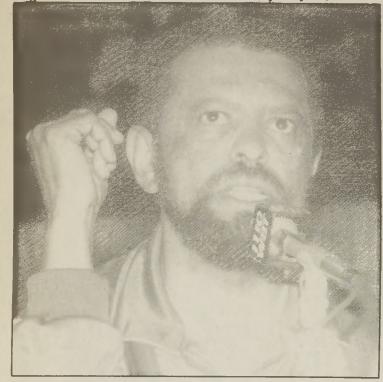
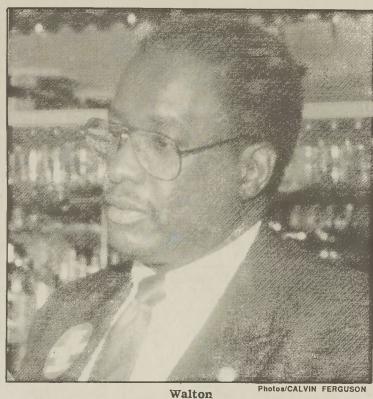
Page 2A - THE CHARLOTTE POST - Thursday, May 26, 1988





Majeed

Majeed, Walton Speak On The Issues

With less than a week to go before Tuesday's runoff election between incumbent Mecklenburg County Commissioner Bob Walton and challenger Nasif Majeed, The Charlotte Post conducted telephone interviews with both candidates on the issues of importance to District 2 and the county at large. Below are excerpts of both conversations with Post reporter Herb White.

Q. Should the county continue to keep its present affirmative action plan in place, or should it adopt an equal opportunity policy?

Majeed: I think it should be viewed from the standpoint of equity. We should try to strengthen it where it needs to be strengthened. There seems to be a need at this particular time to keep the affirma-tive action scenario. I think everything has to be evaluated on an individual basis.

Walton: I am pleased that one of the things I was in the forefront of is hiring two black assistant county managers and two female assistant county managers, but there's still a lot to be done.

If you look at it from a statistical point of view, you could argue that some of the goals may have been met. But when you look at certain departments, then you see the need for an affirmative action plan.

9. What direction should the county take in deciding on a waste management plan that would be acceptable to westside residents who are in court now to stop a transfer station on LaSalle St?

Majeed: I look at the total process as being undemocratic. There was no citizens' input. The LaSalle St. site wasn't one of the original ones (selected) and that was done behind closed doors.

There needs to be fair distribution of the garbage disposal plan based on the volume of garbage generated and putting it in a central location in the area it's coming from.

Walton: To me, it's more area discrimination than racial discrimination. Northwest and Southwest Charlotte were always zoned industrial. Of course, it leads to racial discrimination too, if you have 99 percent of the black people in town living in that area. We are nearing a crisis. We generate 18-to 20,000 tons of garbage a day. We need an aggressive recycling program where up to 30 percent of the waste would be recycled.

9. Should the county take a more aggressive role in providing services for the needy?

Majeed: The priority of the board was to decrease dependency and uplift people for total community growth. We need bootstrap-type programs because you can't pull yourself up by the bootstraps---- somebody else has to help you.

Walton: I have always been an advocate of the less fortunate. I'm for providing day care for working mothers. I'm for additional day care slots. I'm also an advocate for programs for the elderly, like the hot meals program. I've been in the forefront of getting money for youth programs like Teens N Touch.

Q. Is economic development going to be an important area for the county commission?

Majeed: More money is being set aside for economic development. It's something we can put together with some balance for economic development

Walton: The county should be as aggressive as it can be. But that isn't the county's role. State law says city council is responsible (for economic development.)

9. Can the commission do more for Mecklenburg education with more money going to the schools?

Majeed: I advocated cross-cultural perspective in the schools. We've lost our sense of excellence as opposed to years ago. I think we should increase teacher salaries

Walton: Teachers should be paid more. They ought to be paid a sal-ary commensurate with their training and education. I voted for larger allocations than what the county manager recommended. But this year, I'm proud to say the county manager has recommended full funding.

9. Should city and county governments be consolidated?

Majeed: I favor consolidation. I think we can operate a little more efficiently

Walton: In order for us to get our fair share, from the federal government, we have to have one governing body. I think we'll have better planning and with better planning we'll have better use of our tax dollars.

9. With the commission almost certain to be 6-1 in favor of white Republicans, how can you get some things for a district the majority doesn't have to really worry about? Majeed: It's not about Democrats and Republicans. It's not about

color. It's about who has strong ideas. If you have strong ideas and you can influence people, that's what we're doing.

