

**In Martin's Campaign**

**Volunteers Make The Wheels Go 'Round**

By Audrey C. Lodato  
Post Staff Writer

Volunteers are a vital part of the American political process, and D.G. Martin's campaign is no exception. Martin is running for the 9th Congressional seat presently held by Alex McMillan, a first-term representative.

"Everything that happens in D.G.'s campaign happens through volunteers, people who are committed to him as a person," said Martin's campaign manager Henry Doss.

What motivates people to give up time and energy to help a candidate? And what, exactly, do volunteers do?

Let a few of D.G.'s volunteers speak for themselves.

"I've known D.G. Martin for some

time, and I've always thought of him as very sincere, intelligent, and sensitive to people's needs," Martin scheduler Shirley Farrar stated.

"When he decided to run, I felt he would be sensitive and responsive to the needs of the community as a whole, and his ears would be open to the black community," she said.

Farrar commented that Martin "would never go Washington" on us. Some (politicians) start out okay but become "Washingtonized." I feel I could always pick up the phone and talk to D.G."

Farrar's primary responsibility in this campaign is to schedule the candidate for clubs, groups, and organizations. She's in the office about 10 hours a week, plus the time she puts in after hours. She's doing it, she said, "because D.G. said he

needed me." She had scheduling experience as director of the Afro-American Cultural Center from 1979 to 1984, and as poll organizer during Martin's first campaign.

Farrar called campaign work "exciting," and added, "I can't imagine working in a campaign where you don't really believe what the candidate stands for. In your heart, you believe what you're doing will make things better."

Another Martin volunteer, S.T. Woodard, who said he's known D.G. a long time, is "sold on his performance." Woodard got to know Martin when the attorney was recommended to be the first white to integrate McCrorey YMCA, where Woodard was on the board of managers. "He joined us, and all of us fell in love with him," Woodard recalled.

In D.G.'s campaign two years ago, Woodard helped distribute literature; he'll probably do the same this time around, he said.

Volunteer James Alexander, who worked the polls with his wife in '84, campaigns in the precincts, sorts mail, and does whatever else is needed. Remarked Alexander, who has known the candidate "four or five years," "He seems to be outgoing and honest. I like some of his ideas. Nobody owns him."

Jesse Cureton Jr. was approached to chair Martin's special projects committee. "We generate different activities throughout the community to make D.G. Martin more a

household word," Cureton explained.

Cureton, who was politically active as a student at UNC-Chapel Hill, worked with the Young Democrats and volunteered for Mayor Gantt's campaign. He said he volunteers because "all of us have a civic duty to support any political cause we believe in." He feels it's his duty to support his party and candidates whose ideas mesh with his own.

He also likes campaign work because of the excitement and the exposure. Cureton may one day like to be a candidate himself.

Then there's Dorothy Crockett, who cited "the character of the candidate" as her reason for volunteering for Martin. She called him a "genuine and sincere young man who is sensitive to all the citizens of Charlotte-Mecklenburg, whether they're lower income or middle class." She added, "He really impressed me," and said Martin would represent his district well. Crockett helps out "as needed."

It's probably accurate to conclude that all of Martin's campaign volunteers would agree with Shirley Farrar's closing comments: "He's a rare find. On top of all that, he's a good politician, and 'politician' is not a bad word. He's tactful and able to sit down and get people to negotiate. D.G. is an honest politician and ought to be in Washington."



Jesse Cureton Jr.  
.....Committee chair



Shirley Farrar  
.....Campaign scheduler

**Preschoolers Screened For New Chapter I Program**

The Charlotte-Mecklenburg School System will screen children during the week of July 14 for entry into the new preschool program for four year olds that will begin operation in September.

The program will serve 700 children at 12 sites. It is funded by Chapter I, a federal program for children who are economically and culturally deprived. The preschool program is designed to boost students' self-esteem and independence, to help them get along with others and to learn problem-solving and decision-making skills. It is free to children who qualify.

The screening will be conducted at 15 elementary schools July 14-18 from 2:30-7:30 p.m. Children are eligible if they will be four years old on or before October 18, 1986 and if they live in the attendance area of one of 35 Chapter I elementary schools. The screening is designed to identify children with learning problems. Children with the greatest needs, as identified by the screening, will be enrolled in the program.

The screening sites are the following elementary schools: Barringer, Billingsville, Bruns Avenue, Devonshire, Dilworth,

Hidden Valley, Amay James, Nations Ford, Oaklawn, Plaza Road, Rama Road, Starmount, Thomasboro, Tryon Hills, and Westerly Hills.

The program will begin operation September 15. The hours will be approximately 8:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. Parents are urged to provide transportation for their children. However, buses will run special routes for preschool children, whose parents cannot provide transportation.

Sites for the preschool program are Ashley Park, Billingsville, Collinswood, Hidden Valley, Highland, Irwin Avenue, Amay James, Oaklawn, Park Road and Plaza Road Elementary Schools.

Also included are Double Oaks Community Service Center and Villa Heights Center.

Parents who need more information should call the Chapter I office at 379-7165.

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