



West Craven Highlights

News From Along The Banks Of The Neuse



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Bush, Dukakis Trade Jabs, Can't Land Kayo Blow

By MIKE VOSS

Editor
WINSTON-SALEM — Vice President George Bush and Gov. Michael Dukakis traded jabs and each landed several hard blows, but neither scored a knockout punch in the first of two presidential debates Sunday night. Dukakis attacked Bush, and the Reagan administration, on foreign policy and cuts in federal domestic programs. His tie slightly askew, Dukakis questioned Bush's priorities on defense and domestic programs. Bush painted a picture of Dukakis as a "strong liberal" lacking experience in foreign policy and willing to "spend, spend, spend." Dukakis accused Bush of being the "Joe Isuzu of American

politics," saying Bush had flipped-flopped on issues, broken a pledge not to raise taxes "at least five times," and revamped his stand on the space-based defense plan. Bush said Dukakis would sacrifice a strong nuclear deterrent program for conventional force strength, giving the Soviets a tactical advantage.

Bush, the Republican nominee for president, and Dukakis, the Democratic nominee, debated in Wake Forest University's Wait Chapel. It was the first of two debates scheduled before the Nov. 8 election.

Bush said Dukakis governs like a technocrat, calling him the "smartest clerk in the world." Bush, responding to Dukakis's comments on how he would re-

duce the federal deficit, said, "That answer was about as clear as Boston Harbor." Bush was referring to the polluted harbor, something for which he has criticized Dukakis when discussing environmental issues.

Dukakis questioned Bush's role in dealings with Panama's Gen. Manuel Noriega, indicted this summer on drug charges, his role in the Iran-Contra arms-for-hostages deal and the administration's Central American policy. He termed the Reagan administration's involvement in the Iran-Contra affair tragic and said Bush must share the blame.

Dukakis tried to toss aside Bush's charge that Dukakis was "passionless" by saying he was a leader in civil rights in Mas-

sachusetts, was concerned about the Vietnam War and cared for providing opportunities to low- and moderate-income people. "I believe in the American dream. I am a product of it," said Dukakis in his closing remarks.

Bush renewed his Republican convention call for a "gentler and kinder nation." He said the nation needed a leader with values, experience and integrity. The vice president said the Reagan administration and he should be "judged by the whole record" on the Iran-Contra affair. He said the Iraq-Iran peace talks and other developments in the Middle East proved the administration's policy is working.

Both men in their final remarks called for a return to

values and opportunities. "I am the change," said Bush. Dukakis said he had the direction the nation needs to follow.

Bush blamed the drug problem on a "deterioration of values" and condoned "those things we should have condemned." He called for action to "install values in young people." Bush, who supports the death penalty for drug criminals, said he was concerned that a cocaine scene in the movie Crocodile Dundee was treated humorously. "My plea to the American people is values in the schools."

Dukakis questioned Bush's commitment to the drug problem, saying an administration that dealt with drug dealers like Noriega was not providing the

proper leadership. He said the leadership in the war on drugs needed to start at the top. "Values begin at the top — in the White House," said Dukakis.

The Democrat outlined three keys to reducing the federal deficit — a close look at expensive weapons systems, private economic growth and keeping interest rates down. Dukakis said Bush would provide money for unneeded high-technology weapons systems by cutting domestic programs.

Bush said Dukakis was willing to "spend, spend, spend" and had not promised to not raise taxes. Bush said taxes in Dukakis's home state were raised five

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To Beat The Band

Two members of the West Craven High School Marching Eagles Band perform at halftime at last week's game against West Carteret. The band, spiffy in their uniforms, played a rousing set and received plenty of applause for its efforts. When it comes to high schools

bands in eastern North Carolina, it's tough to beat the band from West Craven. Maybe they march to the beat of a different drummer.

(Mike Voss photo)

Firemen's Day Offering Food, Fun And Music Parade Starts At 10 A.M. For 29th Annual Affair

By MIKE VOSS

Editor
Don't make any plans for Oct. 1. They've already been made for you. And what plans they are.

The 29th annual Vanceboro Firemen's Day kicks off with the traditional parade at 10 a.m. Of course, no Firemen's Day parade would be complete without the long procession of fire equipment through the town's streets. Little children who once admired the fire engines now drive them. Little children who watch the brightly painted trucks roll by Saturday may one day wear a fireman's turnout gear.

And if a parade isn't enough, there will be plenty of food, games, prizes and entertainment to go around. The annual event is the major fund-raising event for

the Vanceboro Volunteer Fire Department. Proceeds go toward purchasing equipment and maintaining the station and current equipment. Barbecued pork or chicken plates will be sold for \$3.50. A drawing for a 19-inch color television will be held.

Fire truck rides will be made available to children and the seats are expected to be filled. Civic groups will make their appearance in several ways, but mostly through booths. The little tykes will be able to play games, while mom and dad decide what they want to do.

Music will be provided during the day by Danny and the Ambassadors. Later in the evening the Silver Wings band will play from 8 p.m. until midnight.

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Eagles Pop Patriots For Conference Win

By MIKE VOSS

Editor
VANCEBORO — West Craven rolled up 513 yards in offense, but saw a shutout slip by in the closing seconds for the second straight week en route to a 34-6 pasting of West Carteret.

