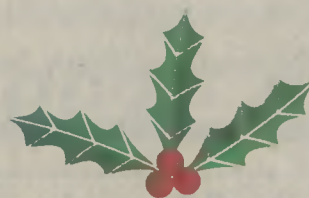




# Happy New Year!



Lassiters earns state honor

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Use flu etiquette

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It doesn't have to be over

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# PERQUIMANS WEEKLY

35 cents

December 29, 2004

Vol. 72, No. 52 Hertford, North Carolina 27944

## MANTLE OF WHITE



PHOTO BY SAM WOLFE, THE DAILY ADVANCE

An overturned Ford Explorer lays in a ditch along U.S. Hwy. 17 South in Perquimans County Monday morning. The accident occurred when the driver hit a patch of ice on the highway and lost control of the vehicle. Local law enforcement officials were kept busy with calls Sunday, Monday and even into Tuesday, according to Hertford Police Chief Dale Vanscoy. Vanscoy said officers had responded to over 20 accidents with calls continuing to come in. Most parts of the county got 4 or more inches of snow, which was accompanied by ice, making driving conditions hazardous. Temperatures that dipped into the teens kept the storm's precipitation lingering.

## Grant money funds emergency services ATV

ERIN RICKERT

The county recently purchased an all terrain vehicle, fully equipped with a stretcher and supply boxes for medical equipment, to assist with emergency efforts on rough countryside.

The nearly \$11,000 ATV, currently housed in the Hertford Fire Department, was purchased with a por-



This ATV purchased with Homeland Security grant funds will help emergency responders answer calls in areas they cannot reach by vehicle.

tion of the close to \$33,000 Homeland Security grant received this year.

The ATV, just one of several emergency supplies paid for with the grant, will allow emergency services to provide better response to those injured in fields and wooded areas.

"I would say that the ATV is one of the best around," said Harry  
Continued on page 6

## Ricks juggles multiple activities, earns Eagle Scout

ERIN RICKERT

At a time when many teenagers are tying up their parents' phones talking to friends or perusing the mall for the latest trends, Nathan Ricks is accomplishing things many adults have not even checked off their to do lists.

Since the age of five the now 13 year-old has been building a resume of achievements that have taken him to cities as close as Elizabeth City and as far away as Rocky Mount.

And while many view his list of extracurriculars as much more than a full plate, Nathan's need for a challenge always finds him eager to add just one more.

For Nathan, this eagerness started at the young age of five when he took up one of his first activities, Tae Kwon Do.

Since then he has practiced on and off, but said he

recently took the art back and has attended sessions regularly for the last six years.

During Nathan's time with Tae Kwon Do he has only been in three competitions, but has won several trophies including first place.

"We have had all our kids in Tae Kwon Do, but Nathan is the only one that gets into it spiritually," said Nathan's mother, Carnell Ricks.

This August, Nathan's hard work with the art paid off when he was awarded a first-degree black belt.

"It's not unusual to have the belt, but it's very rare," Nathan said. "No one around here has made it this young."

Now, Nathan is an assistant instructor at River City Marshall Arts in Elizabeth City where he teaches beginning classes.

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PHOTO BY ERIN RICKERT

Nathan Ricks practices Tae Kwon Do, a martial art in which he has earned a black belt. The teen is involved in a variety of activities.

## Drug bust nets cocaine

ERIN RICKERT

Officers from the Perquimans County Sheriff's office recently busted Hertford resident Cleophus Dante Jennings for selling powdered cocaine during a staged drug buy last week.

Jennings, 20, of 1711 Harvey Point Road, was taken into custody after attempting to sell 70 grams of cocaine with a value of nearly \$3,600.

The bust, which took place Dec. 20, was planned the week after the Sheriff's office was tipped off by law enforcement from another county.

"We had information from Wayne County Drug Task Force that we could set up a buy with a person in the area," said Perquimans County Sheriff Eric Tilley.

Tilley said Hertford officers met with officers from both Wayne County and the State Bureau of Investigations to set up the buy that took place at approximately 5:30 that evening.

"Basically it was a buy-bust," Tilley said. "Wayne County had officers they were able to send over here to help with the bust."

## Mallory cleared of robbery; eatery employees arrested

CHRIS WHIPPLE  
The Daily Advance

Two of three employees arrested for conspiracy to rob the McDonald's restaurant in Hertford were in court last Wednesday, along with the customer they initially framed for the crime. A warrant for a fourth, unnamed Tyrrell County suspect in the Dec. 5 robbery has also been issued.

Arrested for the robbery last week were Bobby Klos of 116 E. Broad St., Elizabeth City, Kenneth Michael Ward of 1903 Johnson Road, Elizabeth City, and Kenneth Ray Eisenhower III of 107 Joshua Circle, Hertford.

All charges against Trelton Mallory, the customer arrested for armed robbery, were dismissed, Vanscoy said. Mallory was released from jail Dec. 18 after two of the alleged co-conspirators admitted they concocted the crime and blamed Mallory.

Vanscoy said Mallory was a victim of circumstance. Mallory's wife, Naomi, had argued with the cashier when given a handful of nickels as change. Two of the alleged co-conspirators told Vanscoy it was that incident that made them remember Mallory when it came time to frame a random customer for the crime.

"(Mallory) and his family just went to buy his daughter some food," Vanscoy said.

Mallory and his wife had ordered earlier at Popeye's chicken. But Mallory's daughter, waiting at home, wanted a Big Mac meal. So the Mallory's drove to McDonald's.

Mallory, who was sleeping when police knocked on his door, spent six days

in jail under a \$50,000 secured bond. Police had tracked him down by the employees' description of his car. When police brought Mallory back to the restaurant, the McDonald's employees identified him as the armed robber.

In court Wednesday, Ward, who is out on \$15,000 bail, requested a court appointed attorney and Eisenhower, who was with his attorney, requested a bond reduction. Judge Christopher Bean reduced Eisenhower's bond from \$15,000 secured to \$3,000 secured and the rest unsecured.

Ward, charged with robbery and conspiracy, was working the night of the alleged robbery, Vanscoy said. Eisenhower, charged with felony conspiracy to commit robbery, was not.

Klos, the manager of the restaurant, did not have an appearance. Klos remained at Albemarle District Jail Wednesday night under a

## WEEKEND WEATHER

THURSDAY  
HIGH: 62  
LOW: 41  
PARTLY CLOUDY

FRIDAY  
HIGH: 68  
LOW: 49  
MOSTLY CLOUDY

SATURDAY  
HIGH: 70  
LOW: 41  
FEW SHOWERS