



Not To Be Diverted

We intend to ignore comments by James G. Robinson, Bob Rossman and Sally Harrison in recent letters to the editor because we feel it is more important to keep exposing the phony nature of the Bush-Quayle campaign than to engage in "you're another" with kibitzers on the sidelines.

While professing to want a "kinder, gentler" America, George Bush has done nothing but malign the name and distort the record of Gov. Michael Dukakis since the campaign was joined. He has been unrelenting in his effort to picture the governor as another "tax and spend eastern liberal," while draping himself in the American flag and representing himself to be exactly what his record has not been for the past eight years.

He has derided Dukakis for not cleaning up Boston harbor, while forgetting his own opposition to almost every environmental improvement proposed during the Reagan administration. That is why environmentalists gave him a grade D.

He has accused Dukakis of furloughing felons to rape and kill while presenting himself as the paragon of law and order. He has studiously ignored the fact that the Massachusetts parole program was instituted by a Republican governor and tightened up by Dukakis when convicts began violating the trust. And he has remained silent in seven languages about a similar program in his home state of Texas, where a convict left a half-way house, raped a minister's wife and then added the coup de grace by killing his victim. Nor has he seen fit to mention that Ronald Reagan had a similar case while governor of California, where a furloughed convict killed a policeman and a teacher. On the contrary, the Vice President journeyed to Texas to present a presidential award to operators of the half-way house.

He has derided Gov. Dukakis for vetoing a bill making the Pledge of Allegiance compulsory in the Massachusetts public schools, knowing that the Supreme Court of the United States struck down such a law back in the McCarthy days. He says Dukakis, in asking an advisory opinion from his own Supreme Court, was seeking a way to avoid signing the bill while he himself would have been "looking for a way to sign it." In other words, he would have been looking for a way to get around the law just as he did trading arms for the release of hostages.

He has accused the governor of being a 24-karat gun controller while he himself is a true disciple of the NRA. The facts are that Dukakis, along with almost every police department in the country, favored the amendment that would have required a delay in the purchase of certain types of guns so that law enforcement officers could check the background of the purchasers. Dukakis has made it clear that he believes in the right of Americans to own guns for the protection of their homes and for such sports as hunting and mark-

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PROBABLE CAUSE--Chowan Sheriff's Deputies Greg Whitehurst (left) and Victor Lamb escort Randall Powell from the courthouse after probable cause was found in District Court to try him on a first degree murder charge in the death of Donald Meeler at Cape Colony.

Lt. Governor Hopeful Gardner Campaigns Here

The parade of candidates for state office was about complete with the visit to Edenton of Republican candidate for Lt. Gov., Jim Gardner on Wednesday, Oct. 19.

Gardner told the crowd at a luncheon at the Golden Corral of his program for the future of the state and took jabs at his opponent, Tony Rand. Listeners were told of

Gardner's get-tough legislative proposals in the battle against illegal drugs. He said he wants to "Make the risk factor equal to the profit factor for selling drugs." He is calling for a state law mandating "day-for-day in jail" in accordance with the sentences meted out.

His "School Yard Bill" would bring an automatic 28 year sentence without parole for those convicted of selling drugs on any campus from elementary schools through colleges. He also called for better drug education in the schools.

Summing up his feelings concerning drug dealers, "I think they ought to string them up."

He responded to Rand ads attacking his low attendance during his second year as a U.S. Congressman. He said that Rand had "a one hundred attendance record" at closed door meetings of a small group of state legislators - the so-called "super sub" - that has made key decisions in secret during annual state budget sessions.

Gardner referred to the recently televised debate between Rand and himself. When he took Rand to task for an announced meeting of the super sub of eight members on

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GARDNER CAMPAIGNS--Jim Gardner, Republican candidate for Lt. Gov., was in Edenton at the Golden Corral last week. He told listeners that hundreds of thousands of votes of conservative Democrats as well as those of Republicans are needed for his success and that of Gov. Jim Martin.

Thief Is Apprehended

Parker's Drop-In, on the corner of Granville and Cartwright Streets, was the scene of a robbery early Friday morning.

James Nixon, owner, said that "a little after 6 a.m." a man entered his store and ordered a pound of sausage. After serving him, the man sent him back to the meat counter for one-half pound of lunch meat. By this time, suspicious of the way the man was leaning across the counter next to the cash register, he locked the register before going for the lunch meat.

Nixon then saw the man try to gain entry to the register and approached him. Nixon told police the man hit him with a chair and then the cash register before leaving the store with the register.

Police were called at 6:07 a.m. according to Police Chief John Parrish. Responding to the call were Edenton Police Officers L.C. Brothers, Tim Hickman and Chowan Sheriff Fred Spruill.

