



# The Columns

MARCH 1986

Vol. 45 No. 6

Louisburg College

Louisburg, N.C.

Photo by Suzanne Colwell



JACQUE' CHALMERS AND H.M. "MICKEY" MICHAUX

## Michaux Visits

By JEFF BULLARD

On Thursday, February 20, Louisburg College was visited by H.M. "Mickey" Michaux, one of North Carolina's leading black businessmen and politicians. The visit was a part of Louisburg College's celebration of Black History Month. Michaux's speech encompassed a history of accomplishments made by blacks in our society past and present.

A native of Durham, Michaux served in the North Carolina House of Representatives. He also ran successfully against Rep. Tim Valentine, D-N.C., for Valentine's congressional seat. Although Michaux still plays a major part in North Carolina politics.

Throughout Michaux's speech he emphasized for blacks that "The past is propogue, learn from the past." As Michaux summerized black history, he described black americans as "the most patriotic in our society." For example Michaux cited the Vietnam conflict. He said, "Blacks died in greater proportions in vietnam than any other group." Also he added, "We didn't go to Canada," referring to the young men who left the United States in an effort to avoid being drafted.

Michaux felt that it was time for blacks to "harness the potential" of their political power. While doing this he

associated the modern day right wing Republicans like Sen. Jesse Helms, R-N.C. and Sen. John East, R-N.C. as being somewhat racial towards blacks. Michaux also pictured President Reagan as an "amiabile incompetent."

"Revive Martin Luther King, Jr.'s Dream", was another piece of advice Michaux offered to blacks. In a society that Michaux explained as preferring "Black folks to do dirty labor work," he saw the need to revive the dream of equality for all.

Mr. Michaux's speech was attended by a small group of black and whites. It lasted a little more than twenty minutes.

## "Golly, I'm Happy"

Courtesy of The Franklin Times

Caught totally at a loss for words, for possibly the first time in his life, Franklin County's "orator and educator" chuckled.

That chuckle said it all. It was pure vintage C. Ray Pruette.

For years honored in his profession (professor of physics and chemistry at Louisburg College) and in civic life (most notably the Franklinton Lions

Club), Pruette received the county's most prestigious honor Friday night.

He was named 1986 Citizen of the Year by the Louisburg-Franklin County Chamber of Commerce at the annual banquet, held at Louisburg College.

Widely regarded as a man who can talk intelligently and well on any subject, Pruette gave the shortest of acceptance speeches: "Golly, I'm happy!"



C. RAY PRUETTE

## Rector The Candidate

By JEFF BULLARD

As 1986 was rung in little more than a month ago, many people had different expectations for what future months would hold in store for them. For a special few, thoughts of speeches, barbecues, baby kissing and handshaking lingered foremost in their minds. These few are the politicians of our state and nation who are running for election or reelection. Louisburg College is fortunate to have one of these politicians as a member of the faculty. He is Robert C. Rector of the History department.

Mr. Rector is running for the State house of the North Carolina Legislature on the Republican ticket. There are two seats up for election this year representing the Franklin and Johnston Counties district.

Mr. Rector's opposition for the Republican Primary are both from Johnston County. If he wins his bid in the primary, then he will run against two Democrat incumbents who are also from Johnston County.

At a time when the North Carolina Legislature is dominated by Democrats, Rector considers every Republican elected a crucial

necessity for Governor Martin. Last year proved to be very unsuccessful for the Martin Administration which became embroiled in continuous political conflict with the General Assembly. Mr. Rector also feels if elected he would be able to give Franklin County representation what it has been

deprived of since the late 1970's.

One of Mr. Rector's main objectives if elected consists of eliminating "Pork Barrel" allocations. This is a program where at the end of each General Assembly members are allocated money that is not needed in the state budget to be

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ROBERT C. RECTOR

Photo by Buddy Hyde