

Southport percentage highest

All county ABC stores report profits for year

By Terry Pope
County Editor

Brunswick County's two Alcoholic Beverage Control stores and the nine ABC stores operated by municipalities all reported profits for the 1995-96 fiscal year that ended last June 30.

Southport's ABC store reported a profit percentage of 10.37 percent before distributions and leads the list of 11 stores locally. Brunswick County's two stores reported a profit percentage of 4.85 percent, according to figures compiled by the North Carolina ABC Board.

The Town of Navassa opened its ABC store on January 24, 1996, and figures on its operations were not available in this report.

Profits from ABC sales are distributed annually to local law enforcement, for alcohol education and research and to counties or municipalities. The average profit percent to sales for ABC stores with mixed beverage sales in the state was 10.03 percent, while the average percentage for ABC stores without mixed beverage sales was 5.10 percent.

Statewide, liquor sales increased 1.58 percent last year and mixed beverage sales were up 6.55 percent. For the fiscal year, sales totaled \$363.6 million across the state compared to \$355.7 million the previous year, an increase of \$7.9 million in sales.

The number of regular bottles sold statewide actually decreased by 1.7 percent for the period, but mixed beverage bottles were up 5.9 percent. The number of mini-bottles sold continues to climb steadily, this past year up 15.2 percent as 8.5 million of the single-serve bottles were sold in the state's 395 stores.

The following are annual reports on the county's 11 stores:

■ **Brunswick County (Holden Beach and Maco stores):** retail sales, \$974,022; operating expenses, \$213,861; profit before distribution, \$53,974; profit percent to sales, 4.85; regular bottles sold, 93,915; mixed beverage bottles sold, 9,465; mini-bottles sold, 33,658; total bottles, 103,380.

■ **Southport:** retail sales, \$475,371; operating expenses, \$88,335; profit before distribution, \$63,238; profit percent to sales, 10.37; regular bottles sold, 45,382; mixed beverage bottles sold, 8,402; mini-bottles sold, 11,037; total bottles sold, 53,784.

■ **Long Beach:** retail sales, \$440,620; operating expenses, \$104,145; profit before distribution, \$32,075; profit percent to sales, 5.72; regular bottles sold, 41,582; mixed beverage bottles sold, 8,351; mini-bottles sold, 8,617; total bottles sold, 49,933.

■ **Yaupon Beach:** retail sales, \$418,122; operating expenses, \$88,396; profit before distribution, \$30,214; profit percent to sales, 6.21; regular bottles sold, 39,258; mixed beverage bottles sold, 4,700; mini-bottles sold, 8,264; total bottles sold, 43,958.

■ **Boiling Spring Lakes:** retail sales, \$188,779; operating expenses, \$40,480; profit before distribution, \$3,835; profit percent to sales, 2.02; regular bottles sold, 18,462; mixed beverage bottles sold, 149; mini-bottles sold, 5,899; total bot-

ties sold, 18,611.

■ **Belville:** retail sales, \$608,432; operating expenses, \$113,887; profit before distribution, \$27,865; profit percent to sales, 4.55; regular bottles sold, 62,711; mixed beverage bottles sold, none; mini-bottles sold, 26,882; total bottles sold, 62,711.

■ **Ocean Isle Beach:** retail sales, \$555,403; operating expenses, \$90,323; profit before distribution, \$55,732; profit percent to sales, 9.09; regular bottles sold, 50,043; mixed beverage bottles sold, 3,573; mini-bottles sold, 19,362; total bottles sold, 53,616.

■ **Shalotte:** retail sales, \$594,654; operating expenses, \$107,302; profit before distribution, \$34,768; percent profit to sales, 5.52; regular bottles sold, 59,912; mixed beverage bottles sold, 2,011; mini-bottles sold, 15,965; total bottles sold, 61,923.

■ **Sunset Beach:** retail sales, \$451,777; operating expenses, \$115,802; profit before distribution, \$10,504; percent profit to sales, 1.98; regular bottles sold, 38,136; mixed beverage bottles sold, 5,317; mini-bottles sold, 14,823; total bottles sold, 43,453.

■ **Calabash:** retail sales, \$626,603; operating expenses, \$137,728; profit before distribution, \$33,012; percent profit to sales, 4.39; regular bottles sold, 53,220; mixed beverage bottles sold, 8,359; mini-bottles sold, 28,618; total bottles sold, 61,579.

