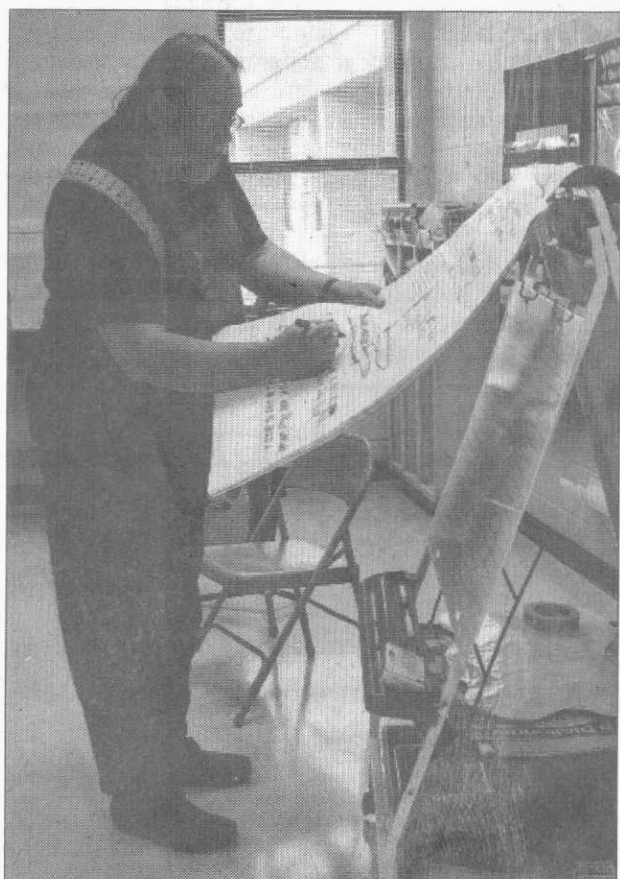
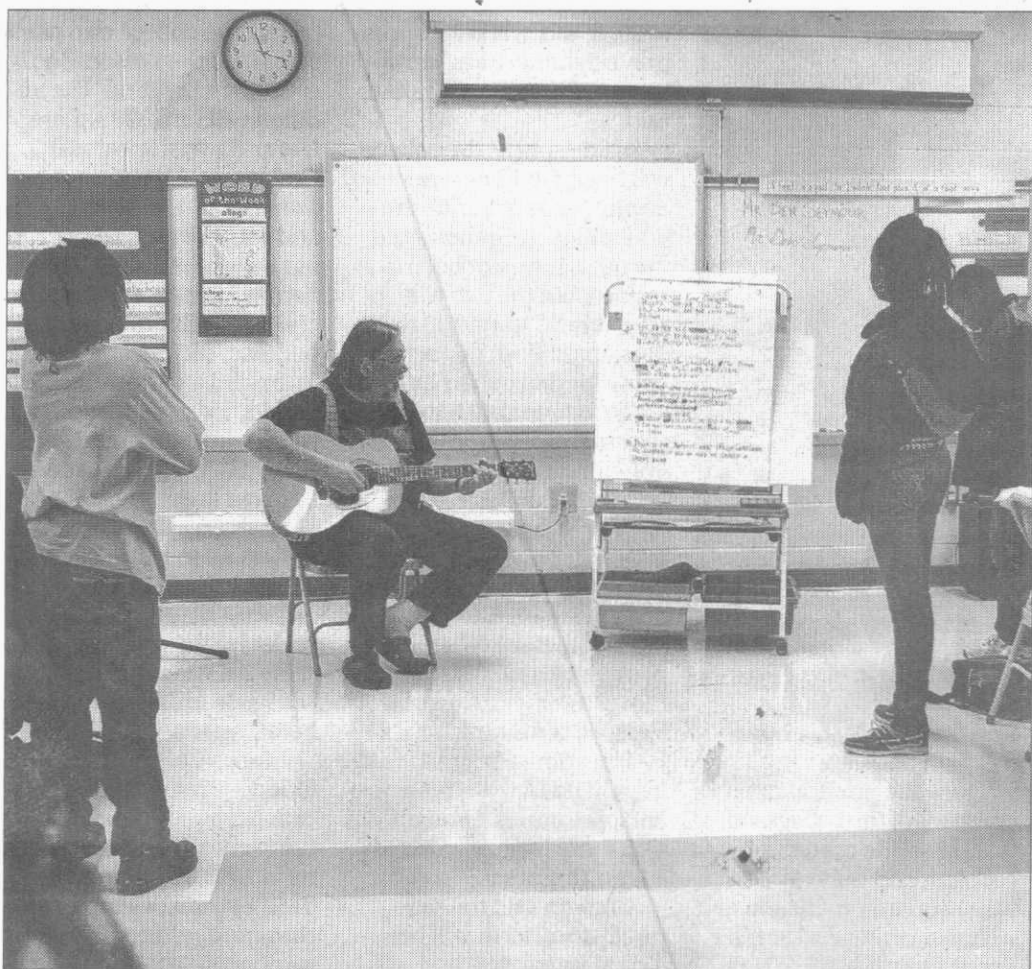


CREATING STORIES



Ben Seymour, a musician and instrument builder, revises songs with Carrie Adams Johnson's third period class at Cherryvale Elementary on Wednesday. This week, Seymour has been working with the school's fifth-graders to create their own stories and set them to the tunes of old folk songs such as "Go Tell Aunt Rhody" or "On Top of Old Smokey." He spoke with the writing students about having good content and then reworking their ideas to fit rhythmically. Seymour told students that it is good to know synonyms. Johnson said she liked that the students are being exposed to different genres of music and she's had as much fun as the students. A couple of students will have the opportunity to participate in the Jack Doyle Storytelling Festival held in February, and Seymour and his wife, Rebecca Cleland, will also be at the event.

PHOTOS BY JADE ANDERSON / THE ITEM