

The Courier-Times

75 Cents



TRY AGAIN!
 The annual Personality Festival rescheduled for this weekend **B1**



POSTSEASON!
 Rocket tennis team preps for berth in state playoffs **A6**



MOMENTUM:
 Rocket football squad looks for 2nd straight victory Friday vs. Jordan **A6**

CLOSE, BUT...:
 Host of football contest contestants nearly claim \$100 cash prize **A2**

PULLIAM:
 Semora driver wins Super Bowl of short track racing Sunday at Martinsville **A7**

DEATHS

- Mercedes N. Broussard, 90
Roxboro
 - Ethel Mary Eakes Dunkley, 96
Roxboro
 - Frederick Jackson (Jack) McKee, Sr., 79
Roxboro
 - Charles Edison Sanford, Sr., 82
Roxboro
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Will Davis



Mark Phillips



Sandy Stigall



Byrd Blackwell



Henry Daniel

Challengers Davis, Phillips lead way as city council takes on a new look

BY TIM CHANDLER
 COURIER-TIMES EDITOR
 tchandler@roxboro-courier.com

Come December, Roxboro City Council is going to take on a whole new look.

That was guaranteed Tuesday night when only two incumbents were re-elected to the five-person

board. Only 14.02 percent (660) of the 4,708 registered voters in the City of Roxboro cast ballots in the municipal election, which saw 10 people, including four incumbents, seek the five available seats.

The fifth current council member, Mayor Pro-Tem Marilyn

Newell, was unopposed in her bid to become mayor of Roxboro.

Political newcomer Will Davis, 22, a Roxboro business owner, led the balloting with 397 votes and was followed by former councilman Mark Phillips, 52, with 355 votes.

Incumbent Councilman Sandy Stigall, 73, placed third in the

voting with 313, while political newcomer Byrd Blackwell, 73, finished fourth with 286 votes. Rounding out the five-person board was incumbent Councilman Henry Daniel, 69, with 276 votes.

The remaining candidates

See **ELECTION**, Page 10

UNOFFICIAL CITY OF ROXBORO ELECTION RESULTS

CITY COUNCIL

WILL DAVIS397
MARK PHILLIPS355
* SANDY STIGALL313
BYRD BLACKWELL286
* HENRY DANIEL276
* JAMES ALLEN253
* RALPH CLARK249
DENNIS DANIELS102
PATRICK WALTERS76
COLEEN LOVE56

*Denotes incumbent

MAYOR

MERILYN NEWELL431
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City council candidates and supporters work the polls during Tuesday's municipal election.

Newell honored to serve as mayor of Roxboro

BY TIM CHANDLER
 COURIER-TIMES EDITOR
 tchandler@roxboro-courier.com

Merilyn Newell, who has served four terms on Roxboro City Council and currently serves as mayor pro-tem, will assume the mayoral position in December.

Newell, who garnered 431 votes in the municipal election, was unopposed in her bid to succeed Sam Spencer as mayor.

Spencer, a longtime councilman, was named mayor last year after the death of Tom Brown. Spencer did not seek re-election this year.

"It is truly humbling and an honor to be elected to serve as Roxboro's mayor for the next two years," Newell said Tuesday. "I am grateful to those who came out to the polls to make their voices heard and I appreciate the support and prayers of all the citizens."

Newell said she looked forward to working with the new five members of city council and a new city manager, Stephen Steese, who will begin his duties on Nov. 12.

"We have new council members, a new city manager and a renewed mission to work hard to provide exceptional city services and commitment to make life better for all who live in Roxboro," Newell said. "My primary goal for the next two years is to renew



Merilyn Newell

our pride for our city, in its appearance, friendliness and possibilities.

"Working together, I know we can make this happen," Newell added. "We have the potential to be a chosen destination for those seeking a more peaceful and safe haven in a crazy world and with everyone pulling together, we can make this happen."

