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THE AWARD-WINNING "VOICE OF THE BLACK COMMUNITY"

50 Cents

Broome: Blacks Cost Me Victory

First Black GOP Candidate Feels Lack Of Support Among African-Americans Was A Factor In Race

By WINFRED B. CROSS
Post Staff Writer

Republican Darryl Broome said Wednesday that a lack of support from the African-American community cost him a seat on the city council.

"It's obvious they voted a straight ticket and those who didn't vote a straight ticket didn't vote for me," Broome said in a telephone interview. "There were a lot of blacks in the establishment who were pushing the white Democrats. Voters voted for who they were told to vote for."

Bill Culp, election board supervisor for Charlotte-Mecklenburg, said Broome got less support in black precincts than white.

"He received only a little more black support than fellow Republican Richard Vinroot and neither, of course, received any-

thing close to what the lowest white Democrat received," he said. "It was clearly understood there has not been any success on the part of black Republicans in getting black support in Charlotte Mecklenburg."

In most of the predominately black districts, Broome was outpolled by Democrats Ann Hammond and Cyndee Patterson by a significant margin. Those districts are heavily Democratic but Broome said he still should have done better.

"If we continue not to elect black leaders where do we go?" Broome asked. "Of the things that affect the black community -- drugs and crime -- who addressed any of those issues of who they elected?"

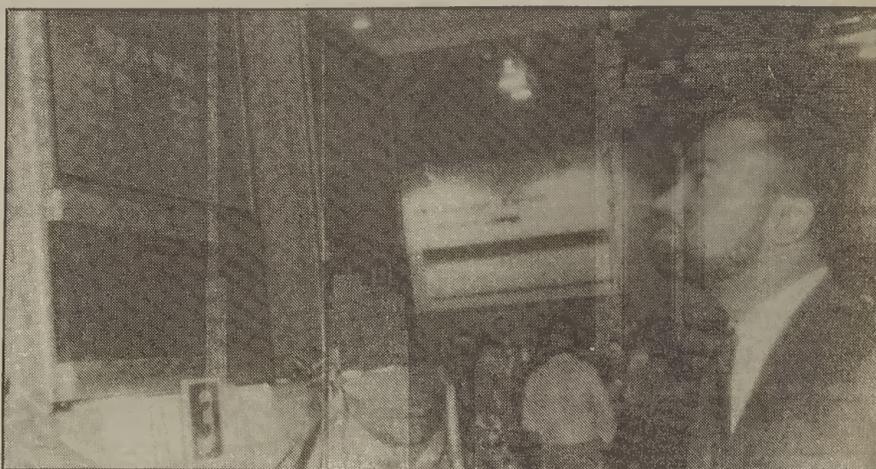
Broome was the first African-American to be nominated by the Republican party in Charlotte. His nomination came

largely by default. There were four nominations open with seven candidates running, four of which were black. A black candidate had to win.

Still, Broome, the youngest of the group and the one with the least name recognition, got the nomination. His steering committee read like a who's who in Charlotte's ultra-conservative circles. It included the Rev. Joe Chambers, Sharon Bynum and Pastor Robin Gool from Victory Christian Center. And he was seen with Mayor Sue Myrick in her television commercials and just about whenever she was on camera. Broome said his conservative ties didn't have anything to do with his loss.

"I guess it could have, but I don't know that. I'm not a political analyst," Broome said. "I don't think conservative means

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Darryl Broome watches city council election returns Tuesday at the Charlotte Convention Center. He finished seventh in a field of eight.

Get Parents In Education Mood

Schools Need Input

By MILLICENT LINK
Post Staff Writer

Black Charlotte-Mecklenburg school principals believe they know how to improve the education of students: get parents involved and keep them involved.

The 74,000-student district, the largest in the Carolinas, has come under intense scrutiny in the way it prepares students academically. As the system grows, so have concerns about how it operates.

Spaugh Middle School principal Bob Davis says parents--in addition to students and educators--can improve students' academic performance. It would also create an atmosphere of cooperation in improving discipline, a growing concern.

"Our school system is doing a decent job of teaching youngsters and our curriculum seems to be up to par," he said. "However, there still seems to be a problem with drugs, guns, and a disrespect for authority. These things stem from a lack of good home training."

Davis says disruptive students often create a negative learning environment, making it difficult for teachers to control classes.

"Those that want to learn are sometimes shortchanged," said Davis.

Charlie Dannelly, principal of Starmount Elementary, says more parental involvement and classroom time can improve the school system.

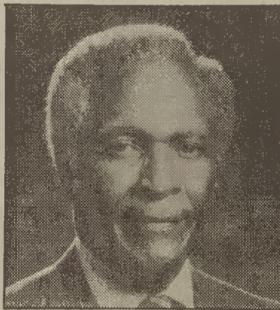
"The schools can't do it all," said Dannelly. "Parental involvement gives children motivation when they know that their parents are involved."

Dannelly believes that a rich cultural environmental experience is essential to the learning process of all students. He says that students may benefit from visits to the Afro-American Cultural Center, Spirit Square, and Discovery Place can help students learn more about their world while improving their grades.

But to make sure that's happening, Dannelly says it is up to parents to find out how their



Davis



Dannelly

youngsters are progressing in school.

"We as parents need to talk to our children and ask questions," said Dannelly.

Mike Turner, principal of North Mecklenburg High School, says, "We have to find a better way of reaching our kids academically."

