

# newsline

# Candidates Discuss Taxes, Votes

**DURHAM**—More than 300 persons from 20 North Carolina cities demonstrated their opposition to the state competency test law during a conference at Durham College last weekend.

The group, which organized itself as the North Carolina Coalition for Quality Education, announced plans for a demonstration in Raleigh in September and endorsed a proposal to boycott the scheduled test in November for 11th grade students.

Rev. Leon White, director of the Commission on Racial Justice of the United Church of Christ, and Nelson Johnson of Greensboro, a member of the African Liberation Support Committee, were elected co-conveners of the coalition.

Among the resolutions passed by the coalition were a statement that competency tests will not solve the problem of low-quality public education. The tests were termed "part of the massive cutbacks occurring all over the country."

The tests were also criticized because they would "eliminate" because fewer black students would be eligible for admission. The coalition professed support for struggling schools.

**DURHAM**—the President and board chairman of beleaguered Durham College issued an urgent appeal for help, warning that the college had \$225,000 in debts which had to be paid by August 15 if the college was to remain in operation.

In a joint letter, president J. W. Hill and chairman Guy R. Rankin asked every business and professional person across the state to contribute \$100 to the institution.

They said, "As a private, non-profit, independent school, Durham College does not have any direct affiliation with any state, federal or religious organization. Because we are a junior college, foundations and corporations generally have no provision for supporting our requests."

**ATLANTA**—the Southeastern Association of Minority Manufacturers has announced plans for a trade show entitled "Cotton States Exposition - Black Progress 83 Years Later," after the famous event when Booker T. Washington said, "Cast down your buckets where you are."

The event will be held at the black-owned Paschal's Motor Hotel in Atlanta on September 7, 8 and 9.

According to Arlon J. Kennedy, SAMM executive director, chief executives of more than 2500 major corporations have been invited to attend.

Governor Jim Hunt will participate in the dedication and ribbon-cutting ceremony of the first statewide Minority Trade Fair in Raleigh on Thursday, August 31. The one-day fair will open at 9 a.m. at the Scott Pavilion on the North Carolina State Fairgrounds.

"This fair has a lot to offer to both minority businesses and other private industries," said Governor Hunt. "It is a practical and reasonable way to expand the market for the products of minority businesses, and to open up communications between minority enterprises and other industries. I hope industries of all types and sizes will take part in the fair."

At the fair the buyers from major corporations will have booths to describe the products and services they need, so that minority vendors can identify potential markets. Bob Rigsbee, president of the Piedmont Minority Purchasing Council said "Minority vendors will have face-to-face contact with purchasing directors and managers who can give specific details on how to sell products and services to their respective firms or agencies. Various governmental agencies, including the N.C. Office of Minority Business Enterprise, (OMBE), will be on hand to explain financial assistance criteria, contractual requirements and resources that small business owners can tap."

The Trade Fair is sponsored by the North Carolina Association of Regional Minority Purchasing Councils. The three councils have a combined membership of over 250 purchasing agents that represent some 200 "Fortune 500" corporations. In 1977 the three councils generated over \$22 million in contracts with minority businesses.

**DURHAM**—More than 65 individuals and representatives of anti-nuclear organizations met here Saturday and Sunday, August 12 and 13, to discuss issues and strategies involved in opposing the development of nuclear power in North Carolina.

"The proliferation of nuclear power is not inevitable, as the utilities would have us believe," said conference organizer Amy Arrendell of the Kudzu Alliance. "This gathering shows the increased resistance to CP&L's and Duke's plans for more nuclear power plants, and the forceful drive to replace nuclear power plants with safer and more economical alternatives. It is our hope that this conference will be a first step in increased coordination and communication among the rapidly growing anti-nuclear groups in North Carolina."

Group representatives shared their plans for upcoming events this fall -- such as opposition to the NRC operating permit for the McGuire nuclear reactor Duke Power is building near Charlotte, and plans for a demonstration at the Sept. 6 utilities commission hearing on conservation, urging the commission to take strong steps to implement readily available conservation techniques instead of plans for nuclear power plants.

The conference was sponsored by the Kudzu Alliance, the Sierra Club, the Conservation Council of North Carolina, and Chapel Hill ECOS. It was held at the Carolina Friends School.

## Neal Responds

Fifth District Rep. Steve Neal, D-N.C., has defended his voting record on a number of issues in response to a Chronicle editorial.

The July 29 editorial challenged both Neal and his Republican opponent, Hamilton Horton, to begin discussing issues relevant to the black community of the 5th District. Listed in the editorial were structural unemployment, affirmative action, housing, minority business, and health care.

Neal said in a letter to Chronicle publisher Ernest H. Hunt, "I am protecting and enlarging the rights and opportunities of all minorities. I think,

## NEA to Offer Art Fellowship

**WINSTON-SALEM, N.C.**—

The National Endowment for the Arts and the Southeastern Center for Contemporary Art announce the 3rd grant program of Individual Artists Fellowships for Southeastern Artists. The program is supported by matching funds provided by the CIBA-GEIGY Corporation.

Artists, 18 years and older, with established residency in Alabama, Florida, Georgia, Kentucky, Louisiana, Mississippi, North Carolina, South Carolina, Tennessee, Virginia, and West Virginia may apply for a grant.

There will be seven \$2,000 grants available for painters, photographers, printmakers, and sculptors. Final applications must be postmarked by October 31, 1978 to be considered by the National/Regional Selection Panel.

NEA and SECCA define the purpose of the grant program: "to enable Southeastern artists to set aside time and/or purchase materials, and generally enable them to advance their careers as they see fit."

