

PAC Wants To Double N.C. Black Senators

By Jalyne Strong
Post Managing Editor

The 21st Century PAC of North Carolina has sent out a catchy release: an illustration of the three members of the Black Caucus of the North Carolina Senate ensconced in a public telephone receptacle beneath the words: "When the Black Caucus of North Carolina Senate meets, it can fit comfortably in a Raleigh phone booth."

The release deftly illustrates the point that North Carolina has only three black Senators in NC General Assembly. That is, three out of a total of 50 Senators. The release goes on to say the three black Senators, Senator Ralph Hunt (D-Durham); Senator Bill Martin (D-Greensboro); and Senator Jim Richardson (D-Mecklenburg), "face serious challenges in the areas of economic development, educational opportunity, and election law reform."

"The discriminatory runoff primary and large multi-member district election laws have held Afro-American representation in the General Assembly to a minimum."

The point of the release is to convey The 21st Century PAC's plan to assist financially and technically four black candidates for the Senate races this year, in an effort to increase black representation in NC State Legislature.

The theme for the drive is "Take the Senate in '88." In essence a fundraising drive. "Take the Senate in '88" seeks finan-

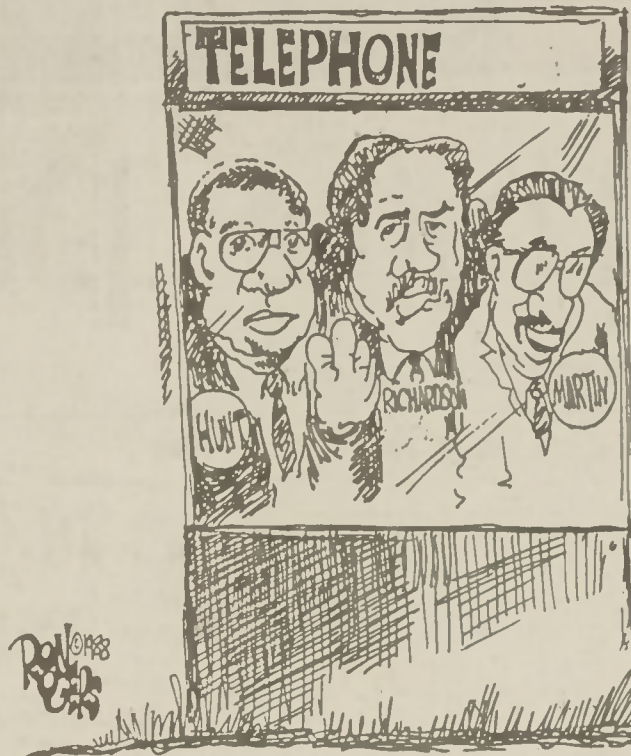
cial donations from NC blacks to help black candidates win. Stated in the release, "The reason most African-Americans lose is lack of money. The reason most people don't give is they haven't been asked."

The 21st Century PAC proposes that each targeted campaign will receive \$1,000 in direct contributions. The 21st Century PAC will also provide technical assistance in using computers to support campaign activities. The effort will be kicked-off with March fundraising events in Charlotte and Winston-Salem.

The candidates who are targeted for assistance from 21st Century PAC include Mary McAllister of Fayetteville (12th district), Frank Ballance of Warrenton (2nd district), Shelly Willingham of Rocky Mount (10th district), and Vernon L. Robinson of Winston-Salem (20th district).

"While you may not live in these districts," states the release, "these candidates will

When the Black Caucus of North Carolina meets, it can fit comfortably in a Raleigh phone booth.



fight for your needs in the General Assembly."

PAC Treasurer Nathan A. Harris of Greensboro, said, "Winning these seats will strengthen the hand of the Black Caucus and help protect our communities interests across North Carolina. Should three of

these candidates be successful, the Afro-American Senate Caucus would be doubled to six members."

