

Bertie Ledger-Advance

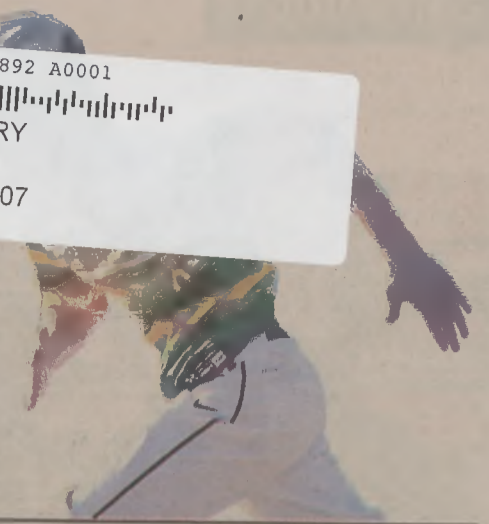
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SPORTS | B1



BCS in debt

\$700,000 shortfall discovered

BY THADD WHITE
 Bertie Ledger-Advance

WINDSOR – The Bertie County Board of Education debt has reached more than \$700,000.

The audit firm of Anderson Smith and Wike recently completed the financial audit of the 2015-16 fiscal year for the school board and reported major debt as well as a plethora of missteps in financial accounting procedures.

The findings led the Bertie County Commissioners to forward the audit and a letter from County Attorney Lloyd Smith to the N.C. Board of Education.

According to the audit, the school district had a \$704,995 deficit in the general fund balance, and more than \$837,000 in deficits in the unassigned fund balance.

In addition to the financial problems, there are a variety of material weaknesses and significant deficiencies found in the audit.

There are six material weaknesses identified in the report, including areas involving account reconciliation, budget violations, appropriated fund balance, prior period adjustments and compliance with cash management.

The first finding indicated the school district did not reconcile bank statements, health insurance liability and other general ledger accounts during the year.

"Numerous errors relating to financial reporting were made during the year," the auditor reported. Since bank accounts, health insurance accounts and other key general ledger account reconciliations

See **AUDIT**, A3

NATIONAL Women's HISTORY MONTH



Lawrence Academy boys tennis coach Lisa Corbett shows Mason Berry, a first-year junior player, the proper technique for serving during practice at the Windsor courts.

JIM GREEN / Bertie Ledger-Advance

'Drafted' by the family

BY JIM GREEN
 Bertie Ledger-Advance

MERRY HILL - On any given weekday at any given time, anyone can walk into Lawrence Academy and ask "Where is Lisa Corbett?"

Finding her, however, is another story.

"Good luck trying to locate me," Corbett said, laughing. "I am all over the place every day. Even when my son, Lane, texts me and asks me where I am, I have to tell him I'm in

one place now and will be in another place in a few minutes."

Corbett maintains a hectic schedule as a teacher and coach at Lawrence Academy.

See **CORBETT**, A5

WPD thwarts attempt

Duo tries to smuggle contraband

BY THADD WHITE
 Bertie Ledger-Advance

WINDSOR – Volleyballs were used for more than sport here Saturday.

Or at least, an attempt was made to use them in a different way.

The effort by two men to use volleyballs as a method for carrying contraband was thwarted by the efforts of the Windsor Police Department.

Windsor Police Chief Todd Lane said officers apprehended a pair of men Saturday after being alerted they were walking on a path leading to Bertie Correctional Institute.

Chief Lane said his department has been

See **THWART**, A5

Recovery meeting held

Public voices concerns at forum

BY LESLIE BEACHBOARD
 Bertie Ledger-Advance

WINDSOR - Bertie County citizens came in large numbers for their voices to be heard.

Bertie County and the town of Windsor held a special North Carolina Hurricane Matthew Resilient Redevelopment Plan meeting Thursday.

The meeting was for Bertie County citizens to voice their opinions about last year's flooding and what they would like to see accomplished to avoid a repeat of the events.

See **FORUM**, A3



Two members of the CREST team work on a display of tools at the Farmer's and Craftsman Museum.

THADD WHITE / Bertie Ledger-Advance

Aid comes to Windsor museum

BY THADD WHITE
 Bertie Ledger-Advance

WINDSOR – Help comes in many forms.

Windsor continues to recover from the devastating effects of flood waters from Tropical Storm Julia and Hurricane Matthew last year.

Last week, the Farmer's and Craftsman Museum in Windsor got a little extra help in

See **MUSEUM**, A6

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