

OPINION

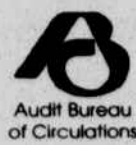
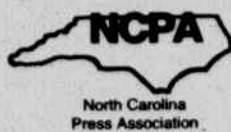
Winston-Salem Chronicle

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Fuzzy Wasn't Funny

When Tiger Woods became the first minority and youngest ever Masters champion, it was only a matter of time before veteran golfers took off the gloves. Well, 1979 Masters winner Fuzzy Zoeller not only peeled off the gloves but showed some rather vicious claws.

During an interview on CNN's "Pro Golf Weekly," the free-spirited Zoeller, who has since claimed to be a friend of Woods, said, "That little boy is driving well and he's putting well. He's doing everything it takes to win. So, you know what you guys do when he gets in here? You pat him on the back and say congratulations and enjoy it and tell him not to serve fried chicken next year. Or collar greens or whatever the hell they serve."

While that soul food menu sounds appetizing to us, Zoeller's comments were in decidedly poor taste. Kmart, which employs Zoeller as a celebrity endorser, quickly denounced his offensive remarks.

Golf has long been known as a gentleman's sport. Zoeller, known on the PGA circuit for his humor, has apologized for his comments which he insists were in jest.

Pardon us if we don't get the joke. But this time, Fuzzy wasn't very funny. Was he?

All That Jazz

The joint is jumpin'! This is a jazz-packed week in African-American history. On April 29, 1899, Edward "Duke" Ellington was born in Washington, D.C. On April 25, 1918, Ella Fitzgerald was born in Newport News, Va. And on April 21, 1904 William "Count" Basie passed on to that big band in the sky.

Earlier this month, composer and trumpeter Wynton Marsalis, 35, won a Pulitzer prize for "Blood on the Fields," an oratorio on the theme of slavery. A New Orleans native, Marsalis has broadened the audience for jazz and shed new light on its central place in American culture. He lists Duke Ellington as his favorite composer. Incidentally, the Duke was himself a Pulitzer prize nominee.

A pianist and orchestra leader, Ellington was the most prolific composer in jazz history. Over a career that spanned half a century, he wrote more than 1,000 short pieces plus concertos for orchestra and jazz soloist; long jazz-inspired concert pieces; three large religious works; and several movie scores. Ellington distinguished himself as an innovator in every jazz style he adopted, including bebop, stride, and swing. During the roaring 20s, his orchestra held forth at Harlem's famous Cotton Club. As the nickname "Duke" suggests, Ellington was also known for his royal bearing and debonair style.

We loved him madly. In fact, we still do. In the late 1970s, Sophisticated Ladies, a musical featuring his band's most popular songs, was a Broadway hit. Testament to his enduring appeal, "Play On!" a new adaptation of Shakespeare's "Twelfth Night," uses Ellington's songs as its score.

The play also showcases scat singing, an improvisational vocal style popularized by Ella Fitzgerald. A great ballad interpreter, she became known as the First Lady of Song. On her first recording, "A-tisket, A-tasket," (1938) she took a nursery rhyme and made it swing. Fitzgerald consistently transformed often trivial material into high art. Her best-known recordings, songbooks of famous American composers, have become jazz classics. Fitzgerald started her career with the Chick Webb's band, which she led after his death.

With countless hits, she performed as a soloist with 40 symphony orchestras and with the big bands of Duke Ellington and Count Basie.

Born in New Jersey, William "Count" Basie was one of the great exponents of swing. In 1935, he started The Barons of Rhythm in Kansas City, Mo., and in 1936 moved to New York. His brand of Kansas City jazz had jitterbugs jumping from coast to coast. Basie was known for his polished, rhythmic versions of blues melodies. The musicians who performed with his band include saxophonist Lester Young and singers Billie Holiday and Joe Williams.

Between the birth of jazz and the advent of Marsalis, jazz has evolved into an international industry. In the process, the complexion of jazz bands and audiences has changed. Coltrane alumnus Reggie Workman, an instructor at the New School for Social Research, observes, "It used to be that the (club) scene was dominated by black bands who occasionally hired white musicians.