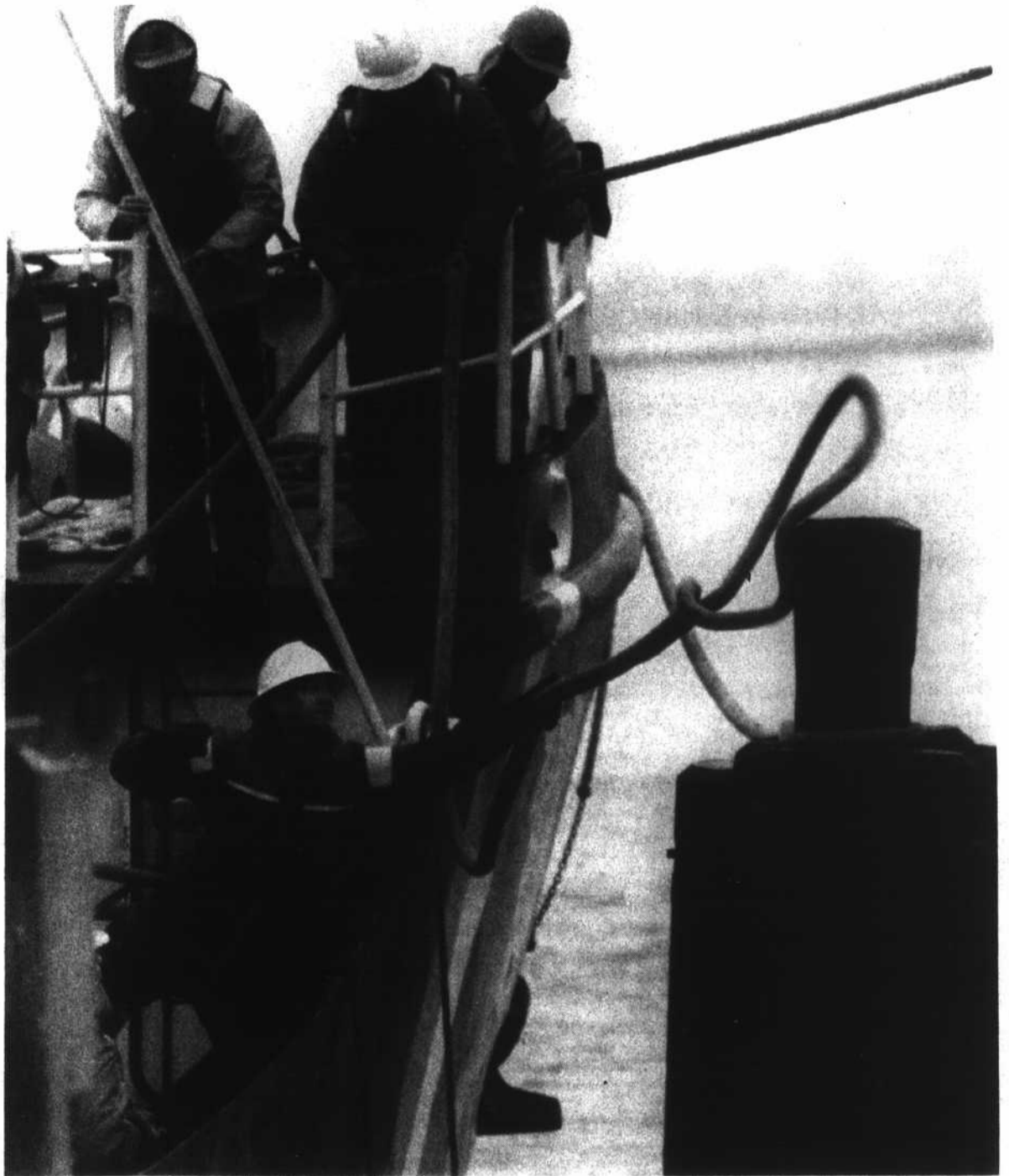


Photo by Jim Harper

Mooring lines go over as the Coast Guard buoy tender *Gentian* comes alongside the Southport city pier on a recent visit. The *Gentian* is the only regular visitor to the pier, though other government vessels (including the ferry *Southport* again this week) use the facility from time to time.



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Williamson is among distinguished women

Ocean Isle Beach mayor Betty Williamson is among 80 North Carolina women nominated for the 1997 Distinguished Women of North Carolina Awards.

Gov. Jim Hunt will present medallions to seven award winners during a banquet this week in Raleigh.

Williamson owns Williamson Realty and has served as mayor of Ocean Isle Beach since 1987. She also served as town commissioner from 1980-87.

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Anniversary
Laura!**

Love,
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