



## '92 festival among best in long line

"It's over," a smiling but exhausted Mike Reaves said Monday. A lot of folks wished it wasn't.

Reaves, who took two weeks vacation from his job as president of Brunswick Community College to head this year's N. C. Fourth of July Festival, paused for the first time to look back on the 1992 festival that ran as smoothly as any that long-time observers could recall. Except for a rained-out Beach Day concert all festival events were held as scheduled, although a Saturday afternoon threat of thundershowers interrupted the Embers concert and cut about ten or 15 minutes off the fireworks extravaganza that night.

Reaves said the Beach Day cancellation of the Band of Oz concert was unavoidable.

"We just did not get the equipment covered up in time," he recalled Monday. The storm passed quickly enough but the area was too wet for the band to continue playing. "It was not safe," Reaves said.

The Saturday night Embers concert also was halted by rain but there was time and sufficient material to cover the equipment. Some of the fireworks to be used later in the evening did get wet, though.

Reaves said he will recommend the addition of a covered stage, at least at Waterfront Park in Southport where most of the entertainment is presented.

Reaves said more work still needs to be done on traffic control but he said he and other festival volunteers received "a lot of good comments" about traffic flow. "They said it was better than ever before."

Another problem Reaves cited was the lack of public restrooms. He said the Fourth of July board will seek solutions to this and other problems before the 1993 festival.

Reaves offered no guess about festival attendance -- some estimated as high as 30,000 for the parade, 20,000 for the fireworks -- but said he was impressed by the numbers of people.

"A lot of people can leave and it doesn't seem to put a dent in the crowd," he noted. Police chief Bob Gray said it was the largest crowd he's observed in the three years he's been associated with the festival.

Reaves said he wished to thank all the volunteers who helped stage the 1992 event but especially wanted to thank the City of Southport crews and the law enforcement personnel -- police, sheriff's deputies, state troopers and North Carolina militia -- who worked the festival.

"It is amazing what the people of this small community can do in staging this festival," he said. "It was a pleasure to work with them. My hat's off to them."



Trampp the Patriotic Dog gives owner Jan McBane of Wilmington a rest during Saturday's N. C. Fourth of July Festival parade. More than 30,000 people lined the parade route. Photo by Ed Harper

## House vote prohibits county ABC near existing operations

By Holly Edwards  
County Editor

The N. C. House of Representatives ratified a bill this week that prohibits Brunswick County ABC stores from opening within seven miles of an existing municipal ABC store. A "sunset clause" had been put on the seven-mile ban last year when it was enacted so that it would expire last Wednesday, July 1.

The conflict between municipal and county ABC officials began last year when the county announced plans to establish an ABC store at River Run Shopping Center near Southport. Municipal ABC boards rallied against the move, saying the county store would take away local business, and asked Rep. David Redwine (D-Brunswick) to inter-

*'I hope this will send a message statewide that this should remain in the local government arena.'*

Rosetta Short  
Long Beach ABC

cede. Redwine said he hoped the local and county ABC boards would have time to compromise, but neither side has changed its position.

The county ABC board has argued for a consolidation of all ABC boards, and the local ABC boards have said they are simply protecting their towns' revenues.

"We got what we wanted," said Long Beach ABC board member Rosetta Short. "Now this puts the county on notice that the municipalities' tax dollars should not be interfered with. I hope this will send a message statewide that this should remain in the local government arena."

County ABC board chairman John Ramsey said he expected the seven-mile ban to be made permanent.

"We're just trying to go about the business of the board," he said. "We're talking about three more stores that would all fall within the See ABC ban, page 6

## Meeting next week

# How and when of CP&L start to be discussed

By Jim Harper  
Staff Writer

While not under direct Nuclear Regulatory Commission order to shut down operations CP&L's Brunswick Nuclear Plant is "implicitly" shut down by the NRC, the commission's regional director says, and a meeting is set for July 16 to discuss how and when the plant can resume operations.

CP&L voluntarily took both Brunswick nuclear generating units off line April 21 while repairs to the emergency diesel generator (EDG) building were underway, but subsequent NRC directives have described problems which must be solved before plant operation can resume.

The July 16 meeting in Atlanta is roughly a week before CP&L must formally answer how both short-term and long-term problems -- ranging from "equipment corrosion" to management practices -- will be handled.

