

Letter To The Editor: Ingram Attackers Are Rebuked Chowan Athletic Banquet Held

Dear Sir:

As a career State employee now in my 17th year of service to the citizens of this State, I find it both unfortunate and unforgivable that other State Agencies and the news media, by half-truths, and the slanted reporting sometimes referred to as "yellow journalism" have in a most insidious and vicious manner continued to attack, harass, and malign dedicated, hard-working State employees in a constant political effort to "get" John Ingram.

The dozens of hours that I have personally spent responding to the so-called "errors" publically

reported by the State Auditor in his most recent audit of the Department of Insurance, politically fueled by certain legislators, is appalling and should be resented by the taxpaying public of this State.

A vast majority of the errors were computer errors, initiated by an employee of the State Auditor's Office.

The books and records pertaining to securities and cash maintained in my Division of the Department of Insurance have always been balanced with the Office of the State Treasurer and the State Auditor knows this by giving us his annual written certification.

During the ten years that Commissioner Ingram has been in Office I have personally supervised the collection of, accounting for, and placement for safekeeping of over Six Hundred Thirty Million Dollars (\$630,000,000) in taxes and fees collected from insurance companies. In handling all this money not one penny was lost, short or any books unbalanced as corroborated by the Office of the State Treasurer and the Office of State Auditor.

Anyone - editors, auditors, reporters or others - who states that my records are in shambles is misrepresenting the truth.

The State Auditor, himself, said, "I want to make it very clear that we've not detected any improprieties, or any funds missing, or any unlawful act." This direct quote from the State Auditor should be reported in every future story about this audit.

This constant harassment and maligning frequently makes me wonder if being a State employee is worth it all - but, when I consider how many taxpaying citizens count on us everyday, then I know that it is.

Respectfully yours,
Bobby W. Gray
Deputy Commissioner
Technical Operations
Division

Recognizing the community's sons and daughters as the stars of the show, Chowan Junior High School principal, John Guard, last week welcomed a record crowd of three hundred plus parents, friends and students to the school's 2nd Annual Athletic Awards Banquet. Athletes in the areas of football, girls and boys basketball, softball, baseball and cheerleading received certificates, plaques and trophies for their outstanding achievements.

In memory of their late classmate, Bob Noneman, and as a "tribute to what life stands for," Athletic Director Robert Woodley announced the establish-

ment of the athletic departments' Bob Noneman Athletic Award to be given annually to the most deserving male and female. Receiving the first annual awards were Trina Johnson and Stacy Marriner, whose names will be engraved on the plaque and placed in the school's trophy case.

During the 1981-82 school year, Chowan Junior High's athletes finished second in the All Sports Category of the Coastal Athletic Conference. The football team was Division A Champions and the baseball team, co-champions.

Students learned for the first time during the banquet those making the All Conference Team as follows: football - Troy Brothers, Steve Coston, Scott Evans, Mark Hollowell, Alan Krause, Smith Roberson and Sam Ward; girls basketball - Stephanie Elliott, Carrine Liverman, Yvette Mullen and Marva Satterfield; boys basketball - J.J. White; girls softball - Frankie Casper, Stephanie Elliott, Carrine Liverman and Robin Tynch; and boys baseball - Brian Bunch, Scott Evans, Tony Evans, Mark Hollowell and Stacy Marriner.

Awards were presented as follows: cheerleaders - Tanja White and Taji Bembry; Best All Around in football and basketball respectively; football -

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Candidates To Address BPW Club

The Edenton Business and Professional Womens Club will meet at Boswells Restaurant Thursday night (tonight) at 7:00 P.M. for their regular dinner meeting. At 7:45 P.M. the local candidates for the

June 29 election will appear for a panel discussion with the Club members. All members are urged to attend.

"No one has ever died an atheist."
Plato

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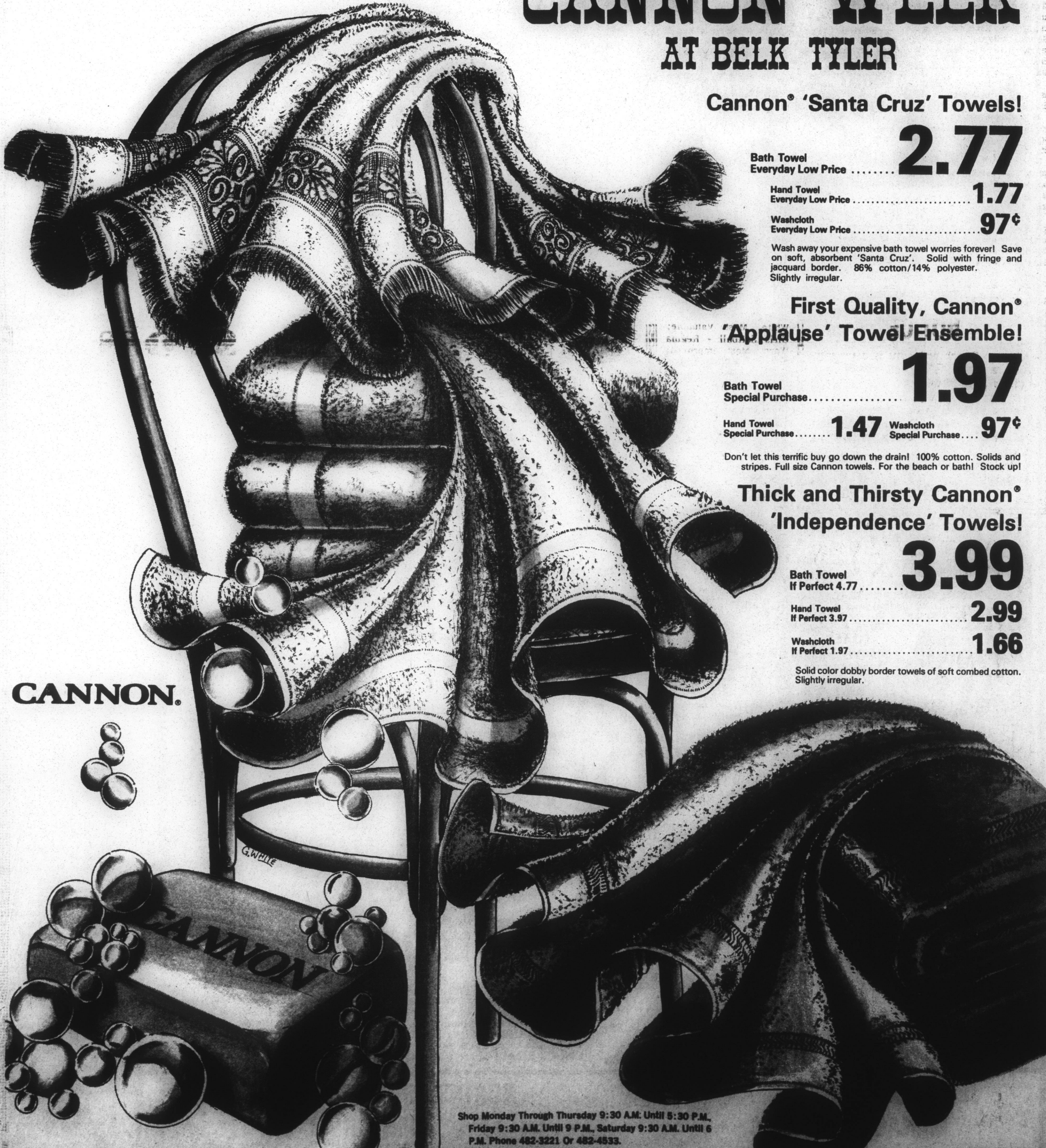
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