

The State Port

INSIDE

Sports, page 16

Girls all-county team is announced

Classifieds, p. 1B

Southport, N.C.'s most complete available real estate properties



Volume 61/ Number 31

Southport, N.C.

March 18, 1992 / 50 cents

College is looking to the future

By Marybeth Bianchi
Feature Editor

What does the future hold for Brunswick Community College?

According to a preliminary analysis made by Boney Architects, the future could include about a dozen new buildings, a nine-hole golf course and three acres of fish ponds.

Architect Kenneth Phelps presented the first draft of a master plan to the college's board of trustees last Wednesday night. He stressed that the plan is "a tool for getting feedback from the board," and will be changed as the college trustees and staff make recommendations.

"There's a lot of guess work in here," Phelps admitted. "It's a beginning."

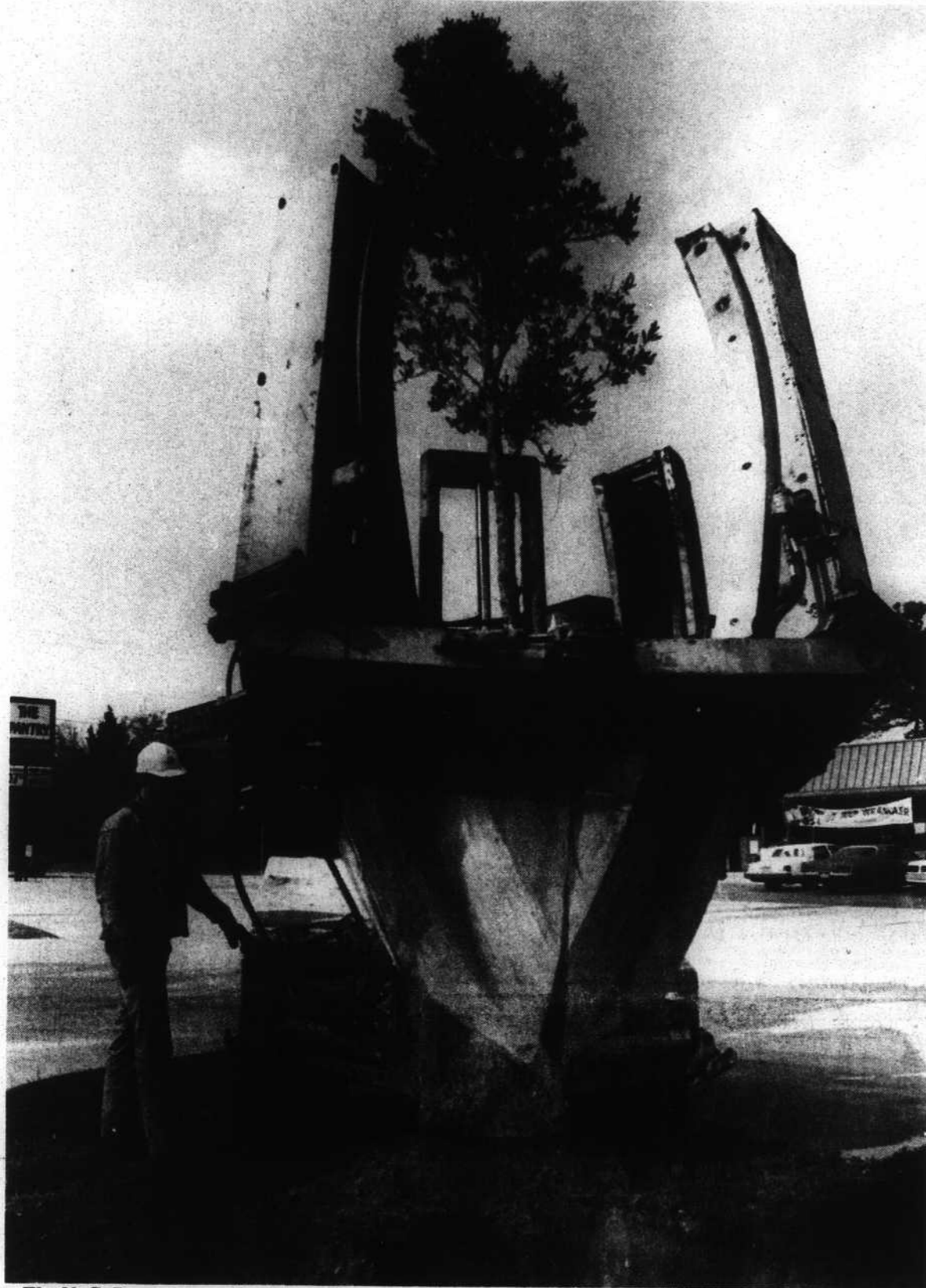
The board has scheduled a workshop meeting to discuss the master plan at 5:30 p.m. Wednesday, March 25, at the college.

