



Report gives SCC high marks

"We have a commitment to academic excellence at this college, and that's where we're putting our money."

Dr. Frank Sells, SCC president

By BRYAN GENTRY Staff Writer
DOBSON — Surry Community College ranks near the top of the state's community colleges in allocating resources for instruction and academic support. It also leads among other small colleges in students' satisfaction with services. The college's board of trustees heard reports on these matters during their regular meeting Monday.

The report shows that SCC uses its campus space more highly and, time-wise, makes the best use of its science labs. Also, it leads many of the state's 58 community colleges in providing academic and other support.

Pointing to these facts, SCC President Dr. Frank Sells said, "We have a commitment to academic excellence at this college, and that's where we're putting our money."

"We really intensely use the space we have available," said Dr. Gary Tilley, SCC's chief financial officer. He illustrated his point with a report compiled from the Facility Inventory and Utilization Study 37th edition, published by the State Commission on Higher Education Facilities.

The report says that SCC leads all other North Carolina community colleges in the use of class labs for instruction. With 26.3 hours per week used for class lab instruction, SCC ranks first.

Also, SCC ranks second in the number of hours that student lab stations are used per week.

The report also shows that much of the space on campus is in use — SCC ranks 46th in the

SCC proving to be viable investment for Surry, Yadkin counties

By BRYAN GENTRY Staff Writer
DOBSON — A new report from an independent study shows that Surry Community College is proving to be a viable economic investment for Surry and Yadkin County.

SCC President Dr. Frank Sells released the report Monday during SCC's Board of Trustees' meeting. He said the findings echo the sentiments he has heard many times.

"It just supports what people have said — that the college is a major, significant asset to the service area," Sells said. "It shows that it's a financial asset."

The study, conducted by CC-Benefits, a firm that specializes in community college finance research, sought to determine the economic impact that North Carolina community colleges have on the local and statewide economy.

A report released last month outlined the statewide impact. Comparing the two reports, SCC is shown to contribute more to the local economy and provide better future earnings for students than the average among community colleges.

The report defines Surry and Yadkin counties as the college service area. It studies economic impact resulting from college operational spending (paying college employees), investment returns to taxpayers, return to students, investment of tuition and other college costs (in the form of higher future wages) and colleges' impact on health, unemployment and crime.

"The 58 community colleges

in North Carolina pay \$763.4 million in direct faculty and staff wages, salaries, and benefits," the report says.

These numbers show a statewide average of \$13.1 million in direct payroll from community colleges, while SCC contributes \$15.8 million to the local economy in terms of pay to college employees.

That money indirectly affects the rest of the economy as employees spend money locally. The report says that 25 cents are generated in off-campus earnings for every dollar paid to SCC employees.

SCC also rises above average in return to student investment. The report calculates the increased earnings graduates receive due to further education. Statewide, "for every dollar the student invests in a college education, he or she will receive a cumulative \$4.24 in higher discounted future earnings over the next 32 years," the report says.

SCC graduates, however, are reported to earn \$6.98 per dollar they spend on receiving their education.

The report also says students, with the help of higher wages, recover their costs of attending college (including money they had worked instead of gone to school) in just 6.6 years.

Students' increased earnings, in turn, help the local economy. "As many as 93 percent of the students stay in the region initially after they leave the college and contribute to the local economy," according to the re-

port. The report also says SCC graduates "contribute an estimated \$85.5 million worth of added income per year to the regional economy" in direct earnings.

Additionally, it estimates pass graduates contribute \$44.7 million in other industries by spending money.

The report also outlines taxpayer benefits that result from community colleges.

According to the report, "taxpayers see a real money 'hook' return of 16.8 percent on their annual investments in the colleges and recover all investments (in the form of more tax dollars collected from graduates with higher wages) in 7.7 years.

SCC has an 11.2 percent rate of return locally, and local taxpayers recover all investments after 11.4 years.

The reports also lists estimated social benefits from reduced welfare, unemployment, crime and medical costs.

The savings outlined are:

- Medical savings (calculated as savings from fewer smokers, alcohol abusers, and fewer health-related days of work missed); statewide, \$43 million; locally, \$493,900.
- Reduced crime (based on evidence that increased education reduces incarceration, and including money saved in legal expenses and money earned by people kept out of prison); statewide, \$67.2 million; locally, \$840,000.
- Welfare and unemployment savings; statewide, \$73.9 million; locally, \$706,900.

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MARKS: Among best in the state

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might affect SCC's ranking in this ratio, though not much because other colleges are also adding buildings.

Later in the meeting, SCC Vice President for Student Services Mike McHone presented some information on enrollment, which also shows Dobson's college ahead in several areas.

According to data from the 2003-2004 school year, SCC ranked fourth in allocating money for academic support and 20th in allocating money to curriculum instruction.

SCC ranked second in Focus Industrial Training program enrollment, fourth in Diploma program enrollment, 19th in Associate Degree program enrollment and 16th in Human Resources Development program enrollment.

Overall, SCC ranked 23rd in the total average full-time equivalency enrollment.

McHone's report also included information from student surveys that shows SCC leading other small colleges in student satisfaction with all services except one.

SCC leads in job placement assistance, with a 76 percent satisfaction rate. Other colleges included in the survey had only 62 percent student satisfaction rates in this category.

The only area in which SCC did not lead was child care services. The college does not have a child care facility on campus, but does provide some help to parents who qualify to receive some money to help place their children in outside care facilities. McHone said SCC is probably able to help more students



Bryan Gentry/The Mount Airy News
Jim Henderson, left, drafting instructor at Surry Community College, explains a drafting instructor at Surry Community College to members of the SCC board of trustees in SCC's new Engineering Technologies building. The trustees toured the college's two new buildings Monday afternoon before their regular meeting.

in this way than it would be able to help with an on-campus facility.

Members of the board of trustees are George "Andy" Anderson Jr. of Yadkinville, Charlotte Bokesch, Jewel Jarrell, Betty Vaughn, Fredrick Johnson, LaDonna McCarther and Gene Rees of Mount Airy.

Robert Comer and Clifford Scott of Dobson, Barbara Harrell and Brennie Stuart of Elkin, Joe Hemmings of East Bend, Charles Madison of State Road, Michael Royster and Dan Stone of Pilot Mountain, Frank Sells of Mount Airy, and Susan Johnson serves as secretary of the board.

CAMP: Students explore career options

Continued from page 1A
health care field just might be for you."

Dalton took time off work to make a classroom presentation

High school students explore health careers at Camp Med 2005

DOBSON — Twenty-five high school students from Surry and Stokes counties know more about the shortage of workers in the health care field than they did at the beginning of the summer.

For example, they know that health care is one of the fastest-growing industries in the nation, and they know that many health care workers in the Northwest Piedmont, obtained their initial training by their own capricious through a community college.

They know these things because they spent time interacting with a number of health care professionals during CAMP MED 2005.

CAMP MED is an annual health careers awareness camp

sponsored by Surry Community College, the Northwest Area Health Education Center (NAHEC), Wake Forest University Baptist Medical Center, and local school systems. It was held on the campus of Surry Community College and in various health care facilities the week of July 11-15.

Jermaine Dalton, a registered nurse who works in the Curshaw Cash Lab at Wake Forest Baptist Medical Center and is a graduate of the Surry Community College Associate Degree Nursing Program, said to the students, "If you are interested in a stable career in which the demand for workers is high, the pay is better than average, and the work is rewarding, the

See CAMP, page 2A



Students from CAMP MED pose beside an AirCare helicopter after getting to see what the AirCare crews do.

SCC/Submitted Photo

to the students and hosted them later in the week in the Curshaw Cash Lab.

Throughout the week, students participated in discussions led by health care professionals, including Dalton, Dr. Adam Dalp, chiropractor, Family Care, certified medical assistant, Wendy Moser, registered nurse, and Fanny Cannon, registered nurse. Discussion topics included the critical shortage of health care workers, professional ethics, educational programs available to prepare workers for the health care industry, and the importance of career planning and lifelong learning.

While on the college campus, they took a close-up look at medical programs offered through the Surry Community College Continue Education Division, the Associate Degree and Practical Nursing Programs, the Medical Assisting Program, and the College Transfer Program. Tabeila Barnes from the College Foundation of North Carolina conducted a working session on how to use the CENC Web site to explore colleges and financial resources, and Tony Seary, Surry Community College Advisor and Director of Student Activities, conducted a training session on leadership skills.

Myron Waddell, registered nurse and training officer with Surry County Emergency, Medical Services, and Kirk Kilham, director of Surry Community College Emergency Medical Programs, coordinated a simulation of lifesaving techniques performed by a group of emergency medical technicians at the Emergency Services Training Center.

Students learned about local career opportunities in the health care industry by traveling to Mount Airy and Elkin and about regional opportunities by spending a day in Winston-Salem.

They went to Mount Airy where they participated in a guided tour of Northern Hospital of Surry County coordinated by Debbie Moser, Staff Development Coordinator, and received a list of occupational positions within the hospital. They traveled to Elkin to visit the Elkin Health Care Center, the Elkin Daycare Center, and the Elkin Orthopedic Sports Center. Medicine where physical therapist John Oria spoke with them about career opportunities in physical therapy and physical therapy assisting.

Near the end of the week, they traveled to Winston-Salem to take a first-hand look at various occupations within a teaching hospital, and in a relatively new biotechnology firm. While at Wake Forest Baptist Medical Center, students learned about AirCare/Critical Care Transport by talking with several flight nurses and examining an AirCare helicopter, participated in a hands-on lifesaving exercise conducted by Jan Saunders in the Patient Simulation Lab, and observed several medical procedures in the Curshaw Cash Lab. They then visited Target Inc., a biopharmaceutical company engaged in the design, discovery, and development of drugs to treat multiple nervous system diseases, where they listened to a presentation on emerging careers in biotechnology and toured the facility.

Students finished up the week with a business luncheon and graduation ceremony. During the luncheon, Carolyn Johnson from the Surry County Cooperative Extension Service, gave a presentation on table settings and proper etiquette for a business luncheon, and Dr. Adam Dalp, a chiropractor in practice in Mount Airy, presented an overview of the education preparation and licensing requirements necessary to become a chiropractor, work responsibilities, and personal rewards he enjoys from working in health care. Parents and other guests watched as each student received a certificate of completion, documenting 40 hours of participation in CAMP MED 2005.

A comment made by Shana Drahtion from Surry Central High School seemed to summarize how students felt about the benefits of participating in CAMP MED. She said, "CAMP MED was a wonderful experience; one that taught me much about health careers and made a positive impact on my life."

Students from Surry County who participated include: Keith Arellano, Skyler Childress, Shana Drahtion, Aly Elsworth, Megan Hall, Hannah Hayes, Brittany Hodges, Hirona Livingston, Adam Martin, Chelsea Resner, Kayla Pratt, Carrie Royal, Stephanie Smith, Eva Stuller, Felicia Tucke, and Zoua Yule. Participants from Stokes County include: Caely Beasley, LeAnn Hawkins, Lindsay Homeward, Jade Lawrence, Fonda Love, Britney Palmer, Christian Rodriguez, and Megan Rogers.

CAMP MED will be offered again in the summer of 2006 to high school students in Surry, Stokes, and Yadkin Counties, and information and applications will be sent to high school counselors in April.



Wendy Beverly Wood/The Mount Airy News

Students from Mount Airy and Elkin high schools work to construct the highest and sturdiest structure out of newspaper, tape and twine during the kick off of Youth Leadership Surry on Wednesday morning at Camp Raven Knob.

Top H.S. juniors kick off Youth Leadership Surry

By WENDY BEVERLY WOOD

STAFF WRITER
LOWCAP — Youth from across Surry County gathered Wednesday at Camp Raven Knob to kick off Youth Leadership Surry.

The program, sponsored by Food Lion, South Data, the North Carolina Cooperative Extension-Surry County, the three county school systems and the Greater Mount Airy Chamber of Commerce, recruits the top juniors from each high school and educates them about Surry County.

Wednesday's event focused on leadership skills and decision making, as well as team-building exercises.

Continued from page 1

YOUTH: To experience Surry County during year

Everyone has different abilities, everyone has different needs, and everyone has different purposes.

And even leaders need to learn to delegate and to say no when too much is thrown their way, Seary said.

"As leaders, you have to learn to think creatively and out of the box," he added.

He then had them do several activities. The first was to take eight toothpicks and arrange them to equal 39 through some sort of calculation.

The students then had to develop their own alphabet and create a letter with its own sound. One student showed the others a picture of her letter and explained the sound it represents as "dab."

In groups of five, the students then had the task of creating the highest and sturdiest structure out of newspaper, tape and twine. A group with students from North Surry and East Surry won the competition.

Students are chosen each year for Youth Leadership Surry by committees at each of the high schools.

The program is offered to all juniors who are in the top 15 percent of their class. Those interested fill out applications,



Wendy Beverly Wood/The Mount Airy News

Tony Seary, Student Activities coordinator at Surry Community College, leads students from across Surry County chosen for the Youth Leadership Surry program in a seminar on "Leadership Skills in Group Decision-Making" Wednesday morning at Camp Raven Knob.

and the schools' committees select the students to participate — five from each school.

The other day-long topics for the Youth Leadership Surry participants are: History of Surry County on Oct. 19; Economic Development on Nov. 16; Law, Enforcement and Legal System on Jan. 18; Local Government on Feb. 15; State Government on March 15; and the year-end celebration, including parents, on May 1.

This year's participants are: Paul Dunbar, Jasmine Parrace, Nabila Luna and Kelly McCraw, all from Surry Central; Edgar Burgo, Jessica Deckers, Lance Haymore, Meredith Lowdermilk, Adam Martin and Tyler Wilmoth,

Amy Anne Lamm, Jill Reckrom, Erika Solomon, Meghan Tilly and Michele Watson, from North Surry; Lauren-Anhly Day; Paul Dunbar, Jasmine Parrace, Nabila Luna and Kelly McCraw, all from Surry Central; Edgar Burgo, Jessica Deckers, Lance Haymore, Meredith Lowdermilk, Adam Martin and Tyler Wilmoth,

Surry Community College classes

Chorus class rescheduled

DOBSON — The Surry Community College chorus class has been rescheduled to begin on Feb. 21 in room T-125 at the Dobson campus. The course meets from 7 to 9 p.m. each Tuesday until May 9. The cost is \$55 for all participants and is open to ages 16 and up. Registration will take place at the first class meeting. For more information, call Pevide Robles at (336) 679-4600.

Real estate class scheduled

DOBSON — The Continuing Education Division of Surry Community College has rescheduled the Real Estate Update-Effective classes for March 8. The update and elective class will satisfy the eight hours of continuing education credit required by the N.C. Real Estate Commission. Participants may take one of both of the courses for a \$90 registration fee.

Real Estate Mandatory Update Course: arrive at 8:15 a.m. for registration, class is from 8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. with Roy Anderson as instructor. Class meets in Surry Community College Campus Room J11471115 (Continuing Education Building). The textbook for the Elective Course will be \$5. Textbooks payable to Anderson. Real Estate School.

Elective — "And the Commission Says," arrive at 1:15 p.m. for registration and class is from 1:30 to 5:30 p.m. with Roy Anderson as instructor. Class meets in Surry Community College Campus Room J11471115 (Continuing Education Building). The textbook for the Elective Course will be \$5. Textbooks payable to Anderson. Real Estate School.

Notary Public class scheduled

DOBSON — The Continuing Education Division of Surry Community College will sponsor Notary Public Education (6.5 hours) on March 13 and 15 from 6 to 9:30 p.m.

The instructor will be Dennis "Bud" Cameron, and the course will be given at the Yakin Center, U.S. 601, Yorkville. Cost is \$59 tuition plus textbook of approximately \$217.50.

Additional fees, upon successful completion of this course, are the responsibility of the student and payable to the agencies listed. Application fee of \$50 to the Secretary of State of North Carolina. Surry County Register of Deeds Office and Notary Seal of \$30 plus to any office supply company.

For more information, call 386-5211.

Customer Service taught

DOBSON — The Small Business Center of Surry Community College and the Greater Mount Airy Chamber of Commerce will co-sponsor a seminar entitled "Outstanding Customer Service" on March 9 from 6 to 9 p.m. The workshop will meet at the Workforce Development Center in Mount Airy, 1220 State St.

Providing quality customer service can be difficult in today's marketplace. Tough customers, managers saying, "Do more with less!" and unhappy co-workers can make it especially hard, but by establishing excellent service practices, workers can deal with difficult people more professionally, work more efficiently and get along with co-workers more effectively. During this seminar, participants will learn 1) how every client is a customer, 2) why difficult people can be good clients.

HVAC annual course on tap

DOBSON — The Surry Community College Continuing Education Division will sponsor a Licensed HVAC Contractors course. The annual six-hour requirement can be met by attending this full-day session. Call 386-5211 or 386-5265 to pre-register.

The course will be March 23 and includes N.C. Mechanical Code Update — Part I from 8 to 10 a.m., N.C. Mechanical Code Update — Part II from 10 a.m. to noon, and Customer Service for Small Businesses from noon to 2 p.m.

The instructors will be Clayton King Jr. and Bruce Moody, and the class will be in SCC, Room 2103 (Building 605). Cost is \$50 per day.

These courses are approved by the North Carolina State Board of Examiners for Plumbing, Heating & Fire Sprinkler Contractors for continuing education credit.

Seminar scheduled

DOBSON — The Small Business Center of Surry Community College will sponsor a seminar entitled "But I Have Rights..." on March 2, from 1:30 to 4:30 p.m. The workshop will be held on the SCC Campus in room 1103.

The seminar leader will be Harry Ponder.

What rights do employers have? All too often, rights, privileges and benefits are confused. This seminar will help employers know what they can and cannot legally do by giving them an understanding of the fundamental rights of employers and employees. Topics covered during this hands-on session will include: 1) What is a right? 2) What gives us rights? 3) How rights, privileges and benefits differ; 4) What does an employer have the right to do; 5) To what is an employee entitled; and 6) When an attorney is needed.

This seminar is tuition free. Pre-registration will be required by calling 386-5211 or on-line at http://207.144.228.16/cont_ed/schedule.html.

The Mount Airy News Thursday, February 16, 2006



Rescue squad members from across the state gathered Saturday at Surry Community College for the annual N.C. Rescue College to study new techniques in emergency services. Fat snowflakes added a unique twist. Here they study how to safely remove victims from a crash.

'School' comes to the rescue

By LORNE ALANISH
ASSOCIATE EDITOR

As a rescue worker at a week-long, when do you know to rush in to provide aid and when to hold back?

What bit of wreckage do you attach to in securing an overturned car? What is the latest piece of equipment or technique? Those are some of the questions taught and answered in the 4th annual N.C. Rescue College, held for the first time at Surry Community College.

"It was a real coup to get the school here," said Charles Smith, director of the Emergency Services Training Center.

Having the important professional advancement training school in Dobson, instead of the more recent venue of Gastonia, is also a highlight to the county's rescue squads, requiring them to spend less time and money traveling.

Members of Elkin, Dobson and Mountain Park rescue squads got an extra dose of reality at the "Heavy Vehicle Extrication" in a Hanford Environmental class Saturday.

The name alone sounds dramatic enough. The visual is of a tanker truck overturned onto a pickup truck and propped on the other side by a section.

See Rescue, Page 14



Photo courtesy of Sue-Lynn Hinson. Robert Thrift, Elkin Rescue Squad member, tries out new equipment at the tower rescue class.

Rescue

Continued from front page

The scene was staged with surplus vehicles on a large piece of pavement on the college campus. Then it moved, large trucks.

The school is sponsored by the N.C. Department of Insurance, Office of the State Fire Marshal. The college offered support services. The fire marshal's office supplied instruction for sessions that began last week and will continue next week.

Classes include alternative vehicle basic and advanced sessions, aerial rescue, rope training, instructor training and tower rescue.

Robert Thrift of the Elkin Rescue Squad said the tower rescue class provided some good experience in removing an injured or frightened person from a high point.

Thrift is an experienced climber and has assisted in several high-level rescues with the local squad.

The 26 members of the class worked on installing equipment to an injured person and lowering him from the 75-foot tower on Turner Mountain near Mount Airy.

"We've got to use a lot of new equipment and a lot of cool stuff and to work with the older stuff again," Thrift said.

Another important offering from the class was the ability to work with others from across the state.

"The college drew people from as far away as Asheville and the coast."

"Now if there is a state disaster, I will know somebody by their first name. I will have worked with them before and know that I can trust them when they're trying a rope to me," Thrift said.

"It was an experience you can't get anywhere else," said Chris Kennedy of the Elkin squad. "It was a challenge to put together all the things that you know."

He participated in the heavy vehicle extrication class. "There was a HazMat hazardous materials twist to it. So you had to worry about stabilizing the vehicle, and the HazMat dangers to yourself and the patient. You have to combine all your skills."

Elkin squad members took new stabilization equipment to try out for the first time. They loaned from a Virginia squad that had used it before.



Rescue workers from across the state attended, near Dobson, Elkin and Mountain Park attended.

SCC's cosmetology graduates pass exam

DOBSON — From December of 2004 until September of 2005, 49 adults who were enrolled in the Surry Community College Cosmetology Program passed the exam to become licensed cosmetologists.

The exam is a two-day, intensive exam that includes a written and practical component. The exam is held at the North Carolina State Board of Cosmetology in Raleigh, N.C.

The graduates will be eligible to work in salons, spas, and other cosmetology establishments. The graduates will also be eligible to take the exam again if they do not pass.



According to the North Carolina State Board of Cosmetology, the exam is a two-day, intensive exam that includes a written and practical component. The exam is held at the North Carolina State Board of Cosmetology in Raleigh, N.C.



SURRY COMMUNITY COLLEGE

The College is seeking a creative, dynamic and multifaceted individual to serve as its

DEAN OF CORPORATE AND CONTINUING EDUCATION

General Description: Senior Administrator role charged with the leadership, operational planning, oversight, management, developing, monitoring and evaluation of the instructional, personal, programs and departments within the division.

Qualifications: Master's Degree (doctorate preferred) in Adult Education, Business Administration, Business Management, Finance or a closely related field. Demonstrated successful experience in a leadership role in higher education or public or private sector business. Should possess an appreciation for and willingness to coordinate program offerings with curriculum courses that reflect a learning college perspective.

Contact: Office of Human Resources, 335-386-3380 or poddergrate@surry.edu.



For additional information and application instructions, visit www.surry.edu and follow the "Employment" link. EOE

The Mount Airy News is dedicated to the principles of openness, fairness, honesty and integrity

Editorials

Growing technology

The Triad's business and government leaders seem to have focused their attention on Dell Inc. and its suppliers in the computer business, but another field of high technology is growing rapidly in North Carolina.

Biotechnology now employs more than 27,000 people in North Carolina — about 8,000 in the Triad alone — and the number grows by 10 to 15 percent per year.

The state is well on its way to a goal of having 125,000 biotech jobs by 2023. Those are good-paying jobs, with an average salary of \$51,000, according to Leslie Alexandre, president and chief executive of the North Carolina Biotechnology Center. Just about the only thing that will prevent North Carolina from meeting that goal is a shortage of workers to fill those jobs. The biotechnology center last year released a study that showing North Carolina needs to add 2,000 to 3,000 biotech manufacturing workers and lab technicians each year to keep up with projected growth.

As part of an effort to avoid that roadblock, the National Center for the Biotechnology Workforce, which is headquartered at Forsyth Tech in Winston-Salem, this month awarded eight \$250,000 workforce training grants to schools including Surry Community College and Wilkes Community College.

The biotechnology programs at these colleges will help train people for many 21st Century jobs in our region," observed U.S. Rep. Virginia Foxx, R-N.C. "I am pleased that several community colleges in the Fifth District are taking advantage of this emerging technology."

We agree with her. We've said for a long time that community colleges have the ability, experience and desire to rapidly create industry-oriented training programs. In Surry Community College's case, it's a relatively short step from the process controls, sanitation standards and fermentation techniques in its wine-making program to the same kinds of practices in biotechnology manufacturing. Having a number of community colleges in close proximity in the Triad also makes it feasible for average citizens to have the opportunity to visit and see the facilities, their collective strength and develop mutually supportive programs, such as the one which allows second-year Surry students to attend Forsyth and take advantage of the latter's lab facilities.

The Triad is fertile ground for the biotechnology industry. The state has served very well by the N.C. Biotechnology Center in the Raleigh-Durham-Chapel Hill Research Triangle, now more than 20 years old and secure in its worldwide reputation for supporting and encouraging biotech businesses. However, having attracted a large concentration of biotech businesses to the Triangle, the center sees growing competition for scarce workers. The Triad has the population, the sites (Piedmont Triad Research Park in Winston-Salem, Piedmont Triad West Corporate Industrial Park in Mount Airy and others) and the financial investors to bring more biotech employers to northwest North Carolina — if the region can produce enough highly skilled, well-trained workers.

"We have the elements here in the Triad for a stable, nurturing environment for biotechnology — supportive local governments and officials, strong education and research universities and colleges, a core of strong scientific companies and visionary leaders," says Gwyn Riddick, director of the N.C. Biotechnology Center's first satellite office, which is in Winston-Salem.

All that's needed is more trained workers. The community colleges must continue to build modern training facilities where students can practice real-world techniques. North Carolina is in competition with states such as Iowa where Indian Hills Community College — like Forsyth Tech, a federally designated Center for Excellence in biotechnology workforce training — created a facility with a state-of-the-art manufacturing operation designed in collaboration with biotech companies. The IHCC graduates go to work in labs and control rooms almost identical to those in which they were trained.

North Carolina is building something similar, but in fact, larger and more versatile. The Biomufacturing Training and Education Center at N.C. State in Raleigh will cost \$36 million. It will be an important part of keeping North Carolina in the forefront in biotechnology. However, it also continues the state's concentration on Research Triangle for biotech development.

What about more facilities for northwest North Carolina? Perhaps the state should look at another community college in the Triad — Surry Community College comes to mind — to host a training facility that offers simulated on-the-job experience. If Iowa can plant one in a former corn field, North Carolina should be able to raise one, too.

March 23, 2005
The Tribune, Elkin-Jones

COLLEGIATE NEWS



Programs at Surry Community College are aimed at helping displaced workers.

learn about their frustrations, interests, and needs. The workshops offered opportunities for these adults to meet with co-workers to process their feelings, learn about opportunities, explore options, and actually begin acquiring new skills. From their evaluations of the workshops, three words stand out in my mind—"information," "empowerment," and "hope." Adults who are right in the middle of a major life-changing occurrence, told us that the workshop presentations gave them information needed to make decisions. The opportunity to discuss their feelings with others who are facing the same challenges offered comfort and encouragement. Exploration of educational and career options and the opportunity to acquire or sharpen basic computer skills resulted in a greater sense of confidence and empowerment. All in all, men and women whose lives had been turned upside down, told us they were more hopeful, more inclined to believe that brighter days are ahead.

Other services provided by Jessup and Edwards and their staffs are offered to all adults in Surry and Yadkin Counties who qualify for their programs, not only displaced workers. Through the Human Resource Development Program, Jessup and her staff provide employability skills to unemployed or underemployed persons by helping the individuals assess their interests and skills; gain self-confidence and sharpen communication, problem-solving, life-management, and job-keeping skills. Through the Educational Opportunity Center, Edwards assists adults who qualify for the program with information and resources necessary to enroll in and complete a college program. For more information on their services, contact Jessup by telephone at 336-789-9083 or by e-mail jessupe@surry.edu and Edwards by telephone at 336-366-3664 or by e-mail at wards@surry.edu.

SCC provides services to displaced workers

Since 2000, more than 2,500 workers in Surry and Yadkin Counties have been affected by downsizings or plant closings (NC Employment Security Commission, <http://www.ncesc.com>). During those years, Surry Community College has played an active role in assisting displaced workers adjust the changes in their work lives and transition back into the workforce. Most recently, the Human Resource Development Program and the Educational Opportunity Center provided services to 280 workers whose jobs were eliminated at Renfro Corporation in Mt. Airy in December, 2004.

A job loss, regardless of the reason, can be traumatic and life changing. It brings with it both emotional and practical adjustments.

The emotional repercussions of loss of employment are much like those of other losses such as the ending of a personal relationship, relocation to an unfamiliar place, or the death of a loved one. Shock, disappointment, denial, fear, anger, frustration, and sadness often accompany such losses.

Practical effects of a job loss include loss of income, benefits, savings, plans for retirement, daily routine, position in the workforce, and contact with co-workers.

Adjusting these emotional and practical changes takes courage, time, and patience. Care and support from others are crucial as the displaced worker faces and mourns the loss, learns how to rebuild, and creates a plan to move forward.

In November of 2004, when Renfro Corporation announced upcoming layoffs, the Governor's Rapid Response Team, led by Russel Dokes from the Division of Employment and Training, and comprised of representatives from Surry Community Employment Security Commission and JobLink Center, the

Northwest Piedmont Workforce Development Board, and Surry Community College, met with Renfro managers whose jobs were eliminated. The purpose of the Rapid Response meetings was to provide information and support services to assist workers gain immediate employment or retrain for a new or different occupation. Carmen Jessup, Coordinator/Instructor of the SCC Human Resource Development Program, and Jamie Edwards, Director of the SCC Educational Opportunity Center Program, represented SCC on the Rapid Response Team.

Knights take two against Stingrays

By JERRY MOORHOUSE
Mid-South News Service

DOBSON — The Surry Knights are playing solid baseball, heading into the midway point of the season.

Surry completed a two-game sweep against Florence-Darlington Tech College on Saturday afternoon.

The Knights took both contests by a 4-1 final score.

In Game 2, Shown Bumgarner gave up just three hits in a complete game effort for Surry. The left-hander also had two walks and recorded five strikeouts.

Bumgarner now has three wins and a no-decision in four starts for the Knights.

"I always feel confident with the defense and hitting. I know they will get it done. I just have to go out and pitch. We just got to stay at the top," Bumgarner said.

Surry picked up its ninth consecutive win and improved to 20-2 (9-1 Region XI) on the year.

"The pitching was really good today. We went out, threw strikes and went after hitters. Florence-Darlington has a good ball club. We have to be ready to mow," coach Mark Tucker said.

The Knights got all the offense they would need in the fourth inning.

Jeremy Epperson walked Ryan Petty to lead off the inning and Nick Cushman picked up a sac bunt to move Petty to second. Joey Ais reached to put runners at the corners and Brett Andrews connected for an RBI single to make it 1-0.

The lead stretched to two runs when Brandon Halstead hit a single to bring Ais to the plate. Jerred Stanley had a base hit before Daniel Smith blasted a two-run single to make it 4-0.

That was more than enough for the freshman from West Caldwell High School. Bumgarner retired 20 of 26 batters on the afternoon. Epperson gave up six hits, walked two and struck out five for the Stingrays.

David Williams enjoyed similar success on the hill in the early game. Williams went the distance for the Knights in a 4-1 win.

Williams took a 1-0 lead into the top of the fifth inning before giving up a lead-off walk and strike.

The sophomore settled down, recorded two strikeouts and a ground out to end any threat by the

Williams is now 4-0 on the year.

"I knew I'd have to pitch well against a good team. All I had to do was throw strikes. It was just a matter of time before we just took the game apart," Williams said.

The Knights were a bit sluggish to start the game but broke out in the bottom of the fifth. Jerred Stanley blasted a three-run shot in the inning to make it 4-0. The offense came at just the right time.

"That felt real good. I was having a terrible day at the plate. It just picked my day up," Stanley said.

"Everybody is working together when we need it and doing their job. We have great pitching

Knights

Continued from page 6

ball."

Williams gave up an RBI single to Stuart Fox in the top of the seventh to make it 4-1. Florence-Darlington had runners in scoring position but Williams hung in and closed the deal.

Surry returned to action on Sunday with another doubleheader against Florence-Darlington.



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Teacher recruitment, retention, a goal for Surry school system

The Tribune, Elkin-Jonesville, N.C., Monday, March 28, 2005 — Page 9

By Waver Bryan Wood
Mid-South News Service

DOBSON — The recruitment and retention of highly qualified teachers is a main goal for Surry County Schools, and that starts with student teachers.

During the current spring semester, Surry County Schools is host to 26 student teachers — 19 from the Lees-McKee College program through Surry Community College and seven from Appalachian State University.

Most of the ones in the Lees-McKee program are from Surry and Yadkin counties, said Jennifer Scott, director of communications and professional development for the county schools.

She explained that, following the school board's annual goals, the Personnel Committee, chaired by school board member Brian Gates, has made recruitment and retention an emphasis.

"It gets more and more difficult to recruit and keep the best teachers," Scott said.

When Brian met with the Personnel Committee and explained the goal of recruitment and retention, the committee went through the stages of writing a recruitment and retention action plan that outlines strategies to recruit and retain highly qualified teachers, she said.

One thing the school system's administration has done this year, per direction by the board, is to give new teachers options for how they would like to receive their local supplements.

In the past, the only way to receive the supplement was half at the end of the first semester and the second half at the end of the school year.

Now, in addition to the traditional way, which no new teachers chose this year, there are three other ways to receive supplements — No. 1, to get it all at the beginning of the school year; No. 2, to get half at the beginning and half at the end of the first semester; and, No. 3, to get half at the beginning and the other half at the end of the year.

What we had heard when we met with new teachers is that many are coming right out of college, and their warthrobe is different from college to professionals. Some are moving here from out of town and need to make down payments for rent, and some just need the money for the transition," said Scott.

"The board saw it as a way to help our new teachers. Another thing we wanted to follow through with was a reception for our new teachers," she said.

That was expanded this year to add a reception for student teachers, which was held Tuesday prior to the school board meeting. The reception was an opportunity for the school system to learn or the student teachers as well as let student teachers and principals meet in an informal setting to get to know each other.

Scott said some of the student teachers even took roommates to the reception.

"Surry County has one of the lowest teacher-student ratios in the state, so most of the positions we have to fill are due to retirements and

governor-mandated decreases in class sizes," she said.

"For example, next year the Department of Public Instruction has estimated our growth at about 150 students, which will require several new teachers — just because of growth," she said.

"On top of that, the governor adds a new grade level each year to lower the class size. When you take that into account, as well as retirements and a few resignations, we will need about 70 new teachers."

This year, we have over 190 first- and second-year teachers, so that starts to show you the age of our teaching population," Scott said.

The program at Lees-McKee is helping Surry by supplying it with highly qualified teachers in the elementary schools, because the program only targets kindergarten through sixth grade teachers.

So our major recruiting efforts are for middle and high school," Scott said. "The most difficult to find are middle school teachers in any subject area and high school teachers in math and science, as well as exceptional children teachers."

Of this year's 26 student teachers, only two are in middle schools, but at the sixth grade level only and five are in high school programs.

"The age of the teachers was really varied. We have some attending the Lees-McKee program that have had other careers and decided they want to teach," said Scott. "Most have some connection to Surry County."

College's partnership with Appalachian State University at the Yadkin Center, there is an opportunity for those interested in teaching seventh and eighth grades to receive a BS in middle grades education now.

For those who attended the recent student teacher reception, Scott said, "We feel it was a great success, and the Leadership Team (made up of the system's principals) has requested to continue that every semester."

Cedar Ridge Elementary School hosts the largest number of student teachers with five, but Scott said Principal Terry Marcum "likes that."

"It gives her an opportunity to see them in action for a whole semester, and not just as hiring on an interview," she said.

In starting statistics, Scott said Superintendent Dr. Ashley Hinson Jr. reportedly reported that there are 3,500 teachers graduating in North Carolina this year at state universities. But North Carolina will need 11,000 teachers for classrooms next year. That information was gathered at a recent statewide superintendent's meeting.

The startling thing with that number is only half of the teachers who start out keep that as their career," Scott said.

The Greater Mount Airy Chamber of Commerce is also helping recruit teachers to the area school system by providing all new teachers an incentive package of about \$5,000.

"We also partner

with the year following the orientation. Each new teacher also has a mentor, and the mentor is required to complete 30 hours of training to know how to support the new teacher," said Scott.

Through our support of new teachers, we hope that it eases the stress and pressures they have as a new teacher and that they'll be more likely to remain a teacher for years to come.

Also, to help the new teachers and mentors, the school system has developed a Web site that provides up-to-date and resources. It is meant to be easy access for some things they need," Scott explained.

"Many of the new teachers told us that support is one thing they looked for in a school system, and another thing they looked for in the successes of the school system, so it has become key for us to publicize our successes," she added.

given throughout the year, following the orientation.

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Dobson to consider improving road

By Aneta Samuel
Mid-South News Service

DOBSON — The Dobson Board of Commissioners will consider whether to spend town funds paving the road that runs to the wastewater treatment plant.

Town Manager Wayne Atkins said both the Surry County Schools and Surry Community College have asked the town to consider paving the road, which leads behind the Surry Central High School football stadium and into the SCC driveway.

"We would have to grade the road and either tar and gravel it or pave it," said Atkins, not-

ing the road is only three-tenths of a mile in length.

"They use it to access the football field, and the college has people going in and out to the vineyard."

Atkins said the board would consider the request today during its regular meeting at 6 p.m.

Other items on the agenda include a request from Watson Freedom Hall on South Main Street to extend town water lines 225 feet, discussion of the painting of the large water tank during April; a library fundraiser set for April 28; and appointments to the ABC board and the planning board.

Tribune March 25 2005



SCC

6A-The Mount Airy News Wednesday, April 13, 2005
\$20,000 grant to help biotechnology training

By MARIA MAGHER
 Staff Writer

DOBSON — Surry Community College has been awarded a \$20,000 grant from the National Center for the Biotechnology Workforce at Forsyth Technical Community College. The grant will support biotechnology programs.

Steve Atkins, vice president and chief academic officer at SCC, said the money will be used to purchase more lab equipment and to provide professional development for the staff. The focus will be on microbiology and introductory biotechnology classes.

The money is part of a \$160,000 grant that was distributed equally among eight community colleges in the Piedmont Triad. Carow Valley Community College, Davidson Community College, Forsyth Technical Community College, Mitchell Community College, Rockingham Community College, Caldwell Community College and Technical Institute, Guilford Technical Community College, SCC and Wilkes Community College.

Forsyth Tech was designated a "center for excellence" within the national center in June 2004 when it was awarded a \$5-million grant as part of the federal government's High Growth Job Training Initiative.

Forsyth Tech is partnered with four other community colleges, each with a different focus, to comprise the national

Surry Sunrise Rotary Club to hold fund-raiser

MOUNT AIRY — A tradition is developing in the Surry Sunrise Rotary Club. The club will hold its third annual fund-raiser on Thursday at Cross Creek Country Club. The event, known as CARE 2005, is a combination drawdown and auction. All funds raised benefit charitable organizations.

In 2003, the first year of the fund-raiser, a beautiful tapestry of the official state seal of North Carolina was donated by Frances Unlitt and Rhodonna Boyles, who enjoyed it in their home for one year. The next year, Jeff and Rhodonna donated the item back to the club for CARE 2004. Rick and Tina Shelton purchased the item and immediately donated it back to the club again. It has been displayed in the local office of Ramstead, an employ-



Phil Goble Jr., The Mount Airy News
 This state seal has been bought and donated to the Surry Sunrise Rotary Club's CARE campaign each year. From left, Rhodonna Boyles, Jeff Boyles, Rick Shelton and Tina Shelton have started the "buy-and-donate" tradition with the art work.

April 25, 2005 Mt. Airy News

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THURSDAY, APRIL 21, 2005

CLUBS AND CIVIC GROUPS

South Westfield Ruritans dish up food for college scholarship fund



Wayne Collins refills the buffet line at the South Westfield Ruritan Club's dinner April 2 that raised money for a Surry Community College scholarship.



Rufus A. Cooke ladles gravy onto his plate of biscuits at the South Westfield Ruritan Club's dinner April 2.

April 21, 2005 Mt. Airy News



SCC/DP/Submitted photo
 (Left) Dennis Lowe, director of the Small Business Center at Surry Community College, welcomes the group to Tools for Trade. Dan Holt, international finance specialist with the U.S. Small Business Administration, speaks to the group about expanding international markets.

SCC holds first of eight classes on exporting

DOBSON — The first "Tools for Trade" session in a series of eight was held at Surry Community College on Tuesday in the new "J" Building on the Dobson campus. Daniel W. Holt, international finance specialist with the U.S. Small Business Administration, was the presenter.

Participants included business and industry owners, trade and logistics specialists and other professionals who are interested in initiating or expanding their businesses into international markets.

The course is designed to provide the basic tools needed for success in trade, specifically in exporting. Businesses will be challenged to answer the question of whether or not exporting could be beneficial, or if turning down the opportunity is a better choice.

"In this series, you will learn gun safety, quip Holt. "You will learn not to shoot yourself in the foot. And, if a mistake is made, we will learn how to protect your company and how to fix it. Learning to turn down business is just as important as making the decision to sell. Yes,

you want to make money, but you do not want to over-sell. It is also important to not miss a lucrative opportunity, especially out of fear. This course helps eliminate the fear," said Holt.

Over the eight-week course, Holt will address potential hurdles of credit terms and risk, language differences, banking, currency, transportation, packaging, insurance, freight, government requirements, marketing and cultural considerations.

Experts in related fields are scheduled to join the classes from various states, ports and countries either physically or by teleconference. Future seminar topics include letters of credit, "incoterms" (international rules published by the International Chamber of Commerce for the interpretation of foreign trade terms), international market research, Federal and State resources, finance and risk assessment. The final session will involve a case study that walks a business through the entire process from purchaser's initial inquiry to price quote.

"American textile companies

are finding success by exporting. This keeps them competitive domestically," said Holt.

The "Tools for Trade" course will answer questions of how to secure customers, distributors and reputable banks. It will give insight on "big box versus little box" or air vs. ocean transportation.

"International transportation (cost) is as low as it has ever been," said Holt. "Knowing the ropes can lead to significant and profitable results."

The sessions are coordinated by the U.S. Small Business Administration, the U.S. Commercial Service, the N.C. Department of Commerce, the Surry Community College Small Business Center and the Surry County Economic Development Partnership in an effort to assist local existing industry remain competitive in today's global economy. The classes are free of charge.

Seats are still available, and the next class will be Tuesday from 9:30 a.m. to noon. To register, call the Surry County EDP at 386-4781 or e-mail surryedp@surry.net.





TRIBUNE/Lonnie Adamsom
 Surry Community College President Frank Sales greets Erica Sales-Walker and her mother, Jette Walker of Roaring River, and Farel Walker of Winston Salem at Sunday's 40th anniversary open house.

SCC celebrates 40th anniversary

By Lonnie Adamsom
 Staff Reporter

DOBSON — Continued attention to the needs of students in the workforce will be the future of Surry Community College as it completes its 40th year, its president, Farel Walker, said Sunday afternoon.

Sales was speaking to more than 100 area residents, government officials, faculty and former administrators at a celebration of the milestone. The gathering took place in "J" Building, one of Dobson's square-foot structure of classrooms, nursing program and art department.

See SCC, back page

SCC

Continued from front page

Students moved into the new space in February after other students moved into the Engineering Technology Building next door.

"We are in a time when the minimum education should be high school plus two years of higher education," said Sales, who is in his sixth year as SCC's president.

"That's why we need to continue our affiliations with four-year colleges and increase our affiliation with high schools," he said. "This should remain a student-focused institution."

Leas-McRae College, Gardner-Webb University and Appalachian State University partner with the college to offer four-year degree programs at campuses in Dobson and Yadkinville.

"It is a national trend for high schools to align their

advice with community colleges to provide more for their students and help provide more educational targeted toward workforce needs.

Over the last 40 years, the school has served almost 400,000 students.

The importance to the community includes a significant economic impact and an improvement in the overall quality of life. It has enhanced the educational environment of the community," he said.

The college's future will be determined primarily by the needs of its students. "It has been a grassroots organization from the start," Sales said.

He foresees a need for the college to remain particularly strong in healthcare education and advanced technology training.

The college has always had strong community support from local government and also from local industry, business and individuals.

"It is hard to imagine that economic development could

The Yadkin County Humane Society meets the first Thursday of every month, 7 p.m., at The Yadkin Center of Surry Community College.



Thursday, April 14
 11:30 a.m. - 1 p.m.: Cancer Services is sponsoring a free lunch and learn program on end of life care issues at the Yadkinville campus of Surry Community College (2nd floor conference room). The speaker will be Don Lashman, Director of The Community Partnership for End of Life Care. The program and lunch are free. Call Cancer Services at 760-5983 or 1-800-228-7421 to pre-register.
 2 p.m. - 7:30 p.m.: American Red Cross Blood Drive at Earl Walker Middle School in Florida.

Knights get split

Surry takes opener, fathers in Game 2 with Rockingham

By JEREMY MOORHOUSE
 Sports Writer

DOBSON — The Surry Knights had the game in the bag.

After taking game one of a doubleheader with Rockingham by a 6-2 score, Surry took a sizable lead early in game two.

But the Knights could not hang on as the Eagles scored three runs in the top of the ninth to pull out a 7-6 win.

In the top game, Surry ganged up on Rockingham starter Kyle Warren for four runs off five hits in the bottom of the first inning.

Joy Asis took the first pitch of the game to deep left for a triple and Brett Anderson followed on the next toss with an RBI single to right. Brandon Halstead, who was 1-for-4 with four RBIs, nailed it in the bottom of the first inning with an RBI single to bring Jett Adams to the plate.

After that, the door slammed shut. The Eagles' Kelly allowed five more hits, walked one and struck out five on the game.

"You've got to hand it to him. He got in a groove and really threw extremely well. Give Rockingham credit. They got some big hits and made big plays when they needed them," Surry head coach Mark Tucker said.

Reliever Andy Cyprian led off the seventh inning for the Knights before giving way to Andrew Burke. Neither had much luck on the hill against the Rockingham onslaught. The Eagles pounded the duo for six hits in the inning.

Andrew Norris dove in the eighth run and then Jett Adams scored the go-ahead run with two outs to put the Eagles in front 6-5.

Trailing 5-4, Trey Baker sprang to third base when Surry's infielder dropped a fly ball to start the inning for the Eagles. Andrew Norris dove in the eighth run with a single. Will Taylor kept the team rolling with a base hit.

See SURRY, page 3



Jeremy Moorhouse/The Mount Airy News
 Shawn Bungamer picked up the win during Game 1 of Surry's doubleheader against Rockingham on Saturday.

SURRY: Splits doubleheader

Continued from page 1B

Noxus came home for the go-ahead run off a single by Jon Mitchell and the trail runner was thrown out at the plate for the second out. Dan Ahneschwab singled home Mitchell for an insurance run.

The Knights had a chance with the top of the order coming to the plate in the bottom of the seventh.

Surry sliced the lead to 7-6 when Brandon Halstead homered to center with two outs. Jett Adams tied out to end the game.

Halstead had two homers and Adams was 3-for-4 with a double and RBI. Daniel Smith was 2-for-3 with the RBI single and an RBI sacrifice fly. The Knights stranded seven runners for the game.

In the early game, Shawn Bungamer went the distance in the seventh start of the year for the Knights. The left hander gave up two earned runs, four hits, two walks and picked up five strikeouts.

"I felt real good. I didn't try to do too much. I knew the defense would get it done. I have total confidence in the team," Bungamer said.

Ryan Perry broke a 2-2 tie in the fourth inning with a two-run shot over the right field fence.

Adams was 3-for-3 with a three RBI — including a solo home run in the fifth — to push the lead to three runs. Surry never looked back.

Charlie Pflum got the loss for Rockingham —

Game 1

| | |
|------------|--------------------|
| Rockingham | 002 000 3 — 2 4 0 |
| Surry | 200 211 X — 6 10 0 |

Game 2

| | |
|------------|--------------------|
| Rockingham | 112 000 3 — 7 10 0 |
| Surry | 401 000 1 — 6 10 1 |

Bungamer and Cashman (SCC), Pflum and Glover (RCC), 2B — Stender, Hall (RCC), Halstead, Frady (SCC), HR — Perry, Adams (SCC) WP — Bungamer, LP — Pflum

Whitlock, Gyros (3), Burke (7) and Cashman (SCC), Warren and Stender, Glover (D) (RCC), 2B — Norris (RCC), Adams (SCC) 2B — Asis (SCC), HR — Halstead X2 (SCC), Hall (RCC), WP — Warren, LP — Burke

April 17, 2005

Friday, April 8
 11:30 noon, Luncheon with author and peach farmer Don Sanders at the Foothills Arts Council. Reservations required. Tickets are \$5 each. Call 886-5586.
 Tim Montgomery show opening at the Foothills Arts Council. His interesting work is generated with the computer. Montgomery teaches at Surry Community College.



A Yoga each Monday evening from 7 to 9 p.m. May 23, 30, 31, 6. Sponsored by Surry Community College. Fee to those 65 and over, \$45 for those not yet 65.

Knights drop pair of games to Louisburg

LOUISBURG — Louisburg's bats were red hot in Sunday's Region X doubleheader against Surry.

The Hurricanes smacked 27 hits in the two-game sweep, including 13-10 and 11-5 victories against the Knights.

"We just couldn't shut them down," Surry coach Mark Tucker said.

In the first game, the Hurricanes got 14 hits, including nine off of starter David Williams in the 13-10 decision. Williams tossed into the ninth inning and gave up nine earned runs while striking out four.

Ryan Perry was 3-for-4 with two runs scored and an RBI while Brandon Halstead knocked in three runs in a 2-for-4 performance for the Knights, who picked up 13 hits.

Mike Finocchio earned the win for Louisburg.

In the late game, the Hurricanes remained red-hot, smacking 13 hits to take the 11-5 victory.

"They swung their bats really well," Tucker said. "We couldn't find any way to stop their offense."

Surry's offense contributed nine hits, led by Joey Asis' 3-for-4 game.

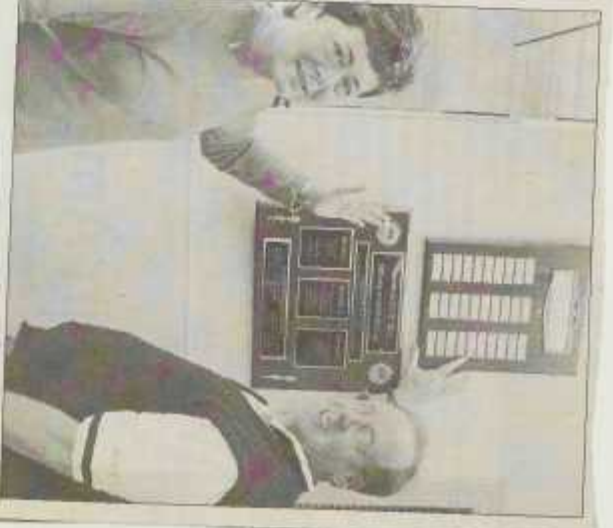
Jett Adams was 2-for-4 with a three-run home run in the fifth inning.

Marques Covington earned the win for the Hurricanes while Josh Whitlock took the loss.

The teams were scheduled to play two games on Saturday, but inclement weather forced them to halt play just four innings into the doubleheader.

The Knights (31-6, 11-3 Region X) return to action on Wednesday when they host New River in a doubleheader beginning at noon.

April 15, 2005 Mt. Airy News



Wendy Blythe/The Mount Airy News
 Carolyn Largent, a charter member of the Mount Airy Lady Lions Club, and Greater Mount Airy Chamber of Commerce President David Bradley put up a plaque honoring 30 years of past presidents of the Lady Lions — 1974-2004. The Lady Lions' main work involves the scholarships they give to students at Surry Community College each year.

COLLEGIATE NEWS

SCC to hold open house

Surry Community College invites the community to an Open House on Sunday, April 3, 2005, from 2-4 p.m., to celebrate 40 years of excellence in teaching and learning and the opening of two new classroom buildings on the main college campus in Dobson.

The opening ceremony will be the 11:14 and 11:55, the new multi-story classroom building at 2:10 p.m. Entertainment will be provided by local artists, and refreshments will be served.



April 17, 2005



SCC

SCC



Diversity is key for area

By STEVE WELKER
Editorial-page editor
MOUNT AIRY — If you had to describe Mount Airy's business community, how would you begin?

A few years ago, no one would have thought twice about the answer. Textile manufacturing drove the economy in employment and wages, sales and property taxes, equipment purchases and support, transportation, water and utility services and associated industries — even in the manufacturers' support of community-based activities and events, nonprofit groups, schools (including Surry Community College) and public institutions and their employees' support of churches, schools, social groups, other charitable organizations, fine and performing arts and recreation.

Almost anyone in Mount Airy could repeat the proud boast that half the socks worn in the United States were made in Mount Airy.

That's not to say other businesses weren't important. In hindsight, those other companies were vital. Mount Airy's diversity of business has

kept the city alive through North Carolina's loss of textile-making and furniture-manufacturing jobs to overseas companies.

You can look at a city or county's economy from several different viewpoints. One familiar picture comes from the N.C. Employment Security Commission in its monthly labor-market report and its frequently cited unemployment statistics. According to the ESC, about 30,100 people in Surry County's civilian labor force had nonagricultural wage and salary jobs here or in the region in 2002. That number is well down from prior years — 37,000 at the peak in 1997, 35,000 in 2001, 33,500 in 2003.

The N.C. Employment Security Commission estimates the local labor force based in part on claims for unemployment insurance and, when applicants have exhausted their benefits, the total numbers go down.

The ESC doesn't count "professionals' employment" — generally, self-employed people including farmers. And in Surry County, where so many people have lost jobs with textile companies or because of a lingering

recession, the number of sole proprietors is growing. From 2001 to 2002 alone, about 250 people took the entrepreneurial route to re-employment, according to the Bureau of Economic Analysis and the U.S. Census Bureau's "2002 County Business Patterns."

The Bureau of Economic Analysis provides another view of Surry County's economy. It looks at the jobs in the county, regardless of where the workers live. For example, as recently as 2000 (the last year for which detailed statistics are available), more than 7,600 workers commuted into Surry County for their employment. Most came from (in descending order), Wilkes, Carroll, Yadkin and Patrick counties.

(At the same time, about 8,600 Surry County residents commuted to other counties, more than 4,300 of them to Forsyth County alone.)

In 2002, the Bureau of Economic Analysis counted almost 43,500 jobs in Surry County. Nearly 7,900 people were self-employed in 18 percent of the county's jobs. Included in that total were 1,415 farmers.

Total farm employment actually went up in 2002, to more than 1,900 people (that's the farmers plus farm workers) — believed mainly to be the result of growth at Wayne Farms near Dobson and in the area's increasing number of vineyards.

Perhaps ironically — and certainly as evidence that the United States has moved off the farm — Surry County in 2002 had about as many people serving the farmers' products in food services (chiefly restaurants) and drinking places.

The bureau caught the sharp decline in manufacturing jobs, from 11,334 in 2001 to 9,806 in 2002 — a number that has continued to go down.

Despite the losses, manufacturing as a category still provides the largest number of jobs and the biggest payrolls in Surry County.

In 2002, there were 136 manufacturers among the county's nearly 1,900 employers, according to the Census Bureau, and their payroll dwarfed any other category — nearly \$233 million for the construction industry.

Those manufacturers were engaged in poultry processing.

See DIVERSITY, page 11



SCC

DIVERSITY: Area helped by variety

Continued from page 6
500-1,000 jobs; textile mills, 1,930 jobs; textile products, 250-500 jobs; apparel manufacturing, 3,250 jobs; wood product manufacturing (including saw mills), 315 jobs; printing, 280 jobs; plastics and rubber manufacturing, 370 jobs; non-metallic mineral processing (such as the granite quarry and stonecutting), 250-500 jobs; primary metal manufacturing, 100-250 jobs; fabricating metal products, 615 jobs; making machinery, 100-250 jobs; making furniture and related products, 1,250 jobs; and miscellaneous manufacturing, 400 jobs.

By number of jobs, retail trade provided the second greatest amount of employment in 2002. About 5,300 workers earned an annual payroll of about \$80 million.

However, in terms of wages, the second-most-important employment category was construction, especially for electric contractors (with Fluor Electric being the most notable example). Although some of the work is seasonal, construction employs about 4,800 years-

round workers in Surry County — thanks, perhaps, to relatively mild winters — and provides an annual payroll of nearly \$184 million.

Government — federal, state, local and military — was the next-largest employer (nearly 5,000 jobs) in Surry County and provided the third-largest total payroll: more than \$170 million. There were less than 300 federal and military jobs; about 850 in state employment; and 3,800 in "local government" (which includes schools and government-operated hospitals and health-care facilities).

Non-governmental jobs in health care and social assistance accounted for more wages than

SCC's GED program is well-known



Viewpoint: The success of the GED program is a testament to the hard work and dedication of the students and staff. The program has helped many students gain the skills and knowledge needed to succeed in the workforce.

The GED program at Surry Community College has been a success story for many years. It has provided a pathway for students who did not complete high school to earn their high school equivalency diploma.

The program has helped many students gain the skills and knowledge needed to succeed in the workforce. It has provided a pathway for students who did not complete high school to earn their high school equivalency diploma.

SURRY COMMUNITY COLLEGE

Have You Lost Your Job and Need New Skills or a College Degree?
The Surry Community College Financial Aid Departments at the Yadkin Center in Yadkinville and the Main Campus in Dobson Just May Be Your First Step.....

SERVICES AVAILABLE

- Free one-on-one Financial Aid Advising Sessions
- Budgeting Information
- Assistance in completing required financial aid application forms
- Information on college courses and programs

Surry County Residents
Contact:
Surry Community College
Financial Aid Office
Regina Draughn
Assistant Director of Financial Aid
Student Services Department
Main Campus, Dobson
336-386-3239
draughnr@surry.edu

Yadkin County Residents
Contact:
Surry Community College
Financial Aid Office
Debbie Gentry
Financial Aid Coordinator/Advisor
SCC Yadkin Center
Room 209
336-679-4600 Ext. 5234
gentryrd@surry.edu

Trishie March 25, 2005

Surry County EDP stimulates growth

By JULIE PIARR, Staff Writer
DORRISON — Entrepreneurship is a key focus of the Surry County Economic Development Program.

"Today's entrepreneurs will grow into tomorrow's leaders," said the chairwoman of the SCEEDP. "They need our help with planning, organization and support. We are and will continue to make available the resources and training needed to help them succeed."

The SCEEDP's mission is to "enhance the positive business climate and improve the quality of life in our community by providing training and information that will diversify and complement the industrial base."

The three primary goals of the SCEEDP are to retain and attract new industries and businesses to diversify the industrial base and to support chamber and other business and commercial development organizations.

The SCEEDP also provides information on the various economic development programs available in the county. "We are committed to providing the best possible support for our small businesses," said the chairwoman.

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Surry County Economic Development Program members give a demonstration.



The SCEEDP often hosts job fairs for potential employers.



Wachovia Market President Van Hamlin, Yadkinville Branch Manager Elaine Reece and Jennifer Fontana, Yadkinville teller manager, present Marion Venable of Surry Community College with a check for \$717 to be used to set up a scholarship for a Yadkin resident.

Bank's chili cookoff proceeds benefit SCC

Wachovia Bank N.A. of Yadkinville sponsored a chili cookoff at the 2004 Yadkin Valley Grape Festival in Yadkinville on Oct. 23. All proceeds raised went to Surry Community College for a Yadkin County scholarship for a Yadkin County resident.

The chili cookoff was an annual event. This year's winner was "Bubba's Chili."



Wachovia Market President Van Hamlin, Yadkinville Branch Manager Elaine Reece and Jennifer Fontana, Yadkinville teller manager, present Marion Venable of Surry Community College with a check for \$717 to be used to set up a scholarship for a Yadkin resident.

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Tribune

SCC SEMINARS

Seminar series announced

are currently exporting but need the tools to expand overseas markets and sales.

Companies are encouraged to send employees who are (or may become) responsible for letters of credit, international documentation, international sales, marketing, and customer service.

What will be taught — Topics to be covered include: Risk Assessment, Methods of Payment, Letters of Credit, Incoterms, Harmonized Codes, Role of the International Freight Forwarder, Developing an International Marketing Plan and free on-line resources. In addition, participants will be introduced to the support network of service providers, i.e., government agencies (USDOC, SBA, Ex-Im Bank, etc.), international freight forwarders, international bankers, etc.

How do I register? — Call or e-mail Amy M. Slate Surry County Economic Development Partnership 336-386-4781, email amyslate@surry.net fax 336-386-4893 (Participation is limited to the first 25 registrants on a first-come, first-serve basis.)

All SBA programs and services are available to the public on a nondiscriminatory basis. Accommodations are available for the physically impaired upon request.

You are cordially invited to participate in an eight-week, export-training seminar designed to provide you and your company with the basic tools to initiate or expand international markets. Brought to you by: The US Commercial Service, the NC Department of Commerce, the U.S. Small Business Administration, Surry County Economic Development Partnership and The Small Business Center.

Cost — There is no fee to participate in this training. However, space is limited and pre-registration is required.

When — The classes will meet each Tuesday from 9:30 — 12:00 a.m. beginning Tuesday, April 19 and ending Tuesday, June 14. The only exception will be a skipped class on May 31, Memorial Day.

Where — The classes will be conducted at building J Room 107, Surry Community College, Dobson.

Who — A. Companies that are not presently exporting and need the tools to answer the question, "Should my company export?" B. Companies that are new to exporting and need the tools to begin and avoid costly mistakes. C. Companies that



College freshmen face a number of pressures, including adjusting to a new environment, meeting new friends, and additional responsibilities. Surry Community College offers a new program to help students adjust to college life.

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High school students get an early shot at college at Surry Community

Programs give kids solid jump

By JUDIE PRATER



Students who are currently in high school can get a head start on college by attending classes at Surry Community College. The program allows high school students to earn college credits while still in high school.



