

Michaux's Race Hits Second Phase

By Milton Jordan and Joseph E. Green
The countdown continues in H.M. "Mickey" Michaux's race to become the first black U.S. Congressman from the rural south since Reconstruction. Just a little more than a month remains until the June 29 primary when Michaux and two other Democrats — I.T. "Tim" Valentine of Nash County and James E. Ramsey of Roxboro — will find out who the voters want to send against Republican Jack Marin of Durham in November.

Throughout the district, "He's touching base with everyone from tobacco farmers to black ministers," said Pat Gill, a veteran of national political campaigns who is one of Michaux's major political strategists. "One of our major problems is getting Mickey known in the entire district. We can't afford to think that if we carry Durham County we will carry it all. Nothing can be taken for granted."

One thing that obviously should not be taken for granted is the district's conservative bent. For about thirty years, L.H. Fountain, a conservative Democrat represented the district. He was seldom challenged, and when he was, he beat back liberal Democrats handily. Republicans generally left him alone because he voted most often along a Republican Party line. But two things drove Fountain out to pasture. The first was Durham's inclusion in the Second District. The second was Michaux's decision to run.

And now, Valentine and Ramsey are seeking the Fountain mantle, while Michaux talks of forming a "new partnership between the black and the white, the urban and the rural, and the rich and the poor."

Valentine hints mysteriously of "certain forces" in the district, calling them "well prepared, well financed and well organized," but declining to identify the forces to which he refers.

Ramsey seems to be trying to put as much distance as possible between Michaux's liberal approach, and Valentine's more conservative message, a la Fountain. But almost everyone admits right now that Michaux is the front runner in the campaign. But being the front runner in May is not what wins a June primary. It will take numbers, and numbers big enough to avoid a runoff because many Michaux supporters privately believe he will lose a runoff.

Michaux quotes the odds this way: "A 35 per cent turnout would be fine," he said. "That gives us 61,000 voters in the primary, and I would need 31,000. Ordinarily, I could get twenty per cent of the white vote just because of Durham. But I can get 31,000 votes just out of the black community alone, with fifty per cent turnout in the black community. Traditionally, we can get 40 per cent to 45 per cent of the black community turning out."

According to top level campaign aides, it will take three basic things to get those numbers. "Michaux must cover the district talking with and listening to voters, getting from them their perception of what the Second District congressman should be. Michaux must adequately convey the message that he can be a catalyst for progressive change throughout the district. Michaux must get more blacks registered throughout the district, and out to the polls.

To win, Michaux, 51, will have to carry Durham, his stronghold, and show well in Person County, Ramsey's home, and Nash County, Valentine's home, according to Michaux's high level campaign aides.

The district, which stretches from Halifax in the east to Caswell in the west, Wilson in the south to Vance on the Virginia border, has large numbers of black voters. Michaux is depending upon them as the core of his support. The mostly rural district is known for tobacco and soybeans.

Whether that is true or not remains to be seen, but it is obvious that the theme of the Michaux campaign at this point is to get 50 per cent of the vote, plus one, thereby avoiding the second primary that would come just three weeks after the June 29 primary.

To avoid this, the Michaux campaign, a race that has attracted national attention, has imported some Democratic heavyweights to pull out a victory.

For example, the National Committee for an Effective Congress (NCEC), sent Bob Beckel to North Carolina to help out. Beckel is a former aide in the Carter White House and one of Carter's 1980 campaign organizers. Smith, himself a veteran of the Carter-Mondale campaign for President, against President Ford, has taken charge of the "packaging of the Michaux message."

That message, according to Smith, is that Michaux will be a congressman who will help

build the infrastructure throughout the district that, in turn, will help relieve double digit unemployment in Person County, and help bring more water resources to industry-hunting counties in the east.

Meanwhile, campaign aides gear up for the gun lap. "This is one of the most exciting campaigns that I have ever been involved in," said Gill. "I think this race is going to have the largest number of voters turn-out than we've seen in a decade in this district." And that's exactly what it'll take for Michaux to win.

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Rev. Brown To Sponsor Picnic

The Gethsemane Baptist Church will attend a special picnic at the Sunshine Farm in Timberlake, N.C., Sunday, May 30 at 4 p.m. All food will be served free. The pastor owns the farm and is sponsoring the picnic.

The Gethsemane Church bus will leave the church at 1906 S. Roxboro St., at 3:30 p.m.

The Sunshine Farm is owned by Rev. Dr. V.E. Brown, the pastor of Gethsemane Baptist Church.

Vacation Bible School Workshop

An Arts and Crafts Workshop for Vacation Bible School teachers will be held on Monday, June 7, at the YWCA on Proctor Street from 6 to 8 p.m. Reservations may be made by calling Mrs. Lizzie M. Crews, workshop coordinator, at 596-5058.

Junior Gardener Wins Top Awards

Tiffence Jones, member of La Petite Junior Garden Club, and daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Robert Lee Jones of 2405 Southern Drive, was the top winner in the Junior Division at the Annual Spring Flower Show held recently at the Duke Street Center.

