

**HUNTER**

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ting a target the size of a pencil eraser at 50 feet with a .22 caliber rifle with iron sights. A perfect score is 200. Forbes has had scores of 199 and a 198 in competition. He's the only hunter safety team marksman to ever hit a score of 199 in state competition.

"It's a lot different than hunting," Forbes said.

He competes in shotgun and archery as well.

For Baccus, her skill is detecting the signs of animals, skill with a compass and her memory of historic but often little known legislation like the Pittman-Robertson Act of 1932. Baccus knows the act created an excise tax that provides funds to each state to manage animals and their habitats.

To be a member of the Perquimans Hunter Safety Team means showing up to practice every Saturday at 7

a.m. and staying until 3 p.m. For the orienteering group, it means a lot of study when they're not practicing with a rifle, bow or shotgun. An injury cut short Baccus' career in archery, but she still competed in rifle and shotgun in addition to hunter safety.

To win the hunter skills contest, participants also need to be good with a compass and directions to work through way over a 300-yard course and know a lot about animals.

"If there are five different types of foxes you will be shown a picture of the footprints and be asked to find which one is the kit fox," she said.

There is also the long-tail weasel, something you don't find in Perquimans County, but it's something Baccus can identify.

She got involved because her brother.

"My brother started off with it and I'd always been interested in hunting and outdoors in general," Baccus

said. She won the state championship nearly five years to the day after her older brother Chase won the same award.

Both Forbes and Baccus won their respective events against the state's top qualifying 155 high school students in head-to-head competition. That included defending national individual rifle champion and hunter skills/orienteering champion Hunter Efrid from Graystone High School.

In winning his third state individual rifle championship, Forbes became the winningest rifle shooter in state history, eclipsing the previous record held by former Perquimans rifle team member Dustin Dellinger. Dellinger won back-to-back state individual high school rifle champion in 2004-2005.

Forbes graduates this year holding the all-time state middle school and state high school rifle scoring records. Baccus' state championship

bolstered an already impressive resume during her tenure with the team, adding to her previous district individual hunter skills/orienteering championship and district individual all-around championship awarded to the top aggregate scorer for all events (trap, archery, rifle, and hunter skills/orienteering) combined.

Rifle coach Brad Kime lauded both performers for "incredible dedication, focus, and leadership" during their tenure on the team. They have been key contributors in every competition since the sixth grade.

Perquimans also graduated Sam Phthisic and Zachary Underwood, two top flight performers in the archery and trap events over the years, and Elexus Blake, a hunter skills/orienteering team specialist.

PCHS also received contributions from Katelynn Stokely, Randy Blake, Caleb Richardson, Austin Votava, Thomas Story, Jacob

Craiglow, Savannah Roundtree, Miles Chaulk, Parker Robertson, and Wayne Worley.

Perquimans County Middle School also competed at the state tournament, coming in with an eighth place overall among the top 24 teams that qualified for the tournament statewide.

Competing for PCMS were Corey Butler, Jackson Woodell, Jacob Godfrey, Kaitlyn Christian, Sam Norman, Seth Norman, Drake Trueblood, Garret White, James Harvey Winslow, Katrina Sanders, Kevin Spivey and Clayton White.

Baccus credits the volunteer coaches on the team for her success.

"It's huge," she said. "They dedicate huge amounts of their time to help. They go out of their way to do it. They won't admit it, but their very special."

Both Perquimans teams were coached by Edward Forbes, Terri Baccus, Jay Christian, Rosa Forbes,

Adam Richardson, Patrick Votava, Dena Richardson, Brian Kahl, and Kime.

Five of those coaches — Edward Forbes, Rosa Forbes, Jay Christian, Brad Kime and Terri Baccus are calling it quits after this year. Terri Baccus, Drew's Mom, said she might continue helping students willing to come to her house to practice.

And Nic Forbes may also be there. After graduation, he plans to stay in Perquimans County and work in something in the automotive field.

"I might try and coach a little bit," he said in a recent interview.

Drew Baccus said she also might devote some time to help the next generation of Perquimans County teens interested in hunter safety competitions. She plans to attend College of The Albemarle to start with goal to find a job in the health or education field.

**CLASSIC**

Continued from 1

wanted to cancel," Saunders said.

Saunders responded

"no" then went out and sat in his car for a while and sketched out a plan to make the tournament work.

Two more NGA pros showed up later that day,

so the field was 13 going into Thursday's start. Twelve NGA players finished.

