



Where Are The Giants?

We are getting a little tired of the tendency the media has of characterizing announced Democratic presidential candidates as "dwarves" and wondering when the "real" contender will come riding into the ring on a white horse.

As long as there were seven of them, they were, of course, referred to as "The Seven Dwarves"; then for a time, when Gary Hart was thinking about getting back into the race, it looked as if we were in for a season of seven and a half dwarves. And now that image attrition has removed Joe Biden, those remaining in the race are fast on their way to becoming "The Six Little Indians."

Who are these men to deserve such derisive treatment by the stalwarts of the press, both broadcast and print?

Two of them, Albert Gore and Paul Simon, are members of the United States senate; two of them, Michael Dukakis and Bruce Babbitt, are a governor and an ex-governor; one of them, Richard Gephardt, is a member of the U.S. House of Representatives, and the sixth, Jesse Jackson, is a respected black minister who ran very well in the 1984 campaign.

And how do they differ from the three announced presidential contenders for the Republican nomination, who up to this point have escaped designation as "The Three Blind Mice"? One of whom is vice president, the other is a U.S. Senator and the third is a television evangelist, which pretty well parallels the ranking of the six remaining dwarves.

George Bush, aside from being vice president, is best known for having first discovered "voodoo economics" and then having embraced it. Senator Robert Dole, having lost as a candidate for vice president on the ticket with Gerald Ford, is now going for the top spot. And Pat Robertson, who lays on hands and turns hurricanes aside, has led the other two in early straw vote tests.

So, who is the giant among this trio and how does he compare with the six remaining dwarves? The truth is, he isn't there. And the silence of the press on that score is becoming a little awkward.

We didn't suffer any great sense of loss when Gary Hart removed himself from the running, a victim of his own shortcomings. We do not intend to lose any sleep over Joe Biden's departure, although the "flaw" in his character has to be viewed through a political microscope to be seen as important.

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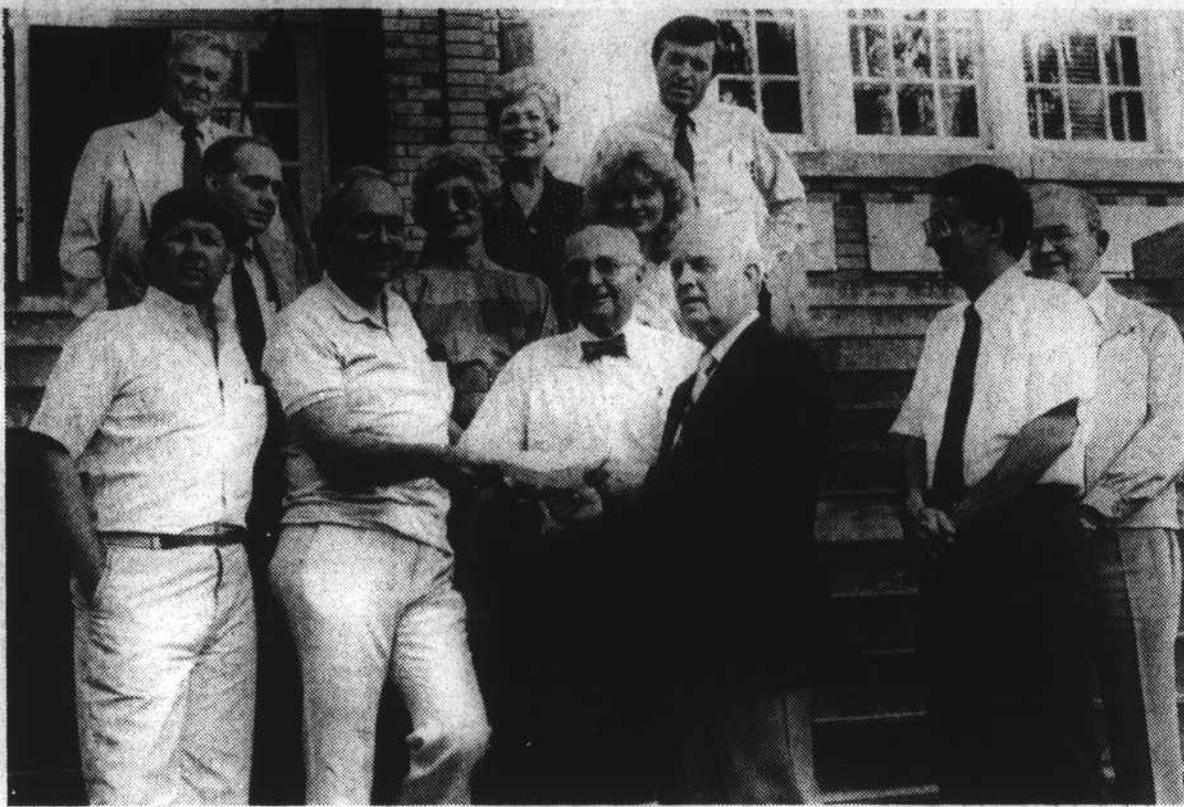
75 Students Face Expulsion

Seventy-five students will not be allowed to return to school next week if their parents don't comply with a state law requiring immunization certification. The law says that students must be immunized against diphtheria, tetanus, whooping cough, poliomyelitis, red measles and rubella.

