



The Public Parade

On Consolidating Power

Gov. Jim Martin's actions during the past few weeks have tended to lend some credence to the Democrats' charge that he is motivated by a deep-seated hunger for power.

Whatever the motivation, he has not hesitated to use the prestige of his office in pursuit of political goals that are so purely partisan as to raise questions about their appropriateness.

A few weeks ago we were surprised, as were a great many other North Carolinians, to be asked to accept a call from the governor, who then came on with a short statement before turning us over to Senator Jim Broyhill, whose message was purely a fundraising pitch. We hung on until he reached that part about his fears of "going back to double-digit inflation and high interest rates." Then we hung up because we are more worried about going forward to the second Reagan recession, bigger deficits and high interest payments.

During the years, we have received calls from governors since the days of Kerr Scott, but this was the first time we had ever been asked to listen to a taped political pitch which, to us at least, was below the dignity of the governor's office.

Not only does the governor want his own senator in the nation's capitol, he wants his own legislators in the General Assembly. We get about the state a lot and almost everywhere we go we hear television commercials on behalf of his own legislative candidates whom he says he needs to keep the legislature from "stripping me of my authority." He leaves the impression that, without veto power, he stands naked before the Democratic vultures in the General Assembly.

The truth is that the Governor of North Carolina is not only among the highest paid but the most powerful in the nation. We do not fault him for wanting more Republicans in the legislature to support the common good; but when his pitch is based on the need to protect his authority, he is creating a false issue.

Given his man in Washington and his men in Raleigh, what else would a power-hungry governor want? Why, of course, his people on the bench. And here is where

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Christmas Parade Schedule Noted

BIGGER, BETTER, BEST! The Edenton-Chowan Chamber of Commerce is proud to announce that the Christmas Parade this year has its first Chairman. Trooper Mike McArthur, N.C. State Highway Patrol Officer, has agreed to chair the parade for this year. In what promises to be the best attended parade with the most entries, Edenton will kick off its Christmas Season. Helping Mike is Frank Cox of Peoples Bank, who is successfully gathering commitments from area bands. At this time, at least five bands will be participating in the extravaganza. Float competition is expected to be keen this year as some challenges take place. The parade is scheduled for Wednesday, December 3, at 4:00 p.m.

Cooperation from many of the Civic Clubs, as well as a tremendous amount of enthusiasm and support from Chairman McArthur and his support staff promises to make this "Miracle on Broad Street" Christmas parade a one to remember. You are encouraged to call the Chamber at 482-3400 for more information or to request a parade entry blank.



1986's BEST—Edenton police officer Louis C. Brothers is shown with his wife as he receives the Chowan County Law Enforcement of The Year Award from Asst. Dist. Attorney Frank Parrish.

Brothers Honored

A large crowd of about 250 turned out last Thursday evening for the sixteenth annual Chowan County Law Enforcement Officers Appreciation Banquet hosted by the Edward G. Bond Post 40 of the American Legion. Special guests included N.C. Attorney General Lacy Thornburg, N.C. State Auditor Ed Renfro, and the State Commander of the American Legion, Sherman Lillard.

The highlight of the evening was the presentation of the Chowan County Law Enforcement Officer of the Year. Officer Louis C. Brothers of the Edenton Police Dept. was this year's honoree.

Assist. District Attorney Frank Parrish made some observations concerning Brothers while leading up to his presentation of the award. "When I look at past recipients and this recipient tonight, I think of excellence. He has a record of achievement and performance. He has contributed both to the life of the community and law enforcement."

Saying that Brothers had well-prepared cases in court, the ADA said that the recipient has "made some of us prosecutors look good."

Parrish described Brothers as a native of Chowan County, a husband and father, with a background in sports, having

coached baseball and football. He is a 1972 graduate of John A. Holmes High School, a U.S. Marine Corps veteran and the recipient of the 1984 Optimist Youth Award. He concluded, "He is one of the most capable that I know."

Edenton Mayor John Dowd presented Post 40 a plaque on behalf of the town. On it were inscribed all of the winners of the law enforcement officer of the year honorees. Dowd told the crowd, "The opinion I've formed over the years is that you law enforcement officers help, protect, educate and enforce the law. Thank you for the risks that you endure."

Chowan County Sheriff Glen Perry introduced the state dignitaries present, the local law enforcement agencies, nine area sheriffs, the Highway Patrol, SBI, FBI, N.C. Enforcement Div. for Licenses and Theft, N.C. Wildlife Comm., N.C. Fisheries Comm., Adult Probation and Parole, A.L.E., Juvenile Probation officers. Also, Dist. Attorneys, County Clerk's and Register of Deeds, Magistrates, Judges and County Commissioners present.

The featured speaker was Robert A. Tart, National Executive Committeeman of the American Legion. Tart said, "The

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Brickhouse Confesses Killing His Wife

A Chowan County woman was found dead in her mobile home early Friday by law enforcement officers. Responding to the early morning call were Chowan County Sheriff Glen Perry and Deputies Joseph Byrum and Wayne Rice who found the body of Debra Lynn Modlin Brickhouse, 32, in a bath tub full of water at her home at Rt. 1, Box 247, Tyner in the Cannon's Ferry area.

Perry said that an autopsy report listed the cause of death as strangulation. He said that no signs of a beating were evident. He said that Isiah Brickhouse, 33, the victim's husband is being held without bond on a charge of first degree murder.

The SBI crime lab from Greenville and SBI agent Michael Thomas from Elizabeth City were called in to aid in the investigation.

The sheriff arrived at the scene at 1:45 a.m. and said that his best estimate of the time of the murder

was around 1:15 a.m.

