Super Candidate Contends

Fund-Raising Plan Creates "Unwarranted Controversy"

By Mac Thrower
Post Staff Writer

In campaign literature adorned with a modified "superman" logo, Mr. Harry Stegall, candidate for Mecklenburg County Sheriff, is described as a "super candidate running a super campaign to be a super sheriff." Although he did not emerge from a phone booth moving "faster than a speeding bullet" to do a recent Post interview, Stegall did arrive in business-like Clark Kent attire to talk about the controversy surrounding his unorthodox campaign, and to explain what he feels he has to offer as a candidate in the Democratic primary for sheriff.

Harry Stegall
...Candidate for sheriff

Stegall smiled when asked about the Superman imagery, saying that as a man who has survived being shot seven times (by a murder suspect when Stegall was a member of the N.C. Highway Patrol) he believes that he has some justification in invoking the name of the magical character.

A fund-raising plan devised by Stegall and his campaign aide Terri Byrum, which involves rewarding volunteers who raise $500 for Stegall's campaign by making them eligible to win a three-day vacation prize, has the subject of what Stegall thinks is unwarranted controversy. He stated that the plan is legal and that his opponents "can't stop us" from implementing it in some form. "We have a phase two plan we can use if necessary, but we'll still have a winner," he reported.

Stegall bristled at the mention of the published description of his fundraising plan as a "lottery." "It is not a lottery," he insisted. "It is an incentive fundraiser designed to get people involved in politics who might not normally get involved."

In replying to the charge from one of his opponents that his fundraising concept is either illegal or improper, Stegall commented: "Well, if he weren't running for sheriff, I think he'd have a different attitude." I want to do something nice for people who get involved...I hate to hear the cliche that politics is a dirty game," Stegall explained.

Stegall was blunt in his assessment of the performance of incumbent sheriff John Kelly Wall: "Two years ago he campaigned as a capable administrator, but under him the department has absolutely deteriorated." Stegall declared that the department budget has increased dramatically, and implied that wasteful spending on items that "may or may not be needed," such as new uniforms, is a major reason.

Stegall also said that problems in the processing of prisoners at the county jail have resulted mainly from the "politically packed" nature of the sheriff's department. He believes that "an experienced prison administrator needs to be hired."

Responding to a question about those who might suggest that the 30-year-old Stegall is too young to handle a sheriff's responsibilities, Stegall alluded indirectly to an opponent as "a 58-year-old man who has never sat in the front seat of a police car." "I've been there," Stegall asserted in summing up his law enforcement experience. In addition to his own experience, Stegall noted that his father had been a Charlotte police officer. "I was raised in the front seat of a police car," he added.

If he's elected sheriff, Stegall promises to achieve "maximum efficiency" in department operations. "The survival of county services depends on precisely administering every penny, nickel and dime. I'll cut the department budget a quarter of a million dollars the first year."

Stegall advises members of the black community that he doesn't "suffer from racial prejudices." He promises to deal equally with all citizens black or white. In hiring for his own security agency, Stegall says that he adheres to a strict non-discriminatory policy.

When questioned about whether he thought the publicity surrounding his "win a vacation' fundraising plan and "superman" advertising might cause voters to not take his campaign seriously, Stegall remarked that he doesn't feel that will happen. "We've been in the Observer at least once a week" since beginning the campaign--"name recognition is the determining factor in most local elections," Stegall maintained. Terri Byrum, Stegall's campaign aide, added that she thinks most people will be pleased to see that "we're not afraid to do something different."

"I won't be defeated because people don't know me," Stegall concluded.

Trash-A-Thon Launches Keep Charlotte Beautiful

Charlotte businesses and clubs will sponsor a trash-a-thon to launch the Keep Charlotte Beautiful Month proclaimed by Mayor Eddie Knox for April 17 to May 17.

The trash-a-thon will be held on Saturday, April 24, from 7:45 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. Members of the Young Life youth organization, Queen City Optimist Club and Burger King will combine forces to clean up illegal dump sites throughout the Charlotte area. Young people involved in the clean up will gather in the parking area of the Cameron-Brown Building, 301 S. McDowell Street, at 7:45 a.m. Burger King, Pepsi Bottling Company, and P.Y.A. will serve breakfast to the 140 persons who are expected to participate. Groups will leave for the clean up sites at 8:15 a.m. At 12:30 p.m. groups will return to the Cameron-Brown Building for lunch.

The Queen City Optimist Club is donating T-shirts that read, "WE'RE OPTIMISTIC ABOUT CHARLOTTE," to all young people who help with the clean up.

Local businesses and churches are invited to sponsor a student in the clean up. Interested persons may call Sherry Varkonyi at the Young Life office at 377-9515.

For more information about the clean up, contact Woody Fox, vice chairman of the Clean City Committee and president of Burger King at 527-3358 or Barbara Gammon, Clean City coordinator, at 374-2547.

"PEDIATRIC NOTES"

Dr. Deborah Scott, M.D.

The common cold is due to different viruses and usually clears in about one week, if there are no complications. There may be nasal discharge and or cough, and sometimes fever for the first two to three days. Tylenol may be given for fever or discomfort for the first day, but generally is not needed.

An uncomplicated cold usually is self-limiting, but there are symptoms which need further care. If your child has fever longer than two days, difficulty breathing, ear ache or drainage, begins coughing up green or yellow phlegm that has a bad odor, or any other unusual symptoms, then your doctor needs to be notified for further treatment.

