

Editorial

# Tax Fracas Diverts Campaign

Democrats can only hope that the tempest created by Geraldine Ferraro and John Zaccaro's income tax returns dies down quickly. The questions which continue to arise concerning the Ferraro-Zaccaro finances has kept the vice presidential candidate on the front page, but not in a manner Walter Mondale can appreciate.

The Mondale campaign must spin its wheels while Ferraro defends past financial transactions. On Monday, Ferraro attempted to put out the fire by disclosing both her own and her husband's income tax returns for the past six years. A newly discovered error in one return resulted in a payment of \$53,000 in tax and interest. Instead of the desired effect, it appears that the revelation has raised more questions than it put to rest.

As the first major national candidate of her sex, Ferraro has attracted the most intense sort of public scrutiny early in her campaign. At a time when she should be addressing the issues of this campaign—defense, deficits and disarmament, Ferraro finds herself beset with questions concerning questionable real estate transactions, illegal campaign donations and her husband's business holdings. The New York congresswoman cannot hope to return to her campaign agenda until all the financial questions are answered.

The full effect of the tax fracas on the Mondale campaign won't be known until Election Day, but with every day that the present controversy remains unresolved, Ronald Reagan's reelection hopes improve.

# Greater Ivy Is Great Example

Every corner of our far-flung county can learn from the example of the good people of the 22 communities that make up the Greater Ivy Community Development Club.

Once again this year, the Greater Ivy communities will represent Madison County in the Western North Carolina Community Development Program's beautification contest. A short drive through Greater Ivy will convince you that we are well represented by these industrious neighbors.

Sparkling clean roadsides, handsome road signs, flowers and attractive, personalized mailboxes are found throughout the community. Youngsters, senior citizens and everyone in between is involved in making Greater Ivy a place we can all be proud of.

The success of the Greater Ivy Club in no way diminishes the fine work being done by Community Development Clubs in Marshall, Mars Hill, Walnut, Sleepy Valley, Upper Laurel and Brush Creek. Rather, Greater Ivy's success stands as an example of what neighbors working together can accomplish.

Rather than wait for state crews to mow roadsides, Greater Ivy farmers put their tractors to work grooming the 200 miles of road in the community. When the people of Greater Ivy decide they need a ballfield, they get together and build one.

Self-reliance and good neighborliness are two qualities mountain people have long admired. The people of Greater Ivy have an abundance of both. They're proud of their home, and it shows.

# Beware Of Bogus Surveys

We wish our readers to know that The News Record is not conducting a telephone survey of Madison County residents at this time. In the past several weeks, some neighboring counties have seen persons calling residents claiming to be conducting a survey on behalf of the local newspaper. Persons who are contacted are then asked a series of personal questions.

The News Record is always interested in

knowing our readers' opinions, but we do not conduct telephone surveys in order to find out. If at some time in the future we should conduct a telephone survey, we will announce our intentions beforehand.

If one of these bogus survey questioners should contact you, we advise you to hang up and notify Contel officials immediately. We'd also appreciate it if you'd let us know.

# Living And Growing

By CARL MUMPOWER, MSW THE ASHEVILLE COUNSELING CENTER "LIKE AN EAGLE"

I've done it! After years of intensive research, I've developed the ultimate theory on human behavior. Our world will never be the same. Our knowledge of man, thanks to my theory, has now taken a quantum leap!

Aren't you impressed? What, you're not? You think I need a long rest? Are you implying that I may not have accomplished the feat of genius I believe I have? Well, please on you. You wait and see. My chickens and eagles theory will go down in history.

You see, there are basically four groups of people. There are chickens. There are eagles. There are chickens who think they are eagles. And there are eagles who think they are chickens. There, now you have it all. Revolutionary, isn't it?

Take the first group. These folks wonder around the lot pecking and taking whatever the barnyard dishes out. Being chickens, they are easily victimized, and don't lead the most fulfilling of lives. They also get a lot of chicken manure on their feet.

We'll skip the second group and go to the third. These people are basically your good old Col. Sanders-type bird. Unfortunately, they think they are an eagle. Consequently, in acting like an eagle, but having the resources of a chicken, they get the stuffing beat out of them with some frequency. As you might guess, your average living, breathing, and anxious to live type eagle food, like the snake for example, is not terribly impressed by a chicken. They react accordingly.

Our fourth group is comprised of eagles who are confused. They think they should be chickens, so they act like chickens. They find comfort in being part of the group, and don't at least in the beginning,

mind the chicken manure they get all over their feet. As you might suspect, however, the chickens are a little bit taken aback by an eagle in their midst. They, too, react accordingly.

