



SUBMITTED PHOTO

Danielle Baccus finished up here career at Chowan University and was named the CIAA's softball player of the year.

BACCUS

Continued from 1

And what a season it was.

In conference games she had 40 runs batted in and 55 hits including 12 doubles, two triples and six home runs. While her batting was strong—a .367 average—she feels her strongest contribution was her role playing first base and a team leader.

Her father Gilbert Baccus Jr., beams with pride and points out that in all her conference games she made just a single error. Danielle smiles, nods her head and said she remembers the play.

Baccus said her father has supported her through her life.

She started playing T-ball at age five and was playing travel ball at age 13.

The path to a CIAA conference championship at Chowan was not easy.

After she wrapped up her high school career as a pitcher at Perquimans she was playing travel ball that summer.

"I broke my arm in half just before my freshman year in college. I went to travel ball practice and it just snapped in half."

She still has an X-ray of the break on her cell phone to show.

She said doctors suspect there was a hairline fracture long before the total failure.

She'd signed to play at Hampton University and they honored her scholarship, and she went through therapy. During the healing process, her Hampton

coach told her "If I wanted to go to Hawaii, I'd have to throw the ball."

When she signed with Hampton University, a Division I school, Baccus was excited about playing some of the top teams in the nation. But then coach that recruited her left for another job and the chemistry with the new coach wasn't good. She played her freshman year there, but didn't want to stay. She had offers to attend other Division I schools, but met the coach at Chowan and liked what she saw.

Going into her senior year at Chowan was sad in a way, knowing it would be her last, but it was also inspiring.

"As the leader of the team you are responsible. Coaches rely on you to guide the team. They wanted to get to championship and for that you have to work hard."

Her attitude was "give it all you got. It's an honor to get the Player of the Year."

Only five of the 16 players on Chowan's roster are from North Carolina and Baccus and Haley Cooper are the only two that came from the same high school, PCHS. Chowan's talent this year included two players from Florida, two from California, two from Virginia, two Arizona and one each from Nevada, Maryland and Arizona.

Cooper was also named to the All-CIAA team.

Baccus said her Chowan coach had the team on a specific schedule of what to do at practice and when. Players were also expected to practice on their own time.

"We had weight lifting for an hour every other morning," she said.

Her Bachelor's Degree was in Exercise Science she also had two minors, including biology.

When she was in high school her goal was to get into nursing. The broken arm at age 18 brought her a new insight into what physical therapy was and when she did a job shadowing internship at Coastal Rehab in Elizabeth City that was reinforced.

"I think that and Mindy Drew really led me down this path."

Her goal now is to get a degree in physical therapy and maybe a Graduate degree in biology. East Carolina University, Hampton University and Old Dominion University all offer those offer programs she's interested in.

Baccus would like to stay close to home.

"I'd like to help our local kids and work with them helping teach small things," she said. "I want to get our town on the map."

For young girls looking at sports, Baccus has some advice.

"It takes a lot of dedication" but she said it should always be fun, not a job.

"If they play they are having fun if they make a mistake they don't dwell on it."

A former coach, Mike Russell told her it was about getting the job done.

"He'd be the first to fuss at you and the first to pat you on the back. Ricky (Stallings) did the same thing for Shockwave (a travel ball team).

VETS

Continued from 2

said.

"We have men and women of various races, sexual orientation and religious beliefs, who become bound together by a common cause," he said. "Their differences are set aside for the good of the many. So tight is this bond, that men and women are willing to die for each other."

During his service, Hoffer served a four-year stint as the missile combat crew commander at a nuclear missile site.

In his address he spoke of the complex nature of war.

"Why are we so seemingly willing to fight, and if need be, die? The answer to that question is as simple and yet complex as the souls of America itself. We fight because we believe, not that war is good, but that sometimes it is necessary. Our soldiers fight and die not for the glory of war, but for the prize of freedom. The words of philosopher John Mill say it best: 'War is an ugly thing, but not the ugliest of things. A man who has nothing for which he is willing to fight, nothing he cares about more than his own personal safety is a miserable creature, who has no chance of being made free, unless made free, by the suffering of others.'

"And the heart of America is freedom, for ourselves and all nations willing to fight for it. Yes, the price is high, but freedom is a cost, no debtor can forget. So we choose to remember the past because the payment for forgetfulness is high. Only fools would elect to forget so expensive a lesson."

Monday's ceremony on the courthouse green was put on by American Legion Post 126



STAFF PHOTO BY PETER WILLIAMS

Lee Fortier, a retired Navy lieutenant commander, gestures to a table set to honor those missing in action or prisoners of war Monday at the Memorial Day service in Hertford.

along with American Legion Post 362. Post 126 Commander Ric Caporale conducted the program which included the traditional roll call of Perquimans County veterans who have passed away since last Memorial Day. This year the total came to 29.

The observance also included an MIA/POW memorial and the tradition of saluting the different branches of the military.

Introducing Hoffer was his wife Judy. She is also a Hertford native.

Ken Rominger, a member of Post 126, said the crowd was larger this year.

"We brought out more chairs this year, but even that wasn't enough," Rominger said.

Wreath presentations were made by the county; Post Commander 126; Post Commander 362; and the Ladies Auxiliary Unit 126, the towns of Hertford and Winfall, the N.C. Society of the Sons of the American Revolution and the Inter-County Ruritan Club.

Other participants included the Post 126 Color Guard, Post 126 Legion Riders, Hertford Boy Scout Troop 150, Hertford Cub Pack 150 and Posts 126 and 362 members.

