

# Harvey Gantt, Democrats Win Big

Two years ago Harvey Gantt won an historic and unprecedented election as mayor by capturing 52 percent of the votes cast. On Tuesday, Mr. Gantt won reelection to a second two-year term with an even larger 61 percent of the votes cast or 40,373 votes to his opponent Dave Berryhill's 39 percent, or 25,952 votes.

While campaign style, name recognition and personalities were undoubtedly factors in the election results, issues that transcended to a large degree political party differences may have been the real election stars. For example, Berryhill asked voters to consider the election a referendum on a payroll tax, a possible alternative revenue source favored for voter consideration by incumbent Gantt. Any hope that Mr. Berryhill had of making the payroll tax a liability for Mr. Gantt was dashed when Gov. Jim Martin came to Charlotte last week to campaign for Berryhill. The governor did not endorse Berryhill's viewpoint on the payroll tax; instead he indicated support for Gantt's proposal that the voters be given the opportunity to vote on the issue.

Secondly, Mr. Gantt's election appears to indicate voter support for managed growth, a major political issue between the mayoral candidates and in some City Council races. In the latter, Republican Gloria Fenning won a Council seat in District 7 with no Democratic Party opposition after a tough primary election win over incumbent Paul Juneau. The key issue in the Republican primary election in District 7 was neighborhood preservation as opposed to management growth by market conditions. This latter position was supported by Mr. Juneau.

As in 1983, Gantt captured 98 percent of the votes in the city's eight predominantly black precincts which have also predominantly Democratic voters. Thus, Gantt's jump from 52 percent of the votes cast in 1983 to 61 percent in 1985 was a result of gaining strength in the predominantly white precincts, receiving 46 percent of the vote, increased from 36 percent two years ago. Gantt was therefore justified in saying "that victory tonight was one that came from every nook and cranny of Charlotte." He added that he considered his victory a mandate for his campaign position in support of managed growth and a new money source for the city, possibly through a payroll tax.

## Council Race

In the City Council At-Large races two Republican incumbents, Minette Trosch and Richard Vinroot, were reelected; and two Democrats, first time political candidates Cyndee Patterson and Al Rouso, won. The surprises in the at-large races were threefold. Herbert Spaugh Jr. was not reelected, Minette Trosch's vote total was the smallest of the four winners, which may

cost her the mayor pro-tem post, and that jeweler Al Rouso was the top vote-getter among the four.

Ironically, with the four Council at-large seats divided equally between the Republicans and Democrats, and six of the seven District Council seats divided equally between Republicans and Democrats with no opposition at the polls, it was left to the election in District 4 to determine which party would have a majority of the votes on City Council. Democrat Roy Matthews defeated Republican Jim Hawks for this Council seat. Matthews was the major force in stopping white-flight in his neighborhood in the 1970s.

In the District Council races unopposed candidates Pam Patterson (D-District 1), Charles Dannelly (D-District 2), Ron Leeper (D-District 3), Ann Hammond (R-District 5), Velva Woollen (R-District 6) and new comer Gloria Fenning (R-District 7) were all elected.

## Bonds

The voters were very supportive of all bond issues favoring them in voter majorities ranging from 57 to 77 percent. These votes too were at least an indirect endorsement of Mayor Gantt's viewpoints and thus a rejection of Berryhill's charges of big spender Democrats led by Gantt.

In more specific terms, the Charlotte-Mecklenburg voters approved a bond package of eight items totaling a record of \$131.75 million in new debt for new schools, utility needs, swimming pools, garbage disposal and other needs.

In the non-partisan School Board election, former UNCC education professor Harvey Sadoff won election to the School Board, out-distancing his nearest opponent, Maggie Nicholson, by nearly a two to one margin.

The voters have spoken; now in the interest of good government, a progressive city, and a truly All-American neighborhood it is time for us all—Democrats, Republicans, independents and others—to put aside our differing viewpoints and join together to move Charlotte ahead for our mutual benefit.

As we have said previously, let's move your neighborhood, your community and your home; let's all help each other to make it all better within our democratic traditions.

## Speak Out

Do you have something to say? Then do so for everyone to read. The Charlotte Post, the only other voice in town, welcomes all letters on various subjects.

Letters to the editor must include your signature and address, both of which may or may not be used per your request.

Address letters to: Editor, The Charlotte Post, P. O. Box 30144, Charlotte, N.C. 28230.

