

News Briefs

From UPI Wire Service Reports

Wallace gains black support

Former segregationist Gov. George Wallace, wasting little time in Alabama's gubernatorial primary, plotted his strategy Wednesday to make an unusual coalition of blacks and blue collar workers' click in the Democratic runoff.

Wallace, 63, who always had a hard hat following, did surprisingly well in a black communities as he sought a record fourth term, but was forced into a runoff against Lt. Gov. George McMillan on Sept. 28.

In sharp contrast to his defiant segregationist days in the 1960's the partially paralyzed and almost deaf ex-governor appealed for black support this year although McMillan won the endorsement of the state's largest black group.

Attorney awarded \$4.4 million

A Florida judge has awarded a \$4.4 million fee to an attorney who won a 28-year-old comatose woman the highest medical malpractice ever awarded by a jury in U.S. history.

Judge Robert Lance Andrews Tuesday awarded attorney Sheldon Schlesinger the money for a years worth of work he did in behalf of Susan Von Stetina, a former assistant manager of a North Miami stereo store who is in a coma from which doctors say she will never recover.

Last year, a jury found the Florida Medical Center in Lauderdale Lakes negligent and awarded Miss Von Stetina \$12.47 million in a verdict that went on the record books as being the largest sum of money ever awarded for a malpractice suit in this country.

Court upholds death penalty

The Virginia Supreme Court Thursday upheld the death sentence of Manuel Quintana for the hammer killing of an Arlington woman.

Quintana, 28, convicted of killing Ofelia Quintero, was sentenced to die in the electric chair by Arlington County Circuit Judge Charles Russell. Russell, now a Supreme Court justice, did not participate in Thursday's ruling.

Quintana's death sentence was on automatic appeal to the Supreme Court.

The high court dismissed Quintana's claims that the death sentence was unconstitutional and that there was insufficient evidence for his conviction. Quintana said there was no eyewitness to the murder.

GAO saves consumers \$\$\$, says TVA can halt nuke plant

Tennessee Valley Authority was justified in halting construction on the lone reactor at the Yellow Creek Nuclear Plant in northeast Mississippi because the move saved money for power consumers, the General Accounting Office said Thursday.

The GAO, the congressional watchdog agency, also said TVA's deferral of the Yellow Creek Unit 1 reactor last March was "prudent because it gives the agency at least five additional years to determine when and if the plant's capacity will be needed."

The government report was prepared for veteran Mississippi Sen. John Stennis, who was disappointed at the results, said one of his aides, Jim Jordan.

Stennis is running for re-election to his seventh term at age 81 and has been concerned about the loss of 1,828 jobs at Yellow Creek since the Unit 1 reactor was deferred. Work on the Yellow Creek Unit 2 reactor was stopped in 1979.

The GAO report studied TVA projections of electricity demand in the Tennessee Valley region until the year 2000 and concluded the seven-state utility was right to place the Yellow Creek plant in mothballs.

TVA spokesman Craven Crowell said agency board members used the most up-to-date information possible in making the decision to mothball Yellow Creek.

"The board has been very concerned about deferring nuclear plants and would not have undertaken it without a great deal of thought and research," Crowell said.

The GAO report said the forecast TVA compiled in deciding to halt work on Yellow Creek was "based on reasonable methodology, assumptions and data."

"We believe that TVA's conclusion concerning the timing and need for Yellow Creek Unit 1 power plant is reasonable," the report said.

Jordan said Stennis believes the national economy will do better than has been predicted.

"It's a tough ball game when you're predicting the future. We believe that power plant will be built someday," he said.

New N.C. prison dedicated

North Carolina State officials Thursday dedicated the first phase of a new Central Prison that will replace a facility built almost 100 years ago.

"This is truly an outstanding facility," Gov. James B. Hunt Jr. told about 250 people attending the dedication ceremonies inside the new prison. "It is a maximum custody facility... that will serve us well."

The newly completed facility is the first phase of a \$37.5 million project to replace the aged Central Prison with a modern facility on the same site.

A Correction Department spokesman said minimum security inmates will be moved in sometime later. The governor said the new Central Prison will provide increased protection for prison staff members and protect inmates from each other. The old prison was the scene of a hostage-taking situation earlier this year.