With that in mind, Stewart D. Ebner, regional administrator for the NRC, said Tuesday that "shut down is implicit in what is going on."

*'They fix things the NRC finds and do a good job of it, but they have difficulty in fixing things they find.'*

Stewart Edneter  
NRC administrator

Though a cascading set of events -- from an unfavorable Systematic Assessment of Licensee Performance (SALP) report in January, through five later unfavorable reports and two regional reprimands to an unwholesome appearance on the national NRC "watch list" last week -- seems to have beset the Brunswick plant, Ebner said Tuesday that the Brunswick plant "did not get there overnight."

"It goes back to 1988," Ebner said. See Start-up, page 6

## District voters will go to polls July 28

Voters in the Southeast Brunswick Sanitary District will have a chance July 28 to approve a \$1.2-million bond issue to finance wastewater collection and treatment in their area.

The district is bounded by the Intracoastal Waterway, Beaverdam Creek, Highway 211 and the CP&L discharge canal.

Further funding for the project is expected in the form of a \$2.6-million federal grant should the issue be approved. The bonds are to be retired through tap-on and user fees.

The initial service area for the district will be along Beach Road and in developed sections west of Beach Road and north of the Fish Factory Road intersection.

A section of Dutchman Acres subdivision north of Highway 211 will also be included in the service area at Farmers Home Administration insistence, but residents of that community will not participate in the July 28 referendum.

Voting will be held from 6:30 a.m. to 7:30 p.m. in the Moose Lodge on Beach Road, where a special voter registration was held June 13.

The question voters are being asked to decide specifies the \$1.2-million figure for constructing and installing collection lines, sewer mains and lines, force mains and lift stations, as well as a wastewater treatment plant (planned for a site near Beaverdam Creek, north of Airport Road).

## Only eight districts suggested

# Zoning draft not 'restrictive'

*'You're dealing with property rights, constitutional rights, vested rights.'*

*You're dealing with people's most closely held, cherished possessions. When you start dealing with that, it's a big responsibility.'*

David Clegg  
County manager/attorney

By Holly Edwards  
County Editor

"I truly believe this ordinance is a necessity and a step forward for Brunswick County," planning director John Harvey said Monday afternoon as he unveiled his 113-page draft of a zoning ordinance for county commissioners' consideration. "I've sought to avoid development of over-zealous regulations.... And I have tried for a new perspective in zoning throughout this ordinance."

Harvey said he began the ordinance two years ago, and that the project has been "on again, off

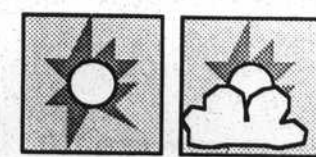
again" until mid-March, when commissioners gave Harvey a 120-day deadline to present a zoning ordinance draft.

Commissioners have not said what, if any, decision they will make regarding the ordinance. They have simply said they will consider the document Harvey has submitted. The ordinance would affect only unincorporated areas of the county, not municipalities or towns, and it would not be retroactive.

"It's a lot to digest in a 24-hour period, but I'm pleased to see it's not overly regulative," said com-

See Zoning plan, page 6

## OUTSIDE



### Forecast

The extended forecast calls for fair skies Thursday with highs in the 90s and lows in the upper 60s. Friday, expect highs in the upper 80s to lower 90s with a chance of afternoon showers. Lows are forecast to be in the upper 60s to lower 70s.

### Tide table

HIGH	THURSDAY, JULY 9	LOW
4:09 a.m.		10:18 a.m.
5:00 p.m.		11:09 p.m.
	FRIDAY, JULY 10	
5:06 a.m.		11:14 a.m.
5:56 p.m.		----- p.m.
	SATURDAY, JULY 11	
6:01 a.m.		12:05 a.m.
6:46 p.m.		12:07 p.m.
	SUNDAY, JULY 12	
6:54 a.m.		12:56 a.m.
7:33 p.m.		12:55 p.m.
	MONDAY, JULY 13	
7:40 a.m.		1:42 a.m.
8:16 p.m.		1:41 p.m.
	TUESDAY, JULY 14	
8:23 a.m.		2:24 a.m.
8:56 p.m.		2:23 p.m.
	WEDNESDAY, JULY 15	
9:05 a.m.		3:03 a.m.
9:33 p.m.		3:03 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.