Walton: We're at a crucial point. I'm able to do things in county government. They (commissioners) respect me for the knowledge I've gained over the years.

cial

Look Inside City Politics

"Inside Charlotte/ Mecklenburg Politics Today," is the subject of the Wednesday, June 1, meeting sponsored by the Charlotte Women's Political Caucus, to be held 7:30 PM at St. Mark's Lutheran Church, 1001 Queens Road.

Featured speakers will be Jer-ry Ingalls, UNCC professor of Geography and Ted Arrington, Chair of the Political Science

Department, also of UNCC. Ingalls and Arrington, along with Mecklenburg County Elections Supervisor, Bill Culp, authored the recent book, "Elections, Par-ties and Politics in Mecklenburg County.

Local facts and trends will be discussed. There will be a question and answer period. The program is free and open

to the public.





Top Seniors Correction

In The Charlotte Post's Top Seniors edition, published May 19, James Cuthbertson, the Post writer who met with school couselors, compiled the seniors list, and wrote all copy for the edition was not listed in the spe-

The new McDonald's Best Western Inn.

McDonald's Inn Records First Sellout

Charlotte - The new Best Western-McDonald's Inn recorded its first sell-out on the weekend of May 20-22, 1988, after being open for one month. The 105-room hotel first opened in mid-April with only its first two floors ready for occupancy. The remaining three floors opened two weeks ago. The ho-tel's GRAND OPENING is set for 11 o'clock Thursday morning, June 2, 1988, with a festive ribbon-cutting ceremony and luncheon feast to follow immediately

"We are very pleased with the

progress of our hotel staff in this

relatively short period," says Re-

nee` Carter, general manager. 'We were booked solid for the first time thanks to the big race at the Charlotte Motor Speedway and its fans, some of the news media covering the race stayed here with us, and there was tremendous support from parents of Johnson C. Smith University's graduates who stayed with us for the weekend," says Jackie Wallace, the sales and marketing director. "The momentum is building. And even though we are a new and rela though we are a new and relatively small hotel, our affiliation with the Best Western association will help us move quickly to more sell-out nights and weekends," adds Wallace.

Best Western-McDonald's Inn is located on Beatties Ford Road on I-85 and less than a quarter mile from the major intersection of I-85 and I-77.

The hotel will hold a grand opening Thursday, June 2, at 11 a.m.

The Charlotte Post

Newspaper, Inc

Bill Will Help Solve Racial Crimes

Continued from page 1A.

vide a deterrent to increasing youth gang violence and mur-ders related to racial and ethnic rivalries in various parts of the nation, said Cedric Hendricks, administrative aide to Congressman Conyers.

There are at present no comprehensive, accurate, and up-todate statisties kept on the national incidence of hate crimes. Such statistics can provide the basis for more ellective law enforcement efforts in this area since communities presently seeking to combat hate crimes must speculate about their fre-

quency, location, and patterns, Convers said.

"By devoting Federal resources to the collection of data about hate crimes, the Congress will be taking a major step toward their eradication," said the veteran representatives from Detroit

He was the guest of honor last week at a \$300-\$500 a plate, campaign fund raising celebration sponsored by Reps. Jim Wright(Texas), Jack Brooks (Texas), Peter W. Rodino, Jr. (N.J.) and John J. LaFalce (New York), all Democratic leaders in the 100th Congress.

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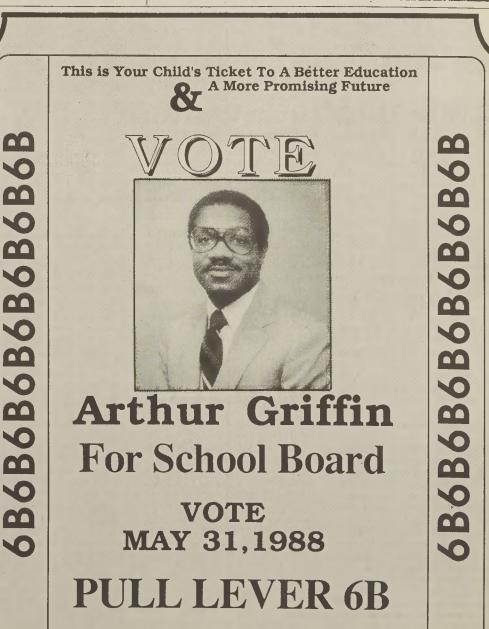
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Our apologies to Cuthbertson for not including his byline.





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