In his remarks, Hunt said the new prison "constitutes a warning to the criminal element."

"We must make it known to the criminal that his punishment will be swift and certain and severe," he said.

But he also said prisons must not be "schools for crime, but schools for reform."

Inmates should work or learn skills they can use when they are released, Hunt said, and officials should consider alternatives to imprisonment in cases where the benefits would outweigh the cost of \$23.50 a day to house an inmate.

News Briefs compiled by Jim Jarvis.

Freshmen express feelings about new NCCU experience

By Lori Grier

The summer of 1982 finally arrived for the class of '86 as they anxiously struggled to make the big decision that would lead some to become "Aggies" at A & T State University, "Rams" at Winston-Salem State University, "Falcons" at Fayetteville State University, "Golden Bulls" at Johnson C. Smith University. Despite the competition from these other fine schools, more than 800 freshmen longed to soar as NCCU Eagles, "no common ordinary barnyard fowl."

The Campus Echo randomly surveyed freshmen as to their reasons for coming to NCCU and their first impressions with the campus.

For some it was the nearness of family and friends that drew them to Central. Denise Sandlin, a freshman business administration major from Jacksonville, said, "I have a lot of cousins (upper classmen) who attend NCCU, and I wanted to be around people who could tell me about the rights and wrongs at college."

Sandlin admits that not everything at Central has been just as she dreamed it would be. There have been, she says, long lines for registration and difficulty registering for some classes, but she feels good times will return as she meets new people.

Denita Avent, a political science major from Kinston, also owes her presence at NCCU to the good report from family and friends, some of whom were Central alumni. She reports that school has run smoothly for her thus far and looks forward to Homecoming and sporting events.

Keith Neal, a freshman computer programming major from Reidsville, had a different reason for choosing Central. "This is the only black school which had the program I wanted, and NCCU is close to home," he pointed out.

Any regrets? Only the distance from Chidley Hall to his classes.

Tina Neal, a freshman dentistry major from Jacksonville, said she picked NCCU "because it offers a variety of classes for black students."

Her most annoying problem is waiting on the elevator to arrive on the 8th floor in Baynes Hall, but she enjoys having the freedom to make her own decisions. "I want to set an example for my sister to want to achieve a college education," she said.

Anthony Clark, a freshman computer science major from Enfield, said his decision to become an Eagle was a family matter. "My sister attends NCCU. I have relatives in the Durham Community, and NCCU is close to home," he added.

Clark has experienced problems with people who don't speak and would rather stay in their own groups than meet new people, but feels the parties and Greek step shows at NCCU will add good times to his college education.

Tarita Davis, a freshman from Charlotte, continued a family tradition

when she enrolled at Central for three of her cousins were NCCU graduates. Davis would like "for NCCU to help me better communicate with people."

Michael Coward, a freshman political science major from Kinston, also continued a family tradition. "All of my mother's five brothers and five sisters attended NCCU. My sister graduated from NCCU's Law School," he said.

Coward has experienced the problems of unclean bathrooms and small, dorm rooms in Chidley Hall and "unsatisfactory" cafeteria food. He enjoys socializing on George Street and at Baynes Hall and hopes to attend NCCU's Law School in the future.

Angela Davis, a freshman business administration major from Warren County, gave several reasons for becoming an Eagle. "NCCU wasn't my first choice, but my sister and nephew graduated from Central and influenced me to attend. My guidance counselor, Mrs. Illawanna Hill, told me that NCCU had a good business department. I like the location of NCCU," she admitted.

"I hope to achieve a complete education from NCCU."

Davis has experienced several problems with noise from people who don't attend NCCU but continually hang around the campus. Expensive books are another problem. She enjoys meeting people from different walks of life and attending classes. "I hope to achieve a complete education from NCCU. I really want to obtain some knowledge," she concluded.

James Warren, a freshman health education major from Lumberton who transferred from Winston-Salem State University, felt he would benefit more from a liberal arts school. "And I like the atmosphere at NCCU," he commented.

The only problem he has faced at Central is financial aid, but he likes the friendly people on campus and hopes to "get to know more people" while getting an education.



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