Well, now we get to the last group, the eagle, which is the rarest of the bunch. This person believes in doing his own thing, reaching high, and striving for uniqueness. He doesn't flock, and he seldom gets chicken manure on his feet. Neither mean nor vicious, he is a dynamic and moving force wherever he goes. There are, by the way, as many girl eagles as there are boy eagles. They both have the same traits. In short, the eagle lives a life of self-directed purpose. He doesn't find solace in being part of a pecking order. He prefers baring the consequences of his own behavior vs. being the victim of someone else's. There, now you have it. The chicken-eagle theory will be famous in no time. But, now comes the magical question. How clean are your feet?

By BECCI M. BREINING in the labor market. Women spend only about half as many years as men working for the same employer. When an employee quits a job, the employer must bear the cost of finding and training a replacement. Workers who are more likely to leave their jobs are less valuable to their employers than other workers. Statistics on how many new mothers leave their corporate employers are sketchy. However, one survey conducted by the pro-women's organization Catalyst found that of 815 two-career families, 37 percent of the women returned to work within two months. Sixty-eight percent were back at work after 4 1/2 months, and 87 percent were back in eight months. To employers, the 10 percent or so who never came back represent a substantial capital investment loss.

A study published by the National Center for Policy Analysis found that a major reason why women earn less than men is because they marry and make choices within the framework of marriage that lower their earnings potential. The decision to have children, to stay at home, to move or change jobs to accommodate their husband's career, all of these activities penalize women by causing them to have higher job turnover rates and to spend fewer years developing their skills and talents.

According to George Mason University economist Walter Williams, who wrote the report, "The average woman who works full time for a year and quits will lose \$10,000 in potential earnings."

Williams' study also found that women who quit their jobs to raise children lose an average of \$10,000 in potential earnings. He also found that women who quit their jobs to care for an elderly relative lose an average of \$10,000 in potential earnings.

# Heard And Seen

By POP STORY



### CONGRATULATIONS, CHARLES

Charles Huey of Asheville has accepted a full-time position as Director of Music and Organist at the First United Methodist Church in Hendersonville. He will assume his duties on Sept. 1. Charles has been Director of Music and Organist at Groce United Methodist Church in Asheville for three years. In announcing his resignation, a Groce church official stated: "Our sadness at Groce can only be matched with gladness by those in Hendersonville." Charles, the son of Mr. and Mrs. Wade Huey of Marshall, was organist at the First Baptist Church of Marshall, prior to going to Grace United Methodist Church.

### PONDER-RAMSEY REUNION

The annual Ponder-Ramsey family reunion was observed at Zenina Lake last Sunday afternoon with a large number of relatives and friends attending. The bountiful picnic dinner was catered which featured barbecue and all kinds of other "goodies." I wish to thank Harold Bailey, Roger Murray and friends for doing a fine job of "pinch-hitting" in preparing the meal and "honoring" me with the first plate.

### FOOTBALL SEASON NEAR

The 1984 football season will begin for the Madison High School Patriots on Friday night, August 31, when they host the Edneyville Yellow Jackets at the Oren E. Roberts stadium here.

Here's hoping that the Patriots will have a successful season.



# Know Comment

By JOSEPH GODWIN

Some words we use every day are extremely difficult to define. Let us consider the word "give." What does the word mean? In everyday expression, do we always use it properly?

One evening a few years ago, we visited a couple of our close friends and had dinner with them in their home. After the delicious meal, as we sat in the living room, our host asked what size shoe I wear. Hearing my reply, he suggested that he might have a pair of nice dress boots I could use. He left the room and very quickly returned with a beautiful pair of boots of a well-known, expensive brand.

"These are very nice shoes," he said, "but I can't wear them. They are too large for me, and I'll give them to you if you can use them. There is no use in their lying around here if I can't wear them."

I agreed; and, trying the boots on, said, "Oh yes, I can wear them and I deeply ap-

preciate them. Thank you so much!"

Another friend of many years once said, "Joe, after Mr. Burman died, his wife brought a lot of his things over here for me. Most of it I can use to good advantage — and I will. However, there was a new pair of expensive, fur-lined winter boots in with the other things; and I can't wear them. They are too small. I wish I could wear them because they are especially nice boots. Try them on; and if they fit, I'll give them to you."

I did, they did, and he did! Thanking him appropriately and sincerely, I brought the boots home. I have worn them during every snow for the last four years, and they are still good!

