

Is It Baker's Time?

From The Editorial Staff

Can former Senator Howard Baker of Tennessee bring stability to the scandal embroiled White House? In 1973 a firm and honest lawmaker asked the question heard around the world: "What did the President know (Richard Nixon) and when did he know it?" The answer to that question led to the downfall of Nixon.

And now 14 years later Howard Baker is in the middle of another White House crisis. Baker is believed to be the man to bring the needed rescue to the Reagan Administration. On February 27 Baker accepted the call of the President to become the White House Chief of Staff. Baker said "I expect that there will be good things out of the last two years of the Reagan administration, and I intend to help him." The appointment has two positive points: First, "It is the most encouraging sign in months that President Reagan is still capable of saving his Administration" and secondly, the First Lady should like the selection.

Senator Alan Dixon, Illinois

Democrat, said of Baker, "We know he's fair, we know he's honest, and we know he's decent." Long time friend and colleague Robert Dole said of Baker. "The right man at the right time at this critical period for the White House."

There seems to be a consensus on Capitol hill that the 61 year old Baker can indeed bring the troubled White House a fresh breath of resiliency and a better reputation. This may be true, but only time will tell. And of course, there is the question of President Reagan's honesty. Even though he took full responsibility of the whole affair, there is still the question in most American's minds, did the President tell all and reveal all? The question of National Security is always understood, but does every detail of wrong doing fall in that category.

Baker may be "the right man," but maybe he would be better suited as "the right man" in 1988. After all how much can Baker do in two years of a fading Administration.

"We've come a long way"

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Louisburg College today. We are delighted that you are here and we can all join together and celebrate this great occasion."

Ben E. Jordan, Jr., chairman of the board of trustees, then gave a statement of purpose.

"The purpose of this day is to kick off the celebration (200 anniversary celebration)," he said.

Jordan also spoke of the immensity of the event in the College's history, and mentioned the Bicentennial Committee, and that it was formed in 1984 and is chaired by Dr. George-Anne Willard.

"On Saturday, Jan. 6, 1787, the Franklin Male Academy Charter was ratified."

The College Glee Club, led by Director Daniel Steinert, then followed Jordan. They performed "An American Code," by Mickey Newbury.

President Norris then proceeded to introduce representatives which each gave Bicentennial tributes.

First, the Honorable Robert B. Jordan, III, Lieutenant Governor of North Carolina, gave greetings from the state of North Carolina.

"I give greetings from the state of North Carolina on this historic occasion. Louisburg College is an important part of the heritage of our state, and is part of our tradition and commitment for higher education.

Carlton P. Minnick, Jr., Bishop in the Raleigh Area of The United Methodist Church, then gave greetings on behalf of the North Carolina Conference of the United Methodist Church.

"Thank you for 200 years of service. Thank you for church-relatedness, for holding high the sign of Christian higher education, and for the commitment to moral and spiritual values we identify with the Christian faith."

Louisburg's Mayor, Lucy T. Allen, spoke on behalf of Louisburg and the Franklin County Community.

"The college is a pivotal

educational, cultural, and economic resource valued by, supported by, and identified with Franklin County and the town of Louisburg. As mayor and on behalf of its citizens, we salute Louisburg College for the honor and recognition they bring to Louisburg and Franklin County. The vision has become reality."

Dr. James H. Semans, a trustee of Louisburg College then spoke about the Duke family's relationship with the college.

"On this special, happy day, President Norris has been nostalgic and asked me to mention the Duke Family's connection with Louisburg."

"Since 1891, the Duke's have had direct involvement with the college. In 1891, Washington Duke secured much of the property where the buildings today stand. He gave it to his son Benjamin, who in 1907 donated the land to the N.C. Conference for Louisburg College."

"This has helped provide educational options for the young people of the state."

President Norris then introduced the representatives who gave responses on behalf of the college family.

Dr. Willard, Chair of the Bicentennial Committee and Chair of the History Department, spoke on behalf of the faculty. Dr. Willard spoke of the history of the College.

"200 years ago the citizens of this county has a dream of educational opportunity. Our country was young and its destiny was yet to be fulfilled when the N.C. Legislature chartered the Franklin Male Academy in 1787. It was the first school in Franklin County."

Then Lisa Buffaloe responded on behalf of the students. "When asked to speak in behalf of the students, I felt the best resource would be to talk to other students. Many spoke of 200 years of good reputation locally, statewide, and nationwide. Some also spoke of family traditions. Many students' parents, grand parents, and great-grandparents have attended this school."

"But I believe most students spoke of 200 years of teaching administration experience. To be where we are today means we have accomplished success in many areas, which include moving students on the 4 year institutions, having successful athletic programs, and helping students interact among peers in life."

"Hopefully there will be another 200 years of education on the horizon."

Next was Harold A. Morris, President of the Alumni Association.

"It is my honor to speak on behalf of 12,000 living alumni

and those who went before us. 12,000 interesting books could be written about us describing our wonderful Louisburg experiences. For most of us, it was the first time we were away from our families and homes. We found a wonderful new community in the town of Louisburg."

"While we expanded our minds we expanded our horizons."

The Honorable John T. Church, Representative of the N.C. General Assembly and Vice Chairman of the Board of Trustees, then introduced the speaker, Dr. William C. Friday, President Emeritus of the University of North Carolina.

"A more appropriate speaker for this occasion does not exist," said Church.

"Good morning. Isn't it a beautiful Louisburg morning," began Friday.

"I bring greetings to the nation's oldest 2 year church related college, from the nation's first public university that opened its doors to students. I think this manifests the commitment and fierce determination of the early settlers of our country who wanted to provide, both here and at the university, our children with education."

"Adversity and hardship are not strangers to either one of these institutions."

"But then survival was essential for the establishment of the Republic. And today,

you and I are inheritors of this uncommon devotion and dedication of our founders and predecessors. Celebrate and rejoice that such a record of noble service exists. The University and Louisburg have made a long journey but a profitable one. It certainly shows why the diversity in our educational systems is so beneficial for the state of North Carolina."

"The great adventure of learning and the freeing of a young mind from the boundaries of fear, prejudice, despair, bigotry is through the wonders of knowledge and its joys and compassion. This is why Louisburg and U.N.C. are so important. And this is why that is done today on these campuses by these teachers is so critical to the future."

After Friday's address, the Glee Club performed "God Bless the Master," by Ralph Vaughan Williams.

The program concluded with the singing of the Alma Mater, the Benediction by Dr. Joseph Bethea, Raleigh District Superintendent of the United Methodist Church, and the Recessional as the honored guests marched out as the program concluded. Louisburg College was officially 200 years old.

Happy Birthday Louisburg College!

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