

# PERQUIMANS WEEKLY

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## HONORING FORMER STUDENTS



Perquimans County High School student Lacey Reames ended Monday's opening day convocation by singing "God Bless America," a tribute to all former students now serving in the armed forces. There are over 41 students known to be serving at present. Their photographs were displayed on the screen behind Lacey as she sang. Over 350 schools staff, government officials and community residents gathered for the event. Superintendent Dr. Kenneth Wells was the speaker and the PCHS Jazz Band provided entertainment. Students return to school Thursday.

## PCHS wins state award for top senior projects

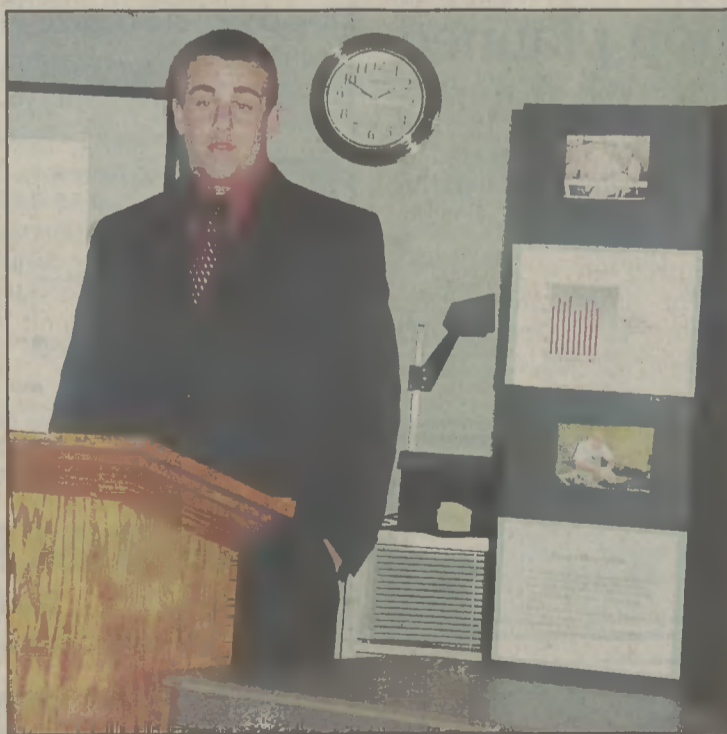
Perquimans County Schools has earned yet another award for the quality of its senior projects.

Superintendent Dr. Kenneth Wells and PCHS Principal Hans Lassiter will travel to Raleigh this week to receive the first Annual Senior Project High School Recognition Award of Excellence.

According to a letter received by Lassiter from Mary Anne Tharin, Special Projects Consultant, Division of School Improvement with the Department of Public Instruction, Perquimans' submission for consideration for the award was one of many.

"Your school represented a well-documented, comprehensive approach to unify your school community and beyond for the success of Senior Project efforts," Tharin wrote. "Your award application exhibits of support, success stories and testimonials reflect outstanding efforts and leadership. The students who benefit from the instructional and mentoring involvement of your school will have long-lasting rewards from these efforts."

Tharin added that the award selection team was very impressed by the comments from former students who told of how their senior projects carried over



Brock Lamb, a 2004 PCHS graduate, concludes his senior project with a presentation before a panel of judges. Senior projects develop research, writing, organization, technology and presentation skills.

to post-secondary experiences.

PCHS Principal Hans Lassiter said the faculty will help students be even better prepared for senior projects in the future by adding more writing, speaking in class, creating and organizing portfolios and technology training throughout the curriculum.

Students choose a senior project subject based on

their career aspirations, do extensive research, work with a mentor in their chosen field, write a research paper, complete a related project and present their overall project to a panel of judges.

The award is presented by the North Carolina Department of Public Instruction, SERVE and the North Carolina Business Committee on Education.

## PCHS looks forward to good school year

### Principal asks parents to help students excel

Susan R. Harris

Perquimans High School Principal Hans Lassiter is excited about the 2004-2005 school year.

"Academically, we have yet to reach our full potential," Lassiter said. "Our teachers have done a fabulous job."

The high school is expected to earn School of Progress designation from the North Carolina Department of Public Instruction when officials end of test results are released on Aug. 5. That ranking is based on state ABCs test results.