The Mountain News, Tuesday, March 29, 2005-7

EDUCATION NEWS

Surry Community College offers classes for educators

Surry Community College will be offering the following continuing education classes for educators:

Effective Teacher Training (30 hours) will be taught on Mondays and Tuesdays, April 4 - May 3, 2005, from 4-7 p.m.

National Board Certification for Professional Teaching Standards (24 hours) will be taught Mondays and Tuesdays, May 9 - June 6, 2005, from 4-7 p.m.

The tuition for both classes is \$55 and will be taught by Dr. Annette Avers and Judy Slombeck.

For more information contact Terri D. Cookran, administrative assistant for Continuing Education at Surry Community College to Dobson, 336-386-3244. E-mail: terri@surry.edu Website: www.surry.edu

COLLEGIATE NEWS

SCC to hold open house

Surry Community College invites the community to an Open House on Sunday, April 3, 2005, from 2-4 p.m., to celebrate 40 years of excellence in teaching and learning.

The opening ceremony will be the 1114 & 115, the new multi-story classroom building at 2:15 p.m. Entertainment will be provided by local artists, and refreshments will be served.

Wednesday March 30, 2005

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Wednesday March 30, 2005



Students at SCC participate in a field activity.

SCC grows own program

Surry Community College has started its own wine program. The program is designed to provide students with hands-on experience in wine production and distribution.

The program includes classes on wine tasting, wine production, and wine marketing. Students will also have the opportunity to visit local wineries and vineyards.

The program is currently in its first year, and the college is looking for more students to join. For more information, contact the Wine Program Coordinator at Surry Community College.

What types of grapes are grown in Surry?

By MICHAEL HOWLETT, News Editor

Of more than 20 types of grapes grown by the vineyards in the Yadkin Valley, American Viticultural Area, most are vintners grapes, a species of grapes most responsible for producing the world's best wines.

Among the most popular vintner wines is the chardonnay, which is known as the "King of White Wine." Its taste can vary from sweet to sour, heavy or light. It goes best with poultry, seafood, red meat and cheese.

The chardonnay does good around world and is doing well here. It's a real flexible wine," said Gail Chase, head of the viticulture department at Surry Community College.

Among the other white wines that have proven popular with local wine growers is Woghter and Riesling. Giese said, "Woghter is a good white wine" and "Riesling is more of a cool season grape, although local wine growers have had some success with it."

Voghter, which is a tough grape to grow, yields a medium-bodied wine, best for its floral, spice and citrus flavors, while the Riesling grape has a taste of dry tartness. It is best served with seafood and most seafood dishes.

Sauvignon Blanc, sometimes known as the "Other White Wine," is also popular with local growers. It is typically very light with a sweet to dry taste, and is a very popular picnic wine. It goes well with fish, shellfish, chicken and pasta dishes.

Of all the red grapes, Giese said he "would recommend the Merlot." He added that the Petit Verdot has also done well.

Although the merlot is often used as a blending grape with



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SCC

SEMINARS

The Professional Woman: Image, Attitude, & Success

The Small Business Center of Surry Community College will sponsor a seminar entitled "The Professional Woman: Image, Attitude, & Success" on Thursday, April 28, 2005. The session will meet from 1:30 - 4:30 p.m. on the SCC campus in the Presidents' Dining Room (A-Building).

The seminar leader will be Ms. Linda Roselle. A hilarious, yet productive, three hours just for ladies. No matter what position you hold, this high-energy session can help empower you to be "all you can be."

- Personality traits of the successful professional.
- Acquiring the skills & habits of success (e.g. proper body language, eye contact, hand shake, conversational & interviewing skills).
- Dressing for success (out of the closet, you have now).
- Proper office protocol and business etiquette.
- How to feel comfortable around businessmen and women.
- Marketing yourself as a confident professional.

This workshop is free of charge. However, pre-registration is required. Call Renee Hutchins at (336) 386-3211 or you may pre-register on-line at www.scc.edu

Business financing workshop

The Small Business Center of Surry Community College will sponsor a seminar entitled "Sources of Business Financing" on Thursday, April 7, 2005. The session will meet from 1:30 - 3:30 p.m. on the SCC campus in room J-103 (J-Building).

The seminar leader will be Mr. Tony Johnson, of the North Carolina Small Business and Technology Development Center.

In this session, learn about existing sources available to funding or would-be business owners, and the information that lenders require when loan proposals are made. Specific governmental programs will also be covered (e.g. Micro-Enterprise Lending Program, U.S. Small Business Administration).

This workshop is free of charge. However, pre-registration is required. Call Renee Hutchins at (336) 386-3211.

EDUCATION NEWS

High school innovation grant submitted

In a collaborative effort between the Surry County School System, Mount Airy City Schools, Elkin City Schools, and Surry Community College, a planning grant project was recently submitted to the New Schools Project funded by the Gates Foundation. If approved, this will be a unique high school dedicated to preparing students for

global careers that provide an opportunity for a high quality life through quality employment and higher education. This academy will blend business and education and will promote independence, responsibility for learning, and community involvement. Selected students would have the opportunity for college credit, community work experiences, and accelerated learning in a specifically designed mentoring environment. Job placement, upon graduation, would be developed with peer mentors from

"All three school systems and Surry Community Col-

lege are hopeful about the possibility of this grant funding coming to high school students in Surry County," commented Dr. Ashley F. Hinson, Jr., Superintendent, Surry County School System. "To gain a more global perspective, students need opportunities to connect education and work experiences."

The planning portion of the grant, approximately \$40,000 will enable officials to familiarize the academy's operations procedures for such projects as student selection and staffing.



Letter

Dear Sirs: I am writing to you regarding the 2005-2006 school year. I am a parent of a child in your school system. I am writing to you regarding the 2005-2006 school year. I am a parent of a child in your school system.

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ury News Tuesday, March 29, 2005

C has met needs for 40-plus years



Construction continues on the 14th building at Surry Community College in this 1985 photo. The college received a charter from the state in 1964 and held part-time classes in Surry Central High School in 1965. The college opened its 14th building this year.

What this college would be like, Johnson said. The first building was built in 1965. The college has 20 specific career technology programs listed on the SCC website. These programs include: accounting, office systems, graphic design, information systems, computer programming and more.

The college also offers 18 diploma programs and 24 certificate programs. The SCC has been used to keep up with the community's needs for education. For example, Johnson said, as behavior agreements in the community, Johnson said, "I am writing to you regarding the 2005-2006 school year. I am a parent of a child in your school system."

SCC plays big role in small business:



Dennis Lewis is meeting with a group of people in the Director of the Small Business Center and Occupational Programs at Surry Community College.

"We have spent many of the traditional manufacturing operations move out of the county. While this means that many people who use our job will disappear outside U.S. borders, the industries who use them will remain."

Dennis Lewis, Director of the Small Business Center and Occupational Programs at Surry Community College, said that the college is working to help small businesses in the county. He said that the college is providing training and support for small business owners and employees.

The Small Business Center at Surry Community College is providing training and support for small business owners and employees. The center is working to help small businesses in the county and is providing training and support for small business owners and employees.

14-The Mount Airy News, Tuesday, March 29, 2005

CONTINUING EDUCATION

Motorcycle safety class offered

Surry Community College will offer a 29-hour class on motorcycle safety on several weekends this spring. This course is appropriate for beginning or current riders. Successful completion will waive the DMV skills test. Many insurance carriers recognize the course as well.

SCC announces two classes

DOBSON — Surry Community College's Continuing Education Division has announced the following upcoming classes:

• Effective Teacher Training (30 hours), Mondays and Tuesdays, April 4 through May 3, from 4 to 7 p.m. on the SCC Campus, Room H124. The instructor will be Dr. Annette Ayers and July Simpson. Cost is \$55.

• National Board Certification for Professional Teaching Standards — The Next Generation: Tips for Teachers (24 hours), Mondays and Tuesdays, May 9 through June 6, from 4 to 7 p.m. on the SCC Campus, Room H124. Instructors will be Dr. Annette Ayers and July Simpson. Cost is \$55.

SCC trains medical assistants for business, clinical work

for business, clinical work

The program has continued to grow and to evolve. In graduating in May, 2005, the program will have a total of 100 graduates. The program is designed to provide students with the skills and knowledge needed to work in a variety of settings, including hospitals, clinics, and private practices.

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Medical assistants from Surry Community College visit the national convention of the American Association of Medical Assistants in the fall of 2004.

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SCCC



TRIBUNE/Lonnie Adamson Auxiliary officer Kent Cassstevens, Elkin Sgt. Kim Robison and Jonesville Capt. McMillian take part in training from Elkin Lt. Rob Dance.

Cops hit the books, head back to class

By Lonnie Adamson Staff Reporter

Police officers from across Surry and Yadkin counties went back to school this week in Elkin to get 16 hours of state-mandated in-service training. Subjects required in the upgraded training include domestic violence, juvenile and minority sensitivity, ethics, legal updates, hazardous materials handling and blood-borne pathogens.

Elkin

The local groups of 22 on Tuesday and 16 on Thursday convened at the Elkin Reserve Squad under the auspices of Surry Community College. They included officers from Elkin, Dobson, East Bend and Jakesville, police departments and the Yadkin County Sheriff's Department.

All of the in-service topics are covered in the Basic Law Enforcement Training program

required for officers to become certified in North Carolina, said Waggoner, but these are refresh-

ers of courses, he said.

Some of the subjects, like search and seizure, require research and constant updating because of changes in laws.

Some officers need a course to remind them of details in situations they may not encounter on a regular basis, said Waggoner.

"We need to be abreast of all of the changes and stay on top of our jobs. Domestic violence training is an emphasis in the new training," he said. "I don't know whether it is becoming more common, but it's certainly not getting any better. We need

to do something about it."

Elkin Lt. Rob Dance taught the domestic violence training. Photographs of evidence can be critical to a case, Dance said.

Officers will continue the portion of the class used in previous classes. Elkin officers will complete firearms re-certification when the training next week. Elkin officers will complete firearms re-certification when the training next week. Elkin officers will complete firearms re-certification when the training next week.

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Students can earn college credit while still in high school

By Kristin Pakow Special to The Tribune

Shortly after the addition of the Yadkin campus, Surry Community College made the decision to develop what Starnount and Forbush High Schools now refer to as the "Dual Enrollment" program. Almost two years ago, Surry's Board of Directors along with the faculty and staff of Yadkin County schools made preparations to launch the program, which took off in the fall semester of 2004. With the 2004/05 school year coming to a close and the educational program having almost successfully completed its first year, is likely to continue far into the future.

The curriculum was a response to the growing number of students already enrolled at Surry, but living in Yadkin County. "We needed to demonstrate that we could provide all of our students with the resources they needed to better their education," explained Steve Atkins, SCC vice president and academic officer. The result was the extension of the campus into the Yadkin area, which in turn provided Starnount and Forbush students the opportunity to engage in such a program.

"So far, we feel that this has been very successful," said Atkins. "Obviously we'll continue to improve upon it as it is only the first year." Through Dual Enrollment along with the Distance Education program, which is taught by the aid of paleontologist and the Surry Community College website, seniors are able to earn high school and college credit simultaneously. This allows students to knock out up to an entire year of general education classes prior to their graduation from high school. Not to mention, it saves students thousands of tuition dollars through the state-paid program.

"I think it's a great opportunity for students to experience a college-like environment," said Starnount senior Amber Jackson, who currently takes classes at the Yadkin campus and via the Information Highway room. "It also gives you a step ahead — right now I probably have 20 college credits."

Although students who are enrolled in both Surry and high school classes will receive the college credit upon graduation, the credits may not be transferable at some of the more prestigious universities. Starnount senior Craig Smathers said, "If a student is looking at Duke, Wake Forest, Chapel Hill, etc. he or she may want to consider AP courses rather than Dual Enrollment. This is because some universities would rather their students take the standard AP exam."

Yet, many students continue to find advantages in taking classes at the Yadkin campus and via the Information Highway room. "I also takes classes at both Yadkin and through distance education said, "It saves a lot of money taking classes here because all we have to pay for are the books — it helps those who wouldn't be able to pay for college on their own." Despite the obvious financial benefits, the program was designed to allow students to take higher level classes that were not offered by the high schools and to prepare college-bound students for the future by removing them from a high school setting.

"Students get too comfortable with teachers that they're familiar with," Atkins replied. "As seniors, they need to become familiar with different environments and be able to adjust to new teachers."

And perhaps it has been no much a benefit for the teachers as it has been for the students. "I love this," admitted Surry's Western Civilization professor Jeff Welsh. "I love working with individuals who desire to expand their knowledge base. It makes getting up at 6:15 a.m. manageable."

Welsh explained that Dual Enrollment was not for all students who felt it might put limit their senior experience or for those who academically just "weren't there yet."

"I think it's really important that both Starnount and Forbush recognize these classes as an augmentation for what they do, rather than an equivalent."

It is true that the college-level classes are a bit of a challenge, especially for those seeking some security in their senior year. "Surry's on a whole different level compared to Yadkin County education," Brown confessed. But for those students who thrive in the face of challenge, this may be the head-start needed for a successful college future.

INTERNS' VIEW

The Tribune, Elkin-Jonesville, N.C., Friday, April 8, 2005 — Page B-1

Area students bring home award

DOBSON — A team of local high school students who are enrolled in the Surry Community College Upward Bound Program competed in the N.C. Scholars Bowl sponsored by the North Carolina Council of Educational Opportunity Program.

The SCC team traveled to Southwestern Community College in Whiteville and competed against Upward Bound students from across the state. Although this was the first time a SCC team had participated in the bowl, students presented their academic knowledge and skills favorably by winning three of four rounds of questions and bringing home the honor of being second runner-up in the overall competition.

The team from Mars Hill College won the event, and the group from Southwestern Community College was first runner-up.

The Upward Bound Program, funded by the U.S. Department of Education, is designed to assist high school students gather information and build academic skills needed to complete high school and enroll in and complete post-secondary education.

"The Scholars' Bowl was good for our students because it provided an opportunity for them to showcase and enhance their academic knowledge and skills and meet and interact with students from other Upward Bound Programs," said Anna Bullin, director of the SCC Upward Bound Program. "We are very proud of our students, particularly since this competition was their first and their senior members of our team are high school seniors."

Students who competed include Ken Bessent, tenth grader at Mount Airy High School; Kaysia Brown, eleventh grader at Starnount High School; Chris Cavalli, eleventh grader at Starnount High School; Julie Gilley, ninth grader at North Surry High School; Kenna Parker, ninth grader at North Surry High School; and Alicia Williams, ninth grader at North Surry High School. Holly Hodges, administrative assistant in the SCC Educational Opportunity Center, coached the team.



Members of the Surry Community College Upward Bound Program pose at the entrance to Southeastern Community College in whiteville.



Members of the Surry Community College Upward Bound Program pose at the entrance to Southeastern Community College in whiteville.

Members of the Surry Community College Upward Bound Program pose at the entrance to Southeastern Community College in whiteville.

Members of the Surry Community College Upward Bound Program pose at the entrance to Southeastern Community College in whiteville.

Cops

Continued from front page

He also talked about common problems of collecting evidence, such as the delayed appearance of bruising and hidden bruising. Photographs of evidence can be critical to a case, Dance said.

Officers will continue the portion of the class used in previous classes. Elkin officers will complete firearms re-certification when the training next week. Elkin officers will complete firearms re-certification when the training next week.

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April 9, 2005

Tribune

required for officers to become certified in North Carolina, said Waggoner, but these are refresh-

ers of courses, he said.

Some of the subjects, like search and seizure, require research and constant updating because of changes in laws.

Some officers need a course to remind them of details in situations they may not encounter on a regular basis, said Waggoner.

"We need to be abreast of all of the changes and stay on top of our jobs. Domestic violence training is an emphasis in the new training," he said. "I don't know whether it is becoming more common, but it's certainly not getting any better. We need

to do something about it."

Elkin Lt. Rob Dance taught the domestic violence training. Photographs of evidence can be critical to a case, Dance said.

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SCCC

Friday, April 8 12 noon: Luncheon with author and peach farmer Dori Sanders at the Foothills Arts Council. Reservations required. Tickets are \$6 each. 7pm Montgomery show opening at the Foothills Arts Council. His interesting work is generated with the computer. Montgomery teaches at Surry Community College.



Friday, April 8 12 noon: Luncheon with author and peach farmer Dori Sanders at the Foothills Arts Council. Reservations required. Tickets are \$6 each. 7pm Montgomery show opening at the Foothills Arts Council. His interesting work is generated with the computer. Montgomery teaches at Surry Community College.

SEMINARS

The Surry Community College Small Business Center will sponsor a three free seminars:

• "Think Safe, Be Safe" on Tuesday, May 10, 2005 from 8:00-4:30 p.m. The session will meet on the SCC campus in room J-103 (J-Building). The seminar leader will be Mr. Randy Cranfill of the North Carolina Industrial Commission.

• "What Every Entrepreneur Should Know" on Thursday, May 12, 2005 from 6:30-9:30 p.m. The session will meet on the SCC campus in room J-114 (J-Building). The seminar leader will be Mr. Roy High.

• "Business Contracts" on Thursday, May 19, 2005 from 6:30-9:30 p.m. The session will meet on the SCC campus in room J-103 (J-Building). The seminar leader will be Mr. Roy High.

Pre-registration is required. Free seminars are required. Call 386-3211 or you may register on-line at http://207.144.228.16/cont_edu/schbasr/sep.htm.

Sunday, April 3

2-4 p.m.: Open house at Surry Community College to celebrate 40 years of excellence in teaching and learning and the opening of two new classroom buildings on the main college campus in Dobson. The opening ceremony will be the J114 & 115, the new multi-story classroom building at 2-15 p.m. Entertainment will be provided by local artists, and refreshments will be served.

• Tim Montgomery show opening at the Footprints Arts Council. His interesting work is generated with the computer. Montgomery teaches at Surry Community College.

Thursday, April 14

1-3:30 p.m.-1 p.m.: Cancer services is sponsoring a free lunch and learn program on end of life care issues at the Yadkinville campus of Surry Community College (2nd floor conference room). The speaker will be Dee Lealman, Director of The Community Partnership for End of Life Care. The program and lunch are free. Call Cancer Services at 780-9983 or 1-800-228-7421 to pre-register.

2 p.m.-7:30 p.m.

4-The Mount Airy News Monday April 4, 2005

The Mount Airy News is dedicated to the principles of openness, fairness, honesty and integrity

Editorials

Arts on display

Two articles in today's new paper (and a third you will read in a day or two) remind us about the wealth of artistic creativity in northwest North Carolina. Painting, sculpture, photography and work in mixed-media is not exclusive to this area, of course. You find artists, both amateur and professional, almost everywhere. However, there is a long tradition of art and artisanship in this region. Unfortunately, there are too few opportunities to see the artists' work.

The good news is that several groups and organizations are trying to change that situation. The newly reconstituted Mount Airy Art League has mounted its annual spring art show at the Mount Airy Public Library. You can see examples of watercolors, drawings, oil and acrylic paintings and mixed media. All will be on display through April 22.

The second article concerns pieces by Surry Community College instructors, staff and students. They submitted paintings and drawings for selection and display at the N.C. Community College System's offices in Raleigh. The selected pieces — and we're happy to report that Surry Community College is very well represented — will be on display for a year. We hope some businesses and government offices in Surry County will adopt the same idea.

Art museums and commercial galleries have little space to show off newcomers' work. That's a real problem for artists who would like to be exhibited. However, almost every professional building, bank, doctor's office or government building has a blank wall or two and some walls now supporting a framed piece of commercial art could be better adorned with the work of a promising amateur or local professional artist.

What's needed is some way to make a connection between the artists and the offices that might display the art work. We know of at least two solutions to this problem. One is a community college whose art department maintains a collection of pieces (by both students and faculty) it will loan on request to businesses and government offices. The other service is provided by a local artists' guild that assembles samples of its members' work for touring displays. Both groups usually have no shortage of requests for their members' work; the only "problem" is that many of the pieces are sold while on exhibition. That really is no problem as far as the artists are concerned; it also means the collections regularly have room for new additions.

We can't say whether these are ideas that Surry Community College or the Mount Airy Art League would like to tackle, but we hope someone picks up on it.

From the examples we've seen, northwest North Carolina and southwest Virginia have a plethora of talented artists and too few places to show their work.

Having more venues that show off local art would encourage the artists and add to the public's appreciation of the wonderful talent and creativity in and around Surry County.

SCHOOL: High school students may attend college without paying tuition

Mosley said, "I like to think of (this) as a way to mentor students as they move into an adult world. They have a structured high school environment, but it helps them look at a career. Surry Community College has so many offerings; it is a good way to get a head start on a career track."

For example, a junior could take cosmetology classes through dual enrollment/dual credit. As a senior, the student could take the remaining cosmetology classes for certification. When the student graduates, he or she would be ready for a job. Alternately, a college-bound student could complete a whole year of college while still in high school.

"It is a great opportunity for students and parents in cost-saving," Mosley said. "We still have early graduation as an option, but then, if students go to SCC, they would have to pay for classes. If they stayed in high school and enrolled, the classes would be free."

The actual agreement with the state has 600 courses listed. Mosley, but SCC does not offer all of 600.

A list of available classes for local students will be in the high schools' guidance offices. Rising seniors interested in taking college courses should see their guidance counselors as soon as possible, Mosley said. Students will have to take the SAT or a placement test for admission to some courses.

"The only cost to the students is books and transportation. They don't have to pay tuition as long as they are enrolled in a high school," she noted.

"My hope is once students start at Surry Community College in the program, they will continue and finish a certification or degree program," she said. "I think, the first time through, most of the ones interested would be those trying to get college transfer credit and those trying to finish certification courses."

Safety seminar set for May 10

The Surry Community College Small Business Center will sponsor a seminar entitled "Think Safe, Be Safe" on May 10 from 3 to 4:30 p.m. The session will meet on the SCC campus in room J-103 (J-Building).

The seminar leader will be Roy High. If you are thinking about starting your own business, this seminar is a "must." Come to this seminar to learn about the factors every potential entrepreneur should consider. Topics will include legally organizing a business, the selecting of a location, knowing your particular product or service, creating a plan for success, and financing the business.

This seminar is free of charge. Pre-registration is required. Call 386-3211 or register on-line at http://207.144.228.16/cont_edu/schbasr/sep.htm.

Entrepreneurs to meet May 12

The Surry Community College Small Business Center will sponsor a seminar entitled "What Every Entrepreneur Should Know" on May 12 from 6:30 to 9:30 p.m. The session will meet on the SCC campus in room J-114 (J-Building).

The seminar leader will be Roy High. If you are thinking about starting your own business, this session is a "must." Come to this seminar to learn about the factors every potential entrepreneur should consider. Topics will include legally organizing a business, the selecting of a location, knowing your particular product or service, creating a plan for success, and financing the business.

This seminar is free of charge. Pre-registration is required. Call 386-3211 or register on-line at http://207.144.228.16/cont_edu/schbasr/sep.htm.

Class to cover contracts

The Surry Community College Small Business Center will sponsor a seminar entitled "Business Contracts" on May 19 from 6:30 to 9:30 p.m. The session will meet on the SCC campus in room J-103 (J-Building).

The seminar leader will be Roy High.

HVAC class scheduled

The Continuing Education Division of Surry Community College will sponsor a 66-hour "Fundamentals of HVAC" beginning on April 19 in June 30. This course will meet on Tuesday and Thursday evenings from 6:30 to 9:30 p.m. on the college campus in room K-115 (K-Building). This course is for individuals seeking an entry into refrigeration and air conditioning, with emphasis on systems, sizing, unit maintenance and trouble-shooting. The tuition for this class will be \$60.00 plus a textbook fee of \$60.00. No pre-registration required. Please be present at the first class meeting on April 19 at 6:30 in room K-115. For more information, call 386-3211.

Works from college artists showcased in Raleigh office

By BRYAN GENTRY
 Staff Writer

DOBSON — Local college students and faculty outshone North Carolina's other community colleges' representatives in this year's N.C. Community College System art show.

NCCCS invites students and employees at the state's 58 community colleges to brighten the appearance of the central office by submitting their art for display. NCCCS President Martin Lancaster (a former art council member) sorts through the submitted pieces and chooses work to display in the office.

With 14 works of art selected, Surry Community College has more displayed there than any other community college. "Lancaster is very interested in promoting the arts and showing the arts. He thought one way to beautify this building would be to decorate it with art," said Audrey Bailey, an NCCCS public information assistant. She said Lancaster places

the selected art in the building himself, although employees may ask to have their favorite pieces placed near their desks. Bailey said SCC's contributions are some of the most-viewed pieces.

"They all seem to be in places of prominence," Bailey said. One is in the president's conference room and two others are in the outer suite to that room.

ARTISTS: Surry Community College's submissions are popular in state office

Continued from page 1

Two are in the first-floor hallway, two are in the second-floor hallway and one is in the fifth-floor conference room that Bailey said is used by many different agencies.

The selections submitted from SCC include photographs, a stained-glass mirror, quilts, oil paintings, embroidery, a floral arrangement, a hand-woven basket and more.

SCC student Jan Smith's photo montage was one of the works selected. Smith described "All Natural Fibers" as a collection of photographs assembled to create an image of a woman dressed with a galaxy for a hair, bird wings for her blouse and a whirlpool for her skirt.

Smith said she was thrilled to have her work selected. She plans to finish SCC's Advertising and Graphic Design program soon. Then she will use her design skills in her antique shop, Roundhouse Antiques in Sparta.

The SCC pieces, along with works from other colleges, will be displayed in the building until next March when they are replaced by new entries.



Agreement opens SCC to high school students

By WENDY BYERLY
 Staff Writer

DOBSON — In their parents' minds, high school students might have jumped at the chance to take college courses for free. They didn't have that opportunity, but next year's seniors in Surry County Schools do.

Surry County Schools has developed a new agreement with Surry Community College so that seniors can take college courses. While the seniors only get elective credit at their high school, they will receive full college credit toward a degree or certification. Some of the college courses also will earn honors credit and a weighted grade point average at the high school.

"Course credit articulation has been available as a statewide program, but local school boards have to agree to participate in the program. Since the Surry County Board of Education approved the program, Dr. Terri Mosley, director of student services, has been working with officials at the community college to set up the program. She said the school, they will receive full

college credit toward a degree or certification. Some of the college courses also will earn honors credit and a weighted grade point average at the high school.

"Course credit articulation has been available as a statewide program, but local school boards have to agree to participate in the program. Since the Surry County Board of Education approved the program, Dr. Terri Mosley, director of student services, has been working with officials at the community college to set up the program. She said the school, they will receive full

College shows off two new buildings

By MARIA MAGHER
 Staff Writer

DOBSON — To celebrate 40 years of teaching and learning, and to introduce two of its new classroom buildings to the public, Surry Community College hosted an open house on Sunday.

The open house, which featured refreshments and entertainment, was held "to say thank you to the community for 40 years of support and to show-off the new buildings," said Sue Jarvis, director of marketing and career services.

Jarvis said that SCC was chartered in 1965, and the first classes were offered the following year. She said the state community college system was first introduced in the 1960s.

According to a list of facts about the college circulated during the open house, the first class of students graduated in 1968.

Since that time, more than 395,000 students have been enrolled in either continuing education or curriculum programs. Last year, 368 career technology students and 155 college transfer students graduated.

Because the college is always growing, Jarvis said the buildings were constructed to accommodate any specific need.

"Continuing Education is the division that offers courses rather than a degree program, so they're always growing because it's an immediate response to the need," she said.

Other programs that are rapidly expanding are graphic design and childhood education. In 2001-2002, the Small Business Center received the

MT Airy News April 7, 2005

See SCHOOL, page 2

See SCHOOL, page 2

Sports

Surry splits doubleheader ... again!

Knights drop first game, rebound for Game 2 win to salvage tie in Rockingham series



Jeff Adams takes a swing during Surry's 6-2 victory against Rockingham on Saturday afternoon.

DOBSON — Cole McCarty threw a three-hit complete game shutout to lead the Surry Knights to a 3-0 win against Rockingham in the second game of a doubleheader at Knights Field on Sunday.

Surry salvaged a split for the day and the four-game series after splitting a doubleheader on Saturday. Rockingham took Game 1 on Sunday with a come-from-behind 6-4 win, after scoring four runs in the top of the seventh.

In Game 2, neither team got things going through two innings, but Surry's bats came to life in the bottom of the third with two outs. Brandon Hains scored singled and then scored on a base hit from Jeff Adams, who moved to second after Rockingham's right fielder misplayed the ball.

Franz Frady, who was 1-for-2 in Game 2 with two RBIs and a walk, stepped to the plate and cranked a first-pitch fast ball over the leftfield fence to put the Knights up 5-0. Adams was 2-for-3 in the game with a run, a stolen base and an RBI.

Rockingham got back-to-back singles in the top of the fifth, but McCarty got a fly ball, a strikeout and a pop-out to first base to end the scoring.

Surry held coach Mark Tucker's first win in the series, but he said the team had a chance to win all four games in the series, but they failed to do so. "The two games they won, we had the lead going into the seventh and we couldn't put them away," he said.

Surry improved to 38-9 and host Pitt Community for a four-game series beginning on Saturday at 1 p.m. Sunday's doubleheader begins at noon.

In Game 1 on Sunday, Surry led 4-2 entering the top of the seventh, but Rockingham played four runs to take a 6-4 lead. Surry failed to score in its final at-bat.

Jessy Ains was 3-for-4 in Game 1 with two runs, a double, a stolen base and an RBI.

Andrews was 2-for-4 with a run, a double and an RBI. Former Surry Central student out Jared Moser was 2-for-2 with a sacrifice bunt for the Knights and Daniel Smith was 2-for-4 with an RBI in the loss.

Tucker was pleased with his team's ability to shake off Sunday's early loss.

"I thought in the second game we played really well, we've had this year. He really dominated their hitters. He's only thrown a lot in relief, he's only had a couple starts, and we decided to start him. He stepped up and pitched well for us. And he did it when we needed it."

Tucker said he isn't sure where Surry is in the Region X standings, because he hasn't seen scores for the weekend's other games.

He said the Knights need to finish strong entering the league tournament in Asheville, which starts May 11 and concludes on May 15. The tournament champion advances to the district tournament.

"We have to play well in the last two weekends against Pitt and Blue Ridge and we'll see how our pitchers can do," Tucker said.

"I think we have a good shot in the Region X conference tournament."

Agreement opens SCC to high school students

By Wendy Beverly Wood
Mid-South News Service

DOBSON — In their generations, parents and grandparents might have jumped at the chance to take college courses for free. They didn't have that opportunity, but next year's seniors in Surry County Schools do.

Surry County Schools has developed a new agreement with Surry Community College so that seniors can take college courses. While the seniors only get elective credit at their high school, they will receive full college credit toward a degree or certification. Some of the college courses also will earn honors credit and a weighted grade-point average at the high school.

"Course credit articulation" has been available as a statewide program, but local school boards have to agree to participate in the program.

Since the Surry County Board of Education approved the program, Dr. Terri Mosley, director of student services, has been working with officials at the community college to set up the program. She said the college has "always been willing to work with us. We just had to decide how and when."

The program will be implemented in the 2005-06 school year for seniors, but Mosley hopes it will be expanded for other grade levels in the future.

"We have had dual enrollment/dual credit in a limited number of courses — mainly vocational and cosmetics — through the Huskins Bill, but this agreement expands those offerings," said Mosley. She said the current dual-enrollment/dual-credit program allows juniors and seniors the opportunity to take college classes, but only high school students are in those classes.

The new articulation agreement allows seniors to enroll in classes with college students. The classes must be ones that are not already offered at the county's high schools, such as law enforcement operations, women and history and creative writing, just to name a few of the numerous possibilities. As another example, if a student has taken AP English, passed the class and received a high-enough score on the Advanced Placement exam, the student may be able to take English 102 at SCC.

In theory, a senior could be enrolled in four courses at SCC in one semester in the alternate semester, students must take senior-level English on their high school campus.

"The actual agreement with the state has 600 courses listed," said Mosley, but SCC does not offer all of 600.

A list of available classes for local students will be in the high schools' guidance offices. Rising seniors interested in taking college courses should see their guidance counselors as soon as possible, Mosley said. Students will have to take the SAT or a placement test for admission to some courses.

"The only cost to the students is books and transportation. They don't have to pay tuition as long as they are enrolled at a high school," she noted.

"My hope is once students start at Surry Community College in the program, they will continue and finish a certification or degree program," she said. "I think, the first time through, most of the ones interested would be those trying to get college transfer credit and those trying to finish certification courses."

Mosley said, "I like to think of (this) as a way to mentor students as they



Game 1

| | | | | |
|--|-----|-----|-----|-------|
| Rockingham | 000 | 000 | 0-4 | 6-2 |
| Surry | 200 | 200 | 0-4 | 1-2-3 |
| McKinnis and Hall (R); Williams and Chatham (SCC); WP—McMinnis, LP—David Williams, (7-2); B—Bosch (R); 2B—Blair (R); Anderson (SCC); Aas (SCC); Halesed (SCC). | | | | |

Game 2

| | | | | |
|--|-----|-----|-----|-----|
| Rockingham | 000 | 000 | 0-4 | 3-1 |
| Surry | 000 | 000 | 0-3 | 4-0 |
| Gilliland and Glover (R); Cole McCarty and Chatham (SCC); WP—McCarty, LP—Gilliland, HR—Jesse Frady, 2B—Mitschak (R); Record: Surry 38-9. | | | | |

Seminar will aid exporting

By BRYAN GENTRY
Staff Writer

DOBSON — A U.S. Commercial Service program will help local businesses find a foothold in foreign markets in a program that begins next week.

The USCS, a division of the Department of Commerce, will hold its Tools for Trade seminar at Surry Community College starting April 19. The eight-week program will teach business owners how to start, expand and succeed in exporting and importing.

Dale York, owner of Carolina Textiles in Dobson, took the course when it was offered once at Wilkes Community College. Now that the program is coming to Surry County, he plans to take advantage of it again.

"(Exporting) is a little more complicated than most people think," York said. "Tools for Trade" takes some of the complexity and the unknown out of it," he said.

Although his company had already exported some of its niche-market, heavy duty socks before the course was held at WCC, York signed up to find more details.

In that regard of seminars, he learned a lot that helped his business expand their exporting.

He said the program started by teaching businesses how to prepare for exporting. Instructions covered topics including making contacts and fulfilling legal requirements.

Then the course dove deeper into the details of shipping across national borders. Some sessions taught the terminology that is used in exporting. Others taught packaging techniques and ways to find out regulations in the products' destination countries. Finally, it also taught business leaders how to ensure that their companies will get paid for the exports.

"We had a lot of great speakers from the Department of Commerce, the Small Business Administration and freight forwarders," York said.

Some classes included teleconferences with trade officials in Canada and Mexico, he said.

Carolina Textiles now exports to four countries. York said he will take Tools for Trade again to help his business export even more.

He recommended it to other companies, too. "We've got a lot of good businesses in Surry County that could use this," he said.

Amy Stine, vice president of existing industry at the Surry County Economic Development Partnership, said the seminar can give businesses in the county an edge.

"The economy has suffered because of businesses shipping jobs overseas. However, trade is going to stay. It's something we've got to reckon with. Stine said.

The Tools for Trade seminar can help the local economy not only by helping businesses export their products, but also by teaching them how to cut production costs by improving their processes. Stine said. "The cut costs can lead to lower prices, making local businesses more competitive."

Stine said a North Carolina Department of Commerce employee told her that of about 30 Tools for Trade participants, nine had reported a total of 18 export transactions with a dollar value surpassing \$1.9 million.

Tools for Trade will meet in room J-107, in SCC's new J building, from 9:30 a.m. to noon every Tuesday from April 19 to June 14, except for May 31, Memorial Day, when class will be skipped.

The seminar is free, but people interested in participating need to preregister before the first day of class by calling Stine at 386-4781 or by e-mailing her at amy@surry.net.

A flyer advertising the seminar says the program is for "companies that are not presently exporting and need to answer the question, 'Should my company export?' ... (And) companies that are new to exporting and need the tools to begin and avoid costly mistakes. (And) companies that are currently exporting but need the tools to expand overseas markets and sales."

Surry Community College cordially invites you to an Open House Celebrating 40 Years of Excellence and presenting the newly constructed Multi-Story Classroom Building and Engineering Technologies Building

Sunday afternoon, April 3, 2005
2 o'clock until 4 o'clock
Opening program at 2:15
Room J-114/115
Multi-Story Classroom Building

SCC investigates adding more health programs

By BRYAN GENTRY
Staff Writer

DOBSON — Surry Community College could add programs in health, crafts and culinary arts in the next year. Administrators hope to submit applications for these programs to the state's Board of Community Colleges this fall.

SCC Chief Academic Officer Steve Atkins said the college has collected results from a survey on its Web site and interviewed faculty on the application process areas that the application process can continue.

"The programs that are in health occupations are still in very-high demand," Atkins said. Surry's responses have shown a lot of local interest in having occupational therapy, physical therapy, radiology and medical technology programs, among other allied health programs.

Atkins said these results were not surprising because the college's existing health-related programs are popular. "We'll probably develop one or two more programs for 2006 in Allied Health," he said.

Another program that people have shown interest in is the professional crafts program. Several students are currently enrolled in a beginning crafts class, but a full-fledged degree program has not been approved. If the application is approved this fall, SCC could start a degree program in professional crafts with a concentration on clay in fall 2006.

Atkins said clay will be the first medium covered in a professional crafts degree because it has more people interested. Also, that program is less expensive to develop.

Clay will only be the beginning, Atkins said more classes will be offered in the meantime to reach craftsmanship in jewelry, wood and fiber. These courses will be offered through continuing education until a degree program for the media is approved.

Atkins said the college may also start a culinary science program with continuing education classes. The survey responses have shown interest in the program, and Atkins said this program also could start in the fall of 2006.

The next step in the application process requires the college to find what local employment possibilities exist in those fields. The Surry County Economic Development Partnership program also has helped establish con-



SCC

Road to college begins before graduation

By Nancy E. Burns
Staff Reporter

In only a few short weeks students from the Tri-County will be bidding their high school days farewell. Many will be embarking on a journey even more exciting and rewarding than senior beach week — college.

The path to higher education can take many routes. Diplomas or certificates and associate degrees are available at community colleges.

Bachelors, masters and doctoral degrees are obtained from colleges or universities. Finding the right match for each student is one of the most important things Martha Almond, director of undergraduate admissions at Wake Forest University, said Thursday.

High school guidance offices are actively engaging students to help them with this process.

See College, Page A-15

College

Continued from front page

Career and college fairs and personal conferences with students are offered through the guidance offices at each Tri-County high school.

Junior and senior level students have a wealth of resources and opportunities to learn about college through their guidance counselors.

East Wilkes High provides its students with a College Advisement Handbook at the beginning of senior year. This book is a timetable for application deadlines and scholarship information.

College fairs at Wilkes and Surry Community colleges allow students to meet and ask questions of admissions representatives from local colleges, both state-supported and private.

"I think the college fair gets them going," East Wilkes guidance counselor Kenneth Foster said.

College visits can be even more important as students begin thinking about applying.

"Visiting colleges is absolutely essential to get a feel for what's out there," Almond said.

Gus Peña, assistant director of admissions at Appalachian State University, concurs, saying that visiting a campus should give students added confidence.

After finding a school, or several schools that are a match, the next important step is to research the application process and requirements.

All state supported schools in North Carolina mandate that students meet a set of minimum course requirements. These courses are essential for admission and will be taken at the beginning of the freshman year of high school.

"Students need to be prepared to have most things taken care of by their junior year," Peña said of the minimum course requirements.

Application and financial aid or scholarship paperwork should be completed well before the deadlines, admissions professionals suggest.

"First and foremost is meeting application deadlines," Michael McHone, vice president of student services at Surry Community College, said.

Being aware of extra requirements in the application such as reference letters or personal essays is also very important.

Also, many college programs such as art have special requirements such as a portfolio.

Paying for college is a major factor for most students. Sharron Angie, Kristin Phillips said that a large part of her decision was based on the tuition. She will be attending Western Carolina in the fall.

Almond suggested a family conference to discuss issues of finance when planning for college.

While senior year of high school is a busy an exciting time, it is still important for students to keep up with school work.

"Senior year they need to be taking challenging courses," Peña said. "The ones that are successful are the ones that keep the momentum going and challenge themselves in their courses."

Dual enrollment or summer courses at a community college is also an excellent way to prepare students for the intellectually challenging world of higher education, said McHone.

Perhaps the main thing for students to remember as they research, plan and apply for college is to ask questions. Guidance counselors, admissions professionals, parents and a variety of internet resources are available to help students through the process.



Tribune
April 29, 2005

EDUCATION NEWS



SCC Phi Beta Lambda members attended the State Leadership Conference in Charlotte April 14-17. Pictured are, from left: Rodney McDaniel; Susan Cardiser; Dr. Donna Harbour, advisor; Rodney Owens; Peggy Shores, Professional Division member; Sharon Angie; Ashley Davis, Professional Division member; Kadin Ticker; Annanda Douglas, Professional Division member; Kamal Barker; Chasty Gravely; Steven Moncus; Andrea Smith; James Goodman; Kristi Stoker; Hunter Collins; Dr. Brenda Barfield, advisor; Amanda Cox; Lynn Wilson; Beverly Felts; Shawn Senter, Professional Division member; Lisa Thomas; Elizabeth White; Sharon Bowman; Rachel Lane; and Debbie Branch, advisor.

SCC students bring home state business competition awards

DOBSON — Members of the Surry Community College Phi Beta Lambda Club and their faculty advisors, Debbie Branch, Dr. Donna Harbour and Dr. Brenda Barfield, attended the annual State Leadership Conference in Charlotte earlier this month and brought home numerous recognitions.

Phi Beta Lambda is a national organization devoted to providing opportunities for college students to develop business-related career competencies including leadership skills, positive character traits, and an interest in and understanding of the American free enterprise system.

Membership includes college students; faculty advisors; and professional members who may be former student members, business persons, and other members of the community who demonstrate an interest in students.

Fourth-place finishers were Hunter Collins, Future Business Executive; Annanda Cox, Business Communications; and Andrea Smith, Finance.

Fifth-place recipients were Barker, Hospitality Management; Sharon Bowman, Business Communications; Chasty Gravely, Accounting for Professionals; Gravely, Elizabeth White, and Lynn Wilson, Business Decision Making; and Julie Harris, Statistical Analysis.

Sharon Angie took seventh place in Accounting Principles.

Eighth-place finishers were Rachel Lane, Business Law; and Moncus, International Business.

Two students received special recognition based on additional specific, required activities. Carlie placed at the Director Level in the Career and Membership Achievement Program, and

Lisa Thomas, Word Processing.

Stoker placed at the Director and Executive Level in the Career and Membership Achievement Program and was recognized as "Who's Who in North Carolina Phi Beta Lambda."

Owens, Stoker and White will head to the national competition in Orlando, Fla., in July.

"This is a talented and professional group of students, a group of whom Surry Community College and the community in general can be quite proud," Barfield said.

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SCC

April 29, 2005

COLLEGIATE NEWS



Phi Beta Lambda The Surry Community College Phi Beta Lambda members who will compete in national competition in Orlando, Fla., in July of this year are, front row from left: Steve Moncus and Kamal Barker. Back row: Elizabeth White, Sharon Angie, Rodney Owens and Kristi Stoker.



May 13, 2005 MH Long News



Kristy Burns/Mid-South News Service
The Armfield Foundation honored 45 scholarship recipients from local high schools and Surry Community College in a reception held at the college Tuesday afternoon.

Armfield Foundation awards scholarships to 45 students

DOBSON — The Edward Armfield Foundation honored the new recipients of the Armfield Scholarship in a program held Tuesday afternoon at Surry Community College. The foundation awarded scholarships to 45 students graduating from 15 high schools and SCC this year.

"This is the most outstanding group of students we've seen yet," said Steve Joyce, the foundation's executive director. The Armfield Foundation makes scholarships available to students graduating from high schools in Surry County, as well as to SCC graduates who formerly graduated from local high schools. The award is based on financial need, as well as academic performance and leadership.

Joyce said each school has a screening committee which chooses applications to be sent to the selection committee. The receiving committees forward twice the number of applicants as there are scholarships available.

The selection committee then chooses scholarship winners.

"I feel really good about the choices we made there (in the selection committee)," Joyce said.

But still, the choice wasn't easy.

"Some good students — did not receive scholarships because the competition is so high," he said.

The scholarship was established by Edward Armfield, whose Pilot Mountain-based business employed hundreds of people in Surry County. Armfield always felt strongly about education, Joyce said, and during his life Armfield often made direct contributions to students' education.

Those direct contributions, not passing through a foundation, never gave Armfield a tax deduction, but he wanted to help people receive an education.

Armfield Foundation President Bedford Cannon said Armfield also wanted to help the people of Surry County who had helped him.

"There were just an awful lot of people who were integral in the success of his business," Cannon said. "The same things apply for Armfield scholarship recipients. They are blessed with the fortune of having good parents, teachers and coaches," he said.

"One of the most important choices you have to make is the type of people to surround yourself with," he told the scholarship recipients. "Surround yourselves with good people. I think your life will be more fulfilling because you've done that."

Superintendents and principals introduced the high school winners and SCC President Dr. Frank Sells announced the college's winners. They each acknowledged that the Armfield Foundation is making a huge difference for the community's students.

"As one who would not have



COLLEGIATE NEWS

SCC recognizes academic excellence

On Thursday, April 21, 2005, Surry Community College held its Academic Excellence Awards Ceremony to recognize students with outstanding academic achievements. Mike Malone, Vice-President for Student Development, commented on the ceremony. "This ceremony honors students who set and attained high academic goals. These students who have excelled here will likely go on to demonstrate excellence in senior colleges and universities and excellence in the workplace. We are extremely proud of each recipient."

The following students received academic awards in the categories indicated:

North Carolina Community College System Academic Excellence Awardee: Donna Holt, Medical Office Administration, Jamie Harris O'Neal, College Transfer, Computer Science/Electronics, Aaron Jackson and Thomas McCraw

Cooperative Education: Aaron Jackson

Carlson Frisbie: Jeffrey Wade Sisk and Arthur Cleason Shores, III

Distance Education: Kevin Wooten

Early Childhood Education: Lynn Malloy, Gina Sheets, Cheryl Bryant, Laura Queen, Stacy Davis, Shirley Davis, Jennifer Conn, Gary Vance, Catha Hodges, Amy Payne

Phi Beta Lambda Awards: First-place winners: Seven Mancus, Kristi Stoker, Shannon Angle, Rodney Owens, and Elizabeth White. Second-place winners: Kaitlyn Barker and Rodney Owens

Third-place winners: Susan Carlisle, Amanda Cox, Beverly Fells, and Lisa Thomas

Fourth-place winners: Hunter Collins, Amanda Cox, and Andrew Smith

Fifth-place winners: Kaitlyn Barker, Sharon Bowman, Chastity Gravelly, Chastity White, Lynn Wilson, James Goodman, Janelle Harris

Seventh-place winner: Sharon Angle

Eighth-place winners: Rachel Lane Steven Moncus, Special recognition: Susan Carlisle Kristi Stoker

Award: Jeolyn Steves

Sports Award: Samantha State Employee Crellin Tuna Scholarship: Jennifer Rodgers

Who's Who Among Students in American Junior Colleges: Susan Annarum, Joshua Edwin Armstrong, Amber Parolite Ashby, Christian Ayila, Lauren Belverich Bartlett, Nathaniel Bruce Barker, Kimberly Renee Bishop, Lillian C Bowman, Sharon Lorraine Bowman, Wanda Hayden Branch, Kathleen Michelle Browder, Christopher Scott Brown, Melanie Jane Carrier, Angela Wagner Clure, Carrie Elizabeth Coulson, Jesse James Cocke, Heather Rickelle Cox, Daniel Wayne Dunlop, Karen Anneta Dunlop, Michael Anthony Duncan, Dwight David Eastler, Samantha Leigh Eaton, Jesse Grey Edlmann, Josh Paul Fleischman, Barbara J Porter, Mona Annette Fowler, Brenda Kay Freeman, Becky Hart Goum, Avis Stanley Gordy Chastity Sunshine Gravelly, Melissa Katherine Hale, David Oles Hall, Brandon Scott Haisland, Katherine Southam Hewes, Donna Marie Holt, Aaron Grey Jackson, Jennifer Lee Johnson-Peggy Sizemore Johnson, Wendy W. Jones, Benjamin Daniel Mahaffy, David Michael Mappe, Jennifer Rose Matthews, Nicholas Ray McClary, James Patrick McCormack, Steven Wayne Moncus, Tasha Nichole Montgomery, Carolyn Edwards Moore, Jared Black Moser, Chrystyne Wittman Murphy, Linda Eads Neese, Sara Andrea Nichols, Dori Rash Nichols, Jamie Harris O'Neal, Timothy Matthew Patrick, Eric David Peterson, Bradford Everett Rakes, Jason Dale Rakes, Roger Gray Sawyers, Allison Lindsey Slate, Audrey Christine Smith, Sherry Frasier Smith, Kristi Lynne Stoker, Johnathon Ray Strickland, Kate Janine Sykes, Amy Larva Tiley, Kenneth Craig Tucker, Nancy Easter Utz, Elizabeth Holder White, Loreita Lynne Wilson, Sheryl Annette Wolkamp, Kevin Wenzler Wooten, Penny Taylor Young, Hunter David Zawiski



Change leads to talks

'Appreciation Day' topic for students, SCC officials

By BRYAN GENTRY
Staff Writer

DOBSON — Damp weather canceled one outdoor event April 29. Surry Community College's planned Student Appreciation Day, however, even the indoor events were changed nearly last minute due to a change in the administration made in response to state law.

The planned games and other activities were canceled and replaced by a lunch and a petition.

SCC has traditionally canceled classes from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. every year on Student Appreciation Day, which is held to bring students together and boost morale. Barry Seary, SCC's Student Government Association advisor, said the practice was already well established when his employment at SCC began more than 20 years ago.

Last year, he said, some faculty still required their students to attend class during Student Appreciation Day. Seary's e-mailed the college's faculty this year to remind them that classes would be canceled.

When SCC administrators saw the note, having just completed an audit, SCC President Dr. Frank Sells decided classes could not be canceled.

"Frankly, it's illegal to cancel class without some kind of physical obstruction" such as inclement weather, said SCC Chief Academic Officer Dr. Steve Atkins. "We have to show that classes meet for a certain amount of time."

"Accountability is very high now for class time being at a premium."

When the college is audited, it must show that each class met for the required number of hours. Having too few hours —

or, surprisingly, too many — would result in a high fine to the college.

And with the college tightening its belt to get by on a falling budget, administrators decided Student Appreciation Day was not worth the risk. The fine, Sells decided, that the classes would be held, but students could attend the appreciation day activities between and after classes.

"We felt like it wasn't being good stewards of state money," Atkins said. "I think he (Sells) made the only responsible decision that could be made."

Students, however, felt that they got a bad deal.

"So many students had planned to take part in (and run) some of the activities that were canceled, some of them couldn't afford to miss class and didn't want to," Seary said. The SGA decided to cancel the activities that required teachers or students to run booths. "We just went with the activities that didn't require student or faculty participation," Seary said.

Seary also said they were concerned that students would skip class if activities were held.

"I was really disappointed that they felt they needed to cancel it," Atkins said. "It wasn't that the administration thought it wasn't a worthwhile event — it was a great day and a good morale booster."

Instead of participating in games in the SCC gym, students were given a free lunch in the Knight's Grill cafeteria and were entertained by Ewabo, a enhyppo steel drum band based in Washington, D.C., between classes. Many students signed a petition.

"I think this should not just be a possibility but a fact," she said. "The students not only want a day built in the calendar, but we deserve it. ... I feel getting Student Appreciation Day placed into the calendar permanently is a definite plus for the college students and faculty. I feel it would increase morale and student/faculty interaction."

Seary said last week's Student Appreciation Day was still a success.

"We didn't have a cookout like we normally do, but they were able to go through the lunch line and get (free) lunch," he said. "We were still able to have our usual."



See SCC, page 3

SCC: Students, officials discuss 'Appreciation Day'

Continued from page 1

petition asking that Student Appreciation Day be recognized next year.

"It's one of, if not the only day that we students actually get to see the Student Activity Fee that we pay each semester put into action," said SGA President Jennifer Johnson.

Johnson said the idea about

SCC golf tournament raises \$60,000

By BRYAN GENTRY
Staff Writer

DOBSON — The annual golf tournament for the Surry Community College Foundation brought in more than \$60,000 last week for the college to use for scholarships and other student and faculty needs.

This year's success continues the trend of increased profits every year. The foundation raised \$51,000 in the tournament last year and \$40,000 the year before. Leaders at the college

and its foundation are thrilled with the results.

"It's just an extremely fantastic activity," said SCC President Dr. Frank Sells. "I don't know of many golf tournaments that compare to how successful this one is."

He said many people played in the tournament on May 5 at Pilot Knob Park's golf course in spite of cool, windy weather.

"People really go out to support the college for this tournament," he said.

5-13-05

SCC: Money used for scholarships

Continued from page 1A

"These scholarships make a world of difference," said SCC Foundation Director Maroon Venable. "The community supports us so well, and it just means so much for our students."

The tournament profits also help with facility development. It is used to provide an award for teaching excellence every year.

In addition, Venable said the money has been used to improve the school's GED program and help students travel to national competitions.

"It allows our students to do

some things that they couldn't do without financial support," she said.

Those who organize the fund-raiser work on it year-round — they will meet in a few days to start work on next year's tournament — and they get a lot of positive response from corporations and individuals who want to help.

"All you have to say is Surry Community College, and they're willing to help in some way," said Becky Money, the foundation's marketing and public relations director. "I can't think of any place I called this year... that they couldn't help us out with something."

Cedar Brook Golf Course in Elkin will host the tournament next year, Venable said.

Corporate sponsors help out with financial contributions plus items to be given as door prizes.

Money said last week's tournament had 130 sponsors. The two eagle sponsors were Woltz and Associates from Roanoke, Va., and Hampton Inn/Blackmon Ventures.

She said 256 people played in the tournament.

"Everybody seems to have a very good time, and they feel very good about the results of their participation," Venable said.



See SCC, page 2A

5-13-05

Armfield scholarships awarded to students

By KATY E. BURNS
Staff Reporter

Surry

DOBSON — College tuition is one less thing some students in Surry County will have to worry about as they plan for graduation. A reception was held at Surry Community College on Tuesday to honor 45 students from local high schools and SCC who received Edward M. Armfield, Sr. Scholarships.

"This is the fourth class of recipients, and that means that the annual commitment from the Armfield Foundation is now close to a million dollars in support of families of students from Surry County," Billy Sawyers, assistant superintendent of Surry County Schools, said.

The scholarship awards are need-based and range from \$4,000 to \$7,500, depending upon the school of choice. The award is renewable as long as students maintain a 3.0 grade point average.

See Awarded, back page

Page A-10 — The Tribune, Elkin-Jonesville, N.C., Friday, May 13, 2005

Awarded

Continued from front page

my money work after I'm gone? It really came down to giving back to the community and the people that helped him."

Elkin High School senior Lindsay Wall said that the scholarship will be a great help for her and her family.

"I'm going to the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill," Wall said. "I'm going to major in philosophy and I'm going because the scholarship will allow me to be the first person in my family in 120 years to go to college."

The winners are chosen based upon several criteria. First, a screening is done to determine financial need. The scholarship application includes a narrative written by the student. A selection committee composed of school superintendents, President Frank Sells of SCC and members of the Armfield Foundation determine the winners for each school.

"It's just a wonderful program, and we're just so appreciative," Sawyers said. "I can't think of anything in my 27-year career that has had a greater impact on the families and students of Surry County."

This year's winners are:



The fourth class of recipients of the Edward M. Armfield, Sr. Scholarship were honored Tuesday at a reception at Surry Community College. The winners were from the five high schools in Surry County as well as graduates of Surry Community College.

- Elkin: Kelly J. Blackburn, Anna C. Blevins, Celeste M. Faulkner, Patrick W. Jones, Lindsay A. Wall, Jeffrey N. Wood.
- Surry Central High School: Dominic T. Boyles, Kristan A. Brazz, Eric Dustin Combs, Emily M. Foster, Nathaniel B. Gay, Malory D. Ireland, Daniel L. Johnson and Megan A. Stimpson.
- North Surry High School: Chelsey B. Beverly, Justin A. East, Surry: Brittny A. Handy, Emily E. Hull, Christopher W. Jones, Aruna L. Keiger, Matthew T. Lisk, Brittany H. Reynolds, Jacob A. Thomas and Trenton Z. Young.
- Surry Community College: Jacob C. Bryant, Samantha L. Eaton, Gerald B. Gentry, Donna M. Hall, Andrew R. Martin, Allison F. Shinnault, Casey R. Thomas and Amy L. Tilly.
- Boles, Sonya D. Goins, Robert R. Goodson, Daniel A. Jessup, Sebrun J. Jessup, Zachariah F. Krautwurst, and Sarah E. Surphin.
- Mount Airy: Bethany J. Donnell, Bradley D. Gentry, Audra L. Hodges, Crystal M. Isaacs, Rachael S. Johnson, Alexander F. Tilley and Pang Nhin Yang.
- North Surry High School: Chelsey B. Beverly, Justin A. East, Surry: Brittny A. Handy, Emily E. Hull, Christopher W. Jones, Aruna L. Keiger, Matthew T. Lisk, Brittany H. Reynolds, Jacob A. Thomas and Trenton Z. Young.
- Surry Community College: Jacob C. Bryant, Samantha L. Eaton, Gerald B. Gentry, Donna M. Hall, Andrew R. Martin, Allison F. Shinnault, Casey R. Thomas and Amy L. Tilly.



Lifestyless

Walker follows her first love by teaching medical assisting

By BRYAN GENTRY
 Staff Writer

Erica Walker has known for more than 15 years that she has a talent for caring for people when they are sick. That's why she planned for years to work in the medical field.

She has also discovered a love for counseling and helping people through their problems and teaching as well. All these things brought her to Surry Community College to teach in the medical assisting program.

"My first love is medical assisting," she said. "But my second love is human services and gerontology."

When Walker was 10 years old, she lived in Roanoke River in Wilkes County. She started to learn the care of her great-grandmother, when professional caretakers could not be there. She helped her great-grandmother for four years. During that time, her mother pointed out that she was really good at caring for people and suggested that she look into the medical profession.

Profile

Name: Erica Walker
Age: 27
Home town: Roanoke River
Occupation: Medical assisting instructor at Surry Community College
Family: Husband, Travis Sales
Education: East Wilkes High School, Wilkes Community College, Gardner-Webb University
Hobbies: Spending time with husband, shopping with mom
Favorite music: R&B
Favorite book: "The Color Purple"
Favorite movie: "Ray"

The idea seemed very natural. "Whenever we got to anything in school that dealt with anatomy or physiology, I was instantly attracted," she said. "My parents wanted me to be a nurse but I had no desire to be an R.N.," Walker said. "I always wanted to do something in the medical office setting."

After graduating from East Wilkes High School, where she participated in student government, cheerleading, the track team and band, Walker enrolled in Wilkes Community College's medical assisting degree program. Two years later, she received her associate's degree and went out into the workforce.

An associate's degree in medical assisting qualifies a person to perform many functions in a medical office. They can do administrative work, such as insurance billing and appointment scheduling, as well as clinical procedures, such as taking blood samples or checking blood pressure.

While she worked as a medical assistant at a doctor's office in Wilkes County, Walker returned to school at WCC at night. Gardner-Webb University offered classes on the WCC campus that allowed her to finish her bachelor's degree with a major in human services.

During that time, Walker developed a love for teaching.

After she graduated, she returned to WCC to give speeches to students. She liked speaking to groups of people about the medical profession.

"I taught part time at WCC while I worked at the doctor's office," she said. "That was about five years ago."

Then, just about a year ago, her job at the doctor's office ended.

However, it wasn't too much later when she heard about a job opening for an instructor in Surry Community College's medical assisting program. "When this came open, I knew that this is where I'm going to be," she said.

She applied for the position and started teaching at SCC in August 2004. "God blessed me when this came open," she said.

Walker taught more than 200 students in her first two semesters at SCC. Most of her classes were medical terminology, and she also taught a lot of clinical classes.

Walker said she is excited about the opportunity the program offers to her students.

"I'm very excited about the program," she said. "This is going to open a lot of doors for displaced workers and people coming out of high school."

She feels a bond with her students because she was once in their shoes.

"I definitely think that, since I've worked in it, I can teach by example," Walker said. "I understand how it feels to be where they're at. I know how they feel when they have to go out and work in their externship, and not get paid for it. I know what it's like to have to be at work until 7:30 because the doctor's late with something."

"I think that that's how my students and I relate so well."

One of Walker's favorite parts of being a medical assisting teacher has been seeing students go through those experiences that she went through less than 10 years ago.



Erica Walker

Bryan Gentry/The Mount Airy News

Surry Community College graduates 339

The Mount Airy News Saturday, May 14, 2005-3

By BRYAN GENTRY
 Staff Writer

WINSTON-SALEM

Donna Holt wanted to go to college when she graduated from high school 20 years ago, but she couldn't afford it. Instead, she chose to work in a factory.

When she and her husband learned in January 2003 that the factory where they worked, Pine State Kalamazoo, would close, they were checked, angry and afraid of the future.

Thursday night, speaking in the graduation ceremony for Surry Community College's class of 2005, Holt explained she and her husband leaving their Pine State jobs led each of them to a college education.

"It wasn't a bad day," she said, speaking of the day they learned the factory would close. "It turned out to be the best day of our lives so far."

After the initial shock and anger subsided, we decided we would pursue job retraining at Surry Community College.

Holt said, "I wanted to get the skills to start my career over. I decided to never work in a factory again and have to face that uncertainty."

