Inspired By Jesse

Local black citizens say the Jackson candidacy has a lot to do with why they will exercise their voting rights.

Election Year '84

Budding Author

At 11, Eric Prunty may be well on his way to the best seller list.

Magazine Section, B1.



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32 Pages This Week

Jackson, Hunt, Wood also picked

Roundtable enderses Gilmore for governor

By ROBIN ADAMS Chronicle Staff Writer

As expected, the Black Leadership Roundtable Coalition has endorsed the Rev. Jesse L. Jackson for president in the state's May 8 primary.

Surprisingly, however, Democratic gubernatorial candidate Tom Gilmore and local school board hopeful John Wood also received nods from the three-year-old council of black activists and leaders.

The organization released its slate of primary endorsements earlier this week.

The purpose of the Roundtable, said spokesman Clifton Graves, is "to increase the number of black elected

officials and to provide leadership to the community on issues of importance."

Graves added, however, that "the Roundtable is a political apparatus and operates on principles. Any candidate who is sensitive to the black community deserves our support.

"If white candidates feel they can get black support without serious or significant promise, or without taking any concrete positions on issues of importance in our community," Graves said, "then we are acting as accessories to our own continued oppression."

Concerning the Jackson endorsement, Graves said:

Please see page A12

Hairston could've run but won't

By ROBIN ADAMS Chronicle Staff Writer

Take two adamant men on opposing sides of an issue, mix in the opinions of attorneys who represent the two, let them simmer over the weekend and they'll settle their differences.

Or, in this case, switch sides. .

Now that Jim Armentrout, chairman of the Forsyth County Board of Elections, says Pat Hairston can legally oppose C.B. Hauser for the state House in the newly created 67th District, Hairston said Monday that he has

decided to remain in the race for county commissioner in-

Hairston had tried last Friday, without success, to withdraw from the commissioners race and file to run for the state House seat in the predominantly black district.

But Armentrout refused to let Hairston withdraw from one race and file for another, saying such a move would violate state law.

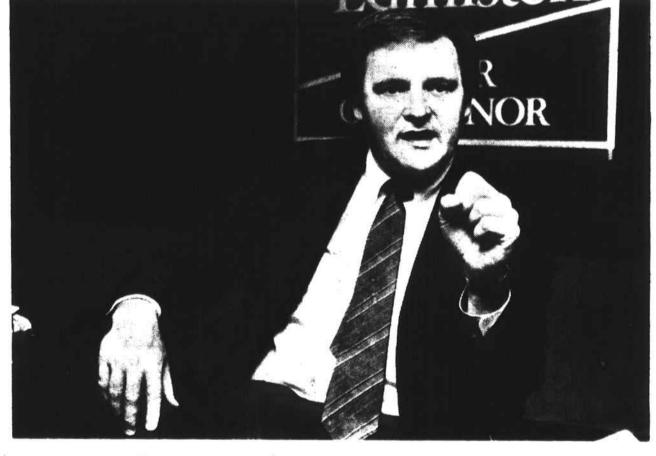
"The rules say that he cannot run for two seats in the



The Youngest Ever

politics."

Yep, it's Michael Jackson and he's won another honor, this time becoming the youngest person ever named to Ebony magazine's list of the "100 Most Influential Black Americans." Jackson is



David Martin on why he supports desse duckson. In my inferime, this i the first real candidate I've over seen" (photo by James Parker).

same race," Armentrout said.

Please see page A3

They're part of Jesse's Forsyth rainbow

By JOHN SLADE Chronicle Assistant Editor

Though Jesse Jackson advocates a "Rainbow Coalition," it's hard to find more than a handful of whites actively campaigning for the black presidential candidate in Winston-Salem.

Several whites have stopped by Jackson's Forsyth County campaign headquarters on Fourth Street to voice their support of Jackson and to make contributions, says Alderman Larry Little, the county's campaign coordinator. But not many have been active in the campaign as fund-raisers, registrars and the like, he says.

One of the few visible and active white Jackson supporters is David Martin, who says he endorses Jackson and the Rainbow Coalition because he believes, as does Jackson, that the country needs a new direction more than a

"When you take the whole ball of wax --

Mondale, Hart and Jackson -- Jackson is willing to talk about concrete issues," Martin says.

