

State committee approves plan for redistricting

By PETER JUDGE
and
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DTH Staff Writers

RALEIGH — A new congressional reapportionment plan was approved by a joint legislative committee despite opposition voiced at a public hearing late last week.

The plan, which must be approved by the full General Assembly Tuesday, replaces a previous redistricting plan rejected by the U.S. Justice Department last fall. The rejected plan featured a fishhook-shaped 2nd District which, they ruled, diluted black voting strength. Orange County is part of the 2nd District.

Donna Burton, executive director of Common Cause, said the group "(sees) no problem with the committee plan." Burton said Common Cause's criteria were very close to those adopted by the committee on Thursday.

"First and most important is population," she said. "Common Cause proposes a 2 percent deviation rate for population equity." She said that rate, if strictly adhered to, should satisfy any court test.

"The second criteria is that we felt political subdivisions should not be divided unless necessary to bring them within the 2 percent deviation range," Burton said.

Equal standards should take priority over maintaining county lines, she said. "We feel the Voting Rights Act does take precedent in this area as it should."

J.T. Smith, chairman of the Democratic Executive Committee of Johnston County, said crossing county lines for redistricting purposes would cause political damage.

I am totally opposed to the splitting of any counties in North Carolina," Smith said. "It goes against the will of our people."

Smith said the new plan would lead to confusion, voter disgust and alienation. "Which political convention would these people attend?"

Lavonia Allison, head of the N.C. Black Leadership Caucus, said there were still some problems with the new plan. Allison presented her own map for consideration, which was rejected by the committee.

She said her plan, based on the principle of one man/one vote, would provide "equity, parity and fair representation." Allison's plan would have put Orange, as well as Durham County, into the 2nd District.

"Lines must be drawn that will not dilute the voting strength of minorities," she said. "If we are going to move towards equity and fair representation, we are going to have to have a delegation in Washington that represents minorities."

Larry McAdams, of the Democratic Executive Committee of Nash County, said he was opposed to the plan of including Durham County in the 2nd District.

"The 2nd Congressional District is a rural and agricultural district," McAdams said, "and the addition of Durham would overshadow the other counties."

He said the lines should be redrawn to form a "more agricultural and homogeneous district."

Don Stanford, president of the Young Democrats of Orange County, said the committee should consider the "commonalities of interest" such as the educational, rural and urban features of the areas involved.

"It does not make sense to run districts east-west, north-south that have nothing in common," Stanford said. "If it means splitting counties, then it has to be done."

The committee rejected a proposal by Guilford County Democrats that would have diluted Republican voting strength in the 6th District.

Tom Ross, chairman of the Democratic Executive Committee of Guilford County, proposed joining Rockingham, Guilford and Alamance with parts of Davidson County.

Ross said the committee's redrawing of the 6th District to incorporate Davidson, Guilford and Alamance Counties caused "an unnecessary shift of 200,000 people from one district to another."

He said Rockingham County should not be moved from the 6th District to the 5th because the "people in Rockingham are tied to Guilford."

There was opposition from within the state's congressional delegation in addition to that voiced at the public hearing.

In a terse letter to the General Assembly, U.S. Rep. Walter B. Jones said that North Carolina's congressional delegation preferred the congressional reapportionment plan approved last year over more recent proposals.

Jones said he had polled the seven Democrats and four Republicans of the delegation and found all supported the plan approved a year ago.

Jones said he polled the delegation after the committee recommended its new plan, which would make major shifts in the 2nd, 4th and 6th congressional districts.

But Jones said the letter should not be taken as a direct rebuff of the latest plan. "Of course as new plans come up they might change, but as of yesterday, with the knowledge we had at hand, we issued this," he said.



New Orleans jazz

DTH/Scott Sharpe

Kid Thomas Valentine, band leader of Memorial Hall Thursday night. Valentine, the oldest member of the group, celebrated his 86th birthday the day from New Orleans, appeared in the Preservation Hall Jazz Band, blasts out a tune on his trumpet. The band, celebrated his 86th birthday the day from New Orleans, appeared in before the UNC appearance.

Volunteers

Phoenix Organization visits, helps prisoners

By JIM WRINN
DTH Staff Writer

The Phoenix Organization; it was created in 1979 by the governor, but you've probably never heard of it unless you've been behind bars or you're a volunteer like Betsy Brown of Winston-Salem.

Brown goes to the Forsyth County Jail at least once a week where she visits with women prisoners. "We take them books and talk with them—if they want to—about whatever they want to talk about," she said. "It's a time of need."

There are more than 5,000 N.C. volunteers in criminal justice like Betsy Brown, according to Department of Corrections figures; they and countless other volunteers not directly associated with the Corrections Department provide a service the department estimates otherwise would cost between \$2.5 million and \$3 million. The Phoenix Organization of Raleigh coordinates volunteers in the state as one of several efforts in criminal justice.