Certification under the law must be tendered to school authorities within thirty days after schools open in order for the child to remain in school. Though that period had expired, the Edenton-Chowan School Board voted Monday night to grant an extension until next Monday.

A memorandum within the superintendent's office indicates that, as of Friday, seven students at White Oak School and 68 students at D.F. Walker were not in compliance. The memo further said that "additional contacts" with the parents of these students had been made.

The Chowan District Health office on King Street will provide free immunizations tomorrow from 1 p.m. to 4:30 p.m.



SWAIN FUNDS—County commissioners and guests gather on the Swain School steps as the first district legislative delegation presents \$125,000 to the county for renovation of the auditorium. Sen. Marc Basnight, Rep. Pete Thompson and Rep. Vernon James (l. to r.) make the presentation to commission chairman Alton Elmore. Behind Basnight is developer Dwayne Anderson.

Town Nears Completion Of Project

After two years of meetings between Mayor John Dowd, the town manager, various members of council and contract engineers, Edenton is very close to boosting electrical output while at the same time saving customers money.

Town council's utilities and finance committees met Monday evening and voted to recommend approval of a low bid of \$409,842 for the purchase of two 1,250 KW diesel-powered generators. Town Manager Phillip Whitaker said the bid was 30 per cent under the estimate made by engineers. Successful bidder was Cummins-Carolina at Rocky Mount. Next lowest bid was submitted by Gregory Poole Co. at \$453,884.

The generators will be operated when peak electrical demand loads the town's system. The town buys electricity from the N.C. Eastern Municipal Power Agency. When peak demand occurs, in summer or in winter, prices of electricity purchased sky-rocket.

Whitaker said that these "peak

shaving generators" are expected to pay for themselves in three years in cost saving. "We may also be able to sell surplus power during peak periods back to the agency," he commented.

On customer savings, "The ideal situation would be to lower residential electric rates in the short term. In reality, what we may realize is just the ability to maintain our rates and keep from going up when other suppliers' rates are rising," he said.

Elizabeth City is planning a similar system. The engineering firm is working with both towns and a sharing of power could occur. For example, if Edenton's generators were undergoing maintenance during a peak period, demand energy could be shared from Elizabeth City. The reverse would also occur. Whitaker said that no written agreement had as yet been formulated.

Edenton's generators will be paid for out of a town capital im-

provement fund set up two years ago for that purpose. No state or federal funds are involved in the project.

The auxiliary power plant will be located at the airport and the town expects delivery in about six months. The town manager said that bids will be advertised later for a building and installation. "Since we got 30 per cent, (reduction in expected cost) it gives us breathing room in the budget for the rest of the project."

The recommendation by the utilities and finance committee for the purchase will be acted upon at town council's regular meeting Tuesday night.

Council held an abbreviated meeting Monday night and approved a resolution for a 50-50 cost share with the state to treat alligator weed in Pembroke Creek in an irradiation program. Whitaker said, "That involved just a couple of hundred dollars."

American Legion Post 40 Is Preparing For October County Fair

American Legion members at Post 40 began setting up exhibit booths in the main building last night in preparation for "the biggest and best fair we've ever had," said one official.

The post is sponsoring the for-

tieth annual Chowan County Fair that begins Monday and runs through the following Saturday. Fair official E.C. Toppin said that a bigger midway, with rides and concessions, provided by the new Eastern Seaboard Shows, would

be the centerpiece of the fairgrounds.

Stage shows Thursday and Friday, Oct. 15 and 16, will star Victoria Hallman of "Hee Haw" and Kent Westbury from Nashville, Tenn. Also featured will be the

Southern Fury Band on Tuesday, Bertie Martin Band on Wednesday and the Rocky Hock Rebels on Saturday.

No county fair would be complete without agricultural exhibits and there will be many. Exhibit entries are Oct. 10 and 11 from 2 to 6 p.m.

Special activities will include a 4-H regional talent contest on Tuesday, Thursday and Friday; a 4-H barbecue cooking contest on Wednesday; a feeder pig show, also on Wednesday; and a senior citizen recognition on Thursday with those 65 and over admitted free. On Saturday, Oct. 17, a new

queen of the fair will be chosen.

Prize drawings for young people will see \$25 being awarded Tuesday and a ten speed bike awarded Wednesday through Saturday. On Monday and Saturday, a "pay one price" policy will be in effect with \$5 admission and all rides free.

Toppin said that, in anticipation of large crowds, seven acres have been rented for additional parking adjacent to the post on U.S. Highway 17 South Business. He said that all parking areas are grassed and won't create a dust problem.

