

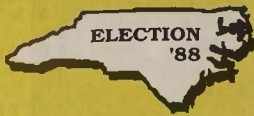
Saying goodbye to Bill Hayes

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Chronicle endorses candidates

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Baptist, Forsyth collaborate on CODE BLUE

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36 Pages This Week

Mistrial declared in Fuller case

By ANGELA WRIGHT
Chronicle Managing Editor

The trial of Versell McDaniel Fuller, the domestic worker accused of stealing more than \$200,000 worth of personal property from four of her former employers, has resulted in a hung jury. Presiding Judge Thomas W. Seay Jr. declared a mistrial Wednesday.

Fuller supporters claimed victory even though the prosecutor has the option of retrying the case. District Attorney Warren Sparrow could not be reached for comment.

"A hung jury is a win for us," said Dr. Dolly McPherson, associate professor of English at Wake Forest University and chairwoman of Black Women United for Justice, a community group organized in support of Fuller.

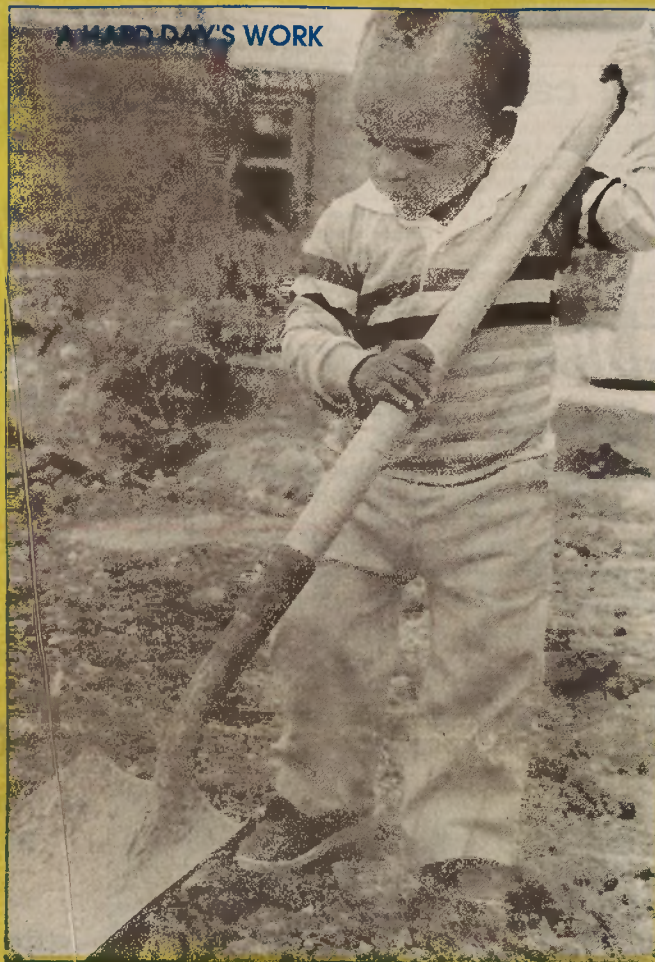
"I knew that when we hired Attorney Miller, we were standing in God's grace and today proved it," said McPherson.

Another Fuller supporter, Rev. John Mendez of Emmanuel Baptist Church said, "This trial revealed how low-down the system is and how it uses KGB and gestapo tactics to undermine the constitutional rights of the powerless and the poor, both black and white." Mendez criticized Sparrow for bringing the case to trial.

The jury, comprised of 11 whites and one Afro-American, began its deliberations Tuesday morning after hearing about a week of testimony. The judge acknowledged Wednesday that the jury was "hopelessly deadlocked."

Fuller was charged with four counts of felonious larceny in a case that had generated much controversy and somewhat divided the com-

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Eighteen-month-old Terrence Brunt proves age means nothing as he helps his uncle and a friend dig a driveway on 11th Street (photo by Mike Cunningham).

NAACP suit would create ward system

County process may be unconstitutional

By ANGELA WRIGHT
Chronicle Managing Editor

A final pretrial conference was held Tuesday in the matter of the NAACP vs. Forsyth County. The action was taken in anticipation of the possibility that the case will go to trial and a tentative trial date has been set for June 6.

The lawsuit, which was filed in October 1986, seeks to change the method by which the Board of Commissioners of Forsyth County is elected.

The NAACP contends that Forsyth County's electoral system maximizes white voting strength and denies Afro-American citizens of the County an equal opportunity to elect candidates of their choice. They contend that the system violates Section 2 of the Voting Rights Act and the 14th and 15th Amendments of the U.S. Constitution.

The NAACP wants the at-large, staggered term, run-off election method for electing the Board of Commissioners to be declared unconstitutional and in violation of the Voting Rights Act.

Also, the NAACP seeks an order adopting a redistricting plan for Forsyth County which complies with Section 2 of the Voting Rights Act. They contend that Afro-American candidates would be successful with a district system with Afro-American majority districts.