In addition, high school students reached 16 out of 17 AYP target goals under the federal No Child Left Behind guidelines.

"We saw last year that if we pushed and expected students to perform, the

students will meet the challenge," Lassiter said.

The high school's composite test score was 75.5 percent, and Lassiter said the faculty wants to raise that to 80 percent proficiency next year.

In addition to crediting teachers and students with reaching goals, Lassiter said he is grateful to parents and the community for their support.

"The community accepted the things we were doing here," Lassiter said. "This year we are going to continue to try to reach out to the community. I'm just continuing to ask for parents in the community to work with us. Everything that we try to do here is to benefit children. We have determined as a staff that we're going to put children first here."

Lassiter said he will continue to seek parental support for academics. He invites parents to attend all open houses, information sessions, PTSA meetings and other assemblies offered to keep parents informed and allow them input into education.

"It's time for students

and families to step out of the shadows and be here," Lassiter said. "I'd like to see the level of participation in academic events we have at sports events."

After one complete year serving as principal at the high school, Lassiter is pleased with the school's accomplishments and said the small county that people have problems pronouncing is earning state recognition for its programs.

"We are the best-kept secret in North Carolina," Lassiter said. "I don't think people know how good it is here. If we keep getting awards, people across the state will know how good we are."

This past year, Perquimans High earned two awards for its senior project program, the Triple "S" Safe School Award, two NC-ACE Community Education Awards, had a teacher named District I Outstanding Science Teacher of the Year and had a teacher/coach named to the North Carolina Athletic Association's Notable 90 coach's list.

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## PCHS teams, coach among "Notable Ninety"

SUSAN R. HARRIS

The North Carolina High School Athletic Association is wrapping up its 90th year of operation. Among the things done to highlight the 90th anniversary of the organization is naming The Notable Ninety, a recognition of 90 great teams from the tradition of high school sports in North Carolina.

Two Perquimans teams and a coach were recognized.

"The purpose of The Notable Ninety is not to name the 90 greatest teams in state history, which would really be an almost impossible task," said Rick Strunk, NCHSAA associate executive director who developed and coordinated the program. "It's just an attempt to recognize some teams in a variety of sports who are notable for some reason, be it how they earned a championship, individual players on a team, a long string of championships for a peren-

nial power, or unusual circumstances in their season. Our feeling is that lots of schools and communities have noteworthy teams, and perhaps this effort will continue to have people talking about high school sports and remembering notable teams from their own communities."

Among teams recognized was the 1963 state 2-A championship baseball team from Perquimans. The Indians, the former PCHS mascot, finished the season with a 24-2 record and was led on the mound by future baseball Hall of Famer Jim "Catfish" Hunter (13-1). Hunter's work on the hill that season included fanning 100 batters and allowing only 34 hits and five earned runs in 95 innings.

Perquimans did not give up a run in the first eight games of the season.

Freddie Combs was on the mound when Hunter wasn't, going 11-1 for the season.

Combs' twin, Francis, was also folded behind the

plate catching the hurling duo.

Bobby Carter coached the squad.

The 1997 Perquimans state championship softball team earned honorable mention on the list.

After obtaining approval to withdraw from the Albemarle Conference slow-pitch softball season to play a non-conference fast-pitch schedule, the Lady Pirates opted to play both schedules when the conference membership decided in the 11th hour to impose sanctions should Perquimans not play its conference schedule. Those sanctions included a \$200 fine for every game forfeited and the other teams not being eligible for championships. The girls played a grueling 31-game schedule.

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## WEEKEND WEATHER

THURSDAY  
HIGH: 92  
LOW: 66  
SCATTERED T'STORMS

FRIDAY  
HIGH: 79  
LOW: 63  
ISOLATED T'STORMS

SATURDAY  
HIGH: 82  
LOW: 64  
PARTLY CLOUDY

## School times

Central: tardy bell 8:15; dismissal 2:50  
Hertford Grammar: tardy bell 8:15; dismissal 2:50  
Middle school: tardy bell 7:55; dismissal 2:53  
High school: tardy bell 8:00; dismissal 2:53

Open house  
Middle school: Aug. 12 5:30-7 p.m.