

Regional Aquaculture Program A Possibility For BCC Campus

BY SUSAN USHER

Brunswick Community College is busily pursuing cooperative efforts to bring new programs to the state's youngest community college campus, with a regional aquaculture program among the possibilities.

Other possibilities include a recreational grounds management technology program for which a feasibility study is being prepared and expanded offerings in the allied health fields.

"The more 'niche' programs we can find like this the more successful we can be," BCC President Michael Reaves said last week.

BCC is working with the N.C. Marine Crescent, a marine-related development organization based in Wilmington, and the Waccamaw-Siouan Association at Bolton to apply for a \$400,000 grant from the U.S. Economic Development Administration (EDA) to start an aquaculture program. If approved, the program is expected to draw students from a wide area, and potentially, from abroad, he said.

As proposed, the project would include construction of ponds on the Supply campus for raising fish such as hybrid striped bass and catfish and construction of a building to house the program.

Johnnie Simpson, vice president for instruction, said BCC was advised by the EDA that "there is a 90 percent chance we will get this grant if we apply." She said the grant application is nearly completed.

Also involved closely with the project are the Brunswick County Soil Conservation Office, N.C. Agricultural Extension Service and South Brunswick High School aquaculture program taught by Byron Bey for the Brunswick County Schools.

"This would like a regional demonstration site," Reaves told *The Brunswick Beacon*. "It also would benefit our farmers and fishermen who are trying to make transitions and find alternate sources of income. The timing is right for this."

BCC is simultaneously working with three other area community college campuses to determine the need for additional program offerings in the allied health areas. A regional study identified staffing shortages and declining student enrollment in a number of critical areas. These included medical records, medical technology, occupational therapy, respiratory technology, radiology technology, physical therapy and speech and hearing.

BCC has been chosen to administer a \$15,000 grant for a feasibility study to be

completed in cooperation with the Wilmington Area Health Education Center (WAHEC). The study will determine in which allied health fields graduates are most needed locally and identify which community college campus would be the most appropriate training site for that program.

Chances are that Brunswick Community College would be selected as the site for one or possibly two new programs, said Reaves.

Presently BCC has a waiting list of students for its only health-related curriculum program, licensed practical nursing.

Reaves said he is pleased with the cooperative effort by the campuses and their willingness to cross-recruit students for any programs established.

"We're actually pulling together and trying to work together to meet area needs," he said.

Other schools involved are Cape Fear, James Sprunt and Southeastern community colleges.

Also at BCC, efforts began last year to establish the need for the recreational grounds program, with a consultant already at work on the feasibility study. Pending approval of a curriculum program, several continuing education courses have already

been offered, with others planned.

Aviation-related continuing education courses are being offered five days a week at the Southport campus this spring for the first time, in cooperation with Resort Aviation. However, Reaves said the chances are dimmer for establishing an aviation management technology program since Lenoir Community College already offers a regional program.

Reaves and Miss Simpson reviewed these program possibilities with college trustees at their meeting last Wednesday.

Other Business

In other business, trustees:

- Accepted resignations from employees GeeGee Lewis, Margaret White and Raybon Moore.
- Moved their March 20 meeting to BCC's Southport campus.
- Authorized, at a cost of \$25,000 to \$30,000, repair and replacement work on the roof of the classroom building on the Southport campus by Quality Roof of Shallotte. Also the chimney will be cut down to a height of six feet. No action was taken on proposed plumbing renovations estimated to cost \$8,000.
- Learned that BCC is exploring the possibility of operating its own daycare center

next year for children, students, faculty and staff.