Martin, an Illinois native, makes it no secret that both his heart and pocketbook lie with Jackson. When Jackson came to town April 18, Martin introduced the candidate and contributed \$500 to his campaign. And though he says he differs with Jackson on some issues, Martin says he supports him because of his practical approach to politics and therefore labels him the "practical candidate."

"Jackson has been talking the nitty of the president. gritty," says Martin, who has lived in Winston-Salem for six years, "and whether people like it or not, he talks about the real stuff.

"In my lifetime, this is the first real candidate I've ever seen," says the 42-year-old stonemason. "If, for no other reason, we should support him for that. He's a real candidate and will change the course of Ame

Joe Felmet, 62, who has lived in the city for 30 years, is another active white Jackson supporter and considers him the clear choice among the pool of candidates.

"I'm supporting him because I like his his positions better than the other Democratic candidates and, of course, the Republicans," says Felmet, a retired journalist and teacher.

He adds that he tries not to recognize race in his dealings with people, and says that same rule applies when picking whom he supports for

Felmet says he's now working to become a delegate to the Democratic National Convention in San Francisco, which he feels is the most significant type of support because he plans to vote for Jackson if he becomes a delegate. He also says he makes modest contributions to Jackson's campaign and goes to Washington,

Please see page A3

Edmisten: 'I don't like to waste talent'

By ROBIN ADAMS Chronicle Staff Writer

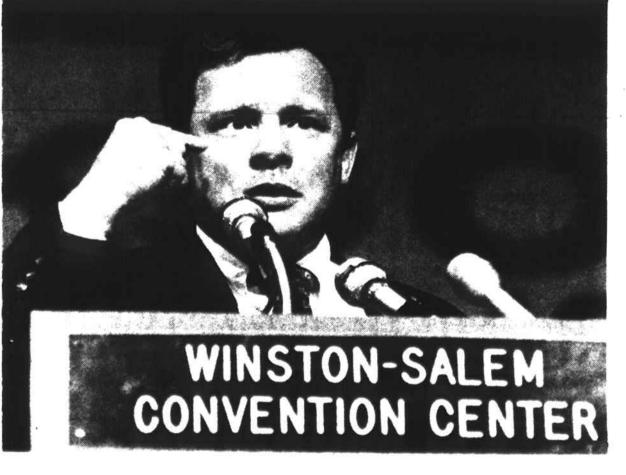
Like most politicians, Rufus Edmisten wouldn't mind his name becoming a household word. Some folks may have trouble with the spelling, though.

For instance, when Edmisten attended a political rally in Caswell County several weeks ago, the name on the marquee read, "Welcome, Rufus Edmund-

But that one small hurdle doesn't bother him, says the state's attorney general, who'd obviously like to move a rung or two up the state's executive ladder to the governor's mansion next fall. Besides, he said in a recent interview with the Chronicle, "all I want them to do is to remember the name on May 8."

Edmisten, 42, is one of the 10 Democratic hopefuls seeking to become North Carolina's next governor. According to most polls, former Charlotte mayor

Please see page A10



Fueled by his track record as attorney general, Rufus Edmisten is hoping to become North Carolina's next Democratic governor (photo by James Parker).

Campaign Notes

Group endorses Schoonmaker

By ROBIN ADAMS Chronicle Staff Writer

Notes we've gathered while following the campaign trail:

With only a few days left before the May 8 primary, candidates for a variety of offices are reaping and making known a wave of last-minute endorsements.

The Baptist Ministers Conference and Associates this week endorsed Meyressa Hughes Schoonmaker for the North Carolina Court of Appeals. The only other candidate the organization has endorsed for the primary is the Rev. Jesse Jackson.

The reason the group, which normally does not make primary endorsements, supports both Jackson and Schoonmaker is because "Jackson is an isolated situation and so is Mrs. Schoonmaker," says Dr. J. Ray Butler, a member of the conference. Butler says the group endorses

Schoonmaker because she is the only person from Forsyth County running for the position....

Gospel singer Shirley Caesar has endorsed Democratic gubernatorial candidate Tom Gilmore.

According to a Gilmore press release, Caesar says she supports the Julian native "because of his Christian beliefs and his consistent record of working for civil rights and equal opportunities for everyone."...

Although her name won't be on the May 8 primary ballot, Annie Brown Kennedy has been endorsed by fellow state House incumbent Tom Womble. Womble made the endorsement at a candidates forum sponsored by the 5th District Black Leadership Caucus last Saturday morn-

At that same meeting, R. Kason Keiger, Please see page A3