8 / The Tar Heel / Thursday, July 27, 1978 'Beat Jesse Party' Ingram rally stresses unity, finances

By JOHN HOKE Managing Editor

A "Beat Jesse Party" was held Sunday at the Mad Hatter restaurant to unite Democrats behind N.C. Insurance Commissioner John Ingram's campaign for the U.S. Senate seat now held by Jesse Helms. The rally was sponsored by the Young Democrats of Orange County and featured Ingram, other prominent state and local Democrats and entertainment by local performers.

'It's very important that the funds in this campaign, we think, come from the grassroots in North Carolina," Ingram said to the crowd in addressing the major issue of campaign financing. Ingram's campaign seems to be dominated by the same populist themes used successfully in the Democratic primary battle last spring against much-favored Luther Hodges. We've tried to see that our campaign was a grassroots-type campaign, the same that we ran in the primary," he said.

This is a people's campaign because I think America can curb inflation and I believe in an America that believes it can reduce unemployment, that is strong at home yet is willing to share with the world our quest for peace based on human dignity," Ingram said.

State Rep. Charlie Webb of Greensboro confirmed that campaign financing will dominate this Senate race. Webb is Ingram's campaign manager and also directs the Democratic party effort for

candidates throughout the state. In an interview, Webb said, "The number one issue is that they (Helms' campaign) have gone out and raised \$4.5 million mostly from out of state. That is simply buying a campaign.

We'll carry these themes throughout the campaign. That will set the tone," Webb said.

State Sen. Lawrence Davis of Forsyth Co., one of the unsuccessful contenders for the Democratic nomination, attended the rally for its party unity theme. "I'm supporting Ingram as a good Democrat," he said. Davis said he plans to do as much campaigning as possible for Ingram and other Democratic candidates.

He is clearly concerned with party cohesion in the Senate race. "If we can

To be a resident, a person must plan to

stay in Orange County for an indefinite

period of time and plan to make it his or

her home.

hold the party together, then we can make it," Davis said.

After some internal party maneuvering with N.C. Democratic Betty McCain, Webb is now in a position to work on the problem of party cohesion. He said, "A large voter turnout should favor Ingram. That's why we're going to concentrate on voter registration and getting the vote out - that's where the Democratic party can help us. They have the machinery to do that. It's going to be a unity campaign.

Webb is now calling in pledges of support. "They (the other primary contenders) have all promised to help us. We've been thinking of ways to use them,"he said. McNeill Smith and his staff went over to Ingram after the first primary to help in the run-off fight against Hodges and Davis is helping with personal appearances. Webb said, "We're now bringing in a lot of Hodges' people. It is working out real well."

The party started at 3 p.m. with discjockey Pat Patterson as master of ceremonies. N.C. Attorney General Rufus Edmisten entertained the crowd with his singing later in the evening. Other party notables attending included Robert Joyce, chairperson of the 5th congressional district Democratic party. state Sen. Russell Walker, Chapel Hill Alderpersons Gerry Cohen and Bev Kawalec and Carrboro Mayor Bob Drakeford

Entertainment was provided by bellydancer Karen Krall, the jazz group 50/50, folk singers Wendy Scharfman and Friend, the Carrboro Dancers, Bill Sparks, the Piedmont Serenade Dancers and the rock group Nightshift. All performers except Nightshift donated their time to the Ingram cause. The Mad Hatter donated its space for the evening.

Donations of \$3 were collected from the approximately 250 persons attending the party with all profit going to the Ingram campaign. That amounted to about \$125. Publicity and the cost of

Register by Aug. 12 for liquor vote

The voter registration deadline for Orange County's liquor-by-the-drink referendum is only 18 days away. In order to vote on Sept. 12, new voters must register by 5 p.m. Monday, Aug. 14.

The Orange County Commissioners voted four to one on June 20 to ask the Board of Elections to hold a referendum. Commissioner Donald Willhoit made the motion after discussion over the enforcement rules of the new legislation.

The Sept. 12 election will decide whether restaurants in Orange County can serve mixed drinks. Currently, they are limited to sales of beer and wine. The 1978 General Assembly authorized the local option bill on June 15. Seven North Carolina cities and counties have since scheduled elections for September.

Voter registration is held Monday

through Friday from 8:30 a.m. - 5 p.m. at the Chapel Hill Municipal building, 306 N. Columbia Street, and the Carrboro Town Hall, W. Main Street. The Chapel Hill Public Library, at 523 E. Franklin Street, is open for registration Monday through Thursday from 9 a.m. - 9 p.m., Friday and Saturday from 9 a.m. - 5 p.m. and Sunday from 2 p.m. - 5p.m.

A spokesman for the Orange County Board of Elections said Monday that approximately 175 persons have registered to vote on the referendum in the past month.

Prospective voters must be able to say they have resided at their current address for 30 days as of Sept. 12. Therefore, persons who have just moved to town are already eligible to register if they have become county residents.

Will liquor soon join beer at bars?

Current county voters who have moved must report their change of address during registration hours in order



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