FROM PAGE 3

PETTY

MARSHALL FROM PAGE 3

She started out her day with an 8:30 a.m. interview with a local television station. At 9 a.m. she delivered a speech to the N.C. Federation of Professional

Business Women to a cheering crowd. Marshall began by alluding to the im-portance the organization had in her life. She said women had made their mark in this campaign. "1996 is the year of the woman. I'm seeing women more ener-gized than ever before." She continued by stressing the battle

women had fought for the right to vote and said they currently faced the battle of getting women into office. If elected, she would be the first female Council of State member elected in North Carolina.

Dilbert

"It is high time — it is past time — that we have a female voice (in the Council of State)," she said. "We need to break that glass ceiling.'

Questions from the audience centered around the office of Secretary of State and Marshall's experiences on the cam-paign trail. Marshall took the opportuto talk about her goals for the office

and her experience campaigning. "I want to bring the secretary of state's office into technology," she said. "I want government to be available 24 hours a day, 365 days a year." Marshall said Council of State elec-

tions usually did not grab voters' atten-tion like bigger races but that the notoriety of her opponent, NASCAR legend Richard Petty, had brought this election to the forefront. "This has been one of the most fun elections in the country," she said. "I have been on the Today Show, and I have even been interviewed by the

Finnish press." She said she didn't think people had expected her to do well. "When I first started this, people came up to me, patted me on the back and said 'Thanks for doing this' in that sacrificial-lamb tone of voice. Today I can look at them and say,

"Do I look like lamb chops to you?"" After she completed her speech and checked out of the hotel, she boarded her Chevrolet conversion van and with her driver, Arch Laney, headed in the direc-tion of the next stop: Randolph County. Looking around the floor of the van,

everything seemed cluttered, but Marshall was able to locate everything. She reached for a bag of grapes and said, "This cam-

paign runs on grapes and Chex Mix, and we're almost out of Chex Mix." On the way to Asheboro, Laney took a wrong turn and Marshall picked up a map. "We've worn out three maps dur-ing this campaign," she said. Laney come results this hearing the

Laney soon regained his bearings, and Marshall began to talk about her campaign. "All of my waking hours are spent on this campaign," she said. "We've re-ally tried to come up with some creative campaign strategies to get my name out there and to get some name association." Though Marshall is ahead in almost

every poll, she faces someone with great name recognition. She said if she lost this election it would not have been in vain. "I've made so many friends and got-

ten so many new ideas from this campaign. I need challenges periodically." The van finally reached its destination, where an audience of Democratic women patiently awaited their guest speaker. Here, Marshall intertwined serious aspects of the office with moments of comic relief. "For the past 15 years I've been doing exactly what the secretary of state's office does," she said. "You can help me most when you understand the secretary of state's office.

"I need to get about 10,000 (bumper stickers) out in Randolph County Whether its going to cause you to get bumped, I don't know," she said refer-ring to Petty's recent high-speed, hit-and-run fender bender on Interstate 85.

After a short meal and another television interview, Marshall was ready to get back on the road. She and Laney again entered the van and started in the direction of the next stop, one of many on the road to the Nov. 5 election

campaign trail through 76 counties in our state to bring out the vote," he said. Although they still support him, Petty said his family was not as involved in his election as before due to the hectic nature

of the campaign trail near the end. "My wife came with me campaigning in the beginning, but she got tired of it, even though she still stands by me."

Petty said that he did not want voters to vote for him solely on the value of his name, but on the purpose in his actions

"I think people will stop and look closer at me and at what I want to do once they see my name rather than at my racing record," Petty said. "Racing will always be a part of me,

but now my politics come first.'

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