- Heard from SGA President Katherine Lyles of plans for a March 20 blood drive and March 27 student appreciation day.
- Hired Steven Johnson to fill a full-time temporary JTPA job counselor position for the balance of the fiscal year. The position may not be funded next year.
- Adopted a drug and alcohol policy and reviewed related educational materials that will be circulated among faculty, staff and students.
- Approved in concept allowing Brunswick Electric Membership Corp. to install, at its own expense, 65-foot utility poles to lift the high-voltage power lines that run in front of the planned site of the Odell Williamson Auditorium. Raising the lines will allow construction of a covered walkway and a clear view of the front of the building without BCC having to pay to relocate or bury the cables.
- Reviewed with Architect Ken Phelps of Boney & Associates the proposed bidding package for the auditorium construction project. Several items will be bid as alternates for added flexibility, but a proposed scenery storage area will be put out for bid at all at this time.

County Chapters Offer Black History Program

Religion, the civil rights movement, education—these three major influences on the history of African Americans meshed Saturday during the annual black history program sponsored by the Cedar Grove and Brunswick County chapters of the NAACP.



STAFF PHOTO BY SUSAN USHER

PATRICE GORE, one of the youngest members of the Martin Luther King Jr. Youth Choir to perform Saturday.

Approximately 60 people attended the event in the public assembly building at the county government complex at Bolivia Saturday night.

William C. Flythe of Southport, keynote speaker, encouraged young people in the audience to pursue an education and to develop their abilities to the fullest. He reminded them of the United Negro College Fund motto, "A mind is a terrible thing to waste."

Flythe, a Southport resident, was employed by Pfizer Chemicals for 20 years, most recently as a senior supervisor. He earned a bachelor of science from Johnson C. Smith University and a doctorate from Howard University. He is vice president of the Region 9 Council for the Advancement of Minorities in Engineering, a program that encourages minority youths to explore and pursue careers in engineering and the sciences.

In a 10-minute sermonette, the Rev. Charles A. Jacobs, pastor of Little Macedonia and Friendship Baptist churches, reminded his audience that freedom isn't being able to vote or to get a job "like everyone else".

Rather, he said, "there is only one way you can be all you can be—that

is to be free. And if you don't know Christ you are not free."

The program also included readings of her own work by Louise Johnson, a county native who returned recently from New York State, and comments by NAACP Chapter Presidents Leslie Myrie, Southport, and the Rev. M.C. Herling, Cedar Grove.

Certificates of recognition were presented by Barbara T. Hewett, while music was provided by Bobbie Gore & The Gospel Brothers and members of the Martin Luther King Jr. Youth Choir, directed by Terri Mitchell and Vicki Jenrette.

Sunset Beach Begins Looking At Sewer System Alternatives

Sunset Beach Council members will begin looking at the possibility of town sewer service when they meet Monday, March 4, at 7:30 p.m.

Coy Batten, of the construction grants section of the N.C. Division of Environmental Management, is to discuss the state's Clean Water Fund. The fund provides low-interest loans to eligible communities for projects such as sewer systems.

"We know sewer's got to be put in," Mayor Mason Barber said Tuesday. "This is a start. We're going to find out if any money is available, if we have to go with bonds or what."

Barber said the council is willing to listen to all alternatives anyone has to offer. There is one option in particular the town will explore, he said. That is the potential for a cooperative project with Sea Trail Corporation, which has developed extensive properties within the town and its surrounding extraterritorial zone.

"Sea Trail will probably be in the sewer business within a year if it can get the permit," said Barber. "There's a possibility of tying in there and eventually operating the plant."

Another possibility could be a regional approach to sewage disposal, he said, though meetings along that line several years ago resulted in no activity.

In any case, Barber would like to see the town move ahead on the issue. "Soon we'll be hemmed in and won't be able to afford to buy land for a treatment plant," he said.

Barber said he doesn't think installing a sewer system will increase the rate of development for Sunset Beach.

"We're going to keep on growing

like we are," he said. "The economy's down other places, but they're still building out on the beach and Sea Trail's going gangbusters."

"It's fine with me just as long as we stay with the single-family housing," said Barber.

Noting that sewer treatment is the No. 1 priority for at least three

council members, Barber said the council may decide Monday to authorize a sewer feasibility study.

Other items on the meeting agenda for Monday include a public hearing and action on the proposed zoning of Pelican Shopping Center, a request from the Twin Lakes Residents Conservation Association

to install an overflow pipe and riser board at the first of the Twin Lakes, and N.C. 179 and review of a final plat for Marsh Point subdivision.