"I am proud to call Roxboro my hometown and welcome all input for how we can accomplish these goals," Newell concluded.

When she announced her candidacy for mayor in July, Newell said the City of Roxboro was feeling "the effects of the recent economic downturn and we all are working to find new ways to do more with less."

See **MAYOR**, Page 10

Stories Creek a finalist in National Title I Distinguished School Recognition Program

BY TIM CHANDLER
 COURIER-TIMES EDITOR
 tchandler@roxboro-courier.com

"This is a great honor for Stories Creek and Person County Schools."

Dr. Larry W. Cartner, superintendent for Person County

Schools (PCS) spoke those words this week referring to recognition that was recently bestowed on Stories Creek Elementary School.

Stories Creek is a finalist in the National Title I Distinguished School Recognition Program in the category of Sustained Stu-

dent Achievement. The National Title I Association sponsors the recognition program annually and North Carolina selects two Title I Distinguished Schools to represent the state for each category.

See **HONOR**, Page 2

Ashley Carroll claims Distinguished Young Woman of Roxboro crown

BY TIM CHANDLER
 COURIER-TIMES EDITOR
 tchandler@roxboro-courier.com

On Saturday night Ashley Carroll was named the 2012 Distinguished Young Woman of Roxboro, receiving \$3,600 in scholarship money and the opportunity to compete at the state level in February.

"I am still kind of in shock," Carroll said Monday afternoon during a visit to *The Courier-Times*. "[Being named the Distinguished Young Woman of Roxboro] actually came as a complete shock to me. All of the girls had such a great chance, such a fair chance. I am real excited to have this opportunity."

The Distinguished Young Women event, formerly known as Roxboro Junior Miss, is hosted annually by the Roxboro Jaycees.

"The Roxboro Junior Miss committee is so proud of Ashley and each one of the girls who participated in the program this year," co-chairperson Dori Hammock said. "They really came out of their shells this past week during rehearsals and we all had a really good time."

Carroll and the 23 other high school seniors participating have been preparing for the program since January, and practicing weekly since July. The competition included the categories of interview, fitness, talent, self-expression and scholastics.

The 24 participants competed for a total of \$10,400 in scholarships.

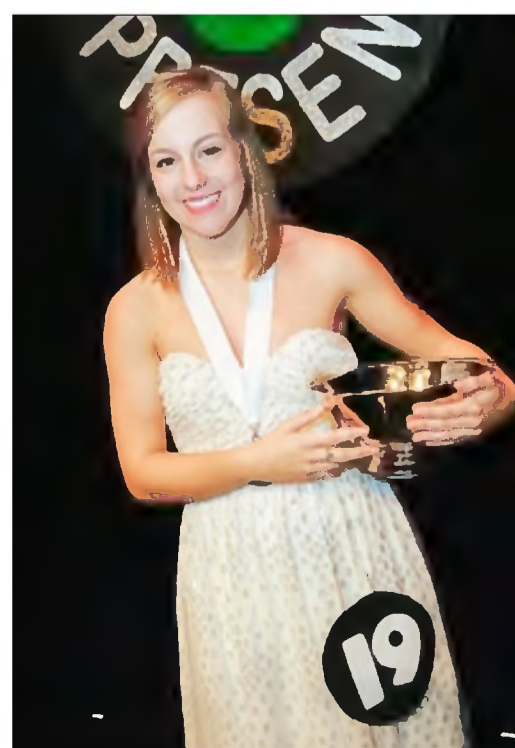
"From the beginning of practice until Saturday night was so exciting," Carroll said. "We all became so much closer and developed great friendships."

Getting closer to all the participants, Carroll said, was the most meaningful part of the entire experience.

"Definitely," Carroll added, "especially the week leading up to Saturday. That was so much fun."

"I want to congratulate all the girls in the program," Carroll added. "They all did such a wonderful job."

See **WINNER**, Page 10



Ashley Carroll

STUDIO YOU | LIANNA SLAUGHTER