The 21st Century PAC of North Carolina is a bipartisan independent political action committee founded in 1985 to create a financial base to increase the number of black elected officials at all levels. According to 21st Century PAC officials, "The PAC played a pivotal role in the election of Congressman Mike Espy (D-MS) in 1986. After successfully assisting

in the election of Judge Terry Sherrill, the PAC was active in several municipal races during 1987."

For more information about 21st Century PAC of North Carolina, write P.O. Box 13065, Winston-Salem, NC 27110. Or call, (919) 768-3567.

Children's Defense Launches Candidate Registration Drive

Calling for a nationwide "candidate registration drive to make our children physically, educationally, and economically safe," the Children's Defense Fund today launched a campaign to help citizens encourage all candidates for elective office to "register" publicly their positions on preventive investment in children and families.

"The first high school graduating class of the twenty-first century will enter first grade in September 1988," said CDF president Marian Wright Edelman, who announced the campaign in Washington. "These preschoolers are the American workers, parents, taxpayers, soldiers, college students, and potential leaders of the twenty-first century. But today:

- One in four of them is poor;
- One in five is at risk of becoming a teen parent;
- One in six has no health insurance;
- One in seven is at risk of dropping out of school;
- One in two has a mother in the labor force, but only a minority have safe, affordable, quality child care."

Edelman called the campaign "an opportunity for all our citizens to speak out and help shape our national future."

"Children cannot vote or lobby for the investments they need to grow up healthy and secure," said Edelman. "All Americans must take the necessary steps to make sure those seeking and holding public office commit themselves to putting the physical, economic, educational, and spiritual safety of our children at the top of the list of their priorities."

Edelman released a public education kit to help citizens "make preventive investments in children and families a major

part of the common currency in this year's political debate and a springboard for specific policy responses." The kit includes two booklets -- WHAT EVERY AMERICAN SHOULD BE ASKING POLITICAL LEADERS IN 1988 and A CALL FOR ACTION TO MAKE OUR NATION SAFE FOR CHILDREN: A BRIEFING BOOK ON THE STATUS OF AMERICAN CHILDREN IN 1988 -- and a public education poster.

The poster features a baby-kissing candidate with the words: "Wouldn't it be nice if politicians cared as much about children after they're elected? Children's issues like preventive health care, child care, and a quality education are important to the future of our country. Make sure the candidates you vote for pay them more than lip service. Kids can't vote."

The publications are designed for child advocates, community activists, professionals, public officials and policymakers, parents, citizens, members of the media, political leaders of all parties, and those seeking public office in 1988.

Edelman said the public education materials have three purposes. "First, we seek to focus attention on a range of issues affecting millions of American children and families and on a set of facts that have profound implications for the economic and social well-being of all Americans."

"Second," Edelman said, "we seek a national consensus on the importance of preventive investment in children and youths and a commitment from every candidate running for any office in 1988 to ensure that every child has basic health, nutrition, shelter, and early childhood services and thus has the capacity and opportunity to learn and to



Edelman

develop strong basic academic skills. The level of a young person's basic skills has a powerful effect on his or her prospects for future achievement, teenage parenthood, and eventual self-sufficiency."

"Third, we seek to provoke thinking and discussion among all Americans about the direction of our nation and the kind of leadership we need as we approach the twenty-first century." "Our message to the American public and to public officials in 1988 is stark and urgent," Edelman said. "America must save its children if it is to save itself. For our children are not safe -- physically, educationally, economically, and spiritually. Our streets are not safe. Our homes are not safe. America's future is not safe."

Copies of the questionnaire, briefing book, and poster are available free of charge from the Children's Defense Fund, 122 C Street, NW, Washington, DC 20001.

Reagan Shrinks Education Funds

A Statement by
NEA President,
Mary Hatwood Futrell

WASHINGTON, D.C. -- For only the second time in the past eight years, the Reagan Administration has proposed a budget that does not gut education. We shouldn't be surprised. This is an election year. In election years, the Reagan White House "supports" education. In every other year, President Reagan has sought deep cuts in education spending.

But the election year budget for education presented by the Reagan Administration today does children -- America's future -- no favors.

