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The weather Thursday, high 89, low 67, hum. 60 percent. By 7 a.m. Friday, .05 inches of rain had fallen, and 66 inches of sweat (sorry... perspiration).

Last year the people on Peniel Road got a scare when a baby bear came through town. This year, a fully grown black bear made his presence known in the Skyuka Road neighborhood.

Don Williams said the bear was seen in Polk Memorial Gardens and in the Williams Cemetery on Skyuka Road.

Leslie Ward saw him about half past noon. Her dogs started barking and she noticed what she thought was a dog on the hill, standing up against the fence separating her property from I-26.

"I thought that was the biggest dog I'd ever seen. Then he turned his head and you could tell what it was," she said.

She said she called the sheriff and the wildlife authorities, who simply told her not to feed it.

"I have two boys who stay in the woods all the time," she said. "I guess bears won't bother anybody."

No so far, anyway. Chief Deputy Calvin Atkins said the

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Woman Wants To Be Fireman 'To Help'

Diana Salinas said she is seeking to become a member of the Columbus Fire Department so that she can help others.

The requests for membership put in by Salinas and another woman, Melissa Bridgeman, were recently turned down by the firemen in a secret ballot.

"This is something I want to do," Salinas said later. "I feel like this is my civic duty. It is not that I want to be known as the first woman to become a member of the Columbus Fire Department. I want to be known as a person who's helping out."

Salinas said she has been helping out ever since her husband, Rawl, joined the department. She started out driving him to fire calls, and has been helping at the scene ever since working most every kind of situation.

"I haven't fought a house fire, but I have pulled the hose on a chimney fire," she said. "(The other firemen) know what I can do. I just want to be given a chance. I want to be an asset, not a hindrance."

Salinas first put in her application two years ago, and was turned down.

When Bridgeman put in an application, Salinas let it be known that she thought she should be reconsidered as well.

She was. Both women were turned down. It only takes one 'no' vote under departmental

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Lesley D. Carter



Danny R. Ledford

Tryon High School Honors Graduates

On Friday evening, May 31, Tryon High School held its commencement ceremony on Harmon Field. Five graduates of the 44-members class of 1991 received special recognition for academic achievement and delivered commencement

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Work Together In Bible School

"Share God's Blessings" is the theme of a Vacation Bible School that is being sponsored by Holy Cross Episcopal Church, Garrison Chapel Baptist Church and Tryon Congregational Church. Community children are invited to attend the classes for ages 3-12 on June 10-14. Vacation Bible School will be in session from 9 a.m. until noon each day. The classes will be held in classrooms at the Episcopal and Congregational churches. Garrison Chapel Baptist hosts an organizing meeting today from 10 a.m. to noon.

Students will study the Bible and participate in art activities, music, recreation and worship - all centered on five themes: *Blessed to Trust and Believe, Blessed to Serve and Show Mercy, Blessed to Forgive and Show Love, Blessed to Give and Bear Witness, Blessed to Hope and Receive God's Blessing.*

The theme: *Share God's Blessings* is an exciting theme because of the ecumenical focus of this Bible School," said the Rev. Steve Bridges of The Congregational Church. "With churches in the community working together, we can accomplish much greater things than we ever could as individual congregations." Rev. Bridges is coordinating registration and can be reached through the church office of the Congregational Church (859-9414) between 9 a.m. and noon daily.