

Judicial Candidate Feels Democrats' Woes Won't Hurt

By HERB WHITE
Post Staff Writer

The Republican Party's predicted dominance of the high-profile races in North Carolina this year doesn't mean a sweep on election day, Democratic Superior Court judge candidate Cy Grant believes.

"My success is linked more to the bottom of the state Democratic ticket than the top," he said. "Even when the top of the Democratic ticket lost, the bottom has won campaigns across the state."

Grant is running against Republican James Riddick to become a resident judge in District 6-B, which includes Bertie, Hertford and Northampton counties. Grant won the Democratic nomination in May by a 2-to-1 margin while Riddick was unopposed.

The winner will hear cases on a rotating basis in 33 eastern counties that comprise about 30 percent of the black population and appoints magistrates and clerks of court.

Last year the General Assembly responded to lawsuits brought by the NAACP by establishing nine new judicial districts to increase the opportunities for minorities to win. After local district nominations, judges are elected statewide.

Terry Sherrill is the only black serving as a Superior Court judge in the state, but with the



Grant

new districts, there could be as many as 10 after election day.

Grant, 32, said increasing minority participation in the judicial process is a step in the right direction.

"Any position of authority, especially the Superior Court judge, has an effect on more people than any other office," he said. "I think it is only fair. About four percent of the attorneys are black, and less than 1 percent of the judges are black. It's just crucial that we have more representation on the bench."

Grant, a practicing attorney in

Ahoskie, credits his grandmother, Helen Cooper, with exposing him to politics. Cooper was the first black elected to office in Bertie County, winning a seat on the school board in 1967. Only 11 at the time, Grant was a volunteer with the campaign, handing out fliers and doing errands. His grandmother is still looked upon as a leader and Grant wants to continue in her steps.

"That's why I'm running—the public service," he said. "It's an opportunity to serve the public."

With that early experience behind him, Grant, a graduate of N.C. Central Law School, is seeking office. Campaigning across the state has been a challenge, but Grant said politics is a grass-roots effort.

"It wasn't that big a jump from local politics to state. The biggest jump was in traveling across the state campaigning," he said.

"Basically, politics is local, but it takes on a different aspect in a state election."

Grant touts his experience as a plus. He was a Judicial Law Clerk for Judge Richard C. Ervin, an assistant district attorney for the 6th Judicial District and handles civil and criminal cases through his own firm.

"Even though I'm young, I've had vast experience on the judicial side," he said. "I'm getting a scope from all three sides."

NAACP May Challenge N.C. Stations

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es, stations are required by the federal government to report annually on their efforts to recruit and promote women and minorities. FCC staff look not only at the percentage of women and minorities working at a station as it compares to the percentages in the population of that station's community, but at a station's hiring efforts. The NAACP based its selection of the stations on those standards.

Honig said the 29 stations are those whose employment figures indicate possible failure to comply with the law. The NAACP will determine which renewals to challenge after consulting with local NAACP branch presidents.

Stations are flagged if the percentage of women and minorities is less than 50 percent of the percentage in the population in a station's community. The NAACP did not release information it gathered on specific employee numbers at the stations.

"Sometimes you can look at an application (for renewal) and say, 'Well, this is garbage,'" Honig said, referring to the station's compliance with federal guidelines for hiring and recruitment. "But the local president might be able to explain some

extenuating circumstances."

Renewal challenge petitions must be filed with the FCC by Nov. 1. All North Carolina radio station licenses expire Dec. 1, but those stations being challenged will continue broadcasting under a special temporary permit while the challenges are being resolved.

Punitive action might include renewal of a station's license for less than the normal seven years, and it might mean the station must report more frequently than once a year on its

recruitment efforts and progress.

Either the FCC or the public may challenge a renewal, although the number of FCC-initiated challenges has fallen from about 150 per year during the Carter administration to fewer than 10 a year during the Reagan administration. By law, the FCC must investigate any challenge.

"Ninety-eight percent of challenges today are mounted by the NAACP," Honig said. "More than half of them are being upheld."

Jackson: Blacks Must Stop 'Race Conscious' Bush

BY ALAN COOPERMAN
Associated Press Writer

BOSTON (AP)—The Rev. Jesse Jackson says black leaders across the country have motivation to increase their efforts on behalf of Gov. Michael Dukakis because of what he called a sinister campaign being run by Vice President George Bush.

"There have been a number of rather blatantly race-conscious signals that have had the impact of instilling ungrounded fear in whites and alienation from blacks," Jackson said at a news conference Sunday after meeting with Dukakis, the Democratic presidential candidate.

Dukakis met privately for breakfast with Jackson and eight other black political leaders from around the country.

Among the racially divisive tactics in the Bush presidential campaign, Jackson said, have been repeated condemnations of the American Civil Liberties Union and a focus on Willie Horton. The black murder convict raped a Maryland woman after escaping from a Massachusetts prison furlough program.