The council will also continue its discussions on annexation and meet behind closed doors to discuss a personnel matter.

Tech Prep Program Offers Students New Alternative

BY SUSAN USHER

Brunswick Community College is teaming up with the Brunswick County Schools to offer a program aimed at turning out graduates with the kind of technical skills and academic background they say employers are seeking.

The Technical Preparation (Tech Prep) program will be offered to local high school students this fall.

Tech Prep targets high school students who may not pursue professional careers or attend four-year colleges or universities, but who could benefit from additional education at the community college level.

Studies show the state's businesses and industries are seeking employees who can communicate effectively, compute accurately and think and reason skillfully, said Johnnie Simpson, vice president for instruction at BCC.

She and William Furless, vocational director for the public schools, have been working for 1 1/2 years to lay the groundwork for the cooperative program.

Students enrolled in the Tech Prep program will

take a blend of higher level academic courses and vocational courses that ease the transition to community or technical college studies.

Tech Prep will be offered in three major cluster areas: industrial careers, health and human services careers and business careers.

Required courses for study in each area will include algebra, English, science and social studies. The balance of students' course schedules will be based on graduation requirements and individual career goals.

Tech Prep students may receive advanced placement and may be able to receive credit at Brunswick Community College for courses taken while enrolled in the Brunswick County Schools.

Students will be provided comprehensive career counseling services starting at the middle school level and continuing through their enrollment at BCC.

They are expected to begin planning their six-year Tech Prep curriculum in eighth grade, with the assistance of their parents and guidance counselor, based on their aptitudes, abilities and interests.

Gunfight Leaves Calabash Man Injured; Charges Are Pending

BY TERRY POPE

As of Monday, charges were still pending from a shooting at a Seaside business last week that left two people injured.

A Calabash man remained hospitalized in serious condition Monday after being struck in the upper chest area by a bullet.

Brunswick County Sheriff's Detective Billy Hughes said the dispute that turned into a gunfight involving two local business partners began around 8:08 p.m. last Tuesday, Feb. 19. One person injured by stray bullets was an innocent bystander, Hughes said.

Det. Hughes said William F. "Bookie" Taylor Sr., 47, of Seaside, and Hershell Allen of Calabash agreed to meet at the T&T Development Co. office at Seaside Plaza to discuss a business deal.

"Bookie" Taylor's brother, Wayne Taylor, happened to be at a nearby business when he noticed his brother's car in the parking lot and entered the building before Allen arrived.

"He just wanted to see why his brother was working so late," Det. Hughes said.

When Allen arrived, an argument developed between Allen and "Bookie" Taylor that became heated. Both men drew weapons and began firing shots at one another, Hughes said. "Bookie" Taylor allegedly fired a .38-caliber revolver at Allen, hitting him twice, once in the upper chest and again in the elbow.

Allen is believed to have fired shots from two guns, a .38-caliber revolver and a .357-caliber pistol.

Lt. Donnell Marlow said he has been calling doctors at New Hanover Regional Medical Center in Wilmington, where Allen is being treated, to determine when detec-

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tives could question the victim about the shooting. Marlow said he was to contact doctors again Feb. 25.

Allen's condition has been upgraded from critical to serious condition since he was admitted to the hospital last Tuesday night, said a hospital spokesperson Monday afternoon.

Detectives say they will not file charges until they have had a chance to interview the victim.

When the shooting started, "Bookie" Taylor's son, William F. Taylor Jr., 27, was also at a nearby business at Seaside Plaza at the intersection of N.C. 904 and N.C. 179.

Taylor Jr. rushed into his father's office when he heard shots fired, Hughes said, and was hit once by a bullet in the arm. He was transported to The Brunswick Hospital in Supply where he was kept overnight, treated and released.

"In all, about 10 to 11 shots were fired," Det. Hughes said.