Perry said that his investigation showed that the couple's three children were in another room at the time of the attack. The oldest child apparently heard a commotion, waited until his father had left, then roused the other children and took them to a neighbor's home from where authorities

were called.

Isiah Brickhouse, an employee of Reed Oil Co. in Hertford, was picked up for questioning at a residence in Perquimans County by Sheriff Perry, Perquimans Sheriff Julian Broughton and agent Thomas at 7 a.m. Friday.

Perry said that Brickhouse has confessed to the crime.



WRECKED AUTOS—The mangled remains of two cars involved in a weekend collision on the Albemarle Sound Bridge are shown above. The 1987 Toyota (left) driven by 23-year-old Lori Peale Ross, was struck by a 1980 Chevrolet Citation (right), whose driver, Howard T. Smith,



has been charged in connection with the accident. One passenger in the Peale car was killed instantly, and several others sustained severe head and internal injuries.

Chaffin Hears Court Cases

Chowan District Court was in session October 14 with the Honorable John T. Chaffin presiding over the criminal calendar.

R. Merle Alwine was found guilty of driving 68 in a 55 mph zone. He was fined \$35 and cost of court.

Gregory Scott Halbrook, found guilty of driving 67 in a 55 mph zone, was fined \$35 and cost of court.

Eric V. Byrum, found guilty of driving 64 in a 55 mph zone, he was fined \$10 and cost of court.

Thomas Adolph Holley, found guilty of driving 66 in a 55 mph zone, was fined \$35 and cost of court.

In probable cause hearings for Titus Hosea Wynn, charged with two counts of forgery, a waiver of probable cause was issued and the case was bound over to Superior Court.

State took dismissal in the case of Robert Wayne Shiver, charged with transporting spirituous liquor.

Robert Wayne Shiver, found guilty of DWI, was sentenced to 90 days in Chowan County jail, suspended 2 years, fined \$125 and cost of court. He is also not to operate a motor vehicle in North Carolina for 60 days, is to perform 48 hours of community service and is not to possess or consume any alcoholic beverage for 2 years.

Carl Mayo Cayton, Jr., found guilty of affray, was fined \$25 and cost of court.

Tony Stevens Stokely, found guilty of affray, was fined \$25 and cost of court.

York Odell Hayes, found guilty of DWI and improper passing, was sentenced to 6 months in Chowan County jail on the first charge and was fined \$25 on the second.

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Sound Bridge Collision Causes Single Fatality

By REBECCA BUNCH

A head-on collision at 6:40 p.m. on Friday, October 17 left a Washington County law enforcement officer dead and several others seriously injured.

Sixty-year-old chief deputy James Walter Peale of Creswell was killed instantly when the 1987 Toyota in which he was a passenger was struck by a 1980 Chevrolet Citation driven by Howard Thomas Smith of Route 1, Roper.

The accident occurred about seven miles south of Edenton on N.C. 32, about a mile north of the draw on the Albemarle Sound Bridge.

Lori Peale Ross, 23, driver of the '87 Toyota, sustained a broken arm and internal injuries. Two other passengers in the Peale vehicle—Regina Annette Peale, 19 and Crystal Lynn Peale, age 7—were left with severe internal and head injuries. Both were comatose when transported to Chowan Hospital following the crash. All those in the Peale car were wearing seatbelts; Smith was not using one.

All three girls have since been transferred to Pitt Memorial Hospital in Greenville. Regina Peale, the most seriously injured of the three, was transported to Greenville via Life Flight, while Lori P. Ross and Crystal Lynn Peale were taken to Pitt by ambulance.

Howard T. Smith received a broken ankle as well as cuts and bruises. He was treated and released from Chowan Hospital on Saturday. Smith had remained trapped in his car for about one hour following the accident, while rescue personnel worked to free him.

Chowan County Deputy Joe Byrum held up traffic on the Chowan side of the Albemarle Sound Bridge. Traffic on the bridge was halted for about 2 1/2 hours.

According to N.C. State Trooper Mike McArthur, warrants have been issued charging Smith with driving while impaired, driving left of the center line, and misdemeanor death by motor vehicle. McArthur said that Smith was driving in excess of 55 miles per hour at the time of the collision, while the Peale vehicle had slowed to 20 miles per hour in an attempt to avoid the accident.

The impact of the wreck

knocked the Peale car back about 38 feet on impact. Crystal Lynn Peale was thrown out of the car and landed on the road 14 feet away. McArthur credits a nurse who happened to be driving by the accident site and stopped to offer her assistance with keeping Crystal Peale alive. "Unfortunately, in all the confusion, I did not get a chance to get the woman's name and personally thank her for helping until other medical personnel arrived on the scene," he said. "I really would like a chance to talk with her, and hope that she will get in touch with me."

Local resident Buddy Sawyer

was another who stopped to see if he could help. McArthur said that Sawyer remained on the scene for about three hours, assisting in removal of the victims and with site clean-up. He said he was very grateful for the help given by Mr. Sawyer, Edenton Chowan Rescue Squad members and many others.

At the present time, any witnesses who may have seen the accident are being sought by the investigating officers—Trooper Mike McArthur of Edenton, Trooper D.C. Garris of Hertford, and Sgt. W.C. Hinson of Elizabeth City. Anyone having information about the collision is asked to con-

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DEMOCRATIC CARAVAN VISITS COUNTY—Congressman Walter B. Jones led a group of Democratic candidates who visited Chowan County this week. Following a luncheon at the Carolina Room in Gaslight Square, the group met with local Democrats at the county courthouse. Pictured above (left to right) are: Judge James Exxum, local businessman George Alma Byrum, County Democratic Party chairman Charlie Shaw, Congressman Jones, and Bill Hodges, District Democratic Party chairman. (Staff Photo by Gail Basnight)