The Holt's started classes at SCC in the summer of 2005. Donna Holt won an academic excellence award with a 4.0 grade point average, and was selected as one of the student speakers for her graduation.

"Though my husband Larry and I will catch the first in our families to graduate from college," she said, looking out at her fellow graduates assembled in Wait Chapel at Wake Forest University.



among the 339 students who were awarded degrees, diplomas and certificates in the graduation services. About 160 students marched in the graduation.

The class of 2005 was a mix of people from many walks of life, but they each found a place in Dobson's new-year college.

The other displaced workers and the instructors made us feel right at home," Holt said.

SCC is not a school to me," said Jamie O'Neal, the other academic excellence award winner.

"It is a home. It is a home for the graduate, and the recent high school graduate, for the displaced worker, and the degree seeker."

Both student speakers, one covered their fellow graduates to look forward and set goals for the future.

"Don't stop here," Holt said. "Set higher goals for yourself."

"Aspire to higher learning ... in a manner which demonstrates your goals in your life. These are probably the most important."

"I am proud to be a student at a college that not only helps students set those goals," she said, "but also helps them achieve them."



Bryan Gentry/The Mount Airy News

SCC Vice President for Student Services Mike McHone conducted the graduation. He said the class of 2005 is the college's 37th graduating class.

McHone recognized the college faculty, the board of trustees and the families of students for the support and encouragement they devoted to help the students reach this point.

State Treasurer Richard Moore also addressed the graduates and other guests. He encouraged the graduates to exercise fiscal discipline by being money and being careful with it.

"When you get a pay check and you're sitting down with all your bills, I want you to pull a check out with your name on it," Moore said. He said exercising discipline and saving just \$50 every week will add up with time.

He also encouraged the graduates to be careful with their money and to invest into buying a home.

SCC graduation set for tonight

By BRYAN GENTRY
 Staff Writer
 WINSTON-SALEM — Surry Community College will hold its graduation services tonight at 7 p.m. in Wait Chapel on the campus of Wake Forest University.

SCC Vice President for Student Services Mike McHone said 339 graduates will receive degrees this year. He said 165 of those graduates will participate by marching in the graduation ceremony.

N.C. Treasurer Richard Moore will be the guest speaker at tonight's ceremony. Surry Community College will hold its graduation services tonight at 7 p.m. in Wait Chapel on the campus of Wake Forest University.

SCC Vice President for Student Services Mike McHone said 339 graduates will receive degrees this year. He said 165 of those graduates will participate by marching in the graduation ceremony.

Tonight's services will be video recorded and broadcast on SCC-TV next week. Director of Video Productions Josh Nixon said the services will be broadcast on channel 7 for Time Warner Cable subscribers from May 16 to 22 at 7 p.m. each day.



Bryan Gentry/The Mount Airy News

Surry Community College students sit outside Wait Chapel before their graduation ceremony begins.

"When you pay (in a month's wage), you're paying yourself."

"Remember the people who helped you get where you are," he said.

"Tonight, find the people you love, put your arm around them and tell them you love them."



SCC



SCC receives superior ranking

By BRYAN GENTRY
Staff Writer

DOBSON — Surry Community College has again reached the Superior ranking in its annual evaluation from the North Carolina Community College System. The ranking reflects the college's efforts on preparing students for the work force and continued education.

The state's community college system released its 2005 Critical Success Factors Report this week. The document measures the performance of all 58 community colleges against a set of standards in five factors that determine success. SCC met and exceeded many of the standards in those areas, along with 36 other colleges that received the superior ranking.

"I think it's great that we're able to remain in that select group of colleges that accomplish that achievement," said SCC President Dr. Frank Sells. "I'm proud of our staff and people who caused that to happen." "We're very pleased to have that kind of recognition of excellence. It's a standard that has been established by the system and like so many other organizations, we are performance driven," said SCC Executive Vice President Dr. Gary Tilley. "There's always room for improvement, but we are certainly pleased with that report card."

He said he is pleased with the progress that SCC is making in meeting and surpassing the requirements.

The success factors report shows that SCC slightly out-ranks the state average in several areas.

While 100 percent of SCC students passed the Basic Law Enforcement Training test on the first try in the 2003-04 school year (the latest year for which data has been reported), the system average for the same test was only 94 percent.

In the same year, 97 percent of SCC students passed cosmetology certification, while only 90 percent did statewide.

In the nursing program, 100 percent of SCC's students taking the Practical Nursing licensure exam passed. Only 96 percent passed statewide.

SCC also performed better than average in helping students take developmental courses to succeed in later college courses. At SCC, 93 percent of students who took developmental classes pass their subsequent classes, while the community college system averages 86 percent.

In some areas, however, SCC has seen some declining performance, including the per-

SCC nursing program tackling testing challenges

By BRYAN GENTRY
Staff Writer

DOBSON — The Surry Community College nursing program continues to meet challenges and work to overcome them. With dedicated effort and strategic changes, the college has been able to help its nursing students succeed. Carol Boles, chair of SCC's Allied Health Division, believes some recent changes will help students increase their future success on licensure examinations.

The North Carolina Community College System released its Critical Success Factors report last week, granting SCC a superior ranking again and comparing the school's performance to the other community colleges. One section reports the percentage of students from each college passing the National Certification Licensure Examination (NCLEX) for nursing the first time taking the test.

SCC's Practical Nursing students passed their test with flying colors — all who took the test for the first time in 2004 passed. The state average was only 96 percent.

Meanwhile, SCC's Registered Nursing students — recipients of the Associate Degree in Nursing — only had a 73 percent passing rate, compared to the previous year's average of 85 percent, and a statewide average this year of 86 percent.

Boles feels that RN passing rate will catch up.

"We're very excited about the PN passing rate," Boles said. "We're very pleased that these students did that well." Practical Nursing is a very strong program.

"These students study very positive. They were able to deal with the anxiety of taking this test," she said.

The Practical Nursing program differs from the associate degree program because it is more hands-on. "These students study very positive. They were able to deal with the anxiety of taking this test," she said.

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"I feel we need to continue leadership in this field. I would like to make a motion that the project presented by Dr. Sells ... be accepted by the board."

LaDonna McCarther, board vice-chair

Although the trustees are cautious and want some questions answered about the center's operations, they expressed optimism and enthusiasm about seeing it built on their campus.

"It's an idea that I have presented to the legislators, and they seem to like it because there's money in the budget for it," said SCC President Dr. Frank Sells. The Senate's budget, which passed early last month, would allow \$500,000 for planning the facility. The House budget, still under deliberation, also calls for some

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Center: Would serve a variety of purposes

Continued from page 1

Carther. "I would like to make a motion that the project presented by Dr. Sells ... be accepted by the board."

After her motion, the board discussed their concerns and their hope for the center.

Mike Royster supported the idea, but he said he wanted the board to be cautious. State law requires that the college's operational expenses be paid for by money from local budgets. With local budgets tightening, Royster said he wonders if the center would be able to budget enough to the college to support the viticulture center.

"Would this center be primarily self-supporting, or will the burden fall on the college to maintain it?" he asked.

"This is a great idea," he said. "But we as trustees need to make sure that we don't outgrow our ability to keep what we have maintained."

"What I don't want to see happen to us ... building something that the whole community uses, and it's a boom to the economy, but we're stuck with having to pay to maintain it," he said.

Dan Stone of Pilot Mountain said the center would probably not break even, but it would be worth the support of the local campus.

He said the Yadkin County budget, which handles those expenses at the SCC Yudin Center in Yadkinville, looks a little better, and that the fund balancer is very good for a facility of its size.

The college has strained under the demand of growing needs and shrinking local budgets. SCC President Dr. Frank Sells said projects slated for the next financial year, such as the Workforce Development Center, depend on good results.

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Incoming students take the placement test to determine their skill levels and recommend which classes they should take in their first semester.

This is the placement test most of our incoming freshmen take," said Testing Center Coordinator Laura Bracken.

"It tells them what their place will be for English, reading and math."

She said the test does not pass or fail students and it does not affect the admission status.

The test is taken to measure their skills," she said. "It allows us the opportunity to see what the students' skills are in these three subject areas so they'll be more successful when they start."

"We do recommend that they do a review or study before they take it," she said.

The test includes three different sections for reading comprehension, writing and mathematics. The math section tests arithmetic and elementary algebra.

The review sessions on June 23 and 24 will cover each of these topics.

The June 23 session will meet from 6 to 8:30 p.m. The

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Wilson and Carner's bid was for \$1,091,500.

Tilley said the construction could begin sometime next month.

In other business, Tilley notified trustees that the three-story classroom building that the college opened this spring will require more money than was originally budgeted, as some of the final costs have shown to be more than expected. He said he will submit a request to increase the budget for that

building in a later board meeting.

He also reported that as the budget year draws to a close, the college's local budget has gotten thin.

"With the Surry budget, we are straining for our last month," he said. "Actually, 94 percent of our budget is expended. But we still believe we can speak by the last few days."

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SCC tuition to rise 4 percent

By BRYAN GENTRY Staff Writer

DOBSON — Tuition will rise at Surry Community College for in-state and out-of-state students this fall.

Both houses of the North Carolina General Assembly — which sets the tuition rate for the entire community college system — have included a 4 percent tuition increase in their budget. The increase will raise tuition from \$38 per credit hour to \$39.50 per credit hour for in-state students and from \$211 to \$219.50 per credit hour for out-of-state students.

According to a press release from the community college system, the maximum residents will pay is now \$632 per semester. The maximum that out-of-state students will pay will be \$3,512 per semester.

SCC Chief Financial Officer Dr. Gary Tilley explained that the tuition rate does not change the college's income or budget. "We collect it and send it to the state, and it ... doesn't increase our budget," he said.

Tuition money is sent to the state treasurer as part of the state's income.

July 9 2005
Mt. Airy News



40 Years
of bringing education to communities like Pleasant Ridge



On Monday, September 26th, The Tribune will publish their Annual Keepsake Edition. This year we will be helping Surry Community College celebrate its 40th Anniversary.

To be a part of this special edition, Call Kay, Starr, Robby or Rita at 835-1513.

Tribune July 1 2005

Class seeks to develop Surry County leaders

By BRYAN GENTRY Staff Writer

DOBSON — The local chambers of commerce and Surry Community College will sponsor another Leadership Surry County session beginning in August. The class meets once every month and offers people the chance to develop their potential as leaders in Surry County government, business, and education.

The course began almost 15 years ago in Mount Airy and has expanded to serve the whole county since then.

"I started as Leadership Mount Airy. As people in other places in the county got interested, it became Leadership

Surry County," said Dennis Lowe, director of SCC's Small Business Center and supervisor of the Leadership Surry program. He said the class was first held in the fall of 1991. The course became Leadership Surry in 1998.

The program now involves the Greater Mount Airy and Yadkin Valley chambers of commerce and the college.

The course participants meet at SCC one Thursday each month for most of the day (usually from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.). The first session will meet August 18, and the last session will be held in May 2006. The class will not meet in December.

"What we are looking for is leadership potential in the county. They have an interest in bettering themselves, they have an interest in gaining leadership skills, and they have a true interest in bettering Surry County."

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individuals that have management potential, who are in positions that they have opportunity to gain leadership skills, and move up into management roles," Lowe said. "What we are looking for is leadership potential in the county. They have

Transfer options increase for Surry Community College graduates

Effective in the fall of this year, students who complete the Early Childhood Associate Program with an Associate in Applied Science Degree and meet the admission requirements of Winston-Salem State University can enter the University at the junior status with 64 semester hours of credit which can be applied toward the Bachelor of Science Degree in Elementary Education, Special Education or Birth-Kindergarten Education. Full admission to one of these three programs of study will be based upon a minimum grade point average of 2.50 or at least 13 hours of pre-approved Winston-Salem State University courses, successful completion of a 300-word essay, an admissions interview, and passing scores on the PRAXIS I exam.

President Frank Sells indicated that the agreement is important because as the number of higher education institutions in Surry and Yadkin Counties, Surry Community College strives to promote personal growth, community and workforce development, and lifelong learning through excellence in teaching and learning and through collaboration with other educational institutions.

Dr. Kay Hanlin, Director of Surry Community College Early Childhood Programs, indicated that the agreement is significant because it is a significant employment and educational opportunity for residents of Surry and surrounding counties and helps improve the quality of early childhood education.

"Graduates of our Early Childhood Associate curriculum are prepared to work with children from infancy

COLLEGIATE NEWS



Dr. Frank Sells, Surry Community College President, and Dr. Valerie Giddings, Winston-Salem State University Vice Chancellor, sign a new articulation agreement between the schools. Dr. Kay Hanlin, Surry Community College Director of Early Childhood Programs and Dr. Claudia Warren, Winston-Salem State University Professor of Education also pictured.

through middle childhood in a variety of learning environments including child development centers, preschools, public and private schools, recreation centers, and Head Start Programs. With this agreement, employment opportunities increase because those individuals who wish to become licensed birth-kindergarten, elementary, and special education teachers can apply the two years of study at SCC to the Bachelor of Science program at Winston-Salem State and potentially complete one of the programs in four years and become licensed by the North Carolina Department of Public Instruction.

"Throughout the country, efforts are being made to improve early childhood education. Earlier this month, the Head Start Program was reauthorized with a mandate that 80 percent of Head Start teachers must have a Bachelor's degree in a field of education which includes Instruction, Education, or Birth-Kindergarten Education. Governor Besley's More at Four program requires the Bachelor of Science Degree, as well. This allows child care providers in our service area to move smoothly from one level of education to the next without losing credits.

According to the North Carolina Employment Security Commission, teacher assistants and early childhood teachers are among the fastest growing occupations in terms of employment opportunities in North Carolina. To meet the demands of these occupations, Surry Community College offers

25 people who can benefit the most from the program. He said, "After having the chance to review the course requirements to make sure they want to pursue the program, students pay \$250 in tuition. We go through everything that's required of them before we take any money," Lowe said.

Each class session will teach leadership skills and information about Surry County. Lowe said topics will include local history, education, programs health and human services, economic development, law enforcement, dealing with difficult people, motivating others, coaching and organizing.

See CLASS, page 2A

SCC



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SCC asks for full funding

June 21 2005
Mt Airy News

Commissioners listen to request in public hearing

By ANGELA SCHMOLL, Associate Editor
DOBSON — Surry County's public hearing for the 2006-2007 budget was dominated by trustees and administrators from Surry Community College asking the county to fund the full budget request and even cut-backs at the college.
 "There are options," said Steve Atkins, vice president and Chief Academic Officer at SCC. "One is delaying the Workforce Development Center. Another option is, we have a 10-week summer session and we may have to cut that in half. We're not limited one penny from the state for summer school. The other issue is just not expanding new programs."
 Atkins pointed out the need to upgrade programs, many of which were implemented when manufacturing ruled the county's economy. "New programs require retrofitting classrooms," he said. "We met Friday with folks developing a radiology program at SCC. We have a

SCC: Full funding sought

Continued from page 1
 minimum... For the last three years our fund balance has dropped from \$500,000 in 2001-2002, which is about what it should be, to for this year, under \$100,000 because we have used our fund balance to balance our budgets we have from the county."
 He pointed out that the extra money will aid in the operation of two new buildings on campus and in the operation of the Workforce Development Center, which is slated to open this year. The on-campus buildings have added 25 percent to the square footage of the buildings, which are the county's funding responsibility, as staffing expenses are paid by state.
 "Any appropriations less than requested will not only jeopardize planned growth, but we will have to curtail programs," Madison said.
 Other trustees also urged commissioners to fund the college's full request, as did other members of the college staff, saying the impact that cuts would have on programming and the school's ability to meet the needs of the community.
 College representatives specifically cited the in-service programs for fire, rescue and law enforcement, university transfer students taking classes during the summer to meet medical needs or to get ahead on college, and trade classes, some of which have not been held in

SCC



Elkin Tribune June 24 2005

COMMUNITY NEWS



Photo courtesy of Mindy McMillian
Bicycle rodeo
 McKenzie Tilley, a rising first-grader at Elkin Elementary School, tests her skill at last week's Bicycle Rodeo at the Elkin Recreation Center Day Camp. Approximately 70 campers participated in the bicycle safety program organized by the Elkin Police Department. Wal-Mart donated four bike helmets and a bicycle as prizes. Fourth-grader Andrew Blevins won the bike.



SCC's submitted photo
A tour group on a trip organized by Surry Community College poses in Carcassonne, France, at the end of their trip. Mt Airy News June 29, 2005

Trip exposes SCC group to French countryside, culture

By BRYAN GENTRY, Staff Writer
DOBSON — Surry Community College offered the opportunity for people to learn hands-on about the art, history and wines of France in a recent class that included an 11-day trip to the country.
 The trip was structured as part of a continuing education course that started earlier in the school year to introduce the travelers to France.
 "It was really just a class that the college put together to highlight the art museums and also the wine country of France," said SCC President Dr. Frank Sells. The class sessions before the trip covered such topics as art, history, wine varieties and foods.
 He said a few students chose to take the class for college credit, but "most of us took it to learn something."
 "All in all it was a really nice trip. I think it was really great for the college to put the trip together," he said. "I thought everybody thought the trip was well worth what they paid to do it."
 The group of 39 travelers left on May 13. They began in northern France and toured their way south.
 Sells said Normandy beach was "a very nice experience, one of the highlights of the trip."
 Other travelers agreed. "The beaches are so wide and open," said Dana Jean



See TRIP, page 3A

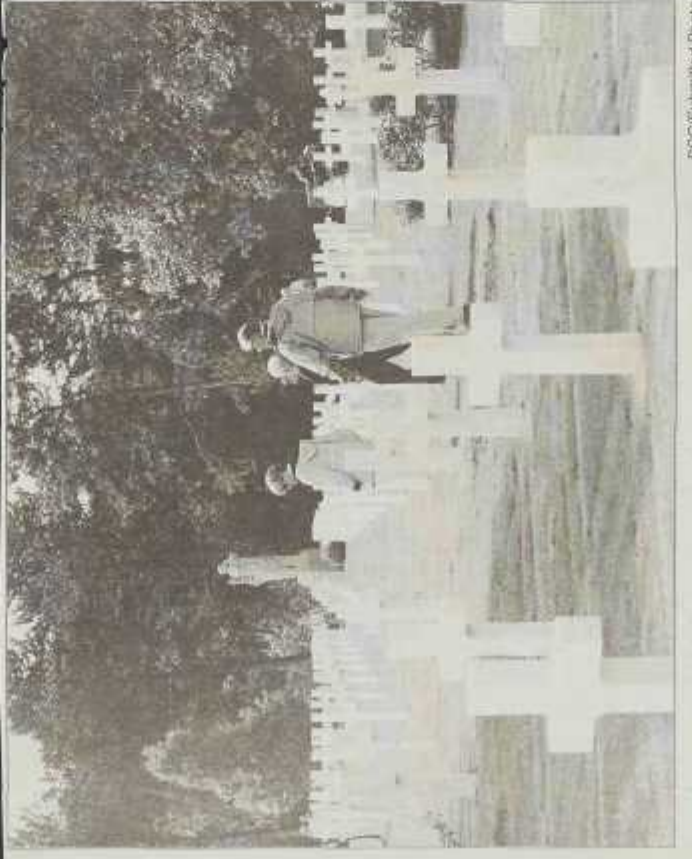


SCC participating in wellness study

By BRYAN GENTRY, Staff Writer
DOBSON — Researchers working with the Work Activities for You health program spent three days at Surry Community College this week to start a study that will hopefully shed light on ways employees can increase employee wellness and health.
 The WAY program, created by a partnership between the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill and RTI International, received a grant from the Centers for Disease Control to conduct research at 20 community colleges in North Carolina. The study will measure how

TRIP: Going abroad completes class

Continued from page 1A
 by Monet, Mamel, Degas, Lautrec, van Gogh, Courbet, Millet, Pissarro, Renoir, and Cassatt, just to name a few."
 Mabry said traveling through the wine country in France was another highlight.
 SCC Vineiculture Instructor Gill Giese said the experience opened many people's eyes, including his own, to France's wine industry.
 "The first thing that impressed most people was the scale of it," he said. "They have more gallons of wine and acres of grapes than in all of California, just in that one region."
 "The diversity was pretty mind boggling," he said. "Each region was unique, and they did their own wine varieties."
 He said he packed up a lot of ideas to apply in SCC's viticulture program.
 People interested in the trip to Spain should contact Mabry at 386-5284, or e-mail at mabry@surry.edu.



SCC's submitted photo
A walk among the memorial crosses on Normandy Beach proved to be one of the most personal and touching experiences on the SCC-organized trip to France.

wanting list of 400 in the nursing program, and a lot will default to other programs before they get in. That means they'll miss the income of a career in health care and not help the community meet the needs in the nursing field.
 "The voters have been generous and given us the buildings and facilities (through bonds), but without support what are we going to do?"
 "I've been associated with the college for 29 years," said Charles Madison, chairman of the board of trustees at SCC, "and in that frame of time we have never submitted a budget that was inflated in any way, shape or form, and we have not done so this year. We have gone along with what you gave us because we know that your position was one of having to come up with the money somewhere. None of us want taxes raised, but in some cases there may be no way around it."
 Madison said the \$1.85 million requested was the "bare

many companies offer them."
 Qualifying employees have more than 25, which Intervention Manager Ben Birkin said is the standard indicator of being overweight.
 SCC's employees who qualified and wanted to participate had measurements taken, including height, weight and body fat percentage, when the researchers visited the campus.
 In three months, and again in six months, the research team will return to Dobson to take measurements again. Participating employees will earn a bonus based on the percentage of weight lost in the study period. The maximum bonus is \$145.
 The second phase measures the effectiveness of different interventions, including an Internet-based course about wellness, combined with financial incentives, and the Winery Circle Dining program, which helps people identify and choose nutritious foods.
 "The whole point is to provide more healthy food options to our employees," Birkin said.

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Agreement increases transfer options for Surry Community College graduates

DOBSON — Transfer options for Surry Community College graduates increased recently with a new articulation agreement with Winston-Salem State University signed on June 28 by Dr. Frank Sells, Surry Community College president, and Dr. Valerie Giddings, Winston-Salem State University associate vice-chancellor, Division of Lifelong Learning.

Effective in the fall of this year, students who complete the Early Childhood Associate Program with an Associate in Applied Science Degree and meet the admissions requirements of Winston-Salem State University can enter WSSU as a junior with 64 semester hours of credit, which can be applied toward the Bachelor of Science Degree in Elementary Education, Special Education or Birth-Kindergarten Education.

Full admission to one of these three programs of study will be based upon a minimum grade point average of 2.5 on at least 15 hours of prescribed Winston-Salem State courses, successful completion of a 300-word essay, an admissions interview and passing scores on the PRAXIS I examination.

Sells said the agreement is important because, as the only institution of higher education in Surry and Yadkin counties, Surry Community College strives to promote personal growth, community and workforce development, and lifelong learning through excellence in teaching and learning and through collaborations with other educational institutions.

Dr. Kay Hamlin, director of Surry Community College Early Childhood Programs, said the agreement is significant because it increases employment and educational opportunities for residents of Surry and surrounding counties, and helps improve the quality of early childhood education.

"Graduates of our Early Childhood Associate curriculum are prepared to work with children from infancy through middle childhood in a variety of learning environments including preschools, public and private schools, recreation centers, and Head Start Programs," Hamlin said. "With this agreement, employment opportunities increase because those individuals who wish to become licensed birth-kindergarten, elementary and special education teachers can



SCC Staff/Submitted photo

Representatives of Surry Community College and Winston-Salem State University sign a new articulation agreement. Front row, from left, are Dr. Frank Sells, Surry Community College president; Dr. Valerie Giddings, Winston-Salem State University vice-chancellor; and, back row, Dr. Kay Hamlin, Surry Community College director of Early Childhood Programs, and Dr. Claudia Warren, Winston-Salem State University professor of education.

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COLLEGIATE NEWS

New Medical Transcription I course to be offered

The Continuing Education Division of Surry Community College will sponsor a new Medical Transcription I class beginning Tuesday, August 2 - December 6, 2005. The course will meet Tuesday and Thursday evenings from 6:00-9:00 p.m. in Room J-107 (J-Building). The instructor will be Rose Harris.

The Medical Transcription program consists of two parts: Medical Transcription I and Medical Transcription II. As a medical transcriptionist you will learn how to understand and transcribe a variety of medical reports. You will utilize transcribing equipment to transcribe recordings made by physicians and other health care professionals. Excellent English, spelling, and listening skills are a must. Jobs are available in a variety of settings including hospitals, physician offices, medical transcription services, and insurance companies. This course is limited to 15 stu-

dents. The first 15 students with a completed application and proof of requirements will be accepted into the Medical Transcription I course. The application may be obtained in the Continuing Education Office (J-Building, Room J120). Tuition for this course will be \$65 plus the cost of a textbook. For a list of requirements and additional information, contact Debbie Carr at (336) 386-3373 or Margie Johnson at (336) 386-3423.



Ivory Harris, right, is the 2005-06 recipient of a Dobson Womens Club Scholarship to Surry Community College. Dee White, left, is the club president. Harris is a graduate of Surry Central High School, where she played varsity volleyball and received an academic honor award. She is also a North Carolina Academic Scholar.

SCC student Travis Hudson earns new Jane Hawks scholarship

DOBSON — Travis Hudson, an incoming freshman in the Computer Engineering Technology Program at Surry Community College, is the recipient of the newly created Jane Hawks Scholarship.

While attending North Surry High School, Hudson built an impressive academic and extracurricular record including involvement in the Junior Air Force ROTC (Reserve Officer's Training Corp). As a member of JROTC, he spent many hours in leadership training and volunteer service to the community. His dedication and commitment to excellence were recognized with appointment to the prestigious position of honor guard commander and with awards such as the Air Force Medal, the Commission Officers Award and the Academic Excellence Medal. He graduated with honors from North Surry, having a cumulative academic average of 93 or higher.

Amy Boon, North Surry School counselor, commented on Hudson by saying, "Travis has proved to be an outstanding student and a wonderful role model at North Surry High School."

The Jane Hawks Scholarship was created by the faculty and staff of Flat Rock Elementary staff of Flat Rock Elementary



Travis Hudson

SCHOLAR: Hudson

training in emergency medical services or law enforcement. My hope is that this scholarship will help former Flat Rock students continue their education, build good lives, be happy and make full use of their God-given talents."

Individuals, businesses or civic organizations may contribute to the Surry Community College Foundation at any time by contacting Marion Venable, executive director of the foundation, at 386-3269 or e-mail at venablem@surry.edu.

Scholarships enable adults in Surry and surrounding counties to pursue their educational and career goals through more than 30 degree programs designed to prepare workers for today's highly technical, rapidly changing workforce.

SCC begins fall orientation Friday

By Bryan Gentry
Mid-South News Service

DOBSON — Surry Community College will begin orientation sessions for new students this week.

The first orientation session will be held Friday beginning at 9 a.m. in the SCC gym.

Vice President for Student Services Mike McHone said the session includes important information "to get them going, to get them thinking about what it will take to be successful."

"We've got a new Student Personal Success Plan, making sure they have a clear career objective and focus, that they know why they're here," he said.

McHone said studies have shown students perform better when they have a definite purpose or goal. The Student Personal Success Plan will help students identify their goals for college to help them achieve greater success.

"We spend a lot of time tracking sure they have a career plan," McHone said. "Then we'll break them off and then counselors will go over some of the basic information."

That information will help students understand graduation requirements to help them choose their classes. Other topics will include financial aid.

See SCC, page 2A

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See SCC, page 2A

SCC: Fall orientation sessions set

Continued from page 1A

Although new students can attend later sessions, they might not get to register for the classes they want.

"A lot of the second year students have already pre-registered, and after we do three or 400 this Friday, a lot of classes will be full," he said.

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See SCC, page 2A



'When I Paint My Masterpiece'

— a profile of Leanne Gardner

By MICAH MASSEI Staff Writer

MOULTON AIREY — "What an apology did you get that from?"

Asking such a question is understandable the first time you see a painting, or a sketch, or even a graphic logo created by Mount Airy artist Leanne Gardner.

At just 22, and only one month removed from graduating college, Gardner has already assembled a diverse, intriguing collection of work that has the folks of Mount Airy — as well as other surrounding cities and their admirers — attracted to her work.

"It's a meditation for me," said Gardner. "It lets me escape. When I'm creating, I don't have to worry about anything."

Leanne, daughter of Paul and the late Dave Gardner of Mount Airy, began her art career as a small child after getting hooked on by an interest to often introduced to youngsters during adolescence — comic books.

"I was inspired by all the Marvel Comics I'd read as a child and originally wanted to be an illustrator," said Gardner. "But as I got older, I gradually became interested in all types of art."

She became active in the art programs at both North Surry High School and Surry Community College. After graduating from SCC, Gardner attended The Art Institute of Charlotte, where she graduated with a degree in graphic design.

"Graphic design is really interesting," she said, "because it allows you to tackle so many different things — posters, book covers, album covers, logos... The possibilities of graphic design are endless."

Returning to Mount Airy only one month ago, Gardner has found work sketching various people's portraits and designing the main logo and store illustrations for the new Habitat Home Shops in Mount Airy.

"I love doing it all, but I have to say, drawing and sketching portraits are my favorite," said Gardner. "I like drawing people and capturing their emotions."

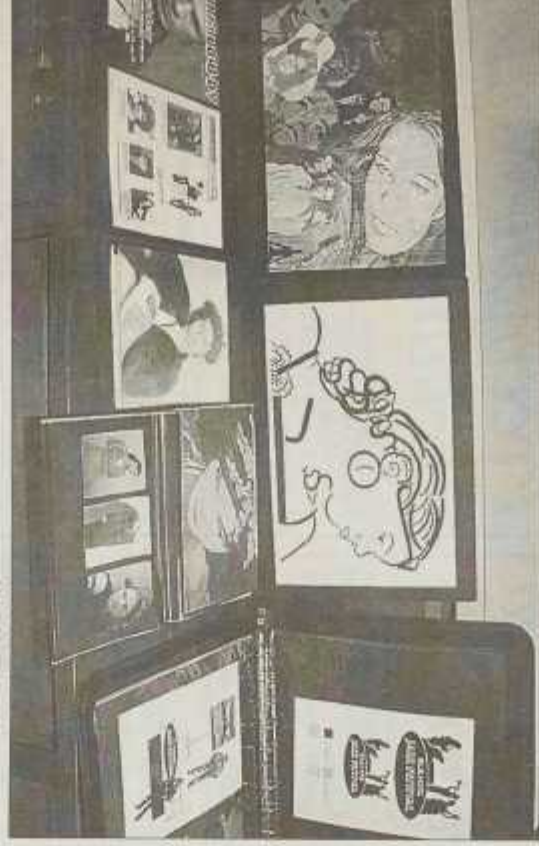
In what surely was an emotional trial, Gardner recently lost her father and for a short time faced a certain loss of inspiration. But, on July 4, while vacationing with her family, Gardner saw something that would change her life forever.

"My cousin, Haley, was lying on the floor sketching," said Gardner. "She was having such a good time, and I went over and sat beside her. Soon, I joined in and started sketching with her."

It was the genuine, innocent act of a young girl simply enjoying one of the basic elements of art — similar to those enjoyed by Gardner as a young child, which inspired her fancy into art — that brought inspiration back into her life.

Now it's those who've had the pleasure of having Gardner paint, sketch or design either themselves, their family, their place of business or whatever was needed — that have been left feeling inspired.

"People have hugged me and told me they were touched by my work," said Gardner. "It's those types of reactions that make me feel so good. To know that I made them happy in some way, and that my work had that kind of effect on them, it makes it all worthwhile."



Artist Leanne Gardner's portfolio includes a variety of styles and media.

Mount Airy artist Leanne Gardner.



Mount Airy artist Leanne Gardner.



Surry Community College/Submitted photo: Incoming Surry Community College freshmen attended orientation session on Friday. Pictured are, from left, Patience Green and Rachel Riddle, 2005 graduates of West Stokes High School; Nick Webb, a 2005 graduate of Starmount High School; and Mary Byrd, a 1998 graduate of East Surry High School.

Orientation means fall semester classes will start soon at SCC

DOBSON — Approximately 400 soon-to-be college freshmen gathered Friday on the campus of Surry Community College for the first orientation session for new students.

Vice President for Student Development Services Mike McHone kicked off the meeting by welcoming students and introducing them to the new Student Personal Success Plan that helps students refine their educational and career goals.

Students learned about topics such as financial aid, career services, transfer to senior institutions and campus security.

Each new student met with a counselor from Student Development Services and a faculty advisor to develop a schedule of courses for the fall semester.

McHone said there will be additional orientation sessions from 6 to 7:30 p.m. Tuesday and 9 to 10:30 a.m. Aug. 9.

Several new educational opportunities will be available in the fall semester, including a full associate degree program in cosmetology offered during evening hours for individuals who have jobs and other responsibilities during the day.

Also new is a collaborative program in biotechnology with Forsyth Technical Community College. Students may complete one full year of courses at Surry Community College and then transfer to Forsyth Tech to complete the program.

Computer science course offerings will expand in the Internet Technologies degree program. Additions include instruction in XHTML and JavaScript; Macromedia Flash, Dreamweaver and Fireworks; and Web site management.

Individuals interested in attending Surry Community College in the fall, but who have not yet applied or taken the required college placement tests, may contact the Admissions Office at 386-3204.

Registration will be on Aug. 16. Classes begin Aug. 18.

SCC offers life and health courses 2005

DOBSON — Surry Community College's Continuing Education Division will offer life and health courses as renewal courses for licensed life and health insurance agents.

Health Insurance Policy Position will be held Sept. 7 from 9 a.m. to noon. Life Insurance Comparison will be held Sept. 14 from 1 to 4 p.m.

Social Security and You will be on Sept. 14 from 9 a.m. to noon, and HSA Accounts will be Sept. 14 from 1 to 4 p.m.

All four courses will be held in J Building, Room J-103, and the instructor will be Walter Burtina.

The tuition cost is \$55 plus \$8 per course for text and \$1 per credit hour for state fees. Each of the courses is three credit hours. Three separate checks will be required for tuition, textbooks and credit hours.

Pre-registration is required by Aug. 25 by calling 386-3211 or 386-3399.



Surry Community College Phi Beta Lambda Members Rodney Owens, Sharon Angle, Steven Moncrief, Kristi Stoker, Kamia Barker and Lisa Thomas recently won a national competition.

SCC Phi Beta Lambda wins national competition

Surry Community College students brought home national awards from the Phi Beta Lambda National Leadership Conference held at Disney World Resort in Orlando, Florida, June 29-July 2, 2005. Students were eligible to compete at the national level because they placed first in state competition held in Charlotte in April of this year.

Steven Moncrief placed first in Phi Beta Lambda's national competition. Rodney Owens placed second in competition in Networking Security and Networking Concepts. Sharon Angle and Rodney Owens placed eighth in Networking Design, and Kristi Stoker placed tenth in Future Business Teacher.

Surry Community College also received the Gold Seal Chapter Award and the Outstanding Chapter Award.

Phi Beta Lambda family advisers Debbie Branch, Donna Harbort, and Brenda Barfield and members Kamia Barker and Lisa Thomas also attended the conference.

Phi Beta Lambda is a collegiate professional association for students who are pursuing careers in business and for business leaders and professionals and members of the community who are interested in the field of business and in the Business Technologies Division of Surry Community College. The mission of Phi Beta Lambda is to provide opportunities for postsecondary students to develop business-related competencies and a sense of civic and personal responsibility.

Phi Beta Lambda members hone leadership skills, gain confidence in themselves, refine their career goals, build skills to transition from the world of education to the world of work, develop a deeper understanding of American Free Enterprise System, and serve the community through various volunteer efforts.

In addition to competitive events, the National Leadership Conference in Orlando provided structured business and leadership workshops, seminars, corporate tours and the election of national officers. Jonathan Sprinkle, national speaker who received the 2004 College Speaker of the Year award presented by the Association for the Promotion of Campus Activities, delivered the keynote address.

The Surry Community College chapter of Phi Beta Lambda expresses appreciation to individuals and businesses in the community whose financial support made participation in national competition possible for local students.

Anyone interested in learning more about Phi Beta Lambda is welcome to contact Surry Community College instructors Debbie Branch or Donna Harbort at Surry Community College at 386-8121.

SCC awards Mickey Dean Arrington Memorial Scholarship

Jamie Childress, Director of Financial Aid for Surry Community College, announced recently that Michael Joseph Brittle is the 2005-06 recipient of the Mickey Dean Arrington Memorial Scholarship.

Brittle, who is in his second year of study at Surry Community College pursuing an Associate in Applied Science Degree in Automotive Systems Technology, also received the scholarship for the 2004-05 year. He is a graduate of North Surry High School and the son of Lincoln and Theresa Brittle.

The Mickey Dean Arrington Memorial Scholarship was established in 1995 by Brenda Brittle in memory of her son, Mickey Dean Arrington, who was killed in an automobile accident.

Individuals who are interested in scholarships and other sources of financial aid for college are welcome to contact Jamie Childress, Surry Community College Director of Financial Aid, by telephone at 386-388-3279 or by e-mail at childressj@surry.edu.



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COLLEGIATE NEWS

Surry Community College has announced the following continuing education courses and business center seminars offered this fall:

New appraisal course

The Continuing Education Division of Surry Community College will sponsor a new appraisal CE course entitled "Preparation of a Quality Residential Appraisal Report" (pending board approval) meeting on Friday, Sept. 30 from 8 a.m.-5 p.m. The class will meet on the SCC campus in room J-103 (J-Building). The instructor for this course will be Terry Beasley.

This course will guide appraisers through the process of accurately completing a residential appraisal report using the newly mandated (as of November, 2005) Freddie Mac Form 70 - Fannie Mae Form 1004.

The tuition for this course will be \$50 plus \$58.75 for the textbook, "Time-by-Line Preparation of a Quality Residential Appraisal Report" by Robert Mann, published by the Residential Appraisal Manuals Committee. Textbooks will be available to pre-registered students for purchase on the day of the class in the SCC Bookstore. Pre-registration is required by Friday, Sept. 16. Call 386-3211 for additional information or to pre-register.

General contractors licensing exam preparation

The Surry Community College Continuing Education Division will offer a 48-hour General Contractors Licensing prep course beginning on Tuesday, Sept. 6, meeting from 6:30-9:30 p.m. on the college campus in room C-203 (Continuing Education Building). The class will meet on Tuesday and Thursday evenings.

The instructor for this course will be Jeff Hall. This course examines the

licensing process and reviews and explains pertinent information relating to building trades for residential and general contractors.

There will be a \$40 registration fee for the course (plus a textbook charge of approximately \$65). Students should order the Application Packet for General Contractors before the first class session. The application can be ordered from the N.C. Licensing Board for General Contractors, P.O. Box 17187, Raleigh, N.C. 27619 and the cost is \$65.00. Make \$6 check payable to the NC Licensing Board for General Contractors.

For more information call Renee Hutchins at the college at 386-3211.

Need Renewal Hours for Your HVAC License?

The Surry Community College Continuing Education Division will sponsor the following course for Licensed HVAC Contractors:

The annual 8-hour requirement can be met by attending this full-day session. Call to pre-register: 386-3211 or 386-3265.

Date: Saturday, Sept. 24
Time and Topics: 8-10 a.m. - Lead Calculations and Technical Topics
10 a.m. -noon - Maintenance & Safe Work Environment
Noon - 2 p.m. - Bookkeeping & Finance for Small Business

Instructor: Clayton King, Jr./Bruce Mosley
Location: SCC, Room J-103 (J-Building)
Cost: \$50 (tuition) per day

These courses are approved by the North Carolina State Board of Examiners for Plumbing, Heating & Fire Sprinkler Contractors for continuing education credit.

Fundamentals of HVAC

The Continuing Education Division of Surry Community College will sponsor a 66-hour Fundamentals of

HVAC" beginning on Tuesday, Sept. 6 - Nov. 17. This course will meet on Tuesday and Thursday evenings from 6:30-9:30 p.m. on the college campus in room K-117 (K-Building).

This course is for individuals seeking an entry into refrigeration and air conditioning with emphasis on systems, sizing, unit maintenance and trouble-shooting.

The tuition for this class will be \$80 plus a textbook fee of \$60. No pre-registration required. Please be present at the first class meeting on Tuesday, Sept. 6 at 6:30 in room K-117. For more information, call 386-3211.

National electrical code prep class

The Continuing Education Division of Surry Community College will sponsor a 66-hour course entitled "National Electrical Code" beginning on Tuesday, Sept. 6. The class will meet on Tuesday and Thursday evenings from 6:30-9:30 p.m. and meet through Nov. 17. There will be a \$60 tuition charge plus a textbook fee of approximately \$80 payable on the first night of class.

This course is designed to prepare the student for the Electrical Contractor's licensing examination for the state of North Carolina.

Please be present for registration and the first class meeting on Tuesday, Sept. 6 at 6:30 p.m. in room K-115 (Engineering Technology Building). For more information, call 386-3211 or 386-3265.

Notary public class
The Continuing Education Division of Surry Community College will sponsor a Notary Public class.

Notary Public Education (6.5 hours) Monday and Tuesday, Sept. 26 and 27, 6-9:30 p.m.

Instructor: Dennis "Bud" Cameron
Location: Surry Community College campus, Room J-103 (J-Building)
Cost: \$50 tuition and text (approx. \$21.70)

Additional fees:
Upon successful completion of this course the following fees are the responsibility of the student and payable to the agencies listed below:

- Application Fee, \$50 (Secretary of State of North Carolina)
- Oath of Office, \$10 (Surry County Register of Deeds Office)
- Notary Seal, \$30 (Axy Of- fice Supply Company)
- For more information, call 336-386-3211.

See SCC, Page 7



Grant expands tutoring program for SCC students

2-The Mount Airy News Monday, August 8, 2005

DOBSON — Surry Community College's Educational Opportunity Center will be able to provide free tutoring services to more adults, helping those adults improve basic academic skills, complete high school, or pursue a college degree.

The Educational Opportunity Center, under the direction of Jamie Edwards, received a \$359,000 Expansion Grant from the Northwest Piedmont Workforce Development Board to provide free tutoring for adults in Surry, Stokes, Yadkin, Rockingham, Davie and Forsyth counties.

The tutoring program is based on a model currently in operation through the Educational Opportunity Center in Rockingham County. Trained tutors help groups of five or fewer adult learners assess their learning styles and build basic problem solving, critical thinking, and interpersonal skills.

The tutors also teach the adult learners how to use computers and how to access Internet learning tools. Computers for the program were purchased with donations from the community and funds from Workforce Development Board, and space for a tutor classroom was provided by Rockingham County Job Resources Training Center located in Madison.

Edwards believes the program will be instrumental in raising the educational level of adults in the six-county area.

"The Educational Opportunity Center provides services to assist adults and adolescents who are at least 14 years of age access post-secondary education," he said. "These services include academic advice and assistance, help in completing college admissions and financial aid forms, guidance on how to complete high school through a GED or Adult High School program, personal educational counseling, and study skills."

The addition of the EOC Tutor Program provides a way for an early connection with individuals who can benefit from additional support and encouragement as they build skills necessary for further education or employment," he said.

"Education is a catalyst for change, and the EOC staff is proud to provide these services which can help individuals change their lives for the better and pass along their beliefs about the value and power of education to their children."

More information on the tutoring services and on the Educational Opportunity Center may be obtained by contacting Jamie Edwards by telephone at 336-386-3664 or by e-mail at edwardsj@surry.edu, or Holly Hodges at 336-386-3328 or by e-mail at hodgesh@surry.edu.



Moser named academic all-american

8-4-05



By MAC HEFFNER Sports Writer
DOBSON — Jared Moser has always taken academics — and athletics — seriously.

The 2005 Surry Community College graduate's approach to school was rewarded recently when Moser, a former three-sport standout at Surry Central and member of the Surry Knights baseball team, was named to the National Junior College Athletic Association Academic All-American team.

Moser, who has enrolled at N.C. State and plans to major in human resources, said the honor was unexpected, even though he carried a 3.72 GPA this year while playing for the Knights.

"I felt honored by the award," Moser said Monday. "I didn't know I'd get it, but it proves that hard work does pay off."

Surry head baseball coach Mark Tucker said Moser is the fourth Knight in five years to receive N.C.A.A. Academic All-American honors. Matt Scott (2001), Travis Mosinger (2002) and Jeremy Branch (2003) were the other Surry baseball players to earn the recognition. Scott, Branch and Moser are all from Surry Central High School.

Tucker said Moser benefited from his time at Surry because he was able to focus on just baseball unlike in high school where he played football, basketball and baseball.

"Being the athlete he was helped at this level," Tucker said. "Having played those other sports also helped him when he got here. We definitely try to give kids around here that kind of opportunity."

"This award is the result of a lot of hard work and dedication in the classroom. As coaches, we feel proud when players get such an honor as this. Academics is something we encourage and that comes first at Surry. We treat it that way even during baseball season be-

Photo: Halmer/The Mount Airy News
Surry Community College head baseball coach Mark Tucker, right, congratulates former SCC baseball player Jared Moser for being named to the NJCAA Academic All-American team at SCC on Monday. At left is Surry assistant coach Roy Vernon.

cause that's what is most important."
Moser said without his family, he wouldn't be where he is now. His parents, Sam and Wendy, who teaches at Surry, have always pushed him to do his best in school. He also has two brothers, Jason and Josh, who he credited with being important in his life.

"My parents are a big part of this," Moser said. "I couldn't do it without my family. They've always been there for me and pushed me to do well. They've always made it known that grades are important."

Surry was a combined 102-23 in the last two seasons and the team was ranked in the top 15 in the NJCAA final regular season poll.

According to Tucker, 15 of 16 second-year players either graduated from Surry or have transferred to four-

year institutions.
The other player will complete his degree this fall in Dobson.

To qualify for Academic All-American, the NJCAA stipulates that must hold a 3.00 GPA or better on a 4.0 scale for 45 semester hours.

Only three athletes from the 11 Region X member schools were honored this year. All three athletes — including Moser — were baseball players, and the other two were from Spartanburg Methodist.

Moser, who earned an associate in arts degree in May, said he enjoyed his time at Surry.

"I was thrilled with my time here and I've matured a lot and met a lot of great friends there, so I should be able to adjust well because of that."



SCC

COLLEGIATE NEWS

Phi Beta Lambda holds induction

The Surry Community College chapter of Phi Beta Lambda held the induction ceremony for officers and members for the 2005-06 academic year on October 11, 2005, in the President's Dining Room on the main college campus in Dobson. Faculty sponsors Debbie Branch and Dr. Donna Harbour, welcomed members and guests and conducted the induction ceremony.

Officers inducted for the current academic year were Steve Moncus, President; Susan Carlisle, Co-Vice President; Chris Sparks, Co-Vice President; Amanda Cummings, Secretary; Anthony Edwards, Treasurer; James Goodman, Reporter; and Kadin Tinkle, Historian.

Phi Beta Lambda is the largest collegiate organization in the nation which focuses on the development of business competencies. With more than 12,000 members throughout the country and 900 members in North Carolina, it provides opportunities for college students to develop skills and attitudes for success in the business world. Competencies such as leadership, communication, goal-setting, and financial management skills; self-confidence; and positive character traits are taught and reinforced through various projects and competitive events. Membership is open to business students, students with an interest in business, faculty advisors, and members of the community who are interested in business and education.

The Surry Community College chapter is actively involved in various service



The 2005-06 SCC Phi Beta Lambda officers are Steve Moncus, president; Chris Sparks, co-vice president; Susan Carlisle, co-vice president; Amanda Cummings, secretary; Anthony Edwards, treasurer; James Goodman, reporter; (Kadin Tinkle, Historian not pictured).

projects such as the Blood Drive held on October 6, the upcoming Angel Tree to benefit needy children throughout the community during the Christmas season, and the collection of supplies for victims of Hurricane Katrina. The group will travel to Greensboro on November 5 to attend the Phi Beta Lambda Fall Leadership Conference and participate in a number of competitive events held throughout the conference.

More information on the Surry Community College Phi Beta Lambda chapter may be obtained by contacting Dr. Donna Harbour at harborad@surry.edu or Debbie Branch at 336-386-3289, branchd@surry.edu.

above services in the other five counties.

Beginning in July of this year, Holly Hodges, full-time coordinator of the community-based tutoring program, began providing training for 30 tutors.

Individuals who complete the tutor training program and complete 50 of supervised tutoring will be eligible for certification by the National Tutoring Association. Hodges will also oversee their work as they provide tutoring in basic skills including reading, writing, and mathematics; computer skills; and test preparation.

Trained tutors will provide a minimum of 10 hours of tutoring per week in Surry, Stokes, Yadkin, Rockingham, Davie, and Forsyth counties, with services delivered in JobLink Centers, community colleges, Goodwill Industries of North Carolina or other community agencies. The program will be evaluated by JobLink management teams in each county, comprised of members from the local Workforce Development Board staff, JobLink partners, community college students, tutors, and the program coordinator.

Edwards believes the program will be instrumental in raising the educational level of adults in the six-county area.

He said, "The Educational Opportunity Center provides services to assist adults and adolescents who are at least 14 years of age access post-secondary education. These services include academic advice and assistance, help in completing college admissions and financial aid forms, guidance on how to complete high school through a GED or Adult High School program, personal educational counseling and study skills. The addition of the EOC Tutor Program provides a way for an early connection with individuals who can benefit from additional support and encouragement as they build skills necessary for further education or employment.

Education is a catalyst for change, and the EOC staff is proud to provide these services which can help individuals change their lives for the better and pass along their beliefs about the value and power of education to their children.

Elkin Tribune 10/28/05

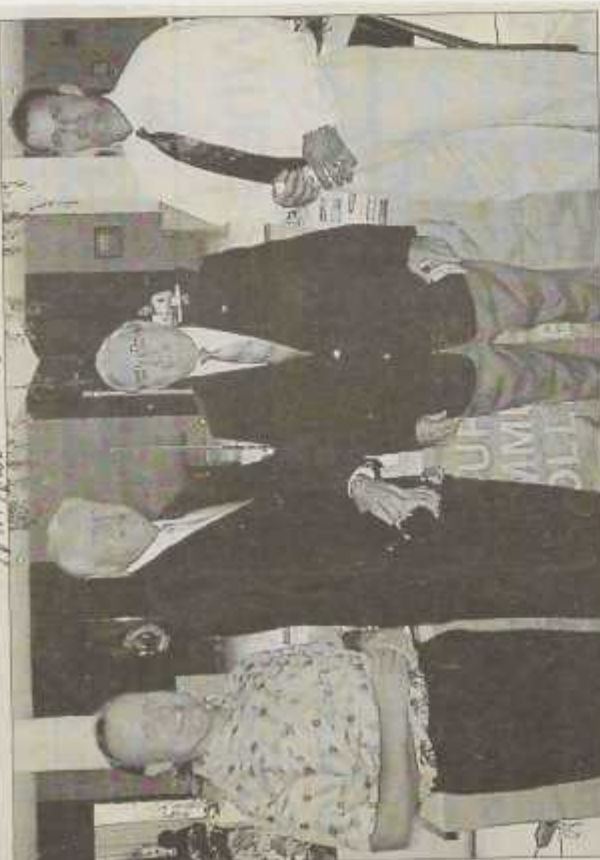
More information on the tutoring services and on the Educational Opportunity Center may be obtained by contacting Holly Edwards by telephone at 336-386-3854 or by e-mail at hedges@surry.edu or by contacting e-mail hedges@surry.edu.



SCC



MA News 8 70 25



From left, Kevin Moore, a student in Surry Community College's viticulture and enology program; Dr. Frank Sells, SCC president; George Holmes, a member of N.C. House of Representatives; and Gill Giese, SCC viticulture and enology instructor, discuss the impact of SCC programs.

SCC representatives discuss college's positive impact with state legislators

DOBSON — As North Carolina legislators deliberated about the state budget earlier in the summer, they had an opportunity to hear firsthand information about the positive impact Surry Community College programs have on the lives of citizens and the economy of Surry, Yadkin and surrounding counties.

Participating in the North Carolina Community College Awareness Campaign, Surry Community College students, administrators and instructors traveled to Raleigh to talk directly with state legislators and conduct curriculum demonstrations on Career Technology programs, focusing on viticulture and enology and the Early Childhood Associate program.

SCC President Frank Sells, Dr. Janet Woods, Dean of Arts and Sciences, Danaejan Mabry, chairperson of Humanities and Social Sciences, and Michael Ayers, chairperson of the Sci-

ence Division, represented the college administration. Gill Giese, viticulture and enology instructor, and students Molly Kelly and Skip Long presented a video production on the program and demonstrated wine analysis typically done in a laboratory setting. Sells discussed the vital role the viticulture and enology program plays in new directions in agriculture and the emerging wine industry in the Yadkin Valley and throughout the state.

Dr. Kay Harlin, director of Early Childhood programs, and Lisa Mabe, an instructor in those programs, presented information on the use of Emergent Literacy principles in relation to writing for young children with a visual exhibition of on-site delivery of early childhood classes in a migrant Head Start Program.

Hamlin discussed the rapid growth of the Surry Community

Educational Opportunity Center expands services

Many educators throughout the country have known for some time that adult learners can benefit from the services of a trained tutor by gaining confidence and self-determination, developing a tolerance for uncertainty and conflict, becoming more motivated, and participating until their educational goals are reached.

Adults in Surry, Stokes, Yadkin, Rockingham, Davie, and Forsyth Counties who are striving to improve basic academic skills, complete high school, or pursue a college degree now have access to the services of trained tutors at no cost to the students. Using a \$359,000 Expansion Grant awarded by the Northwest

Association and expanded the





Surry Community College/Sponsored photo: Surry Central High School students, from right, Bailey Reynolds, Raul Palacios and Elliott Smith, talk with Tim Hawks, a Surry Community College HVAC student.

Students take a close look at community college programs

DOBSON — Sixty students from Surry Central High School spent Sept. 15 on the main campus of Surry Community College, learning about various programs of study in the Career Technologies Division. ... The high school students "shadowed" college students and participated in class assignments and demonstrations in construction technology, mechanical drafting technology, air conditioning, heating and refrigeration technology and electrical/electronics/industrial systems technology. ... Tim Hawks, who is 43 years old and is in the first year of study in the air conditioning, heating and refrigeration technology program, spoke with the students about the value of education beyond high school is necessary for today's workplace, and we want them to be able to move smoothly from high school to college.



Thompson commented on the value of the campus visit by saying, "We want high school students to realize that education beyond high school is necessary for today's workplace, and we want them to be able to move smoothly from high school to college. The more information they know, the more they can see these programs in action, the better decisions they are likely to make." ... The high school students and college students who are still sharp and their responsibilities and financial obligations are not as great as they might be, but after students visit the program areas, they participated in a business lunch during which Surry Community College counselors spoke with them about admissions requirements and financial aid and gave them pointers on making a smooth adjustment from high school to college.



Submitted photo: Faye Wood, left, widow of John L. Wood, and her son Wesley Wood pose for a picture during the presentation of the new John L. Wood Memorial Scholarship Fund to the Surry Community College Foundation.

DOBSON — The Surry Community College Foundation recently announced a new scholarship available to Surry Community College students. The John L. Wood Memorial Scholarship. ... The high school students and college students who are still sharp and their responsibilities and financial obligations are not as great as they might be, but after students visit the program areas, they participated in a business lunch during which Surry Community College counselors spoke with them about admissions requirements and financial aid and gave them pointers on making a smooth adjustment from high school to college.

SCC Foundation adds new scholarship award

DOBSON — The Surry Community College Foundation recently announced a new scholarship available to Surry Community College students. The John L. Wood Memorial Scholarship. ... The high school students and college students who are still sharp and their responsibilities and financial obligations are not as great as they might be, but after students visit the program areas, they participated in a business lunch during which Surry Community College counselors spoke with them about admissions requirements and financial aid and gave them pointers on making a smooth adjustment from high school to college.

VERNON: Solid for SCC

Continued from page 6
Harris and Steve Wilkins for a couple of years at nearby Surry Central High School. ... Vernon, who plans to transfer to UNC-Greensboro to become a special education teacher, said knowing a few of her teammates before the season started helped with the group's overall objectives. ... We're all played together before," Vernon said. "We trust each other a lot."

That team and unity has helped the Lady Knights so far at tough opponents to start the year and Vernon hopes that the insight competition turns into another trip to the NCAA Division III national championships in Minnesota. ... "It's looking good. At the first of the year, we played some D-1 schools and we had some losses but now that we're playing conference games, we're on a roll," Vernon said. "The outside tournaments just help the Lady Knights so far."



PHOTO BY

SCC presents "Excellence in Teaching" award

Lisa Marie Mabe, Interim Director of the Early Childhood Programs at Surry Community College, is the recipient of the 2005 "Excellence in Teaching" award. ... The North Carolina Community College System established the "Excellence in Teaching" program in 1985 to recognize teachers who consistently demonstrate excellence in teaching and service to post-secondary education. ... Specific qualifications for the award include concern for needs of students, high academic standards, innovative and interesting approaches to teaching, and a commitment to teamwork, collaboration, and participation among faculty.

error, director and national director, where he maintained perfect attendance for 38 of those years. ... Wood also worked for the betterment of his community as a member of Roanoke Gap Baptist Church, trustee of Northern Hospital of Surry County and member of the Advisory Council and Board of Directors of North Surry High School. ... "My dad taught us how to live a meaningful life through the little things," said son Wesley Wood, an RN, BSN and nurse manager of Emergency Services at Forsyth Medical Center, commencing on the day of his father's death. ... "He modeled devotion to family, service to others, and a commitment to excellence in everything he attempted. ... He was a member of the Skill Camp Fire Department for 20 years, serving as a firefighter, first responder, and board member. He also served as a volunteer, reserved with Surry County Emergency Services as an EMT-Intermediate and worked for more than 20 years as a volunteer for the American Red Cross (Wood was a 10-gallon blood donor). ... He was actively involved in the British Ruritan Club for 43 years, serving as a member, club officer, district gov-

COLLEGIATE NEWS

Transfer program dominates meeting

CTP one of most successful in state

By MICAH MASSEI
Staff Writer

DOBSON — During Monday night's regular meeting of the Surry Community College Board of Trustees, it was the considerable academic success of students within the College Transfer Program that topped a considerable night of debate and discussion.

The College Transfer Program is the largest program that we have," said Surry Community College President Dr. Frank Sellis. "When (SCC Transfer Committee) Scott (Wilson) shared with me how great we were doing, I told him to come and share it with the board."

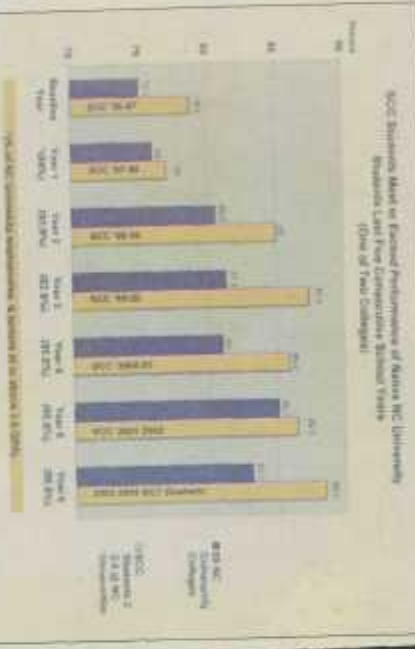
Wilson introduced two handouts to the board, which detailed the success of both SCC students "meeting or exceeding performance standards of native North Carolina University students within the last five school years, and SCC students copying the list of North Carolina community colleges with the highest number of

Associates in Arts or Sciences Degrees (described as "meeting transfer performance measure at last four of six years measured").

"Over the last five years, we have had the largest group of students transferring with the highest number of Associates in Arts or Science Degrees," said Wilson. "SCC College Transfer Counselor, in 1998, we did an overhaul on our system and concentrated more on 'one-on-one' procedures. We have done really well, and the board should feel good about what (they're) doing and the support (they're) giving to the transfer program."

The board also discussed the tentative approval of hiring Charlotte-based architectural firm Little Diverstified Architectural Consulting as chief design architect for the planned N.C. Center for Viticulture and Enology at Surry Community College.

"We interviewed six architectural firms to design the center," said Facilities Committee Chairman Joe Hennings. "We have been involved



A graph detailing the results of SCC Students Meet or Exceed Performance Measure at Last Four of Six Years (One of Two Colleges).

graphic design, facilities planning and space management consulting, building technology applications, and always digital services. An architectural powerhouse of Mecklenburg County, the firm Little Diverstified Architectural Consulting (formerly Little & Associates Architects) deals with many facets of the process, including architecture, engineering, interior architecture, and development. See SCC, page 2A

SCC: Program draws raves

Continued from page 1A

2A-The Mount Airy News Wednesday, September 14, 2005

The Surry Board of Commissioners did take action — conceptually — to endorse N.C. Center for Viticulture/Enology support," said Dr. Sellis. "This is rare for the board to conceptually agree with support. It gives us a very positive feeling."

Along with approving the recommendation for Little Diverstified Architectural Consulting to design the upcoming Viticulture/Enology center, the board also approved a proposed study schedule for the 2005-2006 school year by Dr. Sellis, and a proposed state budget delivered by SCC Executive Vice-President and Chief Financial Officer Dr. Gary Tillery.

The next regular meeting of the Surry Community College Board of Trustees will be held on October 10 at 4 p.m. at the Administration building at Surry Community College.

At next month's meeting, the board will look to explore several key positions within the college, including several recently vacating viticulture/employment changes, as well as other school-related issues.

"We proposed this as a \$10 million project, with the General Assembly paying half and we would match the other half. It makes me, that the schools could use it, etcetera."

He said the idea was taken to the state's General Assembly eight before budget time, expecting, at best, to get a little recognition and maybe something in the future. "The General Assembly really believed in this idea, they not only accepted our idea, they provided some funding for the planning."

