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The weather last Thursday: high 76, low 60, hum. 80 percent. The precipitation by Friday at 7 a. m. was .03 inches.

The primary is tomorrow, and both Republicans and Democrats have several choices to make. Independent voters can vote in the Republican primary.

The polls open at 6:30 a. m. and close at 7:30 p. m. A list of polling places and a countywide precinct map, as well as a sample ballot are included inside today's Bulletin.

The Charlotte Observer quoted sources predicting that a run-off will likely be needed after tomorrow's primary to decide the Democratic nominee for U.S. Senate.

According to surveys, among voters likely to go to the polls, Harvey Gantt had 25% of the vote, John Ingram, 21%, Mike Easley, 20%, and Bo Thomas, 14%.

None seemed likely to pull the 40% necessary to avoid a run-off election.

The U.S. apparently aided elite Columbian troops in tracking down and killing Medellin cartel boss Rodriguez Gacha Dec. 15, but did so as part of a covert

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## Splawn Says He Can Do Better

Don Splawn said he feels he can do a better job.

Splawn is opposing incumbent Sheriff Boyce Carswell for the Democratic Party nomination in tomorrow's primary. The contest will likely decide who is the next sheriff since there will be no Republican challenger in November.

Splawn said he is not motivated by a grudge against his former boss, as some voters have suggested. Splawn worked with Carswell for six years as chief jailer until 1988, and he worked for the sheriff's re-election campaign four years ago.

"I have nothing against the sheriff," Splawn said. "I like law enforcement. I'm running because it is one of my political rights and I think I can do a better job than what is being done."

Splawn is reluctant to be any more specific in criticizing his former boss. His ad campaign simply says, "It's time for a change."

"The sheriff promised last time it would be his last time to (to run for re-election)," Splawn said. Carswell, 66, served eight years as chief deputy in the department before being elected sheriff in 1974. He is running now for his fifth term.

Splawn said he would like to update the sheriff's department, stabilize the staff, which he says has experienced too much

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## Thermal Belt Rotary Meets Tonight

The program at Thermal Belt Rotary on Monday, May 7th at the Western Steer in Columbus will be presented by Paul Culberson. He will be speaking on the Polk County Community Foundation, an organization that is a real asset to our county.

## Conference Champs

The Polk County Lady Wolverines came away with first place Thursday, May 3 at the Conference Championship held in Hendersonville. Placing second was Hendersonville, 3rd, Edneyville and 4th Rosman.

The Polk County girls who won first place in each event and also the members of the winning relay teams have made All-Conference.

Winners and participants from Polk County were:

Shot Put: 5th, Jennifer Thompson, 26'0". Tanish Twitty also participated.

Discus: 5th, Jennifer Thompson, 67'11". Tanish Twitty also participated.

Long Jump: 1st, Chanequa Canady, 15'1". Tonya Cunningham also participated.

Triple Jump: 1st, Chanequa Canady, 28'0".

High Jump: 1st, Angela Curl, 4'5". 2nd (tie) Rhonda Burnett, 4'4".

3200 Meter Relay: 1st, 11:10.52 Jessica Parkan, Jennifer McConnell, Leslie Carter and

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## Carswell Offers 16 Years Experience

Sheriff Boyce Carswell's office is sparsely decorated.

Except for a few wall calendars, a framed portrait of JFK, and a rifle and some two-way radios on the floor, the only eye-catching distraction is a trophy case of marijuana pipes, most of them seized during the time when roughshod motorcycle riders chased families out of campgrounds in Green River Cove at will.

Carswell remembers that time, and lots of others when the law and lawlessness collided.

"Experience in this job means a heck of a lot," Carswell said during a recent interview.

Carswell's experience as sheriff dates back 16 years, and eight years as chief deputy before that. He discounts any notion that at 66 he is getting too old for the job.

"What differences does age make as long as you're doing the job," Carswell said. His job includes operating the Polk County courts, running a county jail housing from 15 to 25 inmates, and running the sheriff's office. Deputies are called on to partol the county, investigate crimes and serve legal papers.

"We could use more deputies," Carswell said. "At least two. But I won't ask this year. With the school tax and all that, I don't feel like they could fund it anyhow."

He will ask for a pay raise for  
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