The first draft reviews the college's need for new facilities through the year 2000. No dollar amounts were attached to the initial plan, Phelps said, but they will be added when the final report is compiled.

Twelve projects were listed according to priority. At the top of the list were facilities for the recreation grounds management program that is slated for implementation in the 1992 fall quarter. They include a 3,500-square-foot addition to the vocational education building, an equipment shed and a nine-hole golf course, to be completed in 1993.

Also on the list, in descending order of priority and project year of completion, are: A 20,000-square-foot building for allied health programs (1994); a greenhouse for the Brunswick Interagency Program (1992); scenery shop and auditorium storage building (1993); day care facility (1993); aquaculture technology ponds, equipment shed and classrooms (1994); business laboratory for

See College future, page 7



The N. C. Department of Transportation, the City of Southport and its Economic Development Committee and Southport 2000 have teamed with a private benefactor to transplant trees along Howe and Moore streets this week. Between 30 and 50 live oaks will be relocated to create a shade canopy along the city's major thoroughfares.

YES NO

Long Beach sewer vote biggest in town history

By Richard Nubel
Municipal Editor

Mayor Joan Altman wants Long Beach voters to approve construction of a public sewer system -- a system investigated on her predecessor's watch and fine-tuned into a proposal to the public over the last several months of her tenure in office.

"Installing a sewer system is a logical, necessary improvement everyone agrees we will have to make someday. I choose to do it now," Altman said. "This is an excellent system which can be installed at a reasonable cost. If we wait until the government or serious environmental concerns dictate the need for a sewer system we, as a government, have failed in our responsibility to provide for the health and well-being of Long Beach residents. We must accommodate the needs of those who live here now and those who will live here in the future. It is our responsibility to protect the environment and to protect our property values."

Long Beach voters -- as many as 2,780 of them -- will go to the polls Tuesday to decide at referendum the fate of a proposal to authorize the sale of up to \$15.5 million in general obligation bonds to finance a public wastewater management system.

All ballots for the referendum will be cast at the Long Beach Recreation Center between 6:30 a.m. and 7:30 p.m.

The vote comes after at least ten years of contemplation by numerous boards of commissioners and at least four proposals by engineering firms.

This is it. Long Beach commissioners have decided to present to voters an option to build a \$19.179-million combination pressure and gravity collection, treatment and disposal sewage system. The proposal to voters comes after nearly two years of engineering research and after four months of intensive public debate coordinated by commissioners.

An initial, less-expensive proposal by consulting engineers would have had Long Beach build a fully pressurized system involving some 2,400 grinder pumps. Commissioners rejected that idea after the public expressed concern for maintenance costs of grinder pumps and opted for a combination pressure and gravity system which will cut the number of pumps to under 1,000, but will add

some 30 lift stations to system design and will increase construction costs by nearly \$4 million.

That's \$4 million well spent, commissioners reckon. The public backed up commissioners in a series of forums over the last several months in which the heavy reliance on grinder pumps was decried, even by sewer proponents.

"When the decision was made to go with the combination system, this is what happened," mayor Altman said. "We have to use backhoes instead of trenchers."

Commissioner Horace Collier said the design change also necessitated larger transmission lines. The original plan called for the installation of six-inch lines and refinements require eight-inch lines.

Some other design changes were also necessitated. Instead of running sewer lines down utility rights-of-way behind homes in wooded sections of Long Beach, it is now planned to run sewer lines down town street rights-of-way opposite from water lines.

But, in a nutshell, that's the proposal that is to be presented to Long Beach voters Tuesday: A \$19-million combination pressure and gravity system, heavy on the gravity.

"We need to tell voters again and again what it is, a combination system," Altman said. "Pressure is only

See Record turnout, page 3

Proposed User Rates

Base Rate: \$11.17/month
Per 1000 gal. rate: \$1.89/1000 gal.

EXAMPLE BILLINGS:

USE (gallons)	BILL
0	\$11.17
1000	\$13.06
1500	\$13.96
2000	\$14.95
4000 (avg.)	\$18.73
5000	\$20.62
7500	\$25.30
10,000	\$29.97

Airport FBO may take flight

By Richard Nubel
Municipal Editor

Officers of Resort Aviation, Inc., Brunswick County Airport's fixed base operator, will decide by Friday whether or not that firm will seek to vacate its contract.