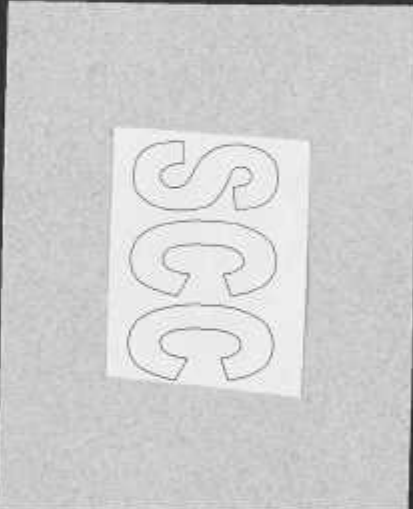


A graph detailing the results of NC Community Colleges with Highest Number of Associate in Arts or Science Degrees (Meeting Transfer Performance Measure at least four of six years measured).

well as additional space. "We proposed this as a \$10 million project, with the General Assembly paying half and we would match the other half. It makes me, that the schools could use it, etcetera."

He said the idea was taken to the state's General Assembly eight before budget time, expecting, at best, to get a little recognition and maybe something in the future. "The General Assembly really believed in this idea, they not only accepted our idea, they provided some funding for the planning."

Sellis said the college is proceeding to select an architectural firm to give them a design, then will pick up with the local campaign to raise the additional local monies needed.



Surry Central students Tom Hawks, Elliott Smith, Raul Palacios and Bailey Reynolds talk with Tom Hawks, SCC HVAC student.



SCC graduate Tom Edwards will be featured in international publication.

High school students take a close-up look at SCC

Sixty students from Surry Central High School spent the day on the main campus of Surry Community College on Sept. 13 learning about various programs of study in the Career Technologies Division.

Sherrill Thompson, who teaches drafting at Surry Central and Bill Jennings who teaches construction arranged the visit so that their students could see firsthand how high school career technical courses relate to associate degree programs.

Thompson commented on the value of the campus visit by saying, "We want high school students to realize that education beyond high school is necessary for today's workplace, and we want them to be able to move smoothly from high school to college."

The more information they have, the more they can see these programs in action, the better decisions they are likely to make."

The high school students "shadowed" college students and participated in class assignments, and demonstrations in Construction, Technology, Mechanical, Drafting, Heating, and Refrigeration Technology, Electrical/Electronics/Industrial Systems Technology, and Trial Systems Technology.

Tom Hawks, who is forty-three years old and is in the first year of study in the Air Conditioning, Heating, and Refrigeration Technology program, spoke with the students about the value of education. He told them that education is the best way that they can attain their dreams in today's world. He commented that he knows from firsthand experience that the demand for unskilled workers continues to decrease as technology becomes more sophisticated and businesses continue to be global in nature. He said the employer in college build technical skills, which

should make him more marketable in the workforce. He encouraged students to continue their education soon after high school graduation while their academic skills are still sharp and their responsibilities and financial obligations are not as great as they might be later on.

After students visited the program areas, they participated in a business lunch during which Surry Community College counselors spoke with them about admissions requirements and financial aid and gave them pointers on making a smooth adjustment from high school to college.

She Jarvis, director of career services and marketing, indicated that the college welcomed the opportunity to help high school students with their career and educational plans.

SCC graduate featured in international publication

When Tom Edwards graduated from Allegheny County High School in 1984, he was uncertain about his future, particularly concerning college and career plans. He had needed more than a high school education, but was undecided about which field of study would be a good fit for him. However, from a formation he received from high school teachers and counselors, he believed that Surry Community College would be a good next step for him, a good place to contribute his education and figure out what to do with his life.

Much has changed in Edwards' life since 1984. He is now a skilled, experienced electronics technician whose insight and progressive approach to his work was recognized recently in an international trade publication. He is proud to be employed by a well established, reputable company in a position, which is a perfect fit for the personally, interests, and skills—a positive situation that he believes would not have happened for him without the education he obtained through Surry Community College.

By going to Surry Community College, I acquired fundamental knowledge and technical skills in the classroom from instructors who emphasized real-world applications and I gained work experience through the Cooperative Education Program. With the help of instructors like Randy LeQuire, Joe Sloop and Steve Burchman, I customized my educational plan and ended up with two associate in applied science degrees which helped me land the job I have today—one degree in Industrial Systems Technology and another in Electronics Engineering Technology.

Edwards is a central office technician for Skyline Membership Corporation, a provider of telecommunications services ranging from basic dial tone to high-bandwidth applications to over 36,000 access lines in Allegheny, Asht, and West Virginia Counties in North Carolina and Johnson County, Kansas, who works in Allegheny County is responsible for maintaining three of the 13 central office locations and ensuring equipment reliability, so that customers receive uninterrupted service 24 hours per day, 365 days of the year.

Keeping the system up and running is our highest priority," Edwards said. "One of our customers is not an option under any circumstances."

Edwards believes that the opportunity he has to work for such a company resulted from his education at Surry Community College.

Edwards is proud of his work and pleased about the article in *Fluke*.

"I am pleased that Fluke chose to write about our work at Skyline because the article provides valuable practical information to readers, and it highlights Skyline, a company that keeps its eye on the future and encourages its workers to continuously enhance their knowledge about emerging technologies in order to ensure quality services for our customers," he said.

Edwards believes that the opportunity he has to work for such a company resulted from his education at Surry Community College.

Commissioners support plan for viticulture center

By ANGELA SCHMOLL
Associate Editor

DOBSON — Surry Community College has \$3 million set aside for construction and more than \$300,000 in state funds to begin planning for a viticulture center, the Surry County Board of Commissioners Tuesday night endorsed the concept.

"Since I came to the college seven years ago, we've been talking about having some kind of auditorium on campus to serve the campus and surrounding community," said SCC President Frank Sellis. "We've wrestled with that over the years, but we've never

been able to come up with a good way to fund such a project.

"Over the last six months or so, with the emerging wine industry in our state, and our state definitely a major player in wine and has potential to be more, there is a need to have a center somewhere in the state that addresses that industry."

Sellis pointed out the center for the fine sciences is in Currier County, the same that is where the ocean is. "If there is going to be a viticulture center, it ought to be where the wine is," he said. "The majority of bottled wines in any single area are in our area. Such

a center will serve our state, serve our area and have a lot of international-type events we've always wanted to host."

"We're not asking you for money, we want to know if you think it is worthwhile to proceed. . . . Sellis pointed out that like other college buildings, over 2000 from the 2000 bond. The General Assembly liked the idea and put planning money in this year's budget. That's excited our board. We think that's a commitment from the General Assembly."

Sellis said the college is proceeding to select an architectural firm to give them a design, then will pick up with the local campaign to raise the additional local monies needed.

PLAN: Will serve all

continued from page 1

"I'd like to be able to say to our board, which meets next Monday, that the board of commissioners has endorsed this idea, that we made no commitment to funding, but agreed to a partnership

"We're not asking you for money, we want to know if you think it is worthwhile to proceed. . . . Sellis pointed out that like other college buildings, over 2000 from the 2000 bond. The General Assembly liked the idea and put planning money in this year's budget. That's excited our board. We think that's a commitment from the General Assembly."

Sellis said the college is proceeding to select an architectural firm to give them a design, then will pick up with the local campaign to raise the additional local monies needed.





Surry Community College pays visit to state legislature

As North Carolina legislators deliberated over the state budget earlier in the summer, they had an opportunity earlier to hear firsthand information about the positive impact Surry Community College programs have on the lives of citizens and the economy of Surry, Yadkin, and surrounding counties.

Participating in the North Carolina Community College Awareness Campaign, Surry Community College students, administrators, and instructors traveled to Raleigh to talk directly with state legislators and conduct curriculum demonstrations on Career Technology programs focusing on Viticulture and Enology and the Early Childhood Associate program.

President Frank Sells, Dr. Jani Woods, Dean of Arts and Sciences, Danyean Mabry, Chairperson of Humanities and Social Sciences, and Michael Avers, Chairperson of the Science Division represented the college administration. Gill Giese, Viticulture and Enology instructor, and students Molly Kelly and Skip Long presented a video production on that program and demonstrated wine analysis typically done in a laboratory setting. President Sells discussed the vital role the Viticulture and Enology program plays in new directions in agriculture and the emerging wine industry in the Yadkin Valley and throughout the state.

Dr. Kay Hamlin, Director of Early Childhood programs, and Lisa Mabe, instructor in those programs, presented information on the use of Emergent Literacy principles in relation to writing for young children with a visual exhibition of on-site delivery of early childhood classes in a migrant Head Start Program. Hamlin discussed the rapid growth of the Surry Community College Early Childhood programs, and the new articulation agreement with Winston-Salem State University through which graduates of the Early Childhood Associate program can apply the two-year pro-



Kevin Moore, student in Viticulture and Enology Program; Dr. Frank Sells, SCC President; George Holmes, Member of NC House of Representatives; and Gill Giese, SCC Viticulture and Enology Instructor.

Educational Opportunity Center expands services

Many educators throughout the country have known for some time that adult learners can benefit from the services of a trained tutor by gaining confidence and self-determination, developing a tolerance for uncertainty and conflict, becoming more motivated, and persisting until their educational goals are reached.

Adults in Surry, Stokes, Yadkin, Rockingham, and Forsyth Counties who are striving to improve basic academic skills, complete high school, or pursue a college degree now have access to the services of trained tutors at no cost to the students. Using a \$359,000 Expansion Grant awarded by the Northwest

Grant expands tutoring program for SCC students

DOBSON — Surry Community College's Educational Opportunity Center will be able to provide free tutoring services to more adults, helping those adults improve basic academic skills, complete high school, or pursue a college degree.

The Educational Opportunity Center, under the direction of Jamie Edwards, received a \$359,000 Expansion Grant from the Northwest Piedmont Workforce Development Board to provide free tutoring for adults in Surry, Stokes, Yadkin, Rockingham, and Forsyth counties.

The tutoring program is based on a model currently in operation through the Educational Opportunity Center in Rockingham County. Since 2002, the Educational Opportunity Center has used a portion of a \$204,000 federal TRIO grant to provide over 1600 hours of tutoring services to adults in Rockingham County who are pursuing high school completion, working to gain skills for employment, or preparing for a college-level program.

In groups of no more than five adult learners, trained tutors who are paid and supervised by the Educational Opportunity Center, help adults assess their learning styles and build basic, problem-solving, critical thinking, and interpersonal skills. The tutors also teach the adult learners how to use computers and how to access Internet learning tools. Computers for the program were purchased with donations from the community and funds from Workforce Development Board, and space for a tutor classroom was provided by Rockingham County Job Resources Training Center located in Madison.

Utilizing funds from the Expansion Grant through the Northwest Piedmont Workforce Development Board, the Educational Opportunity Center has become a certification site for the National Tutoring Association and expanded the

above services to the other five counties.

Beginning in July of this year, Holly Hodges, full-time coordinator of the community-based tutoring program, began providing training for 30 tutors.

Individuals who complete the tutor training program and complete 50 of supervised tutoring will be eligible for certification by the National Tutoring Association. Hodges will provide tutoring in basic skills including reading, writing, and mathematics; computer skills; and test preparation.

Trained tutors will provide a minimum of 10 hours of tutoring per week in Surry, Stokes, Yadkin, Rockingham, Davie, and Forsyth counties, with services delivered in JobLink Centers, community colleges, Goodwill Industries of North Carolina or other community agencies. The program will be evaluated by JobLink management teams in each county, comprised of members from the local Workforce Development Board staff, JobLink partners, community colleges, students, tutors, and the program coordinator.

Edwards believes the program will be instrumental in raising the educational level of adults in the six-county area.

He said, "The Educational Opportunity Center provides services to assist adults and adolescents who are at least 14 years of age access post-secondary education. These services include academic advice and assistance, help in completing college admissions and financial aid forms, guidance on how to complete high school through a GED or Adult High School program, personal educational counseling, and study skills.

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SCC holds 'College Day'

High school and community college students had an opportunity on Sept. 25, to talk directly to admissions officers from more than 50 colleges and universities during the annual Education Opportunity Session held on the campus of Surry Community College.

High school juniors and seniors from Surry and Yad-

kin County Schools and Mt. Airy City Schools and Surry Community College students learned about programs of various colleges, admissions requirements, housing and financial aid opportunities.

Mike McHone, Surry Community College vice president for Student Development, commented on the program by saying, "Hosting the annual Educational Opportunity Session, commonly

referred to as College Day, is a service we are proud to provide to the community.

"While we are always happy when a young person chooses Surry Community College, we want each student to choose the college that is a good fit for him or her. Having the college representatives on our campus provides a convenient way for students to gather the information they need to plan and make good decisions

about life after high school. Too, this program is a good way for students who choose Surry Community College as their first college experience to gather firsthand information on transfer opportunities.

"We applaud the local high schools for arranging for students to participate, and we applaud the many students who took time out of their busy schedules to take advantage of the program."



Jon Hutchins, representative from Campbell University, talks with North Surry High School student Daniel Hughes.



Mike Carroll, NC State University representative, talks with East Surry students Tyler Cook, Jonathan Georges, and Jon White.



Anne Marie Hardy, Surry Community College counselor, talks with North Surry High School students Francella Hernandez and Natalia Luna.

SCC offers mid-semester courses

Surry Community College will offer mid-semester college-credit courses beginning Oct. 18.

The following courses are offered on the main college campus in Dobson during afternoon and evening hours for the convenience of individuals who work or have other responsibilities in the early part of the day. ACA 111, College Student Success on Tuesdays and Thursdays, 6 p.m.; CIS 110, Introduction to Computers, Tuesdays and Thursdays, 2 p.m.; PED 111, Physical Fitness, Monday-Thursday, 4 p.m.; PSY 101, General Psychology, Mondays and Wednesdays, 4 p.m.; and REA102, Valuation Principles and Practice R-2, Tuesdays, 6 p.m.

The following courses are offered in the Surry Community College Yadkin Center in Yadkinville during morning hours: ENG 113, Literature-Based Research, Monday-Thursday, 9:30 a.m., and HIS 122, Western Civilization II, Monday-Thursday, 7:55 a.m.

Individuals interested in enrolling in these courses may contact the SCC Admissions Office by telephone at 338-386-3204 or by e-mail at lowes@surry.edu.

New high school receives grant

Surry County's three school systems along with Surry Community College are planning to launch a new theme-based high school on one of their campuses next fall.

The county is one of 12 statewide that received a planning grant from the

state's New School Initiative, which aims to open specialty schools that emphasize smaller class sizes and the integration of a traditional curriculum and practical skills and knowledge for the work place.

The Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation is funding the New School initiative with an \$11 million grant to the state.

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More information on the tutoring services and on the Educational Opportunity Center may be obtained by contacting Jamie Edwards by telephone at 338-386-3664 or by e-mail at lowes@surry.edu.

grant will go towards planning the theme of its new school and deciding where to house it in the interim. Each of the schools is supposed to have an academic focus that matches the industries and economic needs of the area.

The new school will start in the fall with a freshman class of 100, adding a new class each year. It will draw students from all three of the county's school systems.

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Education is a catalyst for change, and the EOC staff is proud to provide these services which can help individuals change their lives for the better. We are excited about the value and power of education to their children."

er located in Madison.

The Expansion Grant has also helped the Educational Opportunity Center become a certification site for the National Tutoring Association.

Beginning in July of this year, Holly Hodges, full-time coordinator of the community-based tutoring program, began training 30 tutors. Individuals who complete the tutor training program and complete 50 hours of supervised tutoring will be eligible for certification by the National Tutoring Association.

Hodges will provide tutoring in basic skills including reading, writing, and mathematics; computer skills; and test preparation.

Trained tutors will provide a minimum of 10 hours of tutoring per week in Surry, Stokes, Yadkin, Rockingham, Davie, and Forsyth counties, with services delivered in JobLink Centers, community colleges, Goodwill Industries of North Carolina or other community agencies.

JobLink management teams in each county will evaluate the program.

Edwards believes the program will be instrumental in raising the educational level of adults in the six-county area.

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SCC



SCC Phi Beta Lambda members win national competition recently



Surry Community College/Submitted photo
Surry Community College Phi Beta Lambda chapter members, from left, Rodney Owens, Sharon Angle, Steven Morris, Kristi Stoker, Kamia Barker and Lisa Thomas all won awards at the national convention in Orlando, Fla., recently.

SCC: Students bring home awards

Continued from page 1
located to the world of work, develop a deeper understanding of American free Enterprise System and serve the community through various volunteer efforts.

In addition, to competitive events, the National Leadership Conference in Orlando provided structured business and leadership workshops, seminars, corporate tours and the election of national officers. Jonathan Sprinkles, national speaker who received the 2004 College Speaker of the Year award, presented by the Association for the Promotion of Campus Activities, delivered the keynote address.

The Surry Community College chapter of Phi Beta Lambda

has expressed appreciation to individuals and businesses in the community whose financial support made participation in national competition possible for local students.

Anyone interested in learning more about Phi Beta Lambda may contact Surry Community College instructor Debbie Branch at Donna Harbour at 386-8121.

DOBSON — Surry Community College students brought home national awards from the Phi Beta Lambda National Leadership Conference held at Disney World Resort in Orlando, Fla., June 29 through July 2.

Students were eligible to compete at the national level because they placed first in state competition held in Charlotte in April of this year.

Steven Morris placed first in the Business Plan competition, Rodney Owens placed second in competition in Networking Security and Networking Concepts, Sharon Angle and Rodney Owens placed eighth in Network Design, and Kristi Stoker placed 10th in Future Business Teacher.

Surry Community College also received the Gold Seal Chapter Award and the Outstanding Chapter Award.

Phi Beta Lambda faculty advisors: Debbie Branch, Donna Harbour and Brian Barthel and members Kamia Barker and Lisa Thomas also attended the conference.

Phi Beta Lambda is a collegiate professional association for students who are pursuing careers in business and for business leaders and professionals who are interested in the field of business and in the Business Technologies Division of Surry Community College. The mission of Phi Beta Lambda is to provide opportunities for post-secondary students to develop business-related competencies and a sense of civic and personal responsibility.

Phi Beta Lambda members have leadership skills, gain confidence in themselves, refine their career goals, build skills to transition from the world of school to the world of work.

See SCC, page 2

Viticulture center receives funding

By ANGELA SCHMOLL, Associate Editor

RALEIGH — The funding for a state viticulture center to be located in Dobson is included in the state's 2005-06 budget, which was signed into law on Friday.

Supporters of the budget stated that the bill provides much-needed funding for education, health care and public safety, all of which are vitally important to improving the state's economy and creating new jobs. The House gave its initial approval of the budget last

Tuesday night by a vote of 60-39 and final approval on Wednesday afternoon by a vote of 61-39.

The Senate approved the bill on Wednesday along party lines, 28-20, and on Thursday by the same vote.

Gov. Mike Easley signed the bill on Friday.

"Our country, like many other wealthy and tobacco dependent countries, has faced difficult economic times in recent years, but through it all, we have continued to make progressive strides and this budget contributes that

progress," Rep. Jim Harrell III of Elkin. "The needs of our state are growing as more than 100,000 new people move to North Carolina each year, and this balanced budget meets our needs in important areas such as education, health care, public safety, as well as continuing our efforts to improve our economy and create new jobs. All North Carolinians want us to invest their tax dollars wisely and as efficiently as possible, and this budget does exactly that."

The final budget agreement provides much-needed funding for the state's K-12 schools, community colleges and universities and restores Medicaid and public safety cuts that were included in the original Senate budget, which was passed in May, but not included in the House budget. Passage of the two-year spending plan marks the end of the budget process in the legislature, which began several months ago. The Legislature must still complete work on numerous other pieces of legislation before adjourning for the year, which will occur in the next two weeks.

The plan includes \$325,000 for the North Carolina Viticulture Center to be located in Dobson in conjunction with the viticulture program at Surry Community College. Harrell announced plans to pursue the development in Dobson several months ago.

Also in this district is an appropriation of \$400,000 for the Sports Economic Development Initiative in Spartanburg.

See CENTER, page 3A



Students honored at SSC trustees meeting

By Maura Maseri, Staff Writer

DOBSON — During Monday night's regular meeting of the Surry Community College Board of Trustees, it was the honoring of two SCC students that topped a considerable night of much debate following a graduation induction by Surry Community College President Dr. G. Frank Seale, both Donna Puckett of Mount Airy and Steve Moncus of Dobson received a warm ovation from the board, who honored their various and admirable achievements.

"These were two outstanding students," said Seale. "The many of our students, they both represent the college really well. We wanted to recognize that."

Puckett, a wife and mother of six (three children/three stepchildren), received associate's degrees in general studies in 1978, computer technology in 1980 and business administration in 1983. Puckett worked at Patrick Henry Community College until 1996, when she then took a job with Frederick G. Johnson, SCC's attorney.

Puckett graduated from Surry Community College in May 2005 with an associate's degree in paralegal technology. In July 2005, she

became one of the first applicants in the state of North Carolina to apply for paralegal certification through the North Carolina State Bar.

"I'm very thankful to be honored by the board of trustees," said Puckett. "I enjoy working with Frederick Johnson and enjoy assisting him with the board of the evening. As currently attending Surry Community College, and will graduate in May of 2008. During his time at SCC, Moncus successfully completed the co-op program leading to celebrated expertise concerning Intel's upper management team."

Moncus was a student ambassador for the college in 2004, and has achieved Dean's List status in every semester in which he has enrolled. He will be the 2005-2006 chapter president for the Phi Beta Lambda club.

A contracted "business plan" designed by Moncus recently placed first in both the state and the national regarding best overall business plan.

"Surry Community College encourages you to keep working and trying," said Moncus. "You not just an other face here. The board here really care. They motivate you and inspire you to work hard and keep going."

CENTER: To be located at SCC

Continued from page 1A

\$300,000 in appropriations include \$95,000 higher for education, which is a 2.73 percent or \$250 million more than last year's education budget.

The budget includes additional funding to cover the more than 35,000 new students who will show up at state schools this school year. Legislators dedicated close to \$80 million to address the on-going Leandro school funding lawsuit, which will dedicate additional funding to low-wealth school districts, disadvantaged students, high school reforms, school-based family support teams and teacher recruitment.

The budget provides \$100 million for ABC bonuses for teachers, in addition to a pay raise of approximately 2.24 percent, and fully funds teacher assistant positions.

More than \$3.2 million is provided to expand Essey's "Learn and Earn" program, which allows students the opportunity to graduate with a high school diploma and a college degree after just five years of study.

The Senate passes the House lottery bill, which would establish the game in our state," said Harrell. "North Carolinians will have even more funding to invest in school construction, early childhood education, and college scholarships."

The budget also provides more than \$4 billion in funding for health care for the state's children, blind, disabled and elderly, and restores many of the previously proposed cuts in the original Senate budget. Legislators provided funding to ensure 65,000 aged, blind and disabled North Carolinians and 20,000 children will continue to be covered by Medicaid. Children ages 0-5 currently covered by Health Choice will be moved to Medicaid, which will bring the total projected enrollment to about 200,000 children over the next three years.

The North Carolina Senior Care prescription drug program, which currently covers 125,000 seniors, will receive \$10 million.



SCC: Hosts educational opportunity day

Continued from page 1

mented on the program by saying, "Hosting the annual Educational Opportunity Session, commonly referred to as College Day, is a service we are proud to provide to the community. While we are always happy when a young person chooses Surry Community College, we want each student to choose the college that is a good fit for him or her.

"Having the college representatives on our campus provides a convenient way for students to gather the information they need to plan and make good decisions about life after high school.

"Too, this program is a good way for students who choose Surry Community College as their first college experience to gather firsthand information on transfer opportunities.

"We applaud the local high schools for arranging for students to participate, and we applaud the many students who took time out of their busy schedules to take advantage of the program."



Surry Community College Staff photo
Mike Carroll, N.C. State University representative, talks with East Surry High School students Tyler Cook, Jonathan George and Jon White.



Surry Community College Staff photo
Jon Hutchins, representative from Campbell University, talks with North Surry High School student Daniel Hughes.

SCC holds college fair

DOBSON — High school and community college students had an opportunity on Sept. 26 to talk directly to admissions officers from more than 50 colleges and universities during the annual Educational Opportunity Session held on campus of Surry Community College.

Mike McHone, Surry Community College vice president for student development, commented on the success of the fair.

See SCC, page 8B



Yadkin

Grape festival Saturday

By Brook R. Curwin Staff Reporter

YADKINVILLE — Fine wine is known to go well with crackers, cheeses and quality meats.

This Saturday, locals and tourists can find how well it goes with — among other things — fine chili.

A chili cook-off kicks off a slate of musical and family-friendly events and family hope will bring thousands of people of all ages to downtown Yadkinville for the second annual Yadkin Valley Grape Festival.

New to the festival this year is a children's area and a memorial bike ride, both designed to broaden the festival's appeal.

Bobby Todd, director of the Yadkin County Chamber of Commerce, said Wednesday.

"We anticipate a larger crowd," Todd said. "We think we'll reach a larger audience; folks who wouldn't have come to the festival otherwise."

The festival, which brought in 900 wine-tasters and an estimated 2,000 total visitors in its first outing last year, will take place from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. This year's event features wines from 14 different Yadkin Valley vineyards, up from 11 last year, along with displays from

See Grape, back page

Surry Community College's Agriculture Extension Service

to educate festival-goers about the grape growing and wine-making process. All of the vineyards will offer tastings of their various wines.

Tasting tickets are \$15. Admission to the festival is open to all regardless of age or wine palate.

A total of 26 vendors, including five food vendors, will be on hand along with a host of children's activities such as a grape stomp contest organized by the Yadkin County Partnership for Children.

Four musical acts, ranging from folk to blues to beach form.

A Taste of Italy in Yadkinville, which has not yet received its wine permit, will be handing out menus at the festival, encouraging people to bring their wine to the restaurant at the Yadkin Plaza shopping center where they will pour the wine for the customer.

New to the event is the Ginny B. Memorial Bike Ride to benefit Hospice, which organizers hope to make an annual event. The ride will begin and end in Yadkinville and take riders past several of the county's vineyards.

For \$25, riders receive a wine-tasting ticket and a poker hand. The best and worst hand will be awarded prizes at the festival.

Todd said tickets to the bike ride will be available up until 9:30 a.m. on Saturday. Advance wine-tasting tickets can be ordered up until Friday.

"The festival committee has done a wonderful job putting a great event together with very interesting venues, educational opportunities with the community college and some great music as well," Todd said.

SCC to host seminar on marketing

The Small Business Center of Surry Community College will sponsor a seminar entitled "The Secrets of Successful Marketing" on Oct. 25 from 2 to 4:30 p.m.

The workshop will meet on the SCC campus in room J103 of the Building.

The seminar leader will be Susan Foster of Foster Management Inc. This workshop will change activities that will drive a business forward to continued growth and success.

However, pre-registration will be required. Call 386-3211 or e-mail scb@surry.edu at <http://207.144.228.16/scbseminar/sep.htm>.

Seminar to help employers improve communications

DOBSON — The Small Business Center of Surry Community College and the Yadkin Valley Chamber of Commerce will co-sponsor a seminar, "Less Gender Stress & Communication Mess," from 2 to 4 p.m. Oct. 27 at the Jonesville Comfort Inn.

The seminar leader will be Emily Ballance, a licensed professional counselor, consultant and speaker with 25 years' experience.

This seminar will help employers understand and appreciate the difference in the communications styles of men and women and learn how to make themselves more easily understood. Attendees will explore five common mistakes made while communicating with the opposite gender and the six steps to improve relationships.

The seminar is free to Yadkin Valley chamber members and costs \$10 for non-members. Pre-registration is required. Call 386-3211 or pre-register online at http://207.144.228.16/cont_edu/scbseminar/sep.htm.

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The seminar leader will be Susan Foster of Foster Management Inc.

This workshop will change the way owners think about their business and marketing methods. Whether large or small, retail or service, an effective marketing strategy is the key to growing a business.

During this session, owners will learn about business factors to consider, how to develop their own dynamic marketing plan and how to implement strategic activities that will drive a business forward to continued growth and success.

This seminar is tuition free. However, pre-registration will be required. Call 386-3211 or pre-register online at scbseminar/sep.htm.



Detailed instructions for each aspect of the ten areas are discussed. Tips for completing the certification process, including the video entries, are given Smith at 386-3331 or 386-3244.

date changes to share his/her writings with the class. The class will meet on Saturday (Oct. 22, Nov. 12, Dec. 10, Jan. 21, Feb. 18, and March 11) from 10:00 until 3:00 p.m.

To register, call Greg Smith at 386-3331 or 386-3244. Information regarding class location will be available from Greg Smith.

National Board Certification for Professional Teaching Standards: Tips for Teachers (24 contact hours)

This interactive course, taught by Dr. Annette Avers and Judy Simpson, both National Board Certified Teachers, provides a comprehensive introduction to the National Board for Teaching Standards certification process.

Providing information for candidates and potential candidates, the course focuses on the four portfolio entries and the six assessment center



Students hear history of Tuskegee Airmen

The Mount Airy News Saturday, October 1, 2005



Meah Massey/The Mount Airy News
Air Force Tech. Sgt. Leonard Williams (ret'd.) speaks to SCC students Friday.

"America never has told the story of the Tuskegee Army. I stand up, he saluted them, and then asked that students remember not only the veterans' efforts, but also those of military personnel currently serving in Iraq."

"We should honor these ladies and gentlemen fighting for this great country every day," he said.

Eagleman, who did not speak at Friday's presentation, is one of about 20 surviving members of the Tuskegee Armymen who live in North Carolina.

conditions were accepted as aviation cadets to be trained initially as single-engine pilots and later to as either twin-engine pilots, navigators, or bombardiers.

They had to meet the same standards as any other pilots or mechanics in operations, meteorology, intelligence, engineering, medicine or any of the other specialties assigned to officers.

Enlisted men were trained as aircraft and engine mechanics, armament specialists, radio repairmen, parachute riggers, control tower operators, policemen, administrative clerks and in other skills necessary to fully support an Army Air Corps flying squadron or ground unit.

After they proved their ability to handle their duties, the Tuskegee Armymen were assigned overseas until a white woman intervened.

"First Lady Eleanor Roosevelt asked her husband, President Franklin D. Roosevelt, 'Why aren't these men fighting?'" said Hunter. "She came down to Alabama to see for herself."

After meeting with the Tuskegee Armymen and watching them at work, Mrs. Roosevelt convinced FDR to let the Tuskegee Armymen fly in World War II's European Theater.

"The Tuskegee Armymen set a time of segregation and discrimination when many people thought that African-Americans lacked the intelligence, skill, courage and patriotism to serve in the military.

According to their official Web site, men who possessed the physical and mental qualifications were accepted as aviation cadets to be trained initially as single-engine pilots and later to as either twin-engine pilots, navigators, or bombardiers.

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SCC's Phi Beta Lambda holds induction ceremony



The officers for Phi Beta Lambda for 2005-2006 were inducted recently. They are, from left, Steve Moncus, President; Chris Sparks, Co-Vice President; Susan Carlisle, Co-Vice President; Amanda Cummings, Secretary; Anthony Edwards, Treasurer; James Goodman, Reporter; Not pictured is Kadin Tickle, Historian.

DOBSON — The Surry Community College chapter of Phi Beta Lambda held the induction ceremony for officers and members for the 2005-06 academic year on Oct. 11 in the Presidents Dining Room on the main college campus in Dobson.

Proudly sponsors, Debbie Hannel and Dr. Dawn Harbour, welcomed members and guests and conducted the induction ceremony.

Officers inducted for the current academic year were Steve Moncus, President; Susan Carlisle, Co-Vice President; Chris Sparks, Co-Vice President; Amanda Cummings, Secretary; Anthony Edwards, Treasurer; James Goodman, Reporter; and Kadin Tickle, Historian.

Phi Beta Lambda is the largest collegiate organization in the nation which focuses on the development of business competencies. With more than 12,000 members throughout the country and 900 chapters in North Carolina, it provides opportunities for college students to develop skills and attitudes for success in the business world. Competencies such as



Knights take next step



Surry Community College's Ivory Harris, center, hits the ball to teammate Carrie Hutchens during practice on Thursday. The Lady Knights will vie for a District H championship on Monday in New Jersey.

Knights take next step, headed to championship game

By Thomas Lester
Mid-South News Service

DOBSON — Since she can't spend her birthday with her family, Surry Community College's Ivory Harris might as well spend it with a few of her closest friends — and maybe win another volleyball championship along the way.

Harris and the Lady Knights (18-3) will be making the trip to New Jersey to compete in the District H championship game against an as yet unnamed opponent.

Last weekend, Surry won the Region X tournament during Nicole Snow's birthday. Harris hopes the trend sticks with the team.

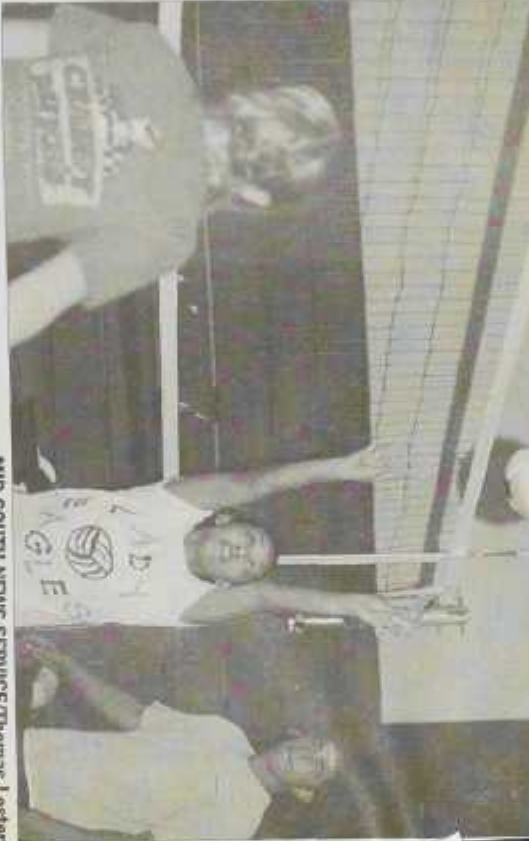
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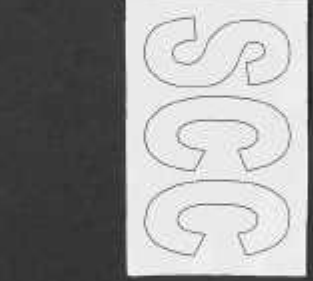
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Surry Community College's Ivory Harris, center, hits the ball to teammate Carrie Hutchens during practice on Thursday. The Lady Knights will vie for a District H championship on Monday in New Jersey.



Surry headed to District H championship game

By THOMAS LESTER
Sports Editor

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SURRY: Heading to New Jersey

Continued from page 1B

not get carried away with what could be.

"I don't want them to be nervous. It's only one match," Slade said.

"If we can stay calm, I think we'll be fine. They're thinking about nationals and I told them to not worry about that and take it one game at a time."

Kepley shares her coach's attitude. She said it's important to stay the course because a team's next match could very well be its last.



"It's a hard part of the year," Kepley said. "We can either win and have two more weeks of volleyball or lose and we're done. It's exciting, but at the same time, it could be the last one of the season."

With only seven players on the roster, sometimes Harris wonders how the team got as far as it did.

But then, she remembers what it was. The seven Knights get along so well and their chemistry has played a big part in their rise. She said maybe with some other players, it wouldn't have been the same.

"There are times I wish we had maybe two more girls, but when I look at how far we've come with just the seven of us, if we had eight or nine, we might have slacked off," Harris said.

"Individually, we have to pick up for someone else's spot and come together as a team and do it."

Kepley said because the team is so tight, sometimes practices can get a little crazy, but she's confident the Knights can take care of business when it counts.

"We need to step up our practices a little and people need to get serious, but the thing with our team is everybody is too good of friends so when we're out there playing, we're having a good time," she said. "I think when it comes down to it, we'll get serious when we need to."

The Mount Airy News

SPORTS

Lady Knights return to nationals

Surry moves on with 4-1 victory against Bergen CC

BERGEN, N.J. — Surry Community College's volleyball team will be making its fourth appearance in the National Junior College Athletic Association Division III championship tournament in only the program's sixth year of existence.

On Monday, the Lady Knights (19-3) bested Bergen (N.J.) Community College in four games to earn the right to return to the Minnesota-based tournament.

Surry advanced by virtue of its 30-16, 30-18, 27-30, 30-20 victory in the District H championship match.

"Hopefully we'll play well this year and win a few games — or the whole thing would be nice."

Surry coach Tina Slate

Surry coach Tina Slate said the team started off well and then let its guard down before using a strong defensive effort to put the contest away in the fourth game.

Slate said playing solid defense is what's made the seven-member team as good as it has been this year.

"Defense is what has won games for us," she said.

Surry will be back in action during the weekend of Nov. 12 in Rochester, Minn., in the championship tournament.

Slate said, hopefully, the team will be able to make a little more noise on the national level this time.

"Hopefully, we'll play well this year and win a few games — or the whole thing would be nice," Slate said.



Summer Kepley



Shea Wilkins

Surry Community College to hold benefit for Locks of Love

DOBSON — The Surry Community College Cosmetology Department will host a free haircut event benefiting the Locks of Love organization from Nov. 8-11 and Nov. 15-18.

Held within the Surry Community College salon, cosmetology students will offer free donated human hair. The volunteers will donate 10 or more inches of their "precious locks."

The event, entitled "Dues to Locks of Love, a not-for-profit organization which provides recipients with a custom, vacuum-fitted hairpiece made entirely of

Others suffer from severe burns or endured radiation treatment to the brain stem, in addition to many other conditions that result in permanent hair loss.

The organization, which began in 1997, has helped more than 1,400 children since its first year of operation. Children com-

prise more than 80 percent of the donors, making this a charity in which children have an opportunity to help (other) children.

All donated hair is evaluated by the following guidelines: must be at least 10 inches in length; must be bonded in a ponytail or a braid; and must be free of hair

damaged by chemical processing (no bleach or recent perm).

Event organizers note that those having hair less than 10 inches in length (that wish to participate) may still in fact donate their hair, but will not receive the free haircut offered throughout the event.



Set. No. 12 2005

Lady Knights' season ends

ROCHESTER, Minn. — Surry Community College's volleyball team came close to reaching its short-term goal in the National Junior College Athletic Association Division III championship tournament.

Entering the eight-team field, the Lady Knights (19-0) were hoping to pick up a victory in a game, but Surry was swept out of the competition in pool play.

Heading into the contest, the Knights were facing an uphill battle. The team only had seven members, and more than 6 feet tall.

In the opening contest, Surry squared off with top-seeded Central Lakes (Minn.) Community College and fell 30-19, 30-22 and 30-16.

The Knights' second match was against William Rainey Harper (Ill.) Community College. Surry dropped this contest 30-18, 30-15, 30-13.

In the third game, Surry almost earned the win but fell to Columbus State (Ohio) Community College.

The Knights started off strong in the first two games in the match, losing 30-27 and 30-24.

But in the third game, Columbus State earned a 30-15 victory.

The Knights, under the guidance of coach Tina Slate, were making their fourth appearance in the NJCAA Division III volleyball championships in only six seasons of the program's existence.

The team was made up of all local players coming from three high schools.

Hannah Vernon, Shea Wilkins, Carrie Hutchens and Ivory Harris were Surry Central products while Danyelle Brown and Nicole Snow graduated from Starmount.

Summer Kepley was a former member of Forbush's volleyball team.

Mount Airy News Thursday, November 10, 2005

The Mount Airy News

SPORTS

Lady Knights set to take on nation's best

By THOMAS LESTER

DOBSON — For the fourth time in six seasons, Surry Community College's volleyball team will be making an appearance in the National Junior College Athletic Association Division III national volleyball championship tournament.

This time, the Lady Knights (19-3) hope a little good fortune makes the trip to Rochester, Minn., as well when the games start on Friday.

In the previous three trips, Surry was eliminated in the pool play round of the eight-team field with offensive-minded squads.

Now, with a smaller team geared for defense and consistency, the Knights are looking to make their mark on the national scene.

But coach Tina Slate is looking for a little early progress before she starts thinking about a championship.

"My short-term goal is to win a game," Slate said. "That would make history for us. Every year we've had chase games, but we've never won."

That might change this year. The Knights have had to compensate for a lack of height with more attention to fundamentally sound volleyball, especially on the defensive end. It's a

"We have to be ready and be prepared for blocks. The blocking is awesome up there. We have to stay low on defense. If we don't they're going to hit it straight down every time."

Hannah Vernon also was a member of the team last year. She said blocks are inevitable against some of the bigger, more physical teams that the Knights will line up against. She said it's what the team does after getting blocked that will determine how far it goes.

"We've been practicing hard on covering if we get blocked after hitting. We're working on our defense," Vernon said. "We're facing some big girls."

Slate has relied on Brown and Vernon to help prepare the team's live newer members on what they can expect when they take the court.

"We're working really hard in practice on our defense," Slate said. "The girls are going to be bigger than the boys we've played. They're going to be strong. They know what to expect because Hannah and Danyelle have talked to them and told them how important the defense is going to be."

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New teams this year include Dutchess (N.Y.) Community College, Jamestown (N.Y.) Community College and William Rainey Harper (Ill.) Community College.

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Vernon said after playing in the tournament last season, the competition is unlike anything the Knights have faced thus far this season.

"It's nothing we've seen before. It's different from what we're used to all year long," Vernon said. "The competition is a lot harder but it's what we look forward to all year long."

After arriving this morning, Surry will take part in a practice and a banquet. Following Friday's opening contest, the Knights will take the court at 12:30. And Vernon hopes they leave on Saturday with a little hardware.

"You've got to go in thinking we're going to win it all, so we're mentally prepared just like we are physically," Vernon said.



Danyelle Brown

Danyelle Brown was on the Surry team that went to the championship tournament last season. She said a sound defensive gameplan could make the difference for the Knights.

"It's going to be important," Brown said. "I think our passing will be fine. We just need to get it back over. We're a defensive team anyway. Our hitters just have to work on getting around the blocks."



Hannah Vernon

"They're not really nervous, which is great. They'll be calm and hopefully we'll win a few games."

Several teams are back from last season's tournament, including Brookhaven, Columbus State (Ohio) Community College, Ridgewater (Minn.) Community College and Surry's first round foe, top-ranked Central Lakes (Minn.) College are back for more.

Structure November 5, 05 Turner will direct effort to plan new high school

DOBSON — The New Schools Project Steering Committee has chosen Patsy Turner as the project director for planning a new high school in Surry County.

School superintendents Tim Parley, Ashley Hinson and Barry Shepherd and Surry Community College President Frank Sells head the steering committee that will discuss options and develop the planning grant.

Choosing a program director is the first step in moving forward with planning.

Turner is a long-time educator in the Surry County Schools and has served in several capacities. She is a former curriculum specialist and North Surry High School counselor and administrator who retired as Spauld Elementary's principal in the spring of 2003.

"I can't think of a better reason to return to work than the opportunity to work with the design and creation of an innovative high school program," Turner said.

"While all of our high schools throughout the county are implementing reform strategies, they are still restricted by traditional structures," she said. "It is exciting to be working with the New Schools Project, along with the three school districts and Surry Community College, to organize a model program based on their research of best practices." Planning for the new high school will now move forward as Turner collaborates with the project through the steering committee.



Steering committee member Patsy Turner is coming out of retirement to become project director for planning a new high school in Surry County.

SCC

Themed high school in planning stages

Friday, Nov. 18, 2005
By Brock R. Coenen
Surry Reporter

Current eighth-graders in Surry County will likely have the option to attend a new high school in Mount Airy next fall, one that specializes in preparing students for careers in design.

A committee of administrators from the three-county school districts and Surry Community College is in the planning phase for the school funded through grants.

The school would limit each incoming class to 100 students in order to preserve small class sizes. Starting with just the ninth grade in the first year, it would add another class each year.

It's academic focus — while still adhering to the standard course of study for North Carolina high schools — would be an integrating classroom with real-world scenarios.

"We're not creating a new curriculum," said Patsy Turner, director for the project.

Surry

set. "We're just creating a different way to deliver the curriculum."

Across the state, 25 such high schools opened this fall and 26 more are in development as part of the New Schools Project. Gov. Mike Easley's Education Cabinet launched the initiative in 2003 using an \$11 million grant from the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation. It aims to have at least 100 new high schools open by 2008.

Some of the schools were funded with specific academic themes in mind, such as information technology or health and life sciences. Surry County's new school is in a group of 12 across the state picking their own themes to correlate with the economic needs of the area.

"They're accountable. (to the state) just like every public school," said Patsy Turner.

See School, Page A-14

SCC classes, seminars ...

Job seeking skills class set

HRD income guidelines. Contact Carmen Parker, E-mail: cparker@scscc.edu for more information.

Wastewater class Nov. 8

DOBSON — The Continuing Education Division of Surry Community College will sponsor a wastewater treatment recirculation course on Nov. 8 and 10. The class will meet from 6:30 to 9:30 p.m. on the campus of Surry Community College in room H-250A (Research Health Science Building). The instructor for this course will be Debra Overturf.

Payroll session set Nov. 10

DOBSON — The Continuing Education Division of Surry Community College will offer a workshop for small business owners. The program will be sponsored by the Small Business Center. The meeting will be 6:30 to 9:30 p.m. in Room J-115 (J-Building) on the Dobson campus. Instructors will be Jerry Sawyers of Sawyers & Sawyers Accounting. This will be a thorough review of withholding & reporting compliance, deadlines, for quarterly and payments, tax deposits, and payroll penalties. It also may address issues like hiring family members; the pitfalls of "subcontractors" who are really employees; and liability for collecting and remitting state sales tax.

HVAC course is slated

DOBSON — The Surry Community College Continuing Education Division will

Notary class scheduled

DOBSON — The Continuing Education Division of Surry Community College will sponsor a Notary Public Education (6.5 hours). The class will be given Nov. 8 and 10 from 6 to 9:30 p.m. in Room J-115 (J-Building) on the Dobson campus. Instructors will be Jerry Sawyers and Sawyers Accounting. This will be a thorough review of

Seminar set for bookkeeping

DOBSON — The Small Business Center of Surry Community College will sponsor a seminar on Thursday (on Basic Bookkeeping for Business). The meeting will be 6:30 to 9:30 p.m. in Room J-115 (J-Building) on the Dobson campus. Instructors will be Jerry Sawyers and Sawyers Accounting.

SCC student raises concerns to SGA

DOBSON — At the regular meeting of the Surry Community College Student Government Association held Wednesday on campus, it was the submission of a list of concerns by member Ben Walker that dominated a heated afternoon of much discussion.

"I submit to you the following list of concerns about the college," said Walker. "I would like to make a motion to see that this list is submitted to the board."

The concerns or questions listed in Walker's report included the absence of having a student newspaper; the current state of student enrollment; the early cancellation of Student Appreciation Day; faculty salaries/pay-cuts; and circumstances surrounding current drop-out/no-show rates, among others.

Walker also expressed concerns regarding what he feels to be "unpopular" practices among those within the administration. "Why have so many instructors disappeared under suspicious circumstances, involving abnormal resignations and retractions?" asked Walker. "Why are most of the students, and especially the faculty, so scared of the administration that they will only talk about any subject connected to the school's problems in an anonymous way?"

Surry Community College SGA submits list of concerns

By MICAH MASSEI
Mid-Surri News Service

DOBSON — "I submit to you the following list of concerns about the college," said Surry Community College Student Government Association member Ben Walker to fellow SGA members at last week's regular meeting.

"I would like to make a motion to see that this list is submitted to the board."

Hoping to offer clarification (as well as possibly provide some answers) to a recent "list of concerns" submitted by Walker and the SGA to the SCC administration after their Nov. 9 meeting, SCC President Dr. Frank Sells met with 18 SGA representatives, as well as SCC Director of Student Activities Tony Searcy, in a conference room at the school.

"The Sells pushed the need for communication between the students," said Walker. "The thing he stressed the most was the lack of communication."

"He (Dr. Sells) said in the last five years only 4 to 5

2-The Mount Airy News The STUDENT: Concerned

instructors have been fired or asked to leave," said Walker after yesterday's meeting. "He said the others made the worst state of student enrollment, the high rate of turnover (was) due to so many instructors being badly informed and starting to retire."

And what of the accusations regarding "students and especially the faculty being 'scared' of the administration?"

"He said it was not an issue, (that) this has not happened to anyone. He said that if any threats were made known to him, he would deal with them."

"I thought the meeting went great," said Dr. Sells. "I was impressed by those there today. I think they've heard a lot of negative information. I think we were able to resolve certain issues as well as have a good open dialogue to discuss these concerns. We had a good discussion and agreed on some ways to work on some new ideas to have these issues resolved."

SCC student raises concerns to SGA

By MICAH MASSEI
THURSDAY, NOV. 10

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SCC

Sports

Lady Knights enjoy successful season

Brown, Vernon play final game in NJCAA tournament

By THOMAS LESTER

The 2005 Surry Community College volleyball team might be the most impressive one yet.

With only seven players — and none standing taller than six feet — the Lady Knights (19-6) advanced to their fourth National Junior College Athletic Association Division III national championship tournament in Rochester, Minn., in only the sixth season of the program's existence.

With five players returning from this season's team, coach Tina Slate believes a fifth trip to the nationals is within her team's grasp. And her players do, too.

"The girls that are returning are already wanting to have open gym, they're wanting to come in and play," Slate said. "That's a good sign."

For much of the season, Surry's front line consisted of Summer Kopley, Hannah Vernon and Shea Wilkins while libero



Danyelle Brown



Hannah Vernon

Ivory Harris and defensive players Danyelle Brown and Nicole Snow latched back line duties.

Former Surry Central defensive player Carrie Hutchens was pressed into duty as the team's setter.

And through it all, the Knights made it work well.

Slate said the team's accomplishments during the season really stand out considering all the Knights had to overcome.

"Just going undefeated in the conference was great. Going into it being undersized, having no setter, having to teach positions to people who had never played volleyball," Slate said. "We had defensive people playing on the front row."

But while other teams might have had an advantage in height, Surry's seven players well together, which made up for a lot. Slate said the team's cohesiveness allowed it to catch a few teams off guard and made for more than a few memorable moments.



SCC

SCC

KNIGHTS: Solid season

Continued from page 7

but late in the second game, Kopley sprained her ankle and had to sit out.

Surry lost the final game 30-15.

Despite falling in pool play, Slate said the team has nothing to feel bad about.

"They worked really hard. It was our best performance at the nationals," she said.

The loss against Columbus

That night change this year. The Knights have had to compensate for a lack of height with more attention to ball, especially on the defensive end. It's a mindset that worked for last season's championship.

Brookhaven (Texas) Community College, Danyelle Brown was on the Surry team that went to the championship tournament last season. She said a sound defensive gameplan could make the difference for the Knights.

Lady Knights enjoy successful season, reach championship tourney

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But while other teams might have had an advantage in height, Surry's seven players well together, which made up for a lot. Slate said the team's cohesiveness allowed it to catch a few teams off guard and made for more than a few memorable moments.

"Winning the region and the district when people didn't expect us to, and just getting better every time we played, I think that has to do with their personalities and getting along with each other," Slate said.

In the championship tournament, Surry's front line consisted of Summer Kopley, Hannah Vernon and Shea Wilkins while libero Ivory Harris and defensive players Danyelle Brown and Nicole Snow handled back line duties.

ment, Surry faced off with top-ranked Central Lakes (Minn.) in the first round and fought hard before falling 30-19, 30-22 and 30-16.

Slate said early on, the Knights gave Central Lakes all it wanted.

"They did really good, especially in the first game against the No. 1 seed," she said. "We were ahead of them and we played really well. We played the best against them."

After a loss to William Rainey Harper (Ill.) Community College, Surry almost pulled out its breakthrough win against Columbus State (Ohio) Community College.

The Knights lost the first two games against Columbus State 30-27 and 30-24, but late in the second game, Kopley sprained her ankle and had to sit out. Surry lost the final game 30-15.

Despite falling in pool play, Slate said the team has nothing to feel bad about. "They worked really hard. It was our best performance at the nationals," she said.

The loss against Columbus State marked the final contest for Vernon and Brown, who also made the trip to the tournament last season. Slate said the two experienced players made the transition an easy one this year.



Danyelle Brown



Hannah Vernon

ent, Slate hopes the team is just a piece or two away from bigger and better things.

"We're going to surprise them one year and come up with the big win," she said.



Members of Surry Community College's volleyball team pose after capturing the Region X Tournament championship on Saturday in Dobson.

Lady Knights in national tourney

By THOMAS LESTER
Mid-South News Service

It's going to be important," Brown said. "I think our passing will be fine, we need to get it back over. We're a defensive team anyway. Our hitters just have to work on getting around the blocks."

"We have to be ready and be prepared for blocks. The blocking is awesome up there. We have to stay low on defense. If we don't they're going to hit it straight down every time."

Hannah Vernon also was a member of the team last year. She said blocks are inevitable against some of the bigger, more physical teams that the Knights will line up against. She said it's what the team does after getting blocked that will determine how far it goes.

"We've been practicing hard on covering if we get blocked after hitting. We're working on our defense," Vernon said. "We're facing some big girls."

Slate has relied on Brown and Vernon to help prepare the team's five newer members on what they can expect when they take the court.

"We're working really hard in practice on our defense," Slate said. "The girls are going to be bigger than the girls we've played. They're going to be strong. They know what to expect because Hannah and Danyelle have talked to them and told them how important the defense is going to be."

And so far, Slate said she's been pleased with how well the rest of the team is taking to the information and the prospect of playing on the national stage.

"They're really excited," she said. "They're not really nervous. They're not really nervous."

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Several teams are back from last season's tournament, including Brookhaven, Columbus State (Ohio) Community College, Ridgewater (Minn.) Community College and Surry's first round foe, top-ranked Central Lakes (Minn.) College are back for more.

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Knights roll to Region X tourney title

By THOMAS LESTER
Sports Editor

DOBSON — Surry Community College's volleyball team is back in familiar territory after yet another Region X Tournament championship.

The Lady Knights (18-3) swept the title against Central Lakes (Minn.) and Caldwell Community College to roll to the league title and another berth in the postseason.

Surry downed Caldwell in the opener 30-25, 30-13, 30-15 and followed it up with a 30-22, 30-15, 30-24 victory against Catawba Valley.

Caldwell finished second with a 3-0 win against Catawba Valley in the consolation match.

Knights coach Tina Slate said although it wasn't the sharpest performance she's seen from her team, she will definitely take it.

"The girls played pretty well," Slate said. "We've played better this year but I think it might have been nerves because this was important. We had to win to advance to district next week."

Summer Kopley, who was named Region X player of the year and tournament MVP, said the team knew what it had to do and made sure it got done.

"Any team can take it on a certain day, so it was important for us to play hard enough to beat everybody today and not give anybody any hope they could beat us," Kopley said.

In the first game against Caldwell, Kopley had nine kills, nine digs, two aces and a block. She added 13 digs against Catawba Valley.

Hannah Vernon led the Knights against Caldwell with 11 kills, six blocks and a dig while Shea Wilkins had six kills, two blocks and two digs against the Cobras and Ivory Harris dished out 22 assists and eight digs in the effort.

Azusa Catalawba Valley, Carrie Hutchens, who moved from setter to libero in the game, had 17 digs while Nicole Snow had 12 digs, four kills, an ace and an assist against the Buccaneers.

"Now, if we lose, we're done. It's a whole different mentality," Slate said. "I hope we're up for it. I think we are. I have a great group of girls this year. They get along well and I think that's important."

Hutchens and Wilkins joined Kopley on the all-tournament team, while the all-Region X team was headed with Knights, Vernon, Snow, Danyelle Brown, Hutchens and Harris were recognized along with Kopley.

Kopley said now that the team is through with its regular season docket, it's time to refocus and get ready for what lies ahead. The Knights will travel to New Jersey next weekend for the District H championship match.

"It's getting down to where it's going to show how good we really are this year," Kopley said. "I hope we can get serious and get ready for the big stuff."

Which is the kind of attitude Slate likes at this time of the year. She said the cohesiveness of this year's team could mean big things.

Kepley sparks Lady Knights

By THOMAS LESTER

Sports Editor
DOBSON — Playing in the spotlight is nothing new for Surry Community College freshman outside hitter Summer Kepley.

Kepley spent her fall teaming volleyball at Forsyth, home of several three N.C. High School Athletic Association Class 2-A state championships.

She said playing for the Knights (18-3), who are a step away from reaching the National Junior College Athletic Association Division III national championship tournament is just a continuation of the success she enjoyed at the high school level.

"I'm used to the way it is and how you have to move up before you can play hard," Kepley said. "We just have to play hard now to be ready for what's coming up."

It's that attitude that helped Kepley become a team captain in her first year of playing for Surry. Kepley's coach, Tina Slate, said Kepley has a knack for picking her teammates up when they need it most.

"She provides a lot of leadership, that's important," Slate said. "After each play, we try to come together to celebrate or pump each other up. She's the one that brings them all together."

Kepley was named Region X player of the year and was the most valuable player in the Region X tournament held Saturday in Dobson. She said she got ready for the rigors of playing collegiately under the guidance of former Forsyth coach Robyn Wesselmann.



Summer Kepley

"It helped a lot," Kepley said. "Robyn Wesselmann coached me for three years and pushed us hard to try to get us ready for the college level if we were interested in playing."

And now that the Knights are heading to New Jersey to try to capture a District II title and a berth in the NJCAA tournament in Minnesota, Kepley expects a surge in competition.

But that's just fine. She would rather take on tougher teams than take off against teams the Knights will beat with ease.

"It's hard playing in the conference, we have because we don't have the competition," Kepley said. "Tina put us in outside tournaments against good teams, but it's difficult. Eventually we'll get to the level where we can play competitively."

"She keeps them motivated. After each play, we try to come together to celebrate or pump each other up. She's the one that brings them all together."

Surry Community College volleyball coach Tina Slate on Summer Kepley

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By Thomas Lester
 Mid-South News Service

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Vernon is SCC's enforcer

By THOMAS LESTER

Sports Editor
DOBSON — With three matches to go before the end of the regular season, Surry Community College's volleyball team is hitting its stride.

Just ask Catawba Valley Community College's team. The Knights (13-3) made short work of their visitors from Hickory, posting a 30-11, 30-18, 30-12 victory on Thursday.

"We're getting better each game and the girls are working well together," Surry coach Tina Slate said.

The Knights were solid in all aspects up front and in the back. Summer Kepley led the attack at the net with 11 kills while Sheri Wilkins chipped in with eight kills and three blocks. Hannah Vernon was a force with seven kills, five blocks and she added six aces from the service line and Carrie Hutchins, the team's new center, was good for 24 aces.

Slate said in a contest so one-sided, she wanted her players to concentrate on staying fundamental.

"I want them to concentrate, no matter who they're playing," she said. "Call the ball, play the position, stay low, don't get lazy."

After falling behind 1-2 in the first game, Hutchins connected on five straight service points to give the Knights a 5-1 advantage.

Catawba Valley had trimmed its deficit to two points before Wilkins had back-to-back kills to seize the momentum and Surry began breaking avenge.

Two aces and six service points by Nicole Snow pushed the team's lead to 10 points and consecutive kills by Kepley gave Surry a 21-8 edge. The Knights won the first game on two straight aces by Wilkins. Vernon came on in the second game with a kill and three blocks. She had a stretch of five



Lady Knights return to finals

STAFF REPORT

BERGEN, N.J. — Surry Community College's volleyball team will be making its fourth appearance in the National Junior College Athletic Association Division III championship tournament in only the program's sixth year of existence.

On Monday, the Lady Knights (19-3) hosted Bergen (N.J.) Community College in four games to earn the right to return to the Minnesota-based tournament.

Surry advanced by virtue of its 30-16, 30-18, 27-30, 30-20 victory in the District II championship match.

Surry coach Tina Slate said the team started off well and then let its guard down before using a strong defensive effort to put the contest away in the fourth game.

Slate said playing solid defense is what's made the season member team as good as it has been this year.

"Defense is what has won games for us," she said. Summer Kepley had a solid all-around contest for the Knights with 16 kills, a block, 10 digs and an ace while Sheri Wilkins chipped in with nine kills, an ace, two digs and two blocks.

Hannah Vernon added three aces, nine kills, five blocks and two digs while center Carrie Hutchins finished out 29 assists to go along with four digs.

Surry will be back in action during the weekend of Nov. 12 in Rochester, Minn., in the championship tournament.

Slate said hopefully, the team will be able to make a little more noise on the national level this time.

"Hopefully we'll play well this year and win a few games — or the whole thing would be nice," Slate said.

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Surry Community College's Summer Kepley hits a ball against Catawba Valley on Thursday in Dobson.



Surry Community College's Hannah Vernon blocks a Catawba Valley shot during a game last week.



SCC

Commissioners drawn into SCC's debate over professor

By ANGELA SCHMULL
Mid-South News Service

'Big borrower' status for 2006 gets approved

By ANGELA SCHMULL
Mid-South News Service

DOBSON — The Surry County Board of Commissioners Monday night agreed to commit to big borrowing status for 2006, allowing the county to borrow more than \$10 million during the coming calendar year.

The board also approved a \$7.5 million bid proposal for loans from BB&T with debt to be issued after the first of the year and interest rates ranging from 4.29 percent to 4.43 percent for the four separate loans.

"This is about financing," said Assistant County Manager for Budget and Finance Betty Taylor, who recommended the big borrower status. "The county had to commit to a borrowing status before securing any fi-

nancing as different interest rates are offered for Bank Qualified loans (for totals less than \$10 million in a year) and Non-Bank Qualified loans (those for more than \$10 million). While a lower rate is offered for the Bank Qualified loans, if the county decided to borrow more than \$10 million in the year, the interest penalty would make the rate higher than the original rate for Non-Bank Qualified.

