

Double Dutch

Combine rhythm, endurance, nimble feet and a pair of ropes and you'll get a dance/sport like no other.
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The Results

Our front page and house editorials examine the winners and losers in May 8's primary election -- and why they wound up that way.
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Election Year '84

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Sharing The Joy

From the left, Kay and Gordon Slade, Evelyn Terry, Patrick Hairston and Bill Tatum huddle to exchange congratulations on their election efforts in Tuesday's primary. Terry and Tatum will advance to the general election in November as school board candidates. Slade lost his school board bid, as did Hairston in the county commissioners race (photo by James Parker).

Jackson carries Forsyth County

By ROBIN ADAMS
Chronicle Staff Writer

When Jesse Jackson asked a Benton Convention Center audience April 18 not to let him down, they obviously listened, handing him a win in Forsyth County's Democratic primary two weeks later.

Or as Alderman Larry Little, Jackson's Forsyth County campaign coordinator, phrased it Tuesday night, "Forsyth County is Jesse Jackson Country."

Still, Jackson could only muster a third-place finish statewide, behind frontrunner Walter Mondale, who won the North Carolina primary, and Gary Hart, the runnerup.

Elsewhere in the county primary, three black candidates survived. Mose' Belton Brown, a Democratic candidate for county commissioner, placed third out of a field of eight candidates and school board candidates Evelyn Terry and William Tatum placed second and fourth out of a field of 12 candidates.

According to unofficial election returns, Jackson gathered 13,033 votes in Forsyth County, Walter Mondale 11,266 and Gary Hart 8,136.

Although the other Democratic candidates dropped out of the race long before Tuesday, many of them still received

votes in the city and county. Reubin Askew had 109 votes, Alan Cranston 66, John Glenn 669, Ernest F. Hollings 205, and George McGovern 279.

With the exception of Covenant Presbyterian Church, all of the precincts in wards with black aldermen overwhelmingly supported Jackson. He also placed second in the Kernersville No. 1 and Brunson Elementary School precincts.

In the Democratic gubernatorial race, Attorney General Rufus Edmisten, who led the field statewide, also led in Forsyth County with 10,777 votes, while former Charlotte Mayor Eddie Knox placed second with 10,225.

Edmisten and Knox also appeared to place first and second in the state, with nearly 90 percent of the votes counted, and seemed to be headed for a June 5 runoff.

The next closest gubernatorial candidate in Forsyth County was Tom Gilmore, who was endorsed by the Black Leadership Roundtable Coalition and the Chronicle, with 5,454 votes.

Republican gubernatorial nominee James G. Martin tallied 4,367 votes locally over Ruby Thompson Hooper's 461 votes.

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Winners praise Jackson's effect

By JOHN SLADE
Chronicle Assistant Editor

Local winners in Tuesday's primary expressed joy at their triumphs, and supporters of winners seemed even more overjoyed, especially the backers of the Rev. Jesse Jackson's presidential bid.

In fact, precinct officials and Jackson supporters attributed the county's large black voter turnout to Jackson.

"It (black voter turnout) has been tremendous," said Cleveland Gilliam, a registrar at the Piney Grove precinct, of the more than 650 people who turned out to vote there. But the news that spread quicker than wildfire was the fact that voter turnout at the Carver School precinct was so great that additional voting booths had to be hauled in and double lines prompted some potential voters to leave and return later.

If the polls were the places to be until they closed at 7:30 p.m., the Jesse Jackson campaign headquarters on Fourth Street was the hot spot afterwards.

"We've come together because we support the candidacy of the Rev. Jesse Louis Jackson," Alderman



As others look on, Mose' Belton Brown has a front row seat while she watches the election returns come in on the monitor. She, along with Democratic incumbents Neal Redinger and James Zigar, will run in the county commissioners race in November (photo by James Parker).

Low white turnout helped Jackson

By ROBIN ADAMS and JOHN SLADE
Chronicle Staff Writers

Heavy black support as well as light white voter turnout which split between Gary Hart and Walter Mondale spelled victory for the Rev. Jesse Jackson in Forsyth County's Democratic primary Tuesday.

"A large segment of the white Democrats are leaning toward Hart," explained Clifton Graves, interim convener of the Black Leadership Roundtable Coalition, as the results flashed in on computer terminals at the Forsyth County Board of Elections office. "The others are either Jessicrats or Reaganrats lying low until November."

Alderman Larry Little, Jackson's Forsyth County campaign coordinator, shared Graves' view.

"One part of our three-point strategy was to make Gary Hart a viable candidate so Mondale couldn't take all the white vote," Little said. "Hart and Mondale splitting, those were the key things."

Not only was the late-afternoon rain blamed for the loss of potential Jackson voters, but the fact that the 50-and-over black voters were expected to support Mon-

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Board members debate rental of building for political event

By ROBIN ADAMS
Chronicle Staff Writer

The last 10 minutes of the 90-minute city-county school board meeting Monday night turned out to be the most eventful.

Board members John Holleman Jr. and Margaret Plemmons exchanged heated comments about a political rally featuring Joan Mondale, wife of Democratic presidential candidate Walter Mondale, which was held in the lobby of the schools' administration building last Friday.

Plemmons, a Republican, said she was concerned that, because the building had been rented to the Democratic Party, the school board would have to provide equal time to other groups.

"I'm concerned that we may be opening ourselves up for the Klan, Nazis and other groups," Plemmons said, stressing that her concern was not that the building was being used by Democrats.

Superintendent Dr. Zane Eargle said he made the decision to rent the building and that it had been rented according to board policy. Eargle said the rally was initially scheduled to be held in the lobby of the school system's Career Center, which adjoins the administrative building, but had to be moved because the Career Center lobby was being set up to host an open house.

Eargle also said the only time he could consider renting the building for a political rally was for a national political figure.

But board member Marvin Calloway, a Democrat, agreed with Plemmons, saying he felt the superintendent erred in renting the administrative building lobby for a political rally.

"The superintendent made a mistake and I will forgive him this time," Calloway said.

Holleman, who made the request for the building rental and serves as Mondale's Forsyth County coordinator, said he saw no wrong in holding the rally and thought it

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The Rev. Carlton A.G. Eversley, left, and Alderman Larry Little rejoice in the news that presidential candidate Jesse Jackson won Forsyth County's Democratic primary (photo by James Parker).