

The Banner

Volume XIV, Number 1

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January 26, 1989

Former congressman teaches at UNCA

by Michael Gouge
Assistant News Editor

Lamar Gudger, former congressman and special superior court judge, has joined the faculty of UNCA's political science department.

Teaching a course on constitutional law, Gudger brings his legal experiences to UNCA students.

Dr. Bob Farzanegan, chairman of the political science department commented that Gudger's class "is a popular course, well attended by students going to law school." The course, Farzanegan said, has been taught by "several prominent attorneys, including Senator Dennis Winner."

Gudger has received a gracious welcome from the political science department. "We're fortunate to have someone with his experience and background. He, if anyone, is qualified to teach it," Farzanegan said.

Since leaving his post on the Superior Court Gudger said, "I'm back practicing law and have been very active." In regards to his new role as a professor he said, "I'm enjoying myself. I enjoy teaching. I'm having a great time of it. The students

appear to be interested, I hope to make this (course) interesting and informative plus educational."

Gudger's class focuses on the Constitution and important Supreme Court decisions. The former judge has developed his own program of study, "teaching the course with about one-third history, one-third political science, and a third on judicial interpretation."

He plans to aim his course "at those who are political science, history, as well as law students." Gudger says his course will have "a strong emphasis on the history of the Constitutional Convention, a study of political science as it applies to the concepts of the Constitution."

By looking at the background qualifications of the framers of the Constitution, Gudger wishes to instruct students on "the circumstances that existed in 1787 at the Constitutional Convention."

Gudger said that he has been given almost a free reign over his course. "I hope they will be satisfied with my program. They've trusted me to know what to project."

N.C. elector says: 'Just doing my job'

by Scarlet Bell
News Editor

James M. Baley, Jr. did not know that 1988 would be his year to elect President George Herbert Walker Bush.

However, as members of the North Carolina Electoral College, it was Asheville resident Baley's and 12 other N.C. electors' duty to confirm Bush's popular election last November.

"To be perfectly honest with you, I didn't know I had been elected -- I wasn't really in a race for this. This is not a thing that normally creates much excitement because all in the world we do is go down and vote for the president who is selected by our party."

Baley was selected at a Republican state convention last June to serve as one of two Republican "at large" representatives in the North Carolina Electoral College. North Carolina Democrats select two representatives at large, also, according to Baley.

In addition to the two electors who are chosen in each party at the respective state conventions, Baley said the two parties in each congressional district in North Carolina choose one representative for the electoral college, which totals 13 electors in all for each party.

The political party whose candidate receives the most popular votes in North

Carolina, Republicans in this case, sends its electors to vote on its candidate and confirm his N.C. victory.

Had Dukakis won the popular vote in North Carolina, the Democrats would have sent their chosen electors to confirm his N.C. victory, according to Baley.

"We serve simply as a somewhat clerical (group) it seems to me like -- we don't have any choice about what our votes are. We were just the instruments through which they carried this out -- Bush's election."

Baley said that if he had not shown up on Dec. 19 to vote for Bush, though, he would have been fined \$500 under North Carolina law; he said he is not bound by any constitutional law to vote for a certain candidate, however.

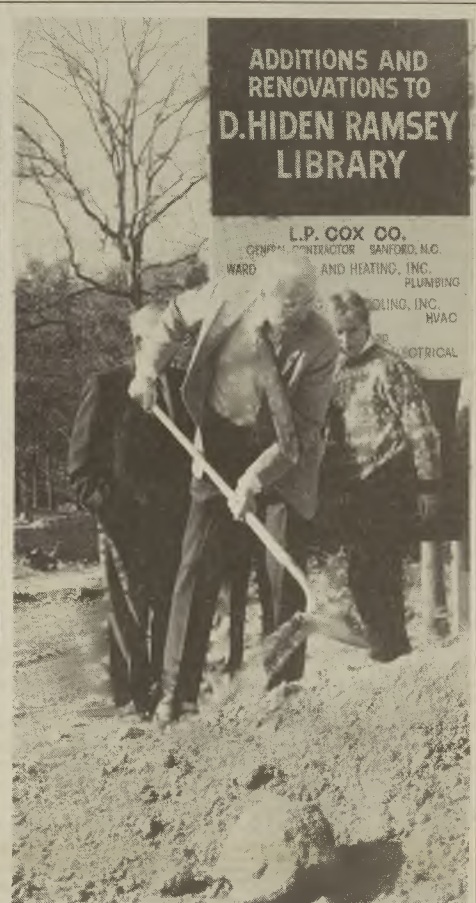
But Baley said he did "do his duty," and voted for Bush at the meeting of the electors. He added that the state of North Carolina took a special interest in this year's electoral college ceremony to better educate the public about how the electoral college operates.