Tiffence won blue ribbons in the following classes: Let's Go To Market, Mother's Day, Dear Teacher, Kettle Delight, Her project - Identification of house plants.

Photo by Silas Mayfield



Photo by Silas Mayfield

Mount Gilead Baptist Church

404 DOWD STREET
DURHAM, NORTH CAROLINA 27701

SUNDAY, MAY 30, 1982

8:00 A.M.	Morning Worship	Sermon Rev. Leroy Davis
		Music Mt. Gilead Senior Chorus
9:30 A.M.	Sunday Church School	
11:00 A.M.	Morning Worship	Sermon Rev. Leroy Davis
		Music Mt. Gilead Tots' Choir

TRANSPORTATION IS PROVIDED TO ALL SERVICES UPON REQUEST.

Call 688-6052 or 682-8464 or 682-7160

Mt. Calvary United Church of Christ

1715 ATHENS STREET
DURHAM, NORTH CAROLINA 27707
TELEPHONE: 688-5066

"On the Move for God"

Rev. J. Cecil Cheek, B.Th., M.Div. Minister

SUNDAY, MAY 30, 1982

9:30 A.M.	Sunday School
11:00 A.M.	Morning Worship

WEDNESDAY

6:30 P.M.	Mid-Week Service
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But Service for Church Sunday School and Morning Worship Services. Everyone is welcome to come and join us in all services.


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Marlon Wright, Pastor

Sunday—10:00 AM & 6:30 PM
Wednesday—7:30 PM
Friday—8:00 PM

Cast Your Ballot!

Vote For Your Favorite Minister

in the

Friends of Edgemont-Few Gardens Center Ministers Popularity Contest

Rev. J.C. Cheek Takes The Lead This Week

With a bold stroke this week, REV. J.C. CHEEK, pastor of Mount Calvary United Church of Christ, Durham, has jumped out to a commanding lead as the Ministers Popularity Contest sponsored by Friends of Edgemont-Few Gardens Community Center heads toward the middle of the balloting race.

The winner will be sent on a trip to the Bahamas, according to the Friends of Edgemont-Few Gardens.

REV. L.H. WHELCHER, who held the lead for two weeks, has dropped to third place, according to May 15 reports from the contest sponsors. REV. GRADY DAVIS, pastor of Union Baptist Church, has edged into second place, just slightly above REV. WHELCHER. REV. EARLE THORPE, who held second place, has been pushed to fourth place. REV. DAVID BELL follows closely in fifth place. REV. JOHN MONROE now holds the sixth place slot.

According to a spokesman for the Edgemont Center, the purpose of the contest, in addition to raising money for the center, is to "boost the black church and the black press, locally and nationally."

The *Carolina Times* is cooperating with the contest by publishing the official ballot each week. To vote for your favorite minister, simply clip the ballot from an issue of *The Carolina Times*, complete it, and mail it to the Center. A \$1 donation must accompany each ballot in order that it be included in the official count.

The center spokesman said the first prize for the contest is a trip to the Bahamas for the winning minister. Other prizes will be announced.

Among the friends of Edgemont sponsoring group are: Drs. Marvin Duncan, Winston Burton, Jr., Caroline Sage, Earle Thorpe, former city councilman James Brown, Jr., Attorney Frank Bullock, Carroll Willis, Bishop John T. Moore, Few Gardens Resident Council President Lila Richmond, Mr. George White and Mr. George Jones.

Contestants

Rev. J.C. Cheek	Rev. B.A. Mack	Rev. V.E. Brown
Rev. Grady D. Davis	Elder Elroy Lewis	Bishop W.A. Jones
Rev. L.H. Whelcher	Rev. William Easley	Bishop John T. Moore
Rev. Earle Thorpe	Rev. Howard Haggler	Rev. Harold Cobb
Rev. David H. Bell	Rev. W.T. Bigelow	Elder R.A. Sloan
Rev. John L. Monroe	Rev. Leon Saunders	Rev. Marion Wright
Rev. James Daniels	Rev. J.W. Barnes	Rev. Bernard Morrison
Rev. Donald Fozard	Rev. Lowry Reid	Rev. Cureton Johnson
Rev. Lorenzo Lynch	Rev. Percy Chase	Rev. Johnny Leak
Rev. Alexander D. Moseley	Rev. Vernon Thompson	Rev. C.R. Stone
Rev. Z.D. Harris	Rev. J.R. Crutchfield	Rev. John L. Caldwell
Rev. Frizelle Velverton	Rev. Arthur H. Parker	Rev. Mack Timberlake, Jr.

Did you see YOUR minister's name in the list of nominees? Nominations remain open. It's not too late to nominate your minister. Do it today!

◀ OFFICIAL BALLOT ▶

Ministers Popularity Contest

Minister's Name: _____

Name of Church: _____

Voter's Name: _____

Number of Votes: _____ Amount Enclosed: \$ _____

Mail or bring votes to:
Edgemont-Few Gardens Center
P.O. Box 1724
Durham, N.C. 27702