"If we go large borrower at the low end rate, it cost us about \$40,000 difference first year," said Commissioner Craig Hunter, "and less than \$200,000 over life of loan."

The bid proposals presented will have the county borrowing \$4.3 million for the Central Middle School addition, \$1.2 million for a health department expansion and one stop permitting center, \$1.5 million for work on the cafeteria at North Surry High School and \$500,000 for the roof

at Franklin Elementary. Taylor said the board also has to allow a little more than \$3 million for the Flat Rock/Bannockburn water and sewer projects, even though the USDA loan is only \$2.8 million and the county will not be obligating tax dollars to pay the loan. She said going big borrower status would also allow the county some flexibility if it needed to borrow money later in the year.

Commissioner Jim Harrell, Jr. was concerned about naming the school board projects at this time and wondered if the schools had input into the choice of projects. Taylor said the county schools had sent a letter last week naming the cafeteria and school roof as the top two projects.

Commissioner Paul O'Neal said he could not support the measure because it doesn't address mobile classroom. "All this money and we're still not addressing our number one priority," he said.

Johnson asked the county manager to contact the school groups about a joint meeting in January. Harrell made the motion to be a big borrower and approve the BB&T bids presented. The motion passed on a four to one vote, with O'Neal voting no.

"I agree we need to address mobile units," said Commissioner Chairman Paul Johnson, "but along the way we have other problems as well. The North Surry High School cafeteria has been a problem for a long time."

Hunter said the school building committee is also concerned with mobile units, but has been looking at new campuses instead of expansions. He suggested a joint meeting with the committee and the school board to discuss how to address the issue.

"If we can get a game plan together and start picking out priorities and chipping away at them as the lottery comes in, we'll eventually take care of this thing," he said.

Johnson asked the county manager to contact the school groups about a joint meeting in January. Harrell made the motion to be a big borrower and approve the BB&T bids presented. The motion passed on a four to one vote, with O'Neal voting no.

officials addressing the various issues and the board's own concern with reported cuts in summer school courses.

Commissioner Jim Harrell, Jr. asked that one letter be directed to the college about addressing the disability issues since the facilities are a county-funded part of the school operations. "We're responsible for facilities and maintenance," he said. "If the buildings do not comply with standards, that is an issue within our purview."

The second letter should be addressed to the individual members of the board of trustees and carbon copied to Dr. Sells and express the board's concerns about the issues presented. In addition, Harrell requested that the letter include a request for an explanation of cuts in summer school after the county had allocated an additional \$50,000 to SCC during budget sessions in an effort to make sure those cuts weren't necessary.

Harrell said he felt some of the trustees might respond to the issues, if given an outlet to do so. The county manager was directed to request a response to the two separate letters, and for the matter to be raised again at a future meeting.

Davis said he got involved when he was informed that a member of the SGA was threatened with their grades if they not involved. "Faculty and staff being coerced is one thing," he said, "but when students are threatened, that's another animal. When I was at SCC, that type of thing never happened."

Another student, a former student, a part-time instructor in continuing education and another community member also raised concerns about the personnel issues and fear of reprisal from staff and students and asked commissioners to get involved.

Susan Carlisle, an SCC student, cited concern with the other issues, but also raised the issue of building accessibility for disabled students and citing elevators out of order, ramps not located where they are needed, restrooms that are not accessible and staff who are unwilling to comply with special needs.

Like Davis, she said she had been denied the opportunity to speak to the board of trustees about her concerns, but that she is considering filing a complaint about the disability issues. "I give you our word as elected officials that we will look into this," said Commissioner Chairman Paul Johnson. Commissioners agreed to have the county manager write two letters to college of-

they speak out on issues that there will be some type of reprisal. He cited the situation with Dr. Reinhart, who retired mid-semester under circumstances that have been questioned by students, as an example. "He was taken out of the classroom and basically forced into early retirement," said Davis. "The official story is that he voluntarily retired, but there have been numerous people, about 33 in the past few years, if they don't necessarily side with the college they are gone."

"I know student government was called into a meeting last week with the president, and they basically looked out other students, although all students are a member of the SGA by the fee they pay. When Dr. Sells met with the SGA, he did not allow the Mount Airy News to cover it... only a very select group of SGA members were allowed to attend."

Davis said, "Enrollment figures should tell you something for the last three years college has dropped. The college will tell you it's economic, but actually a bad economy typically benefits community college because parents do not have the money to send children to a four-year school, students do not have jobs when they graduate, high school and people need retraining..."

"I realize as the Board of County Commissioners, you appoint four members to the board of trustees. I don't know what kind of jurisdiction you have, but I know you have their ear," Davis said. "There has been a lot of press concerning the way faculty, staff and students feel, he continued, "but the staff are in a situation, they feel if



Wendy Byerly Wood/The Mount Airy News
Randy Johnson, left, Extension Agent Bryan Cave, center, and Mark Johnson talk to Youth Leadership Surry students Wednesday about the technology on the Johnson family's farm and the machine that weighs the trucks that haul their crops, which is seen between them and the students in the background.

Student leaders learn more about finances, economy

By WENDY BYERLY WOOD
Staff Writer

DOBSON — Personal finances, budgeting and learning about the characteristics of a small business owner and the economic aspects of agriculture were what the day held for juniors participating in the Youth Leadership Surry program Wednesday.

The day's theme was to focus on economic development, and it began with an overview of personal finances with Lynette Phillips of the State Employees' Credit Union.

Jane Taylor, the career development coordinator at East Surry High School, then gave a short lesson on what it means to budget, comparing what a person would make at minimum wage and how much the person's monthly expenses would be.

"You are the future leaders in your community and are the current leaders in your schools," Sue Jarvis of Surry Community College told the students. She quizzed the students on what they had learned during their morning sessions.

"My task today is to talk



LEADERS: Students study economy

Continued from page 1A
lenses, "creative," "driven to control and direct," "emotional," "flexible," "independent," "intuitive" and "self-confident."

Jarvis then talked with the students about what each of the characteristics mean and why they are important qualities to have as a small business owner.

"These are all marks of good leaders no matter what you do," she added. After a lunch break, the juniors gathered to hear about the economics of agriculture from Bryan Cave, extension agent with the Surry County office of the North Carolina Cooperative Extension.

"Farming is the only industry that takes advantage of our largest source of energy — the sun," Cave told the students as he explained that agriculture is the largest employer and the biggest contributor to the economy in North Carolina, contributing \$62 billion a year.

The military contributes the second largest at \$18 billion, and tourism is third with \$12 billion. In Surry County, Cave said agriculture-related jobs make up 28 percent of the county's work force. "Agriculture and agribusiness contribute \$432,208,420 annually to the county economy," Cave said. "Poultry is our largest contributor, with livestock, second and field crops third."

He then explained to the students that farming has been affected greatly through the years by technology and that it continues to change rapidly. He pointed out that farmers are not dirty, dumb overall wearers of hats.

"A farmer is a financial manager who could, compete on Wall Street, an electrician and mechanic, an engineer, computer-literate chemist and a host of other high-tech prodigies rolled into one," Cave said. "A farmer is smart, resourceful, analytical,

the eternal optimist — who else would put all of the money they make in a year in a hole in the ground — a great neighbor and an economic engine."

But Cave said the future of farming is worrisome, because the average age of a farmer is 57 nationwide and countywide. One farmer feeds 147 other people, while, in 1967, a farmer fed only 39 people. And farmers only make up 1.8 percent of the United States population.

Cave also reported that, in the U.S., 9 percent of people's annual incomes are spent on food. Then he told the students that in the United Kingdom, it takes 11 percent of income to buy food; in South Africa, it takes 27 percent; and in India, it takes 53 percent. Then he asked them where they would prefer living.

"But our nation is wasteful, while pulling items out of a box such as shaving cream, liquid soap and transmission fluid. Cave asked the students if they were agricultural. He then explained that liquid soap has animal fat in it and the other items have animal fat, soybeans or cotton, or the oils from soybeans or cotton seeds.

Cave also showed them how artificial insemination of cows works and let them look at bull semen that had been frozen on a microscope slide, once it was thawed out.

Then the students loaded up in their vehicles and traveled to the Johnson family farm on Zephyr Road just west of Central Middle School.

While at the farm, Randy, Mark and Wes Johnson talked to them about how advanced-technology have changed farming. The students climbed into a herbicide sprayer to look at a GPS system that can pinpoint the vehicle's location within eight inches so that the farmer doesn't overlap and waste herbicide. Then they got to see a large scale that the Johnsons run their loaded trucks over to weigh them. The weight of the vehicle loaded can tell them how much the crops are worth.

Then they walked out to a pasture to look at calves that were bred through artificial insemination.



New school's details still unfolding

Nov. 30, 05

By Brooke R. Carwin
Staff Reporter

MOUNTAIRY — Plans of a new alternative high school open to all students in Surry County have been unveiled. The school will open next fall, be housed at least initially at Surry Community College's workforce development center in Mount Airy.

They now have two months to decide on the how.

The steering committee

School

Continued from front page

Airy, have a focus throughout the curriculum on design and seek to attract students who may struggle in a traditional school setting.

Left undecided are the logistical challenges of opening the school, namely how to transport students, where meals will be served and what, if any, extracurricular options will be available.

"It's sort of the concept of building a plane on the fly," said Frank Bell, president of Surry Community College. "And we're on the take-off ramp right now."

The community college will play a central role in shaping the new school's curriculum. About half of each student's course-load will contain classes taught by visiting SCC professors, including the courses relating to the school's academic theme of design.

Freshman will take priority courses in design and com-

New school planned

DOBSON — The New Schools Project Steering Committee made several ground-breaking decisions at its most recent meeting at Surry Community College.

The New Schools Project, funded by the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation, is a collaborative effort of the Elkin City, Mount Airy City and Surry County School systems, along with Surry Community College, to create an innovative high school.

With "Design" as the overriding theme, students will be able to graduate with a diploma in one hand and a community college document in the other. The college documents can range from a Web management certificate to an associate's degree in graphic arts.

"There are several core courses that can be offered in ninth and 10th grade for different interest choices," said Dr. Steve Adams, vice president for Academic Affairs. "Elements of Design are included in the curriculum."

See SCHOOL, page 2A

for the new school presented an outline of the initiative Tuesday night to board members and administrators from all three of Surry's school systems. The new school will open next fall, be housed at least initially at Surry Community College's workforce development center in Mount

at these (courses) and see straight lines. Master teachers know how to pull out dot-dashed lines."

Which teachers will have such discretion is still up in the air, however. The new school's faculty will likely draw from the three school districts, but in what proportion from each will depend upon how many students from each district are interested in enrolling.

The school will begin with a class of 100 freshmen, with a new class added each year until the school reaches its 400-student maximum.

The enrollment process for Surry County Schools and Elkin City Schools begins in February, giving administrators a short time to figure out the logistics of transportation and extra-curricular activities both topics raised following the presentation.

"It is an autonomous school with its own identity, but an athlete there would want to play football could go back to his home school to participate," said Richard teach team in 45- or 90-minute blocks. You may look

These are not trying to be comprehensive high schools with 20 sports. They're focused on academic rigor ... they focus on the personal touch."

Among the goals of the school is to attract a diverse student body representing all demographics and achievement levels, an objective that would necessitate some sort of bus service.

Superintendent Ashley Hanson said after the meeting that it would likely be unfeasible to run buses through all county roads, but they could make stops at designated pick-up points, including Elkin.

Hanson is on the steering committee along with Barry Shepherd, Elkin's superintendent. Both said their districts will have to compete with the new school to retain students, but they view that as a good thing since it will force all the county's high schools to improve and respond to students' needs and concerns.

"I know there are a lot of anxieties about it," Hanson said. "But it is the right thing

to do, and when the dust settles it will benefit us all."

Local funding for the school is another unanswered question. Grants from the state and federal governments will cover the initial start-up costs, but Hanson

said that won't be enough to pay for all the operating expenses once the school reaches its full capacity.

Surry County's five commissioners were invited to Tuesday night's presentation, but none attended.

SCC holds benefit for children

By Micah Massei
Mip-Swain News Service

DOBSON — In keeping with the holiday sentiment of giving the gift of giving, Surry Community College held its second annual "Festival for Angels" celebration yesterday to help in being able to provide Christmas gifts for local needy children this holiday season.

Sponsored by the Surry Community College Student Government Association and various campus organizations, Wednesday's event offered food, games, music and even a special appearance by Santa Claus.

"The money raised goes to the Angel Tree fund," said SCC student and student government member Benjamin Wilber.

"They normally try to find people (students) within Surry Community College who have held or are being negatively affected by job loss. The SGA is a big part of the whole. I feel it's good for the SGA and the college as a whole to be a part of events like this."

There are 18 clubs participating in today's event, said SGA President Trent Stevens. "Everything from



Justin Duncan and Bobby Sherrill add their names to a ticket raffle offering \$100 in free gas while at the SCC Art Club booth at yesterday's Festival for Angels benefit.

donating money, selling hot dogs, having karaoke, ticket raffles and other stuff is happening to help kids in need."

From 9 a.m. to 7 p.m., the SGA, the Cosmetology Department and other campus clubs and organizations operated activity booths, providing all sorts of treats for event participants.

"This festival is very important," said SCC Art Club President Jimmy Matins, whose booth offered everything from earned trophies to gas giveaways. "Our club is trying to raise \$1,000 in tickets for the Angel Tree fund."

"The Festival for Angels is a great way for our students



Justin Duncan, front, and Bobby Sherrill add their names to a ticket raffle offering \$100 in free gas while at the SCC Art Club booth at yesterday's Festival for Angels benefit.

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Staff Writer

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to share in the spirit of the Christmas season by doing good deeds for others," said SCC Director of Student Activities Tony Seary.

"All campus organizations are joining hands to sponsor this day of fun, and our hope is to exceed the \$1,500 we raised last year, which benefitted 55 children in the community," he added.

Grape and wine seminar set at Surry Community College

DOBSON — Surry Community College will offer a one-day seminar Nov. 19 about grape growing and wine making.

The seminar will provide an overview of the factors involved in establishing a vineyard and winery.

The seminar will consist of presentations, discussion, tour of the campus vineyard and winery, informative handouts, a big lunch and time for asking questions.

The event will take place from 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. The seminar will be held in the President's Dining Room at Surry Community College.

The cost is \$60 and includes registration, numerous handouts and bag lunch. Prepayment is required to reserve a spot in the class. The registration and prepayment must be received by Nov. 14.

For more information or to register, call 386-3244.

November 14, 2005



The new SCC Workforce Development Center in Mount Airy will aid in preparing workers for businesses.

Ceremony opens new college facility

By MICAH MASSEI
Staff Writer

Mount Airy — In an effort to provide a wide variety of educational programming with a primary focus on customized training for business and industry many were in attendance to help celebrate the opening of the new SCC Workforce Development Center at special open house ceremony held yesterday in Mount Airy.

"I am pleased to announce the opening for the Surry Community College Workforce Development Center," said SCC President Dr. Frank Sells.

"The college plans to offer a wide variety of educational programming in the center with particular emphasis on customized training for businesses and industry. Our goals are to provide customized training needed by existing companies and to provide students with the skills necessary for employment with new and expanding industries.

"The SCC Workforce Development Center will enable

See FACILITY, page 2



SCC President Dr. Frank Sells, left, listens as SCC Board of Trustees Chairman Charles Madison welcomes those in attendance at yesterday's "open house" of the new SCC Workforce Development Center in Mount Airy.

FACILITY: Provides new branch for SCC

Continued from page 1
your educational and training needs.

The SCC Workforce Development Center is a joint effort funded by Surry County and a Financial Assistance Award of \$706,000 from the U.S. Department of Commerce and the Economic Development Administration. The total project contract amount is reported to have been \$1,678,930.

"With the economy the way it's been and all the job losses we've had, I think this is one of the most important things to happen in the last 10 years," said Surry County Board of Commissioners Chairman Paul Johnson, on hand at yesterday's event.

"This is a great thing — not only for Surry County, but for neighboring counties, as well."

The new center is located at 1220 State Street in Mount Airy. For more information, please call 336-5305, 386-3265 or 386-3309.

December 11, 2005

Board demands meeting with trustees

By ANGELA SCHIMMOLL
Associate Editor

DOBSON — Dissatisfied with two written responses to their questions, Surry County commissioners want a face-to-face meeting with Surry Community College's board of trustees and president in an effort to iron out several issues.

Some were raised by citizens, students and SCC graduates during the commissioners' open forum session Nov. 21.

"There are some issues that need to be resolved to me or they don't need to even send someone up here at budget time next year to plead their case,"

said Commissioner Jim Harrell Jr. "The ADA (Americans with Disabilities Act) access issues are serious," said Harrell, addressing one of the concerns raised by a student with a disability who told the board last month that the college has numerous ADA violations.

"They (SCC) came in June and said without additional funds they would either have to stop work on the Workforce Development Center, not open the new building on campus or cut summer school," Harrell continued.

"Now we hear there have been cuts in the summer school schedule and I've got some questions about how that

money we gave them was spent. "If we don't address them, it's a trust issue and there's no use coming next June and giving us the budget," he said.

Although Board Chairman Paul Johnson and County Manager Mason Summons were to meet last week with SCC President Dr. Frank Sells and Charles Madison, the chairman of the college board of trustees, the county commissioners said they believe the issues need to be addressed in a public forum.

They told Summons to invite the trustees and Sells to a future meeting. "The trustees need to address some-

of the issues," said Commissioner Fred O'Neal. "They owe it to themselves as trustees. There are some things the board has to answer for instead of the president."

"I thought the chair's letter was very inappropriate," said Commissioner Craig Hunter, referring to Madison's letter in response to the commissioners' request. "I don't see how he can not address the issue. The tone has been set."

Madison's letter said, in part, "Some of the comments made by the commissioners were very damaging to Surry Community College and were made without checking to see if there

BOARD: Wants to meet face-to-face

Continued from page 1A

and a complete lack of facts were apparently aimed at the college administration, the unfortunate results tarnished the reputation of one of Surry County's greatest assets: Surry Community College."

Sells' letter also said, "I would suggest that the board of county commissioners consider setting some parameters for which anyone addressing the board would need to follow. I greatly respect the desire and applaud the idea to have an agenda for public comments, thus allowing citizens within a reasonable time frame to voice concerns, ask questions or make suggestions regarding public issues, policies, budgets, etc. However, public meeting time should not be allowed for speakers to make allegations, reference individuals in a negative way, or do anything that is perceived as damaging to businesses, institutions, agencies both public and private, or individuals."

Sells' letter went on to say that he was willing to discuss issues with anyone who "will conduct themselves properly." He went on to write that he had denied Shawn Davis time on the trustees' agenda because he would not talk to him about the issue first. Madison's letter said that Davis requested agenda time on the day of the meeting and was denied because the agenda was full.

The county commissioners told Summons on Monday that they would like to see the issues better defined during his meeting with the college officials,

but not addressed in any way that would leave the college with the impression that the issues had been dealt with. "Don't do anything that will preclude their talking directly to public as possible."

See BOARD, page 3A

SCC Chorus
The Surry Community College Chorus, under the direction of Darlene Chipman, will present a Christmas concert at Dobson United Methodist Church at 5 p.m.

SCC Ambassadors help welcome new students

DOBBSON — When more than 3,000 students arrived on the campus of Surry Community College in August of this year to begin fall semester, many of them were greeted by smiling adults, clad in professional blue blazers adorned with the Surry Community College emblem.

These adults, some of the college's finest students, are members of the Surry Community College Ambassador Program. They were on hand at the beginning of the semester to welcome new and returning students, direct new students to appropriate personnel, help them interpret course schedules, and show them



Submitted photo: Surry Community College Ambassadors are, from left, Scott Wilson, Faculty Sponsor, Sandra Johnson Thompson, Chaise Lee Swisher, Mary Katherine Mabry, Christopher Shawn Jenkins and Lawrence Donald Long.

SCC: Ambassadors help students get adjusted

Continued from page 1

menters and personally and professionally from numerous opportunities which require the use of communication, organizational, and leadership skills. The college benefits from having talented, responsible adults who serve as official hosts to guests who visit our campuses, assist new students make the adjustment to college life, and represent the college and the Surry Community College Foundation at various community events. And the community benefits from this group of students who are ready and willing to serve through volunteer efforts. These students are vital to both our public relations and student development services.

The ambassadors are selected by a committee comprised of SCC employees and representatives of the general community. The selection process involves nominations by faculty and staff, a written application, and a candidate interview. Current ambassadors represent a cross section of the student body in terms of age, background, and program of study; and they are all honor students which means they have grade point averages of 3.25 or higher.

Christopher Shawn Jenkins, who resides in Booneville, is completing the College Transfer program. He is a husband, father, veteran of the United States Army, full-time worker at United and prospective teacher. He plans to transfer to Appalachian State University to pursue a degree in secondary education.

Lawrence Donald Long is a second-year student in the Volunteer and Emology Program. He is a native of East Bend and a graduate of Forsyth County Day School.

Long brings to the Ambassador Program an array of skills gained from fall and part-time work experiences in restoration, food service, retail, film production, and from numerous volunteer activities.

Mary Katherine Mabry (Kate Mabry), a native of Sparks and graduate of Allegheny High School, is a second-year student in the Advertising and Graphic Design Technology program. Her long-range goals include completing a bachelor's degree in graphic design and owning and operating her own design firm.

Chaise Lee Swisher is a native of Elkton and a graduate of Elkton High School, is in his second year of study in the College Transfer program and is a member of the Surry Community College baseball team. He plans to transfer to a university to pursue a degree in business administration.

Swisher says he developed leadership skills during his childhood and adolescence through athletics, school organizations and church activities.

Sandra Johnson Thompson, a native of Dobson and graduate of Surry Central High School, is a wife, mother, active worker in her church, community volunteer, part-time worker on the Surry Community College Business Office, and full-time student. She is pursuing an Associate in Applied Science degree in Business Administration.

Thus far this year, the ambassadors have participated in numerous activities including serving as hosts for approximately 400 eighth graders who

visited Surry Community College, coordinating various special events on campus such as the college fair for approximately 1,400 high school students in Surry and Yadkin Counties, representing the college at career fairs held in local schools, and adjusting new students make the adjustment to college life.

On Sunday, they will serve as official hosts for the open house of the new Surry Community College Workforce Development Center which will be held in the center from 3 to 5 p.m.

SCC group to present concerts

SURRY COUNTY — The Surry Community College Chorus will present Christmas concerts at both Dobson United Methodist Church and Salem United Methodist Church in Mount Airy.

Under the direction of Darlene Chippam, the chorus will perform at Salem United on

Dec. 3 at 7 p.m. and at Dobson United on Dec. 10 at 8 p.m. Admission to each concert is free.

Dr. Sells discusses SCC president talks about allegations

By MICAH MASSEI

Staff Writer

DOBBSON — Hoping to provide some insight as to the recent "questions and concerns" of several (current and former) Surry Community College students indicative about the college administration's recent handling of various student-related issues, SCC President Dr. Frank Sells spoke with *The Mount Airy News* Wednesday to address the concerns, as well as "clear the air" regarding the recent controversy.

"We want to focus on students who want to help themselves and continue their education," said Dr. Sells. "We want to focus on their skills. We want to focus on the good things going on and that's where our focus will remain."

Sells addressed the recent departure of former Surry Community College professor, Dr. Douglas Reinhardt, whose sudden retirement last October inspired various protests among several SCC students and faculty. Benjamin Walker — a student leader for bringing attention and faculty together for a number of complaints.

"Their concerns seem to be personal decisions that have been made," said Sells. "No one else has a stake in that. You don't look at students about personal decisions. All I can tell you is that Dr. Reinhardt retired. He made that choice in retirement. He

signed papers. (Walker) has to have faith in the administration that we're making the right decisions."

At a Surry Community College Student Government Association meeting held on Nov. 9, Walker submitted a list of "questions and concerns" to the SGA regarding the administration's handling of various student and school-related issues.

In a private meeting held on Nov. 17, Sells met with members of the SGA to address the list of concerns.

"I felt that (with) the group that I met with, we had a good dialogue," said Sells.

Despite having what Sells **See SELLS, page 2**

2-The Mount Airy News Thursday, December 1, 2005 SELLS: SCC president talks about concerns

Continued from page 1

would call a "good discussion" on Nov. 17, several students continued with their concerns, even appearing before the Surry County Board of Commissioners last week to request the board's involvement in looking into the matters.

"I think they're unhappy with (Reinhardt's) decision and they're trying to find another staff to complain about," Sells said.

In talking to Dr. Sells, what actions he and the board plan to take to possibly find peace and resolution with the students and their concerns, Sells replied, "Two things. First of all, I'm hoping that they're going to understand that

there's nothing that can be done — personnel wise. The main thing is, I'm counting on the many, many good students that we have. These few students who have problems — until they can truly represent what they're having problems with — it's going nowhere."

"The SGA is doing a lot of good things. I think the many students we have, will continue their education and contribute to the positive of this college. These few (students) who keep wanting to protest and make allegations — they have a proof — bring it to us. We are always open to listen to the concerns of the students. If it's (not) just rhetoric, than show us proof."



Submitted photo: Representatives from Surry Community College accepted a \$1,000 grant from Walt-Mart of Mount Airy Assistant Manager Nancy Lineback recently. Representing the college were Virginia Stammetti, Loida Feterison, Rosa Torres and Lynn Treese.

Faculty members support college and its administration

To The News:

It is time that a few other voices are heard on the recent allegations made about Surry Community College. As faculty at the college, we want to respond to some of these allegations, to explain the kind of environment we work in, and to affirm our support of Surry Community College and its positive role in this county.

In a recent article and editorial, *The Mount Airy News* claims a problem is "festering" that there is a "storm of criticism" that has "swept up the county commissioners" and that the public has a "growing concern" over what is happening at Surry Community College. This kind of provocative headline betrays a libelous not-Surry County's newspaper.

It's time to apply some careful, logical thought to the appraised "storm of criticism" and "increasing strife" at SCC. Who exactly is making these allegations? What are their qualifications to speak on these issues? Do they know what they are talking about? What exactly are the allegations? Has anyone investigated the validity of the allegations made by Shawn Davis and other, generally unnamed, sources?

By describing the investigation at Halifax Community College and recommending comments made by the state auditor in the Nov. 23 editorial, "Trustees must act," the newspaper implies that Surry Community College is guilty of similar problems. Not so, Surry Community College has not been cited for any of the egregious violations mentioned. It is unfair and unprofessional to suggest otherwise.

As for the internet blog, also mentioned in the Nov. 23 editorial, we're surprised that *The Mount Airy News* would lend credence to a site comprised of mostly outrageous comments made by mostly anonymous contributors. How do we know how many people have posted to the blog? Who are they? Where are they getting their information? What qualifications do they have? How are they supporting their claims? It is important to question the credibility and validity of information, and not to accept it uncritically.

The majority of faculty of Surry Community College do not support the views posted on the blog and printed in the newspaper. We are focused instead on doing our jobs: preparing students for the 21st-century workplace. In fact, *The Mount Airy News* editorial of Nov. 27 titled "Ready for work?" argues that educational institutions need to do more to prepare students for an ever-changing marketplace that increasingly requires skills in problem solving, critical thinking, teamwork, communication and lifelong learning. These educational ideals are shared by Surry Community College. As faculty, we have been part of a nationally recognized Quality Enhancement Plan that aims to enhance these very skills in our students. That effort continues to this day.

We're proud to be a part of the faculty at Surry Community College. We feel no pressure from the administration to "keep quiet." We feel free to talk — without fear of reprisal — to our division chairs, deans, vice presidents and president on any issue we may be concerned about. Their doors are always open for us, and they will listen. If we have legitimate concerns, those concerns will be addressed.

We recognize that as long as we

fulfill our responsibilities with competence, professionalism, integrity and a commitment to excellence and high academic standards, we need fear no forced resignations or sudden retributions.

We have faith in the administration's ability and desire to make personnel and financial decisions that are logical, lawful and fair. We believe that the administration of this college will follow established, legal procedures should there be concerns about our work. We are confident that the college's lawyer provides accurate and wise counsel on student and personnel issues. We know that the college works to comply with federally mandated statutes regarding students with disabilities, and we have never witnessed anything other than respect and concern for those students.

Surry Community College is a great place to learn and to work. The majority of faculty members here are devoted to their students and to their jobs. Don't let unsupported claims made by questionable sources color your view of Surry Community College. Check the validity and credibility of information and ignore the provocative rhetoric that feeds off of vague, anonymous allegations.

Let's focus on the overwhelmingly positive role the college plays in this county and work together to enhance the benefits it brings to students, employees, and the citizens of Surry County.

Michael Avers, Debra Bretz, Karl Bretz, Darin Corzans, Danaeun Mabry, Susan MacLeod, Richard Montgomery, Walt Pritchard, Dawn Stanley, Connie Wolfe, Susan Worth, Surry Community College, Dobson, N.C.

SCC President's, Dean's lists

DOBSON - Surry Community College announces the president's and dean's lists for Fall Semester of the 2005-06 academic year.

To qualify for the president's list, a student must be enrolled in at least 12 hours of academic credit and must attain a 3.75 grade point average, with no final grade lower than a "C." Students who qualify for the president's list also qualify for the dean's list.

To qualify for the dean's list, a student must be enrolled in at least 12 hours of academic credit and must attain a 3.25 grade point average, with no final grade lower than a "C."

The following students, shown by the high school from which they graduated, qualified for both the president's list and the dean's list: Alleghany High, Rodney Keightley; ...

High, Tammy Campbell; South-east High, Jessica Lowe; Star-mount High, Tommy Beamer; ...

High, South Carolina, Richard Donald; Burlington, South Stokes High, Tracy Fink; ...

High, North Stuyvesant High, Stacey Davis; ...

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ASU to offer degree at SCC campus. For anyone interested in the program, officials said it is important to attend this meeting...

Social Science Club to host book signing. DOBSON - In celebration of "Black History Month," the Social Science Club of Surry Community College will host a book signing by local author Dr. Evelyn Scales Thompson on Thursday.

SCC announces four courses in continuing ed. DOBSON - Surry Community College has planned some Continuing Education classes for the near future.

ASU to offer degree at SCC campus. The graduate student tuition and fee rate for the 2005-06 academic year is \$118.25 per credit hour for in-state students. For more information, call Appalachian's Office of Extension and Distance Education at (800) 355-4084.

Rescue College brings training to responders

By MICHAH MASSEI
Staff Writer

DOBSON — Hoping to provide specialized training in rescue techniques and operation the N.C. Department of Insurance Office of the State Fire Marshal sponsored the 45th Annual North Carolina Rescue College at Surry Community College in Dobson Saturday.

"I really think Surry County is really fortunate to be able to get this type of training," said SCC Emergency Training Center Director Charles Smith.

"The types of training (available during the series) are all special classes. Normal by you'd have to travel all over the state to get what's being offered."

In cooperation with SCC and the N.C. Association of Rescue Squads and EMS, Saturday's session was the first of two scheduled seminars to be held regarding the event, which offers various essential rescue techniques and exercise training.

"This is the first time that this has been held here in Surry County," said James Anderson of the Elkin Rescue Squad. "By do-

ing this, you get credit for classes through the (N.C.) Department of Insurance. I've been doing this for 30 years and I love it!"

An estimated 100 people were on hand to participate in demonstration exercises which included heavy vehicle extrication in a first-aid environment and basic ultralight and ropes training, as well as information classes on educational methodology, rope, technician and trench and tower rescue.

"The (North Carolina) Rescue College is really important in helping us become the best (that we can) possibly be," said Anderson.

In order to participate in the 45th annual event, the North Carolina Rescue College requires that all applicants be at least 18 years old, be in good physical condition and be a member of a rescue or fire department.

This year's first rescue college seminar for Surry County will conclude on Feb. 26. You can reach Michah Massei at mmass@mountairynews.com.



Several of those participating in the first of two scheduled sessions of the 45th annual North Carolina Rescue College observe one of the heavy vehicle extrication in a hazmat environment demonstrations being set up Saturday at Surry Community College.



The Mount Airy News Monday, February 13, 2006

Vineyard plans celebration

DOBSON — Black Wolf Vineyards and The Wolf's Lair Restaurant will host a Valentine's Day celebration featuring contemporary-folk musicians Dana and Sue Robinson at 5 p.m.

About with special music, the Valentine's Day bash will also feature a special dinner on the terrace of South African lobster tail with tournedos of beef, grilled asparagus and classic béarnaise, as well as a special desert of chocolate bread pudding with German chocolate sauce, Chantilly cream and fresh berries.

For more information, or to make reservations, please call (336) 574-2532.

Auto dealer's course set at two campuses

By MICHAH MASSEI
Staff Writer

DOBSON — Four auto dealer's Continuing Education courses are scheduled by Surry Community College. The instruction will be Wayne Whitcher and Nathan will cost \$50.

Class one, Feb. 27, 9:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. with a limit of 40 students. Classes will be in the Yachin Center, Room 1114/1115. Preregistration is required. Call 386-3211.

Class two, March 6, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. with a limit of 60 students. Classes will be in Surry Community College, Room 1114/1115. Preregistration is required. Call 386-3211.

Class three, April 24, 9:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. with a limit of 40 students. Classes will be in the Yachin Center, Room 2116/2117. Preregistration is required by calling (336) 670-4600.

Class four, May 15, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. with a limit of 60 students. Classes will be in Surry Community College, Room 1114/1115. Preregistration is required. Call 386-3211.

Writing skills seminar set

By MICHAH MASSEI
Staff Writer

DOBSON — The Small Business Center of Surry Community College will sponsor a seminar, "Improving Your Business Writing Skills," on March 16 from 1:30 to 4:30 p.m. The workshop will be held at the Workforce Development Center in Mount Airy, 1230 State St.

The seminar leader will be Brenda Barfield.

Participants will discover tips to creating more effective e-mails, memos, notes and letters. Writing in third person, writing without opinion bias and the use of emphasis techniques will also be discussed.

This seminar is tuition free. Preregistration will be required by calling 386-3211 or on-line at http://207.144.228.16/cont_ed/sb/bsc/schedule.html.

Participants will discover tips to creating more effective e-mails, memos, notes and letters. Writing in third person, writing without opinion bias and the use of emphasis techniques will also be discussed.

Crafts seminar scheduled

By MICHAH MASSEI
Staff Writer

DOBSON — The Small Business Center of Surry Community College will sponsor a seminar entitled "Marketing & Selling Your Arts & Crafts" on March 14 from 6:30 to 9:30 p.m. The workshop will be held on the SCC Campus in room 1103.

The seminar leader will be Linda Rozelle.

Learn to turn a skill in producing arts and crafts into money. Attendees will learn how to create an excellent product, develop a marketing plan, address price a product effectively, approach shops/galleries, find the best craft shows/fairs and sell through trade shows. Participants will learn practical tips on business cards, gift tags, press releases, radio interviews, etc. Attendees are encouraged to bring samples of their work.

This seminar is tuition free. Preregistration will be required by calling 386-3211 or on-line at http://207.144.228.16/cont_ed/sb/bsc/schedule.html.

Auto dealer's course set at two campuses

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Participants will discover tips to creating more effective e-mails, memos, notes and letters. Writing in third person, writing without opinion bias and the use of emphasis techniques will also be discussed.

'Perfect Workday' class on tap at SCC

By MICHAH MASSEI
Staff Writer

DOBSON — The Small Business Center of Surry Community College and the Yadkin County Chamber of Commerce will co-sponsor a seminar entitled "The Perfect Workday" on March 9 from 1:30 to 4:30 p.m. The workshop will be held at the Yadkin Center, U.S. 601, Yadkinville.

What would be a perfect workday? Can one describe it? If one could set and meet priorities, work more effectively with people around them and

move closer to a balanced life, wouldn't that come close to a perfect workday? This seminar will help people create the type of day they desire by covering topics such as: 1) understanding how much time you really have; 2) planning on purpose and planning with a purpose; 3) setting and tracking priorities; 4) timelines and deadlines; 5) what to do in times of crisis and conflict; 6) how to handle the information avalanche; and 7) getting it done and having a life.

This seminar is tuition free for Yadkin County chamber members and \$5 for non-members. Preregistration will be required by calling 386-3211 or on-line at http://207.144.228.16/cont_ed/sb/bsc/eddc.html.

Participants will discover tips to creating more effective e-mails, memos, notes and letters. Writing in third person, writing without opinion bias and the use of emphasis techniques will also be discussed.

Library book donation

By MICHAH MASSEI
Staff Writer

The African-American Historical and Genealogical Society donated 13 books promoting African-American history to the Mount Airy Public Library on Tuesday afternoon. Pictured, from left, are AAHGS Chairperson Dr. Evelyn Thompson, Librarian Pat Gwyn, Martha Rowe Vaughn, Lucy Taylor, Eunice Jessup and Alice Brim. Taylor, Jessup and Brim are all members of the AAHGS board.



Joel Frady/The Mount Airy News

Web design course set

By MICHAH MASSEI
Staff Writer

DOBSON — The Small Business Center of Surry Community College will sponsor a seminar on "Easy On-Line Web Page Design" on March 23 from 6:30 to 9:30 p.m. in room J107 on the SCC Campus.

The seminar leader will be David Williams.

Students will learn to design a professional, yet affordable, Web site, set up e-commerce (paying online), register a domain name, market a site, and more. Business owners will leave with the ability to start a Web-based business. Set a curriculum schedule here.

Participants will discover tips to creating more effective e-mails, memos, notes and letters. Writing in third person, writing without opinion bias and the use of emphasis techniques will also be discussed.



7:30 p.m.: The SCC Chorus class has been rescheduled to begin in room T-125 at the Dobson Campus. The course meets each Tuesday until May 9. The cost is \$55 for all participants and is open to ages 16 and up. Registration will take place at the first class meeting. For more information, contact Penny Riddle at 336-679-4600.

COLLEGIATE NEWS

ASU may offer master's in middle grades education at SCC

BOONE — Appalachian State University is proposing to offer a master of arts degree in middle grades education in Surry County beginning this fall.

A meeting to discuss the program will be held March 20 at 5 p.m. in Room A-121 Reeves Building at Surry Community College.

Appalachian faculty and administrative staff members will discuss how an individual who has earned a bachelor's degree from an accredited college or university and holds an "A" N.C. teaching license or equivalent from another state, may enter this program.

Courses in Appalachian's off-campus programs are typically taught two nights per week (an average of 6 semester hours per term). The off-campus graduate tuition/fees rate for the current year is \$118.25 per credit hour for an in-state student.

Because space is limited in the program, it is important that interested individuals attend the informational meeting.

For more information, call Appalachian's Office of Extension and Distance Education at (800) 355-4084.



Second round of admissions announced

DOBSON — Surry Community College will hold a second round of admissions for the Associate Degree Nursing Program this spring for adults who are interested in beginning the program in the fall of 2006.

Carol Boles, director of the Surry Community College Nursing Programs, announced that an administration of the admissions exam for program, the TEAS (Test of Essential Academic Skills) is scheduled for May 20 on the main college campus.

To be eligible to take the TEAS, applicants must have taken the Surry Community College Placement Test and completed required developmental courses with a grade of "C" or better; earned an overall grade-point average of 2.5 on all college coursework completed in the past three years; completed the Surry Community College ACA 111 course or completed at least 24 semester hours of college credits; and completed a college-level course in Human Anatomy and Physiology or completed high school biology and chemistry courses with a grade of "C" or better.

Additionally, a student must have current certification as a Certified Nursing Assistant I (CNA I) by the beginning of fall semester in August of 2006.

For more information about the Associate Degree Nursing Program, call Anne Marie Hardy in the Student Development Department at 386-3247.



SCC/Submitted photo
Jessica Espinoza, seated, is shown with her daughters Cilia, standing, and Jasmine, as she shows her acceptance card into the SCC Associate Degree Nursing Program. Espinoza was in the first group of applicants screened for the program for the 2006-07 academic year.

Surry Community College hosted FAFSA Day

DOBSON — To assist high school seniors and their families understand and apply for federal financial aid for college, the Surry Community College Financial Aid Office hosted "FAFSA Day" on Feb. 18.

"FAFSA Day" was a statewide event sponsored by the College Foundation of North Carolina and the North Carolina Association of Student Financial Aid Administrators.

Approximately 40 high school seniors from Surry, Yadkin, Stokes, Wilkes and Iredell counties and their parents/guardians met with financial aid professionals for three hours on the main Surry Community College campus. During that time, financial aid professionals helped families understand and complete the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) and submit it electronically.

The FAFSA is the required application for Pell Grant, Perkins Loan, Stafford Loan and work-study assistance and is the first step in determining if a student is eligible to receive Federal financial aid. Since there are many factors which determine eligibility, high school seniors and current college students should take the time to complete and submit the form even if they think they might not qualify.

The Surry Community College Financial Aid Office offers financial aid workshops in area high schools for students and their families and provides individual assistance to prospective and current students who wish to explore financial aid opportunities.

For more information, contact Regina Draught, assistant director of Financial Aid, at 386-3239 or e-mail draught@surry.edu.



SCC/Submitted photo
Regina Draught, Surry Community College assistant director of Financial Aid, and Eddie Campbell, counselor in the Upward Bound Program, assist student in completing and submitting the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA).

The Mount Airy News Wednesday, March 8, 2006

Appalachian State University Master of Arts degree in Middle Grades Education on the campus of Surry Community College

Appalachian State University is proposing a program leading to a Master of Arts degree in Middle Grades Education, beginning in Fall 2006. This program would be held on the campus of Surry Community College (Dobson, NC).

Interested individuals are encouraged to attend an informational session on:

Monday, March 20, 2006, 5:00 p.m.
Reeves Bldg, Room A-121
Surry Community College

Appalachian faculty and administrative staff members will discuss how an individual who has earned a bachelor's degree from an accredited college or university and holds an "A" NC teaching license or equivalent from another state, may enter this program. Courses in Appalachian's off-campus programs are typically taught two nights per week (an average of 6 semester hours per term), and the off-campus graduate tuition/fees rate for the 2005-2006 year is \$118.25 per credit hour for an in-state student.

For more information please call:

Office of Extension and Distance Education
800/355-4084
Appalachian
STATE UNIVERSITY



Partnership hosting seminar

DOBSON — On March 28, a detailed session on government procurement will be offered through the Surry Economic Development Partnership and the Surry Community College Small Business Center called: "How to Secure Government Contracts."

The session is an in-depth extension of the previous "Doing Business with the Military" session that will demonstrate the application processes required. Pre-registration is required. To register or for more information, call 386-3211, ext. 403 (800-355-4084).

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SCC students' art shown in Raleigh

DOBSON — Surry Community College students Penny Caudill and Lisa Johnson are among students from 38 North Carolina community colleges whose artwork is being displayed in the eighth annual Presidents' Art Exhibit this month.

Martin Lancaster, president of the N.C. Community College System, reversed words submitted by students, faculty and staff of community colleges across the state and chose 150 pieces to display in the NCCCS office.

On Thursday, artists and their families and instructors will be in Raleigh to attend the opening reception of the art exhibition.

Caudill is a second-year student in the SCC Advertising and Graphic Design Program. She is a native of Thurmont and a 2003 graduate of Surry Central High School. She enrolled in the college transfer program after high school graduation, but later transferred to Advertising and Graphic Design when she learned she could utilize her creative talents and build marketable skills in a two-year program. She said she was thrilled when she learned that

Lancaster had chosen her inspirational poster design to be part of the exhibition and said she is excited about participating in the reception.

Johnson balances responsibilities as a wife and mother while working and attending college. She is a first-year student in the Advertising and Graphics Arts Program. A native of Yadkin County and a graduate of Stannburn High School, she came to SCC after attending the Savannah School of Design and Crafted Technical Community College to pursue several career interests in the field of art.

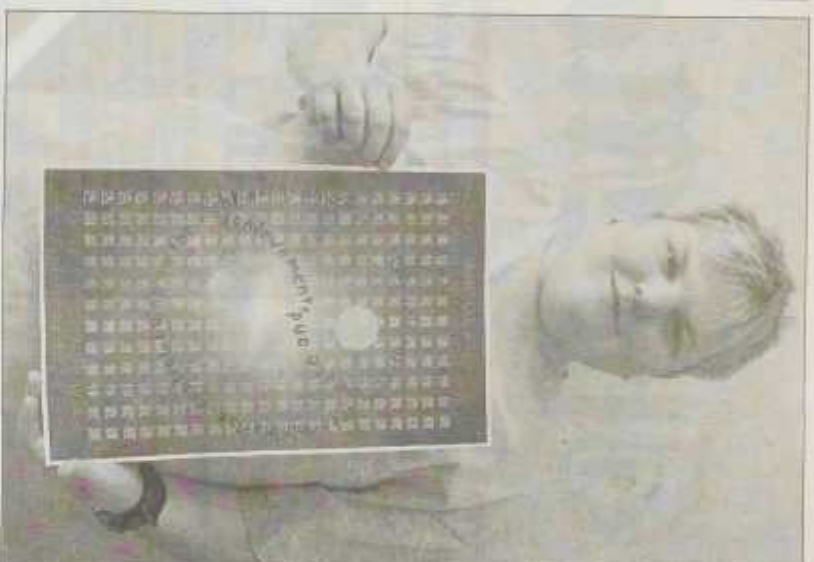
When her friends told her about a new art program at Surry Community College, she met with Susan MacLeod, lead instructor in Advertising and Graphic Design, and immediately enrolled in the program on a part-time basis. She is continuing her work as a model and freelance painter and photographer.

She, too, was delighted when she learned that Lancaster had selected one of her photographs to be included in the art exhibition.

Submitted photo
Lisa Johnson holds her artwork that will be displayed in Raleigh in a state community college art exhibit. She will attend an opening reception Thursday in Raleigh.



Submitted photo
Penny Caudill also will be in Raleigh to see her artwork among the pieces chosen to be displayed in a state community college exhibit.



Economic shift has impact

Fewer looking to start own business with stable jobs

By ANGELA SCHMOLL
Associate Editor

DOBSON — A decline in entries in the annual small business plan competition could be a symptom of a more stable local economy, according to those who work with related programs. Only eight applications were received

by the deadline earlier this month — fewer than expected, but not necessarily a bad thing, according to organizers.

SHIFT: Change shows more stability

Continued from page 1A

competition set for March 22 at SCC. Stophin said judging will be by a nine-judge panel with four representatives of the hunting community, two from the business community, two from the Service Corps of Retired Executives and one from the Small Business Technology and Development Center in Winston-Salem. Winners will be announced April 7.

Denise Love of SCC's Small Business Center, which is one of the sponsoring agencies along with the Surry County Economic Development Center and the Mount Airy and Yadkin Valley chambers of commerce, said Harris has

been better recently while his office has had fewer calls.

Harris, on the other hand, said he was better than he's been in his six years with the industrial training program.

Love said he had been accustomed to getting a lot of calls from people who were wondering what their options might be because they were participating in a company layoff. "The people I've heard

about are saying they're not looking for a job, but they're not looking for a way to make ends meet, either," he said.

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99 percent of 2005 SCC nursing graduates pass licensure exam

DOBSON — Surry Community College has announced that 70 of the 71 nursing graduates from the class from 2005 — 99 percent — have passed the National Council Licensure Examination for Registered Nurses (NCLEX-RN).

The state average was 89.3 percent passing.

"We are pleased that 99 percent of our graduates who took the NCLEX for the first time in 2005 passed it," said Carol Boles, director of Surry Community College Nursing Programs.

"That success rate speaks well for our students and for the emphasis instructors are placing on teaching and learning by actively engaging students as full partners in the learning process. Our goal of course, is to reach and maintain a 100 percent passing rate."



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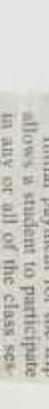
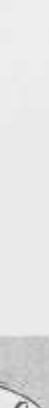
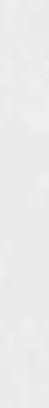
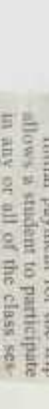
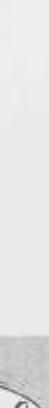
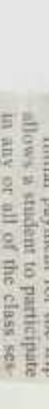
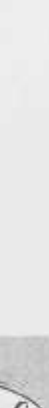
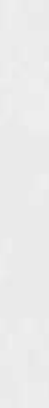
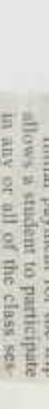
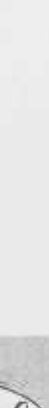
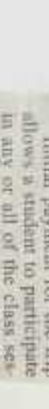
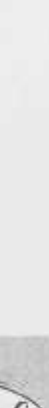
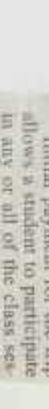
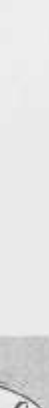
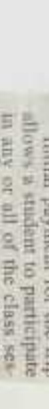
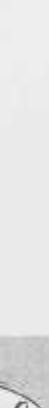
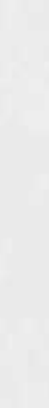
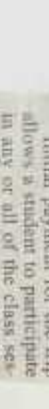
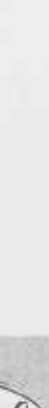
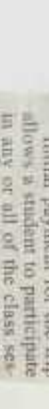
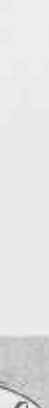
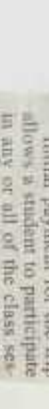
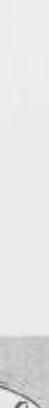
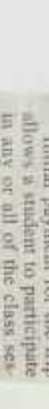
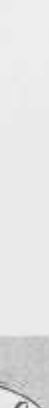
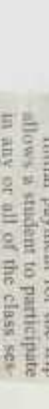
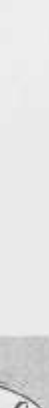
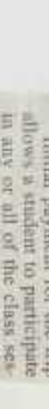
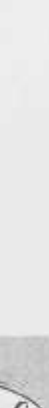
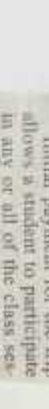
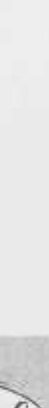
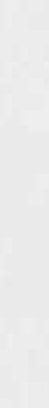
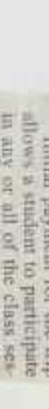
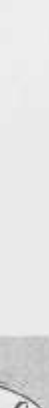
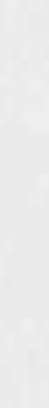
The Mount Airy News Tuesday, March 14, 2006.

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New 'design' school taking applications

By **Brian R. Corbett**
STAFF REPORTER

DOBSON — Surry County eighth-graders looking to get an early start in a college-like environment can now apply for a spot in the county's alternative high school scheduled to open this August.

The new school, a collaboration among all three of the

county's school systems and Surry Community College, was approved this week for a five-year \$1.46 million grant from Gov. Mike Easley's Learn and Earn Program.

Assuming the program is once again funded in the state's 2006-2007 state budget, that grant clears the way for this new high school to open in the fall of 2007.

Originally planned to be housed in Mount Airy, the shift to the Dobson campus may make it more attractive to students from the Elkin area.

The school's academic theme of design is broken down into three tracts: graphic and fine arts, information systems and technology.

See Design, back page

Page 16 — The Tribune, Elkin-Jonesville, N.C., Friday, March 10, 2006

Design

Continued from front page

technology and bio-technology/health sciences.

With its foundation in place, the school is now taking applications from students through April 13, Patsy Turner, the project's coordinator, said Thursday. The school will open with a class of up to 100 ninth-graders and will add a new incoming class of up to 100 students each year.

Any current eighth-grader in Surry County is eligible to fill out an application, and must be given to the student's guidance counselor and then forwarded to selection committee. Students who are home-schooled are sending a private school to send their application to the committee. There are application forms available on the school's website at www.surry.k12.nc.us/schools/design/.

Because space in the school is limited, Turner said the admissions process would mirror that of a college or university. A certain number of slots are reserved for each high-school district in proportion to the size of the school's enrollment. The Elkin High School district, for instance, has 10 slots, less than larger high schools like North Surry or Surry Central.

In a less formalized way, the selection committee will also try to balance the new schools' student body by gender, ethnicity and socioeconomic class. Those factors, along with a student's academic performance and interest in the new school as communicated through an essay, will go into selecting which students can enroll.

"All of that is taken into consideration. We want to find the students that are the best fit for the school," Turner said. "You could be the best student academically, but not be the best fit."

"early college high school," which places added emphasis on students taking college-level courses.

The school also switched locations from the Workforce Development Center in Mount Airy to Dobson, a shift Turner said was made because SCC's main campus had more space for the school to expand.

The school's steering committee is made up of the SCC president, the superintendent, and all three of the county's school districts and a yet-to-be-selected principal. They are arranging a transportation system where buses depart from each of the current high schools in the county.

"A variety of folks could thrive) depending on what their interest is," Turner said. "We've seen that interest is a better indicator of success than ability."

Turner said that the new school will try to establish a culture and identity by forming its own extracurricular groups and teams as interest arises. Therefore, students are looking for all the extra courses and activities associated with a traditional high school might be disappointed.

Students looking for careers in design or who want to obtain college credit, however, should find the new academic environment more exciting.

"A variety of folks could thrive) depending on what their interest is," Turner said. "We've seen that interest is a better indicator of success than ability."

"A variety of folks could thrive) depending on what their interest is," Turner said. "We've seen that interest is a better indicator of success than ability."



Regina Draughn, SCC assistant director of financial aid; and Emily Ferrell, recipient of the Yadkinville Rotary Club Scholarship.

SCC awards Rotary scholarship

Emily Ferrell, daughter of Steve and Shelby Ferrell of Yadkinville and a 2005 graduate of Forbush High School, is a first-year student in the College Transfer Program at Surry Community College. She recently received the Yadkinville Rotary Club Scholarship. In the fall of this year, she plans to transfer to the University of North Carolina at Charlotte to pursue a degree in art.

Ferrell's love for art began in childhood and continued through her high school years during which she completed four levels of arts and successfully participated in various artistic competitions. She chose to study for one year at Surry Community College to complete some of the general education courses required in the art major. In addition to maintaining

Services Center. Through this program, she earned money and earned one semester hour of academic course credit. She currently works in the evenings in the Yadkinville Center serving as a tutor for students who are pursuing high school completion through the GED Program.

The Yadkinville Rotary Club Scholarship of \$700 per year was established in 1999 and is based on both academic achievement and financial need. To be eligible for the scholarship, a student must live in Yadkin County, be enrolled in Surry Community College, have a grade point average of at least 3.0 ("B"), and have demonstrated financial need.

The Yadkinville Rotary Club is committed to the Rotary International principle of "Service above Self," which is demonstrated through various community projects and financial contributions.

student employment. In the fall, she participated in the Cooperative Education Program by working as a student assistant in the Surry Community College Career

Surry sweeps Wilkes again

DOBSON — The Surry Community College baseball team picked up its fourth straight win against visiting Wilkes Community College with two wins in a doubleheader Sunday at Knights Field.

The Knights swept the two-day, four-game series, but had to come from behind to win Game 1 on Sunday.

Surry led 2-0 early, but Wilkes took a 3-2 lead after scoring three runs in the top of the third inning. The Knights tied the score in the sixth on a home run by Daniel Smith, then went up 4-3 when Cory Harrick, who was 2-for-3 with three RBIs in Game 1, drove in Ryan Petty.

Wilkes tied Game 1 in the top of the seventh inning, but the Knights made the mood of their final at bat.

In the bottom of the seventh, Surry's Seth O'Brien reached base on an error by Wilkes third baseman Brett Stinebaugh. Surry's Samiry Asis was hit by a pitch to give the Knights two on with no outs, then Brett Anderson followed with a walk to load the bases. Wilkes' first baseman Justin Moutzinger got the first out of the inning on a force at the plate, but Surry ended the game when Asis scored on a passed ball, giving the Knights a 5-4 win.

Tony Harris tossed 6 1/3 innings in a no decision for the Knights. The left-hander finished with four strikeouts, while hitting two batters.

Reliever Steven Stewart picked up the win after getting the final two outs in the seventh to improve his record to 1-2.

In Game 2, Surry starter Justin Hauser pitched a three-hit shutout in a 5-0 victory. Hauser struck out three batters and walked one. Surry improved to 18-7 overall and 5-7 in Region X.

Surry head coach Mark Tucker said he was pleased with the weekend's results.

"I thought as far as (Sunday's) games we did a good job of battling back after falling behind," Tucker said. "We were able to scratch a run when we needed it to win, so I was pleased with our effort."

Game 1

| | | | | | | | |
|--------|-----|-----|---|---|---|---|---|
| Wilkes | 003 | 000 | 1 | — | 4 | — | 2 |
| Surry | 020 | 002 | 1 | — | 5 | — | 7 |

Catcher, O'Brien (6); Pitcher, Stewart (7); Infielder, Harris (5); Outfielder, Smith (4); Left Fielder, Petty (3); Right Fielder, Asis (2); Manager, Tucker (1).

Game 2

| | | | | | | | |
|--------|-----|-----|---|---|---|---|---|
| Wilkes | 000 | 000 | 0 | — | 0 | — | 0 |
| Surry | 001 | 001 | 4 | — | 3 | — | 0 |

Catcher, O'Brien (2); Pitcher, Stewart (1); Infielder, Harris (5); Outfielder, Smith (4); Left Fielder, Petty (3); Right Fielder, Asis (2); Manager, Tucker (1).



Surry's Ben Howell hustles back to first base on a pickoff attempt by Wilkes Community College on Sunday. The Knights swept Wilkes in a doubleheader.

The Mount Airy News Monday, March 20, 2006



Scholarship awarded

Surry Community College Assistant Director of Financial Aid Regina Draughn, left, presents SCC student Emily Ferrell with the Yadkinville Rotary Club scholarship. Established in 1999, the \$700-per-year scholarship is based on both academic achievement and financial need. To be eligible for the scholarship, a student must live in Yadkin County, be enrolled in Surry Community College, demonstrated financial need and have a grade point average of at least 3.0.



Jeremy Moorhouse: The Mount Airy News
Seth Wooten lets a pitch fly during Surry's 13-3 win
against Belmont-Abbey on Thursday at Knights Field.

Knights cruise

Surry takes two from Belmont-Abbey

By JEREMY MOORHOUSE
Sports Writer

DOBSON — By the end of the first inning, Belmont-Abbey College was starting at an eight-run deficit. A deep hole against any team — much less the talented Surry Knights.

Surry (20-7, 5-7 Region X) never allowed the visitors to get going in a 13-3, five-inning win on Thursday at Knights Field, the first of a doubleheader.

The Knights took the late game as well by a 10-1 final score. The top of the order was huge in both games.

Frans Mosere and Bret Andrews led the first game off with singles off Ryan Muldering and both advanced to scoring position on stolen bases. Johnny Spake converted an RBI as he to bring in Moore for a 1-0 lead. Ryan Peery hit a sharp ball to shortstop Greg Parter, whose throw to first was well off the mark. Andrews scored from

third on the play.

Marshall Woods drilled an RBI double before Josh Bentley drew a two-out walk. Adam Arrowsood singled home a run and Chase Swisher walked to load the bases.

In the second at bat of the inning, Mosere cleared the bases with a three-RBI double to left centerfield — widening the gap to 8-0.

"It's huge when you can jump out on top. It kinda relaxes you if you hit. I thought our pitchers did a good job of getting right after them with a lead," Surry head coach Mark Tucker said.

Seth Wooten earned the win on the mound for the Knights, who won their ninth in a row with the sweep. The Crusaders (7-5) got a run each in the first and second inning, but that was it.

Wooten allowed one earned run, two hits, two walks and struck out four. Bryce Riverbank entered in the fourth and Daniel See SCC, page 4B

SCC: Earns sweep against Crusaders

Continued from page 1B

Folk pitched the fifth inning.

We got to get a lot of people in, which was good. We've won a little momentum going, we just need to keep doing the things we've been doing that have made us successful."

The Knights hit the road for Florence-Darlington Tech, currently third in Region X, for doubleheaders on Saturday and Sunday.

Woods was 4-for-4 in the game with two doubles, three runs scored and three RBIs.

In the second game, Surry scratched out 10 runs in the first four innings to take control.

Robert Garcia walked, Cory Hartnick to begin the game and gave up a single to Ben Howell. Spake came up with an RBI single and then Woods converted an RBI sacrifice fly for the second run of the night.

In the second inning, Garcia walked two and gave up a single to Hartnick. Howell drew another walk to bring in Sammy Asis for a 3-0 lead.

Surry poured it on in the third inning. Travis Brewer touched on an error by catcher Matt Lawrence before Garcia

issued two more walks to Asis and Cole Edwards to load the bases.

Hartnick drilled a two-RBI single and then Howell followed with a two-RBI double down the left field line to make it a 7-0 game. A double by Spake brought in another run.

Jeremy Velder earned the win for the Knights. The right-hander allowed no runs, no hits, walked one and struck out five in three innings. The Crusaders did not record a hit until the fifth inning.

Game One
BMA 110 01 - 3 4 3
SCC 800 41 - 13 13 3

Game Two
BMA 000 010 9 - 1 1 4
SCC 215 200 5 - 10 9 2

Game Three
Garcia, Parter (4) and Lawrence (8th), Moore, Riverbank (5), Folk (9) and Swisher (8CC), WF - Woods, LP - Muldering 2B - Woods & T. Moore, Patsy (8CC).

Game Four
Garcia, Parter (4) and Lawrence (8th), Moore, Riverbank (5), Folk (9) and Swisher (8CC), WF - Velder, LP - Howell, Spake (8CC).

For can reach Jeremy Moorhouse at jmoorhouse@mtairnews.com.

Surry Community College to implement a tobacco use prevention, cessation initiative

DOBSON — According to Surry County Health Statisticians, a division of the Department of Health and Human Services, reports that the use of tobacco contributes to 14,000 deaths annually among adults in North Carolina. The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services reported in recent years that tobacco use is the number-one preventable cause of premature death and disease throughout the nation.

