

Perquimans County recreation department news and information

Perquimans Midget Football Team traveled to Gates on Saturday and came back victorious in the 38 to 20 win. Gates jumped out to open the scoring, but Perquimans came roaring back. Ronnie Hunter had 2 T.D.'s to lead the team in scoring, also scoring 1 T.D. was Nick White, Carlton

Simpson, Shae Nixon and Charles Simpson with a 77 yard int. return. Maurice Shannonhouse had 2 int. to lead the defense. Perquimans will face Elizabeth City Boys Club on Saturday, which will be played in Hertford at the High School. The Perquimans County Parks and

Recreation Soccer Program has also gotten underway, with four (4) teams participating. There are two (2) Mite Teams, ages 5-8 and one (1) Midget Team, ages 9-12 and the Junior Team went to Plymouth and won 5-0, and will face Plymouth in Winfall at Central Grammar School on Saturday.

Cases of lead poisoning seen throughout North Carolina rising

An increasing number of children in North Carolina have been identified as having lead poisoning during the past two years, primarily because of stepped-up screening efforts by local health departments and the N.C. Division of Health Services.

During 1986-87, over 17,000 children in this state were screened for lead poisoning, and 54 were identified by the State Laboratory of Public Health as having the disease. Thirty-seven cases were identified in children the previous year.

However, the actual number of cases of lead poisoning in children or adults is unknown because reporting for this disease is not required.

We don't usually think of lead poisoning as a major public health problem, but about 200 of the nation's children die each year from this disease. In addition, an estimated 3,000 to 4,000 young people have to undergo extensive treatment to remove the poison from their bodies and even more may suffer from the toxic effects of lead without knowing it.

Governor James G. Martin, at the request of N.C. Department of Human Resources Secretary David T. Flaherty and the N.C. Public Health Association, has proclaimed October 4-10, 1987, as Environmental Health Week in North Carolina. This observance urges citizens to maintain a clean and safe environment and to avoid conditions, such as exposure to high levels of lead, which are detrimental to the health and well-being of North Carolina.

According to Dr. John Freeman, head of the Environmental Epidemiology Branch for the N.C. Department of Human Resources' Division of Health Services, lead poisoning is a disease that is serious cases can cause mental retardation, blindness and even death among children.

He noted that young children are more susceptible to high levels of lead because their bodies retain approximately one-half of the lead they swallow or inhale. Pica, which is a craving for non-food items such as

paint chips and soil, and young children's tendencies to put things into their mouths, increase their chances of being exposed to lead.

Lead serves no useful purpose in the human body, so even small amounts may be toxic or possibly cause irreversible brain damage.

Symptoms of lead poisoning vary. Some children display no symptoms while others may appear tired, pale, depressed or irritable. They may also have no appetite and not sleep well.

Because these symptoms are so vague, diagnosing lead poisoning is sometimes difficult until more severe signs such as clumsiness, abdominal pain, persistent vomiting, constipation, and changes in consciousness occur, if children are not treated at this time, more serious problems could develop that might be life-threatening.

According to the State Center for Health Statistics, no North Carolina children dies from lead poisoning from 1980-86, but three adults died from the disease during that period.

Children living in homes over 30 years old, which are in poor condition or being renovated, are considered to be at greatest risk for lead poisoning. Paint manufactured prior to the early 1950s frequently contained lead (up to 50 percent) as a drying agent and pigment. In 1965, the paint industry voluntarily reduced the amount of lead added to paint, but it was not until 1977 that a limit of less than 0.6 percent of lead in all household paints was enforced by law.

In addition to lead in paint there are other sources which may cause lead poisoning. These include contaminated soil; improperly glazed pottery; battery casings and painted boards which are burned for fuel; dust from lead-related industries such as battery salvage and lead smelting operations; bootleg whiskey; and folk health remedies such as greta, azarcon and pay-loo-ah.

Though North Carolina has very few deaths attributed to lead poison-

ing, there have been several instances in which lead caused serious illness and disability. Based on door-to-door surveys in several areas of the state, we also know that there are some places which are considered a high risk for lead poisoning because of various housing, economic, and population factors.

