

## Darts and Laurels, August 14, 2010

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Laurels - To a local company's use of

recycled roof shingles for paving roads. Instead of putting old

shingles in a landfill, Greenville Paving and Contracting uses them as an ingredient for asphalt. One of the first in North Carolina to use that method for recycling roofing materials, the company is putting the mix into parts of U.S. 258 being repaved near Snow Hill.

Darts - To a shakeup in the administrative ranks of the Pitt County chapter of the Southern Christian Leadership Conference. A controversial decision to remove the chapter's chairman and vice chairman over their decision not to support a call to remove Greenville's police chief serves to diminish the weight that historic civil rights organization carries with regard to local issues.

Laurels - To some upward movement in the graduation rate among Pitt County's high schools. Although the school system still falls below the statewide graduation rate, both Pitt County and the state are showing steady improvement in that critical area, and that is positive news. Educators and school administrators are to be commended, and encouraged to keep the momentum going.

Laurels - To a back-to-school conference offered by Cornerstone Missionary Baptist Church. The initiative involved three days of free seminars on such topics as standardized tests, grade transitions, bullying, the Pitt County Schools code of conduct and study skills. The conference is a model for how community and parental involvement can work to enhance public education.

Laurels - To the **Beau's Buddies** Cancer Fund Golf Tournament, which has drawn a pair of PGA golfers to compete in Monday's event. Greenville native Will MacKenzie and fellow professional James Driscoll will be in the lineup at the Greenville Country Club for the second annual charity tournament in memory of Hugh Parham "Beau" Stanley. This is the first time the tournament has hosted PGA golfers, but it's a worthy cause and their support for it is appreciated.

Darts - To oppressive heat that kept temperatures in the mid to upper 90s all week. Those working outside found little relief in the shade as high heat and humidity created heat index values in the triple digits. A bit of cooling is forecast for the weekend, but with half of August left, hot weather and the need to take precautions will continue.

Laurels - To the opening this fall of East Carolina University's first honors college. University officials decided to upgrade the school's honors program to an honors college hoping to boost recruitment and retention of

high-achieving students. The college is set to open with 105 students. It's an exciting addition to the university, one that has produced positive results at other schools.

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