Turner suggests that some schools may need to act independently and flexibly toward the educational environment. Because students differ, curriculum should be tailored to fit those needs.

"We need to become less uniform and more individualized," he said.

The difference between education in the U.S. and foreign countries is the amount of time foreign countries spend in the classroom, Dannelly said. American students spend too little time in class, while other nations have stricter standards on instruction time.

"There is just too much time allotted from teacher instruction in the American school system," said Dannelly. Recognizing problems can help

only when others are made aware, Dannelly said. He encourages parents to call teachers or administrators when they run into a problem. "Parents should also urge their children to ask for help," he added.

Treatment For Sickle Cell Disease

By CHARLES BLACKBURN
Special To The Post

DURHAM, NC -- Doctors at Duke University Medical Center are optimistic that hydroxyurea, a drug useful in the treatment of some cancers, also may prevent episodes of severe, disabling pain associated with sickle cell anemia.

Following lengthy preliminary tests involving 25 patients at Duke, the University of North Carolina and elsewhere, hydroxyurea appears to be the first drug that, when properly prescribed has potential to prevent painful sickle cell crises without causing unacceptable side effects, according to Duke hematologist George Phillips Jr., M.D.

"The results have been very encouraging in a small group of patients," Phillips said, noting that the drug needs further study before definite conclusions can be drawn.

But he added, "One sickle cell patient in the study used to spend three weeks a month in the hospital and doesn't need to be hospitalized at all a year and a half into treatment. It makes me think we could be on to something."

He said the results of the study will be presented in Atlanta in December at the annual meeting of the American Society of Hematology.

Phillips is assistant professor of medicine and director of the adult clinic at the Duke University Comprehensive Sickle Cell Center, one of 10 federally-supported centers of its kind in the country.

A genetic disorder of the red blood cells, sickle cell disease is carried by about one of every 10 blacks in the U.S., and one of every 500 black Americans has the disease. The gene responsible is thought to have originated in Africa thousands of years ago as a defense against malaria, Phillips said.



Kater Cornwell, a disabled Vietnam veteran, looks forward to Saturday's dedication of the Vietnam memorial in Charlotte.

City's Vietnam Memorial Stirring Deep Emotions

By M.L.LaNeY II
Post Correspondent

For many the Vietnamese War is a far-removed journalistic tale of horror that happened a long time ago.

For the veterans of that ill-remembered war, like Kater Cornwell of Charlotte, the recollections are as vivid as yesterday. Saturday Charlotte and Mecklenburg will make this Veterans Day an occasion to recall the sacrifices of native sons.

The names of 105 fallen soldiers will be listed on the war memorial's wall. But for thousands of others, wounded and otherwise afflicted, this is also a tribute to their ongoing pain. Cornwell is an example.

Presently he serves as a director of the Georgia-Carolina Paralyzed Veterans Association, Inc. This after a military career with the marines that spanned seven years, two while stationed in Vietnam. Cornwell was severely wounded when a mortar round nearly tore his right arm off.

He survived and recovered the full use of his arm only to be exposed to Agent Orange some time later. Subsequently he developed a neurological problem that has resulted in his becoming a paraplegic.

To Cornwell, the memorial is a fitting and proper farewell to his comrades-in-arms.

"The people who gave their lives in Vietnam will be proud of what we are doing to honor and recognize them in what they did

while serving their country. It's also to honor us as well. In this world of give and take there aren't enough people willing to give what it takes.

"But these 105 soldiers whose names are engraved on the wall gave their all and all... their lives. So that young girls and boys and men and women could be free from communism," said Cornwell as he choked the urge to sob.

There are no exact figures on the number of disabled veterans in the Charlotte-Mecklenburg area. But estimates go into the thousands, according to Henry Jennings, director of the Mecklenburg County Veterans Service Office.

His assessment of the memorial reflects his own experiences in both the Korean and Vietnam Wars.

"It's a beautiful monument which all veterans, especially the Viet vets, will be extremely proud of," Metrolina Vet Center adminis-

trative assistant Sue Armstrong has been intimately involved in the planning of the memorial for more than two years. She says that she is very pleased because there were so many fine supporters.

"I'm very pleased with the way the community has supported this project."

Originally priced at \$350,000, Armstrong says no one was sure where the money was going to come from.

"I was on the county's committee and countless other committees to get this off the ground. After the dedication at 3 p.m., there will be a candlelight service of remembrance for P.O.W.s and M.I.A.s. at the memorial site at 6:30 p.m. according to Armstrong.

The memorial is intended to be a historical asset that educates as well as heals. It is a gauge that points to the answers that were "blowing in the wind" (a protest song by Bob Dylan that was popularized by Stevie Wonder and Peter, Paul and Mary).

Group Urges Action For The Elderly

WASHINGTON -- The National Caucus and Center of Black Aged, Inc. (NCBA) is urging House and Senate Omnibus Reconciliation Act (OBRA) conferees to approve the House-

passed Supplemental Security Income (SSI) package which includes a modest increase in benefits. A joint congressional

committee of members of the House of Representatives and the Senate is considering the legislation.

The OBRA as passed by the House, would boost Supplemental Security Income benefits by \$2 a month above the regular cost-of-living adjustment (COLA) for qualifying individuals

and \$3 a month above the COLA for eligible couples, effective January 1990. SSI builds a federal floor under the incomes of aged, blind or disabled persons--currently \$368 a month for qualifying single persons and \$553 a month for eligible couples.

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