There are ways people can reduce exposure to lead when an older home is being renovated:

- make sure children and pregnant women are kept away during the renovation. If this is not possible, their blood lead levels should be checked before, during and after the renovation;

- keep the room being renovated closed off from the rest of the house;
- remove all items, including rugs and curtains, from each room as it is being renovated. Cover any furniture too big for removal with some form of protective covering;

- use tarps on the floor;
- use a water mist in the area where any scraping is taking place to cut down on dust particles in the air;

- wear special respirators and protective clothing when working in a renovation area. These items should be left at the site at the end of each work day. Project contractors should make arrangements to have work clothes specially laundered twice a week;

- do not eat, smoke or drink in the area where the renovation is being done;

- carefully dispose of tarps and other materials when the renovation is complete;

- clean all surfaces in the renovated area with a strong detergent before the family uses the room.

For more information about testing for lead poisoning, contact the PPCC District Health Department, or the N.C. Division of Health Services, Environmental Epidemiology Branch, P.O. Box 2091, Raleigh, N.C. 27602-2091; telephone 919-733-3410.

Elizabeth II bound for New Bern Mum Festival later this month

The Elizabeth II, North Carolina's 16th century sailing vessel, will set sail Columbus Day, Monday, Oct. 12 on her Fall "Goodwill Voyage" bound for New Bern and Ocracoke.

On the first leg of her voyage, Elizabeth II will travel to New Bern, arriving there in time for the city's annual Chrysanthemum Festival. The ship will depart from Manteo's Shallowbag Bay, assisted by Department of Transportation tug, Albemarle, early Monday morning, Oct. 12. She

will arrive in New Bern approximately at noon on Thursday, Oct. 15.

Moored at Waterfront Park near the Sheraton Hotel, she will be open for visitation from Oct. 16 to Nov. 1. Oct. 16 is scheduled as Senior Citizen Day. Senior citizens will be afforded special privileges.

The ship leaves New Bern on Monday, Nov. 2 under tow. She will arrive in Ocracoke the same day. Elizabeth II will dock near the Ocracoke-Cedar Island ferry where she will be open

for public visitation from Nov. 4-8.

Ocracoke has been visited by the Elizabeth II several times in the past for crew changes and layover due to inclement weather, but until now residents have never had the opportunity to climb aboard.

Elizabeth II will depart Ocracoke on Monday, Nov. 9 arriving back in Manteo on Thursday, Nov. 12. The crew will have several days in the Pamlico Sound to perfect their sailing skills.

New state historic site scheduled to open in Sedalia, N.C. Nov. 7th.

North Carolina's first historic site honoring the achievements of a black and a woman will open Nov. 7, 1987. Lt. Gov. Bob Jordan and Cultural Resources Secretary Patric G. Dorsey will lead the list of dignitaries present for the 1 p.m. ceremonies.

After several years of negotiations and preparations, the first phase of the Charlotte Hawkins Brown State Historic Site in Sedalia will open.

In ceremonies at the site in Guilford County, the visitor center and cottage will open to the public with a ceremony on the law. After this, guests may enjoy a reception and jazz band sponsored by the Charlotte Hawkins Brown Historical Foundation in the dining hall of the former Palmer Memorial Institute.

Well-known graduates from all over the country are expected to be present for the opening ceremonies, among them William Kennedy, president of N.C. Mutual Life Insurance of Durham; state legislator Mickey Michaux of Durham; and Charlotte Hawkins Sullivan of Las Vegas, niece of Dr. Brown.

At the site, the teacher's cottage will serve as a visitor reception center, and the dining room of Canary Cottage, home of Dr. Brown, will be furnished as a period room.

The site honors Dr. Charlotte Hawkins Brown, founder of the prestigious and respected preparatory school for blacks. Dr. Brown founded the nationally-recognized Palmer Memorial Institute and served as its president for more than half a century.

In addition to being an educator, Dr. Brown was a nationally-known lecturer and humanitarian. Her associates and colleagues included Mary McCloud Bethune, Eleanor Roosevelt, W.E.B. DuBois and Booker T. Washington.