"It was probably given more recognition in the state of North Carolina than anywhere else in the country. The bicentennial committee took an interest in this as a traditional portion of the election process and they wanted to give it largely to educate the public a little bit about how the thing

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Dr. Malcolm Blowers and Chancellor David Brown break ground on the new library expansion.



Staff Photo--Stacey Higdon

The new addition will house nearly a half million books as well as several private and group study rooms.

Library gas leak causes evacuation

by Michael Gouge
Assistant News Editor

The first day of classes found some students and faculty having to evacuate the area around Ramsey Library due to the rupture of a hidden gas line.

Tom Byers, special assistant to the chancellor, said "the drawings and records failed to identify the gas line." Byers said that the crews, "had no knowledge of its location" as they were excavating behind the library.

Construction crews struck the hidden line with a backhoe as they were clearing ground for the new library expansion. As Byers said, "It was a potentially dangerous situation and our crew, along with the fire department, took the right kind of action."

Byers acknowledged that more hidden lines might be

present and the crews will have to use caution against possibly striking another uncharted line.

Jim Efland, UNCA's facilities planner, also commented that construction crews uncovered two unmarked lines. "We had the utilities mark the lines. The gas company didn't mark it, we're having to move that line too."

Efland said that problems such as uncovering hidden pipes or cables are common in construction work but gas lines can create a serious situation. "Any time you deal with it, it's dangerous. We got the fire department in case a fire had started."

As strictly a precautionary measure, the Asheville Fire Department was dispatched to the scene. Efland reported that "we have to take those precautions. Everything went

well." Efland praised the actions of all those involved, commenting that it was "the way to handle any emergency."

District Chief John Young of the Asheville Fire Department was on the scene of the gas leak. Young reported that the leak posed no major threat to anyone other than fire fighters and utilities workmen. "It was in an open area, well ventilated. We evacuated one building, (Carmichael Hall) but there was no problem: the gas went straight up."

Library catches fire

by Kenneth Coxie
Assistant Sports Editor

You could smell the smoke all the way from Carmichael

as the Asheville Fire Department put out a blaze in Ramsey Library Jan. 19 around 4:30 p.m. It broke out due to the construction on the library, but no one was injured or harmed in the incident.

"We were cutting old frames out of windows and a spark got in the roof and caught fire," said Gary Moore who was the first construction worker to detect the fire. "It was smoldering, and they finally saw a little blaze."

"Sometimes a construction crew can get it out by themselves. It is common to have small fires like this one when you are doing construction," said Moore.

The fire may have started out small but it soon began to grow and pose a threat to the library. "It was almost out

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Students now graduate with big debts

(CPS) -- Eight years after they rode into Washington, D.C. pledging to change federal student aid forever, members of the Reagan administration can say they succeeded. In their wake, they're leaving students who generally have to borrow aid money they used to get as grants.

Virtually all observers -- whether conservative or liberal -- say the dramatic shift in financial aid programs

from grants to loans probably is the administration's most enduring campus accomplishment.

"Debt," said Fred Azcarate, president of the U.S. Student Association (USSA) in Washington, D.C., "is the great legacy of the Reagan administration for students."

Still others are disappointed the trend away from grants wasn't faster.

"The intent of financial aid was to supplement the cost

(of a college education)," contended Jeanne Allen of the Heritage Foundation, a conservative think tank that helped develop many of the administration's campus policies.

"It was never meant to guarantee everyone gets a college education," she continued. "Ronald Reagan's goal was to get back to the original intent...to ensure full access to a college education, but not that it would be fully

paid by the federal government."

Allen said Reagan largely succeeded in "making sure only the people who were deserving got aid money."

President Reagan came into office with other education goals, too, like abolishing the Department of Education, shifting the responsibility for funding campuses from Washington to the states

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