



Sports

South Brunswick wins the game but loses quarterback Brown for the year -- 1C

The State Port PILOT

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'Open' season

Kingfishing tourney here this weekend

By Richard Nubel Municipal Editor

Disappointed as weather has forced cancellation of two major North Carolina tournaments this year, hundreds of king mackerel fishermen will roll into Southport as registration for the granddaddy of them all, the U. S. Open King Mackerel Tournament, is held Thursday.

Held annually on the first weekend in October at Southport Marina, the U. S. Open is the oldest competitive king mackerel fishing tournament in the state.

"We have had to fight a few rumors of our cancellation this year," said Southport-Oak Island Chamber of Commerce executive vice-president Karen Sphar. "There has been a good deal of speculation that, because the other two tournaments had to cancel

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Mosquito spraying to begin

By Terry Pope County Editor

Aerial spraying will begin this week across Brunswick County to combat a mosquito infestation which has state and local health officials concerned.

The state has contracted with K&K Aircraft Inc. of Bridgewater, VA, to spray the county along with neighboring Columbus, Bladen, Duplin, Sampson and Robeson counties. Planes will apply three ounces per acre of Fyfanon, a technical grade of malathion, an insecticide Brunswick County Vector Control now uses to spray communities by truck.

"It's because of the health concerns, actually," said Rick Hickman, supervisor of Brunswick County Vector Control. "As many mosquitoes as there are out there, we've got to do something. The older they become, too, the more possible vectors they become."

State officials believe excessive numbers of mosquitoes near populated areas pose a health hazard be- See Mosquito, page 5



Forecast

Expect mostly sunny skies with highs each day near 80 and lows near 60 for the period of Thursday through Sunday.

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All sorts of people, including at least one buccaneer, turned out for the Long Beach Family Fest in Middleton Park on Saturday. The low-pressure event was staffed by Long Beach town employees as well as other volunteers, and good food, good fun and good conversation was shared by all.

Photo by Jim Harper

Mine games
First reading of ordinance next Monday

By Terry Pope County Editor

A zoning change that faces a first reading by county commissioners Monday prohibits mining in heavy manufacturing zones, including the 1,000 acres where Martin Marietta Aggregates wants to open a rock quarry just north of Southport.

It is the second phase of short-term solutions commissioners have decided to pursue while awaiting word from the N. C. Court of Appeals on whether an anti-mining county ordinance adopted in 1994 that Martin Marietta has challenged is legally binding. That ordinance was struck down by the courts as unconstitutional this spring but the ruling has been appealed by the county.

On September 3, commissioners approved another countywide ordinance that prohibits all explosives, including ones used to extract rock from the ground, as a public safety measure.

If first reading on the zoning change is approved next week, a public hearing and final approval will likely be held October 21. The recommendations were quietly forwarded from the Brunswick County Planning Board last week after no one spoke at a public hearing. Martin Marietta didn't send any representatives to voice opposition to the amendment, and no correspondence has been received by county officials.

Martin Marietta has withdrawn its state application to obtain a mining permit for the 1,000-acre tract off Bethel Church Road, but company officials say they still have plans to pursue the project at a later date.

The amendment would remove mining as a permitted use from all heavy manufacturing zones and make such mines suitable only in rural in- See Games, page 9

BRUNSWICK SCHOOLS

New ABC's a fresh start

'Our schools deserve and need our support, our interest, our money, our compassion and our commitment.'

Rep. David Redwine

By Holly Edwards Feature Editor

Some federal and state legislators would abolish the public school system if given the chance, so educators must remain vigilant and let their lawmakers know how they feel about public education. Rep. David Redwine (D-Ocean Isle Beach) told Brunswick County teachers of the year at a Communities In Schools luncheon last week. "You need to be a good advocate and sit

down and write that letter or make that phone call," Redwine said. "There is an attempt by some people to condemn the public school system as we know it, and there are people out there who will throw you in a ditch and leave you there."

State legislators have harmed public education by passing education reform plans and then abandoning them before they have a chance to work, he said. But, he added, with the passage of the "New ABCs" plan, individual schools finally will have the flexibil-

ity they need to develop student performance improvement programs tailored to unique student populations.

"The ABCs plan is based on the philosophy that we all believe in but haven't had the good sense to put into effect until now," Redwine said. "That philosophy is simply that local school boards and, even more importantly, individual school committees, parents, teachers, administrators know a whole lot more about what is needed in their

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Bond support organized

Brunswick County community leaders will convene Tuesday, October 8, 6:30 p.m., at Supply Elementary School to kick-off a campaign in support of school construction and highway bond referenda that will appear on state ballots in the November 5 election.

If approved, the bonds will provide \$1.8 billion for school construction and \$950 million for highways and roads.

Brunswick County's share of the funding would be \$7.86 million for school construction and \$1.37 million for roads.

The joint bond campaign is being organized at the state level by the North Carolina Partnership for Schools and Roads, and is headed locally by Brunswick County superintendent of schools Marion Wise.

"Superintendents in every school district in our state have been asked to take the lead in convening an organizational meeting to form a local committee to support the statewide bond campaign," Wise said. "Leaders throughout the county need to join hands to form a Brunswick County Partnership for Schools and Roads. This is a monumental endeavor that is to be initiated in a short period of time."

McDuffie on TV

Assistant superintendent of Brunswick County schools and Wachovia Bank's 1996 Principal of the Year Mary McDuffie will discuss the state's public school system on the UNC-TV program "North Carolina People" to air Friday, October 4, 8:30 p.m., and again on Sunday, October 6, 5:30 p.m.

McDuffie was principal of Seventy-First High School in Fayetteville when she won the prestigious award and recently was hired as Brunswick County's assistant superintendent for curriculum and instruction.



McDUFFIE