On Non-Whistlestop Tour

"This is anything but a whistlestop tour," declared U. S. Senate hopeful Dave McKnight soon after he arrived in Warren County for a "get-acquanted day" last week.

McKnight, better known as Walkin' Dave McKnight, was in the county during much of last Monday in an attempt to spread his shoeleather senator campaign to all of North Carolina's 100

Since April, he has walked 1,600 miles through 60 counties in a zig-zag route that took him from Murphy to Manteo. Now, going back to more traditional means of travel, he is touring by automobile the 40 counties which he did not get to visit on his first cross-state adventure.

Expecting to finish the first series of county visits by next month, McKnight said he plans to visit each of the 100 counties a second time before the Democratic primary in May.

Barry L. Gardner of

Rocky Mount, a member of

the state Republican Party

Executive Committee and

secretary of the Nash

County Republican Party

has announced his candi-

dacy for the 2nd congres-

sional district seat held by

Congressman L. H. Foun-

Gardner 31, a native of

Wilson County, cited a need

for more outspoken leader-

ship in Washington, and a

congressman from this

district who will take a more

Gardner Announces Candidacy

district."

McKnight thinks his walking, personal tour has been effective, particularly in the small areas which he is trying most to win.

"I found early in the game that the people in the small areas are the ones who are going to give me a chance," said McKnight, 30-years-old next month, who, if elected, would be the youngest senator to ever serve North

Carolina. 'One of the other candidates today is flying all around the state, hitting the big towns. Here I am walking around Warrenton. I think the people I meet today will remember me this winter.'

McKnight says he has received good receptions in most places as a number of people have heard about his walking campaign and are interested in his efforts.

More difficult to gauge is the public reaction to the senatorial race for the seat in Washington now held by Republican Jesse Helms, McKnight says.

active role in making our

government more respon-

sive to the people of this

Gardner is married to the

former Shirley Batts of Elm

City and they have three

children, Lisa 11, Scott 7,

The Gardners reside in

Nash County on Rt. 1, Rocky

Mount in the Coopers area.

cama High School in Wilson

County in 1964 and the

Carolina Bible Institute of

Pine Level in 1976. He has

been active in fund raising

events for Mount Olive

College over the past

several years and served as

chairman for Nash County

fund raising dinner for 1977.

Gardner is a member of

Floods Chapel Free Will

Baptist Church and an

ordained minister of the

Free Will Baptist Church.

He graduated from Lu-

and Ashley 5 months.

So far, four Democratic candidates have entered the field leading up to the primary. Several others are also expected to enter.

"It's an open field for us for a change," McKnight said of the race. "There has been no early favored contestant who has run

means better."

federal tax laws.

This questioning has led

McKnight to put down two

very definite planks in his

senatorial campaign plat-

First, a need to overhaul

"It seems to me that so

the welfare system; and

second, a need to simplify

better," McKnight said.

"You've got such a compli-

Acknowledging that his competitors might pose a formidable challenge, Mc-Knight nonetheless thinks his grassroots campaign will win him votes in the hearts of the people.

"I think we need a snoeleather senator, one who knows a little bit more about how the people across the state live and work," McKnight said.

get tangled up in them." Of particular concern in With regard to welfare, this category are the small McKnight said the system businessman and small as a whole "does not work

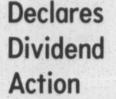
"The small businessman fairly or efficiently. We need and farmer are under a lot a simplified program of of pressure because of an direct assistance, based on need linked with jobs and economic and tax policy with work incentives." that favors bigness. I question whether bigness

Another concern expressed by the youthful candidate was the apparent "lack of discipline" in Congress to move in more effective directions.

In concluding his objectives McKnight said he believed delegates from the state should do a better job of representing their people as individuals, not as part of a powerful lobbying group."

many of the pressures in McKnight carried this Washington are to make message and others to things big to make them whomever he met throughout the county during his visit here. His tour took him cated system of laws up to Norlina, Macon, Wise and there that you can't help but Liberia, in addition to Warrenton.

> Later that week, he visited Franklin, Vance and Granville counties.



The Board of Directors of Branch Corporation, parent holding company for Branch Banking and Trust Company, met in Wilson on Nov. 15 and took the following dividend action.

year-end A special dividend of 23-cents per share was declared and the regular quarterly dividend was increased to 20-cents per share, making the total payment for the year 88-cents, an increase of 6 per cent over 1976.

The dividends are payable Dec. 15 to shareholders of record Dec. 1, 1977.

The board also announced a revision in its dividend policy to provide for the distribution on a quarterly basis throughout the year of a greater percentage of total annual dividends, instead of paying substantial year-end special dividends as has been the policy in the past.

The declaration of regular as well as special dividends under this new policy will continue to be considered by the board based on the current year's perform-

continues

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OF FALL BY THE SOUNTER CLOTHES IN INTERCLOTED INTERCLOTED IN INTERCLOTED INTERCLOTED INTERCLOTED INTERCLOTED IN INTERCLOTED IN INTERCLOTED INTERCLOTED INTERCLOTED INTERCLOTED INTERCLOTED INTERCLOTED IN

Open Friday,

Nov. 25

Till 9 P.M.

with other drop outs? How can literature be taught without a knowledge and application of basic grammar? How can advanced work be assigned when prerequisites are not understood? Is this not the basis of any curriculumfrom the simple to the complex?