Hughes said the incident appears to have stemmed "from a phone call made between the parties to discuss a business deal" just before the two agreed to meet at the office. He did not believe the shooting was planned by either man, but was brought on by a heated debate.

"It was a common habit of both men to carry guns wherever they went," said Det. Hughes.

Other Shootings

There were two other shootings reported in Brunswick County over the weekend.

A Shallotte man died Monday morning after being hospitalized with a self-inflicted gunshot wound to the stomach, said Detective Key-in Holden of the Brunswick County

Sheriff's Department.

James "Sonny" Redwine, 73, apparently shot himself in the stomach Sunday around noon with a 410-gauge shotgun, Holden said. He was transported to The Brunswick Hospital in Supply by the Shallotte Volunteer Rescue Squad and later transferred to New Hanover Regional Medical Center.

The gunshot did not penetrate organs, Holden said.

"We don't know if the gunshot caused the death," Holden said. "It is still under investigation."

Redwine's wife was at home when the shooting occurred. According to Holden's report, she ran out to U.S. 17 and flagged down a passing motorist for help.

In another shooting Friday night, a Taylorsville man was charged with discharging a firearm into an occupied vehicle in Leland.

Duncan Eric Flowers, 25, was charged by Det. Holden after the man allegedly fired three shots from a .38-caliber automatic pistol into a car on Village Road that was occupied by Kenneth Elton Hooper, 31, of Leland.

The shooting stemmed from a dispute over a girlfriend, said Holden.

He said Wilmington police have charged Hooper with first-degree burglary after he allegedly broke into an apartment in Wilmington where Flowers was staying.

Flowers then allegedly followed Hooper back to Leland where the shooting occurred, Holden said. Three bullets hit Hooper's car and another bullet hit the ground.

Hooper told detectives that he lay down in the car when the shots were fired but later jumped out and ran. The car then rolled into a ditch, reported Deputy Randy Robinson.

Two Injured In Boones Neck Wreck

Two people were injured Saturday in a two-car accident near Boones Neck, three miles west of Holden Beach.

According to State Highway Patrol reports, a Supply man was charged with failure to yield after he allegedly pulled his car into the path of a pickup truck at the intersection of Boones Neck Road (RPR 1137) and Kirby Road (RPR 1141).

Charged in the 3 p.m. accident was John Burgwin Hewett, 67, reported Trooper C.E. Ward.

Ward stated that Hewett's 1984 Oldsmobile pulled away from a stop sign at the intersection and into the path of a 1987 Chevrolet pickup driven by Lloyd Wayne Rhodes, 39, of Supply.

Hewett and a passenger in the Rhodes' vehicle, Cindy Rhodes, 37,

received minor injuries and were taken to The Brunswick Hospital in Supply.

Damage was listed at \$6,000 to the Rhodes vehicle and \$3,100 to the Hewett car.

In another accident early Saturday, a Shallotte woman was charged with a seat belt violation after the car she was driving ran off of Calabash Road (RPR 1300) about 12 miles south of Shallotte.

Trooper Ward charged Shannon Hardwick McLamb, 30, who was taken to The Brunswick Hospital in Supply with Class B injuries. Class B are incapacitating injuries, but are not serious.

According to Ward's report, Ms. McLamb ran off the left shoulder, lost control of her 1987 Nissan and then struck a ditch culvert.

Damage was estimated at \$3,100 to her car in the 6:30 a.m. accident.

In another accident Saturday evening, a Wilmington teenager received minor injuries when the car she was driving crashed into a tree about four miles west of Leland.

Meredith JoEllen Heim, 16, was traveling east on Green Loop Road (RPR 1429) at an excessive speed when her 1985 Oldsmobile ran off the left, crossed the roadway, struck a ditch bank and became airborne before striking a tree, Trooper T.W. Caulder reported.

Ms. Heim was charged with driving while impaired and driving without an operator's license.

She received minor injuries and was taken to New Hanover Regional Medical Center in Wilmington.

Damage was estimated at \$3,000 to the car in the 9:55 p.m. accident.

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