Never in our history have there

been more children living in poverty, many of them homeless. The budget proposed by the White House offers these children precious little.

Never in our history have we faced such stiff competition in the global marketplace. The budget proposed by the White House does practically nothing to help America's schools prepare students for new competitive realities.

The stark reality is this: the federal share of America's educational expenses has shrunk by one-third since President Reagan took office. You can track that shrinking commitment by looking at specific federal aid to education programs.

The prime example: Chapter 1, the federal compensatory education program for disadvantaged youngsters. The Chapter 1 program today serves 5.7 million children at risk for failure in school, 1.3 million fewer than in 1980. In the United States today, there are 8 million other disadvantaged children who are eligible for but not receiving Chapter 1 support.

In his new book, *The Thirteenth Man*, former Education Secretary Terrel Bell calls on the federal government to invest \$20 billion in Chapter 1 alone. This \$20 billion is about what the Reagan Administration is proposing for all of education!

Koontz Wins Appeal For Rock Hill Television Station

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signal among area stations, with WJZY second. Channel 46 is the newest station in the area, starting operation last August.

Koontz's organization was originally turned down for a permit because the structure of the partnership allowed the limited partners too much input in management and operation decisions.

"We didn't try to hide nothing. Our competitive edge was in our coverage area," Koontz said.

Despite being passed over last year, the Koontz organization won its appeal without changing its decision-making process.

"I'll be talking to my partners about how the station's being run," he said. "It's their money, too."

All applicants can appeal the review board's decision by March 27. If one or more applicants challenges the decision, the commission will hear argu-

ments and make a ruling.

That won't be the end of the appeal process, however. The decision can be challenged in court, through the U.S. Court of Appeals and finally the Supreme Court, who would make the final decision.

"It could be six months to a year (to decide the appeals)," Koontz said. "I'm optimistic we'll prevail." The viewing area is made up of

22 North Carolina counties and eight in South Carolina, with a total of 11,200 square miles.

A major selling point for getting the permit, Koontz said, was the location of channel 55's transmitter. The station would put its transmitter on a Belmont tower currently occupied by WBTV and WJZY (channel 46).

WBTV has the most powerful broadcast area, the 31st largest in America.

Blacks: Hit Hardest By AIDS

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about 13 months, compared to 12 months nationwide.

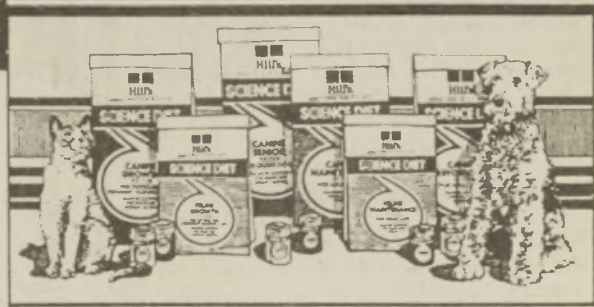
"It will continue to go upward, but not as dramatically as we've seen," Husted said.

The majority of AIDS cases were reported from the state's urban areas. Of the 419 cases

counted since reporting began in 1984, the highest county subtotals came from Mecklenburg County, 65, and Wake County, 46. Cumberland County was third with 27; Durham and Forsyth counties tied for fourth with 26; and Guilford was fifth with 23.

Ask Your Veterinarian

Q: Do pets have different nutritional needs during their lives?



A: Yes! For example, adult and senior dogs and cats have completely different energy, nutrient and vitamin needs than puppies and kittens. Some pet foods contain too many calories and your pet could end up overweight and in poor health. Ask your pet professional about balanced nutrition and why we stock and recommend Science Diet dog and cat foods.

Here's why Science Diet is the most nutritious pet food you can buy:

• Specific formulations to meet your pet's exact nutritional needs at each stage of life.

• Certain minerals are restricted for less wear and tear on your pet's organs. Puppies and kittens need more calcium, phosphorus and magnesium, but the same amounts of these minerals can be harmful to older pets.

• More digestible for less stool volume.

You'll see visible results in your pet's coat, muscle development and overall appearance.

