



Chasm In Two Leaps?

In its issue of August 4, the U.S. News and World Report accuses President Reagan of trying to leap the chasm created by his growing national deficits in two jumps, which they term a hazardous strategy.

But let Mortimer B. Zukerman, chairman and editor in chief of the magazine, put it in his own words: "President Reagan has failed miserably on this issue," he writes. "Without major deficit reductions, the national debt by the time Reagan leaves office will have nearly tripled, from approximately \$4,000 per person to some \$11,000. This is not an abstraction. At today's interest rates, this means that a family of four will have to pay additional taxes of \$2,100 a year just to meet the increased debt service. That might well be the most enduring legacy of the Reagan years."

"It has damaged the American economy and financial system, diminished the competitiveness of our export economy and contributed to the loss of millions of jobs and a \$150 billion trade deficit. The compound burden of debt is like some cancer growing on the economy and on Reagan's Presidency."

Zuckerman says that Congress made the first leap, quite spectacular and appropriate to the width of the chasm, with the passage of the Gramm-Rudman act to cut the federal deficit over a number of years, empowering the Comptroller General to make across-the-board budget cuts to bring the red ink down to the targeted \$151 billion this fiscal year.

But a funny thing happened on the way to that Beulah Land of the budget. The Supreme Court ruled the Comptroller General provision violated the separation of powers provision of the constitution. That left Congress on the descent side of its first giant leap and it is now trying to remedy the situation by amending Gramm-Rudman to empower the Office of Management and Budget, an executive agency, to make the necessary cuts.

Meanwhile, President Reagan has stood pat on his no tax increase, insisting that even the reform bill now in Conference Committee in Congress be "revenue neutral." More than that, he is still bent on continuing his defense build-up which everyone except Caspar Weinberger now recognizes as merely a spend-up. Then there is the Stealth plane on which not even Congress has the price tag, not to mention Star Wars, estimates on the cost of which await the development of bigger computers.

Against that background of White House encouragement, Congress is wrestling with the Gramm-Rudman revision, which is not universally popular. Whether they will have the political courage to place the future of pet projects under the thumb of OMB, an agency over which they have no direct control, is uncertain in an election year.

So the President has come forward with his version of the second leap. He has a bill pending in Congress to raise the debt ceiling

Continued On Page 4



EHA COMMISSIONERS ATTEND MEETING—Officials from the EHA were on hand for the meeting at which town council members took the first step in abolishing their agency. From left, they are Commissioners Haywood Harrell, Daisy Bemby (in 2nd row), Ken Lowe, Town Attorney Chris Bean, Gerald Lassiter, and Executive Director Bruce White.

Permit Denied To Operate Laundry

A marathon town council meeting Tuesday night contained five public hearings, heard committee reports and conducted other business which included the decision to draft a resolution to abolish the Edenton Housing Authority (see related story). The meeting, convened at 8 p.m., did not end until 10:30 p.m.

A request from Claude Small for a special use permit to operate a coin laundry and a car wash on his property on Badham Road was considered. Opposition from the neighborhood bordering

Small's property surfaced at a recent council meeting and action was delayed to see if Small and the residents could resolve their differences.

A report on a July 15 meeting with Small and residents was presented by Hugh Dial. He said that although Small had agreed to a list of restrictions, they were skeptical that all would be implemented and that, in case of the failures of the businesses, a new operator might not abide by any of them.

Dial concluded by saying, "If

this special use permit is granted, it will be done solely by the council and what you feel - not with the blessings of the people who are directly to be affected by your decision."

Ed Taylor told the council, "I oppose the car wash, more traffic and loud music. I haven't seen a car wash pay off in this town yet."

Small asked the council to vote on each business separately. Councilman A.B. Harless reminded the council that he had presented a petition in opposition from local citizens and "I go with the public opposition." "I'd like to know what is permissible around there," Small noted.

Council denied the special use permit.

In a hearing on a request from Bob Thomas to rezone 20 acres of land at the northeast corner of N.C. 32 north and B-Lane Road from highway commercial to shopping center commercial, Mayor John Dowd removed himself as presiding officer. Dowd

Continued On Page 4



FOLLOW PRESENTATION—Edenton Mayor John Dowd and newly appointed Town Manager Sam Noble follow a prepared presentation during one of the five hearings at the lengthy council meeting Tuesday night.

Council Considers Abolishing Authority

Angry voices were raised Tuesday night in the town council chamber as charges and countercharges were exchanged over the administration of the Edenton Housing Authority.