Each of these close friends believes that he has given me a pair of footwear. And I appreciate them as much as if they had, but I am not entirely sure that they did.

What both men needed was somebody to help them get rid of what they could not use — regardless of how firmly they wished they could use the boots.

Since they could have gotten this help from any number of other men — and yet chose me — filled me with gratitude!

My question: Did they really give me something? or, did they merely choose me from among various optional means of disposing of that which was of no value to them?

When Mrs. Brown gathers a whole lot of things to take to the Salvation Army or to the clothes closet of the local church, is she really giving anything?

Well, naturally, she does not charge for these used-but-still-usable items. They could be considered a gift. But is not Mrs. Brown just as surely using these agencies to help her unload these items that ac-

cumulate and threaten to crowd her out of house and home?

When I buy Paul Wino a meal because he tells me he is hungry, am I giving him a meal? Maybe. He will never pay me back — nor do I expect him to. Maybe not; because I think he is contemptible. He ought to sober up and earn his own way!

But I feel sorry for Mr. Wino and buy him a good hot meal — to make me feel better! Is that what we mean by giving? What do we call it if I have something which I cherish and transfer it to you with no thought of ever getting anything in return — just because I love you?

This may be nothing more than a \$2.00 bill I have had for 50 years.

Or, it could be as significant as the life of Jesus Christ which He gave for you and me — just because He loved us!

# Family Commitments Cut Womens' Earning Power

professor Myra Storber polled 150 men and 26 women shortly before graduation from the Stanford Business School in 1974. She found that the women had much lower expectations about their peak earnings. The top salary the women expected during their careers was only 60 percent of the men's. Could the economic gender gap simply be a matter of a self-fulfilled prophecy?

Even some female executives believe that women handicap their careers by their own expectations, and by choosing staff jobs over high-risk, high-reward executive positions. The NCPA study found that women who never marry (and thus are much less likely to drop out of the workforce) earn just as much or more than their male counterparts. A comparison of salaries in the academic community, for example, showed that in 1982-83, a period before affirmative action programs, female academics had lower married earned salaries that were slightly higher than their male counterparts.

In a median survey of men who had never married, the average earnings of women were 99 percent of men's. The importance of all these numbers lies as much in what they do not say as in what they do. They are not intended to give marriage a bad rap. What they do tell us is that women should look to their own decision making if they want to be competitive with men.

To remedy what they insist is discrimination, some feminists are calling for a policy of "comparable worth." This concept goes well beyond the notion of equal pay for equal work. It would require equal wages for work of supposedly comparable value to an employer, with pay based on the opinion of an "objective" governmental board or similar body. Already the idea is taking hold. Last December, a federal judge ordered Washington state to spend \$22 million on salary increases for workers in predominantly female jobs. It was a landmark decision in favor of equal pay for equal work. However, the impact of the decision is still uncertain.

There is no such thing as an objective scale of economic value. So-called "just wages" are a product of skewed thinking and have no meaning whatsoever in modern economic theory.

Any attempt to determine wages outside of the marketplace would be arbitrary and unfair, and would create a whole new set of injustices. The comparable worth doctrine is unnecessary. If some women feel they are in a field which pays them less than what they are worth, they can do what men have always done: move into those fields where the pay is higher.

As Detroit Mayor Coleman Young put it, "If a painter makes more than a secretary, let more women be painters."

According to the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, women are continuing to expand their ranks in male-dominated occupations. From 1973 to 1982, women made headway in occupations such as medicine, law, management administration, and engineering. However, the impact of the decision is still uncertain.

traditional jobs, comprising the bulk of bank tellers, school teachers, nurses and librarians. Nevertheless, the gains women have made are substantial.

The number of women earning \$25,000 or more has increased 2,000 percent since 1980. Women are starting their own businesses at five to seven times the rate of men. According to the New York Stock Exchange, the typical investor in stocks over the last two years has been a married, working, college-educated woman in her 30's.

Although most women's rights groups insist on placing the blame squarely on the shoulders of men, the notion that the economic gender gap is caused by employers who are bent on discriminating is largely a myth. These women are ignoring the facts.

# The News Record

Serving The People Of Madison County Since 1901

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Published Weekly by The Mountaineer Publishing Co., Inc. 1975-1980. Second Class Postage Paid at Marshall, N.C. 28753. Subscription Rates in Madison and Rutherford Counties - 1 Year \$4.00 - Outside Madison and Rutherford Counties - 1 Year \$5.50. N.C. Residents Add 4% Sales Tax.

Change your address changes to the News Record, P.O. Box 369, Marshall, N.C. 28753.

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