WISH

Continued from 2

Army Division, the group of soldiers who participated in the invasion. It was at one of the reunions, the print was offered for sale.

"He won the print in a raffle to raise money for the reunions. He was offered \$1,000 for it on the spot, but refused," Casper said. "It was his most prized possession in his later life."

Casper shared a little of Morris' own words on his landing in France 72 years ago. Morris refers to LCVP's which are landing craft designed to carry troops to the shore and steered by Navy Coxswains.

"After a good midnight meal, troops had to board a landing craft the early morning hours of June 6 by a rope ladder hung over the side of the ship. If a soldier was too slow getting ready, the landing craft would ride a swell high enough for him to just drop into the boat. Among all the confusion, somehow I got separated from my outfit and got into the wrong boat."

But the Coxswain himself got lost.

"We never found the other LCVP's to rendezvous with that made up the second wave to reach land at 6:40 a.m. The troops got so seasick they threatened to throw the coxswain overboard if he didn't hurry and get us ashore. The troops and boats that made up the first wave were supposed to be the last to load up so as not to have the men on the LCVP's too long before landing."

"The Coxswain got us

to the wrong part of Utah Beach much too early. There was no one there to greet us, not even a German soldier. There was absolutely no resistance. General Barton, General Roosevelt and Colonel Van Fleet and many hundreds more officers and men coming ashore, all at the same wrong beach."

General Roosevelt was Theodore Roosevelt Jr., the son of the then current President of the U.S. Franklin Roosevelt. The younger Roosevelt was 56-years-old when he entered with his soldiers in to France. He suffered from arthritis, perhaps as a result of injuries he got in World War I and had to walk with a cane.

Why they landed in the wrong place, the younger Roosevelt's famous quote is "We'll start the war from right here!"

While Morris had a safe entry into Europe, he did face serious combat.

"Carl was extremely proud of his service and loved to talk about it," Casper said. "During the war, he received four Purple Hearts, and later the French 'Legion of Honor'. Purple Hearts are awarded for being wounded in combat. The Legion of Honor is the highest French order of merit for military service."

Morris was born in Norfolk in March 1920 and lived there until his retirement from civil service work, then moved to Holiday Island in

the 1980s, Casper said.

Casper and Morris met through a love of square dancing.

Casper is a square dance "caller" and also the owner of The Onley Place,

"He (Morris) was an avid square dancer and was a founding member of our local square dance club 'The Harbor Lites.' He loved to travel all over the country and had friends everywhere. When was no longer able to live on his own, he moved to an assisted living facility in Chesapeake where he died."

It was Morris' wish that his beloved print of Utah Beach go to a military museum. Casper the museums didn't want it.

"The WWII museum and a couple of other war museums all told me that they had more items they could display and it would most likely be stored in a warehouse somewhere," Casper said. "So with the OK of his daughter, we donated it to our new library here in Hertford."

Perquimans County is building a new, much larger library on Church Street that should be open by September.

During the Battle of the Bulge, the 4th Division shifted to Luxembourg, only to meet the German Army's winter Ardennes offensive head-on in the Battle of the Bulge in December 1944. Although its lines were dented, it managed to hold the Germans.

BANKRUPTCY

STOP Foreclosure
STOP Lawsuits
STOP Car Repossession
STOP Tax Levies and Garnishments
Call Allen C. Brown Attorney
#252-752-0753

A Debt Relief Agency helping people eliminate debt through bankruptcy

"We always welcome new patients."

COMFORT • QUALITY • EXPERIENCE

Modern Dentistry in a relaxed environment for the entire family.



DR. CHRIS KOPPELMAN, DDS
DR. ETHAN NELSON, DDS

482-5131

ALBEMARLE
DENTAL ASSOCIATES
General and Cosmetic Dentistry

103 Mark Dr. Edenton, NC
(behind Chowan Hospital)

ROAD

Continued from 1

said.

Work on replacing Hertford's S-Bridge is proceeding. DOT has selected three contractors for the "short list" to come up with ideas. They are expected to submit their bids in September or October.

At the same time DOT is working to finalize a "Memorandum of Agreement" with the Coast Guard and historical groups that sets down ways the impact of the new bridge can be minimized.

Recycle.

PUBLIC NOTICE

BUDGET HEARING
ADVERTISEMENT F/Y 2017- 2018
TOWN OF WINFALL
PUBLIC HEARING

There will be a Public Hearing Monday, June 12, 2017 at 6:30 p.m. at the Winfall Town Hall, 100 Parkview Lane, Winfall NC 27985 for the purpose of discussing the Proposed Budget for the fiscal year 2017-18. Citizens are invited to make written or oral comments.

THE PERQUIMANS WEEKLY

(USPS428-080)
Vol. 85 No. 22

Published each Wednesday.

A publication of Cooke Communications North Carolina, LLC
Established 1934

111 W. Market St., Hertford, NC 27944

Mike Goodman..... Publisher
Peter Williams..... News Editor
Bev Alexander..... Advertising Representative

Phone 252-426-5728 • Fax 252-426-4625
Email: perquimansweekly@ncweeklies.com

Subscription Rates

In Daily Advance home delivery area..... \$25.25*
All other continental U.S..... \$31.50*
*Plus applicable sales tax. Activation fee of \$1.99 will be collected with all new subscriptions. Deactivation fees may apply for early cancellation.

POSTMASTER: Send address changes to
The Perquimans Weekly, Hertford, NC 27944