The authority was created to provide housing for low income families. Built with federal grants, Edenton's 100 units are administered by a five member commission appointed by the mayor. The day-to-day operation of the apartment complex is under the supervision of Executive Director Bruce White.

White and the commission came under fire from the council at its June meeting as the result of a critical inspection report from the federal Dept. of Housing and Urban Development (HUD). Officials from the Greensboro office of HUD were on hand for that meeting.

The report cited administrative and financial irregularities in the EHA operation. HUD inspector Bettye Jackson told the council in June that many of the items in the report were repeat discrepancies.

EHA commissioners and the director contend that the town has no authority over operation and administration of EHA. HUD official Robert Frazier said in the June meeting that the commission

"is still under the jurisdiction of the mayor."

Tuesday night, Mayor John Dowd asked former mayor Roy Harrell "why you chose to ignore these (HUD) reports for twelve years?" Harrell responded that Dowd should "Call a public hearing and let's discuss it."

In a verbal flurry in the crowded council chamber, Dowd asked the commissioners present why they had not met with the council in June. Commissioner Ken Lowe responded, "You did not attend our meetings." White added that "You didn't respond to our invitations."

White asked Dowd what purpose there was in making a "public spectacle" of the authority and its problems. "I think you're making an issue out of this. Sam (Noble) kicked me out of his office. I think you're mishandling the whole thing," White charged.

Dowd came back with, "I don't have a personal vendetta against you, Bruce. This is taxpayers' dollars. I don't care what you say."

Councilman Steve Hampton interjected with "Mr. Mayor, I think this a personnel matter and should be handled in executive

Continued On Page 4

County Dog Thefts Investigated

By JACK GROVE

Chowan County Sheriff Glenn Perry said Tuesday that his department is investigating the disappearance of a number of dogs around the county. A ring of dog thieves is believed to be operating in the area and may be selling the animals to research facilities, he said.

The thefts began several weeks ago and the number of dogs stolen is unknown, since owners have been reporting their loss to the Edenton-Chowan SPCA, County Dog Warden Jerome Purvis, and, in only a few cases, to the sheriff's department. Authorities believe that more than a few owners possibly have not reported missing pets at all, thinking their dogs may have just wandered off.

Marcia Crandall of the local SPCA said most of the dogs taken have been pure-bred. After receiving a number of calls concerning the missing dogs, she contacted Sheriff Perry and the Edenton Police Department.

Perry said of the possible thefts, "It came to our attention a couple of weeks ago." He said, "We are investigating and have a suspect in mind. I feel like we're on the right track."

Dogs have been reported missing from Cape Colony, Mexico Road and the Center Hill area. Most of the reports have been made to the county animal control office.

Patty Madry at animal control said that "probably as few as ten

dogs, mostly pure-bred", have been reported missing. She added that "There is not really any area of the county that has not been affected. Some of the dogs reported taken are German shepherds, including one female and her four pups."

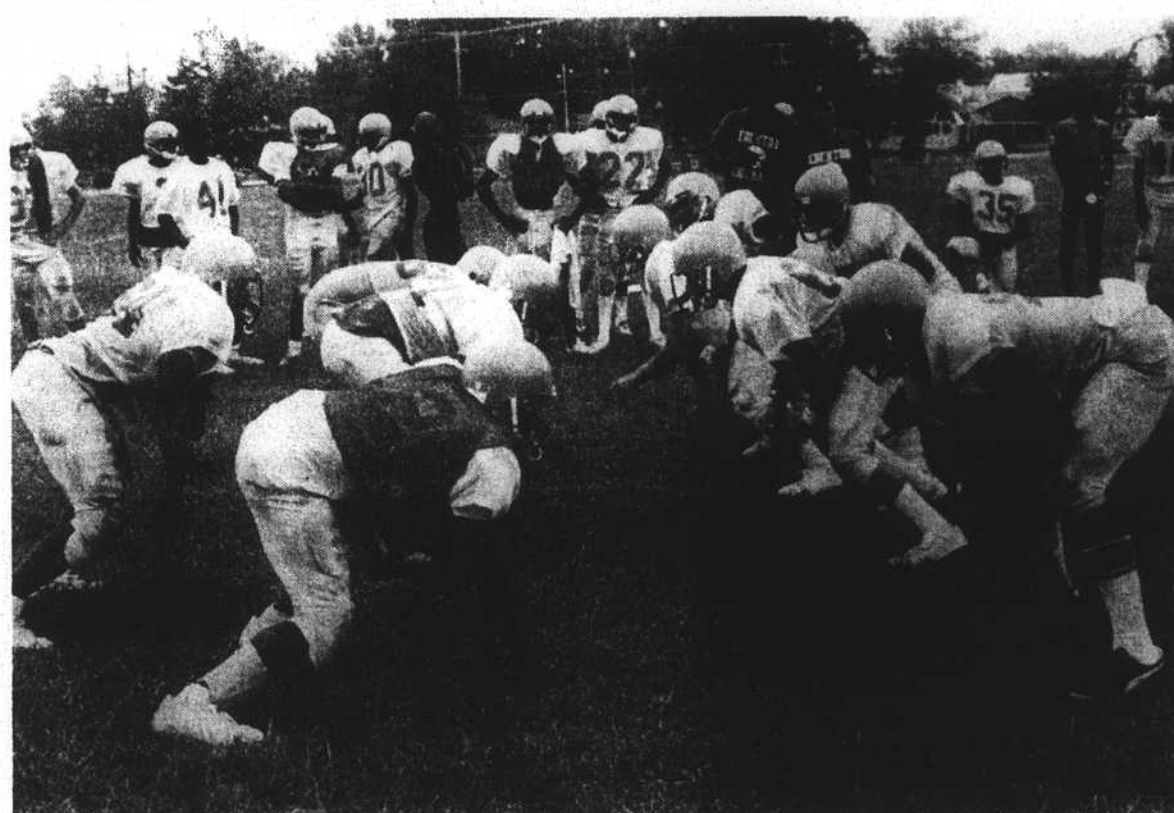
"I wouldn't walk up on a strange dog of the types being taken," Madry commented. Perry said that the dog thieves may be using a tranquilizer gun in their operation.

