

# THE STATE PORT PILOT

Volume 69, Number 10

Phone 910-457-4568/Fax 910-457-9427/e-mail pilot@southport.net

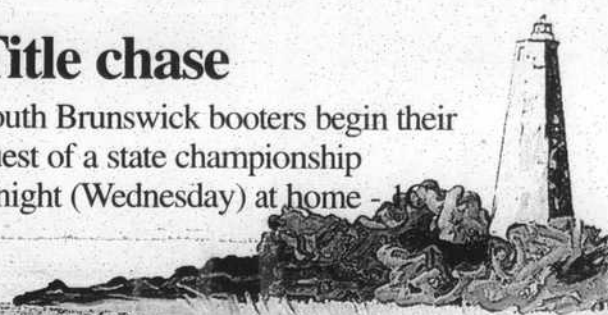
Published every Wednesday in Southport, N. C.



## Title chase

South Brunswick booters begin their quest of a state championship tonight (Wednesday) at home

November 3, 1999/50 cents



## Election results

|                         |     |
|-------------------------|-----|
| <b>Southport</b>        |     |
| <b>Mayor</b>            |     |
| Holden                  | 644 |
| Crowe                   | 168 |
| <b>Alderman Ward I</b>  |     |
| Childs                  | 399 |
| Mitchell                | 312 |
| <b>Alderman Ward II</b> |     |
| Powell                  | 450 |
| Callari                 | 355 |
| Adams                   | 345 |
| Delaney                 | 221 |

### Boiling Spring

|                     |     |
|---------------------|-----|
| <b>Lakes</b>        |     |
| <b>Mayor</b>        |     |
| Kinney              | 541 |
| Tully               | 313 |
| <b>Commissioner</b> |     |
| Roney               | 433 |
| Walters             | 425 |
| Toland              | 343 |
| Akers               | 301 |
| Vaughan             | 158 |

### Caswell Beach

|                     |     |
|---------------------|-----|
| <b>Mayor</b>        |     |
| Simmons             | 112 |
| Bausch              | 88  |
| <b>Commissioner</b> |     |
| Spake               | 173 |
| Zalewski            | 171 |
| Vest                | 162 |

### Oak Island

|                             |     |
|-----------------------------|-----|
| <b>Council (Yaupon)</b>     |     |
| King                        | 800 |
| Aman                        | 451 |
| Donahue                     | 189 |
| Wolfe                       | 165 |
| <b>Council (Long Beach)</b> |     |
| Kivett                      | 994 |
| Oxford                      | 573 |
| Felts                       | 112 |

### Bald Head Island

|                |     |
|----------------|-----|
| <b>Council</b> |     |
| Timmons        | 103 |
| Berne          | 99  |
| Rozar          | 99  |
| Henson         | 73  |

### St. James

|                |     |
|----------------|-----|
| <b>Council</b> |     |
| Dye            | 376 |
| Becker         | 363 |
| Gunter         | 348 |
| Ulrichs        | 325 |
| Steck          | 296 |
| Madsen         | 255 |
| Comer          | 226 |

### SE Brunswick

|                          |     |
|--------------------------|-----|
| <b>Sanitary District</b> |     |
| <b>Commissioner</b>      |     |
| Austin                   | 104 |
| Roberti                  | 84  |
| Goins                    | 55  |
| McWells                  | 26  |
| Formy-Duval              | 20  |

### Dosher Hospital

|                |      |
|----------------|------|
| <b>Trustee</b> |      |
| Newnam         | 2227 |
| Blake          | 1942 |

## College issue barely fails \$83.5-million school bonds

By Diana D'Abruzzo  
Staff Writer

Brunswick County Schools walked away from Tuesday's election with the \$83.5-million prize, thanks to a wave of voters who crammed the polls with "yes" ballots in favor of the school bond referendum.

By a 6,549 to 5,502 vote, county residents showed their approval of the school system's long-range facilities plan, which promises to upgrade

and renovate outdated classrooms and build two new schools.

"It was a historical day for the children of this county," said Marion Wise, superintendent of Brunswick County Schools. "It's all about building futures, and the voters have come through today to do just that."

Though the public schools came out of the election on top, Brunswick Community College's \$14-million bond referendum failed by fewer than 250 votes. The bond, which would have gone toward

building a continuing education center and a satellite campus in the western part of the county, produced 6,107 "no" votes and 5,877 "yes" votes.

"It was disappointing—I knew it would be close, but it was disappointing," said Mike Reaves, president of Brunswick Community College. "But I'm happy for the school system. We both were in this together as far as education goes, and I'm happy they were able to get the support to meet their obvious needs."

Reaves said the failed bond vote won't deter the

college from expanding its campus and providing new facilities to meet growing needs.

"We have a strategic plan together, and it's not going to change," he said. "We'll find ways to build the facilities in the strategic plan. We'll seek funding from federal and state and private sources and make this a reality."

