

Chronicle Profile

Now You See Him

Tim Carr has been headed for a "performing" career since he played Count Von Cliche in a 7th grade play.

"I was good in that play," he recalls. "I had a top hat, a cape...I tied girls to railroad tracks..."

He has mellowed since then.

These days, armed with a cassette recorder, Tim Carr interviews the newscasters for WSJS radio.

He keeps the courthouse vigil on election night, does traffic reports, and turns up at almost every meeting imaginable.

I've interviewed Fred the Cockatoo, Kreskin the Clairvoyant. I've done interviews with kids. I like that."

Someday he hopes to be on network television. "I'd like to be an anchor lman," he says, and goes on to explain that the chance at such a job seems to be mostly a matter of luck.

Tim is originally from Hudson, New York. It is upstate, he says, but not near Buffalo. "People think if something is in upstate New York it must be near Buffalo. Well, it isn't."

In those days he hadn't decided on a career in broadcasting.

"First I wanted to be an architect. Then I wanted to be a doctor, but I thought that was too corny. Then I considered being an airline pilot."

He settled on Ball State University. "It's in Muncie, Indiana," he explains. "Muncie is famous for being the town in 'Close Encounters of the Third Kind.'"

After graduation, Tim came to North Carolina on a visit, and did a bit of job-hunting as long as he was here.

"WAAA hired me right away," he says. "And I played records on the air, but I noticed they didn't want me to say anything. I sound white."

He does plenty of talking on WSJS, and he still gets calls from listeners asking: "Are you black or white?"

He always answers: "What do you think?"

"It's a funny thing," says Tim, shaking his head. "Nobody yet has said: 'I think you're black...'

Television, of course, would solve that problem.

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Tim Carr



Rodney Sumler

Sumler Calls on Mayor to Resign

By Sharyn Bratcher
Staff Writer

Rodney Sumler launched his campaign for the N.C. House of Representatives with a press conference in which he called for the resignation of Winston-Salem mayor Wayne Corpening.

In a meeting held Tuesday morning at the Macedonia Holiness Church, Sumler criticized Corpening's downtown policies, and the "segregationist attitudes" of the city.

"Our good friend Carl Russell warned all blacks in Winston-Salem last fall that

Wayne Corpening would set back racial progress in our city. What we blacks did not know was that the racial progress and harmony would come to a screeching halt, and that we would begin to take giant steps backward," Sumler told the group.

He blamed Corpening for the closing of several downtown stores, saying that the city should offer tax breaks to downtown merchants as an incentive to remain.

Sumler, a Republican candidate, warned blacks against the Democratic part, which, he said "wants us all to be 'good Uncle toms.'"

"I don't agree with a large part of the Republican Party's policies," Sumler stated, "But I cannot agree with any of the local Uncle Tom Democrat Party policies."

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Blood Testing For Infants

RALEIGH--It looks like a credit card voucher--a long skinny piece of white paper with other sheets attached to it, book-like, with a thin binder. The biggest difference in its appearance when used is that the binder has four symmetrical blood stains inside round circles. The blood stains come from a heel prick performed routinely on all newborns across the state.

The purpose of the procedure is to save the mental lives of newborns. The blood samples collected on the sheet of paper are used to determine whether or not a newborn infant has PKU (Phenylketonuria), and beginning the first of January, testing for hypothyroidism will be added.

Both disorders cause severe and irreversible mental retardation. Both, if diagnosed early enough, can be controlled--PKU through diet, hypothy-

roidism through adequate replacement of thyroid hormones.

PKU tests have been run for 13 years. PKU occurs in about one in every 18,000 births. Hypothyroidism occurs in about one in every 6,000 births, but an effective testing method for hypothyroidism has only recently become available,

according to Elizabeth Moore, Genetic Health Care Program Manager, Division of Health Services.

Q&A

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you if they don't perform, folks will jump on them like they did on Larry -- hard. I didn't have anybody but Al Beatty in my organization at that time who I thought I could move up.

Al moved faster in the organization than I could would have liked for him to have benn personnel director for another year or two years, but Jack didn't stay that long.

Al will be a tremendous asset to this organization and he'll be in a good position, with a few years experience, that when they do run me off, they'd have to consider him strongly for the manager's job.

Q. How do you conceive of the role of the Human Relations Council and the human relations director?

A. I don't know. I don't think they've gotten themselves together--I don't think there's any consensus on the commission. There's really an area of concern there because the commission and the director's jobs as it was set up by the Board of Aldermen, did not make an exception as to the hiring of the director.

Unless the board specifies otherwise, the city charter specifies that I hire all city personnel. The Human Relations Commission feels they should be the ones to hire the new director. I don't have any argument with that, but unless the ordinance is changed, that is my responsibility.

Q. Would you probably go along with the recommendation?

A. Oh, yes. In any situation where the employee will be working closely with the group, I only reserve veto power. Unless there is something overriding that I

know about this person, I'd take the employee that the commission wants.

Q. How do you feel about S.T.O.P.?

A. I don't disagree with their goal, which is reducing governmental expenditures. Like any other movement, local government seems to get hit the harder because they're the closest. If I understand what they say, their concerns are more with the federal government than with us.

Q. What services are provided by the property tax?

A. Fire, police and sanitation. When you get those three, you've got 80 per cent of the general fund. So when an organization like S.T.O.P. says you can cut the property tax and not cut essential services, well, it just can't be done. You can't make it up, there's no state funds or federal funds that can be used for that.

Q. Millions have been spent on community development. What impact has that had on the quality of life in East Winston?

A. Probably the best answer to that question is to go to the Redevelopment Commission and look at what the conditions were like 10 or 20 years ago. You tend to forget what was here and how far we've come because we have such a long way to go yet. It's

Q. Are you nearing the end of massive development programs?

A. It would appear so. The federal government is really backing out of that in a hurry. At one time we were averaging around \$15 million in urban renewal activi-

ty money. Now we have about \$3.6 million to deal with, which on the surface seems like a tremendous amount of money, but really isn't a lot.

Community development has been funded for three years by the Congress so I don't think they're going to get out of this area entirely. In fact I look for some program along urban renewal lines to help supplement community development.

With the small community development funds, you can't treat an area like Liberty-Patterson. It takes the entire appropriation for that small area and I think politically the board just can't do that kind of thing.

Q. What can the city do to

promote low-income housing in the city?

A. One of the great problems is that the people who need the housing can't afford it. The Mayor and I are going down to Wilmington sometime soon because we understand they've put together the savings and loans and the banks to try and make money available to people. The whole thing is to stimulate more housing for low- and moderate-income people through private financing.

Q. Are you trying to locate people in dead-end jobs in city government and upgrade them?

A. We find a number of our employes can't read or write and we have a very

basic educational reading and writing if they're willing to. We have classes right at the city yard. Then our personnel office works with each individual and finds out what their desires for advancement are.

Q. Have any of the people who have taken the class been advanced because of it?

A. I don't know. I'll ask about it. I know some of them are very happy people now that they can actually read for themselves. It's sure a misconception to think that somebody who can't read and write is dumb. They're not. If they're making it out here in the world without being able to read and write, they've got a lot of smarts.

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