

Editorials

Vote For Your Future

Once again we are approaching the time when responsible, concerned and involved citizens should and will cast votes for the candidates of their choice in this "off-year" - no presidential candidates - election year. Among the choices are Sanford or Broyhill for U.S. Senate, McMillan or Martin for Congressman, Lanning or Shappert for District Court Judge, Moore or Kidd for Sheriff, at-large, and for the first time, district County Commission and state General Assembly seats in the Senate and House. In addition, you, the voter, will be asked to consider support for a referendum on County Park bonds and farmland preservation bonds.

As we look forward to Election Day, Tuesday, November 4, we should pause and look back over our shoulders for a reminder that in off-year elections voter turnout is usually low, and, in too many cases embarrassingly low for a nation that likes to boast about its free elections and freedom of expression. As the world can quite clearly see, black people in South Africa are suffering and giving their lives in a lengthy struggle to gain the right to vote and to hold public office.

Consistent with our policy over the past nine years, we have not endorsed any candidates. We believe we have offered you, our readers, varied opinions on many of the issues in a fair, objective, accurate, and balanced way. Therefore, we don't think we need to clutter your minds with our opinions on specific candidates. As a community-oriented newspaper, we believe that we have done our part in attempting to keep you informed about the issues. For example, the U.S. Senate race between Democrat Terry Sanford and Republican Jim Broyhill is a part of the much broader issue of which political party will have a majority membership in the Senate and likewise the chairmanship of important Senate committees.

Furthermore, since the Senate committee members have significant influence in presidential policy decisions, they are very

Tax Law Revolution

Last week President Reagan signed into law the most significant and far-reaching federal income tax provisions in over 40 years. The new law, a bi-partisan effort that died many deaths over the past two years, is already having some impact on the nation's economy. The gross national product (GNP) rose 2.4 percent in the third quarter - July-August-September, and consumer spending went up at an annual rate of 7.2 percent in the same quarter.

The Tax Reform Act of 1986 shifts \$120 billion in taxes from individuals to business. Therefore, individual tax rates go from the current 15 percent to five percent in 1987 and effectively three percent in 1988. Wharton Business School professor Jeremy Siegel reportedly said "lower taxes (for individuals) will be good for (economic)

important posts. In this regard, with the Republican Party currently holding a 53-47 margin in the U.S. Senate, their possible net loss of only four seats would shift the balance of power to the Democrats. Equally significant, President Reagan will probably be nominating in his last two years replacements for many of the aging U.S. Supreme Court judges. Therefore, since the Senate Committee chairmen can often influence whether such court appointees will be confirmed by the Senate and since such appointees serve for life, they can be involved in judicial decisions that may affect the lives of millions of Americans for over the next 50 or more years.

Therefore, and this is the important issue for you the voter, a vote for Republican Broyhill is a vote in support of Mr. Reagan's desire to maintain Republican control of the Senate and thus to be better able to appoint and have a greater chance of having philosophically conservative judges confirmed for U.S. Supreme Court seats. Likewise, a vote for Democrat candidate Terry Sanford would be support for the appointment of more middle-of-the-road or more liberal judges. For example, this latter more liberally thinking group of judges have historically been more supportive of civil rights issues. Thus, you, the voter, need to be clearly aware that a vote for Sanford or Broyhill is a vote for a lot more than simply one personality over another.

Thinking of the issues beyond the rhetoric of particular candidates is vital to being an intelligent and informed voter. With that, it's now your turn to tell us, to tell the candidates, what you, the citizens, the taxpayers, want and expect through your votes.

As we have said often in this column, it's your nation, your city, your neighborhood, your home, and your tax dollar, so you decide what's best for your future and the future of your children by voting your convictions on election day - November 4. VOTE, VOTE, and VOTE, it's your right, your duty, and your freedom.

growth."

However, the revolutionary landmark tax law is expected to touch nearly every financial decision Americans will make - from buying a home, a car, an appliance to buying stock or making a charitable contribution. Therefore, The Washington Post states clearly, "During the next few years, the law's lower rates and limits on many deductions will give the nation's 100 million taxpayers a new world of choices."

For example, the 14 million plus taxpayers with Individual Retirement Accounts (IRAs), the 35 million people who pay mortgages or consumer loan interests may need to develop new strategies. In summary, nearly every taxpayer will find his or her rates changed in some way.

Miller Says:

Has Black Leadership Become Dependent ?

By Sherman N. Miller
Special To The Post

Reports out of Michigan tell of prominent Democratic leaders castigating the Republican Party's black conservative gubernatorial candidate. Similar Pittsburgh, PA, reports reveal an anti-U.S. Senator Arlene Specter campaign because he purportedly double-crossed the black leadership by voting to confirm conservative U.S. Supreme Court Chief Justice William H. Rehnquist. Has the current black leadership survival become totally dependent on preserving liberal ideology whereby they must attack any candidate, black or white, who supports conservative issues?

It was extremely difficult for me to believe that an experienced politician would renege on a political promise in the midst of his re-election campaign. Therefore, I asked Specter if he had made a commitment on the Rehnquist nomination to Pittsburgh's black leadership.

