

Protesters Attend Fund Raiser

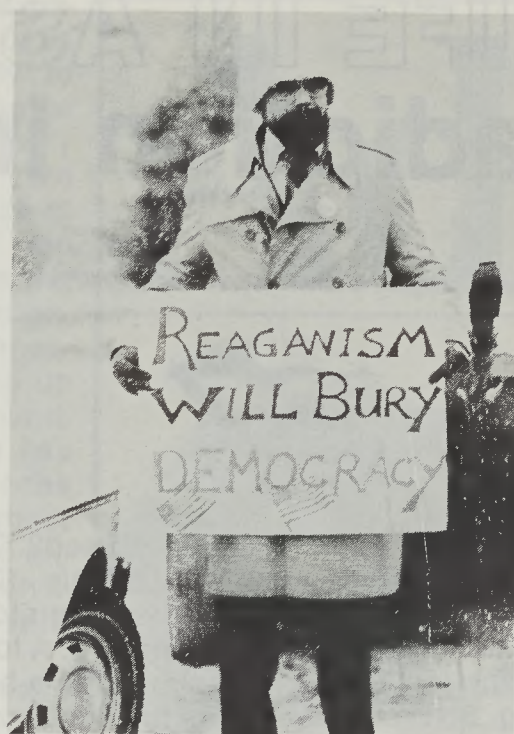
by Dave Picket

Treasury Secretary Donald T. Regan visited Asheville Feb. 26 to attend a Republican fund raising luncheon for Rep. Bill Hendon at the Great Smokies Hilton.

The luncheon was preceded by a news conference at which economic issues were discussed. The main topics were inflation, the cause of high interest rates, slow economic growth and unemployment.

Regan said with inflation decreasing and the administration battling government budget deficits some economic recovery is certain this year. The recession will end in the second quarter bringing about an economic up-turn this spring.

In his speech at the \$100-a-plate luncheon, Regan referred to the president as "a man with vision and the skill to communicate it to others." He also said, "Ronald Reagan is the greatest thing to happen to this country in 50 years.



Not everyone present agreed with the Treasury Secretary. Jay S. Gertz, an employee at UNC-A's library, protested outside the Great Smokies Hilton in the cold while Regan extolled Reaganomics and it snowed.

Gertz said, "Are we so blind we fail to see our American democracy has become nothing more than a way to ensure continued prosperity for the wealthy? The Reagan free-

enterprise America is a lie. Only the rich get richer."

He added, "A true democracy would not allow tax breaks for higher income brackets while forsaking the fundamental human needs of the poor. Neither would a democracy stand by silently as domestic social programs are dismantled and American nuclear weapons are erected in a global landscape of tears and despair."

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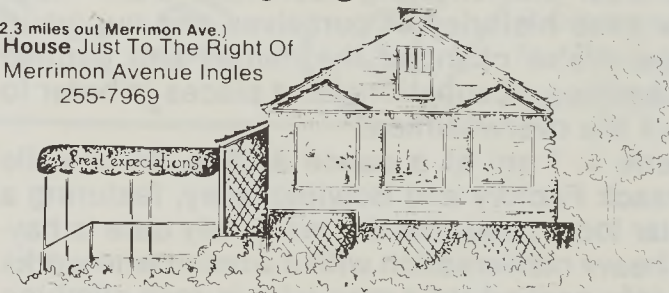
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