

# Discipline

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player carrying the football because he thought the student had thrown the football at him.

According to the Millers, the student with the football picked his son up and slammed him on the floor, where he landed on his left side, again hitting his head. He reported to his parents that he saw a bright light again.

The students were separated by the classroom teacher.

The Millers' son was suspended for 10 days for his involvement in the incident, per the school system's policy manual. The Millers said the other two students involved were not suspended, but were disciplined by football coach Harrell Thach.

"That's not fair," Mrs. Miller said.

The Millers were called and told about the incident, and asked to pick up their son. When Mrs. Miller got to the school, she said he found her son with a bleeding knee and obvious signs that he was not thinking clearly. He was taken for medical treatment. Tests showed that her son had suffered a concussion.

The Millers said they are angry that the football exercise was allowed in school, and contend that punishment was not doled out fairly. They also feel that their son was not administered proper first aid after the incident.

Mr. Miller said when he went to the school to discuss the incident with Stallings, Stallings stood by the disciplinary decisions made by his office. Mr. Miller said Stallings told him the decisions were made based on the incident report submitted by the teacher in whose class the incident occurred.

Not satisfied with Stallings' handling of the incident, Mr. Miller visited the central office and met with superintendent Ken Wells. Mr. Miller said Wells later called him back and told him that he had looked into the incident, and would not overturn the decision made at the school level.

According to school policy, the Millers could have filed an official appeal with the school board. Instead they chose to speak with the board in open session.

The Millers described their son as a weak student, and said they fear he will not return to school on Thursday when his suspension is over.

"This could end his high school," Mrs. Miller told the board. "I don't know that he'll even go back."

In addition to what they called a double standard in discipline, the Millers both said they were angry because school board policy allots only 5 minutes to those who address the board.

"To give me a time limit to start with is a slap in my face to start with," Mr. Miller said.

While they did not know after the meeting what, if any, decision the board would make after reviewing the incident, Mr. Miller said he did what he thought he had to do for his son.

# State fair set opens on Oct. 18

Discover if your salsa really is the best in the state by entering it into competition at the N.C. State Fair. There are hundreds of culinary, arts and crafts, garden and clothing categories to choose from. Deadline for entries vary but most are due by Oct. 14 and 15, before the first day of the N.C. State Fair, Oct. 18.

"Last year there were more than 32,000 entries into the various competitions at the fair and more than \$500,000 in prize money was awarded," said Agriculture Commissioner Meg Scott Phipps. "I encourage everyone, especially children, to participate in the competitions. Nothing makes a child's eyes light up like winning a ribbon at the fair."

Competitions are divided into five categories: General Exhibits, Livestock, Poultry and Rabbits, Cooperative Extension Exhibits and Special Exhibits. Entries for Livestock and Poultry and Rabbits close on Sept. 15 but most other categories remain open to the public until mid-October.

The N.C. State Fair premium book, which lists

competition categories, deadlines, registration information and prize money, is now available online at [www.ncstatefair.org/premindex.htm](http://www.ncstatefair.org/premindex.htm).

Premium books can also be picked up at the State Fair office from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. or contact the Fair entry department at (919) 733-2145 to have one mailed to you. Participants should read all rules and regulations carefully before submitting an entry form. Some new competitions, rules and regulations have been added.

Some of the competitions available this year include canned fruits and vegetables, hand-knitted clothing, painting, drawing, computer art, sculpture, honey, flowers, pottery, basket weaving and woodcarving. A special competition will pay tribute to the 50th anniversary of Dorton Arena by encouraging fairgoers to enter scale models of this impressive building. The American Society of Civil Engineers is sponsoring the contest and offering a total of \$3,000 in prize money. The models of Dorton Arena will be on display

in the arena's newly renovated north lobby.

The competitions are open to all N.C. residents. Most competitions do not require an entry fee.

Fairgoers can save \$1 off the regular admission price and 50 percent off ride booklets by purchasing them in advance.

Adult tickets are \$5 in advance and \$6 at the gate. Tickets for children 6-12 are \$1 in advance and \$2 at the gate. Kids 5 and under and seniors 65 and older will be admitted free. Groups of 40 or more can save \$1.25 by purchasing tickets at the discounted price of \$4.75.

One of the best deals available is on ride booklets, which are \$9 in advance compared to \$18 at the Fair. Ride tickets are sold in booklets of 24 and most rides require between three to six tickets. Fairgoers also have the opportunity to trade in a full ride book from the 2001 fair and redeem it for a new ride book free of charge. Ride booklets from 2001 can be exchanged at Gate 9 at the Fairgrounds between Sept. 9 and Oct. 9 from 10 a.m. - 6 p.m.

Advance tickets and ride

books will be available for purchase online at [www.ncstatefair.org](http://www.ncstatefair.org) from Sept. 8 - Oct. 13. Advance ticket sale order forms will be available beginning Sept. 3 at participating Winn-Dixie grocery stores or McDonald's restaurants. All mail orders must be post-marked by Oct. 9. Tickets will be mailed to fairgoers with no shipping or handling charges added.

Ride booklets and admission tickets can also be purchased at North Hills Mall in Raleigh, Northgate Mall in Durham, Colonial Mall in Burlington, Parkwood Mall in Wilson and Berkeley Mall in Goldsboro Oct. 3-17. Tickets will be on sale during regular mall hours except for Oct. 17 when sales end at 6 p.m.

Starting Sept. 27, advance ticket sales will also be available at the N.C. State Fairgrounds in Raleigh, at Gate 9 from 10 a.m. - 6 p.m. In addition, tickets can be purchased on the first floor of the Agriculture Building in downtown Raleigh Oct. 7-17 from 9 a.m. - 4 p.m.

## Chowan Fair talent show

On Wednesday, Oct. 9 at 6 p.m., youth from across northeast North Carolina will compete in the Regional Youth Talent Show at the Chowan County Regional Fair. Contestants must be 9 to 19 years old and live in Beaufort, Bertie, Camden, Chowan, Currituck, Dare, Gates, Hertford, Hyde, Martin, Northhampton, Pasquotank, Perquimans, Pitt, Tyrrell or Washington counties.

Interested youth can contact the Chowan County

Extension Office at 482-6585 for more information. Applications must be post-marked by Wednesday, Sept. 25 or in the Chowan County Extension Office by Friday, Sept. 27 at 5 p.m.

Prizes will be awarded in a junior (9-13) and a senior (14-19) division as follows: 1st Prize - \$70 and a trophy, 2nd Prize - \$40 and a rosette ribbon.

All acts should be appropriate for a family event. Send in your application today!

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Do you know a Perquimans County resident who is a fascinating glimpse into the past? How about someone who bakes the best cake? Or knows the best fishing spots? Or owns/breeds an unusual animal? If you know of someone who lives in Perquimans County (or who has lived in the county and/or has strong ties here) and you believe they have an interesting story please let us know. The Perquimans Weekly can be contacted by email, telephone, fax, mail or in person.

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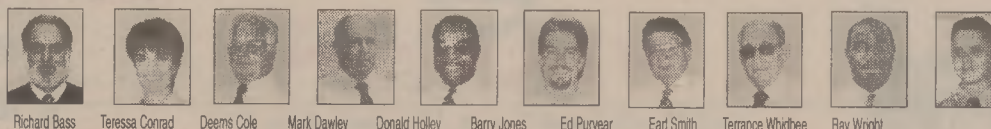
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