

Election roundup

# Local group advises voters

A group of Chapel Hill residents have formed a political action committee to inform voters about "unworthy candidates," the group's treasurer, David Spence, said Sunday.

Called the Carolinians Concerned Political Action Committee, the group has been organized for two weeks and is aimed at stopping people from voting automatically for a straight ticket, Spence said.

"We're primarily composed of Christians who want to work for better government," Spence said. Members come from 12 churches in the area. Nancy G. Brooks is the chairman and Pat Rust is the secretary.

"One of the most frightening symptoms of the apathy of the American electorate is that we seem so willing to return crooks to office," he

said. "And that's in both parties."

Donations for the group's campaign have come mostly from university professors and housewives, Spence said. The committee has used newspaper advertisements, radio spots and flyers in the *Village Advocate* to promote its candidates. The group opposes Democrat Charles Vickery for state Senate and Democrat John Ingram for insurance commissioner. The group has also supported the campaigns of Bill Cobey, Charles Adams and Alice Ward.

Even though the organization has just been formed, Spence said that Election Day would be the beginning of a new phase. The group's future efforts will be aimed at informing the public about the Equal Rights Amendment, he said.

—FRANK ZANG

## Last minute

In an effort to reach a maximum number of voters on the last day of campaigning before Tuesday's elections, North Carolina politicians planned a series of news conferences today in the state's largest cities.

The Democrats—Gov. Jim Hunt, Sen. Robert Morgan, Lt. Gov. Jimmy Green, state Carter-Mondale campaign chairman Wallace Hyde, state party chairman Russell Walker and the Council of State members—were to stop in Asheville, Charlotte, Greensboro, Raleigh, Greenville and Wilmington airports.

The incumbents are appearing together in an effort to provide mutual support.

Meanwhile, Republican candidates planned to split up for some last-minute campaigning. Gubernatorial candidate I. Beverly Lake Jr. scheduled news conferences in Greensboro, Asheville, Charlotte and Raleigh.

Senate candidate John East was to begin his tour of the state in Greenville and then travel to Raleigh, Charlotte and Greensboro. Bill Cobey, the GOP candidate for lieutenant governor, was stopping in Wilmington, New Bern and Greenville.

For the Republicans, Saturday was



Gov. Jim Hunt

spent visiting supporters in Catawba and Caldwell counties, traditionally receptive areas for GOP candidates. Meanwhile, the Democrats stopped near Lillington, Morgan's hometown, and in Rowan County.

Lake and East told almost 1,500 people who attended the biennial Balls Creek Fish Fry near Catawba that they see a shift in momentum toward the GOP slate.

"We feel confident that we are on the threshold of victory," East said. "Our polls reflect it and we sense it."

Lake said the change started about six weeks ago. He said a poll of Democratic voters by his staff showed Lake was doing best in the Greensboro, High Point, Winston-Salem area.

# Recognition low in auditor race

By DAVID JARRETT and JON TALCOTT  
Staff Writers

In one of the few North Carolina political races without an incumbent seeking reelection, Democrat Edward Renfrow and Republican James McIntyre will face off Tuesday for the office of state auditor.

North Carolina's constitution now requires the office holder to audit the books of all state departments and agencies. The auditor also performs minor duties like administration of the Fireman's Pension Fund and the State Board of Pensions.

Renfrow, now a state senator, has been conducting a statewide speaking tour in his drive for the office, held for the last 34 years by Henry Bridges.

"I have been trying to clarify the job of state auditor and to explain the neutral role that it plays in state government," he said.

Renfrow, 40, is campaigning on his experience. Though not a certified public accountant, he has served on state Senate appropriations committees, as treasurer of North Carolina's Democratic Party and on the Executive Board of the Baptist State Convention.

According to a campaign brochure, Renfrow said his role would be to increase government efficiency and keep government out of any areas in which the private sector could function better on its own.

Renfrow, who spent \$80,000 in a fierce primary battle with former Maxton mayor William S. Chestnut, has spent only \$7,000

since and is confident about his chances of victory.