The college bond likely failed because some residents found themselves making a choice—whether to vote "kids versus continuing educa-

See Schools, page 12



Southport's new Community Center was officially opened Sunday with the ribbon-cutting by Ken Mabe, chairman of the building committee, architect John Thompson, alderman Meezie Childs, mayor Bill Crowe, city manager Rob Gandy and aldermen Paul Fisher and Nelson Adams.

Photo by Jim Harper

## Tuesday's vote Mayoral switch in three towns; other changes

### Regional theme among priorities

By Richard Nubel  
Staff Writer

Voters elected new mayors in Southport, Caswell Beach and Boiling Spring Lakes Tuesday and made incumbency a mostly unbearable burden for those seeking return to boards of commissioners and town councils.

Mayors-elect Norman Holden of Southport, Harry Simmons of Caswell Beach and Joan Kinney of Boiling Spring Lakes each spoke of new roles for their towns and cities and vowed cooperation in pursuit of larger, regional goals.

Holden will reclaim in December the job he has held on two other occasions for a total of eight years. In his defeat of incumbent Bill Crowe, Holden led an apparent backlash vote against incumbents that ended the reign of 21-year west-side alderman Nelson Adams and multi-term incumbent Bill Delaney. Only Ward I incumbent Meezie Childs won the right to another term. Political newcomers Stuart Callari and James Powell will replace Delaney and Adams in Ward II.

The burden of incumbency was not lost on Holden.

"New leadership," was what the voters of Southport were looking for, mayor-elect Holden said. "My whole campaign was positive leadership to bring the community back together."

Holden said he encountered a vast

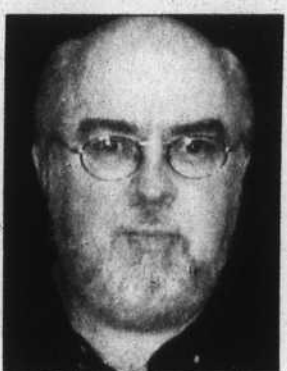
See Election, page 12



HOLDEN



KINNEY



SIMMONS

## Town of St. James Fire fee district requested

By Terry Pope  
Staff Writer

A volunteer fire department is still being constructed for the Town of St. James, but already the unit is preparing its future funding plan through a fee-supported district.

The department Monday became the fifth in the county to gain approval from the Brunswick County Board of Commissioners to establish a fee district, where property owners will pay annual assessments to better fund volunteers.

"I wish other departments were working as quickly as you have been," said District 3 commissioner Leslie Collier of Long Beach.

Boards of directors for volunteer units at Winnabow, Tri-Beach, Sunset Harbor-Zion Hill and Boiling Spring Lakes previously gained approval to establish fee districts. A preliminary map outlining the five-mile radius that will be assessed for St. James will be sent to Brunswick County tax supervisor Boyd Williamson for approval.

All volunteer departments in the county are eligible to set up fee districts under special legislation adopted by the N. C. General Assembly in July. Petitions from the five departments were formally approved, so Williamson can now order the drafting of maps that will be sent back to commissioners. Commissioners have indi-

See Fire fees, page 11

## Shooting death still unresolved

A virtual information embargo shrouds an investigation of the October 22 shooting death of Bald Head Island police officer Davina (Dee) Buff Jones.

Jones, 33, was found shot to death beneath the Bald Head Island lighthouse just after 11:30 that night. She had notified a county telecommunicator she would be out of her vehicle at that site with three persons she did not describe.

Among the few pieces of information about her death that have surfaced: A state medical examiner said it was possible officer Jones' wound was self-inflicted. It has been determined Jones died of one gunshot wound to the head from a .40-caliber weapon. Bald Head Island

See Officer, page 9



Photo by Jim Harper

Pilot Glen Lindstrom (left) of Jacksonville and three lucky passengers landed in the Lowe's construction site with only damage to landing gear when they lost power in a flight over the area Saturday.

## City share: \$26 million Proposal could relieve burden

By Richard Nubel  
Staff Writer

Plans submitted to a state study commission outline the means by which Southport could be relieved of the \$23-million debt share it holds as a member of the N. C. Eastern Municipal Power Agency.

The N. C. Study Commission on the Future of Electric Service this week heard proposals from four major groups that have addressed the issue of stranded debt upon the deregulation of the electric industry. One of those proposals comes from ElectricCities itself. ElectricCities is the management arm of the N. C. Eastern Municipal Power Agency and its sister, Power Agency One. Together the two agencies—and their members cities, including Southport—assumed a \$6-billion debt in the 1970s and 1980s to purchase ownership shares in power-generating facilities.

When growth estimates and projected need for electricity did not pan out, the agencies were left servicing debt on some of the most expensive nuclear power generation facilities in the state, including Brunswick

See Power agency, page 9