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CHESAPEAKE

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CHESAPEAKE Diane W. Edwards has been named one of five finalists to compete in the 1997 Virginia Beef Cook-Off. She will prepare her recipe for ``Cowboy Stew" at the contest April 25 in Harrisonburg.

Edwards works for the Norfolk Airport Authority. She's the mother of seven children and has eight grandchildren.

In the competition, Edwards will be allowed no more than eight ingredients and one hour of preparation time. Dinner recipes are designed to be easily prepared after work, contest officials note.

The winner of the Virginia contest will win \$1,000 and be eligible to compete at the National Beef Cook-Off for \$25,000. The event is sponsored by the Virginia Cattle Women and the Virginia Cattle Industry Board in conjunction with the Virginia Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services.

NORFOLK

Helen C. Rountree, a professor of anthropology at Old Dominion University and a nationally known expert on Pocahontas and the Powhatan Indians of Virginia, has received the Outstanding Achievement Award from the Friends of the Old Dominion University Library.

In Rountree's studies, writing and 30 years of teaching, she has sought to emphasize truths about cultures that have been misunderstood, forgotten and nearly destroyed, according to the Friends of the ODU Library.

She is the author of four books, and her research into the Powhatan Indians of Virginia and the Native Americans of the Eastern Shore of Virginia and Maryland reveal a rich cultural heritage.

She was honored for standing for the truth and exposing false commercial images.

VIRGINIA BEACH

John M. Ritz of Virginia Beach, chair of the occupational and technical studies department at Old Dominion University, has received the highest recognition provided to a member of the International Technology Education Association and was named to the Academy of Fellows during the association's international conference in Tampa, Fla.

Ritz, a faculty member at ODU since 1977, is president of the Council on Technology Teacher Education.

He previously was honored by the technology association with the Distinguished Technology Educator award and holds the organization's Meritorious Service award for chairing various committees throughout his professional career.

PORTSMOUTH

Je'aime Powell, an I.C. Norcom High School student, recently won a first place at the Tidewater Science Fair, and his project also netted him a job offer from Jefferson Laboratories (formerly CEBAF).

Powell took first in the senior division of the computer science competition and earned an Award of Excellence at the fair, which was held at Ocean Lakes High School in Virginia Beach.

Powell's project, ``TI Net II," is a mini-network of Texas Instrument calculators connected to a single computer, which allows the calculators to use the computer's memory.

SUFFOLK

Engineer B. Mike Parker was named Firefighter of the Quarter by the city Fire Department.

Parker, a Suffolk resident, was nominated by his peers and selected by a committee of

department personnel who considered attitude, creativity, dedication to the city, generosity to others, professionalism and community service.

A 23-year veteran with the department, Parker is a native of Honolulu, Hawaii.

He joined the department after graduation from John F. Kennedy High School.

His special certifications include Fire Instructor II and Emergency Medical Technician-B.

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