Miller Says:

# Black Leadership Struggle: Reality Or Myth?

By Sherman N. Miller  
As I read about the struggle between the liberal traditional black leadership (NAACP, Urban League, Congressional Black Caucus, and so on) versus nationally recognized black conservatives (such as Thomas Sowell and Reagan Administration appointees Clarence Thomas and Clarence Pendleton) I wonder if there really is an isolated black American leadership war underway.

When I employ a purely black perspective to understand these black leaders' salvos I find it very difficult to devise a scenario that justifies all the media attention. However, if I treat this black leadership chasm as an element of a mainstream struggle then it does suggest that we are currently in the midst of "The American Conservative versus Liberal Political Crusades of the 1980s."

I recall hearing William F. Worrell, Managing Editor of the Richmond, VA Afro-American Newspaper present some very strong cases for black American upward mobility. Since Worrell is a white chap, I found myself looking at him a second time to be sure I was conversing

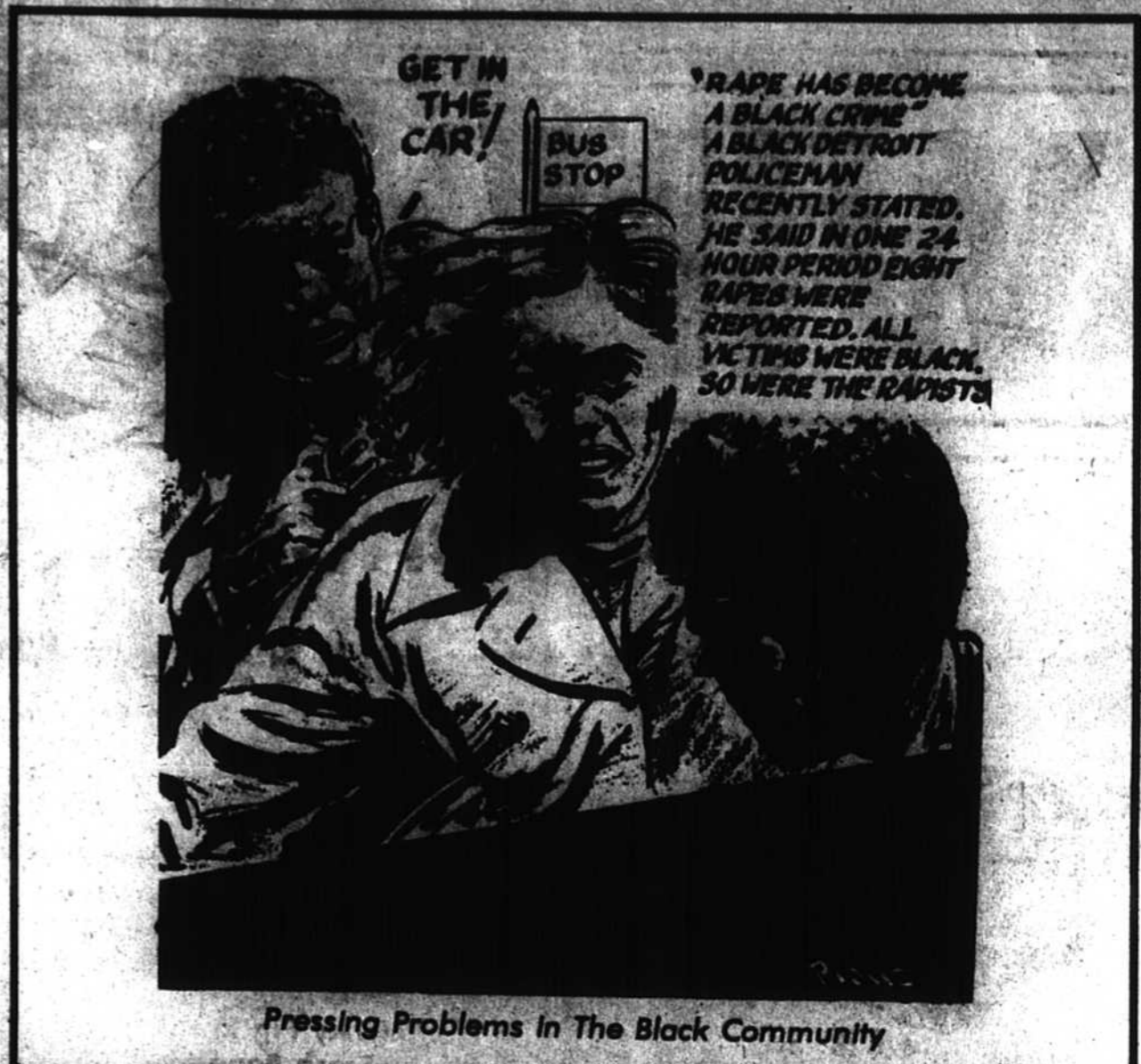


Sherman

with a Caucasian. Worrell left me with the impression that he truly believed that liberalism is the best course for America. He also seemed to argue against conservatives solely on the basis of their philosophical stance.

