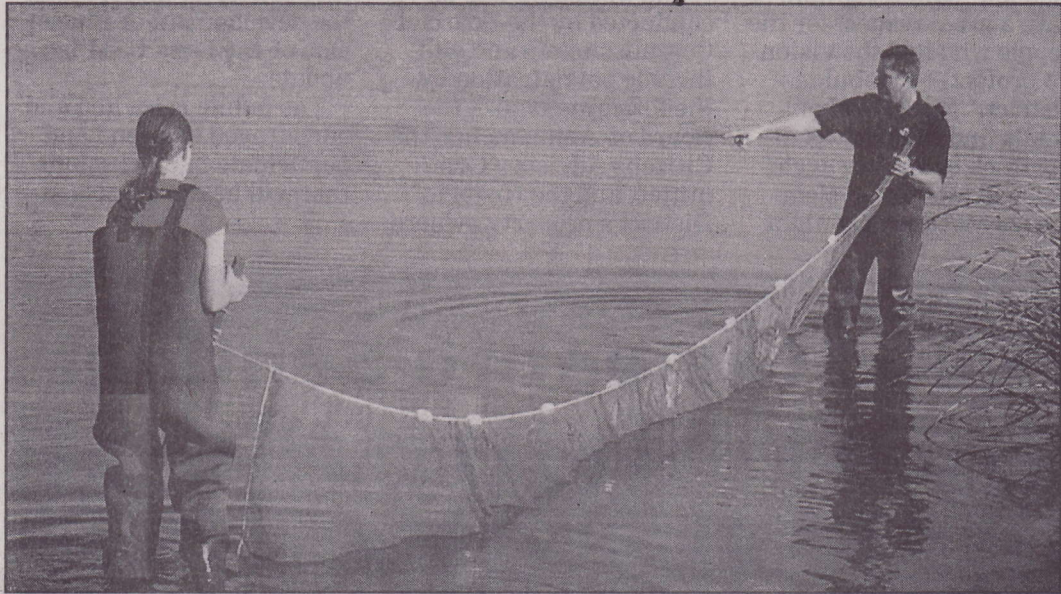


Hands-on means Boots-on in CHSS/CS estuary ecosystem lesson



Education Programs Coordinator for UNC Coastal Studies Institute, John McCord teaches CHSS/CS 7th grade student Alissa Oberbeck in Tracy Shisler's science class the fine art of seining. A seine is a fishing net that hangs vertically in the water by attaching weights along the bottom edge and floats along the top.

Cape Hatteras Secondary School of Coastal Studies has partnered with the UNC Coastal Studies Institute to build a fish and oyster hatchery, with help from a Dominion Power Educational Partnership Initiative grant and the US Coast Guard. Education Programs Coordinator for UNC CSI, John McCord is working with CHSS/CS Middle School 6th and 7th grade students taught by Tracy Shisler and alternative school students, taught by Amber Brad-

shaw on this continuing project. On Oct. 3, McCord took students to the sound to learn more about the local estuary system.

"Since they are building a fish and oyster hatchery they really need to know about the estuary system so John and I have been coordinating our efforts to educate the students," described Shisler. "John visits the school once every two weeks to do a special lesson with the students. This past Wednesday, October third

the students went seining in the sound to collect and discuss various organisms in the estuary ecosystem.

"In addition to the more formal partnerships, parents Bonnie Gray and Antoinette Mattingly are active in this project, and Avon Seafood, owned by Tilman and Bonnie Gray have been a great help and donated a new tank with all the equipment so that the students can watch some of the specimens that they catch in the seine net."