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Top N.C. Democrats Cost Jackson Victory Last Week

RALEIGH (AP) --- Sen. Terry Sanford and former Gov. Jim Hunt endorsed Sen. Al Gore for the Democratic presidential nomination, and black Democratic leaders in the state say their support deprived the Rev. Jesse Jackson of a first place finish.

"A lot of people were very angry about that," state Rep. H.M. "Mickey" Michaux Jr., D-Durham, a Jackson supporter, said. "They felt they had been betrayed because of loyalty they put behind Hunt and Sanford. Hopefully, it is one of those things that will be smoothed over down the line."

Hunt downplayed any friction caused by his endorsement of Gore.

"I respect people supporting the candidates they think are best," he told The News and Observer of Raleigh. "I respect people who supported Jesse Jackson for that reason. I expect them to

respect me in the same way. I think most of them do."

According to complete unofficial returns, Gore received 235,345 votes or 35 percent, Jackson received 223,207 or 33 percent, and Massachusetts Gov. Michael S. Dukakis received 137,483 or 20 percent. Trailing were Rep. Richard A. Gephardt, D-Mo., with 37,483 votes or 6 percent, former Sen. Gary W. Hart with 16,450 votes or 2 percent, and Sen. Paul Simon, D-Ill., with 8,072 votes or 1 percent.

In the delegate sweepstakes, Gore picked up 34 delegates, Jackson received 31, and Dukakis captured 17. No other Democrat won a delegate in the state.

Sanford and Hunt, the state's two most influential Democratic leaders, endorsed Gore in January and helped tie him into the state's white Democratic establishment.

The Gore candidacy had broad

backing among Southern white elected officials. Many who rallied behind Gore were concerned that a Jackson victory would send an unsettling signal to moderate and conservative Democratic voters who had been voting in increasing numbers for Republican presidential candidates.

But, across the South, the black community has become a key ingredient of the Democratic Party's coalition. Hunt won the governorship and Sanford the Senate seat with substantial majorities among black voters.

Samuel H. Poole, a Sanford political aide and a consultant to the Gore campaign, said Sanford and Hunt had made a judgment that Gore was the most electable Democrat in the fall.

"I'm sure Reverend Jackson ... understands there was no obligation for Sanford and Hunt to

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Romare Bearden 1912-1988



A black man born in Charlotte. One of the world's greatest artists. Through his work he lives forever.

See stories on pages 5A, 6A and 10B.



Supporters of James Baldwin for County Commission in District 2 held a voter registration drive on the corner of Parkwood Ave. and Pegram St. last Saturday. Baldwin says his slogan is Voter Education Plus Voter Registration Equals Political Determination in District 2. At Saturday's event, registrar Gilda Stitt (photo, left) registered 41 people who had never voted before. Candidate Baldwin



also picked up a few campaign donations. Ray Grier (right photo) presented Baldwin (r) with a check for his campaign. Baldwin, whose campaign headquarters at 1014 South Tryon St., says this is the first of several voter registration drives he has planned focusing on low-income areas of District 2, to show that his campaign has a grass roots basis.

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Local Candidates Gear Up Campaigns

By Herb White Post Staff Writer

Now that Super Tuesday is over, the election process shifts to the local level where several blacks are running for office.

Blacks candidates are running for all types of office, from Registrar of Deeds to N.C. State Representative.

Undoubtedly, the hottest race going is the Democratic District 2 Mecklenburg Commissioners contest between incumbent Bob Walton and challengers Nasif Majeed and James Baldwin.

The three have faced off once in a forum earlier this month, and there is hope for more exchanges.

The Democratic winner faces Republican Roosevelt Gardner, who is opposed in the Republican race.

Cedric Jones, a retired Garinger High English teacher is running for one of three at-large commissioners seats. Jones, 70, ran an unsuccessful race for the same seat in 1986, losing in the Democratic primary.

With the recent debate over school curriculum and busing, the Mecklenburg school board race could turn out to be a volatile race.

Maggie Nicholson, an 81-year-old Republican, is trying to win a seat. She has run, without success, in every school board election since 1974. Don Brown, an outspoken critic of perceived inequities in Harding High's curriculum, is running to join George Battle and Sarah Stevenson on the board.

Arthur Griffin, a former board member and proponent of mid-point schools between black and white neighborhoods to ease busing, is back for another shot at office.

Kelly Alexander Jr., the head of the North Carolina NAACP, is the first black to file for Registrar of Deeds. Although the office doesn't have the high profile of other posts, Alexander has said it affords blacks a chance to enter politics at the local level.

On the state level, Democratic Sen. Jim Richardson is running to keep his seat in District 33. Richardson, who first won the seat in 1986 after serving as a state representative, is best known for supporting a law to give the county the right to assess a real estate transfer tax.

Pete Cunningham is running for reelection to the N.C. House from District 59. His most memorable legislation, passed last summer, allows victims of racial harassment to file civil suits in local courts instead of in federal court.