"When the word went out that we had 11 golfers you would have thought that would have been a negative and deflated the balloon, but it didn't" said Kip Peregoy, the general manager at the Plantation. "Instead people just took it stride."

Injuries kept some players away, including Dominic Bozzili, the leading money winner. Competition from other tournaments siphoned away others. The field last week was bolstered by area golf pros and some top area amateurs.

The sponsors and residents appeared content with the event and many want to bring the tournament back next year.

There may be an incentive to host another NGA event. A promise has been made that next year's winner at the Plantation wins an automatic spot on the Web.Com tour. That's a step above the NGA and a step below the PGA.

"In baseball terms it's like being called to the AAA club and the next step is the majors," Saunders

said of the Web.Com tour.

Saunders would like to see another NGA tournament, but before making it official he wants to be sure more golfers attend. There are other mid-level pro tours besides the NGA.

"I'm not going through this again," Saunders said. "We need to make sure they get their act together."

The course was in great shape and the course — which is always tight — was made more challenging because the pin placement was adjusted, Saunders said.

"It was about protecting par. If we hadn't done it, they would have been throwing darts at the flags and birdying all day long. Mike Horton and his staff did an outstanding job getting the course ready."

Looper agreed that the course was tough.

"It's the hardest short course I've ever played, because we can't hit long clubs off the tees, and the greens are really firm," Looper said.

Sid Eley, the executive director of the Perquimans County Chamber of Commerce, believes the

event was success. The chamber sponsored an information booth during the tournament.

"For the first ever pro tournament held there, I think it went very well and the sponsors can learn from that and be ready for next year," Eley said Monday. "I only heard great things from the players. I think they were surprised at the hospitality that was extended to them."

Seventy homeowners at the Plantation offered up their homes to house the players and guests. One of those was Joe Campbell and his wife. As native New Yorkers, they were set to host Bozzili, who is also from New York. When a back injury kept Bozzili away, the Campbell's made the offer to host somebody else. But the Campbell's have cats and that was a problem. In the end, Campbell offered up himself as a volunteer and drove visitors around on Saturday in a golf cart.

"I think it's great," Campbell said of the tournament. "You have to give a lot of credit to Kenny (Saunders) for having the guts to do this. I think the residents here really loved it."

While the gallery of fans might have appeared small to people used to watching PGA events, it was big by NGA standards, Eley said.

"One of the players told me in places where they usually play, nobody is there (in the gallery). To them a gallery of eight (people) is great."

Peregoy as the players go out and word spreads, getting people to come to the Plantation will be less of a problem.

"I thought it was a great event," Peregoy said. "It showed the fortitude and commitment of both or staff and our residents in some great ways. It was a wonderful thing."

Some 800 people live at the Plantation and at any given time Saunders estimates 400 residents were on the course watching or volunteering. He's waiting for figures on how many other visitors came and paid the \$5 per day admission charge.

The Albemarle Plantation event will benefit the Food Bank of the Albemarle. A \$5,000 donation has already been made and second check will come once organizers have the final financial figures.

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The Perquimans Chamber of Commerce is taking applications for the position of Assistant to the Director. This is a 35-hour per week position in Hertford. Resumes may be mailed to the Perquimans Chamber at 118 W. Market Street, Hertford, NC 27944 or emailed to [chamber@visitperquimans.com](mailto:chamber@visitperquimans.com)

All resumes are due by July 16.

The position will be filled by Aug. 4.

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SAT 7/5/14	TUE. 10 AM	6/1
SUN 7/6/14	TUE 5 PM	6/1
MON 7/7/14	WED 5 PM	6/2
TUE 7/8/14	WED 5 PM	6/2

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SAT 7/5	THUR 2 PM
SUN 7/6	THUR 2 PM

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WED 7/9	THUR 12 PM

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**PERQUIMANS COUNTY PUBLIC NOTICE**

Except for the Sheriff's Department, Dispatch Office and Emergency Medical Services, all County Offices in the Perquimans County Courthouse, Courthouse Annex, Social Services, Agricultural Extension Service, Perquimans County Library and the Perquimans County Recreation Department will be closed on Friday, July 4, 2014, for observance of Independence Day. In addition, the Perquimans County Library will also be closed on Saturday, July 5, 2014. The Water Department will be closed but emergencies may be reported to the Dispatch Office by calling 426-5751.

Frank Heath, County Manager

**The Offices of Town of Hertford WILL BE CLOSED Friday, July 4, 2014 In case of an emergency, please call (252) 426-5751**