Municipal Election Draws New Voters

Last minute voter registrations swelled the local voting rolls as municipal elections in Edenton draw near. Voter registration closed at 5 p.m. Monday for eligibility to vote in town elections.

Marie Akins, voter registrar, said that 30 had registered last week and 20 more by noon Monday. In August, 16 new voters had been signed up, 38 in September and 50 for October.

Registration points are the Shepard-Pruden Library, the registrar's office in the old courthouse and by any of the three election board members, Opal Kehayes, Johnny Bond and James

Robison.

Mrs. Akins said of the rush, "Somebody's been out beating the bushes to get them registered." Ten candidates are running in four contested races for at-large, first and second ward seats on the council and the mayoral race.

"One-stop" balloting will again be available for those voters who will be out of town on November 3, who will be in the hospital, or have some other legitimate reason why they cannot vote on election day. These paper ballots may be voted by stopping by the registrar's office from now through October 30.

Mrs. Akins pointed out that one-

stop balloting does not replace absentee ballots, applications for which may be made until October 27 at 5 p.m.

Election board office hours are 9 a.m. until 1 p.m. through November 3.

Officials Tour County Farms

County commissioners got a late afternoon tour Monday through the county to see firsthand work that the Soil Conservation Service is coordinating with local farmers to improve water quality in streams and tidal waters.

Best Management Practices (BMP) is an agricultural cost share program that uses grass borders around fields, water control structures in ditches, no-till farming, grade stabilization and hog lagoons and other practices to control runoff of topsoil and

agricultural chemicals.

In the past two years, \$160,162 of state money has been allocated and \$109,927 spent for BMP on 10,811 acres.

As part of the cost share, the state pays 75 per cent of water structures with the farmer picking up the balance. On no-till, \$10 per acre is paid to the farmer for three years to participate. Stanton Harrell, SCS tour guide told the group, "We've been placing a lot of emphasis on these water run-off structures."

Congressmen Bring Funds For Renovation

By JACK GROVE

The first district congressional delegation was on hand in Edenton to hand out money and receive plaudits from their constituents.

State Sen. Marc Basnight, Rep. Vernon James and Rep. R.M. (Pete) Thompson met with county commissioners late Tuesday afternoon at Swain School. They presented a check for \$125,000 to the county for renovation of Swain Auditorium for civic use.

Also on hand was developer Dwayne Anderson whose company will do the work along with converting the school property into 24 apartments for the elderly with the top floor containing 14 more apartments for all ages.

Anderson said afterward that he expected that a portion of the work could begin as early as November 15 upon completion of loan approval by the Farmers Home Administration. For the county's part, County Manager Cliff Copeland felt that their paperwork hurdles would delay startup until the first of the year.

Basnight credited hard work by Thompson in getting legislative approval for funds and especially

the backing of Lt. Gov. Robert Jordan for an omnibus regional funding package, including Swain funds, that went to the Albemarle Commission. He lauded the cooperation of commission executive director Don Flowers as well.

James was quick to say that the cooperation and close working relationship between representatives and senators of the north-east had a lot to do with the funding as well as getting other legislation passed that benefits the region.

Thompson, a Raleigh freshman, agreed with his colleagues but praised Basnight and James for their leadership as he sought to help this area.

Plaudits fell their way as the legislators were hosted at American Legion Post 40 at a "legislative appreciation" banquet. Town and county officials were honored guests as well.

Basnight, James and Thompson were thanked by Post Commander Bill Manke for their support of veteran's legislation and

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Farmers Eligible For Aid

The U.S. Department of Agriculture has declared nine counties eligible for Farmers Home Administration emergency physical and production loss loan assistance. This resulted from the damage caused by severe drought and high temperatures from June through August of this year.

Counties listed are Chowan, Caswell, Cumberland, Greene, Johnston, Orange, Sampson, Wayne and Wilson. Also, 23 neighboring counties were named where farmers may qualify for the assistance. Locally, they include, Bertie, Gates, Hertford, Perquimans, Pitt and Washington.

Melvin E. Howell, county supervisor, said that federal law prohibits FmHA from providing emergency loans to farmers on crops grown in areas where federal crop insurance or multi-peril crop insurance is available if the insurance coverage was not taken out on the affected crops. Also, a farmer must have a 30 per cent production loss and collateral for the loan.

Howell said that farmers in Chowan and Perquimans may now apply for the loans and that the deadline for filing is May 25, 1988. The local FmHA office is located at Perquimans County Office Building in Hertford.



JAIL'S WHERE THEY PUT 'EM—And the law enforcement officers association says more will go there if citizens will use the Crime Line, established this month. Information about Crime Line cases is published weekly on page 1-B of the Chowan Herald. This was one of over 100 units in the Peanut Festival parade viewed by one of the largest crowds ever. An afternoon northwest wind brought a chill to the day and rain that drowned later competition for bands at Hicks Field. (More festival pictures on page 7-B)