

Carolina Review: Campaigning Remaining Low-Key

CAMPAIGNING...The promised post-Labor Day increase in campaign activity has yet to materialize in the Capital city.

In Washington, congressmen have been kept busy providing President Reagan with his first major Congressional defeat - overriding his veto of a \$14.1 billion sup-

plemental spending bill. All seven North Carolina Democratic House members voted for the override.

The state's Republican House membership voted with the president, except for Bill Hendon of Asheville. Sens. Helms and East voted with the president, too.

Meanwhile, serious congressional candidates -

particularly Republicans Red McDaniel, Jack Marin, Ann Bagnal and Bill Cobey - all have maintained their rather studied assault on the Democratic incumbents. The campaigns have been steady but not stupendous.

Marin did hold a kick-off for his "formal" campaign last week.

What little excitement generated has been unleashed by Republican party chairman Dave Flaherty. Flaherty has so far been the flag ship of criticism on behalf of all the Republican candidates.

Newspaper editors and reporters have been less than kind to Flaherty for his unwavering partisan and sometimes slightly incomplete criticisms of the Democrats - while all the time allowing a sign of relief to have something to write about.

Flaherty continues to roll up newsprint in perhaps unheralded, but certainly unmatched fashion.

The former department secretary under Gov. Jim Holshouser, and himself once a Republican nominee for governor, Flaherty has complained bitterly of Democrats on the state payroll working for Democratic candidates at taxpayer expense. He usually manages to connect this unsavory activity to Jim Hunt's admitted vast political network.

The Democrats response has been to remind the

people of Republican political habits under Jim Holshouser.

But two local Republican candidates have recently proposed legal proceedings to investigate the improper use of state resources.

Flaherty has more recently fired on two state workers, with close ties to Gov. Hunt, who have taken extended leaves from state government to run the Democrat's "unity" campaign.

The unity campaign is basically the Democrat's answer to the National Republican Club - some say the "low road."

Wayne McDevitt and June Milby, both competent and

visible members of the Hunt administration, have taken a three-month hiatus to garner forces against the Republicans. Milby has been credited (or faulted) with penning the "tobacco tax twins" ad concerning the ill-advised tobacco tax votes by Sens. Helms and East.

McDevitt is an official leave from the Governor's western liaison office. Milby has temporarily vacated her office as assistant secretary to Sec. Sarah Morrow of the Dept. of Human Resources.

Flaherty has pointedly asked if the state positions are really needed if the two can leave the job undone for three months.



CONSTITUTION WEEK PROCLAIMED - Mayor Roy Harrell signs a proclamation declaring September 17 thru 20 as Constitution Week. Shown with the mayor is Mrs. Sadie Hoskins of the DAR, the organization which sponsored the proclamation. (See related story on page 1-B)

Scientists Study Oceanic Environment

By Marie Schnell
The earth's oceans were the cradle of biological life on our planet, scientists believe, but more and more they are being used as the final dumping ground for the waste products of our industrialized society.

What is the ocean's capacity to absorb these pollutants and other industrial by products and still remain biologically alive?

This question and others concerning the environmental effect of man's activities on the ocean are being studied by marine scientists at North Carolina University through a \$409,500 grant from the U.S. Department of Energy.

"We want to know where the environmentally sensitive areas are," said Dr. Leonard J. Pietrafesa, professor of marine, earth and atmospheric sciences at NCSU who will direct the two-year study in the South Atlantic.

Pietrafesa brings a vast store of knowledge and experience to the task. Since 1975 he has been studying various aspects of the physical movement of the Gulf Stream from Cape Canaveral to Cape Hatteras.

Now he will examine life at the ocean's bottom to try to understand what the bottom of the continental shelf is doing.

"The ocean bottom is not static," Pietrafesa explained. "It is active, biologically and physically. A lot of animal and plant communities dump their waste there, use it as a source of food, and call it home."

Pietrafesa's research team will measure the waves and currents in the lowest 10 feet of the water column to see "why and how the ocean bottom moves, how light is transmitted and scattered, how sediments move, and to observe the life forms that are there," he said. "We will see why these different sea life communities have established themselves in certain places."

This will be done over various soil types - muds, sands, shells, coral reef, silts, clays, and hard bottoms such as scallop beds.

By identifying areas of low and high energy wave and current activity, he hopes to determine likely areas where petroleum, agricultural, industrial, and nuclear byproducts might eventually be deposited on the continental shelf, or to locate routes along which these materials could be removed.

In areas of intense water movement - high energy areas - any toxins such as radioactive matter are flushed rapidly as these currents "scour out the bottom," Pietrafesa said. It is in areas of low energy currents where waste products end up and could well have their impact, he suggested.

Another key area to be addressed by the study is the ocean's capacity for storing heavy concentrations of carbon compounds, such as carbon dioxide, which are produced in voluminous amounts by

industrialized societies. "We don't know how many carbon compounds are being absorbed or redistributed by the ocean, but one hopes the ocean is absorbing carbon compounds," he commented. "We'd like to account for the carbon and learn whether the surface sediments of the ocean can store heavy concentrations of carbon compounds."

This is important because when carbon ends up in the atmosphere as carbon dioxide, it creates a layer which can trap heat from the sun like heat in a greenhouse. The new effect of trapped heat may be an increase in global atmospheric temperature, which could cause the melting of part of Antarctica, he suggested.

If the West Antarctic ice

sheet were warmed sufficiently, it could break away and float toward the equator and melt, releasing enough water to raise the sea level 20 feet and flood all existing port facilities and low-lying coast structures all over the world, he said. The study will also assess the use of coastal water as coolants or nuclear reactors, such as the facility at Southport.

Postal Workers Fighting Back

Postmaster General William F. Bolger warned the nation's dog owners today that the Postal Service will stop home delivery of mail if their pets are not properly restrained. The Postmaster General also stated that injured postal letter carriers and the Postal Service will sue for recovery of damages and lost wages if necessary.

Mr. Bolger's statement was in response to the alarming number of dog bites which have occurred this summer. Within the last month, in California alone three postal carriers suffered severe facial injuries from attacks by dogs. In one particularly violent incident, on August 17, a California letter carrier was maimed when a pit bull dog "blindsided" him, inflicting serious wounds to his face, neck, abdomen and arms. The same dog had attacked two other persons within the past year.

"This attack was so violent," Bolger said, "that utility workers who came to the carrier's aid had to fight off the dog with a claw hammer. I cannot understand how the owner of any dog can allow these kinds of attacks on letter carriers and other persons by ignoring the responsibility to keep the dog leashed, fenced or otherwise

confined." Last year, another California letter carrier died after being attacked by a pit bull - and although this particular breed is involved in a great number of bite incidents, dogs of all sizes and breeds contributed to the fact that 5,700 letter carriers were bitten last year.

"I'm reaffirming the existing authorization to our postmasters to stop mail service to any pet owner who does not meet the responsibility to confine a dog which constitutes a menace," Mr. Bolger said. "Furthermore, I am putting dog owners on notice that the Postal Service and its employees will seek to recover damages for injuries and losses incurred as a result of what I view as gross irresponsibility on the part of the owners."





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In Memory Of My Mother, **Janita S. White**, who passed away Sept. 6 and whose birthday is Oct. 13

Away upon a journey to a land that's bright and fair, and though I'll always miss you, I know that you are there. Your memory is my keepsake and with which I shall never part. God has you in his keeping, but I have you in my heart.

Your daughter
Carolyn

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