1012 Kings Dr., Suite 505
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Crime Of The Week

In the early morning hours of March 23, 1981, a 1978 white Freight-Liner truck was stolen from Southland Trailer Sales at 3673 I-85 North. The truck, which was parked inside the fenced parking lot of the business, was driven through the front gate. A witness last saw the truck traveling North on I-85. This theft is only one of 35 thefts of large trucks since February 1981. Some of the trucks have been recovered but the majority have not. These trucks have been stolen from truck stops, motel parking lots, truck repair and sales businesses, and trucking companies. Anyone with information about these truck thefts, or any other crime, should call **CRIME STOPPERS at 334-1600.** You may be eligible for up to a $1,000 reward, and confidentiality is guaranteed.

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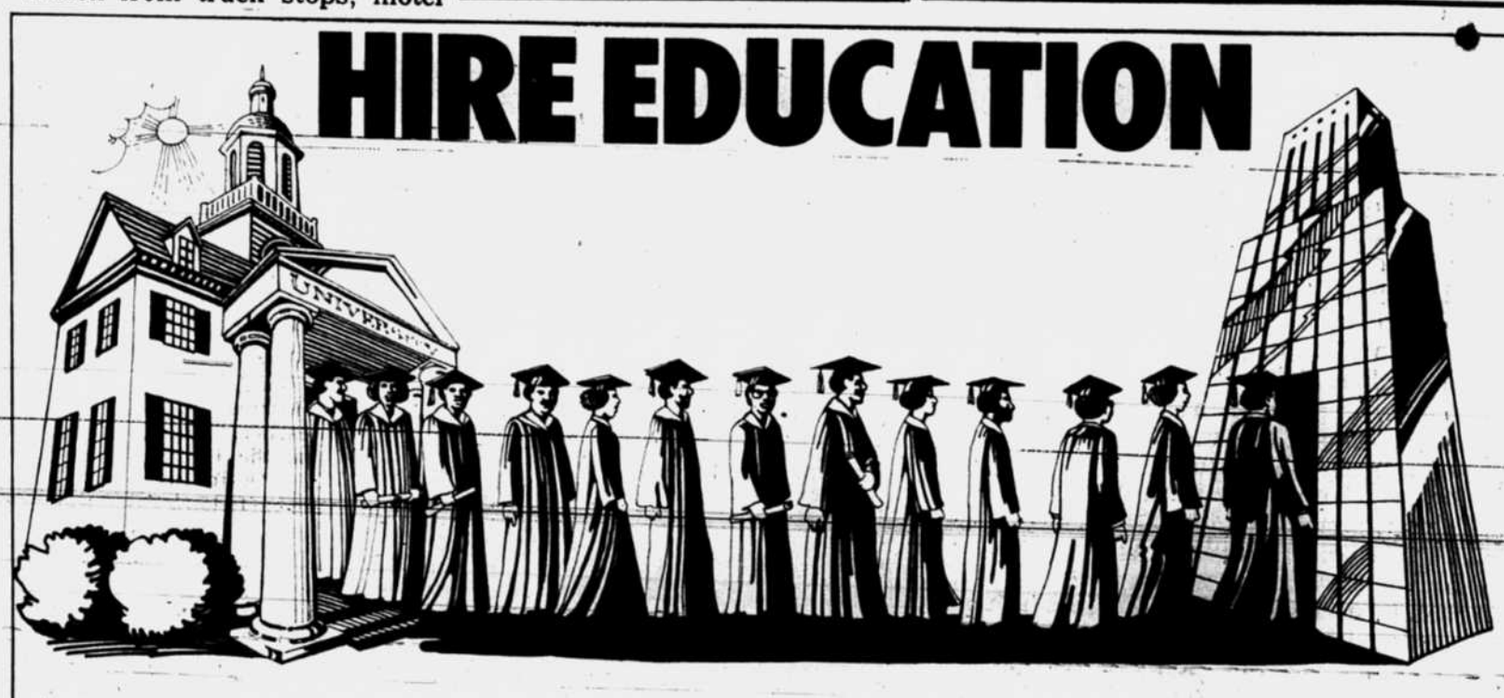

Every year, thousands of students graduate from colleges across America, only to find they cannot get jobs. They have been educated in the wrong fields of study. Not so, at Prairie View A&M University. This Black Texas school assesses the future demands of the American work force and then sets up the current curriculum to best train students to meet these demands. Tune in this week when Tony Brown's Journal takes a look at this theory of ***Supply Side Education*** and this remarkable University where its application has proved so rewarding.

Next week, Tony Brown convenes a national panel of successful Black women to discuss opportunities facing Black Women today and the problems created by those opportunities—in ***The Struggle Within The Struggle.***

And later in May, Tony Brown takes a look at ***The Black West***, a filmed history of some of America's greatest unknown heroes and clips of a Black cowboy cattle drive in Texas. Plus two special shows featuring QUBE℠ Interactive Service, a live-audience-response system that lets Ohio viewers share their opinions with the rest of the country. The first of these shows, ***Big Brother or Little Brother***, asks the question: Which serves Black purposes best —grass-roots organizations or federal agencies?

This May, keep informed. Keep tuned to Tony Brown's Journal.

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For an issue of the **Tony Brown's Journal Magazine,** containing copies of program transcripts and information, please enclose $1.50 and send to:
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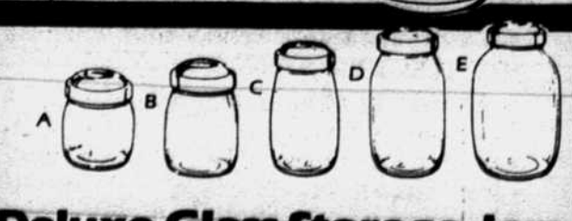

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