Howard Barnhill is up for re-

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Company Signs Consent Decree In Race Case

CHARLOTTE, NC - The U.S. Equal Employment Opportunity Commission and Devoe & Raynolds Company, a division of Grow Group, Inc. (Devoe & Raynolds), have settled an existing suit by entering into a consent decree in Federal District Court in Charlotte. In a suit filed last year, the EEOC charged that the Charlotte facility of Devoe & Raynolds had engaged in unlawful practices in violation of Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964. The unlawful practices alleged in the EEOC complaint included subjecting a black employee to unequal and racially discriminatory terms and conditions of employment and discharge.

The consent decree, a mutual agreement between the parties with Court approval, requires Devoe & Raynolds to maintain a racially neutral equal employment policy. As part of the consent decree, the company agreed to compensate the former employee for his period of unemployment after his discharge.

Devoe & Raynolds has denied and continues to deny that it violated any law or discriminated in any respect against the former employee. The Equal Employment Opportunity Commission is a federal agency charged with the administration, interpretation and enforcement of Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, as amended, color, religion, sex or national origin.

Blacks Trail Whites In School Test Scores

RALEIGH (AP) --- For more than 20 years, black and white students have shared the same schools, but the academic achievement of black students as shown in test scores and class placement --- still lags far behind, educators say.

Some black educators, leaders and parents suggest the disparities are the fault of the school systems, which they say have failed to educate and challenge black students.

But others argue that problems contributing to the performance

of black students obviously extend beyond schools, including low family income and a host of other social ills. They say families, communities and school officials must share responsibility for both the problems and the solutions.

"It is easy to blame somebody else," Gladys Graves, president of the North Carolina Association of Educators, told the News and Observer of Raleigh. "But all of us rightfully have to accept some of the responsibility."

Mrs. Graves and other educa-

tors, civic leaders and government officials met today in Raleigh to discuss the education of black children in North Carolina and plan a statewide conference this fall to set specific goals.

Test scores and class statistics show large gaps between black students and their white classmates. For example:

--- In Chapel Hill-Carrboro, on average, black second-graders taking the California Achievement Test in 1987 were in the 42nd percentile nationally,

while their white classmates were in the 93rd percentile.

--- Durham City schools, which are predominantly black, report that black sixth-graders, on average, performed at a level that would be expected of students who are eight months into the fifth grade, according to 1987 CAT scores. The white sixth-graders, on the other hand, were performing at a level that would be expected of children who are four months into the seventh

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Westside Discusses Recreation Center

By Jalyne Strong Post Editor

The residents of west Charlotte communities Northwood Estates, University Park North, Firestone and Garden Park are being invited to invest in their community.

On Saturday, March 19, 11 a.m., at Friendship Baptist Church, these citizens will learn more about the opportunity to own, develop and share in the pleasures of having a clubhouse-recreation center located in the Beatties Ford Rd. area community of Northwood Estates.

February 24, William "Pete" Cunningham, a N.C. House Representative and owner of the Excelsior Club on Beatties Ford Rd., sent a letter to residents of the Northwood Estates community explaining that he had acquired the option to purchase the old "Northwood Clubhouse" located



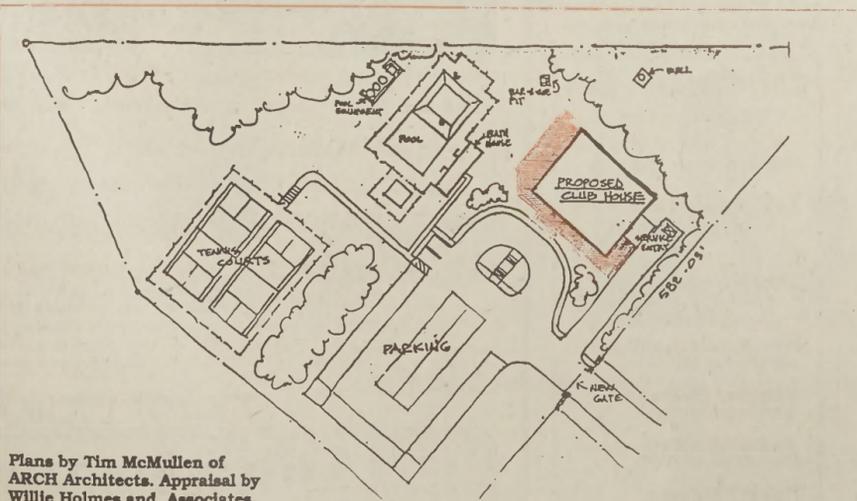
Plans by Tim McMullen of ARCH Architects. Appraisal by Willie Holmes and Associates.

at the end of Northcliff Dr. Some years ago, the Ervin Company had begun to develop this property to accommodate a

swimming pool tennis courts and other recreation facilities. However, those plans were never completed.

After talking with a few community representatives, Cun-

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