The origins of the Phoenix Organization go back to the mid-1970s and the state Legislative Commission on Correctional Programs. Based on a recommendation from the commission, Gov. Jim Hunt established a committee in July 1977 to study criminal justice volunteerism.

Mary Ann Howard, assistant director of the Phoenix Organization, said, "There was lots of volunteer activity, but

nobody knew how much or where." Howard said the committee-composed mainly of volunteers—met once a month to discuss ways to get more people involved in volunteerism. A private organization was seen as the best way to promote volunteerism, so the Phoenix Organization was born.

"We're not a direct service," Howard said. "Our primary duty is information and referral. If someone in Greenville, for instance, wants to start a volunteer program, we can send him information and put him in contact with others who know something about the program he's interested in."

Howard said the organization also assisted in drawing up guidelines for volunteers on a national basis. Future goals include coordinating the training of volunteers and lobbying for better laws in the criminal justice system.

"One special project we're working on is in conjunction with the Z. Smith Reynolds Foundation. It's an advocacy program for children of women offenders," Howard said. "It's impossible to do everything, but our main goal is to get more volunteers," she said. "People need to know what the problems are and need to know how they can get involved."

Rae McNamara, state director of prisons and recently named to the board of directors of the Phoenix Organization, said the Corrections Department cannot provide many services that volunteers and the Phoenix Organization do.

Mae McLendon, volunteer coordinator for the Corrections Department, said, "The potential there is great. It's a relatively new organization—only two years old. And there's commitment there."

Howard said the Phoenix Organization had started chapters in Buncombe, Forsyth, Pitt and Wake counties in an effort to increase membership and public awareness of volunteerism.

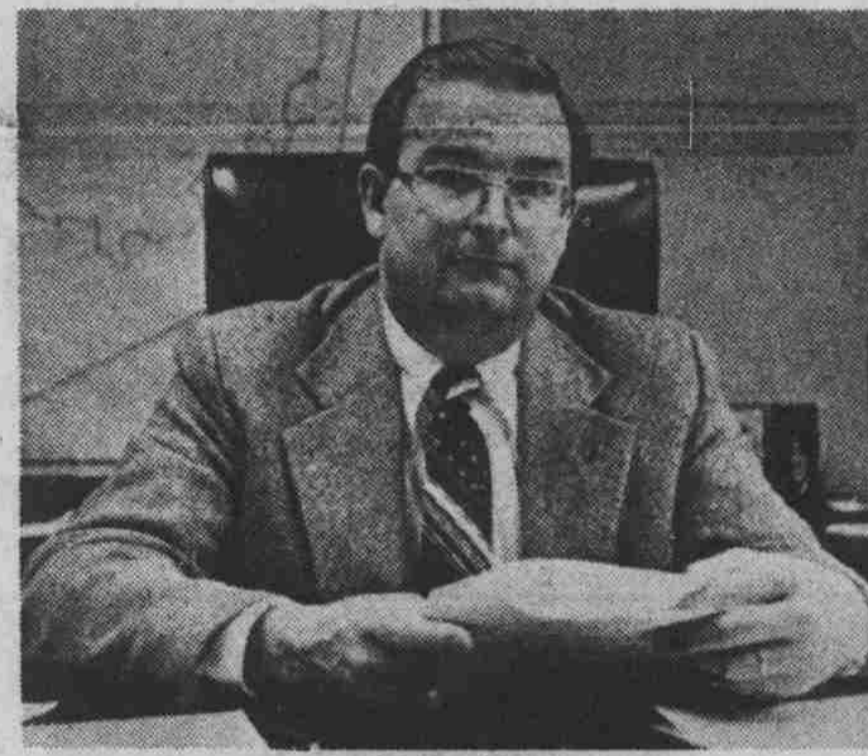
Peggy Bowman, a volunteer from the Forsyth County chapter and a member of the Phoenix Board of Directors, said the county's Inmate Family Ministry Committee was sponsored by the Phoenix Organization, the Forsyth Prison Chaplaincy and Prison Fellowship, a volunteer group founded by ex-Watergate conspirator Charles Colson.

"The families of prisoners haven't committed a crime, but they suffer too," she said. "When an inmate asks that his family be ministered to, we take care of them. We have about 20 families under our care now."

"The kinds of needs they have are obvious—jobs, housing, food, clothing. Most of these people don't know how to put their lives together. We try to give them support," Bowman said.

"We had one man who asked us to check in on his family," she said. "Now he has a job, and is doing fine. And he's become a volunteer as well."

"The bottom line is to let these people know somebody cares," she said.



David R. Taylor

Town inducts new manager

By ANNA TATE
DTH Staff Writer

Although he is a Wolfpack fan at heart, David R. Taylor took his oath of office as Chapel Hill Town Manager under "Carolina Blue" skies Feb. 1.