A study conducted by the American Cancer Society in 2004 indicates that the 18-24-year-old group is the only group in which smoking rates are rising, instead of falling. Nationally, 29 percent of college students are current smokers. According to the Center for Disease Control,

college freshmen and women represent the youngest and most vulnerable populations to start smoking in college.

Searey indicated that the initiative fits well into the college's mission of promoting personal growth through excellence in teaching, learning and service.

"Personal growth includes learning to develop healthy lifestyles. We are excited about having additional funds to research evidence-based tobacco prevention and intervention efforts and develop programs that will help our students who do not use tobacco products continue their healthy behaviors and to help current users to learn to quit," he said.

SCC offers free business class

MOUNT AIRY — On Tuesday, a detailed session on government will be offered through the Surry Economic Development Partnership and the Surry Community College Small Business Center called "How to Secure Government Contracts."

This free session will be held in the Workforce Development Center in Mount Airy. The session will be conducted by Dorothy Vek with the Small Business and Technology Development Center and will run from 10 a.m. to noon.

For those interested, this session is an in-depth extension of the previous "Doing Business with the Military" session that will demonstrate the application processes required.

Registration is required via telephone at 386-1211.

SCC offers April classes

DOBSON — Surry Community College's Continuing Education Division has announced upcoming classes that began in April.

Effective Teacher Training will be April 3 through May 29 on Mondays and Tuesdays from 4 to 7 p.m. in SCC Campus, J Building, Room 115. Tuition is \$85.

Photo Shoot will be April 8 from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. in SCC Campus, J Building, Room 201. Tuition is \$50, and participants must pre-register and pay by April 11.

Work Keys Assessment will be April 18 with a retake on April 19 from 4 to 8 p.m. in SCC Campus, J Building, Room 103. Tuition is \$35, and participants must pre-register and pay by April 12.

Tanning Operator will be April 22 from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. in SCC Campus, J Building, Room 201. Tuition is \$50, and participants must pre-register and pay by April 11.

SPORTS

Sections
B



Surry Community College's Seth O'Brien scores a run against USC-Salkehatchie in the first game of Saturday's Region X doubleheader.

Knights sweep Indians

By THOMAS LESTER

DOBSON — Throughout the second game of Saturday's Region X doubleheader, Surry Community College's batters had trouble with USC-Salkehatchie starter David Richardson. Until Josh Bentley came to the plate. Bentley broke open a 1-1 tie with a two-out home run to left center field. In support of starting pitcher Steven Stewart in the Knights' (23-10, 8-10 Region X) went on to take the contest 5-1 at Knights Field. In the first game, Surry downed the Indians 4-2 behind a strong pitching performance by Cole McCurry. Surry coach Mark Tucker said pitching — and a few timely hits — did his team a world of good in its first action in a week. "I thought our pitchers did a good job today," Tucker said of Stewart and McCurry, who both tossed complete games. "It set the tone and we got some big hits late in the (second) game." Bentley and company made sure Stewart's showing — seven innings pitched, six

"We had this whole week off and we weren't into the mix of playing games. After a while, we got going." Following Bentley's shot, Justin Franks singled, and after two outs, Salkehatchie coach Bubba Durrant pulled Richardson, who scattered seven hits while fanning four Surry batters, for lefty reliever Kenneth Bellamy. Pitcher Johnny Spake greeted Bentley by taking his first pitch of the game deep for another two-run home run for the final margin of the contest. In the first game, the Knights didn't wait as long to pull ahead. Two innings later, Surry got all the breathing room it needed. With two outs and Moore in scoring position, Daniel Smith ripped a line drive to the wall in right center field for a double.

SURRY: Knights score two wins

Continued from page 1B
He later scored on Petty's RBI. Tucker said runs were at a premium against the arms the Indians threw at his team on Saturday. "I thought both of their pitchers did a good job of keeping them in the ballgame," Tucker said. "We strung together a couple of hits and that was the difference in the game. Salkehatchie's got a good team so we know we've got our work cut out for us tomorrow." The four runs were plenty for McCurry, who tossed seven innings while striking out nine and giving up seven hits. McCurry said the way the defense was playing behind him a few runs was enough. "I felt like my defense was playing good behind me," McCurry said. "I had good stuff." The teams will play another doubleheader this afternoon beginning at 1 p.m. at Knights Field.

Game One
USC-S 010 000 1 - 2 7 3
SCC 101 000 3 - 4 7 3

You can reach Thomas Lester at thomasl@mtairynews.com.

Game Two
USC-S 001 000 0 - 1 5 2
SCC 010 064 3 - 5 9 0
Richardson, Bentley (6) and Bralhaar (USCS); Stewart and Durrant (SCC); 2B - Deal (USCS), Bentley (SCC); HR - Petty (SCC), Bentley (USCS), Spake (SCC) WP - Stewart, LP - Richardson.

PROGRESS 2006

Knights' history is one of success

By THOMAS LESTER

Sports Editor
DOBSON — In the 11 seasons Surry Community College's baseball program has been in existence, the Knights have come from humble beginnings to reach the elite status of the National Junior College Athletic Association program. Head coach Mark Tucker, who has guided the program since its inception, said the Knights have come a long way in a relatively short period of time. The team went from having no reputation and no true home field — the first few seasons' home games were played at Surry Central High School — to its current status as a nationally prominent program.

The game go seven innings and not be 10-runned after five. We've come a long way and gradually progressed." Assistant coach Roy Vernon said the Knights' growth and development has mirrored that of Tucker, who was a young head coach when he took the job. "He's super to work with," Vernon said. "When we started the program, he was 24. He was almost like one of the players. He's gotten better and better, and so have I. We've gotten better with the team. We've had a lot to learn." Tucker said Vernon has played a big role in his growth as a coach, as well as in helping the program develop. Tucker said, "We've done a great job of helping recruit players. He does most of the staff with our hitters. It's been a big help having him every day in practice and in games. He's

"When we started out, we didn't have a field, we had a tryout to get our players and we weren't able to recruit any kids," Tucker said. "We certainly look our beatings. We were lucky when we played the better teams in the region to have

really an invaluable part of the program. You can't describe how valuable he's been to our program." In Surry's first season, the Knights understandably struggled, as Tucker had limited time to assemble the inaugural program, which finished 14-21, but pitcher Casey Wilmoth was recognized as a first-team all-American by the NJCAA, a sign of things to come in the future. In the time between the first and second seasons, Tucker and Vernon were able to bring in more top-tier players and the results showed. Surry improved to 27-20, the first of nine consecutive winning seasons. The next season, Surry reached the NJCAA World Series and finished fifth in the nation with a record of 28-15. The year after the Knights' first visit to the World Series, Knights Field was opened on the SCC campus. Tucker's father, Angus, was instrumental in the design of the field and its facilities, including the dugouts, benches, irrigation and drainage systems. "He's done a lot of work on it and on the facilities," coach Tucker said. "We've raised some money for staff and gotten contributions from things."

In the years that followed, Surry enjoyed several more successful seasons and came close to playing in the World Series two more times — in 1999 and 2004.

The 2004 season was the most successful by percentage. The Knights finished with an impressive 55-9 final record and won the Region X regular season championship and added the tournament title with a 14-5 win against Louisiana in the championship game. In addition to the team's success, several players have received individual accolades and honors. Chad Durham, who was Sur-



Coaches Roy Vernon, left, and Mark Tucker have been the stabilizing forces in leading Surry Community College to national baseball prominence.

in 2001

ry's first drafted player, was a third-team all-American before being selected by the Chicago White Sox in 1997. Evan Farniglia and Cody Dickens were also selected by the White Sox in 2003 while first baseman John Graham was chosen to participate in the NCAA's USA team to play on a friendship tour in China. Local players have also excelled with SCC. Former Surry standout Matt Scott, who now coaches at South Stokes, parlayed his two years with the Knights into a baseball scholarship at UNC-Pembroke.



Thomas Lester/The Mount Airy News

Area baseball players, like former Starmount pitcher Seth Wooten, have helped turn Surry Community College's program into a national power.

in 2001 Scott, Jeremy Branch and Jared Moser, also former Surry Central players, have been tabbed as academic all-Americans, as well while former North Surry pitchers Matt Swift and Nathan Hodges excelled while under Tucker's watch. With the success the program has enjoyed in recent years, Tucker has been able to draw the type of talent that can maintain the team's lofty perch. He said there is no set kind of player he looks for. "We try to find the best player we can find," Tucker said.

Thomas Lester/The Mount Airy News

"Players who aren't academically or financially ready for a year school. It's real affordable to come here." Vernon added that having the reputation as a winner continually helps sell the school to the players. "You never know what high school kids are thinking or what reasons they go to school," Vernon said. "A lot of them want to go to winning programs and we certainly have a winning program."

You may reach Thomas Lester at thomasl@mtairynews.com.



See SURRY, page B4

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Monday, May 22 - Summer Semester Registration

Do G. Frank Self, President

"I invite you to visit our campus in person and talk with our faculty and staff about your interests and what we can do to assist you in pursuing them. I think you'll be very glad that you did!"

SCC



Knights pick up pair of victories

SCC's Yoder and Lackey combine for no-hitter

DOBSON — Jeremy Yoder and Tyler Lackey combined for a no-hitter in the second game of Surry's sweep of a twinbill against Pfeiffer on Thursday at Knights Field.

Yoder pitched three innings of no-hit ball while only allowing one hit, batsman in the Knights' 11-1, five-inning victory.

He gave way to Lackey in the fourth, who pitched the final two frames, and only allowed a walk while striking out three batters.

In the first game, Justin Hauser, Matt Stines and Josh Wooten combined to keep Pfeiffer's bats mostly at bay in a 9-5 win.

In both games, Surry's defense was errorless behind the pitchers.

Surry coach Mark Tucker said his team can be tough when the Knights get pitching and play defense like they had against Pfeiffer.

"I thought the pitchers threw well," Tucker said. "They drew strikes and we played really solid defense today. When the pitchers throw strikes and we make plays, we're a tough team to beat."

Added in a little pop from the bats and the Knights could be really tough.

In the second game, Daniel Smith provided most of the Knights' offense, going 3-for-3 with a home run, a double and four RBIs.

Johnny Spake added a dop-

See SCC, page 2B

Mr. Arney News 5/6/06

SCC: Knights nab pair of wins

Continued from page 1B

ble in the second game, but he made his impact in the opener. The freshman was 1-for-2 with three-run home run and four RBIs.

Also in the first game, Brett Andrews was 2-for-4 with a run, a stolen base and an RBI while Brent Weaver was 2-for-2 with a run scored and one knocked in.

Surry (26-11) returns to Region X play on Saturday with the first of two doubleheaders with league rival Louisburg. First pitch is at 1 p.m.

First Game
Pfeiffer 600-065-0 — 5-6-2
Surry 301-131-8 — 9-8-0
Stines (5), Wooten (6) and O'Brien (6CC), HR — Spake (5CC), WP — Hauser (5-1); LF — Sheridan.

Second Game
Pfeiffer 000-00-0 — 0-0-2
Surry 362-13-11 — 9-0
Richardson, Holderfield (2) and Small (2CC), Yoder, Lackey (4) and Stalder (6CC), 2B — Smith (5CC), Spake (6CC), Stralder (5CC), HR — Smith (6CC), WP — Yoder (4-0), LP — Richardson.



Surry's Shawn Bumgarner (4) fires a pitch during the first game of a doubleheader against Limestone at Knights Field on Thursday.

Knights smash Saints

By THOMAS LESTER

DOBSON — In a little more than three hours work, Surry Community College's baseball team reduced Limestone into rubble.

The Knights' pitchers were hitting their spots, the hitters were making contact and Surry (31-12) swept Thursday after noon's doubleheader at Knights Field by a combined score of 23-2.

In the first game, the Knights pooled eight runs in the first inning to overcome an early deficit while starter Shawn Bumgarner and two others combined to lift Surry to a 13-2, five-inning victory.

Surry added a seven-run third inning in the second contest and took a 10-0 after five innings of play. Starter Justin Hauser pitched four no-hit innings to earn the victory.

Hauser, who struck out six and only allowed one walk, said one thing the pitchers on the Surry staff constantly work on is trying to get ahead of hitters.

"We just throw strikes and stay ahead and that's all you've got to do. We've got a great staff and great defense. When you've got good defense behind you, just throw strikes and you don't have to worry about it."

Plus, it never hurts when a pitcher gets plenty of run support. In the second game, Hauser got all the runs he needed in a big third inning.

A one-out single by Ben Howell brought home Seth O'Brien for the game's first run.

See KNIGHTS, page 4B

Employment fair set at college

DOBSON — The Surry Community College Career Services Center will host an Employment Fair on Thursday from 9 a.m. to noon in the gymnasium on the main campus.

Approximately 50 employers from Surry and surrounding counties will utilize the Employment Fair to recruit employees.

Although the fair is held primarily for Surry Community College students who will graduate on May 11 with specialized skills in one or more of the 30 career technology programs, it is also open to anyone in the community who is seeking employment.

Job seekers are encouraged to dress in business attire and bring several copies of their current resume.

The fair is free of charge to job seekers and to employers. For more information, call Janice Lowe at 386-5288 or by e-mail at lowej@surry.edu.

Mr. Arney News 4/25/06

Second Surry Sampler set for May 6 at SCC

By PHIL GOBLE JR., Managing Editor

DOBSON — The second annual Surry Sampler is set for May 6 in the campus gym at Surry Community College. The event features cuisine from county restaurants and live music in a fund-raiser for our seniors who are falling through the cracks.

See SAMPLER, page 3

SAMPLER: Fundraiser shares tastes of county

Continued from page 1

These seniors are one who are underserved, those who make too much money to qualify for government programs but still fall short in meeting their day-to-day needs.

Currently, Volunteer Cooperative Ministries helps with fuel and heating needs while Senior Services provides in-home aide services and YVEDDI helps with transportation.

"We're hoping to have 300 or 400 (people) there," Davis said. "We've got a lot of tickets to sell."

Tickets are \$5 each for adults. Children under 6 are admitted free with an adult ticket. Admission tickets get visitors into the event, but "tasting tickets" must be bought to sam-

ple the food. "Tasting tickets" will run \$50 each. Food items will cost either one or two tickets each.

"Last year, our sample sizes were too small," Davis said. "We went to Davie County and they had portion sizes. So we'll do more this year."

Headlining the live music and entertainment will be Heaven's Touch and the Dixie Ramblers.

Davis said area businesses can also help by sponsoring tables for the event. Each donation is tax deductible.

For more information or to become a sponsor, call Davis at 786-6155, ext. 225, or Clara Fountain or Donna Collins at 368-2012.

You can reach Phil Goble Jr. at pgoble@mtairynews.com.

KNIGHTS: Make quick work of Saints

Continued from page 1B

Knights tagged Saints' starter Michael Hill for eight runs and scattered two hits while finishing two batters before giving way to Matt Marshall, who worked the fourth. Bryce Kivens-bark finished the game for Surry with a perfect fifth inning.

Surry hosts Lenoir-Rhyne on Tuesday. With a handful of series remaining before the Region X tournament in Spartanburg, S.C., Tucker believes with a little more attention to detail, his team might be on the cusp of making some postseason noise.

"I think we can still do some things better," Tucker said. "If we can get it together down the stretch, I think we'll be a tough team to beat in the tournament."

First Game
Limestone 200-00-2-3-0
Surry 821-02-13-14-2
Hill (4), Weaver (2), Hauser (5) and O'Brien (5) and Graham (6CC), 2B — Andrews (2), 6CC, 3B — Weaver (5CC), HR — Smith (6CC), WP — Bumgarner; LP — Hill.

Second Game
Limestone 000-00-0-1-1
Surry 007-23-10-10-0
Gunn and Cook (2CC), Hauser, Turner (5) and O'Brien (5CC), 3B — Hauser (6CC), Peay (6CC), Edwards (6CC), HR — Hauser (6CC), Edwards (6CC), WP — Hauser; LP — Gunn.

You can reach Thomas Lester at tlester@mtairynews.com

Knights sharp in twinbill sweep

Mr. Arney News 4/19/06



Surry's Daniel Smith makes a play on a grounder.

DOBSON — Surry Community College's baseball team was firing on all cylinders on Tuesday in a sweep of Lenoir-Rhyne.

The Knights (33-12) took both games by a combined score of 36-4 as Surry's bats cranked out 29 hits.

In the first game, Johnny Spake cranked out two home runs, including a grand slam in the fifth inning. Spake finished 2-for-4 with six RBIs as Surry won 14-0.

Ryan Peay was 2-for-3 with three RBIs while Daniel Smith was 2-for-3 and Travis Moore was 3-for-5.

Shawn Bumgarner earned the win for the Knights, Justin Hauser, Alex Rogers, Bryce Rivenbark, David Turner and Tyler Lackey pitched an inning each in relief.

Surry returns to Region X action this weekend when the Knights travel to Rockingham Community College.

See SCC, page 2B

Mr. Arney News 4/19/06

Hutchins named Administrative Professional of the Year

By JOEL FRADY
Staff Writer

MOUNT AIRY — The Greater Mount Airy Chamber of Commerce held the 2006 Administrative Professionals Day Luncheon on Wednesday at Cross Creek Country Club. More than 200 people attended the event, which was highlighted with a skill parodying "The Dating Game" and the presentation of the Administrative Professional of the Year award to Renee Hutchins, an administrative assistant in business and industry services at Surry Community College (SCC).

"I'm just so shocked," Hutchins said of receiving the award. She was nominated for the award by Dennis Lowe, director of the Small Business Center and Occupational programs at SCC, and Hutchins later added that Lowe is "the ultimate professional... it's only an honor and a privilege to work with him."

"I definitely have never worked with anyone who is as consistently professional, efficient and pleasant as Renee," Lowe said. "And with an administrative assistant that goes a long way — in my opinion, she's a model for what support staff should be... I want people to know publicly that I appreciate what Renee does."



Joel Frady/The Mount Airy News

Dennis Lowe, right, says a few words about Renee Hutchins, left, after Hutchins was named Administrative Professional of the Year by the Greater Mount Airy Chamber of Commerce while Betty Ann Collins, president of the chamber, listens on.

Hutchins also said that the ability to help people has been a driving force during her 21 years with SCC.

"It's busy and it's hectic, however, at the end of the day, we help so many people in Surry County and Yadkin County that it's just an honor to be able to make a difference in people's lives, to be able to serve the community," Hutchins said. She noted that she thinks "the administrative assistants in our area do a huge role in the business industry... they're actually helping to keep things going."

Betty Ann Collins, president of the chamber, said that the luncheon is the most fun event that the chamber holds and that it is important to recognize HUTCHINS, page 2

HUTCHINS: Honored

Continued from page 1

organize the administrative professionals for their contribution.

"Since we are a business and industry membership-based organization, all businesses and organizations have administrative assistants, whether they are called 'executive assistants' or 'administrative assistants,' Collins said. "Whatever their titles may be, they are such a tremendous

part of our workforce.

"It's not just a job, it's a career," she continued. "They may act as a buffer or a filtering system for the owner or the person in charge. They handle a lot of day in, day out issues that the owner may not have the time to deal with."

"They are real important," Collins said. "You can reach Joel Frady at jfrady@mountairynews.com."

The Daily News 4/27/06

Three new degrees available at SCC

By WENDY BYERLY
WOOD

DOBSON — Among the new ventures and changes at Surry Community College is the offering of three new associate's degrees.

Janice Childress, dean of Student Development, said that the first of the three degrees is an Associate of Fine Arts, which includes a focus on students with an interest in photography and visual arts.

The second degree is an associate's degree for community Spanish interpreter. "I think it will fill a niche," Childress said. "There is a huge need in this area for interpreters, and it gives them a way to be certified."

The third degree will expand on the associate's in early childhood development, now offering an emphasis in special education. "We already had teaching assistant and general education focuses, and now we look to have a lot of interest in the special education track," Childress said.

For those students, new and returning, who haven't been on campus during the summer semester, they should be aware of a change in the on-campus smoking policy. "Every building has a designated smoking area, which is marked," Childress explained.

She said that there were certain main entrances where non-smoking students were having trouble entering buildings without being exposed to smoke, so, for fairness to both parties, we shifted the entrances where smoking is allowed.

Students can also smoke See DEGREES, page 3A

Aug. 3, 2006

DEGREES: Added to slate at SCC

Continued from page 1A

while traveling on the campus in the other open areas. Childress noted.

On Monday, the college began taking payments from fall semester students, so they are now able to confirm their schedules. So far, the school has 2,057 students registered for the fall semester, an increase from the 1,921 students registered at the same point last year.

"This will be the first really full semester at the Workforce Development Center in Mount Airy as well," Childress said. "It got off to its main start during the spring semester, but now North Surry, Mount Airy and East Surry students can come in and take those offerings as well as the general public."

The courses being offered are English 111, History 121 Western Civilization I, Mission by 140, Blueprint Reading 130, Psychology 150 and Religion 111. Old Testament, in adult, continuing education courses will be offered throughout the year at the Workforce Development Center.

Childress said the college encourages anyone interested in attending classes during the fall semester to register and pay by Aug. 14, but the very last day new students will be taken is Aug. 23, which is the last day of the

Cent. Aug. 3, 2006

dropped period.

Classes begin on Aug. 17, "It will be a change for our returning students to see school buses on campus," Childress said, explaining that the new Surry Family College High School of Design will be housed in the T building with its first class of freshmen, who will start school Wednesday.

"But this very self-contained to start with, they will even be eating lunch in the T building, and they have their own college classes with their fellow students," she said.

Several administration changes also were made during the summer and continue to be made, Childress said. Dr. George Sappentfield is the new associate vice president for corporate and continuing education. Janice Woods is now associate vice president for curriculum programs. She had been serving as dean of arts and sciences, a position for which the college is now hiring. Also, Craig Strubbers started this week as the new admissions counselor for adult, continuing education courses.

Childress said the college is also in the dean of hiring process for a dean of career technology following the resignation of George Snyder.

"The community college system has been in effect for

30 or 40 years," Childress explained, "so a lot of those who have been in the system since its inception) statewide are reaching retirement age."

Another change at the college will take place during the coming 12 months as the school implements the College System, a new computer system that will unify the way community college data is handled across the state.

"We are in the third tier to be phased in this year," Childress said. "Our current staff (managers) have to go to mandated trainings, but we should be completed with that process in the next 12 months."

"Eventually it will be a new way of operating for students as far as registration, advising, use of student ID numbers, and more. It is all good changes," she said, "and it uses technology more comprehensively than it has been. The modules it offers the students are wonderful, especially for registration and advising. It is much more user-friendly and involves the student."

She said, in addition to the increased fall registration numbers, "with gas prices increasing, we expect our distance learning classes to fill sooner because people see that as an alternative to driving over 100 miles."

You can reach Wendy Byerly Wood at wbyerly@mountairynews.com.

Knights Send 19 Players to Other Programs

By THOMAS LESTER Sports Editor, Mount Airy News

Surry Community College's baseball program isn't just a success on the diamond. The Knights are also successful in sending their players on to continue their education — and maybe a little more baseball — after their stint in Dobson. Of the 21 players who are leaving the Surry program, 19 will be playing baseball next spring.

All 21 will be attending four-year colleges. "That's something that coach Mark Tucker is most proud of. 'Everybody we had on this year's team is going to be pursuing a four-year degree,'" Tucker said. "That's one of the cornerstones of our program and one of the cornerstones of the community college system."

Tucker noted that to have so many players continuing their education speaks highly of the program he and coach Roy Vermon have assembled. "We really provide a lot of options for the kids," Tucker said. "They can lay the groundwork for educational advantages toward a four-year school and also get a chance to compete for two years and then go on."

Second-team All-Region X player Brett Andrews will next suit up for Barton College while Josh Bentley, who led the Knights with 11 home runs, will play at UNC Pembroke next season along with teammate Shawn Burdick, who posted a two-year pitching mark of 14-3.

Former South Stokes standout Travis Brewer and teammate Cole Edwards will continue playing at Greensboro College while Justin Frady joins the team at Brevard.

Tony Harris, who posted a 6-2 record last season, will attend West Virginia State while Cory Hinton is heading for North Greenville University and Cole Johnson will soon suit up for Milligan College in Tennessee.

Matt Marshall will attend Bluefield State College while Cole McCurry, who was 7-5 for Surry last season, will pitch for Tennessee Wesleyan College next year.

Seth O'Brien is going to N.C. Central while second-team All-American Ryan Petty, who hit .433 with eight home runs and 56 RBIs, will play for East Carolina next season.

Matt Simmes is bound for UVa-Wise while two-time All-Region X pick Daniel Smith will play for Lenoir-Rhyne.

Steven Stewart, who was 7-3 with a save for the Knights and pitched in Canada during the summer, will play for Florida International while Brent Weaver is headed for Bluefield College.

Marshall Woods will hit the field for Winthrop while Jeremy Yoder, who was 5-0 last season, will pitch for Carson-Newman.

Chase Swisher will try to walk on to the team at Appalachian State next season while Tyler Lackey will attend N.C. State, but won't be playing baseball.

"It's a pretty good year for us," Tucker said. "We're pleased that we can help kids pursue their not only athletic careers, but athletically, as well. We think it's very important for us to try to help each player continue on if that's their goal."

You can reach Thomas Lester at tlester@mountairynews.com.

Surry Community College received the award for excellence in critical thinking at the 26th International Conference on Critical Thinking in Berkeley, California, on July 25, 2006. This award was symbolically memorialized in a small replica of Rodin's famous sculpture, *The Thinker*.

This award was presented at the opening address and keynote session of the conference, which was attended by more than 400 international educators, government leaders, and business representatives. At the presentation, Dr. Linda Elder, President of the Foundation for Critical Thinking, noted that "Surry Community College is the only college in the country, and indeed in the world, to ever receive this award."

This achievement is a credit not only to the faculty, the staff, the deans and department chairs who have fostered it, but to the highest administrative officers, including President Dr. Frank Sells, in their unstinting support of this ambitious and important educational goal.

Dr. Elder read the following statement at the opening session, and, along with Dr. Richard Paul, bestowed the award to Dr. Steve Atkins and Ms. Connie Wolfe:

Special Award for Excellence in Critical Thinking

We would like, at this time, to give a special award for excellence in critical thinking. Really there are many of you who deserve an award. We recognize that.

But we thought it was time to single out an institution that has been working toward bringing critical thinking across the curriculum for a number of years. This is a higher education institution that began its struggle toward critical thinking approximately four years ago when they placed critical thinking at the heart of their reaccreditation process. They have developed an ongoing, innovative, long-term faculty development program. They have developed and are using effective faculty and student assessments in critical thinking. They have recently developed a critical thinking website that is exceptional. And they have sent 12 people to this year's conference, because they recognize that the struggle is ever before them, to improve, to reach deeper, to go further.

The institution receiving this award is a higher education institution. When we think of excellence in education, we often think of the Ivy League schools, the Harvards, and the Yales. But the institution receiving this award today is not Harvard. It is not Yale. It is not Stanford. It is not any of the Ivy League schools. Rather it is a community college in a small place called Dobson, North Carolina. It is Surry Community College.

Dr. Elder acknowledges, "The struggle is ever before us to reach toward a substantive concept of critical thinking, to continually work to reach our students at a deeper and more meaningful level. This award indicates that the struggle is being taken seriously at [this] college. I congratulate everyone at Surry Community College who made this award possible. I can only hope that the struggle continues."

The College's initiative is presented online at its new critical thinking website: <http://www.surry.edu/about/cr/index.html>

TOP

The New Surry Early College High School of Design By Sherry Youngquist, Winston-Salem Journal Reporter

The majority of faculty members who will open the doors next month to the new Surry Early College High School of Design have more than 20 years of experience. Some were retired and chose to come back for a chance to teach without some of the barriers and trappings of a traditional high school, they said. Others say that it's a chance to teach beyond standardized tests and to encourage students to excel and exceed expectations.

"We're out here with a group of teachers who are along in their careers.... I'm so excited. I could hardly talk about it. For over 30 years, you spend time with all your colleagues talking about 'If only you could just....' Here's our 'if only,'" said Lowanda Badgett, an English teacher who retired in 2005 after 32 years at North Surry High School. She has come out of retirement to join the faculty at the new high school.

The Surry Early College High School of Design is part of the state's New Schools Project. It will be awarded \$1.47 million over five years. Money for the project comes from an \$11 million grant from the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation. In March, state officials approved the new school, which will be housed on the campus of Surry Community College. It will draw students from Elkin, Mount Airy and other parts of Surry County. This school year, only the ninth grade will be offered. Each year, a grade will be added until the school has ninth through 12th grades and 400 students. Though more than 100 students applied for the 2006-07 school year, administrators limited the ninth-grade class to 82.

Freshmen will be put on track to graduate with an associate's degree within five years in programs in graphic and fine arts, information technologies and biotechnology. Students will begin taking college courses in the ninth grade in a "learn and earn" program. There will be no tuition or cost for books. Students would graduate with a high-school diploma, an associate's degree and two years' college-transfer credit.

Butler reaps benefit of resources to win contract

Mr. Airy News 7/28/06
By DENNIS LOWE
Surry Community College



Submitted photo
Mike Butler, owner of the Mount Airy Paint Store, used a course at the Surry County Small Business Center to help win a \$100,000 grant from the state of North Carolina.

learning about business acquisition, Butler prepared a business plan, obtained a loan and purchased the business.

"I had a real fear of making that investment," Butler said. "The business had suffered declining sales during the past few years and I knew that, even with a long history in Mount Airy, the future success of the business was not guaranteed."

Not being one to sit on his hands, Butler immediately upgraded the store's inventory, extended the hours of operation and began to aggressively market the business. His efforts bore fruit and the business showed a 60 percent increase in sales during the first year under its new owner.

During 2006, Butler has continued to promote the business and find new customers.

In March, he attended a workshop hosted by Surry Community College and the Surry County Economic Development Partnership. After two hours of learning about government procurement, several weeks of Internet research and only two bid attempts, Butler learned on July 17 that his business had been awarded a contract with the state of North Carolina in the amount of \$104,909.70.

"Today's business owners need to think outside the box," Butler said. "It's very competitive now. To succeed, you need to look for new ways to do business and then make things happen."

The Mount Airy Paint Store is at 222 Franklin Street. For more information, call 786-6755 or www.mtairy-paintstore.com.

aged and co-owned the business and, being 81 years old, was interested in selling.

At the same time, Butler was considering the possibility of entrepreneurship. When he learned of Ward's desire to retire, he asked about purchasing the store. Negotiations soon resulted in a tentative agreement and Butler found himself in need of a business plan and a loan.

After making contact with the Small Business Center at Surry Community College and

managerial capacities.

The paint store also underwent changes. During that same 10 years, the store moved from Virginia Street to Franklin Street, and the ownership changed.

In 2004, Velpro Ward man-

The new high school is occupying the ground floor of a science building known as the T Building at Surry Community College. Incoming freshmen can expect about 20 students per class in the interdisciplinary units of English, world history, earth science and algebra, which will be taught by the high-school faculty. Students will be able to take at least two college classes the first year, including a citizenship and community-service class, which will be taught by college faculty. "They won't be filling in an answer on a Xerox. They will be collecting data and analyzing the data to help them solve the problems," said Patsy Turner, the school's principal.

Sarah Lawrence, who will be teaching math, said that the seven faculty members feel confident about the future as they move into their classrooms and offices this month. "I'm excited about starting small," said Lawrence, who has 14 years of experience in the classroom and left her job as a technology coordinator for Surry County Schools to teach at the new school. Badgett said that the school is not for every teacher or every student. "I had 32 years in public schools. I loved North Surry. It works for many students. But it doesn't work for all students," Badgett said.

Sherry Youngquist can be reached in Mount Airy at 336-789-9338 or at syoungquist@wsjournal.com.

8/25/2006

roundments.html

SCCC makes history

School wins international award for critical thinking

By WENDY BYERLY WOOD
Staff Writer

DOBSON — Surry Community College has been recognized internationally as a site for "excellence in critical thinking."

Four years ago, when the college went through its reaccreditation process, it made a commitment to work toward being a school focused on critical thinking.

"We've been heavily involved in critical thinking as being a learning college and focusing on new teaching strate-

gies," said SCC President Dr. Frank Sells Monday at the SCC Board of Trustees meeting. "We've gotten a lot of attention being a learning college."

On July 25 in Berkeley, Calif., the 26th International Conference on Critical Thinking was held. Several members of SCC's staff attended the conference, including Vice President for Academic and Student Affairs Dr. Steve Adkins and Director of the Academic Support Center Corinne Wolfe.

During the opening address and keynote session of the conference,

that began its struggle toward critical thinking, approximately four years ago, when they placed critical thinking at the heart of their reaccreditation.

"They have developed a unique, innovative, long-term, faculty development program that has developed and are using effective faculty and student assessment in critical thinking. They have recently developed a critical thinking Web site that is exceptional. And they have sent 13 people to this year's conference, because they recognize that the struggle is ever before them, to improve, to reach deeper, to go further."

Elder said, "The institution receiving this award is a higher education institution. When we think of excellence in education, we often think of the Ivy League schools, the Harvards, and the Yales. But the institution receiving this award today is not Harvard. It is not Yale. It is not Stanford. It is Surry Community College."

The letter from Elder gives credit for the achievement to the faculty, the staff, the deans and to the department chairs, but also to the administrative officers and Sells "for your unstinting support of this ambitious and important educational goal."

"The struggle is ever before us to reach toward a substantive concept of critical thinking, to continually work to reach our students at a deeper and more meaningful level," she wrote. "This award indicates that the struggle is being taken seriously at your college."

which was attended by more than 400 international educators, government leaders, and business representatives, Surry Community College was awarded the elite Award for Excellence in Critical Thinking, marking the first time in history the award has been given to a college.

"Surry Community College is the only college in the country, and indeed in the world, to ever receive this award," said Dr. Linda Elder, president of the Foundation for Critical Thinking in a letter to Sells.

Sells said Adkins and Wolfe "have examined the catalysts for making sure critical thinking campus-wide happens." During her recognition speech, Elder said, "We would like, at this time, to give a special award for excellence in critical thinking. Really there are many of you who deserve an award. We recognize that."

"But we thought it was time to single out an institution that has been working toward bringing critical thinking across the curriculum for a number of years," she said. "This is a higher education institution See SCC, page 2

Carolina Generators LLC

Brad Harrison is all about power. When playing basketball in his youth, he often played power forward. When playing baseball or softball, he always hit for power. As Brad reached maturity, he looked for vehicles to drive that, you guessed it, had lots of horsepower. So, it is not surprising that in his adulthood, Mr. Harrison chose to work within the electrical industry.

In 1981, Brad began building his resume by accepting a position with Mount Airy Electric Company. Here he was charged with rewinding, repairing and installing electric motors. Brad then moved to Surry Electric Motor and Controls, Inc. where he would work his way up to shop foreman. This position gave Mr. Harrison the opportunity to learn more about the electrical trade, and more importantly, how to deal effectively with customers. During the next nine years, Brad worked hard to hone his customer service techniques and increase his knowledge of electrical generation. Why... because Brad knew that power comes from knowledge. He read books and articles about motors, generators and electrical wiring; he talked with experts in the electrical field; he even traveled around the state to take advantage of training opportunities. Two of these training opportunities were with Piedmont Generators and Guardian Generators. While involved in these trainings, Mr. Harrison realized that he was interested in another kind of power, the kind that comes from business ownership. Brad enjoyed working on generators and he knew that he had the ability to relate well with customers. He perceived there was a market for a business that could install and service stand-by generators, and he yearned to be the owner of that business.

But Brad knew he wasn't yet ready to take on the mantle of entrepreneurship. So, as many successful men have done, Mr. Harrison began educating himself about business ownership. Again he would read and talk with experts. He contacted the Small Business Center at Surry Community College to find out about marketing and tax-related issues. Finally in the spring of 2004, Brad was ready and Carolina Generators LLC was born. He left the comfort of a regular paycheck and incorporated his business on June fourth.

"Starting a business is scary," Brad relates. "Even after finding out all you can about owning a business, you still feel like you're shooting from the hip sometimes." "Being a husband and a parent, I couldn't help worrying about having enough money to pay the bills, so in the early days I was constantly working to reach new customers."

Brad had power, however. The power of knowledge and the power of self-confidence. The marketing efforts of Carolina Generators LLC soon began to pay off as Brad began to acquire service accounts. The business sold its first stand-by generator on August 15, 2004 and there has been no looking back since. In two short years, Mr. Harrison has built a customer base of 103 individuals who own 123 generators for which he provides regular service. His service area covers a 200 mile radius and he regularly sells/install new generators (7 to 2200 kw) for residential, agricultural and commercial use. Carolina Generator's willingness to provide superior service twenty-four hours a day has even earned the company Elite Dealer status with Guardian Generators (Generac Power Systems, Inc.). Only seven dealers in the state of North Carolina can boast this status. Business is so good that Brad now regularly solicits help from his son and often contracts the assistance of local electricians.



When asked what advice he would give to other potential entrepreneurs, Brad answered, "Learn all you can about business and know your product front-to-back and side-to-side. Treat people honestly, provide a good product at a fair price, and always... ALWAYS do what you say you will do." Words of wisdom from a man that now has the most gratifying type of power... the power that comes from owning a business and living life by his own hands.

The office for Carolina Generators LLC is located on 489 North Wilson Road, Lenoir, North Carolina. More information about the company is available at www.carolinageneratorsllc.com or by calling 336-352-3999.

Written by Dennis Lowe, Director
Surry Community College Small Business Center

Simmes a Cut Above the Rest By Jeremy Moorhouse, Mt. Airy News Sports Writer

Matt Simmes displays a maturity rarely seen at the college level. At an age when most student-athletes are thinking about what's right in front of them, the former Surry Community College pitcher has his sights set on the big picture. Simmes, from Roanoke, Va., is a couple of summer classes away from heading to UVA-Wise — where his baseball talent has earned him a full scholarship.



While taking a full load at Surry, Simmes has worked fulltime jobs and played two years of baseball for the Knights. He'll be the first to tell you academics come first. Simmes would like to get into chemical or nuclear engineering. He also enjoys the business aspect of the field and may choose civil engineering. "I'm not sure what field yet, just keeping a math and physics background, maybe minor in business," Simmes said. "I won't start taking engineering classes for two more years but I'll have all my core classes." Each day of the week is jam-packed with everything from school, work or baseball. It's a lot on anybody's plate, but he said it will pay off in the long run. "Financially it's very fitting because I don't like to involve my parents any more than I need to. I think it's better for me to do things on my own because in a couple years, I'm going to be doing everything on my own. That's why I like to work," Simmes said. "Here I have no debt because I was able to pay my tuition in full up front every semester."

Simmes excelled academically at Surry — winning a precalculus contest at Surry. Somewhat of a breeze, considering he's one of six students taking Calculus III. Simmes has been working at Harvest Grill restaurant in Shelton's Vineyards since February, when Midliff's Restaurant in Mount Airy closed. He worked at Midliff's for a year and a half. He currently rents an apartment close to the college in Dobson. He was a left-handed pitcher for the Knights the last two years. "It's been a lot of fun. A lot of games, very rigorous schedule, a lot of competition, a lot of good players. So it's been a good experience," he said.

"A lot of people won't think junior colleges or community colleges will have athletics or things like that, but Surry's been ranked in the top 20 the past three or four years. It's a good school if you want to get a lot of exposure for your sport."

Simmes attended Cave Spring High School. He threw recreational ball and pitched on an AAU team. From there, he started looking in colleges. "I wanted to go to UVA, Virginia Tech or N.C. State and applied, got in and everything. Then I had the phone ring and it ended up being the coach from UVA-Wise and so talked to him and they offered me a scholarship," Simmes said. "It makes a lot of sense financially, academically and athletically."

Simmes found out about Surry from a coach who saw him pitch in AAU baseball. He contacted head baseball coach Mark Tucker and worked out. "He's a real mature kid. It's very hard for young kids to juggle a lot of responsibility. Matt has been able to go to school, play well, work two, three jobs. He's done a good job in all three areas," Tucker said. "Good kid, real good attitude, always a pleasure to be around. He's done a good job in the classroom here."

On the field, Simmes had no trouble getting the job done for the Knights, who had another solid season. "Left-handed, he threw strikes. We were real comfortable with Matt out there. He would go after hitters," Tucker said. "Good breaking ball. He wasn't intimidated by other players or other teams. It seemed like he liked the challenge of pitching."

The schedule can get rather frantic. Simmes goes to school from 8 a.m. until 1 p.m., then baseball from 2 p.m. to 4 p.m. then work the rest of the evening. At Midliff's, Simmes was one of three main servers who worked five or six nights a week. "I really enjoy the people I work with now. I like what I do. I like talking to people, meeting people, making sure they have a good time," he said.

In mid-August he'll be moving to Virginia to get ready for school. Classes start, the 23rd and baseball gets underway the 28th. (UVA-Wise) is bringing in junior college players. A lot of their pitchers graduated last year," Simmes said. "Hopefully the plan is to step right into the starting rotation."

Good financial decisions have helped get Simmes to where he is today. All of his classes at Surry will transfer. When he gets out of school, Simmes won't face the mountain of debt that usually stares recent college graduates right in the face. "I like to think of myself as responsible as I can be as far as doing things on my own and not leaning on their parents. By living on my own I'm aware of how to manage my money. I guess I'm a step ahead of most people," he said. "I won't be coming out of Surry with any debt and I won't be coming out of debt at UVA-Wise. All I'll end up paying for is grad school. Hopefully I'll have an income while I'm in grad school."

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Editorials

An amazing first

Surry Community College made history July 26. On that date, SCC accomplished a feat never achieved by Duke, N.C. State or the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. In fact, it couldn't even be claimed by Harvard, Yale, Stanford, MIT or Columbia.

No college had ever snuffed this honor — especially not a community college.

On July 26, Surry Community College was given the elite Award for Excellence in Critical Thinking by the Foundation for Critical Thinking at the 26th International Conference on Critical Thinking.

"Surry Community College is the only college in the country, and indeed in the world, to ever receive this award," said Dr. Linda Elder, president of the Foundation for Critical Thinking in a letter to SCC President Dr. Frank Sells.

The only college in the world to receive this award.

So what is "critical thinking?" According to a statement written by Michael Scriven and Richard Paul for the National Council for Excellence in Critical Thinking Instruction, critical thinking is "the intellectually disciplined process of actively and skillfully conceptualizing, applying, analyzing, synthesizing, and/or evaluating information gathered from, or generated by, observation, experience, reflection, reasoning, or communication, as a guide to belief and action. In its extended subject matter divisions: clarity, accuracy, precision, consistency, relevance, sound evidence, good reasons, depth, breadth and fairness.

"It entails the examination of those structures or elements of thought implicit in all reasoning: purpose, problem, or question-at-issue; assumptions; concepts, empirical grounding; reasoning leading to conclusions; implications and consequences; objections from alternative viewpoints; and frame of reference. Critical thinking — in being responsive to variable subject matter, issues, and purposes — is incorporated in a family of interwoven modes of thinking, among them: scientific thinking, mathematical thinking, historical thinking, anthropological thinking, economic thinking, moral thinking, and philosophical thinking."

At its core, the two writers detail, critical thinking has two components — a set of information and belief-generating, and processing skills and the habit, based on intellectual commitment, of using those skills to guide behavior.

Scriven and Paul write that critical thinking "is, in short, self-directed, self-disciplined, self-monitored, and self-corrective thinking. It presupposes assent to rigorous standards of excellence and mindful command of their use. It entails effective communication and problem solving abilities and a commitment to overcome our native egocentrism and sociocentrism."

"We are interested in improving how people think, and we provide the tools to do that and we improve how our students do," said SCC Vice President for Academic and Student Affairs, Dr. Steve Adkins, who attended the conference.

To put it simply, critical thinking is the ability to analyze every situation you are in, being able to decipher what is real, what is fact and then applying that in the decision-making process.

SCC put critical thinking as a focal point when it went through reaccreditation four years ago, creating a Web site and working with faculty and students to develop great thinking and application skills.

And, according to the Foundation for Critical Thinking, Surry Community College has done that better than any educational institution in the world.

"The struggle is ever before us to reach toward a substantive concept of critical thinking, to continually work to reach our students at a deeper and more meaningful level." Elder wrote in her letter to Sells. "This award indicates that the struggle is being taken seriously at your college."

It means we have something to celebrate in Dobson. We have a college that is serious about learning, determined to reach its students and teach them the best that it can.

Congratulations, Surry Community College, on your international championship.



SECHSD is a new experience for everyone from students to staff

By WENDY BYERLY WOOD Staff Writer

DOBSON — Just driving onto campus, a visitor can tell that the Surry Early College High School of Design (SECHSD) is not like any other high school in the area — mainly because the campus for the high school is a community college campus as well.

And the differences continue from there.

A quick walk through the school finds students in their classrooms sitting in groups of two to four or five at tables, rather than at desks lined up in rows. And on nice days, a visitor might find a class meeting outside the building in the grass and at the tables and benches that surround the T-building on Surry Community College's campus, which SECHSD calls its home.

Rather than separating students into mainstream classes and honors or advanced placement classes, they are all in the same class. "It is completely heterogeneous," noted Principal Patsy Turner. "It is self-paced, even though they are doing the same kind of things."

Turner has been working with the school, funded by the state's New Schools Project Initiative, which, in turn, is funded by a grant from the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation, since the early planning stages just more than a year ago.

She explained that the idea is not to have a typical seat-and-rows school, but to use the concept of think, pair and share. "The idea is to do the work as an individual, then consult with a partner and then with your team, so there are lots of opportunities to help each other."

"Now that we are getting to know the kids, we are looking at ways to accelerate some of the math students and ways to differentiate for learning styles," she said.

Every day's schedule is different, and each student's schedule differs from the next student's as well. "We are on an A Day and B Day schedule, so they have math and science Monday and Wednesday and English and social studies Tuesday and Thursday," Turner said. "That works better with the college schedule."

The students spend their mornings in their academic classes, and then following lunch, which is from 11 to 11:30 a.m., they attend ACA 111 (college success/citizenship class). After ACA, the students go to college-level computer science or art classes, or yearbook, journalism, or health, or seminar, which is a time for students to get more one-on-one help and work on individual projects. Which class the student attends depends on his or her individual schedule.

And Fridays are completely different than the other four days in the week. Fridays are spent in all of the academic classes for sometime either reviewing or taking short assessments, and then in the afternoon the students are treated to special activities or presentations.

"We went to Fisher River Park and did team building and relay activities the first week," Turner said. "They did a science project on identifying fungi, and they did a nature walk and then learned to write haiku, which are nature poems, on river rocks. We are working on a grant to get a fountain so we can have a haiku garden."

Dr. Warren Doyle, a professor at Lees-McRae College, visited and talked with the students about the multiple times he has through-hiked the Appalachian Trail, showed them pictures from his trips and discussed the importance of service projects and doing things for others.

Nikki Hiatt, who has been on a mission trip to Africa, visited and discussed the importance of service projects and doing things for others.

"We went to Raven Knob to do team-building activities," Turner said. "Our goal was to have five high school groups coming together and becoming an adhesive group."

And that has been a noticeable change, she said. "We noticed the first day that (the students) ate in their middle school groups, and when we went to Fisher River, they ate with their teams. Now you see them eating with friendship groups with people from all over the county."

Lunches have been a new learning experience as well. Meals are ordered each morning and are delivered from Surry Central High School. Once students pick up their meals, they scatter in classrooms, in comfortable areas with couches and chairs, around the lawn just outside the front door and even on the porch swing beside the front entrance to the T building's first floor.

"Here, everyone is the same and all are accepted," said Hailee Fields, who is attending from the North Surry district. "There aren't groups like at the high school."

"In the class, we're not so 'sit down and do this and don't talk.' We are free to walk around and talk and learn on our own," she said of the things she enjoys about the new high school.

Fields said she didn't have to think twice about making a five-year commitment to school that the Surry Early College High School of Design requires to graduate with a high school diploma and associate's degree rather than the typical four years a high schooler expects for graduation.

"It is tuition free, and a lot of my friends were coming here, too, so that is another reason I wanted to come," she said. Richard Crawford's world history class, which was found on the lawn Monday for class, the college art class Fields is taking, and the time on Fridays that the entire freshman class comes together are three of Fields' favorite parts of her new experience.

"I think the seriousness of the students and their depth of thought has just been amazing," Turner said of the first three weeks of school. "They are working so hard."



Wendy Byerly Wood/The Mount Airy News A Hacky Sack falls to the ground on the patio outside the T Building at Surry Community College after Surry Early College High School of Design Principal Patsy Turner, second from right, gives it a swift kick Monday.



Wendy Byerly Wood/The Mount Airy News Kayla Branch, left, Rachel White, center, and Britney Johnson, members of the first freshman class at the Surry Early College High School of Design, work on a project Monday during history class on the lawn of the Surry Community College T Building, which houses the new high school.



Surry Early College off to exciting start

DOBSON — A new adventure awaited students, faculty and staff as Surry Early College High School of Design opened its doors for the first day of classes on Aug. 9.

Students had opportunities to meet during a summer information session and an open house and cookout for students and their parents. The first school day, though, was about making new friends, following schedules for core classes and meeting teachers and staff.

Students began the day in the teaching auditorium where they received instructions for writing an "I am from" poem. Dr. Frank Seils, president of Surry Community College, addressed the teens, telling them to consider Surry Community College home. Dr. Ashley Hinson Jr., superintendent of Surry County Schools, noted proudly that he had written the students' graduation date, five years in the future, on his calendar.

At day's end, students returned to the auditorium. After sharing their poems in advisory groups, they combined lines from their individual writing to create new poems that represented their identity as members of Surry Early College. They also watched a video presentation including scenes from the open house and cookout.

On Aug. 10, students met their second day of core classes. In the afternoon, they registered for classes at Surry Community College and went on a tour of the campus conducted by college staff.

On Aug. 11, the school met at Fisher River Park for a morning of team-building activities as faculty sought to unify students who came from middle schools across the county. Students competed in relay races that tested speed, skill and cooperation, but, most of all, enthusiasm. After a picnic lunch, students listened to storyteller Mike Lowe, wrote haiku, participated in a meditation activity and identified fungi growing in the park.

Planning for the Surry Early College High School of Design was funded by a Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation Grant. The North Carolina State Legislature approved spending for the school's implementation. County students had the opportunity to apply and to be accepted into the program, which will enable them to receive a high school diploma and a college associate's degree in five years.

Surry Early College off to exciting start

Page 3 of 3



SECHSD/Submitted photo Surry Early College High School of Design students vote in a team building activity at Fisher River Park.



SECHSD/Submitted photo Blake Hetrick, Hannah Ramey and Marcus Lawson plot team strategy before a relay race at Fisher River Park.

SECHSD is a new experience for everyone from students to staff

Page 4 of 4



Wendy Byerly Wood/The Mount Airy News, Chelsea Burden, left, and Molly Stanley pick out their lunches Monday at the Surry Early College High School of Design.



SCC nursing program wants high-tech labs

By WENDY BYERLY WOOD, Staff Writer

DOBSON — While it is much more competitive to get into Surry Community College's nursing program, students also don't have to worry about others having a foot in the door before them with the college's new admission standards.

"We have admitted the maximum amount we are allowed to have, which is expanding the program," said Carol Boles, associate dean of allied health. "We have 160 ADN (associate's degree in nursing) students in their first and second year of the program. This year, we have 104 students in the first year, which is the biggest first-year class we've had in a long time."

Boles said she and others in leadership at the community college hope to increase the number of students the nursing program can take each year by 20 to 40 students, "so that would be between 140 and 180 students for next year."

"We have to show we have the ability to provide high-end nursing classes before the board of nursing will allow that, and clinical space is the biggest problem all schools of nursing deal with," she said.

While the college partners with area hospitals and medical facilities so students get hands-on clinical experience, Boles said that nursing education is on a quick move toward doing more clinical simulations before putting students with real patients.

Those simulations can require high-tech "people" that nursing students can practice their skills on, rather than trying them out on humans the first time.

"Something nursing education is going to is simulations as a piece of the clinical that is required. There are mannequins that breathe and have a heart rate. Some allow students to practice starting IVs," she said, explaining that the veins in the mannequins can be adjusted through technology to simulate a person with rolling veins, someone with deep veins and numerous other issues.

Boles pointed out in a catalog a "Noelle" mannequin who comes pregnant and gives birth so the students can practice being in a birthing situation.

"We have always had dolls that had plastic tubes (for veins), but they don't give any response back," she said.

The nursing program has just purchased, through a grant matched with school funds, two new mannequins that can be programmed for numerous scenarios. The college also has two more applications for grants out being considered — one to the Golden Leaf Foundation and the other to the U.S. Department of Labor.

"We are trying to access resources to set up a very hi-tech clinical lab," Boles said. "Instructors can do a good job of giving that clinical background, but if you are working with a (human) patient, (an instructor) can't stand there and ask what they could have done better or what they did wrong."

"Our goal is to provide top-notch care to patients," she said. "You want to make it as real life as possible for the students."

The nursing degree program also is using a new competitive entrance to make sure a variety of interested people have an equal opportunity to get into the program, which used to have a waiting list. "I think historically there are a lot of people interested in healthcare, and, starting this year, we have a competitive entrance process, so everybody is applying on an equal level."

"Once you are in that first nursing class, you are in the program," Boles said. "Students can also come in without having taken all of their non-nursing classes. It is hard to do, but it is allowed now."

The new process also allows high school seniors to apply to get into the nursing program for the fall semester following their high school graduation. They must take the entrance exam that others take in January of their senior year, and they are also given points if they are in the top 15 percent of their class.

"We're trying to broaden the base of whose eligible to apply, and we're strengthening our resources that help us engage students in the nursing program. We want to have good retention of the students who start in the program," Boles said. One way the program addresses retention is through a one-to-six teacher-student ratio in the clinical setting and the skills lab setting, so the teachers can give more one-on-one assistance to students as they apply what they have been learning in class.

"We will continue to upgrade simulations to where we can have an excellent learning opportunity in the skills lab," Boles said. "A piece of all of this is a piece of what the college is doing as a whole, and that is infusing the critical thinking in the classrooms and clinical settings, also."

Boles and Yvonne Johnson, assistant director of allied health, attended the Critical Thinking Foundation's annual conference last year, and two of the department's faculty attended this year.

"In our grants, we are asking for money to send all of our faculty, so we can work more on developing critical thinking projects and incorporating it in the everyday classroom."

"This school, from its beginning, has produced nurses who know the art of nursing and working with patients and work well as a team with other health-care providers," Boles said. "We want to continue that. It is somebody who has knowledge and skills, but also has that caring aspect. And we are fortunate to have a staff who love nursing and want to have high standards of patient care."



Wendy Byerly Wood/The Mount Airy News A mannequin, left, waits "patient"-ly to have her vitals checked while Surry Community College nursing student Andi Cockerham checks the blood pressure of her "patient," fellow classmate Anna Easter, in one of the college's two skills labs Wednesday afternoon.



Wendy Byerly Wood/The Mount Airy News Surry Community College nursing student Evelisse Diaz checks the pulse of her "patient," fellow classmate Tara Shores in one of the college's two skills labs Wednesday afternoon.



Angela Schimoll/The Mount Airy News State Treasurer Richard Moore talks about his role in state government and his pleasure with the solvency of the state employee's retirement fund during a stop at Surry Community College Wednesday afternoon.

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Moore proud of accomplishments, won't say no to political future

By ANGELA SCHIMOLL, Associate Editor

DOBSON — State Treasurer Richard Moore praised the state of the state employee pension fund and wouldn't rekindle a possible run for governor during a visit to Surry County Wednesday.

Moore began his visit at Shelton Vineyards, made a stop at Surry Community College where he met with the school's leadership team and stopped briefly at the sheriff's office before returning to the vineyard to meet his helicopter ride back to Raleigh.

"I'm very flattered by the encouragement I have received (about a run for the governor's seat)," said Moore. "You know I love this state. I enjoy being successful in a public setting and if I get the chance to continue, I'll do so."

Moore said he comes from a long line of people who have given back to the state of North Carolina and has been a public servant throughout his career, beginning as a public prosecutor and then with terms in the state house and as the Secretary of Crime Control and Public Safety and now as treasurer. "It's very rewarding," he said.

The state faces challenges brought on, in many ways, by its attractiveness, he said.

"The biggest challenge facing North Carolina is from stem to stern, the state is growing like crazy and, in some ways, our growth is not paying for itself. You can see where the rubber meets the road in the increased traffic and in the fact that we're looking at a completely new generation of K-12 buildings just to keep up."

Dealing with it, he said, shows a shortcoming in the state that he would like to address in the future.

"We need a better plan for borrowing and financing our growth," said Moore. "We have the TIP (Transportation Improvement Plan), but we don't have plans for other pieces of the infrastructure that the state is responsible for."

He terms his biggest accomplishment as the enhanced solvency of the state employee pension fund. "According to The Wall Street Journal, our pension fund is the second best funded in the country. That should give tremendous piece of mind to our public employees and to all the people in the state."

Moore said his stop in Surry County, in particular, at the college, was to talk with people involved in the programs he is involved with and see what efforts are needed.

"I wear so many hats as treasurer. I'm on the State Board of Education and the State Board of Community Colleges. Those are two very important things and I try to take time to go sit and listen outside of the political environment and see what is working and what is not," he said.

SCC to kick off new Construction Institute in January

By WENDY BYERLY WOOD

Staff Writer

DOBSON — A new program has been developed at Surry Community College focused on the changing face of the construction industry and growth in the college's construction offerings to meet industry demands.

Chad Bledsoe, dean of industrial technologies at SCC, said the goal of the Construction Institute is to continue the current program while adding to the offerings at the college and working with the construction-related businesses in the community.

"Essentially, there are two almost schools of construction," Bledsoe said. "One is the degree/credit program, in which students can get a certificate in a semester, a diploma in a year or a degree in two years. The second 'school' is the non-credit construction-related courses offered through the continuing education division."

"The goal of the Construction Institute is to blend our credit and non-credit programs, so students who come into the credit program can also take non-credit courses to specialize their skills and those in non-credit courses can come take a degree class as well," Bledsoe said.

The new Construction Institute arrangement will kick off with the coming spring semester in January.

"The key feature with the institute is we will hire a new instructor in the fall to help support this, and then we are going to add a new degree program in the fall," said Bledsoe, who joined SCC about six months ago. He said the new two-year degree will have an emphasis on construction management.

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Wendy Byerly Wood/The Mount Airy News

Instructor Doug Slate, left, gets help during plumbing class Thursday morning from Matthew Sechrist, center, and Lynn Pruitt in an indoor framed "house" that students use to learn how to work on real construction sites at Surry Community College.

SCC: Construction program changing

Continued from page 1A

The current two-year degree is focused more on those students wanting to go into general contracting, but the new program will be for those students wanting to work as a subcontractor, a general contractor or in a supervisory position at a large construction company, Bledsoe said.

"We would be adding classes to do that," he said. "In order to plan for this, we have surveyed all the high school students in Surry and Yadkin counties including the city systems as well as our student base, which is our current students. Then we surveyed a representative sample of local businesses and industries."

"We took a look at the whole program. We saw it was a good program, but we saw a need to meet the changing industry, and we saw a shift in the need for students with more management skills."

While Bledsoe said the facility doesn't tell the students they can get a top-dollar job with more management skills.

That number is simply limited by the facility capacity, we have. "We are hoping with the blending of the resources to see students move in and out of both ends — we may have a non-credit student who wants to specialize in brick-

laying and sees opportunities to move into the degree program, and we may have degree students who see opportunities to come back following graduation for specialized non-credit courses."

He said his and his faculty's goals are "to prepare students not only for the job they want, but also to be able to re-tool and retain as the industry changes."

Those industry changes include the continual evolution of the materials being used for construction as well as an increased emphasis in technology.

"My goal is to expand the high school program as well," Bledsoe said. "I would like to give students an opportunity to have a year to the whole degree course complete when they graduate."

He said, without the partnership and support of the instructors and the continuing education division, the Construction Institute wouldn't be a reality. "The continuing education division is an equal partner with this, and I want to complement our instructors. We have a faculty that is very interested in preparing their students."

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Wendy Byerly Wood/The Mount Airy News
Randy LeQuire, chairperson of the Engineering Technologies Division at Surry Community College, points out work done in a Habitat for Humanity home being built in Jonesville by students in Lynn Templeton's construction program Thursday morning.

The Mount Airy News Wednesday, September 13, 2006-7A

@The Mount Airy News

Sports

Knights Club formed at SCC

By THOMAS LESTER

Sports Editor

DOBSON — A promotional vehicle for Surry Community College's athletic department has been a need for several years.

That need has now been fulfilled. On Tuesday, the Knights Club had its organizational meeting on campus and established a three-part mission.

To promote all Surry Community College athletic teams and participation under governing rules of the National Junior College Athletic Association, the policies of the Board of Trustees of Surry Community College, and applicable state and federal laws.

To promote good sportsmanship, student-athlete success and scholarships. To raise funds for equipment, travel, athletic facilities improvement, uniforms, coaching supplements and other qualifying athletic needs.

New volleyball coach Josh Simmons was introduced at the beginning of the meeting. In addition, it was announced that beginning in the 2007-2008 academic year, the men's basketball program at SCC would be returning after a three-season absence.

"It's exciting," SCC athletic director

Mark Tucker said after the meeting. "I think we've got a lot of things we can expand on, from here, possibly more sports. We're excited about all the possibilities that are out there."

Newly-elected, temporary president Eddie Wilmoth, who helped spearhead the founding of the Knights Club, said

"It's exciting. I think we've got a lot of things we can expand on from here, possibly more sports. We're excited about all the possibilities that are out there."