Jackson's comments echoed those of Donna Brazile, who resigned as one of Dukakis' top black advisers after she told reporters that Bush should admit or deny rumors he had an extramarital affair.

Just before her resignation, Brazile accused Bush of running a racist campaign built on the Horton incident and on code words like crime, liberalism, civil liberties and gun control.

"Here you are, using the oldest racist symbol imaginable — a black man raping a white woman while her husband watches," Brazile said.

"They've used every little code word and symbol to package their little racist campaign. ... They polarized this election, this electorate, along racial lines," she said.

Asked at the news conference whether he agreed with Brazile's characterization of the Bush campaign as "racist," Jackson skirted the question, avoiding the word "racist" while restating the accusation.

"The use of the Willie Horton example is designed to create the most horrible psycho-sexual fears."

"The furlough ad with black and brown faces rotating in and out of jail; the use of the Jackson-Dukakis ticket symbolism, which is distortion; referring to me as a Chicago hustler; George Bush himself buying property, while a sitting vice president, with a restrictive covenant for Caucasians only, denying



Jackson

blacks and Jews the right to buy that property — there have been a number of rather ugly race-conscious signals sent from that campaign."

Although Dukakis has met individually with Jackson and other black leaders, Sunday's 90-minute breakfast session was the first time they have huddled in a group since the Democratic convention in Atlanta, according to Dukakis press secretary Mark Gearan.

Gearan said the Democratic candidate plans similar meetings with other groups, including a session with Hispanic leaders tentatively scheduled for Wednesday.

Dukakis gave only a short statement, saying it had been "a good, constructive meeting," and he was pleased by the black leaders' commitment to his campaign.

Bruce Bolling, a black Boston city councillor, said the meeting was devoted to planning strategy and allocating resources for the remaining two weeks of the campaign.

Besides Jackson and Bolling, the black leaders at the meeting were Roland Burris, vice chairman of the Democratic National Committee; David Dinkins, Manhattan Borough president; Philadelphia Mayor Wilson Goode; U.S. Rep. Mervyn Dymally, D-Calif., chairman of the Black Congressional Caucus; U.S. Rep. Charles Rangel, D-N.Y.; U.S. Rep. Gus Savage, D-Ill.; and Joe Reed, president of the Alabama Democratic Conference.

Fete Changed

The Charlotte Business League's 11th annual awards banquet and concert, originally scheduled for November 1988, has been rescheduled to be held March 1989.

The celebration will be held in conjunction with the Black Expo to be held March 31-April 1, 1989.

Sprucing Up For Homecoming



Photo/CALVIN FERGUSON

Alpha Kappa Alpha sorors Felice Hightower, Belinda Williams, Sonya Crump, Wanda Holloway, Iris Gaylord and Mia Frieson (left to right)

paint the sorority plot before Johnson C. Smith University's homecoming.

Incubator Funds

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\$100,000 from local businesses and organizations.

The project, which will provide westside businesses with assistance and consultation, will be located at Johnson C. Smith University.

The county money, because of state statutes, is earmarked to pay the salary of the incubator's executive director, Walton said.

The commissioners' vote signals the county's commitment to helping the westside become a viable attraction for small business.

"We feel the incubator project can trigger growth for westside business," Walton said. "It's an excellent idea and we think it deserves a chance to succeed."

—Herb White

GAO Charges

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tigative work of state agencies and establish an independent group to periodically conduct investigations of a sample of charges filed. These would be "compared to administrative closure, settlements, cause and no-cause rates on charges with those of EEOC district offices and state and local agencies."

In April, 1987 Cong. Hawkins, as chair of the powerful House Education and Labor Committee was said to be alarmed at the Reagan administration's openly hostile attitude toward affirmative action and laws designed to bring a semblance of equality to the nation's work place, and so was moved to request GAO "to assess whether EEOC and the state agencies were fulfilling their commitment to fully investigate charges" GAO was also asked to review whether EEOC adequately monitored the State agencies' investigative work. GAO said more than 100,000 discriminatory complaints are filed annually with EEOC.

Evans Fete

A fundraiser for Yvonne Mims Evans, a candidate for district court judge, will be held at 7 p.m. Sunday at McDonald's Cafeteria on Beatties Ford Road.

Former Charlotte Mayor Harvey Gantt and D.C. Martin will be masters of ceremony and U.S. Sen. Terry Sanford (D-N.C.) is scheduled to attend.

Donations of \$10 are requested and the public is invited.

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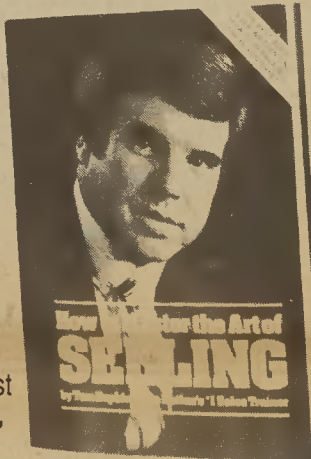
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