"Yes, we're having second thoughts," said Brunswick County Airport general manager Bob Tisdale. He is employed by the FBO, Resort Aviation, Inc., a firm which also contracts to provide FBO services to an airport in Hilton Head Island, S. C. The firm contracted with the Brunswick County Airport about a year ago.

Tisdale said Tuesday that corporate officers Doug Carmody and Ernest Manicotta were discussing a possible pull-out from the Brunswick County Airport facility. A final decision may be reached as early as Friday, he said. "As far as a firm decision having been made, I can't answer that now," Tisdale said. "Perhaps by Friday."

Tisdale's revelation comes on the heels of airport commission chairman

Commission chairman steps down, page 2

John Walters' decision to quit his post. In poor health, Walters announced he would leave the commission June 1. He does so after auditors criticized the spending habits of Walters' closest ally, Grover Gore, who served concurrently as attorney to the commission and commission treasurer.

But Tisdale said Resort Aviation's problems were tied to an absence of support from the airport commission. An airport commissioner said the firm's problems were both political and financial.

"We've had no support from the board," Tisdale said Tuesday. "There is a member of the board that wishes to run a business out of here. That's a damn conflict of interest."

Airport commissioner Jim Young, of Long Beach, once said he wished to operate a flying school at Brunswick County Airport. Young is now the commission's treasurer.

Tisdale also complained of political in-fighting between board members and the FBO. "There's a lot of sniping and underhanded things," Tisdale said.

He said a member of the airport commission had called the Federal Aviation Authority and lodged a fallacious report about Resort Aviation.

See Airport FBO, page 6

County has got to have a plan

By Holly Edwards
County Editor

The population of retirees is increasing, the population of minorities is decreasing, the unemployment rate is going up, agricultural income is going down, and Brunswick County acquired more mobile homes in the past decade than any other county in the United States.

These are some of the statistics presented by planning consultant Glenn Harbeck during last Wednesday's planning board meeting. Harbeck presented board members a large document of county growth issues and statistics, and asked them to review the information for accuracy. The board has begun evalu-

'The possibility of an additional bridge to Oak Island toward the west central end of the beach is another infrastructure improvement which could radically alter development patterns in this part of the county.'

Glenn Harbeck
Consulting planner

ating the data in preparation for developing policies for the county's Coastal Area Management Act (CAMA) land use plan update.

On Thursday, April 9, beginning at 8 a.m., the planning board is scheduled to begin discussion on policies regulating land use and land classifi-

cation. The board will meet in the conference room of the new Emergency Medical Services building, located next to the county government center near Bolivia.

"The land use plan is built on a foundation of public input and factual research," said Harbeck, who will draft the county's land use plan update later this year.

For the public input phase of the land use plan update, the Wilmington consultant organized public information workshops and interviewed several local civic leaders.

Harbeck did not dwell on the growth factors analysis he presented Wednesday, but left it to planning board members to study the information on their

See County plan, page 6

OUTSIDE



Forecast

The extended forecast calls for a chance of showers on Thursday, with variable cloudiness both Friday and Saturday. Highs will be in the 60s each day, with lows around 50 degrees.

Tide table

HIGH	THURSDAY, MARCH 26	LOW
1:41 a.m.		7:52 a.m.
1:57 p.m.		8:03 p.m.
	FRIDAY, MARCH 27	
2:38 a.m.		8:49 a.m.
2:54 p.m.		9:04 p.m.
	SATURDAY, MARCH 28	
3:34 a.m.		9:44 a.m.
3:52 p.m.		10:00 p.m.
	SUNDAY, MARCH 29	
4:25 a.m.		10:35 a.m.
4:43 p.m.		10:53 p.m.
	MONDAY, MARCH 30	
5:14 a.m.		11:20 a.m.
5:30 p.m.		11:41 p.m.
	TUESDAY, MARCH 31	
5:57 a.m.		12:03 a.m.
6:13 p.m.		----- p.m.
	WEDNESDAY, APRIL 1	
6:39 a.m.		12:26 a.m.
6:52 p.m.		12:42 p.m.

The following adjustments should be made: Bald Head Island, high -10, low -7; Caswell Beach, high -5, low -1; Southport, high +7, low +15; Yampun Beach, high -32, low -45; Lockwood Folly, high -22, low -8.