Taylor, 44, served as administrative head of Tarboro town government for 16½ years. He was selected from a field of about 130 applicants for the office of Chapel Hill Town Manager.

"I see my role here as being a head coach — head of team management," Taylor said in an interview last week.

"I am a generalist," he said. "I will coordinate. The heads of each department are the specialists."

Making the jump from a small industrial town like Tarboro to a university town three times Tarboro's size does not faze Taylor.

"Of course there are differences, but the management role for both towns is based on the organizational ability to provide services that people want and are able and willing to pay for," he said.

As an undergraduate majoring in civil engineering at N.C. State University, Taylor said he had not planned to become involved in city government. But like many graduating seniors, he took one of the first jobs offered — a job as staff engineer for Raleigh.

After two years as staff engineer, Taylor became administrative assistant to the Raleigh city manager. In 1965 he moved to Tarboro, N.C. to serve as town manager for more than 16 years.

"So many of a city's problems are engineering problems," he said. "My engineering background has helped me a great deal in that respect."

Learning to work with budgets and human services are some of the areas Taylor has had to deal with through experience, he said.

"I came to Tarboro knowing very little about electric power and now, I believe, I am considered one of the leading authorities on public power in N.C.," he said.

While working in Tarboro, Taylor also gained expert knowledge in community development.

Taylor has one son who is a freshman at N.C. State. But Taylor said he was not totally biased towards State because his oldest daughter, Donna, is a business administration major at UNC.

"My loyalties have mellowed a great deal," he said. "I look forward to a good harmonious relationship with the University here and want to stress very much that I want to have an 'open-door' policy in my office."

Taylor said he plans to hold frequent work sessions with the town council.

"The council will tell me what things they would like to do with the budget and I will tell them what is possible," he said.



Sam Perkins tries reverse layup ... had 40 points in two games

Black's dunk highlights tournament weekend

By JOHN ROYSTER
Assistant Sports Editor

CHARLOTTE — Jimmy Black did the best he could to conceal one of those big Jimmy Black grins as he talked about The Dunk.

It was definitely the highlight of the weekend's North-South doubleheader, in which Carolina's Tar Heels scored an exciting 96-69 victory over Furman and a ho-hum 67-46 win over The Citadel.

The 6-foot-3 point guard's first career dunk came in the first half of the Citadel game Saturday night.

"We were in the scramble defense (which utilizes traps to get steals) and I got the steal and said I might as well," Black said. "I never did it before."

The dunk accounted for two of 14 points Black scored against The Citadel on 6-of-7 from the field and 2-of-2 from the foul line.

Other players said they knew Black could dunk the ball, and Black admitted he had been looking for a chance to do it in a game. The dunk caused an inspired celebration on the Carolina bench, with even coaches laughing.

The Tar Heels tried to run against both opponents, with better results against Furman Friday night.

The Citadel stayed outside on offense and

tried to control the ball. But they were handicapped by 35 percent shooting and were never really in the game.

"UNC kept the pressure on us," Citadel coach Les Robinson said. "That showed up most in our shooting. We worked hard to get through their traps and double teams. They wore us down physically and that showed up in our shooting."

Carolina wore both of their weekend opponents down with something that had been a trademark for years but had been noticeably absent this season — free substitution.

"It was nice to see the guys who haven't been playing get a chance to play," first team center Sam Perkins said. "We really get a kick out of it and it's an experience to them. It's good to see what they can do."

Freshman center Warren Martin got his first significant playing time in the two games and moved confidently by the second half Saturday night. He scored six points in as many minutes against The Citadel.

"It feels real good," said Martin, who had to fight off an early-season injury to earn more playing time. "It's better than just sitting there (on the bench)."

The Furman game was even less in doubt than the Citadel contest. The Tar Heels ran at will on offense and forced 20 Furman turnovers

on defense, and the last five minutes were nothing more than a contest to see if Carolina substitutes could reach the 100-point mark.

The Heels committed 15 turnovers of their own against Furman and 17 the next night against the Citadel. Nine of those 17 were by James Worthy, who scored only seven points — he entered the Citadel game averaging 15.5.

Furman got fine play from guard Mel Daniel, who scored 24 points Friday, most of them from outside.

"Mel Daniel is a fine player," UNC coach Dean Smith said. "He's very talented and Eddie (Holbrook) has used him well at Furman. We held him down this year. He got 32 against us last season."

Carolina got a career-high 16 points from reserve guard Jim Braddock against Furman. Braddock's 7-of-9 field goal shooting came almost entirely from the outside.

Carolina's next game will be Thursday night against Maryland in Carmichael Auditorium.

"Maryland is playing much better now," Smith said. "They have a newfound confidence with their wins over Wake Forest and Duke. When we played the first time, Maryland was still searching for the right combination."

"And the first time was also the first occasion Maryland used its ball control. Now they have practice with it."