100% satisfaction guarantee.

If you can't about pets like we do, stop by today for all our Nutritional Counselors and ask how Science Diet pet food can help your dog or cat live a healthy and more satisfying life.

Science Diet

Science Diet is the best of your pet!

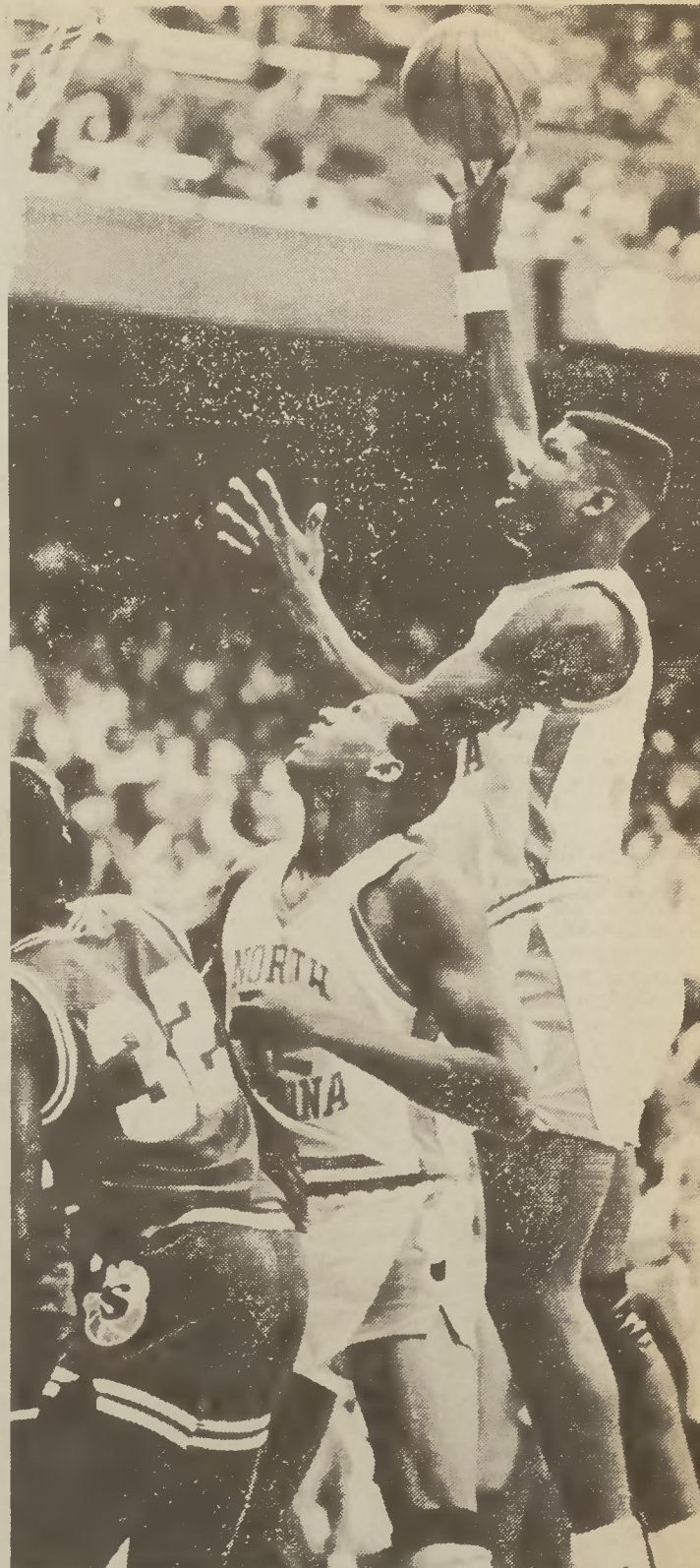
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Please call 399-6534 for an appointment/Offer expires 3/5/88

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UNC Tar Heels Vs. Georgia Tech Yellow Jackets Wednesday night at 9.

WJZY46
Charlotte

Turn on the Stars.