According to Annette Gibbs, project director, the site will be developed in phases, offering such public programs as exhibits, tours of historic structures and audiovisual presentations. Also being planned is a black history resource center which

will include a library with computer and collection facilities.

The teacher's cottage will feature an exhibition of artifacts, memorabilia and photographs on Dr. Brown and the Palmer Memorial Institute. Also for visitors will be a brief video historical overview of the development of Palmer Institute and the legacy of Dr. Brown.

Dr. Brown, a Henderson native, was born in 1882, granddaughter of slaves. During Charlotte's childhood, the Hawkins family moved to Cambridge, Mass., where the young Charlotte attended Cambridge English and Latin High School and Salem State Normal School.

Returning to North Carolina, Charlotte taught briefly in rural Bethany Congregational Church in Sedalia and realized that black students faced a bleak educational future in North Carolina. The school closed after just one term and young Charlotte Hawkins decided to remain in the community and establish her own

school.

She founded Palmer Institute in 1901—the product of her love and almost single-handed labor. It was fully accredited by the Southern Association of Colleges and Secondary Schools when few black high schools were. During her 50 year presidency, more than 2,000 students graduated, each with not only a diploma, but with a firm idea of his individual worth.

Dr. Brown died in 1961. Ten years later, her school closed its doors.

Today's Charlotte Hawkins Brown Historical Foundation, Inc., a non-profit group, is organized to work cooperatively with the Historic Sites Section and other interested individuals and organizations. The foundation also promotes scholarship, research as well as the wider preservation and appreciation of North Carolina black history.

Charlotte Hawkins Brown Memorial is an agency of the Department of Cultural Resources.

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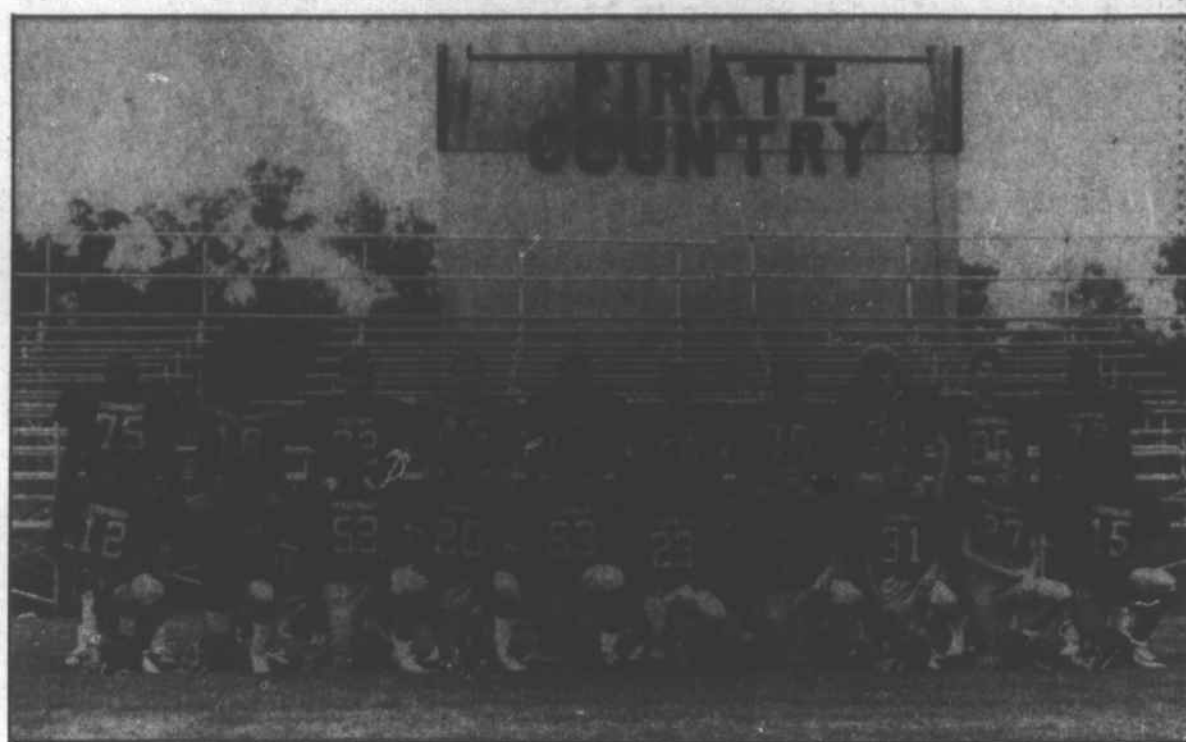
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The 1987-88 J.V. Pirates