They further contend that voting in Forsyth County is racially polarized and that Forsyth County "has a history of racial discrimination and of perpetuating and enhancing the power of white citizens to exclude black citizens from fair and equal treatment and repre-

sentation in the governing body of Forsyth County."

The County denies the allegations and maintains that the process of electing members of the Board of Commissioners is equally open to all voters of the County.

The defendants, who are the currently seated Commissioners, also maintain that members of the protected class under Section 2 of the Voting Rights Act have fully participated in the political process and have nominated and elected Board of Commissioner candidates or representatives of their choice.

"In the entire history of this County, only one Black has been elected to the County Commis-

"After 20 years of dealing with Forsyth County elected officials, I'm not guided by my optimism. I just look at their record of cold neglect."

- Walter Marshall

sion," said Walter Marshall, president of the local branch of the NAACP. "Even when the black population was larger than it is now, we were unable to elect blacks to the Commission."

The NAACP is represented by attorney Romallus O. Murphy of Greensboro. Murphy has been involved in about a dozen such cases in the state of North Carolina.

"All of the Section 2 cases in this state, that I know of, have resulted in a change of the sys-

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THE NATION'S NEWS

Compiled From AP Wire
Poll: Dukakis/Jackson ticket could defeat George Bush

NEW YORK (AP) -- A Michael Dukakis-Jesse Jackson ticket would defeat a Republican ticket led by George Bush 47 percent to 42 percent, according to a Time magazine poll released Sunday. Bush would defeat Jackson by 52 percent to 34 percent, the poll indicated.

Cameraman punished for slurs

DENVER (AP) -- KUSA-TV has punished a white cameraman for making racial slurs recorded by his own camera while shadowing city work crews. On the tape, Chris Wheeler imitates a black worker. "I have been out here working my black (expletive) to the bone all day," Wheeler said. "You lazy (expletive). You been a loungin' around, goin' to 7-Elevens..."

N.Y. elections not fraud-proof

NEW YORK (AP) -- Charges will not be filed against a WCBS-TV reporter who registered several proxies in Tuesday's primary election to expose the potential for vote fraud, a spokesman for the Manhattan district attorney said. The request to prosecute reporter Barbara Nevins came from Betty Dolen, executive director of the New York City Board of Elections.

Ms. Nevins said in her broadcast Wednesday night that she registered in Manhattan, Brooklyn, Queens, Staten Island and Nassau County using a series of similar names and friends' addresses.

Use of 'nigger' prompts protests

Ali says he's not offended by Chandler remark

FRANKFORT, Ky. (AP) -- Former heavyweight boxing champion Muhammad Ali said Monday he took no offense at the use of a racial epithet by former Gov. A.B. "Happy" Chandler.

Ali acknowledged he was not familiar with the controversy caused by Chandler's use of the word "nigger" at a committee meeting of the University of Kentucky Board of Trustees recently and responded to questions about it only after the circumstances were outlined by a reporter.

"Everybody says nigger," Ali said. "So what's the big thing?"

Ali asked several reporters if they had ever used the word and challenged them when some responded in the negative.

"All of you white people (who) never said nigger, throw the first stone," Ali said.

Chandler, who accompanied Ali to a meeting in Gov. Wallace Wilkinson's office on Monday, said the boxing great took time "to come to my rescue" and the two have been friends for many years.

At an impromptu news conference prior to the meeting, Chandler complained that news

reports of his comment were blown out of proportion.

"Muhammad didn't approve of the harsh treatment I've been getting," Chandler said.

Ali said he did not know the former governor very well.

"I'd be lying to tell you he's my friend," said Ali, who grew up in Louisville.

Wilkinson played host to Chandler and Ali in conjunction with a plea from a representative of the World Boxing Hall of Fame Museum for state assistance in finding a new home.

Chandler's remark prompted a storm of controversy, and many political and civic leaders have called for his resignation from the UK board.

Wilkinson, who reappointed Chandler to a voting seat on the UK board, said Monday that Chandler's apology was sufficient to end the matter.

Wilkinson said the subject of Chandler's remark was not brought up during the meeting with Chandler and Ali.

"As far as I'm concerned, it's a closed issue," Wilkinson said.



Muhammad Ali



Urban League Board Chairman Joe Dickson chats with board member Marshall B. Bass and Ann McCloud during last week's Urban League reception (photo by Harden Richards).

Jacob blames Reagan for increase in racism

By KENNETH RAYMOND
Chronicle Staff Writer

The Reagan Administration is at the top of the list of major stumbling blocks encountered by the National Urban League when efforts toward social improvements have been attempted, according to John E. Jacob, president of the National Urban League.

The Winston-Salem Urban League hosted the Southern Regional Assembly at Stouffer's Hotel last week. Jacob, who was the guest speaker, made the comments during a press conference at

the Winston-Salem Urban League building. The assembly was held from April 21-23.

Jacob, who has been president of the organization for six years, said that several policies of the Administration encourage some people to act out their racist attitudes.

"The Reagan Administration has been a major obstacle for the last seven years," Jacob said. "We're trying to improve education and job programs and all they've been doing is cutting the funds we

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