Now it's mostly the other way around."

Enter Wynton Marsalis, an eight-time Grammy award winner and the most celebrated jazz musician of the decade. The youngest musician in the history of the awards to win the jazz soloist performance award for three consecutive years and the first to win Grammy's for both jazz and classical recordings, Marsalis is a self-appointed jazz ambassador. He not only headlines festivals, but also teaches master classes for aspiring young musicians. As co-founder and artistic director of Jazz at Lincoln Center, he came under fire for promoting jazz as an African-American artistic domain. Historically speaking, his stance is well-founded. Sometimes you've got to toot your own horn.

About letters

Citizens will vote on bond package in June

By BRIDGET EVARTS and COURTNEY DANIEL

It's all up to the public now.

Voters will decide in June if the general obligation bond referendum, approved Monday by the Winston-Salem Board of Aldermen, will pass.

Some voters have already made it clear that they either do not support the bond or the time of its election. At the April 21 aldermen meeting, a number of speakers said they did not want the bond because it involves a 4 cent tax hike; many disagreed with holding the bond election June 24, as it will cost an estimated \$100,000 to stage a special election.

These speakers shared common denominators: they were white, and they were male.

Several African Americans, such as the Rev. Paul Lowe, Naomi Jones and Mosé Belton Brown, have publicly supported the bond in the past. Lowe and Jones support the streets and sidewalks package which includes \$2.6 million for the Liberty Street Corridor project; Brown is a member of the Convention Center/Coliseum Commission and supports the \$7 million bond proposed for convention center renovations.

How much does the rest of the African-American community know about the general obligation bond, and what do they think about it?

**Show me the money:
Know your bonds**

- Recreation: \$4 million, to be divided among Bowman Gray Stadium improvements (\$1,150,000); a new athletic complex (\$1,100,000); improvements to Winston Lake Park (\$800,000); improvements to the Southeast Gateway Park (\$600,000) and Washington Park renovations (\$350,000).
- Economic Development: \$8 million, to be invested in the Centre 311 Business Park, the Oak Summit Business Park, the Triad Park Development and the Downtown Research Park.
- Convention Center: \$7 million, to be used to make improvements in the loading zones; "back of house" storage and corridors; concession and food service; South Main Hall renovations; additions and upgrades to mechanical/electrical systems and improvements to the main entrance on Fifth Street.
- Housing and Redevelopment: \$11 million, to be divided between clearance and redevelopment (\$5,300,000); first-time home buyer assistance (\$3,700,000) and rental housing opportunities (\$2 million).
- Streets and Sidewalks: \$47 million, to be divided to construct new sidewalks and install wheelchair ramps (\$5.8 million); construct industrial access roads (\$2 million); widen existing roads (note: if this bond is approved, the funds will be matched by the NC Department of Transportation) (\$29 million); improve intersections (\$5 million) and advance the Liberty Street and University Parkway Corridor projects (\$5.2 million).

Total: \$75 million



"I don't think it's necessary. I mean in the end we're paying for it anyway. Well I'm not paying for it because I don't pay taxes yet, but our parents are paying for it. And I just really don't think it's necessary."
 — Lashanda Robertson



"It all depends. Some people say one thing and some people say another. It just all depends."
 — Ricky Rowland



"Winston-Salem needs the improvement. What we really need is somewhere homeless people can go."
 — Ronald McCall



"I don't know anything about it."
 — Mary Platt



"I really don't know anything about it."
 — Otto Gaither



The Chronicle Mailbag

Our Readers Speak Out

Nostalgia should not stand in the way

To the Editor:

I have heard from both sides about the decision before the county commissioners to either keep the Reynolds Health Center under the management of the county or to turn its administration over to Bowman Gray/Baptist Hospital.

From those who wish to "keep it as it is," I mostly hear what are some sentimental recalls about the old "Katie B." facility. Others say that Baptist Hospital will be able to operate the Health Center better than the County and save money in the process.