"I made no commitments to anyone on the Rehnquist nomination," he replied.



Miller

"And I don't make commitments to anyone on any nomination! That goes for the President or any group."

I had heard that the Pittsburgh Branch of the NAACP was one of the groups opposed to Specter's re-election bid, so he was encouraged to comment on his working relationship with the NAACP.

"I have been a big supporter of the NAACP on many, many matters," claimed Specter. "The NAACP came to me for assistance on the Voting Rights Act and I was one of the principal supporters." Specter went on to broach

BLACKS HAVE BEEN AWAKENED..?

IT IS UP TO US, BLACKS WHO CARE ABOUT THE BLACK FUTURE, TO IMPOSE ORDER WHERE NONE EXISTS TODAY.



WE HAVE TO DO IT BECAUSE WE CANNOT ASK OUR OLD PEOPLE TO SPEND THE REST OF THEIR LIVES PASSING THROUGH A GAUNTLET OF MUGGERS.

ORDE COMBES
N.Y. MAGAZINE

PIONEER

As I See It

A Halloween Story

By Gerald O. Johnson
Special To The Post

Back in my mid-teen years, I used to stay in trouble for an assortment of reasons. The main reason was because I was a brat. But, I was a smart brat, and usually I could manage to steer clear from blame for the trouble I caused. One adventure I got myself and some friends into taught me and hopefully my friends, a valuable lesson.

It was dusk on a very clear night when Ron Wiley, Richard Spratt and I decided to walk the streets of the westside just to see what was shaking. It was Halloween night. Ron wanted to do some trick-or-treating, but I convinced him that we were too old for that sort of thing. Richard, who was usually a very agreeable chap, had to be convinced that we were indeed too old. After wasting an hour convincing two 6'5", 15-year-olds, this 5'4" (that was stretching it) 15-year-old finally won out. I had to promise to give them treats from my house when we returned.

Richard has procured fire-



Gerald

crackers from somewhere and we thought it would be nice to scare the heck out of people using the firecrackers. We finally ended up at Five points on the corner of Fifth and Trade. We were about to cross the street when the old light bulb blinked on in the cerebellum. "Look, guys, why don't we go on Smith's campus and hide behind the fence. When cars stop for the light, we'll let them have it with the fireworks. We'll scare the heck

out of them." Ron was the most innocent of the trio and thought it a bad idea. Richard was bored and figured it would add a little life to the evening. Of course, I was bored that's why I thought of the idea.

Ron was finally convinced it would be fun, so we dashed behind the fence on Smith's campus overlooking Fifth Street. Initially, all of us were scared to get started. But finally the smallest guy with the biggest mouth told Richard to light one up. He did. I tossed the lit firecracker towards an unsuspecting motorist. The firecracker exploded. The motorist was startled. He had a look of fright and bewilderment on his face. Before he could discover what had taken place, the light changed and he had to go on. We got a big laugh out of that and decided this was fun. We continued tossing the lit firecrackers at passing motorists, carefully choosing the right time to do it. We were having a ball.

I turned away from the street and told Richard to light one up for me. He did. As I turned to toss the lit firecracker, to my surprise the unsuspecting motorist was the police. The look on the faces of my friends told me that they were curious to find what I was going to do. Needless to say, I was curious myself. I thought to myself, "Gerald, you can hold this firecracker and let it blow your hand off, or you can toss it at the policemen and let them blow your head off." Interesting dilemma, I thought. The policemen were white and community relations between white police officers and black, bratty kids were not cordial in the early sixties.

As the burning stem made its way closer to the cylinder, I decided to take my chances. I tossed the firecracker. It exploded on its route to the boys-in-blue and it startled the heck out of them. A flashlight and a gun immediately were pointed in our direction as the car sped through the red light and turned onto the campus. Needless to say, we were in the wind. I realized that I couldn't out run the car, so I dove behind the nearest bush to seek refuge. I knew I was done for. As I laid huddled up and trembling, the police car sped by me and headed for the University Church. I heard the policemen get out of the car and then I heard footsteps. They were

See Halloween on page 3A

THE CHARLOTTE POST
North Carolina's Fastest Growing Weekly
376-0486
"The People's Newspaper"
108 Years Of Continuous Service
Bill Johnson Publisher Emeritus Gerald Johnson Co-Publisher Bob Johnson Co-Publisher Bernard Reeves Gen. Mgr. Loretta Manago Mng. Editor Jackie Carr Copy Editor Fran Farrer-Bradley Adv. Mgr. Dannette Gaither Office Mgr.
Published Every Thursday by The Charlotte Post Publishing Company, Inc. Main Office: 1531 S. Camden Road Charlotte, N.C. 28203
Second Class Postage Paid at Charlotte
Member, National Newspaper Publishers' Association North Carolina Black Publishers Association
National Advertising Representative: Amalgamated Publishers, Inc.
One Year Subscription Rate One Year - \$17.76 Payable In Advance
USPS No. 965500 POSTMASTER Send Change of address to Charlotte Post 1531 Camden Rd. Charlotte, N.C. 28203