

EDITORIAL AND OPINION PAGE

"We cannot know where we are going if we do not know where we have been."



by Bruce Barton

IKE ANDREW'S A GOOD AND HONEST MAN...

The elections are over, congrats to the winners... commiserations to the losers. Politics puts a premium on winning.

But consider Congressman Ike Andrews, a man who has had trouble with drinking and, in turn, traffic tickets. The two go together. And he got caught just before the election. It looked like dooms days for Ol' Ike. His opponent Bill Cobey, fueled with money from the Congressional Club played it cool and did not make an issue of Ike's drinking problem. He expected the voters of the Fourth Congressional District to turn Ol' Ike out. They didn't. Ike won.

And what did Ike do? He took his punishment like a man, said he was sorry, and kept on politicking. I am glad Ike won. It gives comfort to others with drinking problems. I ought to know. I am an admitted alcoholic myself, although I have not taken a drink in almost twelve years.

CONGRATULATIONS TO CONGRESSMAN ROSE

And congratulations to Congressman Charlie Rose, probably one of the most personable and effective congressmen in the House. But I am glad Ed Johnson gave him a spirited race. It will keep Charlie honest, and effective. Competition will do wonders for one's sagging spirits.

And I join my friend Bob Windsor, editor of The N.C. Landmark as he takes on UNC-Chapel Hill over his inherent right to press credentials.

You'll like Bob Windsor, a friend of mine who has had his problems with booze too. I met him (maybe he won't mind if I tell it) in alcoholics anonymous a few years ago and we became friends of a sort, although I disliked him for a long time. Once, while drunk out of my mind, I called him expecting sympathy and got "nuts to you" in return. I never forgot it. It helped sober me up, and I am proud to report today that I took my last drink of booze November 15, 1970. That's my second greatest accomplishment. The first is, of course, recognizing my need for a Saviour, the Lord Jesus Christ.

I was not surprised to learn that my long time friend recently began a newspaper in Chapel Hill, NC called, appropriately enough, The N.C. Landmark. And he is fighting the big boys for all he's worth. He speaks for "the wee people."

Well, he has already found out that the big boys do not like the little boys. And he is furious at the University of N.C. at Chapel Hill for denying him the right to attend football games, and other events at the university, as a member of the press. Rick Brewer, the sports information director there, has decreed that only big daily newspapers will be allowed press credentials. And Bob is mad as the devil.

I like a fight like that and, when I hear about it, I joined him.

Right is a letter I sent Brewer and below is a letter to the editor I sent the N.C. Landmark.

Landmark
Bob Windsor, Editor
Post Office Box 2362
Chapel Hill, North Carolina 27514

Dear Bob:

I was delighted to receive my latest issue of "The N.C. Landmark" and read "Landmark Editor 'stonewalled' at UNC." It was pure and delightful journalism, fresh from democracy's table.

As long as you tend to the needs and aspirations of "the wee people" everything will work out all right in the end. Believe me, I have been doing just that for the last ten years as editor of the Carolina Indian Voice.

Journalism is one of the last bastions of freedom in America; everything else seems to be going to the devil. And if journalism is left to graduates of journalism schools and other educated folk even that bright light will be dimmed soon.

Rich Brewer, Sports Information Officer at UNC-Chapel Hill, is discriminating against you for being "a small newspaper." It is no different than when the liberal (sic) university used to discriminate against Black and Indian students. Discrimination is evil, no matter what the guise, even that of expediency. As I understand it, Brewer is denying you sports credentials because he claims he doesn't have enough space. That's pure malarkey, as I see it.

The Lumbee River Electric Membership Corporation (located at Red Springs in infamous Robeson County, North Carolina) used that same feeble excuse last year when I was arrested summarily for attempting to attend one of their board of director meetings. I pressed the point, of course, and eventually won my case. The co-op paid the court costs, refusing to allow me a forum and, eventually, the meetings were opened up to the public, especially to the consumers who pay the wages of those who devise stupid rules to circumvent their real bosses — me and you, and taxpayers like us.

Press your point, my friend. Count me in. I am joining you. Attached is a letter I am sending to Rick Brewer today demanding the right to attend athletic events at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, as a reasonable and responsible editor of a weekly newspaper located in Pembroke, North Carolina.

Here's the point: if the university lets "big" newspapers attend games, then conversely, they must let "little" ones like me and you, too. Anything else is racism, discrimination, denial of our right to practice the First Amendment and other guardians of real freedom in America.

