



Sports

South Brunswick will host Hoggard Friday night in the season's grid opener - 1C

The State Port

PILOT

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Schools

New SAT is up

By Holly Edwards Feature Editor

SAT scores in Brunswick County this year were the highest this decade but continue to fall short of state and national averages.

While the average score in Brunswick County was 926, the average score statewide was 976 and the national average 1013.

School board member Billy Carter pointed out, however, that the average Brunswick County SAT score increased 22 points since 1995, while the state average increased only six points.

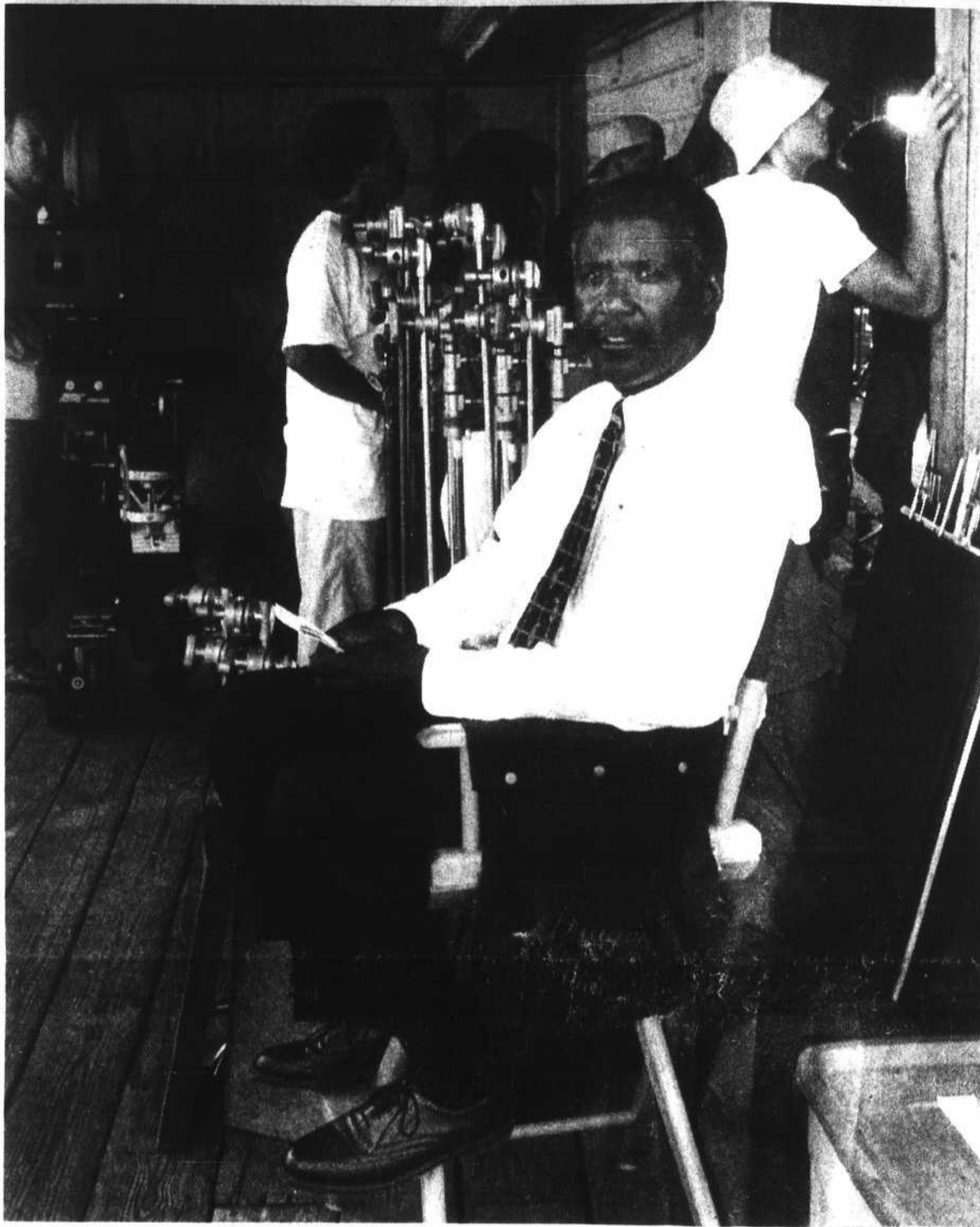
"I think this shows there's been a change and we're seeing improvement, and I feel good about that," Carter said. "Is it where we want to be? No, but our short-range goal is to get to the state level and then to surpass it. In the past we've improved, but not at the same rate as the state."

North Carolina ranks 48th among the 50 states and the District of Columbia. Brunswick County superintendent of schools Marion Wise said much of the low ranking can be explained by the percentage of students taking the test. He said 59 percent of North Carolina seniors took the test this year, while only five percent of the graduating class took the SAT in top-ranked North Dakota.

"The more test-takers you have, the lower the average score," he said.

See SAT, page 8

TV TIMEOUT



Actor Richard Roundtree relaxed between scenes at American Fish Company as "Other Families' Secrets" was being filmed there on Monday. Shooting of the USA television network movie shifted Tuesday to another yacht basin location and is expected to continue on the Southport waterfront and at the Garrison today and Thursday.