How is a teacher to assess or know a student's ability if classroom attendance and performance is below that of other peers? How can a parent justify negative statements and behavior to a daughter who does seem to have enough intelligence too, and surely must know

the real situation. No system is without its imperfections and Hawkins is surely no exception, but meaningful changes must be based on meaningful and valid reasons. No class can effectively challenge or hold the interest of every student or please every parent, but why is it that the parents and students who confer with teachers the least can, and usually do, voice the loudest complaints or paints

the bleakest pictures? How have other students managed to go through the same curriculum and be exposed to the same methods and yet excel at John Graham, at other high schools, and go on to institutions of higher learning and excel?

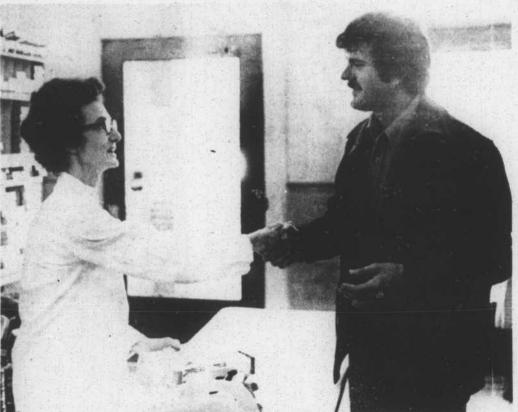
These are only a few of the questions that I, as one of the teachers of Mrs. Shearin's daughter would like to have answered before I can conclude that her evaluation of the curriculum and methods at Hawkins is valid.



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Attend Church On Sunday





Mildred Shearin is one of many Warren County residents greeted by Dave McKnight, Democratic hopeful for the U. S. Senate, during a tour here Monday. McKnight is running a low-key, "shoe-leather" campaign for the office.

Letters To The Editor

Gardner is currently employed with Carolina (Continued from page 2) Telephone in Rocky Mount and pastor of Floods Chapel was due to the fact that the first nine weeks of school are used generally as refresher courses. Literature was on the agenda for the second quarter.

> The math classes are very well taught, in our opinion. If one feels that the course is too simple or too complicated, the person can always move up or down, respectively. Also, in the ninth grade, we have three algebra teachers and two general math teachers. If a student feels ill at ease with that teacher, they have

other to choose from. As far as skipping school

one feels that school is a feel, are quite sufficiently bore, he or she should not be taught. The diagramming there in the first place. If a student is going to skip school, as many people who have cut school say, it is not because school is a bore, but because they are trying to escape the challenge.

We admit that our school is not perfect, but neither is any other school in the county or the state. In our minds our school is one of the best junior high schools around and our faculty is well suited.

Hopefully, the expressions of our views to this matter will deter the changing of the educational process in Warren County.

A GROUP OF INTERESTED STUDENTS

Reflections Of A Teacher To The Editor:

How appropriate for parents, or should I say a parent, to show enough concern for her daughter's education to attend a county school board meeting at the beginning of American Education Week. The inappropriateness of the situation is that this particular visiting parent has no valid evidence on which to base her conclusions or evaluations, either 'pro or con,' of the curriculum or methods at the Hawkins School.

It seems that this parent is attempting to evaluate the school's program on the basis of her children's outcomes. To use this method 'per se' is not necessarily a poor decision. particularly if the children have done their part while at school. In this parent's case it seems obvious to wonder if this method is the most desirable - if her children have done their part in their own educational process or if the system must bear the entire blame for failure.

How can one evaluate a school's program or methods on the basis of a student who after enrolling had attended school only a few days at the time of the initial complaint. How can an evaluation be based on a student whose attendance was less than half of a 45 day grading period? How can a student exhibit good performance if attendance is poor?

How can one say a student is not being challenged without first questioning the "why" of below grade level work? Why hasn't the parent visited the teachers or a class? How is a teacher to know if a challenge is not being offered unless questions are asked and or answered in classroom discussions, after class or in special conference periods? Is not "good" work carried over - from class to class to the home - to the community? Where is interest fostered-during ten days of school, twenty days of school, on the streets, or

Free Will Baptist Church near Spring Hope. GARDNER **Local News From Wise** Mr. and Mrs. Willie King and Mack attended the

and Mrs. Joe Riggan spent several days last week with their mother, Mrs. Betty Adams, who has returned from the hospital.

Mrs. Ida Bolton and Miss Dorothy Bolton attended the First Baptist Church in Stovall last Sunday with Mr. and Mrs. Frank Bolton and Mr. and Mrs. Franklin Bolton.

Mr. and Mrs. Jimmy Sammons, Dean, Charles Head over the weekend.

Mrs. Donna Smith of

at Nags Head.

Hospital in Durham.

Altamonte Springs, Fla., is spending this week with her son, the Rev. Jim Hebel, and

Mr. and Mrs. Harvey

family. Paynter attended the Shrine ceremonial for several days

been transferred to Duke

Mrs. Hazel Perkinson has

is concerned, we feel that the school is not at fault. If

Dates: Dec. 1-2-3

Thurs. and Sat. 10 a.m. -5 p.m.



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