SCC athletic director Mark Tucker

he feels good about what can be accomplished by the group that met Tuesday, which, pending state approval, will become the board of directors.

"The committee and the people who have volunteered to serve are good quality people, well known and they're

workers," Wilmoth said. "I feel like they'll be genuine in doing things for the college."

The committee included Wilmoth, Tucker, SCC president Dr. Frank Sells and SCC executive vice president and chief financial officer Dr. Gary Tilley.

Future expansions of the athletic program were discussed, as well as ways to help raise funds to promote and finance the department, including an all-star basketball game featuring area 1-A and 2-A all-conference players, as well as bringing in prominent sporting figures to come speak at events.

"We're hoping we can help do things for Surry Community College and help expand the programs," Wilmoth said.

Tucker, who highlighted a few successful SCC student-athletes and talked about how junior college athletics gives some student-athletes a chance to further their education, said he can see plenty of good coming from the Knights Club.

"I think we've got a lot of plans and things we can do in a positive way," Tucker said. "I certainly think this will be a good thing for students here, the community and everybody involved."

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Thomas Lester/The Mount Airy News
Eddie Wilmoth talks to committee members during the Knights Club organizational meeting on Tuesday night at Surry Community College.

Mount Airy, N.C.

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THURSDAY

November 30, 2006

50 cents

SCC gets \$1 million grant

By LAURA THOMPSON

Staff Writer

DOBSON — Surry Community College recently received more than \$1 million in grants to promote one existing degree program and to begin planning for a new one.

Two grants, a \$1 million award from North Carolina's State Board of Community Colleges and a \$750,000 grant from the N.C. Grape Council, will go to the college's viticulture and enology program. A third grant will go toward planning a physical therapist assistant training program at the college.

The \$1 million grant is one step toward constructing a new North Carolina Center for Viticulture and Enology, which will expand the school's connection with the state wine industry. College President Frank Sells said the \$15 million center will encompass the school's existing winery, but

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Laura Thompson/The Mount Airy News
Surry Community College President Frank Sells stands in front of the proposed site for a new viticulture and enology center on campus. The college recently received a \$1 million grant to develop the center.

SCC: Three grants total more than \$1.05 million

Continued from page 1A

An additional \$47,600 award from the North Carolina Community College System will help develop the new physical therapy assistant program. Started in fall 2007, the program will prepare students to assist licensed physical therapists in a profession that Sells said is "growing to be a bigger and bigger field."

"Anything that treats us old people," he added.

"Then, secondly, I see our role as to continue being the leading educational training center for those in the (wine) industry, producing the work force for the industry," he said.

Surry Community College's viticulture and enology program is one of just two such degree programs on the east coast, the other belonging to Cornell University in New York, Sells said. The program began in 1999.

"The wine that we're making in our very short lifetime ... is getting some attention," Sells said. "I think we may be better than Napa Valley ever was."

The second grant was awarded to viticulture and enology instructor Gill Giese to continue his research into root system development for grapes in North Carolina's unique soil and climate. Giese is the program's lead instructor and has been at the college since 2001.



(Above, left) Maria Juarez, as Mary, holds a baby portraying Jesus Monday during the program, "Christmas Around the World." (Above, right) Carla Villanueva, front, and Stephanie Hernandez prepare to swing the decorated stick at the International program at Jones Family Resource.

JONES: 'Christmas Around the World' program

Continued from page 1A

Mexican couple, decide to go to a picnic or market trip, to buy the decorations and other items for their home. Upon arrival, the couple buys a poinsettia, which is native to Mexico, but also popular in United States traditions.

The story behind the flower of the poinsettia was told by one of the students. "A little boy named Pablo was walking to the church to visit the nativity scene when he realized he had nothing to offer the Christ Child. He saw some green branches and picked them up. Other children made him a little hut, when he had them by the nativity scene, a beautiful red flower appeared on each branch."

The main Christmas celebration in Mexico is called las Posadas, which refers to processions, reenacting Joseph and Mary's search for a place to stay in Bethlehem. Love said. "The processions began on Dec. 16, nine days before Christmas because the original journey from Nazareth to Bethlehem took nine days."

Friends and family members travel from house to house asking for a shelter and are refused at each until they finally reach the house where a nativity scene has been set up," she said as students acted out the scenes of the desertion of the Posadas. A traditional prayer is spoken and the party begins. Food and drinks are served, and the children take turns trying to break open the piñata.

The ninth and last evening of las Posadas is Christmas Eve, or Noche Buena. "It is a time for church and family," Love said. "After church services, Christmas dinner begins."

In Mexican tradition, families also celebrate Three Kings Day on Jan. 6 with children leaving their shoes on the windowsill and finding them filled with gifts the next morning.

"Feliz Navidad" was sung by performers and the audience following the portrayal of the Mexican customs.

In Colombia, the holiday celebration also begins Dec. 16 with Nochebuena. It also ends on Christmas Eve. During

video she made.

Her traditions were similar to the other Hispanic customs described during the program.

ESL students Mee Yang Lor and Xing Mee Lee, who are from Laos and Thailand, do not celebrate Christmas, but they shared the message of "Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year" in their own language. "Nyob Zoo Xyoo Thabub, Sook Sun Wan Christmas, Ka."

"Christmas is a great time for everyone," said one of the ESL students in closing. "The carols are filled with joy and happiness because Christ our Saviour is born."

"He that is able to turn tears to laughter, hate to love, war to peace, and everyone to everyone's friend and neighbor. This is the real meaning of Christmas."

Following the program, lunch was served with dishes representing the various cultures present.

You can reach Wendy Wood at wendy@wmtjones.com.

International Christmas celebrated at Jones Center

By WENDY BYERLY
WOOD

Counting has a blend of cultures celebrating numerous Christmas traditions, and this was made evident Monday during a "Christmas Around the World" program produced by the English as a Second Language students at the Jones Family Resource Center in Mount Airy.

The program was the idea of instructor Rosa Torres, who is a native of Colombia. She has done the program in two other locations through the years with adult ESL students.

During the ESL class, Torres and her assistant instructor, Helen Love, took time to share the holiday customs of different countries with their students, since the students come from different countries.

Monday's program, which was held for Surry Community College students, ESL students from two other sites and those involved in programs at the resource center, highlighted the traditions from the United States, Mexico, El Salvador, Asia and Colombia.

"It was a way to show the college and people of the com-



Surry Community College English as a Second Language students from the Jones Family Resource Center sing a Christmas song Monday morning during "Christmas Around the World," a program in which they highlighted holiday traditions from several countries. Pictured are, from left, Maria Rivas, Simon Hernandez, Christina Aguilar, Manuela De Los Santos, Susana Garcia and Silvia Hernandez.

Community College students, which was held for Surry Community College students, ESL students from two other sites and those involved in programs at the resource center, highlighted the traditions from the United States, Mexico, El Salvador, Asia and Colombia.

"They started working on it a month ago and really practice

ing it two weeks ago," she said of the approximately 25 ESL students involved in the program and class.

"They have really worked hard at pronouncing English, learning new words and communicating with each other," said Love. "This gives them exposure to cultures other than

their own."

"Being part of an ESL/Literacy class has many benefits," said ESL student Jaime Carraz during the introduction to the program. "Besides learning English, you get to know many people and their cultures, especially

Christmas traditions."

The program began with the customs followed in Mexico during the holidays, where "the weather is warm and mild," Love said to those gathered for the event.

Two students, who portray a

Wendy Byerly, Wood/The Mount Airy News

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Elks coach going into Surry Hall of Fame

By MAE HERRERA
MID-SOUTH NEWS SERVICE

Elkin High being a football powerhouse isn't just a recent phenomenon.

The Broken Elks also were a dominant team when head coach John Charles St. led the program in the 1960s and 70s.

Charles posted a 52-6-2 record from 1961 to 1978 and led the Elks to the Western Class 3A state championship in 1967-68.

On Saturday, Charles, along with seven other individuals and four teams, will be enshrined in the Surry County Sports Hall of Fame at Surry Community College. The ceremony starts at 4 p.m.

In 13 football seasons at Elkin, Charles had five undefeated teams and won eight conference titles, a regional title and a state title. He was named coach of the year eight times and was selected to coach the Shrine Bowl in 1968 but couldn't because Elkin was playing for the state title.

Several players from that title team went on to play in the Atlantic Coast Conference, including North Carolina standout Bud Grooms. The 1967-68 team was a perfect 13-0 and defeated North Surry 21-0 in the district championship game.

Charles retired from teaching and coaching after 33 years at Elkin, but worked part-time at Starman High School for another 10 years, giving him a total of 43 years of service as an educator. Charles' overall football coaching record was 124-51-2.

Charles wasn't just successful in football, he also coached track and basketball.

The coached four undefeated conference championship track teams at Elkin and racked up a 62-5 record, winning 49 percent of his meets.

As a basketball coach, Charles led the Taylorsville girls basketball team to the Western State Championship in 1956.

Outside of coaching, Charles taught Sunday school for 20 years, served on the Surry County Board of Education for 10 years and served as its chairman. He also worked for the Elkin recreation department for 20 years and served one term on the Elkin City School Board.

A native of Lawlison, Pa., Charles graduated from Lewiston High in 1944, where he played four years for the school's football and baseball teams. Charles was the football team's MVP in the junior and senior seasons.

After high school, Charles attended Lehigh-Rhyne on a football scholarship and finished his degree in Physical Education and Social Studies in only three years. He was all-conference three times and was named team MVP in 1947, most athletic in 1949 and was honorable mention athlete in 1948.

Before arriving at Elkin, Charles coached in Hickory, Taylorsville, Kings Mountain and Jonesville. Charles, who still resides in Elkin, served his country during World War II as part of the 58th Airborne as a paratrooper.

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SCC critically thinking?

What will get me out on Nov. 7 is to make sure that North Carolina's 7th District is represented in Congress by someone who shares the values and principles that I, my family, and my neighbors share.

That candidate is Virginia Vincent Hanscock, West Ridge Drive, Pilot Mountain.

Since SCC has adopted the Critical Thinking model as its guiding philosophy, the exorbitant raises awarded to an administrator that is failing its state of affairs at SCC to the level raises given to the administration.

Enrollment is down for the fifth consecutive years resulting in a loss of millions of dollars. And, the FTE (rate funding formula based on enrollment) is down about 20 percent (NC Community College Web site).

As a result of the shrink budget, summer school has

been cut to bare bones, resulting in a substantial loss of income to faculty and support staff. Cafeteria workers, maintenance workers, and hourly staff were laid off, and some were held not to expect summer work in the future.

Instructors teaching load has increased from five classes to six to compensate for the loss of funds. This represents a 20 percent increase in workload — which puts them at the highest load level in the system. Although instructors have been granted a small pay increase from the state, their bottom-line income will be down by about 20 percent because of a loss of overload pay and summer employment.

In this same period of declining enrollment (2001-2006) at SCC, the number of graduate students from Surry and Yadkin high schools is up 11.4 percent (Dept. of Public Instruction Web site), and the number of students from Surry and Yadkin counties attending Wilkes Community College and Forsyth Tech has increased by 16.5 percent.

The key to understanding the declining enrollment might be found in the CSSE Community College Survey of Student Enrollment (report for SCC in

2005, "Student-Faculty interaction" and "Support for Learning" for full-time students at Surry was in the 21-30 percentile. In other words, in the perception of students, 70 to 80 percent of small colleges do a better job of promoting faculty-student interaction and providing support for learners than SCC. We believe that this loss of student-faculty interaction is directly attributable to administrative policies which create a student-unfriendly atmosphere.

Now compare these depressing economic realities at the college with the outrageous raises granted to the administration. Dr. Frank Seib, President of SCC, was making \$155,760 in 2005 and has been raised to \$186,492 this year — a raise which elevates him to the maximum allowable salary for Community College presidents. This increase of \$30,732 translates to a raise of 19.7 percent. So, his pay is up nearly 20 percent while the FTE (funding formula based on enrollment) is down about 20 percent. Furthermore, the faculty work load is up 20 percent and faculty pay will be down about 20 percent in real terms.

Where is the 20 percent solution to this 20 percent problem? The solution is to put the

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Sports

Hemmings an easy call for Surry Hall

By THOMAS LESTER

Sports Editor
He is to Canadian college basketball what Dean Smith or John Wooden is to the American game, winning 734 games, four national championships and 19 conference championships.

And he's from Mount Airy. Jerry Hemmings, a 1966 North Surry graduate and former Surry Community College basketball player, will be among the first inductees when the Surry County Sports Hall of Fame welcomes its first class on Oct. 7 at 4 p.m. at SCC.

Hemmings joins former Elkin football coach Bob Charles, East Surry baseball coach Barry Hall, former Mount Airy football coaches Jerry Hollingsworth and Wallace Shelton, former North Surry basketball coach Ron King, Surry Central track coach Rev Mitchell and former North Surry and Duke basketball player Kevin Strickland as members of the inaugural class.

Hemmings, who was a part of North Surry's 1966 state championship basketball team, coached at Brandon University in Brantford, Manitoba, from 1974 to 2004.

While there, he compiled a 734-281 record and his teams became a fixture in the Canadian Interuniversity Sport's equivalent of the NCAA tournament, last winning a national title in 1996.

Hemmings said of all the honors he's had bestowed on him, being recognized back home is one of the greatest.

"It's a tremendous honor," Hemmings said. "From my perspective, the highest thing in sports is to be inducted into a hall of fame. Especially in North Carolina, that's where I grew up. I made my name quite a way from North Carolina."

In addition to his success at Brandon, Hemmings coached the Canadian National Team and the Canadian Junior National Team, coaching players such as Rick Fox and Steve Nash in 1994.

While coaching the national team in 1991, Hemmings' team effectively ended the Soviet Union program.

"I'm probably the last coach to beat the Soviet Union because three weeks later, they folded," Hemmings said.

Hemmings also coached professionally overseas.

While coaching in Syria, one of his players was former Wake Forest star Tony Rutland. He also coached in Austria last year.

Hemmings said he tries to make it back to North Carolina every couple of years and he's planning on making the trip to Dobson for the induction.

"I wouldn't want to miss it," Hemmings said. "I grew up in Flat Rock and went to North Surry and played for a state high school championship team in 1966 and played at year in SCC. I've got the wheels in motion to do everything I can to be down for that weekend."

You can reach Thomas Lester at tlester@mountairynews.com.



Photo courtesy of www.jerryhemmings.com
Jerry Hemmings, center, poses for a photo with former Oklahoma State star Maurice Baker, left, and former Wake Forest star Tony Rutland. Hemmings will be entering the Surry County Sports Hall of Fame next month.



Students plot their paths

Wendy Byerly Wood/The Mount Airy News
(Above) Hannah Haynes, left, a student at Surry Central High School, listens as she gains information on Meredith College from Chris-Anne Feizien Monday morning at Surry Community College during the annual College Day. (At left) Chase Dobson, a student at Surry Central High School, learns about Fayetteville State University from representative Jinawa McNeil Monday morning during the College Day program. Five hundred-plus students from six area high schools as well as the community college were able to browse and talk with representatives of about 50 colleges during the event.

MTA NEWS
9/26/2006

Knights Club proposing grants

Publication: Mt Airy News, Date: Nov 15, 2006, Section: Sports, Page: 8

Knights Club proposing grants

By WENDY BYERLY WOOD Staff Writer

DOBSON - The Surry Community College Knights Athletic Club is pressing forward with plans to bring basketball back to campus in the 2007-08 school year.

At Tuesday's meeting of the SCC Board of Trustees, the athletic club asked for endorsement to present a scholar-athlete scholarship request to the SCC Foundation, which meets today.

"We have a person willing to coach along with our own help here," said SCC President Dr. Frank Seils of the plans to reinstate a men's basketball team. "The Knights Club is proposing, and, if you endorse it tonight, will ask the foundation (today) to fund four athletic scholarships of \$1,500 each."

The stipulations of the scholarships will be that the students must have a 3.0 grade-point average and must be from a high school in the SCC service area of Surry or Yadkin counties.

The athletic club has already had two fund-raisers featuring guest speakers coach Jerry Hemmings, an SCC alumnus, and Wake Forest University coach Skip Prosser, and Trustee Dan Stone said the club hopes to hold another fund-raiser with a speaker who wears light blue (UNC coach Roy Williams) some time after March Madness ends.

"We hope to have a tournament in the spring after the basketball season ends that will introduce basketball back on campus and will have local high school students in to play," Stone said. "We may get our first players from that tournament."

With the funds being raised, the Knights Athletic Club will support things like uniforms and other team expenses.

The board of trustees unanimously approved endorsing the athletic club's plans for scholarships and reinstating the basketball team.

You can reach Wendy Byerly Wood at wbyerlywood@mtairynews.com.



SCEDP showcase highlights variety

By WENDY BYERLY WOOD Staff Writer

DOBSON — To recognize some of the industries that generate products in Surry County, the Surry County Economic Development Partnership Tuesday evening hosted a showcase event featuring several area businesses.

"For the last few years, we always did industry appreciation where people went and toured different businesses during the week, but we felt we could have a bigger impact if we brought industries together to display what they do," said Ron Sutphin, vice president of EDP, as he watched guests enter the gym at Surry Community College where the showcase was housed.

"The idea (of the showcase) came from a concept of our partnership board to display the variety of products that originate in Surry County," he said. "All of the featured industries are from Surry County, employ Surry County people and give back to the community."

"For me, it is a neat, diverse way to display all the things that come out of the county."

About 400 invitations went out to community members and representatives of the state Department of Commerce and Department of Agriculture, Gold Leaf Foundation, North Carolina Rural Center, Surry Community College and Z. Smith Reynolds Foundation.

"People are always surprised at what is produced here," Sutphin said.

Featured industries included Advanced Electronics, Basalt, Carolina Carpools, Shelton Vineyards, Harris Leather and Silverworks, CK Technologies, Gerard's Bakery, United Plastics, John S. Clark, Tampoco, Wayne Farms, Brown and Church, Vaughan Bassett, Decoe, Triplett Competition Arms, the JobLink Mobile Career Center and Surry Community College.

"I think it is good for the community to come together and get to know each other," said Johnny Dobbins, president of Decoe Inc. of Elkin, which builds machines, installs them and then services them. "It is a good opportunity to express what we really do and get know and meet people. It is a good networking experience."

"You can mail out all the brochures you want, but it isn't like standing and talking to someone," he said. "We do world forums for the propane industry, we did one in Chicago this year. We go to Tokyo, China and Germany."

Dobbins said, while he knew most everyone who was visiting Tuesday, doing a local showcase event is a different kind of networking. "I know most everyone. It is networking, but it is building stronger relationships with the people you work with every day. These are the end users you're trying to work with."

"CK Technologies and Dell — those are the people we need to be working with and getting to know, because those are the ones who will hire North Carolina people," he said. "We want to be with a customer 20 years from now working."

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SCEDP showcase highlights variety

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Wendy Byerly Wood/The Mount Airy News Karen Hardy, human resources manager of Wayne Farms, talks with Dr. Steve Attkins, SCC vice president of academic and student affairs, Tuesday during a showcase of industries. CK Technologies' booth highlights the background.



Wendy Byerly Wood/The Mount Airy News Kenneth Nicks, president of Tampco Inc. of Elkin, fields questions on his company from Greater Mount Airy Chamber of Commerce President Betty Ann Collins during the showcase. Tampco produces metal railings for the boat industry.

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Good for Knights

On Tuesday, the foundation was set for Surry Community College athletics to take the next step.

Already a national player in National Junior College Athletic Association Division III volleyball and Division I baseball, the Knights are now poised to move onto bigger things.

With the Knights Club, SCC is in position to expand its athletic program into other ventures and could make it possible to compete on an even level against athletic departments with budgets dwarfing SCC's annual athletic budget.

The men's basketball program — the proud franchise that produced all-time winningest university basketball coach in Canadian history, Jerry Hemmings, and former Appalachian State standout and former SCC coach Tony Searcy — is returning next season after being discontinued in 2004.

There might be more additions to the athletic program soon. It's no secret the folks in the athletic department want to bring women's softball to SCC, and who can blame them? With state powerhouse programs East Surry and Forbush nearby, plus strong area outfits North Surry, Mount Airy, Surry Central, Starmount and others, the Knights could build an instant winner and compete nationally in no time.

Other sports teams could also be just around the corner, and having more teams at SCC impacts the local economy — just look at how the area's hotels fill up whenever there's an AAU basketball tournament in town. More teams mean more home games against out-of-town competition. Those players are going to have to eat somewhere, and if they're from far enough away, they're going to have to stay somewhere. Plus, student-athletes from outside the area who attend SCC need places to live, as well as daily living necessities. Already, plans are being crafted to help generate ways to help finance the athletic department, from special guest speakers, to local high school all-star games and all stops in between.

For many student-athletes, having the option of attending SCC makes the most sense financially and academically. Especially considering the recent successes on the field and in the classroom at SCC. The Knights' baseball team lost 21 players this summer. All are attending a four-year college now and 19 are playing baseball.

Without stopping in Dobson, perhaps none of it could have been as likely. Now, SCC is doing what it can to create more possibilities for others.

You can reach Thomas Lester at tlester@mtairynews.com.

Ambulance project draws innovation award for SCC

DORSON — Surry Community College has an ambulance in a classroom — and more than students are taking notice.

Efforts by the Corporate and Continuing Education Division of the college to offer convenient and effective training opportunities were recently recognized with an Outstanding Innovation Award presented by the North Carolina Community College Adult Education Association (NCCCAEA).

The award was given to SCC for an ambulance simulator built into one of the college's classrooms.

Kirk Killon, Director of Emergency Medical Programs for the college, accepted the award at a ceremony held in Durham.

The simulator, conceived by Killon, was created from parts taken from ambulances no longer in service. These parts were used to construct a low-cost, yet realistic, ambulance treatment bay in which students could practice life saving skills learned in class.

The simulator was also wired so that student activities could be viewed in real time and evaluated by classmates and instructors.

SCC's ambulance simulator was selected over seven other state entries to receive the Innovation Award.

In addition to the award, the college foundation received a \$100 contribution from the NCCCAEA.



SCC-Submitted photo
Dr. George Sappenfield, Associate Vice President for Surry Community College's Corporate and Continuing Education Division, left, watches as Janet McNeill, Dean of Guilford Technical Community College's High Point Campus presents the award to Kirk Killon, Director of Emergency Medical Programs at Surry Community College. Gary Gant, Director of the Surry Community College's Emergency Services Training Center, stands to the right.

Prosser speaking to help Knights

By THOMAS LESTER

Sports Editor

He's coached his way to an ACC championship and to the NCAA tournament's Sweet 16.

And on Wednesday, Wake Forest coach Skip Prosser will be speaking at a fundraiser for the Surry Community College Knights Athletic Club.

Prosser will be coming to Mount Airy and Cross Creek Country Club on Wednesday for the event, which will help finance SCC's athletic department as it expands to field a men's basketball team for the 2007-2008 season.

"We are excited about him coming up and we hope that majority of that money can be used for athletics at SCC," said Knights Club president Eddie Wilmoth. "Autographs will start at 6:30 and he will do that until 7 p.m. and then the meal starts. Then he will speak. Look for a great turnout, the support

is tremendous so far." Tickets for the event are \$100, which covers dinner for two and door prize chances. The cost is also tax deductible. For more information, call Becky Money at 386-3205. You can reach Thomas Lester at tlester@mtairynews.com.



File photo/The Mount Airy News
Skip Prosser will speak at Cross Creek Country Club this week. A limited amount of tickets to the event are still available.

"We feel like we're moving forward. Jerry Hemmings did an outstanding job in helping us get started and kick it off. We're certainly looking forward to coach Prosser coming up."

SCC athletic director Mark Tucker

"We're hoping to host a 1-A senior basketball seniors basketball game and a 2-A seniors game," Wilmoth said. "All the participants will have been all-conference players or be picked by the winners of the conference championship."

Tickets for the event are \$100, which covers dinner for two and door prize chances. The cost is also tax deductible. For more information, call Becky Money at 386-3205. You can reach Thomas Lester at tlester@mtairynews.com.

Knights not sharp in win

Publication: Mt Airy News; Date: Sep 15, 2006; Section: Sports; Page: 13

Knights not sharp in win

By JEREMY MOORHOUSE Sports Writer

DOBSON —Surry Community College certainly didn't have its best stuff on display Thursday night.

Fortunately, the performance was good enough — as the Knights breezed by Stanly Community College for a 3-0 volleyball win.

Head coach Josh Simmons was not particularly pleased with the effort.

"I wasn't very happy with our performance overall. I thought we came out very flat," Simmons said. "We definitely need to play a lot better than that if we want to be a great team."

The final scores were 30-12, 30-17 and 30-9. The Knights scored the first seven points in the first two games.

In game three, Stanly Community College took a brief lead before Surry stormed back with a huge run to finish the sweep.

"We could've done a whole lot better. We didn't have good passing, good sets, good hitting. We played a lot better (Wednesday)," Emily Kelly said. "We won, but we can do so much better. It wasn't our 'A' game. When you play a team like that you can't motivate yourself. It's hard."

Cecelia Moore started the third game with some good serving before Kelly took over late. Setter Carrie Hutchens, who went to Surry Central High School, finished with seven assists.

She said the Knights weren't as aggressive as they were in their first victory of the year.

"We kinda of tend to lower our level of play. Talking wasn't there as much as it should've been. As it was going on we started getting pretty good, given the circumstances. I hope we can learn from it. We can definitely step up," Hutchens said.

"Passing has to be there. You

have to have to have a pass, to

have a set, to have a hit. Passing

is the key to the game at any

point in time at any time in the

season."

Kelly had three kills and four aces. Nicole Swinney finished with a block. Surry Community College improved to 2-1 with a match coming up on Sept. 27 against Mayland Community College.

It was apparent from the getgo, Surry was the superior team by far — Stanly Community fell behind early and never recovered.

Kelly had a big kill and Moore had an ace to close out the scoring in the first game.

"We gave them way too many opportunities and didn't capitalize and their mistakes as well as I hoped that we would," Simmons said. "We did refocus and I'm proud of the girls for coming back and regaining that intensity we had (Wednesday)."

You can reach Jeremy Moorhouse at jmoorhouse@mtairynews.com

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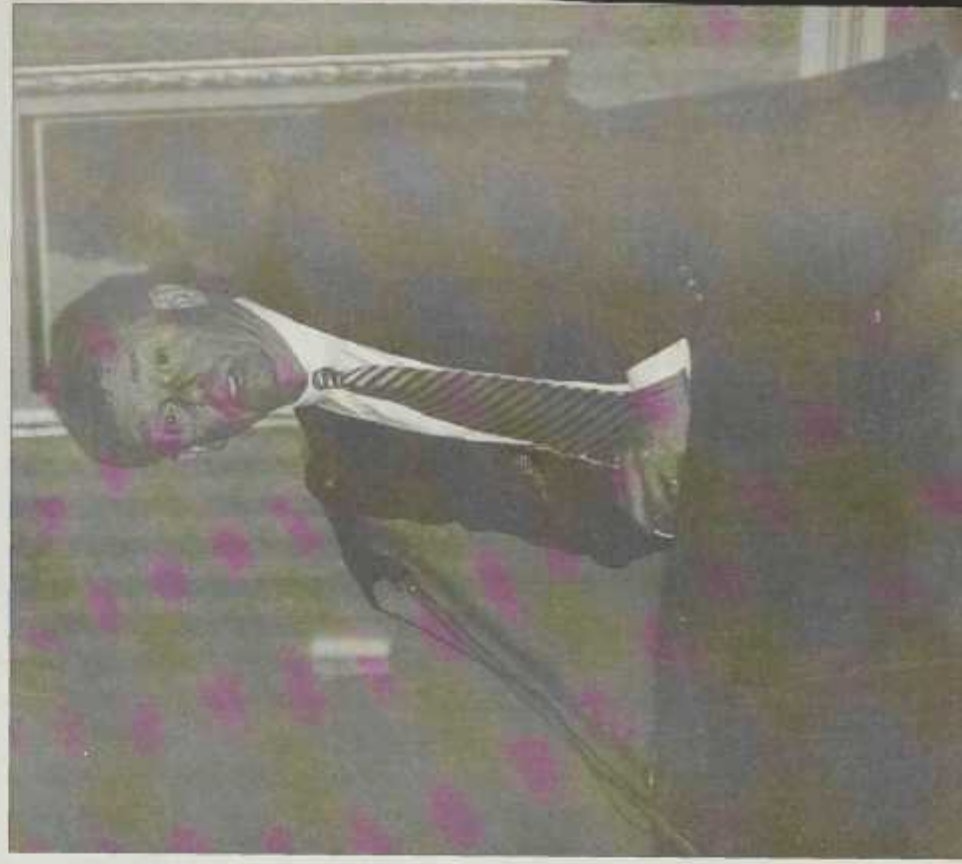
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Knights not sharp in win



Mark Tucker/Submitted Photo Carrie Hutchens (1) sets the ball for teammate Nicole Swinney during Surry Community College's 3-0 sweep on Thursday night.



Prosser speaks for Knights

Wake Forest basketball coach Skip Prosser speaks to a packed house at Cross Creek Country Club on Wednesday night, during a fund-raiser for Surry Community College's Knights Athletic Club.

Photo: Heidi Hurl/The Mount Airy News

Enrollment shifts could spell trouble for some SCC programs

By ANGELA SCHMOLL Associate Editor

DOBSON — Despite the number of local construction companies, enrollment in the construction technology program at Surry Community College has dropped from 44 fulltime equivalent students seven years ago to only 10 last year. Enrollment in machining technology has fallen from 42 to 9.

That makes those two programs, along with mechanical drafting where enrollment is now half its 1998-99 level, three programs that concern SCC administrators and which they'll be looking to re-emerge — or perhaps drop — in the coming years.

"We're concerned about construction technology," Dr. Steve Atkins, vice president for academic and student affairs, told the board of trustees earlier this week. "We have a better handle on machining technology. When the big industries left, a lot of the demand for that went as well. But with building, we've got John S. Clark and others that are doing well."

"Over the last year or two, we've had the challenge of dealing with the budget," said Dr. Frank Sells, president. "As we're doing that, we also need to capitalize on what we're doing and the programs we're offering. That causes a lot of discussion in the senior leadership team as we make important decisions about programs."

Sells said they felt trustees might hear in questions in the community about why certain decisions were made. "The students dictate what the programs will be and rightfully so."

"Quite often that creates a dilemma. Some programs suffer from low enrollment and we have to look at what point we stop putting resources into a program that is not benefiting the students. Occasionally, the staff may be unhappy because it impacts what they do."

In an effort to better meet the needs of students, Atkins said two new degree programs are being offered: associate fine arts, for those wanting to transfer into an arts program or seeking employment in fine arts, and associate applied science with specialization in special education or as a community Spanish interpreter.

Addition new degrees are in the works such as physical therapy and occupational therapy, simulation and game development, lateral entry for teaching, landscape design and emergency preparedness training/homeand security.

"We should have three, maybe four of these in place by next year," he said.

Future programs are developed not only based on student interest, but community needs, he said. Health care with an aging population will continue to grow locally. Employers have also expressed a need for landscape design, even though the lack of feeder programs at the high schools may make that program more difficult to develop.

The simulation and game program would take advantage of skills many students already have and would like to further develop, he said.

Atkins said the machine technology, mechanical drafting technology and construction technology programs are three that the college will be looking for ways to revitalize. This will involve developing relationships with the high schools and with local companies that would benefit from employees trained in those areas.

"We need to develop partnerships with business and industry and be able to make these programs real to students," he said. "We need to be able to offer internships for them."

He pointed out that the construction technology program operated at a loss to the school of about \$29,000, while graphic design, a new and healthy program, brought in \$76,000.

Atkins said while these programs are the ones struggling now, the college will have to look at other programs as time passes. The viticulture program, for example, has had enrollment grow from 10 to 28 over five years, but once that levels off in terms of job availability, we'll need to look at different approaches as far as continuing education and serving the growers."

"It's essential you understand why we make changes," said Sells at the end of Atkins' presentation. "They are student driven."

http://epaper.mtairynews.com/Repository/getFiles.asp?Show=OliveXLibLowLevelEntityToPrint_MTAD&Type=text/html... 9/14/2006

A TRIBUNE EDITORIAL

Time is ripe

• The money SCC is asking the General Assembly to pour into a viticulture center would be money well spent and a solid investment in the Yadkin Valley.

Surry Community College is asking the General Assembly for \$6.5 million to build a Center for Enology and Viticulture. The legislature should approve it. The amount is an appropriate investment in something that would help anchor the southeastern wine industry to the Yadkin Valley, delivering long-term benefit to the state's economy and its prestige.

The center, as envisioned by SCC President Frank Sells, and those who will commit millions if the state follows through, is essential to the industry's growth here. Winemakers face opportunities and challenges that are specific to their environment, whether that is the local economy or the quality of the soil. Research based on those local factors help educate the overall winemaking enterprise and make it more viable. National and international wine conferences, hosted by the center, raise this area's profile to both potential customers and investors.

Perhaps more importantly, the center is a hub of leadership in the Yadkin Valley wine community. A strong collective brand identity is one reason the Yadkin Valley, 15 years younger and with far fewer wineries, has captured better exposure and earned a stronger market presence than the colleagues in Virginia. A viticulture research center consolidates that position.

Last year, SCC went to the state asking for \$7.5 million. This year, the price tag is a million dollars less, thanks to the support of the state Board of Community Colleges. Rep. Jim Harrell III backed the original idea and included it in the state House's budget bill. The state Senate never considered it. Since Don East is the do-nothing senator representing Dobson, there's little wonder why the effort was never made. Sells will go back to Raleigh this year, showing increased financial backing from local industry and donors, the endorsement of two statewide entities, including the N.C. Wine and Grape Council, and a strong business case. That is more than deserving of passage in both houses, assuming the area can find a representative in the senate.

SCC president to retire

By Jonathan Dunn Phillips
Mt. Airy News Staffer

DOBSON — The president of Surry Community College announced Monday that he plans to retire effective Jan. 1, 2008.

During the closed session of the SCC Board of Trustees meeting, Dr. Frank Sells informed board members of his decision to retire after nine years of service. In a public letter read by Sells, he thanked more than 100 family members for their support as he leaves the institution.

"I very quickly acquired a deep respect and appreciation for the Board of Trustees, whose members share a tremendous dedication and passion for the college," he said in the letter. "I have been honored and privileged to work for the Board of Trustees in administering the duties of the Chief Executive Officer and in working with the outstanding faculty and staff, the supporting community and the fine students of Surry Community College."

Sells said the decision to retire was the most difficult for him. He called his years as president of SCC "the richest of my life and the most rewarding of my professional career."

"I have been both personally and professionally gratified to serve in the role as president of what I perceive to be one of the best community colleges in the country," he said.

The reaction of the board was one of shared sadness and support. When the board had to vote on the acceptance of Sells' retirement, Mike Royster said, "I've made many motions and this will be the roughest one I will ever make."

Chairman Lu Donna McCarther said the announcement was something she didn't want to hear.

"It's a decision we all have to make at some point," said McCarther. "We will be forever indebted to him."

Dr. Gary Tilley, executive vice-president and chief financial officer of SCC, echoed McCarther's sentiments.

"Dr. Sells will be sorely missed," Tilley said. "He's a gentleman and scholar — a man with class."

Sells said that after a career of almost four decades, "a lot of things come into the picture — grandchildren."

"I've never a good time to retire," he said. "It's a tough thing. There are so many great people."

Sells said he had been thinking about the decision for the past year. In the letter he said it was in fairness to the board that he made the



Frank Sells

announcement as early as he did. He said he wanted to give them ample time to implement the search and selection process for his successor. "It took a lot of time for me to do this," he said. "Now it's the reality of what I've done."

"Everything is a new era in life and I'm looking forward to new adventures."

Renovations discussed by SCC board

By WENDY BYERLY WOOD Staff Writer

DOBSON — Future renovations and construction of facilities on the Surry Community College campus were discussed during Tuesday's meeting of the community college board of trustees.

SCC President Dr. Frank Seils presented a list of renovations the college would like completed using money from the 2000 state bond referendum. Once completed, Surry will have \$3 million left, which the board has earmarked toward the North Carolina Agriculture Center project.

Renovations the board approved unanimously include upgrades on the first floor of the V building for technologies and the automotive program and expansion of a concrete walkway and technology infrastructure in that building. Work on the C building will include renovation and expansion of the bookstore and mailroom/printshop, installation of a two-story elevator, carpet replacement and work on the IT/computer services area.

The P building will see repair to the bleachers in the gym to make safety standards. Other small projects across campus will include site and landscape work such as drainage problems and fencing, fire alarm upgrades in several buildings, acoustical modifications in the distance learning room in E building, walkway upgrades and ramps for handicap law compliance several places, HVAC upgrades on four buildings, work on the tennis courts, removing underground storage tanks and work at the M building for the viticulture and enology program.

Funding available for the project totals just more than \$165 million.

Other renovation discussion was of a planning document required by the state that will provide state planners with an idea of future renovation and construction needs of the school in case another state bond referendum is proposed.

"It is to give the state an estimate of what our renovation and construction needs are over the next few years," Seils said.

The planning document, which is recommended for approval by the facilities committee, includes \$375,000 for technology cabling and infrastructure improvements, \$400,000 for renovations of the T building, which is one of the oldest buildings on campus and where the new Surry Early College High School of Design is housed; and R building upgrades totaling \$200,000.

New construction estimates include \$8.6 million for a new sciences and allied health building to house the growing nursing programs and updated science classrooms. Seils said that building would come after the viticulture project is completed.

"We feel there is a need to add space to the E building, which holds our arts programs," he said of the \$375,000 estimated for that project on the long-term facility plan.

About \$1 million was estimated for land acquisition, which Seils said would not be taking property, but acquiring it for future needs.

Another \$275,000 was estimated for an expansion of the emergency services building.

The board questioned the need for possible renovations or new construction at the Yadin Center campus, and Seils said he did not know why those weren't included on the planning document. Seils asked the board to approve the planning document so it can be sent to the state, and he will talk to those at the Yadin Center to see what their needs are so they can be considered as well.

The board approved the planning document with the understanding that inquiries would be made on the Yadin Center needs.

You can reach Wendy Byerly Wood at wbyerlywood@mtairynews.com.

Grape harvesting begins at SCC



Wendy Byerly Wood/The Mount Airy News A sign warns visitors to the SCC Vineyards that pesticides cover grape-filled vines Friday afternoon. The fungicide that will keep the vines from rotting and the insecticide will keep bees and flies away.

Grape harvesting begins at SCC

By WENDY BYERLY WOOD Staff Writer

OBSON — Harvesting for some of the area's grapes is already done, but, for others, they hang on the vines at local vineyards trying to avoid rot and insect attacks until being picked within the next few weeks.

Vance Marmon, vineyard manager at Surry Community College Vineyards, which are tucked away behind Surry Central High School's ball fields and the college's automotive areas, said that recent rains shouldn't bother the crop too much since the water didn't pile up like it was originally expected to do.

"I think down east they got a few inches," Marmon said Friday as he prepared to spray unpicked grapes with fungicide, which keeps the vines from rotting, and insecticide, to keep the bees and flies off.

Most of the vines that still hold ripening grapes are covered in white netting as an added layer of protection.

"We picked chardonnay (last) Wednesday, and it was real pretty and premier. Across the board, all the grapes are looking good," Marmon said. "We are going to pick again next Wednesday." Three varieties will be picked, two of which are chardonnay and tempranillo. "We've got 15 varieties on 3.25 acres," he said, "so we pick more than one at a time." Marmon is fairly new to the wine industry, as are many in the area. After spending 26 years at Proctor-Silex, he lost his job when the company moved to Mexico in 2000. "They had an incentive package to pay for a two-year degree. About that time, the vineyard was starting, so I did a co-op class in the vineyard and I stayed with it."

Upon graduation, Marmon said he was offered a job in the community college's vineyard full-time. "I didn't know I would be in a vineyard, but I thought it would be crop-related," he said of his two-year degree's focus. "I still do a little farming on my own."

"It's fun to watch (the vines) come out in the spring and take on new growth and fill the trellises," Marmon said. "Then I enjoy watching the grapes come out and I help with the winemaking, so there are several processes that I enjoy."

He said those in the college viticulture and enology program start picking the grapes around the first of September each year and will be finished near the first week of October. He said, as far as he knew, the final product will then go on the market when it is ready and bottled.

"I enjoy it. It is always exciting to see the next year rolling around and to get everything going again," Marmon said, adding that the vineyard, despite being hidden in a back corner of the campus, gets plenty of visitors.

You can reach Wendy Byerly Wood at wbyerlywood@mtairynews.com

Grape harvesting begins at SCC



Wendy Byerly Wood/The Mount Airy News Vance Marmon, vineyard manager at SCC Vineyards, sprays pesticides on grape-filled vines covered with netting Friday afternoon. Marmon has to suit up complete with head gear and oxygen to avoid inhaling the fungicide that will keep the vines from rotting and the insecticide that will keep the bees and flies away until time for the grapes to be picked.

Venable named 'Citizen of Year' by chamber

By ANGELA SCHMOLL, Associate Editor

MOUNT AIRY — About halfway through the Citizen of the Year Award from the Greater Mount Airy Chamber of Commerce, Marion Venable put her head in her hand with an expression of surprise on her face.

"That's about when she realized Teresa was talking about her," said Jerry Venable, her husband, who had worked behind her back to get her resume and made sure the weather didn't keep her at home Thursday night and away from the chamber's annual dinner meeting at Cross Creek Country Club.

"Our citizen of the year was born in Forsyth County and raised in Surry County," said Lewis, "is married and has two children. This individual is an enthusiastic community and church volunteer, a writer, a lecturer

and a noted publisher. When this individual conducts a lecture, the audience is immediately captivated by the intelligence, the passion, the eloquence and, seemingly endless, knowledge of the presenter.

"Although writing and lecturing are part of this person's job, this individual delivers remarks with such excitement and sincerity it makes the listener believe that this is not a job, but rather a much enjoyed cause."

Lewis said that the citizen of the year was known to be a good organizer with contributions to the community too numerous to mention, "but suffice it to say that the impact of this person's life will be remembered in the historical accounts of our community."

She shared a story of Venable's encounter more than eight years ago with a fourth grade girl on a field trip who was being excluded by the other children, how she had lunch with

See CITIZEN, page 10A



Angela Schmoll/The Mount Airy News
Marion Venable, left, reacts to receiving the Citizen of the Year Award from the Greater Mount Airy Chamber of Commerce during its annual dinner at Cross Creek Country Club Thursday night. Teresa Lewis, right, former chamber chair, gave Venable's introduction and presented the award.

CITIZEN: Venable honored

Continued from page 1A
the child, befriended her and remains her friend today — taking her to church and working to make it possible for the young woman to attend college. "There is no amount of money or fame that gives a person a good heart, and our citizen of the year has a heart of gold."

She quoted Frank Sells, Venable's employer, in praising her professionalism, competence and compassion.

"For over 30 years, this individual has been dedicated to the preservation of the history of Surry and surrounding counties. With the influence of loving grandparents and parents, in particular the grandmother, this person has brought the history of our community to life through lectures, tours, writings and films. Countless structures, graveyards, rivers and trails have been saved from destruction through the tireless efforts of this fine person and her mentor, the late Ruth Mimick."

"A devoted wife, a loving mother and an exemplary employee, the executive director of the Surry Community College Foundation, ladies and gentlemen, our 2006 citizen of the year: Marion Venable."

After the dinner most of the attendees stopped by to congratulate Venable, who said she didn't have a clue that she was about to be honored.

"You know Ruth Mimick is looking down saying, 'That's a girl,'" someone said, and Venable's smile grew even bigger as she looked toward the heavens.

You can reach Angela Schmoll at asmoll@mountairynews.com.



Smith gets scholarship

Jonathan David Phillips/The Mount Airy News
Becky Money, right, takes a picture of (from left) Tony Martin, Regina Draughn, Brandon Smith and Lanette Phillips at Monday's Surry Community College Board of Trustees meeting. Smith, a pitcher for SCC's baseball team, received a \$5,000 scholarship from the State Employees Credit Union.

Mount Airy, N.C.

January 9, 2007

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SCC's Sells will retire

College's president to step away from post for family

By JONATHAN DAVID PHILLIPS Staff Writer

DOBSON — The president of Surry Community College announced Monday that he plans to retire effective Jan. 1, 2008.

During the closed session of the SCC Board of Trustees meeting, Dr. Frank Sells informed board members of his decision to retire after nine years of service. In a public letter read by Sells, he claimed more time with his family as his main reason for leaving the institution.

"I very quickly acquired a deep respect and appreciation for the Board of Trustees, whose members share a tremendous dedication and passion for the college," he said in the letter. "I

have been honored and privileged to work for the Board of Trustees to administer the duties of the Chief Executive Officer and in working with the outstanding faculty and staff, the supporting community and the fine students of Surry Community College."

Sells said the decision to retire was the most difficult for him. He called his years as president at SCC "the icing on the cake" of his professional career.

"It has been both personally and professionally gratifying to serve in the role as president of what I perceive to be one of the best community colleges in the country," he said.

The reaction of the board was one of shared sadness and support. When of shared sadness and support. When

See SELLS, page 3



Jonathan David Phillips/The Mount Airy News
Dr. Frank Sells announced his retirement Monday night.

SELLS: SCC president announces his retirement

Continued from page 1

the board had to vote on the acceptance of Sells' retirement, Mike Royster said. "I've made many motions and this will be the roughest one. I will ever make."

Chairman La Donna McCarther said the announcement was something she didn't want to hear.

"It's a decision we all have to make at some point," said McCarther. "We will be forever indebted to him."

Dr. Gary Tilley, executive vice-president and chief financial officer of SCC, echoed McCarther's sentiments.

"Dr. Sells will be sorely missed," Tilley said. "He's a

gentleman and scholar — a man with class."

Sells said that after a career of almost four decades, "a lot of things come into the picture — grandchildren."

"It's never a good time to retire," he said. "It's a rough thing. There are so many great people."

Sells said he had been thinking about the decision for the past year. In the letter he said it was in fairness to the board that he made the announcement as early as he did.

He said he wanted to give them ample time to implement the search and selection process for his successor.

"It took a lot of nerve for me to do this," he said. "Now it's

the reality of what I've done."

"Everything is a new era in life and I'm looking forward to new adventures."

Other business voted on at the meeting was:

■ The board voted unanimously in favor of increasing the salaries of part-time instructors.

■ The board approved a request from Wake Forest University for SCC to assist in providing in-service and advancement training to the Wake Forest University Police. In a letter from R.G. Lawson, chief of the WFLPD, he said the idea is to send WFLPD officers to the SCC campus for mandated in-service and any other advanced training that

SCC may offer.

■ The board approved the idea to begin a Human Resource Development class "Career Exploration" (108 hours) in SCC's prison program at the North Campus. To implement the course, it requires approval from the North Carolina State Board.

■ It's to teach (inmates) employability skills," said Sells.

■ The board approved the receipt of \$47,659 from the Allied Health Enhancement Funds to aid in starting up a Physical Therapy Assistant Program at SCC.

You can reach Jonathan David Phillips at jdpillips@mtairynews.com.

Company supports employee education

By DENNIS LOWE
SCC Small Business Center

With global economies forcing industries to relocate or close, Vaughan-Bassett Furniture Company Inc. is not only sustaining a presence in this country, but actually offering educational incentives to employees.

Recently, Vaughan-Bassett/Elkin demonstrated its dedication to employees by supporting the efforts of those interested in studying and obtaining a General Education Development (GED) diploma.

This educational opportunity was made possible through an agreement with Surry Community College's Corporate and Continuing Education Division. In January, the college agreed to provide an instructor eight hours per week to Vaughan-Bassett while the company provides classroom space within the facility and offers financial support to employees who study there.

At present, 15 individuals are taking advantage of this opportunity to obtain a high school equivalency diploma.

Virginia Stammetti, director of basic skills for SCC, said of the collaboration, "I think it is wonderful. Vaughan-Bassett has proven that it values education. A GED diploma is the threshold to a better life for many individuals. I feel sure that obtaining one will give each of these employees newfound confidence and a dedication to the success of this company."

Based in Galax, Va., Vaughan-Bassett has manufacturing operations in three states. A producer of quality furniture products in the Elkin area since 1964, the Elkin plant currently employs 454 persons full-time from Surry, Yadkin and Wilkes counties and is best known for its line of bedroom furniture.

Like all American furniture makers, Vaughan-Bassett is now in a continual struggle to compete with foreign producers. The company remains competitive through a focus on quality. Its PAWS program (Proud American Workers, Paid the American Way) requires employees to pay attention to detail and correct any problems immediately.

productive team members. "Mostly, we are just proud to be able to assist employees in their efforts to better themselves as individuals."

For more information about GED educational opportunities available through Surry Community College, contact SCC Director of Basic Skills, Virginia Stammetti at 386-3243 or stammetti@surry.edu.



Surry Community College
Submitted photo
Above: Instructor Joan Sanders offers help on GED program work.

At left: Vaughan-Bassett employees (seated, clockwise from left) Eddie Johnson, Charles Marshall, Roger Huneycutt, Tom Bolen, Debra Butler, Amanda Waggoner and Walter Kennedy get instruction from Joan Sanders, standing.



The Mount Airy News

Sports

SCC receives gift for golf program

By LAURA THOMPSON
Staff Writer

DOBSON — Golf will return to Surry Community College after a decades-long absence thanks to a \$250,000 gift to the college from the Chatham Foundation.

The gift will establish the Alex Chatham Scholar Athlete Fund, named for the longtime Elkin resident, foundation board member and avid golfer. The fund will help the college start up a golf team and will cover at least two full two-year scholarships each year.

"We're just thrilled with the possibility," said Marion Venable, grant coordinator and executive director of the SCC Foundation.

The quarter-million-dollar gift is the largest scholarship grant in the college's history. Venable said she hopes the golf scholarships, which will be the first athletic awards offered by the school, will be available in the fall.

The scholarships will be administered by the SCC financial aid office, and students will be considered for an award after submitting their financial aid materials.

namesake, was a Navy lieutenant in the Pacific during World War II and worked with Chatham Manufacturing Company. He also is a past member of the board of trustees at the hospital.

"Alex has always believed that organized sports, golf especially, help develop character and leadership skills, and he has always put a great emphasis on the benefits of higher education," said Lacy Chatham of the Chatham Foundation in a statement. "It seemed only fitting to combine strong scholastic ability, character worthy of emulation and athletic prowess as criteria for this award."

Venable said she met Alex Chatham and that he was "just thrilled" the foundation had decided to honor him with the fund.

"He has such an interest in young people and just an overwhelming interest in education," she said.

You can reach Laura Thompson at lathompson@mtairnews.com.



Submitted photo
Alex Chatham, second from right, celebrates the announcement of an athletic fund established in his honor at Surry Community College with his children, from left, Barbara McCaslin, Jack Chatham, Suzanne Tate and Paul Chatham. The fund, given by the Chatham Foundation, will help create a golf program at SCC and cover at least two scholarships a year.

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SCC board forgoes consultant

Search for next president to be handled by trustees

By LAURA THOMPSON
Staff Writer

DOBSON — Backing a recent statewide trend, the Surry Community College Board of Trustees will not hire a professional consultant in its search for a new college president.

At a called meeting Thursday, the trustees voted to conduct the search using their own time and resources, as well as those of college staff and legal

counsel Fred Johnson, rather than hiring a consultant.

The board is searching for a replacement for retiring President Frank Sells, who will step down Jan. 1, 2008.

On Feb. 12, consultant Don Hunter of Hockaday-Hunter & Associates advised the board of the services a consultant can provide, including drafting position advertisements, recruiting possible candidates, sorting



Frank Sells retires as president of SCC Jan. 1, 2008.

applications, and conducting interviews and background checks of candidates.

Hunter also noted that the last community college president search he remembered that did not use a consultant occurred six years ago.

After Hunter's presentation, the board voted to ask for proposals from consultant firms to gain an idea of costs and services.

See BOARD, page 7A

BOARD: received proposals from five

Continued from page 1A

es offered. Trustees received and reviewed proposals from five firms at Thursday's meeting. Costs for consultant services ranged from \$15,000 to more than \$20,000.

"My feeling is that, as trustees of this college, the most important job we have is that we select a president," said board member Mike Royster. "I think that ought to be our job, and I think we ought to be the ones to do it."

Board member Bob Comer pointed out that searches performed with a consultant often are perceived as being more open and the work performed by the consultant would help the board.

"They earn that money, I know they do," he said. The board did not hire a consultant for either of its two most recent presidential searches.

Johnson, the board attorney, reminded the trustees that performing the search without the consultant would still have costs. "It's not like saying, 'we're going to do everything ourselves,

BOARD: received proposals from five

Continued from page 1A

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You can reach Laura Thompson at lathompson@mtairnews.com.

SCC trustees discuss timeline for search process

By LAURA THOMPSON

Staff Writer
The board has until the end of the year to install a replacement for Sells, who retires Jan. 1, 2008.

Search committee chair Mike Royster and Johnson drafted the timeline, which calls for the committee to accept applications between April 1 and June 1. The committee will choose about 20 to 25 candidates from the applications, although Royster said that number could be lower depending on the qualifications of the applicants.

A seven-member committee met with retiring college President Frank Sells and board attorney Fred Johnson to review the timeline for the search and a

State Board of Community Colleges for review by early October for the hiring process to be completed by the end of the year.

If all three candidates are approved by the state board, SCC trustees will have a month to work out a contract with their top-choice candidate and resubmit his or her name to the state board for approval in November.

The committee also discussed the phrasing of their advertisement.

Members said they want to

communicate a certain level of experience without discouraging potential applicants with business, legal or other non-community college administration backgrounds.

The advertisement could be posted on SCC's Web site as early as next week, pending modifications by Sells and Johnson and approval by the board of trustees at its regular meeting Monday.

You can reach Laura Thompson at lathompson@mtairynews.com.

March 18, 2007

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SCC students are winners at state PBL spring leadership conference



Surry Community College students, from left, Holly Crowder, Jennifer Hamby, Brandon Halsey, Amy Faw, Wendy Pickett, Advisor Debbie Branch and Melissa Cochran attended the Phi Beta Lambda Spring Leadership Development Conference in Charlotte.

DOBSON — Members of the Surry Community College chapter of Phi Beta Lambda recently represented the college at the N.C. PBL Spring Leadership Development Conference held in Charlotte March 29 through April 1.

The SCC club received the Gold Star Award and Terry Lowrance Leadership Award. This award is given to local chapters for outstanding projects and participation in state and national activities and programs.

Representatives from 30 North Carolina colleges were present at the conference. Students attended leadership workshops and competed in various academic events.

Brandon Halsey placed first in Economic Concepts and will be eligible to compete in national competition in Chicago this summer.

Other winners were Wendy Pickett, third place in Financial Concepts and eighth place in Computer Applications; Holly Crowder, fifth place in Hospitality Management; Jennifer Hamby, fifth place in Word Processing; and Amy Faw, eighth place in Management Analysis and Decision Making.

Students receiving leadership development certificates were Melissa Cochran, Holly Crowder, Brandon Halsey, Jennifer Hamby, Amy Faw and Wendy Pickett.

Phi Beta Lambda is a national organization for business students at the collegiate level. The organization's purpose is to provide opportunities for students to develop competencies through an extension of the classroom.

Participation in Phi Beta Lambda allows students to develop those "success" characteristics necessary for the business world.

SCC law enforcement students get taste of CSI



Josh Cox, left, Zach Mooneyhan, center, and Loreta Grimes examine the scene of a mock crime in Surry Community College's Basic Law Enforcement Training class.

SCC active in helping local industries in transition

DOBSON — Surry and Yadkin counties are enjoying some manufacturing growth, even with the loss of textile operations in the area. The Corporate and Continuing Education Division of Surry Community College recently has been involved in several new and expanding manufacturing projects. These projects represent economic viability and jobs for the area.

Bennie Harris, director of Customized Industrial Training for the college, reports working with nine new or expanding industrial entities during the past two years.

With the help of more than \$400,000 in state training funds secured through SCC, these industries have projected 5,000

also is in transition. Previously located on the main campus in Dobson, the primary office now is at the Workforce Development Center on State Street in Mount Airy.

This move puts Harris in closer proximity to industrial pre-employment training classrooms and affords easy access to a large number of industries he currently serves.

To meet the needs of Yadkin County industries, Harris utilizes space at the college's Yadin Center in Yadkinville.

For more information about industrial training offered through Surry Community College, contact Bennie Harris at 356-5304.

88-The Mount Airy News Wednesday, April 25, 2007

DOBSON — CSI Dobson? Not really, but students in Surry Community College's Basic Law Enforcement Training (BLET) class have been investigating a simulated crime scene.

In the scenario, a "gentleman" named Ed apparently died from a single gunshot wound to the head. A recent class assignment required students to inspect the scene closely and note their observations.

Activities like this help future law enforcement officers hone their observation skills and prepare to document details.

Criminal investigation is just one of 35 subject areas covered in Basic Law Enforcement Training offered through SCC's Corporate and Continuing Education Division.

control, firearms usage and driving.

Although SCC's standards are rigorous, successful completion of the class virtually assures participants of employment.

Gordon takes pride in the college's offering. He states, "Forty-eight instructors work hard to make our program successful. They, like me, expect students to take their work seriously and to honor the integrity of the profession. We are always aware that what students learn here could save lives."

For more information about Basic Law Enforcement Training at Surry Community College, contact Dean Gordon at gordon@surry.edu or 356-3330.

According to Dean Gordon, director of law enforcement programs at SCC, "There are requirements one must meet to get into this program. The state requires that each BLET student be a U.S. citizen, be at least 20 years old, have a high school or GED diploma, and be of good moral character."

"I personally want each candidate to also be a 'people person' with a strong work ethic."

Once accepted into Basic Law Enforcement Training at the college, students spend at least 21 weeks (664 hours) learning the basics of modern law enforcement.

To successfully complete BLET, students must pass a battery of written tests and demonstrate proficiency in areas including physical fitness, subject



Submitted Photo
The Piedmont Peterbilt, LLC team of Robbie Atkins, James Brady, John Eulberg and Buddy Stafford took second.



Submitted Photo
The Vermont Produce team of Adam Abashon, Brad Kiger, Larry Wright and Jim Cowart won the St. Andrews Flight.



Submitted Photo
The Southern Community Bank team had a second-place finish.



Submitted Photo
The Scenic Motors team placed second.

Golf tournament a big success

PILOT MOUNTAIN — 232 golfers made an investment in the future at the 11th annual Surry Community College Foundation/Blackmon Ventures LLC/Woltz & Associates golf tournament in May.

This year's tournament raised more than \$60,000 for student scholarships. Community support for the tournament has ensured financial support for students who possess the ability, determination, and drive to pursue a college education but lack the needed resources.

Surry Community College has for 43 years embraced its mission to promote personal growth and community development through excellence in teaching, learning, and service. The college students, faculty and staff want to sincerely thank tournament sponsors, community donors, and participants for making this tournament a resounding success.

The tournament was held at Pilot Knob Park in Pilot Mountain.

While all winners received trophies, the most important winners were Surry Community College students.

All first and second place winners in the three flights and the Pilot Knob Ladies Golf Association won scholarships for SCC students.

Morning Round Winners: The Pebble Beach Flight was won by the John S. Clark team of Bob Jones, Dale Phillips, and Ken Klamfoth and the Patterson Auto team of Buddy Summer, Gary Pruitt, Don Matthews, and Emil Weishaupt took second place.

The NCME team of Stewart Farris, Jacob Dahlin, Greg Bennett, and Wayne Kiser won the St. Andrews Flight. The Boney Architects team of Cliff Long, Rick Peele, and Kelly Surratt placed second.

In the Pilot Knob Flight, Golding Transport took first place. The team consisted of Ellery Golding, Roger Jackson, Dean Hamel, and Barry Wilmoth. Neighbors Stores

captured second place.

In the Pilot Knob Flight the Cooke Rentals team of Ben Cooke, Paul Stroup, Scott Kenyon, and Mack Flickinger won first place. The Southern Community Bank team consisting of Robert Rogers, Marty Nestor, Mark Soles, and Jim Lewis

captured second place.



Submitted Photo
The First Citizens Bank team of Jerry Venable, Ralph Holt, Donnie Marion and Pam Marion won the Pebble Beach Flight.



Submitted Photo
The Golding Transport team of Ellery Golding, Roger Jackson, Dean Hamel and Barry Wilmoth placed first in the Pilot Knob Flight.

team of Ted Creed, Mack Reynolds, Tim Gurganus and David Smith, captured second place.

Afternoon Round Winners: The Pebble Beach Flight was won by the First Citizens team of Jerry Venable, Ralph Holt, Donnie Marion and Pam Marion. Second place went to the Piedmont Peterbilt, LLC team consisting of Robbie Atkins, James Brady, John Eulberg, and Buddy Stafford.

The Vermont Produce team of Adam Abashon, Brad Kiger, Larry Wright, and Jim Cowart won the St. Andrews Flight. The Scenic Motors team of Rickey Gough, Jeff Jessup, Kenneth Jessup and Joey Jessup placed second.

In the Pilot Knob Flight the Cooke Rentals team of Ben Cooke, Paul Stroup, Scott Kenyon, and Mack Flickinger won first place. The Southern Community Bank team consisting of Robert Rogers, Marty Nestor, Mark Soles, and Jim Lewis

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SCC Class of 2007 ...