Republican James McIntyre said he was opposing Renfrow because of the latter's close ties to Gov. Jim Hunt.

"(Renfrow) is a part of the Hunt machine," McIntyre said last week in an interview. "This violates the principle of accountants being independent."

The problem facing an auditor is that state government spending has increased more than 60 percent in the last four years, McIntyre said. "It is like a child that has grown suddenly tall and is very awkward."

McIntyre said he believed this awkwardness would lead to inefficiency. The 30-year-old Republican said he would counter that with frequent use of the operational audit.

An operational audit measures the efficiency of an organization by investigating its goals and by seeing if it is spending its money to meet those goals, McIntyre said. Such audits have been used to a limited degree in North Carolina for the last 10 years.

These audits are necessary, in part, because of Hunt administration corruption, he said. "In the last four years there has been more fraud and corruption exposed than in any other administration in North Carolina history."

McIntyre, also serving as treasurer for the Senate campaign of Republican John East, is uncertain about his chances of victory Tuesday. "I am not running against an incumbent and that gives me a distinctive advantage," he said. "The recognition rate is very low for both of us," McIntyre admitted.

# Chemist finds new fuel source

A Nobel prize-winning chemist said here Friday he had discovered a method to turn some common plants into fuel.

In a press conference at UNC, Dr. Melvin Calvin said plants like milkweed could be harvested and refined to make oil.

Calvin, a 1961 Nobel prize winner in chemistry, spoke this weekend at a celebration honoring 100 years of active chemistry research at the University.

After being cut down and left to dry in the field, milkweed—which is 30 percent oil—can be sent to an extraction plant. A minimum of 10 barrels of oil per acre of milkweed could be produced, and with improved cultivation that figure could be easily doubled, he said.

Crude oil from Saudi Arabia costs \$30 a barrel. Oil on the spot market can cost more than \$36 a barrel.

But while farmers could start growing milkweed for fuel, there are no extraction plants to handle it, Calvin said.

One pilot extraction plant is being built in Arizona and should be completed by next summer though, Calvin said.

Growing milkweed and other plants in the rubber tree family is more reliable than drilling wells, he said. "We don't have to depend on holes in the ground, or on holes in Saudi Arabia. We can grow it here."

Growing milkweed would not have to compete with growing food either, Calvin said, because some oil-producing plants thrive in arid, rocky regions like the Southwest.

—BILL PESCHEL

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**THE Daily Crossword** by CF Murray

**ACROSS**

1 Song of praise	24 Maple genus	43 Protect	13 Target
5 Travel by car	25 Scottish island	44 Nolan and Robert	18 More pleasing
10 Pierce	26 "The Complaint —"	45 Chair	23 Mine products
14 Long time	29 Bridge strategies	46 Amicable one	24 Haley
15 Actor's line	32 El toro, perhaps	48 Dranch	25 Trace
16 Passing from side to side, for short	33 Ties	49 Undressed leather	26 Seaweed products
17 February greetings	34 Weep	52 Genuine	27 Prickly pear
19 Part of QED	35 Summit	53 Exhilarated spirits	28 Certain chants
20 Before	36 Toots one's horn	56 Bancroft	29 Decrees
21 Willow genus	37 Nee	57 Chaucer tale-teller	30 A Flynn
22 Hidden	38 Tatter	58 Welsh symbol	31 Church council
	39 Excite	59 Assay	33 Nutritional fibers
	40 African dry mesa	60 Glutted	36 Eye flaps
	41 Blackthorn drinks	61 Ancient Persian	37 Lum
			38 Eddie or Richard

**DOWN**

1 Own	42 Type of embroidery
2 Calendar word	43 Made fast
3 Breakwater	45 Unravel
4 Vane letters	46 Campus org.
5 Mind over —	47 Descartes
6 Willow	48 Beef fat
7 Ms Louie	49 Leg joint
8 Lyric poem	50 Chilled
9 Cancels	51 Lap dog, for short
10 McQueen and Allen	54 Actress Lillie
11 Sixty	55 Tree
12 Sandarac tree	

Yesterday's Puzzle Solved:

11/3/80

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