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THE PERQUIMANS WEEKLY

35 cents

May 24, 2006

Vol. 74, No. 21 Hertford, North Carolina 27944

Deputies arrest alleged sex offenders

Man charged with sex with child

MARGARET FISHER

A Perquimans man was arrested for allegedly sexually assaulting a juvenile two years ago. The juvenile was visiting James Duncan, 39, a relative who was living at 344 Holiday Island at the time when the assault is alleged to have happened.

Early this month, the incident was brought to the attention of the Perquimans County Sheriff's Office by a medical professional, said Sheriff Eric Tilley.

Deputy Marlo Reel interviewed the girl, and attempted to contact Duncan. Duncan had since been divorced from his wife and had moved to Pitt County, but his cell phone number was obtained by the sheriff's office. After Reel briefly explained that serious allegations had been made against him, Duncan came to the sheriff's office on May 11.

"I told him what the allegations were. He never really confirmed or denied them," Reel said.

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Man charged with felony kidnapping, sexual assault

MARGARET FISHER

A Perquimans man allegedly kidnapped his estranged wife, took her to a motel room and sexually assaulted her.

The incident is alleged to have occurred in Chadbourn in Columbus County where the victim resides.

On May 9, the victim left a doctor's office and found her husband, Frank Stubbs, 59, of 245 Clark St., standing next to her car. They began discussing their marital problems. The victim said that she felt safe to get into her car with

her husband to engage in further discussions, said Police Chief Steven Shaw of the Chadbourn Police Department.

The couple went to The Budget Inn in Chadbourn where Stubbs bound his wife with rope, Shaw said. Shaw would not disclose what took place in the motel room. Later, the victim was able to get to the motel office, where the

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Two indicted on drug charges

MARGARET FISHER

Two Perquimans County residents were indicted for felony drug charges on Monday.

While conducting a routine traffic stop, the driver was found to be driving without a license and drugs were seized from the vehicle.

Chad Colson and Charles Grayson Dail, both 22, were pulled over by Perquimans County Deputy Shelby White on April 28 for an inoperative headlight on a 1995 Oldsmobile Ciera.

When Dail, of 808 Center Hill Hwy., didn't produce a valid drivers license, he was placed under arrest. White asked to search the vehicle and Dail consented to a search.

During the search, White discovered approximately 12 grams of cocaine and 32 grams of marijuana under the passenger seat. He also confiscated \$941.

Dail and Colson, who resides at 110 Nursing Home Road, were each charged with possession with intent to sell or distribute marijuana and cocaine (one count of each) and a felony count of maintaining a vehicle, dwelling or place for a controlled substance.

They were each taken to Albemarle District Jail on a \$9,000 secured bond and both were released on bond.

Meiggs tapped for HGS slot

Dianne Hawkins Meiggs has been named as the new principal of Hertford Grammar School.

Meiggs will replace Tim Aydlett, who is retiring after more than 30 years as an educator. She is licensed as a principal, mentor, curriculum specialist, middle school science educator and health and physical education educator. The approval was made at the Board of Education Meeting Monday evening.

Meiggs, a former teacher and assistant principal, will leave her position as Program Director for the Northeast Mathematics and Science Partnership to lead Hertford Grammar School effective July 1.

"Perquimans County Schools has a history of having outstanding schools and unique educational programs," Meiggs said. "I will use my skills and experience to help facilitate an atmosphere of high expectations that support quality instructional programs."

"She's an outstanding educator and I am pleased with the new appointment, especially with her experience in the classroom, as an assistant principal and as a program director for the Math and Science Partnership," said Superintendent Dr. Kenneth W. Wells. "She is a good fit for Hertford Grammar School and for our school system because of her well-rounded experience and leadership skills. The selection committee received more than a dozen applications for the position and interviewed several possible candidates."

"It is important to have a cohesive team working toward common goals," Meiggs

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WONDERFUL WEEKEND



PHOTOS BY SUSAN HARRIS

Hospitality hallmark of weekend

SUSAN HARRIS

Perquimans laid out the welcome mat this weekend, as locals and visitors alike enjoyed three days of events that highlighted the history and hospitality of the county.

The fun began on Friday, when Historic Hertford, Inc., the town's Main Street Program, hosted Pig Out On the Green, a pork barbecue on the courthouse lawn that sent the smell of roasting pork and the sounds of music drifting through the

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Diners enjoy Perquimans-style barbecue at Pig Out on the Green Friday evening, the kick-off event of Spring Weekend (above). Mary Alice Brinn (front left) and Polly Hollowell (front right) share the Rufus T. Brinn House on Front Street with visitors to the Homes Tour on Saturday (below).

Copeland wins two state titles

White claims two second places

SUSAN HARRIS

Her feet are wings made of gold. Shaqwita Copeland, the defending state 1-A 200-meter champion, claimed titles in both the 200- and 400-meter races in Friday's 1-A state track and field meet in Greensboro. Copeland earned the wins with times of 26.16 and 58.66, respectively.

She also took fourth place in the 100 meter event.

"(It was) great, I loved it," Copeland said Monday of her performance.

Copeland said defending her title was more nerve-racking than last year's race.

"I had a freshman, she gave me a run for my money," Copeland laughed. "I was more nervous (this year), my palms were sweaty and my hands were cold. That's how I get when I'm nervous."

The PCHS senior said she first started running when she was a student at Hertford Grammar School, and joined the middle school track team in the eighth grade. She realized she had talent in grammar school when she started winning the speed events, which continue to be her favorites and where she shines.

Girls track coach Carolyn Rogers said the meet was physically challenging for the athlete who competed in four events, entering as a member of the 4x400 relay team in addition to her individual races. Each event included a preliminary race. The top eight runners in the preliminaries earned the right to run in the final. Some of the races were run close together, Rogers said.

"She was one tired girl at the end of the day," Rogers said. "She did amazingly well. She's a beautiful runner."

Copeland's performance, however, didn't surprise her coach.

"I expected it of her. I was really hoping for three (titles)."

In addition to running track, Copeland also played volleyball and basketball. Last

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Memorial held for missing Perquimans man

SUSAN HARRIS

Life, like books, has chapters, and Saturday, the family and friends of Kevin Fields began a new chapter in their lives by celebrating his life at a marker placed in his memory at the Mullen Family Cemetery in New Hope.

Four years ago this month, Marjorie Fields last saw her younger son, who would now be 48.

She embarked on a relentless search for her missing son, working with law enforcement officials in Perquimans and the surrounding counties, hiring a private investigator and offering a reward for information leading to the arrest and conviction of a person or persons responsible for his disappearance.

There have been promising leads, but Kevin has not been found. Sadly, the leads have all pointed to foul play, and his family is confident that on or shortly after July 5, 2002, Kevin lost his life.



PHOTO BY SUSAN HARRIS

Family and friends leave a memorial service Saturday for Kevin Fields, a Perquimans County man missing for almost four years. Although he has not been found, all circumstances uncovered by law enforcement and a private detective investigating the disappearance lead Fields' family to believe he died in July 2002.

So Marjorie Fields, a Perquimans County native who now lives in Wilmington, decided that while she will never give up hope of finding

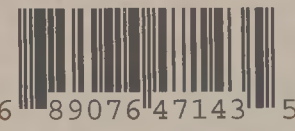
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WEEKEND WEATHER

THURSDAY
HIGH: 85, LOW: 68
PARTLY CLOUDY

FRIDAY
HIGH: 88, LOW: 69
ISOLATED T'STORMS

SATURDAY
HIGH: 84, LOW: 64
SCATTERED T'STORMS



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