AAS Accounting: Ruthie Brindle, Gregory Carter, Melissa Cochran, Angela Cochran, Holly Crowder, Amy Faw, Ananda Pennings, Phillip Gwynn, Sharon Hildebrand, Jessica Lowe, Faith McCree, Evelyn Money, Frances O'Neal, Crystal Pendry, Kristal Sechrist, Trey Sharps, Adri-an Stanley, Heather Sumner, Derrick Taylor, Amanda White, Melanie Wright, AAS Adver-tising and Graphic Design: Linda Norman, AAS Autono-mous Systems Technology: Travis Burkhardt, Catherine Clifton, Joshua Holder, Billy



Robert, Guyer, Antonette Rucker, Deborah Willard, AAS Electronics: Pinnacle Booth, William Hart, Matthew Joyce, Jody Lawson, Gary Payne, Tony Wall Jr, AAS General Education: Adam Fletcher, AAS General Occupa-tional Technology: Jon West-mooreland, AAS Heating Air Conditioning Refrigeration: Nathan Critchfield, Timothy Hawks, Jason Hayes, Daniel Jones, Preston Knight, James Montey, Jason Mustick, Timmy Overby, Steven Thompson, AAS Horticulture: Johnny Brown, Sam Darnell, Wendy Osborne, Brandon Smitherman, AAS Industrial Systems Tech-nology: David McHone, Brian Riccio, AAS Information Sys-tems: Adam Stewart, AAS In-formation Systems Network-ing: Rodney Billings, Christo-pher Bortons, Daniel Rekowosky, AAS Medical As-sisting: Mackenzie Dollybigh, Angela Adkins, Holly Cocker-jam, Tina Chadock, Lindsey Cummings, Annette DeCelle, Missy Gallyem, Whitney Gold-ing, Lori Hopper, Angela Hutchens, Jennifer Jenkins, Tracy Myers, Shamcka Rich-burg, Carol Roberts, Allison Robertson, Ashley Robertson, Teresa Secordino, Kystal Sparks, AAS Medical Office Administration: Cheron Cur-son, Churly Marshall, Kelly McCann, Amanda Moore, Ann Phillips, Sabrina Reavis, Alee



Elizbeth Woodruff, AAS Vi-ticulture/Enology Technology: Clyde Colwell, Patricia Col-well, Daisy King, Associate Degree in Nursing: Julie Aly, Kovonda Barkley, Jennifer Bateman, David Beasley, Clarissa Benyon, Britta Boden-bauer, Tamara Bowen, Jamie Bowman, Paula Brantini, Melissa Brooks, Elizabeth Bucher, Cindy Cayton, Tammy Gale, Crystal Collins, Missy Collins, Teresa Cothren, Kris-tien Crover, Janet Dance, Shan-ton Douglas, Alicia Draughn, Tammy Ellis, Deborah Ford, Jennifer Harris, Brandy Hawks, Elizabeth Hicks, Macey Hub-bard, Regina Hutchens, Cam-dice Johnson, Darlene Kilbury, Amanda Lashmit, Melissa Laws, Terry Marnes, Candice Mariani, Tonya Martin, Mury Martinez, Sheryl Matthews, Emily Motboipe, Jo Rancey, Julie Ray, Christopher Stron-gons, Jonathan Skeets Sr., Kathryn Spencer, Jennifer Thomas, Christina Williams, Michael Williams, Tina Wilmoth, Alicia Wood, Heather Wood, Stacey Young, Associate in Arts: Stephen Artizzolo, Adam Arrowood, Stephanie Beasley, Kenny Bentley, Kayla Billings, Carlyn Blahop, Bri-tany Boles, Andrea Brown, Bohany Brown, Stomara Castillo, Justin Gidlin, Tim-othy Collins II, Adam Cox, Jason Deal, Rashelle Draughn, Ash-ley Edmonds, Brandon Gard-ner, Carla Gains, Rebeckah Gray, James Grace, Asha Hall, Brandi Hamm, Cary Hur-sick, Dan Hommings, Erik Hill, Sara Hill, Zachery Hill, Barbara Johnson, Ben Howell, Carrie Hutchens, Donna Jones, Zachary Jones, Brittany Joyce, Tommy Kerns, Noah Kouboines, Carol Luffman, Von McCoy, Miranda Mitchell, Ashley Moncus, Paul Moran, Angela Mullis, Shaina O'Owyer, Elizabeth Pegram, Cody Fell, Emily Phillips, Tom-mie Potts, Iris Runney, Dudley Rave, Klat Ross, Kristen Sawyers, Amber Shuault, Austin Simmons, Shannon Sisk, Wendy Snow, Sarah Stant-ley, Andrew Utz, Amy Vesnal, Grant Vestal, Arminda Wall, Garrett York

6/6/07
MHN

SCC says goodbye to almost 300 at ceremony

WINSTON-SALEM — Sur-ry Community College cele-brated the academic achieve-ments of nearly 300 students at its 40th graduation ceremony May 17 at Wait Chapel on the Wake Forest University cam-pus.

In addition to marking the end of academic courses for the graduates, the ceremony was meant to celebrate the things to do," Lancaster told the gradu-ated students always to



SCC/Submitted photo
Martin Lancaster, president of the North Carolina Community College System, spoke to the class of 2007 at Surry Community College's 40th commencement ceremony.



SCC/Submitted photo
Surry Community College's 2007 marshals were, from left, Brandon Lyon, Tonya Liven-good, Alisha Tolbert, Cathy Bumgarner, Lauren Dunn, Jessica Vann, Anna Brooks and Brandon Carter.

try training and learning new skills would be an integral part of their lives.

"Whatever steps that you take after tonight, you can be assured that Surry Community College and the community col-leges across the state will be there for you as you come back time and time again to reschool, refuel, to refresh, to gain new knowledge to make you a suc-cessful person in our changing economy."

The SCC class of 2007 in-cluded 297 graduates, 110 of whom were honors graduates. The college conferred 265 asso-ciate degrees, 12 diplomas and 20 certificates.

Also during the ceremony, Student Government Associa-tion President Jared Hurt pre-sented Sells with a resolution of appreciation for his nine years as president of the college.

See Page 6B for a list of graduates.

Big 'Wow' in Boise

Gibson tames field at 'Battle in the Canyons'

BOISE, Idaho — With one word, Tommy Gibson summed up his week — and finish — at the Trusted Choice Big "I" Junior Classic, trophy presentation at Crane Creek Country Club on Thursday.

The smile on Gibson's face said even more. Gibson, who led the field entering the fourth and final round by three strokes, shot a four-round 281, taking the title by six shots over Humersville's Logan Harrell and Andrew Perez (Oxnard, Calif.), who both finished with four-day totals of 287.

Even with the cushion, Gibson said Thursday was no easy task.

"It was agonizing to be honest," Gibson said in a telephone interview. "I'm glad it's over. It's one of those deals where you just hope each hole goes by faster, but it doesn't. There was a lot of waiting and that made it worse."

Gibson said he didn't relax until his approach shot on the final hole landed around six feet from the hole.

"That's when I got cold chills all over my body," Gibson said. "My caddy told me you just won one of the biggest junior tournaments in the nation. It still hasn't hit me yet."

Gibson, two-putted to clinch the championship and the Robert Trent Jones trophy.

"The whole thing, everything about it, was something I'd never felt before," Gibson said.

"It was a lot easier than I thought it would be. It was a fun experience."

Gibson was one of four golfers from North Carolina to place in the top 10, Charlotte's Stefan Brewer (17-5, 290) and Southern Pines' Robert Hoadley (17-7, 291) joined Gibson and Harrell.

Elkin's Taylor Zimmerman, a top 10 finisher a year ago, posted a 307 and wound up in 401st.

Late Thursday night, Gibson tried to sum up his week, which also happens to be one of his final junior golf tournaments before he enters college play. Gibson said the victory made all the practice and hard work worthwhile.

"This was my last shot at it and I needed to show everybody what I could do," he said. "I decided I wasn't going to get mad. I just went out and played. I just really had fun."



Tommy Gibson hoists the Robert Trent Jones trophy after winning the Trusted Choice Big "I" Junior Classic at Crane Creek Country Club in Boise, Idaho on Thursday.

CHAD CRUMM/SPECIAL TO THE NEWS

The

The Mount Airy News is dedicated to the principles of openness, fairness, honesty and integrity.

319 N. Renfro St.
Mount Airy, NC 27030

Editorial

Surry offers career opportunities for the future

We're fortunate to have a nearby educational institution like Surry Community College where young men and women can whet their career appetite. Students from around the area, before and during their college years, are exposed to the latest trades and technology.

Those experiences are especially important as we see the painful transition from a manufacturing to information-based and service economy. It doesn't take a research scientist to see also that many of the jobs being created in this area — and across the country — are in health care services.

According to June's employment numbers, health care employment in the United States grew by 30,000 jobs. By contrast, the country lost another 18,000 manufacturing jobs, many of them going overseas where corporations can operate without unions, federal environmental regulations, and have access to plenty of cheap foreign labor.

But it's not all doom and gloom here. Earlier this week, Surry Community College's allied health classrooms were filled with more than 20 students, filling syringes and taking blood pressure readings. OK, so the patients were literally some dummies that students utilized for their on-the-job training. But each of the students learned some valuable lessons, giving them a possible glimpse of their future.

"It's just for the students to get an awareness of the medical-related careers that are available in the area," said Camp Med coordinator Merry Alice Davis.

For several years, the three-day camp has given area high school students a chance to explore health careers. Even if they opt for an unrelated profession, students get a chance to network with professionals, talking with medical professionals at Northern Hospital of Surry County and Wake Forest University Baptist Medical Center in Winston-Salem.

It's an intellectually broadening experience — something that most students aren't likely to forget. Camp Med can also solidify a student's career inclination. The college has a wonderful nursing program whose graduates have no difficulty of landing a job right out of school.

Whether they choose to become a dental hygienist, an X-ray technician, or even a veterinarian, SCC's Camp Med provides students with an up close and hands-on experience of the health care workplace of the future.



Preseason ACC teams announced

Scattered Storms
High 85
Low 66

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The Mount Airy News

Thursday, July 26, 2007

SCC poised to aid laid-off workers

TOM JOYCE
STAFF REPORTER

DOBSON — With several local companies closing their doors and putting hundreds of people out of work, this summer, Surry Community College has laid out the welcome mat.

The college is part of the Rapid Response Team, a group of agencies that reaches out to workers who are losing their jobs and wondering where they will turn next.

"I don't see how we could not be touched by it," Jamie Childress, SCC's associate vice

president of student development, said Wednesday of the local economic situation. "There's such a need out there for education."

In some cases, people have worked all their lives at the same textile mill, maybe needing little or no schooling when they first were hired, and then enjoyed job security for years.

But now that those positions are being moved overseas, many face the reality of the need for additional training in order to enter new fields.

SCC and other facets of the Rapid Response Team, which also include such agencies as

the state Employment Security Commission and the Department of Social Services, now are working with workers displaced at Renfro, Cross Creek and other companies recently closing plants.

The team becomes involved as employers hold counseling meetings with the workers so they can be briefed on various services available to them at that point.

"We're still in the evaluation phase with their employees," Childress said. She added that priority to see such huge numbers of job losses in Surry County at

one time. Those who are being put out of work face widespread uncertainties. While some will seek to find new employment and are in need of job-seeking or resume services, others will take the opportunity to return to school and prepare for new careers. Depending on the individual companies and workers and employment market needs, special retraining help through programs geared toward workers whose jobs move overseas.

That's where the local community college is playing a role in laying out what's available.

For those who are interested in pursuing more education, the college first must evaluate where they already are academically. Some might lack high school diplomas and must complete the first step of acquiring GEDs. English is a second language to others and they need help in that area.

Childress said that because of these preliminary steps, the college might not see an immediate impact. "We have not seen a spike in our enrollment, but that's just because it's early in the process."

The academically qualified workers who are laid off and

SCC:

Continued from page 1

that the college has a program that allows students who complete their preparatory work to start in mid-semester, so they do not have to wait until January or August and the start of a new semester.

Health sciences careers are a hot choice for students, according to the SCC official.

That is a solid job market with many openings for high-paying positions, she said. Education remains another strong field.

In addition to four-year academic programs, the college offers continuing education courses that train people in such fields as law enforcement, certified nursing assistance, emergency services and truck driving.

"They have a quicker turnaround in their program," Childress said. She also offered encouragement for those who feel un-

comfortable about attending college after maybe not setting foot in a classroom in years.

"The first thing we tell them is that the statistics show the non-traditional student is the best student," Childress said. These are folks who have experience in life, are attending classes for a purpose and possess clear-cut goals — usually a formula for success. Students in this category recognize the benefits of education in terms of its relationship to greater earning power.

"They find out for themselves if it's more fun now than when they were younger," said the college official, who added that SCC offers financial aid, tutoring and other services to help make them feel comfortable in an academic environment.

"We try to inspire some confidence in them so they will be confident in their own abilities."

Contact Tom Joyce at 719-1924.

Something old Something new



Hoops, golf now playing

By Phil Goble Jr. phil@surrymessenger.com

DOBSON — Something old, something new. That sums up the future for Eddie Whitnosh and Tom Pennington.

Whitnosh and Tony Searcy will be leading the renaissance of the Surry Community College men's basketball program that shut down three years ago due to the loss of a coach and lack of player interest.

The program featured a history dating back to 1966 that is etched in trophy cases outside the school gymnasium.

One of the first questions a kid asks is what was your record last year. Whitnosh said recently, "We have to sell them on the fact that Surry Community College has always had a good program."

Whitnosh and particular challenges have included fundraising for scholarships and competing against other junior colleges in the state that offer them and a cafeteria.

"We have to convince kids they are in a stable hand," he said. In Whitnosh, players have a coach with extensive AAU ties and a long coaching history.

Whitnosh has been both a head coach and Western Regional Commissioner for AAU in the last 15 years. In that span, he led AAU teams to National Runner-Up and third place finishes while coaching numerous players that have played Division I basketball. Whitnosh has also served as a delegate to the AAU national convention during the past several years, according to SCC's website.

Searcy's résumé is even more impressive — All-Region and All-America as a player for the Knights, All-Southern Conference and All-Tournament while competing at Appalachian State, drafted by the NBA's Golden State Warriors.



Phil Goble Jr./The Messenger The coaches at Surry Community College are Tony Searcy, assistant basketball coach, Tom Pennington, head golf coach, and Eddie Whitnosh, head men's basketball coach. Their teams will begin playing and practicing in the fall semester.

College excited to grow

By Phil Goble Jr. phil@surrymessenger.com

DOBSON — The new school year will bring two new sports to Surry Community College.

Men's basketball and golf will join volleyball and baseball as athletics options for students and fans.

"We're excited," said SCC Athletics Director Mark Tucker recently. "We think it will create a lot of student interest."

Surry had a very successful men's basketball program until three years ago, when it was shelved.

Bringing it back to life will be head coach Eddie Whitnosh and assistant Tony Searcy. Searcy coached the team three years ago.

The men's team will play in the gymnasium at SCC, which will be undergoing a floor-lift before school starts. The program fielded three years ago due to the loss of a coach and lack of player interest.

Tom Pennington will coach golf, which enjoyed a one-season appearance more than a decade ago. The golf team will play its home matches at Cedarbrook Country Club near Elkin.

Both teams have already signed players for the upcoming seasons. Schedules, however, are not complete yet.

"I think you more of a competitive community college," Tucker said of adding sports programs. "A lot of kids want to participate."

Surry Central will compete in the South Division of Region X in the National Junior College Athletic Association Division I. There are 14 teams in its division.

See College, next page

The new Knights

BASKETBALL

| Name | Pos. | Hgt. | High school |
|-----------------|------|------|------------------|
| Marcus Brown | Grd. | 5-10 | W-S Parkland |
| Jeremy Helms | Grd. | 6-0 | North Forsyth |
| Marcus Whitnosh | Grd. | 6-1 | Starmount |
| Will Thorp | Grd. | 6-6 | Starmount |
| Ferdie Morales | Fwd. | 6-6 | Milestone Prep |
| Jamel Hicks | Fwd. | 6-2 | W-S Parkland |
| A.J. Foyteler | Fwd. | 6-4 | Shephens Prep |
| Tim Lee | Glf. | 6-4 | Shephens Prep |
| Qasim Fredrick | Fwd. | 6-3 | Southern Durham |
| Caleb Toler | C/F | 6-6 | Milestone Prep |
| Dereen Chapman | Fwd. | 6-4 | Shelby Crest |
| C.J. Wright | Glf. | 6-5 | Cher. Myers Park |
| Chris Boyce | Glf. | | |

GOLF

| Name | Yrs. Played | Best score | High school |
|-------------------|-------------|------------|-------------|
| Ryan Atkins | 8 | 68 | North Surry |
| Christopher Scott | 12 | N/A | Starmount |
| Tyler Grant | 18 | 34* | Starmount |

* — nine holes

College excited about sports

The Messenger, Monday, July 23, 2007 — Page 7

Continued from previous page

The Knights of old competed in the NJCAA Division III.

"We've had tremendous support from the college," Whitnosh said. "The college is real excited."

The golf team started with \$250,000 seed money in a grant from the Charitum Foundation.

"The grant was given by Aker Chatham, who recently passed away," Tucker said. "Basically what the \$250,000 is, is an endowment. We'll be receiving interest off the endowment."

The AD said that interest will help with funding the program, operating costs and some scholarships.

The college, according to Whitnosh, decided to start basketball again.

"When we decided we were going to have a team, the Knights Athletic Club was formed," Whitnosh said. "The Knights Athletic Club is a general fund for all athletes, unless specified."

The initial budget for men's basketball was \$2,000. The budget for the current year provides \$7,000.

"Right now, in basketball alone, the budget without any scholarships is about \$16,000," Whitnosh said. "We've got it covered and we've been able to raise \$14,000 in scholarships."

Whitnosh will have seven full athletic scholarships.

Knights ready for hoops, golf

Continued from previous page

when the Knights will open — Nov. 2 at Tallahassee (Fla.) Community College. Tallahassee is in the NJCAA Division I national finals in March. Tip-off is set for 8 p.m.

"They had seven (NJCAA) Division I signees last year and they reload every year," Whitnosh said.

On Nov. 3 at 3 p.m. in Tallahassee's gym, Surry will take on Enterprise-Ozark (Ark.) Community College. Enterprise-Ozark is coached by former Surry Central coach John Ayers. Ayers was 84-12 at Surry Central.

Pennington, on the other hand, will be building a program basically from scratch. Golf had one season a decade ago in the SCC history books. That's it.

So far though, that hasn't been a big deal. "I don't think I've met an obscure yet," he said. "The fact a lot of support coming from the community — but, right now, things are falling into place."

One of the biggest concerns early was where to get players. Pennington figured he would have to go outside the area. So far, he's signed three — two from Starmount and one from North Surry.

ships to provide among his players.

The biggest fundraising came in two events — A "Knight of Opportunity" with former North Surry High standout and legendary Canadian coach Jerry Hennings, which raised about \$2,000 according to Whitnosh, and a "Knight with Skip Prosser," which raised about \$8,000.

"Through fundraisers, we've pretty much funded the first year," Tucker said.

Now, Tucker and his new coaches are looking forward to debuting their new teams.

"We're obviously hoping to bring back some of the tradition we had in basketball," he said. "With golf, we're hoping to start a tradition."

There could be other sports to start traditions in soon, Tucker said, mentioning an interest in fast-pitch softball.

This is a trend not only with us starting sports, but across the state starting programs, he said.

So, the program that grows to four this year might not stay that size forever.

Pennington thinks that is a good thing for Surry Community College.

"Years ago, there weren't a lot of sports teams at junior colleges," he said. "I think Surry Community College is far far above other community colleges in the country."

This year, the coach expects to carry 10 players — eight active and two redshirted. At each tournament, Surry will use two players, counting the four lower scores.

"I don't want to go over 12 (players)," he said, noting that next year's crop of high school seniors brings a wealth of experience to the table.

He's also not stuck on it being an all-male team.

"I want to three (Carolina Golf Association) tournaments this year and talked to about 30 girls about coming here and playing golf," Pennington said. "They can play. There are girls in other colleges that play. I've seen some interest."

The Knights will play their home matches at Cedarbrook Country Club in Star Road. While his fall schedule is in the process of being finalized, Pennington does know that his team will play Oct. 27-29 in Spartanburg, S.C.

"I've been asked to hold an end-of-fall tournament here in November," Pennington said, adding that the details have not been completed. "I'm pumped." Pennington said. "I'm really pumped. I see the potential of a national golf tradition here. It's in our power."

This would be something new for golf ... and something old, but exciting, for men's basketball.

WOW: Gibson takes Big "1" title



Tommy Gibson, center, poses with the Robert Trent Jones trophy after winning the Trusted Choice Big "1" Junior Classic in Boise, Idaho, on Thursday evening. Also pictured are Bob Rusboldt, left, IIABA CEO, and Nate Kim, local tournament chairman.

CHAD CRUICK/SPECIAL TO THE NEWS

Phil Goble Jr./The Messenger



Surry Community College freshman Tommy Gibson had the best score in the Bishop Fall Scrimmage in Rocky Mount.

Knights take third in Bishop Fall Scrimmage

ROCKY MOUNT — Tommy Gibson scored a 71 Saturday to take medalist honors in the Bishop Fall Scrimmage golf event hosted by North Carolina Wesleyan College.

Gibson finished two shots ahead of Logan Peck of Louisiana on the Hickory Meadows layout.

Adam Kephart of Johnston Community College and Dylan Beby of N.C. Wesleyan each shot a 75.

"We decided to mix them up and see if we could produce on the A team with four guys," Surry Community Coach Tom Pennington said Tuesday. "As far as looking at where we are as competitors, I got some insight."

In the team competition, Louisiana took first with a 304. The Hurricanes had four scores in the 70s — Peck, Peter Teller (76), Tyson Lynn (77) and Jose Guadalupe (78).

Louisiana was the only team to have its four counted scores in the 70s.

N.C. Wesleyan finished second with a 314 followed by Surry Community College's A team at 316. Surry's B team at 329 and Johnston Community College at 330.

Rush Folger's 77 was the only other Surry Community score under 80.

"I was very impressed with (Surry's) players," N.C. Wesleyan College Coach Mark Cole said Monday. "They all were well behaved and it is quite evident that Surry will have a great squad this season."

The Knights entertain Rockingham Community College today at Cedarbrook Country Club. The match begins at 2 p.m.

BISHOP FALL SCRIMMAGE (at Hickory Meadows CC, Rocky Mount)

| TEAM SCORES | 304 |
|-------------------|-----|
| Louisburg College | 314 |
| N.C. Wesleyan | 316 |
| Surry CC (A) | 329 |
| Surry CC (B) | 330 |
| Johnston CC | |

TOP 10 INDIVIDUALS

| | |
|---------------------------------|----|
| 1. Tommy Gibson, Surry A | 71 |
| 2. Logan Peck, Louisiana CC | 76 |
| 3. Ad. Kephart, Johnston CC | 75 |
| 4. Dylan Beby, NCWC | 75 |
| 5. Alex Valler, Johnston CC | 75 |
| 6. Peter Teller, Louisiana CC | 76 |
| 7. Tyson Lynn, Louisiana CC | 77 |
| 8. Jose Guadalupe, Louisiana CC | 78 |
| 9. John Tappan, NCWC | 78 |
| 10. Adam Kephart, Johnston CC | 78 |



Freshman Rush Folger putts during a round Monday at Beaver Creek Country Club. Folger shot a 77 at the Bishop Fall Scrimmage at Hickory Meadows in Rocky Mount.

Surry Community College gets growing

DOBSON — Horticulture has been a hot and dry topic for most this summer, but at Surry Community College it's flourishing under the care of Ashley Myers Boyd.

Boyd is a native of Yadkin County, where her parents have Laurel Gray Vineyards and Yadkin Valley Wine Company. Boyd, a graduate of NCSU, joined the SCC faculty after working with Virginia Tech University as a grape pathology extension specialist. She was responsible for assisting grape

growers with disease identification, spray programs and conducting research for the university.

Her thesis entitled "Pierce's Disease of Grapevines: Identification of the Primary Vectors in North Carolina," is scheduled to be published in *Physiopathology*, a premier science journal, this fall.

At Surry, she teaches plant science, soils and fertilizer, nursery operations, and landscape design.

The horticulture program focuses on careers in landscaping and nursery operations which require a thorough knowledge of soils, plants, pest control, cost analysis and design. Writing, communication, and management are now important elements of any business related curriculum.

Through field trips, students have an opportunity to investigate trends in horticulture in preparation for entering the workforce. The curriculum includes preparation and testing for a North Carolina commercial ground applicator's pesticide license and offers several components needed to become a certified landscape contractor.

For more information regarding the horticulture program, contact myersa@surry.net or call 336-396-3510.

**You are invited to:
NO PARENT LEFT BEHIND**

Mostly Sunny
High 88
Low 64



MA tennis beats East Wilkes

Page 6A

The Mount Airy News

Wednesday September 26, 2007

College selects new president

STAFF REPORT

The new president of Surry Community College has spent the last six years in one of the state's largest urban areas, but she appreciates the role rural colleges play in their communities.

Deborah Friedman, vice president for human resources at Fayetteville Technical Community College, was selected Tuesday by the SCC Board of Trustees to succeed retiring President Frank Sell.

"I'm very excited and very, very honored that I was selected by the board," Friedman said in an interview Tuesday night. "I really believe in the mission of

the community college." Pending final approval by the State Board of Community Colleges and completion of contract negotiations with the college, Friedman will take the helm at SCC on Jan. 1, 2008.

Although she's coming from one of the largest community colleges in the state, Friedman said that she was intrigued with the president's position at SCC. She compared her time at Surry Community College, another rural North Carolina school, with working at Surry.

"I really enjoyed not just the educational system, but seeing the impact that a college that size has on the community," she said. "You know you're making

a difference. My days are spent making a difference."

Friedman received her bachelor's degree from Central Michigan University, her Master of Business Administration from the University of Toledo in Ohio and her doctorate in education from North Carolina State University. She has been with the state's community college system since 1981.

With her MBA and experience in the private sector, Friedman fits the profile of an applicant with a business background — a group of candidates SCC trustees were especially interested in attracting during the selection process.

Friedman said that she wants



Deborah Friedman

to carry on the college's "great academic reputation" and also increase the college's outreach program, specifically for dislocated workers who need vocational and technical training. She also understands that an increasing number of high school students are making community colleges their first choice over four-year institutions.

"Community colleges offer not only a second chance, but they are a first choice for so many people," she said. "I want to continue the wonderful tradition of programs and services at the college."

Friedman's selection came out of a four-hour meeting of college trustees Tuesday. Fred

Williams, executive vice president and chief operating officer of the North Carolina Community College System, presented trustees with the state board's analysis of their top three choices for the position.

Friedman admits she has a lot to learn about her new job and plans to "spend a lot of time listening and getting to know everyone," but she has done her homework on her new position. She said she will lobby strongly for additional funding for a state vocational center at the college.

"I'll do everything I can to get that," she said. "Surry is the logical location for one."

THE MESSENGER

SPORTS

Got sports news? Call Phil Goble Jr. at 719-0040 or email: sports@surrymessenger.com



Eddie Wilmoth ... SCC basketball coach

Oak Hill Academy to scrimmage Knights

Event scheduled for Oct. 18 in the Surry Community College gymnasium

By Phil Goble Jr. phil@surrymessenger.com

DOBSON — Surry Community College's basketball season is still two months away, but fans can see the Knights in action Oct. 18 when prep powerhouse Oak Hill Academy visits for a scrimmage.

Tip-off is set for 7 p.m. "I'm excited to death they are coming down," Surry Community

Coach Eddie Wilmoth said Monday. "They're loaded, they're loaded again. They're always loaded."

Oak Hill finished the 2006-2007 season ranked No. 1 in the country by USA Today Prep Nation and Scout24.com. The Warriors ended the prep campaign with a 40-1 record and their seventh mythical national high school championship.

"I think it'll be a good learning experience for our kids," Wilmoth said.



Oak Hill went 9-1 against nationally-ranked teams and dominated the school record with

40 wins. They won tournaments in Portland, Ore., and Boone and played three games on ESPN.

Key returnees for 2007-2008 include 6-2, 160-pound point guard Brandon Jennings, who led the team in steals and assists, and 6-9 1/2, 230-pound forward Howard Thompson, who had the highest field goal percentage.

Those two will be joined by Malik Story, a University of Southern California recruit who

the Los Angeles Times reported was transferring in for the season. Wilmoth also announced roster changes for the Knights. The team added 6-8 center Carlos Garcia of New York by way of Laurinburg Prep and lost Caleb Toler.

Tickets will be \$10 and are available now. To purchase, see any Knights Athletic Club board member, call Becky Money at 386-3205, or e-mail moneyb@surry.edu.



Kids: Page ... page 4B

Comics ... page 5B

Advice ... page 6B



Honor graduates celebrate completing their GEDs at Surry Community College Sept. 16.

GED graduates march toward future

DOBSON — The graduation ceremony for the Surry Community College 2006-2007 GED graduates was held Sept. 16 at 3 p.m. on the college campus.

Gary Tilley, executive vice president, welcomed graduates and their families and offered an invocation. Graduates were inspired by the lyrics of "Go Light Your World," performed by Nate Nixon, chief technology officer for the college.

Virginia A. Stammeri, director of the Basic Skills/ABE/GED program recognized students for their accomplishments and acknowledged the family members present who had supported these students in reaching their educational goal.

Dolores Johnson, 1991 GED graduate, was guest speaker for the event. After completing her GED, she pursued a career in nursing and is now employed by Mountain Valley Hospice. She also is a graduate student in nursing at East Carolina University. She assured the graduates that focusing on life goals is critical to making them happen.

College scholarships were presented to the top 12 graduates by George Sappentfield, dean of Corporate and Continuing Education, followed by presentation of certificates by college President Frank Sells.

Following the ceremony, students, instructors and family members gathered in small celebratory groups as they made their way to a reception honoring the students.

For a list of graduates, see page 3B



Surry Community College/Submitted photo

Family and friends celebrate with Surry Community College's GED graduates Sept. 16.

SCC-GED graduates

- Joshua Crutti, Wendy Cvitti, George Wood, Jessica Meeks, Justin Howell, Raymond Genetry, Contessa Hunt, James McMillian, Faith Grizzle, Justin Coombs, James Dawson, Becky Miles, Adam Hutchens, Michael Pinnix, Jesse Wood, Edward Jenkins, Joseph Shelton, Elizabeth Dillard, Jimi Thomas, Jeremy Etzalde, Brittany Morawetz, James Templeton, Sherry Blewitt, Andrew Reese, James Beamer Jr., Michael Bees, Michael Milstead, Anna Marie Dickens, Jessica Taylor, Angela Bonis, Amanda McKinney, Andy Hill, Michael Holbrook, Khatie Brown, Tondalaya Hill, Bridget Coe, Sasha Alalifalalu, Vicky McNeill, Charles Arrington, Christopher Jester, Vena Freeman, Stacey Royal, Joseph Lashmit, Nayla Burchette, Penny Cook, Joshua Revis, Desiree Johnson, Tessa Platt, Roger Davies, Cindy Whitely, Cynthia Widener, Alex Walker, Amber Long, Samanthan Foster, Jeffrey Burchette, Thomas Long, Rebecca Newcenter, Aaron Rivera, Anne Harr, Amanda Nixon, Michael Bryant, Kristen Waugh, Zackery Mullins, Colleen Stevens, Zane Parker, April Check, Austin Kilen, Jeffrey Daughan, Dezerath Anderson, Kimberly Ferguson, Jacob Gibson, Jesse Mills, Canute Speer, Jacob Howell, Julie Griffith, Kevin Oakley, Jamie Reese, Stephanie Simpson, Anna Tipson, Rodney Wilmoth, Darrell Boles, Melanie Neff, Paul Collins, Lee Clifton, April Faw, Tammy Gutierrez, Travis Mitchell, Linda Stumate, Linda Simon, Nazzel Bell, Tracie Fuik, Tonya Lawson, Octavio Ortiz, Matthew Calaway, Dan-ny Pack, Devin Leftwich, Theodora Muro, Terris Corner, Marina Diaz, Melanie Duke, Dottie Owyni, Brandon Hill,
- Christopher Holt, Jose Larraga, Jessica Martin, Amber Lewis, Lincoln Duncan, Ashleigh Hale, Caitlin Edwards, Amy Whitt, Dustin Senter, Brian Berry, Charles Bowman, Kimberly Haynes, Jaelyn Holder, Ethan McCreary, Erik Bies, Isaac Atkins, Duay Blewitt, Lucretia Heidi, Clinton McMillion, Donald Outlaw, Michael Pack, Adam Jones, Billy Wright, Amanda Gammions, Alexis Manso, Erika Larraga, James Love, Tiffany Carter, Hilda Sanchez, Glenda Young, Shantea Lamary, Ashley Hegler, Teresa Fletcher, Philip Jones, Amanda Hodges, Robyn Verba, Joshua Lyman, Cory Summer, Chris Riel, Angela Estrada-Escobar, Brandon Lynch, Tyler Creed, Della Sowder, Christopher Tucker, Elvira McNabb, Kelsey Smith, Sylvia Laffman, Larry Laffman, Adam Johnson, Jessica Smith, Joshua Lail, Michael Sylvester, Stacey Wall, Angela Brown, Emilee Byrd, Jessica Harrison, Elizabeth Southern, Maria Niemi, Stephanie Marcum, Jessica Speaks, Clifford Hutchens, Brandon Dixon, Charity Williams, Jared Brubaker, Jenna Johnson, Juan Adams, Duran Shuff, David Watson, Antione Wright, Melvin Chodoflet, Roy Wilson, Brandy Smith, Cory Rowley, Andrew Charles, Johnny Swain, John Johnson, Scotty Hutchens, Justin Robinson, Timothy Jennings, Robbin Carmichael, Melvin Hargraves, Wendell Beckett, Darrel Johnson, Carrie Jenkins, Beattiz Ramos-Hernandez, Sarah Lawson, Ofelia Hernandez, Aaron Hamilton, Dustin York, Arlene Cruz, Amber Aguilar, Guiberto Sanchez, Helen Mounce, James Gallimore, Melinda Whitaker, Ivy Steelman, Adam Tublin, Yanesa Mason, Kimberly Adkins, Tabitha W. Shon.

Monday, September 24, 2007

SCC enrollment up, but not just because jobs are down

Laura Thompson
Staff Reporter

DOBSON — About eight years ago, a round of factory closings in Surry County sparked an increase in enrollment at Surry Community College as displaced workers sought to gain new job skills. Now, manufacturing companies continue to leave the area and the college's enrollment is again rising. But school officials say job loss isn't the cause.

"This is more young folks," said college President Frank Sells. This fall's almost 15 percent jump in enrollment over last year is in curriculum courses, he said, rather than continuing education programs typically utilized by people changing careers.

The jump reverses a three-year decline in enrollment that Sells said leveled off last year — and he sees the upward trend continuing. "We do think it's more high school students who have chosen to start here," he said.

Sells attributes the increase in recent high school graduates at SCC to two factors. First, he said, the class of 2007 appeared to be larger than previous graduating classes.

And second, "I think more students are realizing the importance of some post-secondary education, whether it's a two-year or a (bachelor's degree)," he said.

SCC has 3,623 full-time students in its classrooms this fall, up from 3,136 a year ago. Prior to 2006, the college experienced a three-year enrollment decline that Sells said the school expected as unemployed workers earned degrees and re-entered the workforce.

In addition to filling seats on campus, the increased enrollment has financial implications for the college, which receives state funds for curriculum programs based on student population.

Sells said the college talks with guidance counselors at the local high schools, but it hasn't done anything special as far as promoting its programs in the community.

By Brook R. Corwin
brook@surrymessenger.com

DOBSON — Enrollment this fall has jumped 15 percent at Surry Community College after several years of decline, and a surge in online courses is handling some of the extra teaching load.

There are 3,623 students taking curriculum classes at the college this fall, up 467 from the previous year. That doesn't include students enrolled in GED and basic education courses at the college's workforce development center.

This year's figures reverse a trend of steady decline after enrollment peaked at about 3,900 students in 2002. President Frank Sells said Monday.

"That's when we got heavy interest

because of all the job losses in the area," Sells said. "The good news is that most of those students finished. They got their degree and went back into the workforce."

College officials don't attribute the recent increase to just job losses, however. Many of those recently laid off are still working or obtaining a high school education, Sells said. New students at the Early College-High School of Design are enrolled, but that only accounts for about 80 of the new enrollees.

"There's just more of our local high-

school graduates who are deciding to go to college," Sells said.

Jimmie Childress, SCC's associate vice president of student development, said Tuesday that reports aren't yet finalized, detailing which programs students are entering and where they're coming from. The college transfer program has traditionally had more enrollees than any other degree program.

"It's a way of saving money while students choose their major," Childress said. "And they get a chance to mature a little bit more."

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"It's a way of saving money while students choose their major," Childress said. "And they get a chance to mature a little bit more."

Increased enrollment shows growing interest in SCC's offerings

College trustees said public awareness about the transfer program has improved over the years, leading to more people choosing that option.

"It's becoming much more expensive to go to college," Trustee Bob Comer said Monday. "And the reputation of community colleges has grown tremendously."

Trustee Betty Kay Vaughn said many students are choosing community colleges as a way to gradually adjust to being independent and living away from home.

"They're not always prepared socially, and that's a big part of going to a university," Vaughn said.

But bringing in more students means using more classroom space, which Sells said is now booked full. That's where the

sharp increase in online courses has come in handy, even though those classes have escalated internet technology expenses.

The college has 249 students enrolled in one or more of the 138 courses offered online. Last year there were fewer than 40 online courses.

"I'm not sure we would have been able to handle the increased enrollment without those online classes," Gary Tilley, the college's chief financial officer, said Monday. "The only downside is that those courses are more expensive to deliver. But that's a price all (community colleges) are paying."

The college's budget for the current fiscal year has more than \$626,000 for software, services and technical support.

See SCC, Page 7

SCC's enrollment increases

Continued from front page

That's a six-fold increase over the past seven years, Tilley said.

Students are demanding these courses, Tilley said. "If we don't have them, they don't have to go here anymore. They can shop around and take those courses at other places."

The school is still waiting on more money from the state to pay the costs of higher enrollment. It qualifies for a bonus since its enrollment went up by more than 5 percent, but the exact amount of the windfall will depend upon how many other community colleges grew by that percentage.

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SCC chooses successor for Sells

By Brook R. Corwin
brook@surrymessenger.com

DOIBSON — An administrator at Fayetteville Technical Community College with a business education background has been tapped as the next president for Surry Community College.

SCC's board of trustees selected Dr. Deborah Friedman on Tuesday to become president beginning Jan. 1, pending final approval from the state board of community colleges and the completion of contract negotiations. Friedman will succeed Dr. Frank Sells, who announced earlier this year that he would retire at the end of the calendar year.

Fred Johnson, SCC's secretary, said Tuesday that the state board has already given preliminary approval to Friedman and should take final action on the selection

at a meeting next month. SCC trustees learned of the preliminary approval at a closed session meeting Tuesday morning, prompting them to make the final selection. The state will negotiate Friedman's salary using a formula that takes SCC's enrollment into account.

Friedman, now the vice president for human resources at Fayetteville Tech, was picked from among 46 candidates who were whittled down during a selection process that started last April.

Ladonna McCarter, chair of the SCC trustees, said Tuesday that finalists were brought in for two days of interviews with the board.

She said Friedman was chosen because of her qualifications, interview skills, an approach to putting students first and her

See President, Page 8

SCC board picks president

Continued from front page
involvement with community and civic organizations.

McCarter added that Friedman conveyed some exciting and innovative ideas for SCC's faculty, staff and students.

Friedman received a bachelor's degree from Central Michigan University, a master's degree from the University of Toledo and a doctorate from North Carolina State University.

Before taking on the human resources position at Fayetteville Tech in 2003, she was that school's dean of business programs for two years.

Prior to that, she worked at Sampson Community College in Clinton as division chair

of business and public service programs, department chair of accounting and business administration programs and as a faculty member in the business and accounting department.

Johnson said the college still has to check with Friedman's schedule to determine when she can arrive onto campus and begin the transition into the president's position.

"We'll be discussing that with her. Hopefully there will be some time period where she can come in and get acquainted with the college and the personnel at the college," Johnson said.

"But we don't know what her contract commitments are at this point."

SPORTS

THE MESSENGER

Got sports news? Call Phil Goble Jr. at 719-0040 or email: sports@surrymessenger.com

Olympians share round of golf with the Knights

By Phil Goble Jr.
phil@surrymessenger.com

Jill Keeley stepped up to the ball, a smile big enough to drive away the clouds on her face.

Ryan Atkins pulled out a club and handed it to her. Jill carefully eyed the flagstick about 20 yards away.

From just off the fringe, she pulled the club back and swung.

The ball arched into the air, dropped on the greens, bounced and then ... PING! ... it hit the flagstick.

It stopped less than a foot away.

Atkins, a member of the Surry Community College golf team, jumped in the air and ran to his partner, giving her a high five.

The smile she wore got even bigger.

That was just one of the pairings Monday afternoon at Beaver Creek Golf Course.

Keeley was one of several Special Olympics athletes who



Phil Goble Jr./The Messenger
Jason Reynolds and Joseph Crissman share a laugh before heading out on the Beaver Creek layout.

joined the Knights for a nine-hole round.

"I'm glad we did this," Surry Community Coach Tom

Knights' nine players joined Penstergart said Monday. "I'll be about a dozen Special Olympians the guys you've got to give back

See Knights, next page



Phil Goble Jr./The Messenger
Surry Community College's Ryan Atkins watches Jill Keeley chip from the fringe.

INSIDE: Welcome home to three families, page 3 | Online @ www.surymessenger.com

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TUESDAY
September 11, 2007

THE MESSENGER

Volume 1, No. 46 | Bringing Surry County To You. | Mount Alry, N.C. | 10 Pages, One Section

Net gains



Sports, Page 8

Board considers cuts to Viticulture Center's scope

By Brook R. Corwin
brook@surymessenger.com

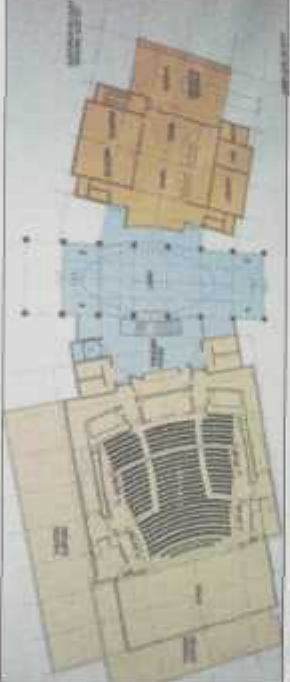
DOBSON — Initial construction on a Viticulture and Enology Center will be scaled back to save on costs, but those leading the project want more than just classrooms built. Trustees at Surry Community College expressed no objections Monday to a proposal to include a lobby and floor space as part of the multi-million dollar project's reduced scope. A project meeting, committee decided last month that the lobby is needed to help attract visitors and industry conferences to the center and should be added onto the classrooms, the and winery already approved for immediate construction.

That space is what would attract people to the center and make it more than just a classroom building, SCC President Frank Sells told trustees. It helps fulfill the mission of this center as being the hub of the wine

industry on the East Coast. Original plans were to include a 1,000-seat auditorium to boost the center's appeal to conferences and perhaps also host local events. But the college has had to scale back plans after three consecutive years of receiving far less than the \$7.5 million it has requested from the state. Building the fully proposed center would cost \$15 million, of which the college only has about a third.

Sells said he would talk to the project's architects in a couple of weeks to determine the feasibility of building the lobby and classroom components while leaving out the auditorium. If the price tag comes out to more than \$5 million, he said the college will start soliciting private contributions. County commissioners will also be asked for support.

"What we've done with private fundraising so far is very limited. If we were back with a public campaign, we could attract more pledges," Sells said. "Once we know



SCC officials want a scaled back version of a proposed Viticulture and Enology Center to initially leave out the auditorium seen on the left.

what we've got for sure, we can go back to those people with all the facts." If enough money is raised down the road, the auditorium could later be built as an addition. Some trustees expressed concern that donors might be less inclined to give to a project that doesn't immediately include

toward education, Trustee Bob Conner said.

Page 8 — The Messenger, Friday, October 5, 2007

New president hopes to make strong impact

By Brook R. Corwin
brook@surymessenger.com

DOBSON — Before the big interview that would eventually land her the job as Surry Community College president, Deborah Friedman arrived a couple of days early.

She had already done her homework on the college and the qualifications it was looking for. But a firsthand tour of the small towns and rural landscapes within the college's service area was still in order.

"I got a real feel for those communities. Until you chat with the folks who live there, you really don't know the area," Friedman said Sunday. "I was impressed."

SCC's board of trustees was impressed with Friedman as well, enough to select her last month from among 46 applicants as the successor to President Frank Sells. If approved as expected this month by the state board for community colleges, Friedman will take over the position Jan. 1.

That date marks the start of an opportunity to exert greater influence on the economic and educational future of a county a chance Friedman said attracted her to the position at Fayetteville Technical Community College so close to Surry County.

"It makes such a tremendous impact on the community," she said of SCC. "I enjoy the work and enjoy working with the students. I just wanted to see if I could make a greater contribution."

Friedman's belief in the potential impact of a rural community college stems back to her days chairing business, public service and accounting programs at Sampson Community College in Clinton. From there, she became the dean of business programs at Fayetteville Tech in 2001, eventually rising to become vice president of human resources.



Deborah Friedman

When the SCC position opened up, she researched the school and learned enough positive things about its trustees and its academic rankings to spark her interest. Trustees were looking for someone with a business background, which made Friedman a good fit since she has an MBA and experience in the private sector along with chairing business education programs.

"We can't just rely on state funds. The president has to work with the board of commissioners and has to go out into the community and speak," Betty Kay Vaughn, a SCC trustee, said Thursday. "She needs to be able to mingle with the business people in our community and she is very well qualified for that."

Friedman said she hopes to put her business experience into structuring SCC's academic programs to handle the influx of displaced manufacturing workers from recent plant closings.

"We need to make sure we offer a variety of programs to meet their needs," she said. "Although they're coming from the same skill set, they're not all going to want the same programs."

Friedman said she also wants to increase the college's outreach efforts to boost enrollment and find a way to build on the school's viticulture and enology curriculum.

"It's such a unique program to the state of North Carolina, and this is the right place for that program because of the geographical area," she said. "I'm very enthused about the potential there and partnerships we can build with local businesses to help tourism as well as in training employees."

Vaughn said trustees were most impressed by Friedman's qualifications, demonstrated intelligence and enthusiastic interest in the position. Those will help propel the college down its current course rather than steer it in an altogether new direction.

"I don't think she wants to come in and start shaking things around. I don't get that impression at all," Vaughn said. "If it's not broke, don't fix it. On the other hand, there's always room for improvement. I think that was somewhat her theory. She'll see what we're doing with our programs and how she can improve them."

Sells and past president Jim Reeves have offered to help Friedman get familiar with the college as its staff. Commitments to her current position will limit her travel, but Friedman plans to come back to the county a few times before the end of the year and meet with the school's leadership team.

It's all part of the process that began with a two-day tour before her interview several weeks ago — integrating with the small communities where she hopes to make a big impact.

"When you get into small towns, there's just a different sense of relationships," she said. "Bigger towns are fine, but you get to know the folks in small towns so much better."

SPORTS

THE MESSENGER

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2007-08 schedule

| Date | Opponent | Site | Time |
|----------|------------------------|--------|--------|
| Nov. 2 | Tallahassee Tournament | Away | TBA |
| Nov. 3 | Tallahassee Tournament | Away | TBA |
| Nov. 5 | Gulfport Tech | Away | 7 p.m. |
| Nov. 6 | Patrick-Henry | Home | 7 p.m. |
| Nov. 13 | Catawba Valley | Home | 7 p.m. |
| Nov. 21 | Caldwell | Home | 7 p.m. |
| Nov. 27 | Catawba Valley | Away | 7 p.m. |
| Nov. 30 | Roanoke-Chowan | Away | 7 p.m. |
| Dec. 1 | Lenoir | Away | 3 p.m. |
| Dec. 6 | Patrick-Henry | Away | 7 p.m. |
| Dec. 8 | Louisburg | Home | 3 p.m. |
| Dec. 12 | Caldwell | Away | 7 p.m. |
| Jan. 8 | Wilkes | Home | 7 p.m. |
| Jan. 11 | Cape Fear | Home | 7 p.m. |
| Jan. 12 | Brunswick | Home | 7 p.m. |
| Jan. 14 | Spartanburg-Methodist | Home | 7 p.m. |
| Jan. 17 | Gulfport Tech | Home | 7 p.m. |
| Jan. 19 | Aiken Tech | Away | 5 p.m. |
| Jan. 25 | Denmark Tech | Away | 7 p.m. |
| Jan. 26 | USC-Salkehatchie | Away | 3 p.m. |
| Jan. 29 | Clinton | Home | 7 p.m. |
| Feb. 2 | USC-Salkehatchie | Home | 3 p.m. |
| Feb. 5 | Rockingham | Home | 7 p.m. |
| Feb. 8 | Denmark | Home | 7 p.m. |
| Feb. 9 | Clinton | Away | 3 p.m. |
| Feb. 12 | Wilkes | Away | 7 p.m. |
| Feb. 16 | Aiken Tech | Home | 3 p.m. |
| Feb. 20 | Spartanburg-Methodist | Away | 7 p.m. |
| Feb. 27 | Region X Tournament | TBA | TBA |
| Feb. 28 | Region X Tournament | TBA | TBA |
| Feb. 29 | Region X Tournament | TBA | TBA |
| March 7 | District Tournament | TBA | TBA |
| March 8 | District Tournament | TBA | TBA |
| March 19 | National Tournament | Kansas | TBA |
| March 20 | National Tournament | Kansas | TBA |
| March 21 | National Tournament | Kansas | TBA |
| March 22 | National Tournament | Kansas | TBA |

2007-08 roster

| Name | Pos. | Hgt. | High school |
|--------------------|------|------|------------------|
| Marcus Brown | Grd. | 5-10 | W-S Parkland |
| Jeremy Helms | Grd. | 6-0 | North Forsyth |
| Marcus Wilmoth | Grd. | 6-1 | Starmount |
| Will Thorp | Fwd. | 6-6 | Surry Central |
| Ferdie Morales | Fwd. | 6-6 | Starmount |
| Jamel Hicks | Grd. | 6-2 | Milstone Prep |
| A.J. Royster | Fwd. | 6-4 | W-S Parkland |
| Tim Lee | Fwd. | 6-6 | Stephens Prep |
| Qasim Fredrick | G/F | 6-4 | Stephens Prep |
| Caleb Tolar | Fwd. | 6-3 | Southern Durham |
| Derein Chapman | C/F | 6-6 | Milstone Prep |
| C.J. Wright | Fwd. | 6-4 | Shelby Crest |
| Chris Boyce | G/F | 6-5 | Char. Myers Park |
| Mitchell Livengood | PG | 5-11 | North Stokes |



Phil Gobie Jr./The Messenger
Surry Community College assistant coach Tony Searcy explains a drill during one of the team's first practices.

The season begins ... Knights aim for opener on Nov. 2

By Phil Gobie Jr.
phil@surrymessenger.com

DOBSON — The gym is closed two hours a day now. Basketball season is about here.

Surry Community College opened practice for its 2007-2008 season Monday afternoon with 16 players — 14 set for the squad and two red-shirt freshmen.

Yesterday was excellent," Head Coach Eddie Wilmoth said Tuesday afternoon. "The kids came in well-conditioned — better than I thought they'd be. There was a lot of excitement and enthusiasm."

It is the first time a team has prepared for a basketball season in three years. The program had folded due to the loss of a coach and lack of player interest.

This time, neither of those factors exist.

Wilmoth and Assistant Coach Tony Searcy, who was recently elected to the Surry County Sports Hall of Fame, will be running players through full two-hour practices Monday through Friday with a session on offense only on Saturdays.

"The guys have come together," Wilmoth said. "They've had a chance to get to know each other in open gyms and classes. Now, we'll see the cream rise to the top."

They will need to see that quickly — national power Oak Hill Academy visits Oct. 18 for a scrimmage. Game time is set for 7 p.m. Tickets are \$10.

"We're only going to have 15 practices in before Oak Hill," Wilmoth said. "See Knights, next page"



Phil Gobie Jr./The Messenger
Ferdie Morales makes a cut move around assistant coach Tony Searcy during practice. The season opens Nov. 2.

Knights open practice for 2007-2008 season

Continued from previous page
said, noting the team will be physically conditioned. "We'd like to give them a decent game."

Wilmoth hopes the atmosphere will be electric and the game — which the teams will split — high so that Oak Hill will want to come back.

After that scrimmage, players bear down heading for the Nov. 2 season opener at Tallahassee (Fla.) Community College.

Tallahassee is in the NJCAA Division 1 national finals in March. Tip-off is set for 8 p.m. The next day at 3 p.m. in Tallahassee gym, the Knights take on Enterprise-Ozark (Ala.) Community College.

Enterprise-Ozark is coached by former Surry Central coach John Ayers, who had an 84-12 record at Surry Central.

Surry Community's first home game is Nov. 8 against Patrick-Henry Community College.

Confidence-wise, the Knights will compete in the South Division of Region X in the



Coach Eddie Wilmoth

National Junior College Athletic Association, Division 1. There are 14 teams in its division. The Knights of old competed in the NJCAA Division III.

Wilmoth said as of now, the battle for starting spots is wide open, but nobody has to worry about playing time.

"There will be minutes for everybody," he said.

BASKETBALL IS BACK!



Surry Community College's Marcus Brown (23) goes up for a shot against Oak Hill Academy during a scrimmage on Thursday night in Dobson. Surry lost to the Warriors, 101-74.

The Mount Airy News

Sports

Friday, October 19, 2007



The crowd filled the hall outside the Knights' gym for the Oak Hill scrimmage.



Surry Community College's Ferdinand Morales (middle) reaches between Oak Hill players Chasen Campbell and Danny Jennings for a rebound.



Surry Messenger:
From the 10/19/07
bleachers

Phil Goble Jr.
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Basketball taking off at Surry Community

Basketball is back at Surry Community College — in a big way. Thursday night, national high school powerhouse Oak Hill Academy visited the Knights for a scrimmage.

The place was packed. Jammed.

Crunched.

It was so tight in that gym, a standard can would have been jealous.

The game tipped off at 7 p.m. At 6:15 p.m., the place was about half full — and the line went down the hall.

"I was worried they were going to come in and wed have 200, not 1,000," Athletics Director Mack Tucker said Thursday before the scrimmage started. "This is great. I don't know if we have a seat left."

Tucker believed it was the biggest crowd to attend an athletic event since the late 1970s, or early 1980s.

Dr. Gary Tilley agreed.

"I don't remember the gym being this packed for a basketball game, not in my 27 years here," he said, standing in a doorway. "I think it's great to have college basketball here at this level. Athletics provides a character building and team building atmosphere for these young men."

Oh, it was an atmosphere that's for sure.

The Knights cheerleaders — in their new uniforms — created a tunnel for the Knights to charge through onto the court, bringing cheers from the crowd.

As the clock ticked toward 7 p.m., the gym got



Phil Goble Jr./The Messenger
Cam Jessup sings the national anthem before the Knights face Oak Hill.

louder and louder.

In fact, the only time the mob cooled down was when

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Knights open new hoops era in style

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Cam Jessup took the microphone and sang the national anthem.

It was a sight — and sound — to behold. The setting was the perfect way to bring college basketball back to Surry County after a three-year absence.

Oak Hill junior Chasen Campbell got the first basket of the new Knights era. Oak Hill senior Malik Story, a University of Southern California recruit, got the first 3-pointer.

Then, with 17:21 left, Surry Community College's Deron Chastain got the first Knights rebound, a rebound and putback that cut Oak Hill's lead to 9-2.

"It was a real good game," Tucker said. "We were down by just one at the start of the second half. Then the lead got away. It got to four, then eight, then 12 and went on from there. They started dunking. It pretty good there at the end."

The Knights eventually fell, 101-74.

"We were down six at halftime," Wilmoth said. "We came back out after halftime and played good defense, hit some big shots. There were a lot of bright spots, a lot of positives."

Surry Community wound up with 10 players, scoring led by 18 from Ferdinand Morales, 12 from Marcus Brown and 11 from Quasin Frederick.

Brandon Jennings led Oak Hill and all scores with 32.

"We just didn't have an answer for him," Wilmoth said.

The game did leave Wilmoth and Company with things to work on — transition basketball and 3-point shooting, where the Knights went just 1-for-9.

But that's OK. The excitement generated was amazing. The buzz was phenomenal.

"If Eddie Wilmoth is involved, you can realize things you couldn't otherwise," Tilley said. "He is a promoter."

Wilmoth was the catalyst behind

the program's resurgence. He is the coach and fund-raiser, helping the Knights Athletic Foundation bring in more than \$14,000 to jump-start the program.

And as he walked around Thursday with his foot in a medical boot — courtesy of a very, very short stint playing point guard during pre-season drills — he was all smiles.

Before the game, Wilmoth's hope was the student body and area residents would turn out and make this event one that would make Oak Hill — which has as pick of places to play — want to come back to Dobson.

If it did nothing else, the scrimmage showed the community what brand of basketball Surry Community would have this year ... and that ought to fill the gym up for every home game.

By the way, the next one is Thursday when Hope Christian Academy, a prep school from Charlotte, visits Dobson.

Editorial

A fair shot for both genders

For a fledging program, Surry Community College basketball has really taken off.

It's one thing to schedule an exhibition with Oak Hill Academy — a perennial top five prep program nationally — to kick off your season. It's quite another to pack your gym with a raucous crowd lining the doors for entrance to the event, especially when your team is the first to don SCC jerseys in years.

Yet the Knights hung with their high profile opponents, keeping the game close until the final 12 minutes before Oak Hill, lined with Division I recruits, pulled away for a 101-74 victory. The Oct. 18 contest was a tremendously encouraging affair, both for the display on the court and the enthusiasm in the stands. It signaled that restarting the school's basketball program was a smart decision, one that can sustain itself long term and boost interest in the college among potential students.

But it's not an accomplishment to rest upon. SCC needs to build on the enthusiastic start of its basketball program to plant the seeds for a women's basketball or softball program in the near future.

Beyond the issues of fairness and equal opportunity, SCC needs to get the ball rolling on women's athletics because of federal guidelines spelled out in Title IX of 1972 education legislation. Those guidelines, credited with rapidly boosting women's sports at the collegiate level, prohibit any exclusion based on gender from an educational program. The legislation has been applied to require comparable athletic opportunities for both genders.

SCC now has a sharp imbalance in those opportunities, with baseball and basketball being offered for men and only volleyball for women. This has prompted some trustees to call for implementing a softball program at SCC to put the entire athletic department back into balance.

Softball would be a logical fit. Both Surry and Yadkin counties have produced a wealth of high school talent in the sport, which would spur fan interest. It's not the type of thing that could pay for itself, but if the revenues and interest generated by basketball's explosive start are leveraged wisely, it's a feasible proposal that would give women a fair shot.

Sampling the fruit ...



Whit Lambert pours wine from Surry Community College's Viticulture and Enology program for Laurette Leagon and Betty Ann Collins, the presidents of the Yadkin Valley and Greater Mount Airy Chambers of Commerce, respectively.



George Sappenfield, SCC's associate vice president for corporate and continuing education, talks with Gary Augenstein and Angie Cagle of Advanced Electronics about the company's Mount Airy facility.

...of the county's labor

A total of 27 businesses representing 3,700 jobs turned out for the second annual Surry Showcase Thursday. The event, sponsored by the county's Partnership for Economic Development, was designed to spotlight a diverse collection of successful businesses doing business in Surry County.

Knights open with two losses in Fla.

TALLAHASSEE, Fla. — Surry Community College opened its 2007-2008 basketball season over the weekend with a pair of losses in the Wing Zone Tip-Off Classic at Tallahassee Community College.

In the four-team tournament's opening night finale, the best Eagles used a 22-3 run midway through the second half to turn a close game against the Knights into a 105-63 rout.

"They played like freshmen," SCC Coach Eddie Wilmoth said Monday. "There were a lot of bright spots even though the scores seemed lopsided." Wilmoth said, "I was pleased. I think we'll have a good squad."

At halftime, Surry Community College trailed the 24th-ranked Bar Tallahassee, fueled by a 15-0 spurt, outscored the Knights 61-29 after the break.

Marcus Brown led the Knights with 16 points. Dorein Charman added 13. Ten Knights scored in the game.

On Saturday the Knights committed 40 turnovers against an Enterprise-Ozark team that played pressure defense from

— buzzer to buzzer.

The Knights were thumped, 49-21, in the first half, but held their own in the second.

Charman led Surry with 30 points.

The Knights visit Guilford Tech tonight and open their home schedule Thursday against Patrick Henry. Tip-off for both games is 7 p.m.

SURRY CC (69)
Dorein Charman 13, Marcus Wilmoth 4, Eddie Wilmoth 6, Jeremy Hayes 3, Dorein Charman 6, Marcus Brown 16, C.J. Wright 2, Will Tharp 1, Tim Lee 5, Will Tharp 4.

TALLAHASSEE CC (109)
Jeremy Robinson 7, Casey Clayton 3, Jeremiah Dook, 17 Paul Guede, 4, Patrick Spencer, 5, Rory Miller, 12, Dexter Shuk, 16, Brian Rob McEroy, 16.
Halima — Tallahassee 44, Surry 34

SURRY CC (71)
Chris Boyce 7, Dorein Charman 20, Marcus Wilmoth 3, Ferdie Morales 10, Dorein Charman 5, Marcus Brown 13, Will Tharp 2, Tim Lee 1.

ENTERPRISE-OZARK (100)
Brendon Braunstein 8, Will Goff Hayes 15, Jeremy Bush 6, Jamel Neal 6, Norman Stewart 16, Anthony Morris 3, Dorein Young 11, Michael Abbott 14, Fred Foster 26.
Halima — Enterprise-Ozark 49, Surry CC 21