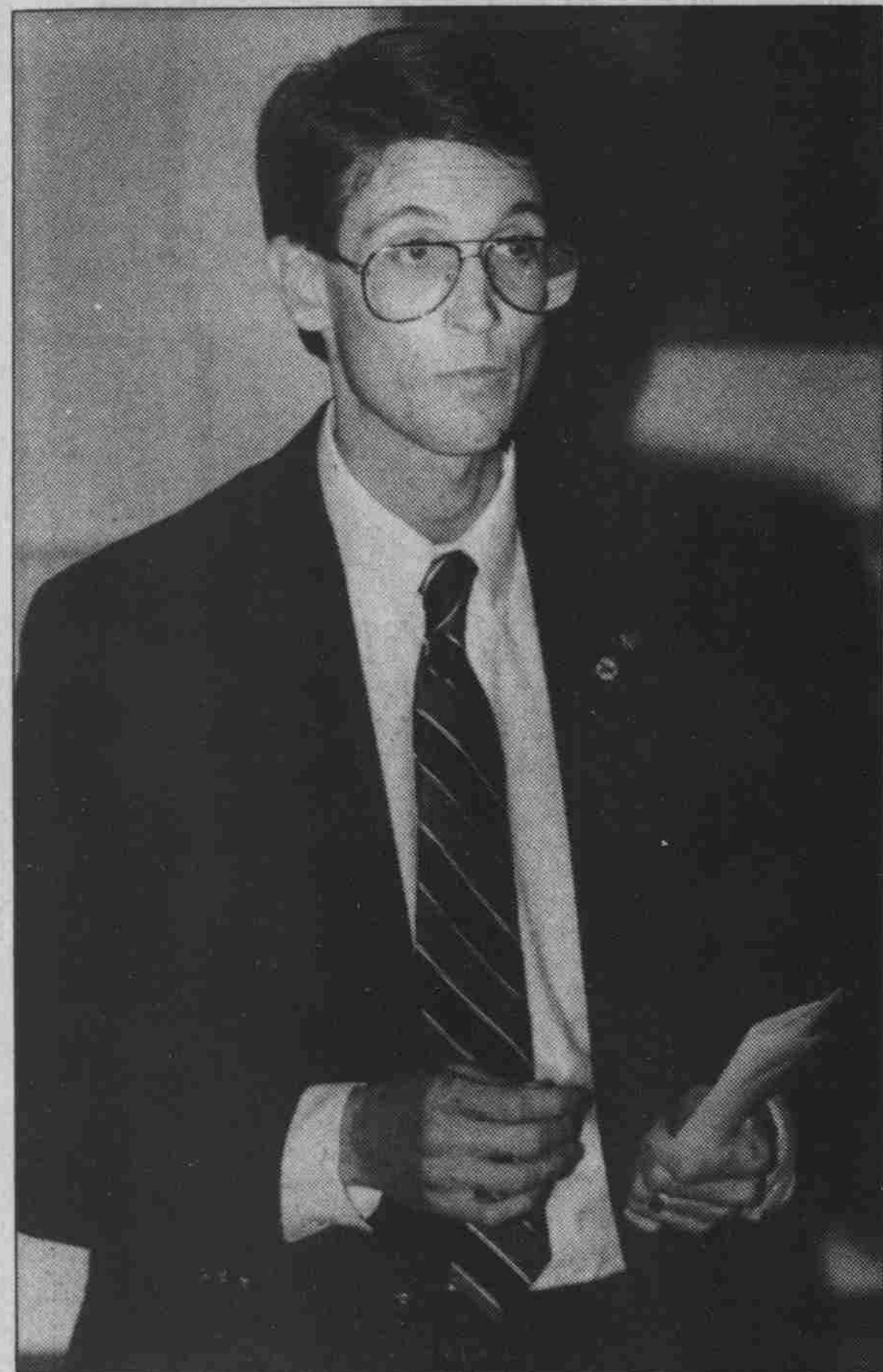


Republican values strong, Cobey says



Max Gardner Reece Jr. speaks to Republicans on Monday

By KAREN DUNN
Staff Writer

Although every election year is said to be critical, 1988 elections are crucial because of an emphasis on values, former U.S. Rep. Bill Cobey said to a group of about 100 College Republicans Wednesday night.

"The Republican Party has become the party of traditional values in America," Cobey said. He compared politics with football, saying that winning is a result of mastering the basics like blocking and tackling instead of "the fancy things." A great country is built on basic values and basic traditions, he said.

Cobey served one term in the U.S. House before he lost in 1986 to Democratic Rep. David Price of Chapel Hill.

Cobey, who is currently serving as the N.C. deputy secretary of transportation under Gov. Jim Martin, said he has seen through his work the governor's difficulty dealing with the state General Assembly, because "they don't care what kind of ideas he has — he's a Republican, and if he has a good idea or a good proposal they're going to reject it . . . just because he's a Republican, and that's not right."

"A man of his ability and character should be able to provide the kind of executive leadership that this state needs. I know their attitude over there (at the Legislature)."

The national ticket has "never had a clearer choice," Cobey said. People thought George McGovern and Walter Mondale were liberals, but they weren't as liberal as Michael Dukakis, he said.

"He is the most liberal person ever to run for president of the United States, and the reason some polls show him losing by as much as 17 points is because America has found out — and he is out of step with the mainstream of America."

