Bill Bangert shakes things up with unique salt and pepper



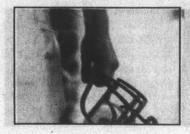
After 44 years: Peebles' Modlin still on the job

Community, C1



Aces Profile **QB** Joseph Westbrook has completed 56 passes

Sports, B1



Aces drop fourth game

Sports, B1

Keeping kids safe focus of session

Former White Oak educator stresses safe use of Internet by students

BY REBECCA BUNCH Managing Editor

A former White Oak Elementary School teacher is attempting to raise awareness among parents concerning sexual predators who target children.

During an upcoming community workshop, Deborah Goodman, now on loan to the N.C. Department of Instruction, will explain how parents can monitor their children's Internet use and keep them from making inappropriate

Sponsored by the Edenton-Chowan Schools and the local law enforcement community, the session will take place at the John A. Holmes High School cafeteria Oct. 12 from 7-

As Nelle Hyatt, director of Media/Technology for the Edenton-Chowan Schools, explains, "While the Internet can be a very enlightening resource, it can also be a dangerous place. This Internet Safety Awareness session is designed to provide information to parents and community members on the issues concerning children and youth on the Internet as well as giving tips on keeping our children safe while they learn from the Internet."

See WORKSHOP, Page A2 ➤

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Ober pleads guilty to murder

BY SEAN JACKSON Staff Writer

Carl M. Ober III, of Edenton, pleaded guilty yesterday to the 2005 slaying of his grand-

Ober, 21, was sentenced to roughly 26 to 33 years in prison by Superior Court Judge Clifton W. Everett Jr. Ober shared a hug with his mother and received a kiss on the

cheek from his father shortly before he was led out of a Chowan County courtroom.

Ober pleaded guilty to second-degree murder and conspiracy to commit murder. He had faced a potential life sentence if convicted by a jury of first-degree murder, defense attorney Andy Womble said.

Womble said it was a reasonable deal between his client and prosecutors, adding, how-

ever, that neither side was completely satisfied with the outcome. "Sometimes the best pleas

are when nobody's satisfied." Womble said. Everett called the crime "terrible" considering Ober's rela-

tionship to the victim. "It's sad for the family, sad

for him," he said.

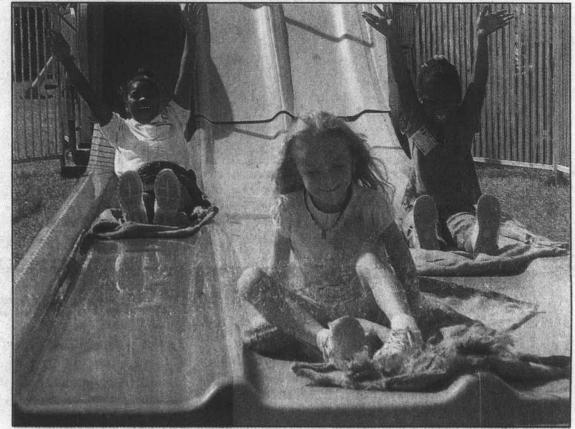
Ober was convicted of the January 2005 murder of his grandmother, Joyce Smith Lee. Ober was 19 and living with Lee at the time of her death. She had been reported two days prior to the discovery of her body in Vine Oak Cemetery by a state Highway Patrol helicopter.

Casey Lynn Forward has also been charged in Lee's murder. Forward was 14 at the time of Lee's death. She had agreed to testify against Ober through an arrangement with prosecutors. Her trial — for a second-degree murder charge - could begin as soon as today.

Statements given by Forward to Edenton police investigators were presented before Everett. Forward said she and Ober killed Lee then dumped her body in the cemetery in the middle of the night.

See MURDER, A2 ➤

County Fair hits record attendance



Earline White/The Chowan Herald

Talesa Spruill, Hannah Rice and Jada Privott enjoy the slide at the Fair.

Fair attendance climbs to 25,000 visitors this year

BY EARLINE WHITE

Staff Writer

Where else can you eat cheesecake on a stick, pet a goat, fish for trout, and listen to gospel music all day?

For years the Winbornes have taken home handfuls of blue ribbons from the county fair for their large pumpkins. And this year was no different - Sarah and her father, Emmett both took first place for size and best in show.

Theirs was just two among the 281 agricultural exhibits at the 59th annual regional fair, and among the 2,135 entries for homemade goodies, arts and crafts.

Fair attendance this year was up nearly 2,500 people for a grand total of 25,000 — the largest crowd so far.

Sherri Volk, chairperson of the exhibits, has noticed slight increases each year in the number of entries, especially those among the youth-a sign that the fair is still going strong after so many years.

E. C. Toppin, president of the fair association and fair manager said, "A lot of people come out just for the entertainment, especially the younger crowds for the rides and cotton candy. But I think the older ones come out for the exhibits and the enjoy their kids/grandkids."

At the fair you can hear, touch, smell and taste what is still being produced in the rural kitchens of America, handed down through generations of cookbooks.

In a tradition tracing its roots back as far as 1620, the county fair - an American institution continues to provide a slice of Americana right here in Chowan.

Fair fun caught on film Community, C1

Though the attractions may change-the Italian sausage, the funnel cakes and Wild West Folies-the need to reconnect with our past continues to bring out the

young and old alike.

The agricultural fair is a way to keep the next generation close to their roots and a means for the older generation to rekindle memories of their childhood days on the farm.

Cole Hare entered his Virginia peanuts and won first place. Caleb Sawyer showed several of his chickens and goats. Makayla Deaver picked buds from her blooming miniature rosebush. Lisa Wilkins entered canned snapbeans she made just months earlier. Wyatt and Tori Bland both brought corn on the cob, freshly picked from their family's farm and took away several

More than 3,000 fairs, state, county and district are held each year in the U.S. allowing a

See FAIR, Page A2 ➤

While farmers struggle, peanut festival goes on

Annual parade, run and 'Battle of the Bands' all back on tap for Saturday



Glenda JakubowskilEdenton-Chowan Schools

Mr. Peanut is looking forward to another successful Peanut Festival this Saturday.

BY EARLINE WHITE Staff Writer

With more and more local farmers turning away from the peanut, will the festival, one of the longest-standing in N.C, created in its honor die as

Since 2002 (and the introduction of the peanut quota) peanut farmers have been seeking alternatives to the southern cash crop. Instead of peanuts. farmers are planting soybeans and clary sage, turning family farmlands into housing developments, horse and beef pastures, as well as mining for development, according to county agriculture agent, Mike Williams.

J.C. Nixon Jr. feels the effects of the quota all

too well. Nixon was the 2003 county production winner (with nearly 5,300 pounds of peanuts per acre) but said that he will not be farming much longer if prices continue to be low.

He was working on a picker

See PEANUT, A2 ➤

National 4-H Week



See Page C6 & C7 for more details

October 1 - 7, 2006

How can YOU become involved in Chowan County 4-H?

For a

schedule of

Peanut

Festival

events, see

page A2

If you are between the ages of 5 and 19, you can become a member of 4-H!