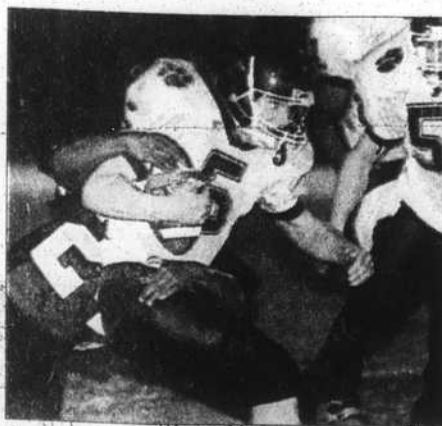


THE STATE PORT PILOT



Football final
Will South gridders make the playoffs? If they beat Whiteville, there's still a chance - 1C

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Beaches cut back on sand

By Richard Nubel
Staff Writer

There will be less sand to spread on Bald Head Island, Caswell Beach, Oak Island and Holden Beach next November, U. S. Army Corps of Engineers officials told members of the Brunswick Beaches Consortium on Thursday.

When the Corps moves forward with its Wilmington Harbor Project next summer, it will likely recover 4.8 million cubic yards of beach-quality sand for area beaches, not the eight million cubic yards originally estimated.

Corps officials last April told members of the consortium up to eight million cubic yards of beach-quality sand might be harvested from a six-mile stretch of the Cape Fear River between Caswell Beach and Bald Head Island when the Corps undertakes its \$377.4-million project to widen and deepen the river shipping channel.

"Additional subsurface investigation showed silt and clay underlying beach-quality sand," Wilmington Harbor Project manager Wayne Bissett told consortium members meeting in Caswell Beach. Federal law prohibits placing inferior quality sand on the beach, he said.

The recent discovery that there would be 40 percent less beach-quality sand recovered during the Wilmington Harbor Project sent Corps official back to the drawing board to divvy up sand for the 14.6 miles of beach strand on Bald Head Island, Caswell Beach, east and west Oak Island and Holden Beach.

The distribution of sand to municipalities comes as part of a Corps of Engineers Section 933 program that allows the federal government to give dredge spoils to local governments when there is no additional cost to the federal government. The Corps has determined there is no additional cost at all to place beach-quality sand on Bald Head Island, Caswell Beach or eastern Oak Island. Sand placed on

See Project, page 10

Continued from page 1

COOL GHOUL



It's the season to be frightening, and this youngster was supremely scary at the Doctor Kahai Halloween party in Oak Island last Friday. More photos from that occasion, as well as notices of weekend Halloween events, in the Neighbors section.

Photo by Jim Harper

Municipal, school votes on Tuesday

By Richard Nubel
Staff Writer

Every registered voter in Brunswick County has a reason to go to the polls Tuesday. But on this off-year Election Day, the emphasis is clearly on the county's municipalities.

Polls open countywide Tuesday at 6:30 a.m. They will remain open until 7:30 p.m.

To assist area voters in their Election Day decisions, *The State Port Pilot* has devoted eight pages to coverage of municipal candidates in this section of the newspaper. The special election coverage includes profiles of 44 candidates for municipal offices and their verbatim responses to questions posed by the *Pilot*.

In southeastern Brunswick County, mayors will be elected in Caswell Beach, Southport and Boiling Spring Lakes on Tuesday. Members of governing boards will be chosen by voters in those towns and in Oak Island, St. James and Bald Head Island.

Voters in Southeast Brunswick Sanitary District will elect three commissioners
See Elections, page 6

Candidate profiles, questions page 11 through page 18

Two issues on ballot College bond vote asking \$14 million

By Diana D'Abruzzo
Staff Writer

Voters will decide next Tuesday whether the county should shell out nearly \$100 million to build new schools, upgrade and renovate classrooms and add on to the community college.

It's a decision that will come after weeks of pro-school campaigning and anti-tax grumbling, where school officials have pleaded for funds to improve facilities and some residents have protested that the price tag is just too

big. Two separate bond issues will appear on the November 2 ballot — one for \$83.5 million to renovate and expand the public schools, and one for \$14 million to expand Brunswick Community College.

"We've come to a crossroads in the county as far as educational facilities are concerned," said Marion Wise, superintendent of Brunswick County Schools, last week. "We have to decide whether to invest in the future now or do it piecemeal as we go. The needs
See College, page 8

FEMA funds are distributed here

By Terry Pope
County Editor

The Federal Emergency Management Agency have approved nearly \$5 million in disaster assistance for Brunswick County residents as a result of Hurricane Floyd damage.

According to latest figures released by FEMA October 22, the agency has

received 2,602 applications for assistance here and has assisted 894 families since the storm.

In Brunswick County, the greatest damage occurred to homes along the Oak Island and Holden Beach oceanfront as a result of storm surge, and along the banks of the flooded Waccamaw River in the Ash community.

Disaster funding for housing has reached \$1.25 million in the county, while another \$538,047 has been approved in individual and family grants which will help families recover their homes and property from flooding and other effects of the storm. The Waccamaw River reached 18 feet above flood stage before cresting September
See Hurricane, page 10



'Mackerel Man' was sporting his new fall outfit on the Southport Riverwalk last week. The 1999 U. S. Open King Mackerel Tournament T-shirts are now available at the Southport-Oak Island Chamber of Commerce Visitors Center on Long Beach Road, and also will be available at the Open, November 11-13.

Southport Annexation could signal new growth

By Richard Nubel
Staff Writer

Months of indecision ended in a split decision Thursday as Southport aldermen voted 4-2 to annex the Hardee's restaurant property and an adjacent undeveloped lot at Sawdust Trail intersection.

That action spurred the revelation Southport is still interested in extending its corporate limits along Long Beach Road, possibly in competition with the Town of Oak Island.

Aldermen Nelson Adams and Meezie Childs opposed the Hardee's annexation. Adams again said he opposed a piecemeal approach to annexing properties not contiguous to the city and wanted to explore annexation of a
See Southport, page 8

Bald Head shooting Service is held for slain officer

By Richard Nubel
Staff Writer

An investigation into the Friday on-duty shooting death of Bald Head Island public safety officer Davina (Dee) Buff Jones continued into Tuesday afternoon, even as sheriff's deputies gathered at Southport's Peacock-Newnam Funeral Home to practice a flag transfer ceremony that

would be performed at her memorial service that evening.

Jones, 33, of Oak Island, had been employed by the Bald Head Island Public Safety Department for less than a year. Tuesday night, hundreds of law enforcement representatives gathered at the funeral home to pay respects to their fellow officer; traffic flow along Howe Street was difficult as police
See Investigation, page 6



Officer Dee Jones died Friday night of a gunshot to the head. Saturday, Bald Head police chief Karen Grasty and Sheriff Ronald Hewett answered some of the many questions that lingered Tuesday.



Family, police chief recall Jones' desire to do her best, page 3