he was getting into a car to flee the scene, or just before he got into the car, the chief said. Who fired the gun is also uncertain, Bonner added.

The shooter apparently continued firing at the car as it sped off, Bonner said. Another man in the car, 22-year-old Antonio Gilliam of 232 Dillard's Mill Road, Edenton, was shot twice in his back and neck.

Bonner said that by the time police arrived, the car was gone and apparently was driven to Chowan Hospital where the injured were treated.

According to Bonner, Cofield See WOUNDED On Page 3-A

## Providence event honors African American soldier

BY MARGE SOPER  
Correspondent

Warm sunshine and a cool breeze was the setting for the "Dedication of the Grave-marker for Private Jonathan Overton" on February 19, 2003. Private Overton served in Jones' Company, 10th NC Regiment of the Continental Line during the Revolutionary War. Private Overton was born in 1752 and died in 1853 at the age of 101 years. He was laid to rest in what is known today as the Providence Burial Ground in Edenton.

The dedication of his grave marker is a culmination of long hours and hard work by many devoted citizens of Edenton. The burial ground was located and through efforts of the town, a financial grant and the foresight of

Wayne Blair, Peter Rascoe, Madison Phillips and Debbie Sliva, the culmination of everyone's effort was solemnly observed on this day. The scrubby undergrowth and trees that had long covered this hallowed ground had been cleared, grass had been planted and the past hard work was evident.

Wayne Blair of Providence Burial Ground Committee gave a short speech in dedication of the effort and the true meaning in today's world of this event. He also said that he has brought this effort to this point and it is up to others to continue with the ongoing effort of restoration and beautification of this historic land. (One of the items that could be a community or organizational project will be an attractive fence surrounding the

burial ground.)

The unveiling of the marker was performed by relatives of Private Overton and it brought a lump in the throat of many as they thought back to the days of the Revolution and the camaraderie that was most evident by the multiethnic group of attendees.

Memorial wreaths were laid beside the marker by Daughters of the American Revolution, Edenton Tea Party Chapter; Veterans of Foreign Wars, Armstead-Jernigan Post # 10398; American Legion, Edward G. Bond Post #40 and Veterans of Foreign Wars, William H. Cofield, Jr. Post # 9280.

An Honor Guard from The American Legion Honor Guard, Linton J. Sutton Post #223 gave the rifle salute. A

See MARKER On Page 5-B



Commander Ron Green and fellow member of Bond Post of the Edenton American Legion Post 40 lay a wreath in honor of Private Jonathan Overton who fought in the Revolutionary War during a dedication ceremony Feb. 19. (Staff photo by Marge Soper)

## Republicans plan convention

The Chowan County Republican Party will hold its Biennial Convention on Saturday, March 16, at 11 a.m. in the Edenton Town Council Chamber (Police Station Building).

The purpose of the conven-

tion is to elect delegates to the District and State Republican Conventions and to meet the Republican candidates for office.

All Chowan County Republicans registered prior to Feb. 1 will be eligible to vote.

## Browder wins state championship

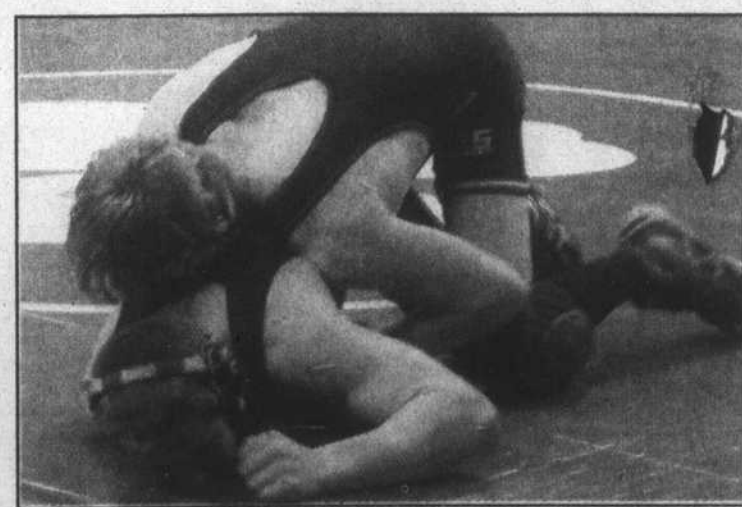
BY ROBBIE LAUGHTON  
Correspondent

Ask most any high school athlete what their ultimate goal is and the most frequent answer would be to win a state championship in their sport.

However, just wanting to be the best is often the closest the majority of high school athletes get to fulfilling their dream. The dedication, tireless effort, sacrifices and commitment needed often separates those athletes that just want to be the best from the few who actually achieve it.

One local athlete from John A. Holmes High School can now claim he not only wanted to be a state champion, he is a state champion.

Senior Andrew Browder left Edenton last Thursday with



John A. Holmes High School Senior Andrew Browder (top) wrestles Adam Tilley from West Stokes High School for the State 1A/2A Championship. Browder won a 7-5 decision to become the first state champion from Holmes High School in over ten years. Browder finished the season with a 23-2 record and an overall record of 96-19 for his high school career. (Photo by Lenny Plummer)

his family and a small group of supporters to the North Carolina High School Athletic Association State Wrestling Championships in Winston-Salem. Qualifying in third place at the Eastern Regionals, Browder knew he had his work cut out for him, but his desire and determination were firm.

Lenny Plummer, his coach for six years, says he has never seen a more focused athlete. "This kid can do most anything he sets his mind to. He is very self-motivated."

Plummer adds, "After falling short in the state tournament last year, Browder committed himself to working harder in the weight room and getting back to the state finals this year."

See CHAMP On Page 3-A

## Diaz to be speaker

NC State Linebacker Coach Manny Diaz will be the guest speaker at a dinner on Tuesday evening, March 4, at Nixon's Catering on Highway 32 in Edenton. The event will begin at 6:30 p.m. Cost is \$15 for

adults; student athlete tickets are available for \$8 each.

The dinner is being sponsored by the John A. Holmes Booster Club and the North

See DIAZ On Page 5-B

**JOHN A. HOLMES HIGH SCHOOL ATHLETIC BOOSTER CLUB**

Please join us and the North Carolina State Alumni as we welcome:  
Tuesday, March 4, 2003  
at Leon Nixon's Catering  
(Virginia Road, Edenton, N.C.)

6:30 p.m. - Social  
7:00 p.m. - Dinner

\$15.00 per person • \$8.00 for students

**Manny Diaz**  
NC State University  
Linebacker Coach