Southeastern artists are encouraged to request guidelines and applications forms by contacting: Southeastern Center for Contemporary Art, 750 Marguerite Drive, Winston-Salem, N.C. 27106. Telephone: 919-725-1904.

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generally, that it is a bad idea to categorize issues as "black" or "white."

"I believe, for instance, that inflation is color-blind and that a balanced budget and a healthy economy are just as beneficial to blacks as to whites," said Neal.

The Democratic candidate listed bills he supported for four of the issues mentioned in the editorial.

For structural unemployment, Neal listed votes for the Humphrey-Hawkins full employment bill; and the Youth Employment and Training Act.

Neal said he supported the emergency Middle Income Housing Act and the Young Families Housing Act of 1977. The latter, he said, provides for tax-free savings accounts set aside for home-buying.

In the area of minority business, Neal said he sponsored Rep. Parren Mitchell's bill amending the Small Business Act to expand assistance to minority firms, set standards for government contracting with minority business and create a Commission on Federal Assistance to Minority Enterprises.

Neal said he had co-sponsored health care measures to provide for home care instead of institutionalization, for payment to physician's assistants and for expanded coverage under Medicare.

Regarding affirmative action, Neal said, "Although I voted against strict quotas, I have been supportive of the affirmative action programs in general, especially those such as the scholarship program at UNC."

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## Horton Attacks

Kemp-Roth would have provided real help for the Fifth District Taxpayer," Horton contended.

Horton also said, "Mr. Neal's alibi for opposing Kemp-Roth was that it would create budget deficits and inflation."

"Recent history shows the inaccuracy of this sort of thinking. Only in 1963,

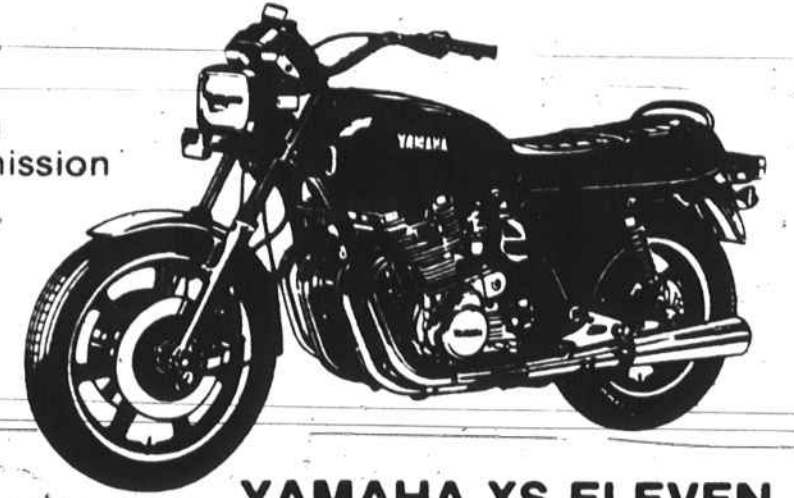
under President John Kennedy, the Treasury Department reported that Kennedy's proposed permanent tax cut would result in a net budget deficit of \$89 billion over three years. Kennedy and Congress ignored the bureaucracy and the tax cut passed that year netted an increase of \$54 billion in three years.

Even if Mr. Neal is correct in saying that Kemp-Roth is inflationary, it is only because congressmen like him make it so by refusing to cut federal spending. Basically, what we are talking about is who will spend the money, the private citizens of this country or the government. I favor the private citizens; my opponent apparently does not."

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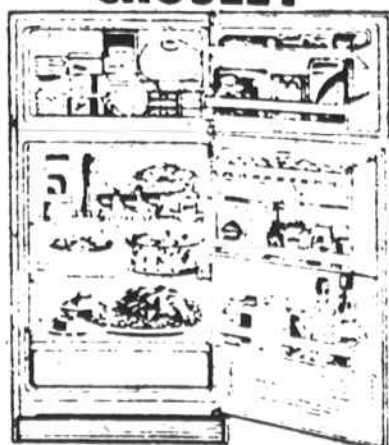
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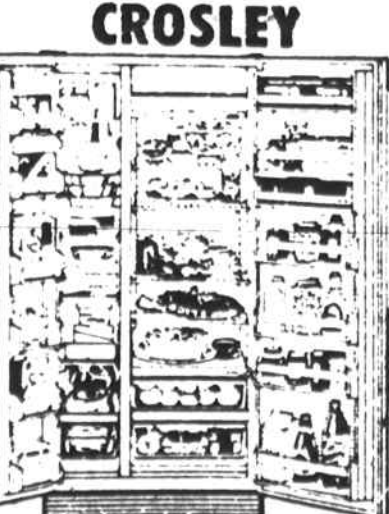


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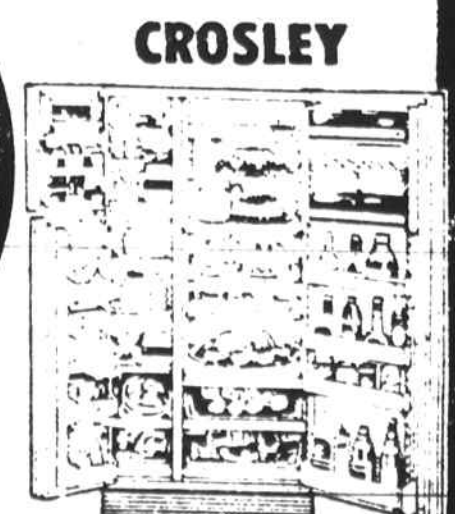
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