\$411,000 first phase

Fund-raising will complete city building

By Richard Nubel Municipal Editor

A \$411,000 fund-raising campaign has been announced by the committee charged with building a replacement for the burned Southport Community Building.

That sizable fund-raising campaign is to be completed between now and October 31, the committee says.

"It's a very aggressive campaign," said alderman Paul Fisher, a member of the building committee which spent most of Friday delivering information packets and winning initial pledges. He said the committee has designed an option for pledges to be paid over a five-year period.

The building committee, which began with a \$274,933 insurance settlement for the January, 1995, fire which demolished the old USO building of 1941, Thursday unveiled a new building plan which is estimated to cost \$856,375.

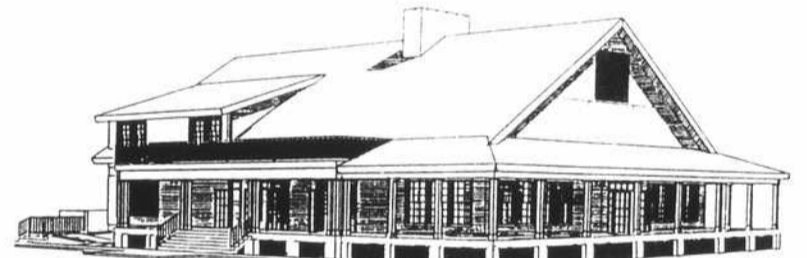
Since the old Southport Community Building burned about a year and a half ago, a little over \$25,000 has

'Probably the costs we have stated are on the high side and not on the low side. We did that on purpose so we wouldn't come up short.'

Paul Fisher Committee member

been donated to building reconstruction, including \$10,000 from the Southport Lions Club. Just over \$15,000 has been donated by individuals.

While the committee seeks just over \$400,000 in pledges this fall, it See Building, page 7



Elevation from Moore Street

Can New ABCs spell progress?

By Holly Edwards Feature Editor

The first phase of the state's new student performance improvement program, the New ABCs, will be implemented next week when third graders countywide take pre-tests in reading, writing and math.

Last year's end-of-grade test results will be used as pre-test results for fourth through eighth graders.

Under the New ABCs, the state expects students to achieve a year's worth of growth for a year's worth of work, and individual schools are held accountable for achieving those results, explained superintendent of schools Marion Wise.

Students in grades three through eight will be given "post-tests" at the See Progress, page 8

News on the 'Web'

Live out of town and don't like waiting for the news?

Well, if you're a World Wide Web traveler, you can find out what's happening in the Southport-Oak Island area on Wednesdays -- just like the locals.

Front-page stories in The State Port Pilot are reprinted on Southport Web Trawler (http://www.southport.net). Updates are posted each Wednesday morning under "The News" on the Trawler front page.

Hurricane Bertha overtime

Some county workers paid, others were not

By Terry Pope County Editor

Some county employees received overtime pay when they were called to duty as Hurricane Bertha struck the county July 12.

But some county employees who

worked during the storm were not paid.

They want to know why there appears to be different policies for county departments and what will happen if another hurricane approaches this season.

"If you pay some, why not pay

them all?" asks Jamie Orrock, director of the Brunswick County Department of Social Services. "Don't pay one and give the other one compensatory time."

His 30-plus employees who manned the evacuation shelters at lo- See Workers, page 8

Countywide meeting scheduled

Long-range planning is not yet done

By Terry Pope County Editor

Officials from 18 municipalities and numerous county agencies, including elected and appointed governing boards or public bodies, will meet for a second countywide planning workshop September 19, from 5 to 9 p.m., at Bolivia Elementary School.

The Brunswick County Long-Range Oversight Committee has changed its name and chairman since last year. No longer is it a planning committee -- it will be called an oversight committee. And Boiling Spring Lakes resident Michael E. Royal has been appointed chairman.

"I don't think it will be as extensive of a process with meetings," said Royal, who is director of the Small Business Center at Brunswick Community College. "Our task is to report where we are and where we're going, but it's

'This isn't our plan. This is the citizens' plan. I think the citizens of this county want to be proactive instead of reactive.'

Mike Royal Committee chairman

also to look for new input. That was a historic meeting for this county. As someone who was born and raised in this county, it was something that I had never seen before."

Last year, more than 130 officials from every part of the county met to agree on common growth issues likely to face the county over the

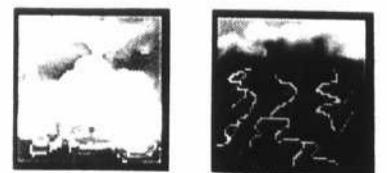
next 25 years. It's time to update those goals and to see where the county stands on the list of 16 recommendations that the committee forwarded to county commissioners in February.

The long-range committee and its actions have been praised by state officials as a positive example of community-based planning. County planning director Wade Horne addressed the N. C. Association of County Commissioners annual conference recently on how it all came about.

"Brunswick County has been identified as a leader in this area," said Horne, who begins work September 3 as manager of Bald Head Island. He will stay on the long-range committee and was elected vice-chairman last week.

Former chairman David Sandifer has resigned to campaign for the District 2 seat on the Brunswick County Board of Commissioners. He will face Democrat Willie Fullwood in the November election. Other members of the committee are

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Forecast

A chance of showers and severe thunderstorms can be expected for the rest of the week. Temperatures will reach the upper 80's.

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