The Republican Party has become the party of traditional values.

— Bill Cobey

Vice President George Bush is in step with the mainstream of America and is competent and experienced, Cobey said.

Bush's experience with Congress is extremely valuable, he said.

"As great a president as Ronald Reagan has been, I wished many times that he had had the experience of serving in Congress, because I don't think he fully appreciated what was going on over in Congress," Cobey said. "He was too nice to Congress over the eight years . . . they don't understand anything but that veto."

It would be "another plague in the Democrats' minds" for North Carolinians to be represented by Bush, Martin, Jim Gardner as Lieutenant Governor, and Sen. Jesse Helms, Cobey said.

Max Gardner Reece Jr., a candidate for the state senate from Orange County, spoke after Cobey, discussing such issues as gubernatorial veto power, which the N.C. governor does not have, drug abuse, prison overcrowding and education.

Reece, who is a pharmacist, said he realizes how severe the drug problem is both statewide and nationally. He proposes drug education beginning in the first grade, because "it isn't easy for a 10-year-old to just say no."

Reece also said education should be run like a business with better teachers given better pay. Productive employees are paid well, and teachers who produce exceptional students should be paid well, too, he said.

Newspaper story implicates Bush in '76 CIA cover-up

By MICHAEL SPIRTAS
Staff Writer

Documents from Gerald Ford's Presidential Library are being used as evidence that George Bush sought to squelch a 1976 federal criminal investigation involving CIA officials when he was CIA director, but a member of Bush's staff said the vice president acted appropriately.

A recent Los Angeles Times story said a letter from Bush to Ford asked what he should do about an investigation of CIA officials, including former director Richard Helms. At the request of William Colby, Bush's predecessor, the Justice Department was investigating some CIA officials' testimony to congressional committees.

Helms later pleaded no contest to two charges that he failed to testify "fully, completely and accurately" to a committee.

Bush was asking for help to protect the agency, according to his letter to Ford.

The Presidential Library documents include the papers of Phillip Buchen, who served as counselor to Ford. Buchen's papers were released at the beginning of last month as part of the library's routine process, said William Stewart, acting director of the library in Ann Arbor, Mich.

There was no political motive behind the opening of Buchen's

papers, he said.

Other information concerning Bush's actions was pulled from the president's "handwriting file," Stewart said.

The Los Angeles Times story quoted Bush's letter to Ford out of context, said Stephen Hart, a spokesman for the vice president. Hart said he was unsure why the newspaper printed the story but said it may be trying to misrepresent the vice president's actions as CIA director.

"(Bush) sought guidance from the president," who told Bush he should allow the investigation to continue, Hart said. Bush followed that advice, he said.

"He did what he should have done," Hart said.

Bush specifically said in the letter to the president that he had "no intention" of stalling the investigation, Hart said.

The CIA declined to comment on the issue. "The agency doesn't comment on internal matters," said Sharon Basso, a CIA spokeswoman.

Stewart declined to comment on his interpretation of the meaning of Bush's letter to the president.

The incident should have little significance for the presidential race, said Thad Beyle, UNC political science professor.

Massachusetts Gov. Michael Dukakis' campaign could not be reached for comment.

Board votes to go ahead with plans for new Orange airport

By THOM SOLOMON
Staff Writer

The Orange County Board of Commissioners decided Tuesday to continue plans for a new airport in Orange County using local funds.

Commissioners chairman Moses Carey said the county allotted nearly \$53,000 to fund phases one and two of the project. These phases include the appointment of McDevco Associates in Raleigh, who will advise the management of the project.

County purchasing manager Pamela Jones said the project is still in the very early stages. "It is just an

embryo at this stage," she said.

Phase one of the project includes researching who would use the new facility, determining the kinds of services the facility will offer and locating the best site for the facility, Jones said.

Phase two will include placing the runway, examining financial considerations and holding a public hearing to receive citizens' concerns and input, she said.

Wilbur Smith and Associates of South Carolina will be the technical advisers for the project.

"They will take care of the nuts and

bolts part of it," Jones said. "They will actually dig the dirt and say whether or not it is environmentally sound."

An application has been sent to the aviation division of the N.C. Department of Transportation (DOT) and the Federal Aviation Administration requesting both state and federal funding for the project, Jones said.

The federal government usually provides 90 percent of the money for such projects, she said.

Orange County Manager John Link said the board expects to receive nearly \$50,000 from state funds and

that members should know if they will receive the money by Nov. 2 when the aviation division of the DOT meets.

"We feel pretty positive about it (receiving state funding)," he said.

But Jones and Carey each said that if state and federal funds are not received, the project will be redesigned based on the local budget.

The project is a result of a task force that examined the need for a general aviation center in Orange County.

Task force chairman Pearson Stuart said there was a need for the airport, and problems with Horace Williams Airport, near Airport Road, prompted the proposal.

Carey said when Horace Williams Airport was built it was not in a residential area. But now that the area is residential and the airport is near schools, there is concern, he said.

"Planes landing near schools is just not a safe thing to do," Carey said.

Although there had been some discussion about putting the new

airport where Horace Williams Airport is now, safety concerns make this prospect unlikely, Carey said.

No decision has been made yet on the location of the new airport, he said.



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