Hope Ward of Center Hill and her husband owned the female German shepherd with the puppies that were believed stolen. They disappeared on the night of Sunday, August 3 from their home. She said the mother returned home last Friday morning, "in bad shape, hungry and thirsty." The puppies are still missing.

Ward said, "When I found out that this was going on in the county, I was very upset. Having something stolen, like a bicycle, that's bad. But when you can't even keep a dog..." She said the puppies, pedigreed animals, had been spoken for and that she and her husband had planned to give them away, rather than sell them.

One of the litter had already been given to Mrs. Rosa Ward, her mother-in-law, who lives nearby. That eight-week-old pup is missing also, according to Mrs. Ward, who works at Brithaven. She said the puppy was loose in

Continued On Page 4



JAYVEES READIED—The Edenton Aces Junior Varsity team worked out in pre-season practice last Saturday morning. Supervising the workout are coaches Tyrone Spellman and Billy Sugg. The squad's season begins Aug. 28 playing Bertie in a home game.

Edenton Aces Prepare For Fall Football Season

The Edenton Aces of John A. Holmes High School will soon begin their fall football schedule and his team is ready, according to Coach Jay Swicegood. "Most of the kids are back from last year, 18 kids," the coach said of his 35 member squad. "if we keep people healthy, we look good right now."

Swicegood said of the 18, "They're good leaders." This year's team will consist of eight seniors, 18 juniors and 10 sophomores.

The head coach said that last year saw the three football coaches working together for the first time and with a new offense. "We expect to be better than we

were last year." The Aces ended the season with a 5-5 record. "We

expect to be able to move the foot-

Continued On Page 4

Dry Spring Weather Takes Toll On Farmers

An extremely dry spring and summer has taken its toll on Chowan County corn crops according to agricultural extension chairman Mike Williams. He said that the local crop is "about one-half what we usually get in yield." This, coupled with lower prices for corn is a real cause for concern among farmers.

The rain over the past week has produced a much needed relief for other crops. The extension agent said that rainfall over the past week has ranged from 1 1/2 to 3 1/2

inches across the county. "The rain is coming at a real good time for soybean," Williams said.

Area farmers have been experiencing problems getting out in the fields to spray for corn ear worm in peanut and soybean crops. Williams termed the infestation as at "very high levels."

Concerning cotton, the agent said "I think we're looking at a good crop," while he cautioned, "scouting and spraying for boll worms has been critical. The need

Continued On Page 4

System Under Repair

Due to a mechanical breakdown within The Chowan Herald's computerized typesetting system, readers may notice some deviation from the normal appearance of the type used in news stories and advertising copy appearing in this week's edition.

The difficulty could not be corrected prior to publication this week, but it is hoped that the necessary repairs can be completed in the next few days.



CANCER CHECK—Bill Vogedes, Crusade Chairman for Chowan of the American Cancer Society (r.) accepts a check from Brad Brooks, Co-chairman of the Cancer Golf Tournament at the Chowan Golf and Country Club. The recent tourney netted \$1,330 for the Cancer Society.