The Brewers of the land must yield when pressed in America. They either must do that or go to Russia, or some other country that does not pay attention to Democracy. I am talking about "real" democracy, the right of a man to practice his calling without prior restraints like censorship and the like.

It is ironic that you are denied access to a tax paid facility in Chapel Hill, supposedly "the most liberal place in America, or, at least, North Carolina" as a professor there told me once. Either Brewer will allow us to attend those ball games, and other carryings on there, or that professor is lying in his teeth.

Let the university speak up or give up its "liberal" calling. Let the university treat you and me just like the "big boys" or close up shop. Fight on, Bob. Count me with you, in spirit and in person if need be.

Your friend and admirer,
Bruce Barton, editor
THE CAROLINA INDIAN
VOICE NEWSPAPER
Post Office Box 1075
Pembroke, North Carolina 28372
Phone 521-3925

Mr. Rick Brewer
Sports Information Off.
University of North Carolina
Chapel Hill, North Carolina 27514

Mr. Brewer:

My name is Bruce Barton, editor of the Carolina Indian Voice, a weekly newspaper published in Pembroke, North Carolina. I serve approximately 3,000 readers (including vending sales) and am located in the heart of the Lumbee Indian community, some 30,000 strong.

I respectfully request permission to attend sports events at UNC-Chapel Hill, specifically as a member of the working press. I have noted your exclusion of Bob Windsor, editor of the Landmark in your area. When you discriminate against a "little" newspaper you evoke my ire and disdain. As you probably know "liberal" (sic) UNC-Chapel Hill once discriminated against Blacks and Indians and excluded them also. To me, as the Indian editor of a weekly newspaper, the exclusion of weeklies and bi-weeklies is rank discrimination and racism even.

Please consider my request carefully. If I can get up enough money and support I will, if you deny me the right to practice my calling of journalism-probably protest further via a lawsuit or by other means available to me as an American and, more than that, a First American.

Do right. Treat all news media the same, the big ones and the little ones. You cannot defend denying me the right to cover sports events at UNC-Chapel Hill. There are many Tar Heel fans in

Robeson County: there is even a booster club, if I am not mistaken. Bob Osterneck, one of your biggest boosters, has a large manufacturing plant in Robeson County and, as I understand, maintains a home in this area too.

Sincerely,
Bruce Barton, Editor

Brewer has already replied to me, telling me that he just can't let little newspapers into the games because he only has room for the big boys. I'm itching for this fight 'cause Brewer is as wrong as two left shoes. We'll keep you informed.

I propose that Brewer, and all state universities (with your tax money and federal dollars) set up a rotating system, treating all newspapers the same. I ought to have the same right to attend a football game at Chapel Hill and report back to you as the Raleigh News and Observer does.

Remember! All people are given the right to vote. A poor person's one vote counts as much as a rich person's one vote. Newspapers are no different. The same rule applies.



LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Thanks from the

Baha'i Community

To the Editor:

Too rarely, those that perform a public service are given well-deserved recognition for their good works. Newspaper editors and writers are surely among those whom we take for granted.

During October, when we observe National Newspaper Week, we would like to express our appreciation for your work in providing a forum for discussion of issues and events that shape our world, for reporting these happenings that affect our daily lives, and for bringing to our attention events and trends that shape our future. Your services bring light and

order to an often dark and chaotic world.

We are especially grateful to the Carolina Indian Voice for publicizing the perilous situation of the Baha'is in Iran who are the victims of brutal and fanatical persecution. Such publicity has surely been instrumental in allaying what would otherwise be an even more hideous persecution.

The Carolina Indian Voice performs a great role in Robeson County. Thank you for providing this invaluable service to our community.

Sincerely,
Baha'i Community of Hamlet
Greg Myers, Chairman

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REDEEM THIS COUPON FOR ONE OF THIS WEEK'S SUPER-SAVER SPECIALS! Limit one coupon per family per shopping trip. Valid for one Super-Saver Special at Super-Saver Special Price.

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QUICK AND EASY! FILL IT IN JUST ONE OR TWO SHOPPING TRIPS

REDEEM IT - JUST LIKE MONEY - ON OUR FEATURED "SUPER SAVER" SPECIALS

WATCH OUR ADS - SHOP OUR STORES

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REDEEM THEM AT GREENBAX GIFT CENTERS

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