The Eagles ground out 372 yards for 17 first downs on the turf and gained 141 yards through the air to pick up the win in their Class 3-A Coastal Conference opener. Sophomore quarterback Kevin Holzworth threw for 126 yards and two touchdowns, while completing five of 10 attempts. Holzworth tossed scoring strikes of 21 and 32 yards.

Sophomore running sensation Lee Becton returned to early-season form after being hampered the last two weeks by nagging injuries to rush for 170 yards and one touchdown on 19 rushes. Four other Eagle backs com-

bined for 154 yards on 22 carries.

The Eagles let a shutout slip by as West Carteret's Robby Lasater hit Derrell Montayne with a 10-yard scoring strike with no time remaining.

"We were just outmanned. They had too many hosses for us," said Patriots' coach Ed Hiatt. "We are going to have to work on everything." The Patriots are 1-4 overall and 0-1 in the Coastal Conference. Hiatt said Lasater and Montayne performed well on offense, while David Donovan anchored his defense with good play.

"We must be the worst last-five-seconds team in the world," said Eagles' coach Clay Jordan about the Patriot score. Last week Pamlico County scored on the Eagles with four seconds remaining.

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Flying Eagle Award Goes To Quarterback

Opposing coaches shudder when they think of what the West Craven football team may become in two years. The reason they shudder is that the Eagles are loaded with talent, particularly in the sophomore class.

At one point this year, West Craven's backfield was all sophomores. Sophomore running back Lee Becton has already proved his worth and drawn plenty of attention.

But sophomore quarterback Kevin Holzworth is catching a few eyes also. It is because of his efforts on the field Friday night that he is this week's recipient of the Flying Eagle Award.

The sophomore signal caller threw for 126 yards, completed five of 10 passes for two

touchdowns and directed the West Craven offense to 513 yards total offense. He also caught a halfback pass from Colvin Sanders that was good for 15 yards. Holzworth tossed touchdown strikes of 21 and 32 yards. If other receivers' hands would have cooperated a little better, Holzworth would have probably had another touchdown toss and more completions.

Not only is Holzworth learning his quarterbacking duties, he also is learning how to refine his pitching arm during baseball season. He pitched for the Eagles this past spring as a freshman.

Although he fumbled twice in Friday's 34-6 win over West Carteret, once just yards from the goal line, Holzworth kept



Holzworth talks with Jordan about play

his cool and led the Eagles' offensive attack that picked up 17 first downs. He threw one block that freed Becton on

a touchdown jaunt, only to receive a mild chewing out from

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Caprara Providing 'Flavor' To Eagles

By MO KROCHMAL

Sports Editor
Some 35 years ago on a spring day, Tony Caprara stepped off an airplane in Atlanta, Geo.

"The peach blossoms were on the trees and it was warm," Caprara, assistant football coach at West Craven, recalled. "I decided this is where I wanted to be."

Thus after making visits to Duke, West Point and Pittsburgh, Caprara, a native of Turtle Creek, Pa., opted to play football with the University of Georgia Bulldogs.

He played linebacker for four years for Georgia, finishing up in 1953. While at Athens, Caprara met his wife, Nancy, a Vanceboro native.

The path that his life took led to Vanceboro and a job as supervisor with DuPont. And, it has led to a seven-year association

with the West Craven football program as a volunteer assistant football coach.

That makes for some long days for the 57-year-old Caprara, who says he gets up at 4:30 in the morning and doesn't go to sleep until 10 or 11 at night.

He puts in a full day at work and then goes to the Eagles' practice. In his spare time, he grades film and takes care of his other duties as West Craven's defensive coordinator. All for free.

"I love working with kids," Caprara says. "It's something else."

Caprara said he hooked up with West Craven by asking head coach Clay Jordan if he needed some help. He did.

In addition to working with the high school program, Caprara said he started a little league program. Among the nine-year-

olds in Caprara's program were his son and Jesse Campbell.

Both came through the ranks and finished high school two years ago. Caprara's son hurt his back and was unable to play out his senior year while Campbell completed a standout career and is now becoming a defensive standout at North Carolina State.

"That Jesse is one ballplayer in this world," Caprara said. "He's a good kid and he works hard."

With the graduation of Caprara's son and a standout like Jesse Campbell, Caprara could have walked away satisfied.

But, he plugs on.

"It keeps me young," he says. Now there is a youthful but inexperienced group, keyed by a nucleus of talented sophomores, coming along at West Craven.

"I love them," Caprara said. "They're jelling pretty well now

and getting more confidence in themselves."

For Caprara, the association with the football squad is still a family affair.

Once a year, his wife Nancy, a Vanceboro native, dishes up an Italian meal. Spaghetti, lasagna, meatballs, sausages, salad — the works — all dished up in the school cafeteria. If the team is in the playoffs, as it has been the last four years, the team gathers in the school cafeteria for Thanksgiving dinner.

Mrs. Caprara's Italian cuisine is renowned. How did a Vanceboro native learn the fine art of cooking Italiano?

"We went home and spent a summer up there," he explains.

West Craven head coach Clay Jordan recalls a certain Thank-

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Caprara in the weight room