Nostalgia should not stand in the way of better health care. We all know that the present Health Center was built to serve as a hospital. Bowman Gray, as everybody knows, is the county's largest employer and a top player in this region in medical care and tops in the country in terms of medical education.

I say let's move ahead with the Bowman Gray plan. They have pledged to be held accountable for the job stability of those at the present center. A community board to oversee policy is in place. There are plenty of other challenges for human services that the county can deliver. Let the best health care delivery professionals deliver the best to the people of Winston East.

Clarence E. Gaines

Support House Bill No. 564

To the Editor:

The public has an opportunity to support legislation that

allows licensed dental hygienists to provide clinical dental care in settings such as nursing homes and schools without having a dentist on the premises. The North Carolina Dental Hygienists' Association has introduced House Bill (HB) No. 564 in the state legislature. The bill is being considered by the Judiciary II Committee of the House of Representatives.

Presently, 44 of our sister states have laws that allow dental hygienists to provide clinical care without having a dentist on the premises or without having direct supervision. The law in North Carolina requires a dentist to be on the premises when dental hygienists are working. It is difficult for dentists to serve patients outside their office.

With the changes in HB No. 564, licensed dental hygienists can provide preventive dental care to patients outside the dental office without having the dentist present.

HB No. 564 allows dentists to use their professional judgment as to

1. whether or not to supervise more than two dental hygienists at a time

2. whether or not the dentist is physically present while the dental hygienist cares for the patient.

The bill adds "a licensed dentist, using professional discretion, chooses not to be physically present at the locale where the acts are being performed but the acts are performed pursuant to the dentist's order, control and approval" to the definition of supervision in the dental hygiene practice act. House Bill No. 564 as written allows dental hygienists to provide dental hygiene treatment to those segments of

the public who cannot travel to a dental office to receive treatment. Preventive dental care is necessary for maintaining healthy teeth. Healthy teeth are essential for a healthy body.

The education of dental hygienists prepares them for providing professional preventive dental treatment.

Dental Hygienists go through at least a two-year American Dental Association-accredited program that includes 1,250 hours of class work and over 700 hours of clinical training working on patients in order to receive an associate degree in dental hygiene. The University of North Carolina offers a bachelor's degree in dental hygiene, which adds two years of general college courses to the same curriculum required for an associate degree. The core dental hygiene curriculum includes courses in chemistry, medical emergencies, pharmacology, physiology and other classes which address and treat medically compromised patients who take medications or have physical conditions such as heart valve problems. Dental hygienists must pass a written national exam and a rigid state clinical exam to receive a license. In addition, dental hygienists are required to take 12 hours of continuing education every two years as well as maintain CPR recertification. The North Carolina State Board of Dental Examiners, composed of six dentists, one dental hygienist and one consumer, licenses and regulates all dental hygienists in North Carolina.

Dental hygienists are trained in infection control procedures as mandated by OSHA and to review every medical history of every patient they treat. Dental

hygienists are aware of medical problems that could arise during the cleaning of teeth. Should a problem occur during treatment, hygienists are well aware of what steps should be taken to remedy the problem.

The Bill as written should have no effect on the cost of providing dental care to residents in retirement facilities due to the fact that the bill as written would not require a dentist to make a "house call." The bill as written generally conforms to laws in 44 of our sister states which allow dental hygienists to provide clinical care without having a dentist on the premises or providing direct supervision.

Representatives Charlotte Garner, Gregg Thompson and Beverly Earle are commended for their vision of the "big picture" in providing preventive licensed dental hygiene treatment to the underserved citizens of North Carolina by cosponsoring House Bill 564.

Pam Short, R.D.H.

About letters...
 The Chronicle welcomes letters as well as guest columns from its readers. Letters should be as concise as possible and should be typed or legibly printed. The letter must also include the name, address and telephone number of the writer, to ensure the authenticity of the letter. Columns must follow the same guidelines and will be published if they are of interest to our general readership. The Chronicle will not publish any letters or columns that arrive without this information. We reserve the right to edit letters and columns for brevity and clarity. Submit letters and columns to:
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