

# Waccamaw Keeps Up Tradition

BY DORI COSGROVE GURGANUS

In 1704, the new deputy governor of North Carolina who required Quakers to take a loyalty oath to England's Queen Ann was Robert Daniel. Not Robert Daniels.

Even though Waccamaw Elementary's history bowl team won the regional competition Feb. 24, team member James White may never forget missing that particular question by one letter.

White, April Mintz, David Bowens, Rebecca DeRosa and Holly Clemmons made up the winning team for the school this year, and they describe the competition as "nerve-wracking."

In a quiz bowl where accuracy is what counts, these students proved once again that Waccamaw has what it takes to succeed over other area schools.

"It is a tough competition," said their teacher and coach, Mary Katherine Griffith, "Of course, I'm always proud of them."

Next they'll head to Raleigh May 22 to compete with eight other schools for the state championship.

That state title has been frustratingly elusive for Waccamaw; this will be the school's fourth consecutive trip to the state contest.

Previous Waccamaw teams in state competition have won second place in 1989 and 1990.

Last year, however, the local team was knocked out in the second round of single-elimination questioning.

The team, made up from a fresh group of eighth graders each year, was selected on a voluntary basis back in December, said Ms. Griffith.

Immediately, she said, they began absorbing the 57-page study guide provided by the N.C. Department of Cultural Resources and the United Daughters of the Confederacy.

The history bowl, sponsored by those two groups, focuses on North Carolina history up to and including

the Civil War.

Questions can come from the manual or not, but they must be from one of the school system's textbooks to which students have been exposed.

"You have to have a real hunger for history before you get into this," warns Miss Clemmons.

Much of team members' time was spent memorizing facts, but apparently bribery was useful as well.

Dismissing the theory that studying Joes any good, Miss DeRosa said, "The secret to a successful history bowl team is candy."

A superstition about lollipops being lucky developed this year, and may become a tradition yet for Waccamaw teams of the future.

But the youngsters didn't just rely on their own strengths in preparing for the competition.

"We prayed," added Miss Clemmons.

The oral quiz is given in four 10-minute periods, with occasional breaks and a five minute half-time.

Questions are worth 10 points each, but if team members answer one correctly they have 20 seconds to consult one another for the answer to a 30-point bonus question.

"I love it," said Miss Clemmons of the competition, "but it takes a lot of dedication and work."

Regions for the history bowl competition are formed around state historical sites, with the Brunswick Town and Fort Fisher state historical sites the sponsoring locations for the area bowl. It's region includes Brunswick, Pender, New Hanover and Sampson counties.

Other schools competing from Brunswick County in the regional history bowl were Leland, South Brunswick and Shallotte middle schools.

Waccamaw Elementary was awarded \$100 for the regional title, which the team will spend on travel expenses in Raleigh, Ms. Griffith said.



STAFF PHOTO BY DORI C. GURGANUS

WACCAMAW SCHOOL'S WINNING TEAM at the Brunswicktown/Fort Fisher regional history bowl includes (front, from left) April Mintz, Holly Clemmons and Rebecca DeRosa, (back row) James White and David Bowens. In front of Miss Clemmons is the regional trophy won this year; between White and Bowens is Waccamaw's second place statewide trophy from 1990.

## AFTER-SCHOOL CARE PLANNED

### Board Gives YWCA Go-Ahead

Unless a survey shows a lack of interest, some area parents will have an alternative after-school care option for the children starting with the 1992-93 school term.

The YWCA of Wilmington plans to offer an after-school enrichment program for students in kindergarten through fifth grade "in any schools where there might be enough interest," Executive Director Barbara Jo Lineberger said Monday. Hours would be from the close of the school day until 6 p.m. "Fun days" would also be offered on teacher workdays.

Parents of approximately 25 to 30 students would have to sign up for the program for it to be offered at any given school.

Meeting at South Brunswick Middle School, the Brunswick County Board of Education authorized the YWCA to conduct a survey and, if the interest is there, to establish the program. Agreements will have to be worked out at each school site for use of the facilities.

Member Doug Baxley of Shallotte was absent.

The unanimous vote on board

member Polly Russ' motion came after attorney Glen Peterson assured the board it would not be assuming any unusual or additional liability in answer to questions from Finance Office Rudi Fallon. The YWCA carries its own liability insurance.

The YWCA's after-school "camp" uses staff and volunteers to provide tutoring, arts and crafts, outside play and other age-appropriate activities including guest speakers or clubs such as 4-H and quiet time.

The YWCA has been offering after-school care in New Hanover County since 1974, and has seen improvement in the school performance of participating students, said Youth Program Director Shelly Ballard.

Cost is \$27 a week for after school care, with some scholarships available. Participants must also have a YWCA membership (\$15 for an individual), which makes other YWCA programs and facilities available to them, and pay a yearly registration fee of about \$30 that covers accident and liability insurance.

According to Mrs. Russ, a child care center operator, after-care ser-

vice will be particularly needed at the new Supply Elementary School. Since it is in a different school district from existing child care programs, school buses will not be able to cross attendance district lines to deliver students to local day care centers.

### Roles Available

Rehearsals have begun for Brunswick Little Theater's production of *Cabaret*, but some roles still have not been filled.

Susan Warren, publicity director for the company, said that interested male and females who wish to audition for singing roles, to help build sets or fill other volunteer roles can attend rehearsals Thursdays at 7 p.m. and Sundays at 1:30 p.m.

Among the roles available is the part of Ernst Ludwig, a main speaking but non-singing character.

Rehearsals are held at the Centennial Center, corner of Lord Street and 8th Street in Southport, she said.

Interested persons may also call Curt Little, director, at 457-0743.

### Area United Way Withholds Dues Pending Investigation

The Cape Fear Area United Way has withheld its annual dues payment to United Way of America pending completion of an independent investigation of that agency and other measures.

Michael C. Griggs, executive director, said the board of Cape Fear Area United Way adopted a resolution at its Feb. 27 meeting to withhold payment of the 1992 dues pending the satisfactory completion of the independent investigation of the management practices and performance of William Aromony, president of the national group, and a review of the report and recommendations adopted by the United Way

of America Board of Governors.

Dues are 1 percent of the total campaign dollars raised locally, or \$18,778 in 1991.

Cape Fear Area United Way has been a member of United Way of America since 1971, part of nationwide system of autonomous, independently operated community-based United Way organizations.

The local agency is governed by a local board of volunteers from its three-county service area. In 1991, Cape Fear United Way raised \$1,854,000 to help support 29 local human care agencies in Brunswick, Pender and New Hanover counties. Griggs and President W. Lee

Williams said the local agency is "deeply concerned" about the allegations raised. The local board is urging the national board of governors to complete its investigation as soon as possible and to promptly initiate any management and organizational changes deemed "necessary and appropriate" as a result of the investigation.

In exchange for its dues, the local United Way receives services and benefits that include use of the trademarks, discounts for printed materials, supplies and awards, corporate fundraising, information, professional consultation and technical assistance.

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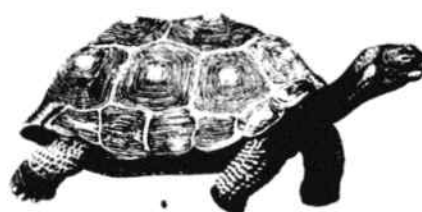


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