Perquimans County junior varsity squad undefeated

The Perquimans High J.V. football team took over where it left off last year by winning their first three games.

The first victim was Edenton, who was clearly dominated by the Pirates. The Pirates scored on a 20 yard run and a 45 yard pass interception to beat the Aces 12 to 0.

The next team to fall to the Pirates was Northeastern High School. Northeastern, fielding a team larger in size and number, did not seem to intimidate the smaller Pirates. Northeastern scored first, but the Pirates quickly retaliated with a 50 yard punt return - and the two point conversion to take the lead at the half, 8 to 7. The Pirate defense then took over in the second half and com-

pletely stopped the Northeastern offense, also scoring on a safety to give the final score of 10 to 7.

The J.V. team then traveled to Currituck to take on the Knights, another undefeated team. Offensively, the Pirates backs were too powerful to stop, scoring three touchdowns highlighted by an 80 yard touchdown run from scrimmage by Fullback Michael Jordan. The final score was 22-18, Pirates favor.

The Perquimans J.V. team is coached by Headcoach Harrell Thach and Assistant Coaches Phil Woodell and Roger Burgess.

The next game for the undefeated Pirates is this Thursday at home against Gates County.

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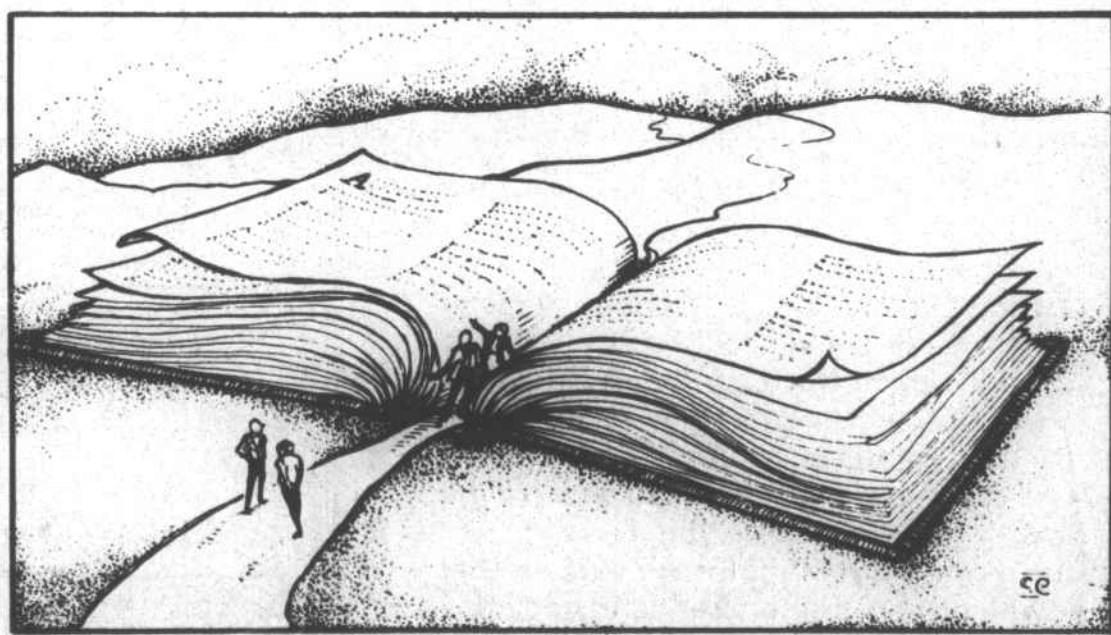
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