Stephen Steinberg of Queens College goes a quantum level beyond Worrell. In the Summer 1985 issue of "The Review of Black Political Economy" (A Publication of the National Economic Association and the Southern Center for Studies in Public Policy of Clark College), Steinberg belligerently takes Thomas Sowell to task.

"In the hands of Thomas Sowell, 'human capital' is little more than an obfuscation for writing a morality tale whereby groups—notably Jews and Asians—who have 'the right stuff' overcome



Pressing Problems In The Black Community

# Satellite Dishes Give "Great" Reception

There once was a time, pre-satellite dish days, when dwellers in rural communities underwent great difficulty to get good television reception. This was due to the fact that the communities were too far away from land-based TV transmitters. In addition to regular television programming, viewers also could not get cable television.

Hence in 10 years modern technology made the difference for these TV viewers by bringing high quality television to isolated areas. Modern technology called the satellite dish - an antenna that picks up a faint signal from satellites 22,000 miles above the earth, amplifies it and delivers it to the family room.

The reception is great and the choices incredible - with the satellite dish it is possible to pick up over 100 signals or stations at night. By turning a dial, the viewer can catch the latest movie, British television or pre-news remarks. And what makes the dish even more appealing is the price: After the purchase of the antenna, the programming is free.

Satellite dishes have come



Sabrina

a long way in pricing. In 1979 the Nieman-Marcus Christmas Catalog featured the "space-age development" that was as large as a house for a mere \$1,000. Since then the prices have dropped dramatically and so has the size. Today's dish is about 10 feet in diameter and costs about \$2,500. Companies are recording sales of 40,000 a month and the dishes are cropping up everywhere. If one flew below radar from California to Maine, he could see the more than one million that dot the countryside.

With all the glamour and prestige satellite dishes have brought, they are not entirely problem free. TV program-

mers such as Showtime, Home Box Office and Turner Broadcasting System do not like the fact that one million dish owners are snatching their programs for nothing.

In an effort to cut out the "free ride," some suppliers such as HBO plan to scramble their signals. HBO plans this move for January; the result being the movie magic will dissolve into snow and to get the signal a dish owner will have to purchase a decoder for up to \$400 and pay a monthly fee. If dish owners are forced to conform to this idea throughout the industry for programming service, they may be forced to pay three to 10 times as much as programmers charge their primary customers. That is not fair.

The solution is programmers must act swiftly to set fair and reasonable prices for dish owners.

Some dish owners have been led to believe that scrambling is illegal. It is not. The Cable Communication Act of 1984 recognized that programmers can scramble to protect their services from unauthorized use. In fact HBO has been concerned about unauthorized use by bars, restaurants and hotels who oftentimes charge their customers for viewing programs which the establishment receive for free.

To these cable programmers, scrambling seems to be the most effective and efficient way to curtail unauthorized use and unlawful activity. In addition to scrambling, HBO has devised a marketing strategy that will allow dish owners to subscribe to HBO and Cinemax if they choose to do so. This is due to the fact that satellite programmers do not receive any income from the sale of satellite dishes.

On the other side of the argument, dish owners strongly protest paying additional money for decoders and such. Their reason being that they spent a substantial amount of money to purchase the antenna and do not care or wish to fork up any more. The majority in this group are farmers.

They claim that the investment and corners cut in the purchase is enough. Maybe so. They go on to say that their tax dollars were used to put the satellites in space. True. They too paid taxes toward the space program which improved satellite transmissions and that every taxpayer has the same right to those transmissions as the networks and cable companies. Maybe.

## Pop Warner Football

The 28th annual Pop Warner Optimist Bowl Football games will be played Saturday, November 16 at Country Day's School Football Stadium. Games begin at 9:00, 11:00, 1:00 and 3:00.

The games will showcase the best Charlotte area Pop Warner teams in four different age groups. Proceeds of the event will go to the WBT Penny Pitch Children's Charities and the North Mecklenburg Optimist Club's charities.

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