They went to a house at 403 No. Granville where they were admitted and searched the residence. They found Sylvester Armstead, 30, hiding in a closet and arrested him.

The main part of the cash register was found in the refrigerator. The suspect had apparently attempted to open the register before entering the house. Parts of the machine were found in the vicinity of the residence. All of the cash was recovered.

Armstead has been charged with common law robbery

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Congressman Jones Speaks To Local Democrats

First District Congressman Walter B. Jones was on hand for a well attended breakfast meeting of supporters at Caroline's last Thursday morning. Supremely confident of his own re-election, he spoke on behalf of the state and national Democratic slate of candidates.

Mentioning old friends here, Jones said "When I come to Edenton, I feel like I'm coming home."

Not once did he mention the name of his Republican challenger, Howard Moyer of Farmville. This is Moyer's second shot at Jones' seat in two years. He was soundly defeated in the 1986 election. Jones is running for his eleventh consecutive term in the U.S. House of Representatives.

The crowd heard mostly what was wrong with the Republican candidates. "If Bush were elected, God forbid," he worried about what would happen if he had to resign for any reason. "A Boy Scout and a National Guard hero, would have to take over," a reference to vice-presidential candidate Dan Quayle.

The congressman said of Republican Governor Jim Martin, "I like him. He's a good personal friend." However, "He hasn't done any-

thing (as Governor) to be criticized for."

The Congressional attendance record of Jim Gardner, candidate for Lt. Gov. was next in line for criticism. "He didn't like it. He didn't like it so much he missed 56

Details Revealed In Murder Case

By JACK GROVE

The judicial process is continuing in the case of a Chowan County man charged with a drug-related murder at Cape Colony on the weekend of October 2.

Probable cause was found Tuesday in Chowan District Court to try Randall Julian Powell, 18, of first degree murder.

In the hearing, Powell's attorney, Lloyd Smith of Windsor, questioned investigating officers SBI Agent Dwight Ransom and Sheriff's Deputy Victor Lamb at length. From the witness stand, they gave a detailed account of the bludgeoning death of Donald P. Meeler, 36, at his mobile home.

After questioning of Powell early on the morning of Oct. 5, he produced a written statement confessing to the murder. From the tenor of some of his questions, Smith seemed to be laying the groundwork for discrediting the confession either due to denial of Powell's Constitutional rights under the Miranda decision or due to intoxication under the influence of ingested cocaine.

Ransom and Lamb testified that Powell was picked up

at a room at the Travel Host Inn at 4 a.m. on Oct. 5. Two other white males were in the same room where officers observed two twelve-packs of beer strewn about. Also found under the coverlet of one of the beds was a mirror with traces of a white powder, a razor blade and a pipe.

Ransom said that Powell was told at the motel that they were conducting a homicide investigation and that he was believed to be one of five persons to have last seen the victim alive.

The SBI agent said that Powell was asked general questions, such as his whereabouts during that weekend, and that he initially took no notes during the 40 minute questioning. When Powell volunteered that he had returned to Meeler's residence in the early morning hours and had struck him, the officers told him to stop talking and advised him of his Miranda rights against self-incrimination and right to have an attorney present.

After hearing his rights, Ransom said that he voluntarily wrote out the confession and answered additional questions.

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Safety Is Stressed

Monday is Halloween. The Chowan County Sheriff's Dept. and the Edenton Police Dept. want to maintain the safety record for young trick-or-treaters enjoyed in the town and county in the past.

Special treat collection bags from the National Safety Council are available at no cost at the Sheriff's Dept. office. The bags are reflectorized for additional night visibility. Starter candy is included as well as assorted product coupons.

The bags are imprinted with safety reminders for youngsters and a safety tip booklet is enclosed for mom and dad.

Police Chief John Parrish

and Sheriff Fred Spruill have recommended that the door-to-door Halloween visits be made between 5:30 and 8:30 p.m. and be limited to ages 12 and younger.

They also recommend the following for the safety of youngsters:

- Children should be accompanied by an adult;
- Carry a flashlight after dark;
- Wear light colored clothing;
- Be careful of traffic crossing streets;
- Trick or Treat in your own neighborhood; and
- Remember that Chowan Hospital will once again make free X-rays of candies and other food collected.



CONGRESSMAN JONES AT CAROLINE'S-- Congressman Walter B. Jones paused for a photo with a portion of his staff after speaking to local Democrats at a breakfast meeting. Standing (from left) are Wayne Harris and Dianne Jenkins, district representatives, Floyd Lupton, administrative assistant, Willie Reddick, district representative and Bob Peele, on the staff of Jones' House Merchant Marine Committee.