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Election Campaign Picks Up Steam

With the November election fast approaching, both major candidates for the 11th District seat in Congress stepped up their campaign efforts last week.

Incumbent Rep. Bill Hendon and his Democratic challenger, James Clarke, met in face-to-face debate and campaigned individually throughout the district.

On Thursday, the two met in the Asheville Civic Center at a debate sponsored by the Asheville Area Chamber of Commerce. The debate centered on economics and highlighted each candidate's approach to solving the problems the nation is currently facing.



STATE SEN. JAMES CLARKE

Hendon told the audience that the Republican administration is solving the nation's economic woes, while Clarke blamed the administration for many of the nation's problems.

Hendon told the audience, "The real differences between me and Jamie Clarke is that I am a man who will look you right in the eye and tell you exactly where I stand on the issues. My opponent would have you return to the failed policies that have brought this country to the brink."

Clarke responded by reminding the audience that, "One out of 10 or 11 people in this country are unemployed. The budget deficit this year is the highest in the nation's history. He cited the Reagan administration's policy of increased defense spending coupled with tax cuts. "This is the party that says they are for fiscal responsibility. It just isn't working."

Hendon defended the record deficit, telling the audience, "A deficit was the second-best option that was open to us." Hendon blamed the deficit on the recent downturn in the nation's economy, along with the accompanying downturn in federal revenues. He said the jobless picture is improving, with many plants recalling laid-off workers.

The 11th District race has attracted a number of nationally-known politicians to the district to campaign for both candidates. Gov. Jim Hunt campaigned across Western North Carolina two weeks ago on behalf of Clarke. The Republicans countered the gubernatorial campaigning with a visit from Vice President George Bush. The vice president toured Tryon and Hendersonville on behalf of Hendon.

This past week saw former Florida governor Reuben Askew campaigning in Asheville for the Democratic nominee. On Friday, Virginia Governor Charles S. Robb appeared at Clarke rallies in Haywood County to urge voters to unseat the incumbent.

On Monday, Clarke's election campaign received the endorsement of House Majority Leader Jim Wright, D-Texas. Wright spoke at a meeting held at Clarke campaign headquarters in Asheville.

Hendon's campaign received a boost early this week from the hero of the stock car racing set and a former quarterback. Racing legend Richard Petty appeared with Hendon at a barbecue and bluegrass gathering in Waynesville Monday evening.



REP. WILLIAM HENDON

On Tuesday, U.S. Rep. Jack Kemp, R-N.Y. campaigned with Hendon in Franklin. The New York congressman, frequently mentioned as a future presidential candidate, was a principal author of the tax cut bill enacted by Congress last week.

Murder Trial Opens

The murder trial of Billy Ramsey began Monday as Superior Court opened in Marshall with Judge W. Douglas Albright presiding.

Ramsey is charged with the June 29 murder of Kenneth Harris of Asheville. Represented by attorney Richard Miller, Ramsey has pleaded not guilty by reason of self-defense to the charges.

A jury was sworn Monday, and the court heard testimony from prosecution witnesses. The only eyewitness to the incident, Mary Waller of Asheville, was the first to testify.

Waller told the court that she was with both Ramsey and Harris on the night of the incident. She testified that she and the two men had gone to several bars in Buncombe County and Asheville and that Harris shot a pistol off in the parking lot of the Mountain Turf Lounge, a north Buncombe bar.

Harris got the gun, she said, from her truck. Waller testified that the gun, a .22 caliber handgun, belonged to her. The three left the lounge after the shooting at the request of the bartender.

Waller told the court that they proceeded to Asheville, they went to O. Henry's bar on Haywood St., where Harris caused a disturbance. She told the court Harris again brandished the gun outside the Asheville bar.

She said Ramsey and Harris got into an argument on the way back to Madison County.

While driving down Grapevine Rd. near her home, she said that Harris, seated in the middle of her truck, tried to push Ramsey out of the vehicle.

Waller said both men went out the door of the truck while it was still moving. When she brought the truck to a stop, the men were at the side of the truck.

She said she heard Ramsey say, "Don't hurt me," and Harris answered, "I don't want to hurt you." She told the court that following this exchange, Harris fell to the ground.

She said she did not then realize the extent of Harris' injury. She drove Ramsey further up the road before turning around and taking Harris to Memorial Mission Hospital in Asheville, where Harris was pronounced dead shortly after arrival.

The prosecution next called Dr. David Carl Biggers, a pathologist at Memorial Mission Hospital. He testified that he performed an autopsy on Harris on June 29 and that he determined Harris died from "hemorrhage due to a stab wound to the chest, penetrating the heart."

The pathologist also testified that Harris had a fresh laceration on the palm of his right hand and a bruise on his right thumb. Under cross-examination by Miller, Biggers said he found Harris' blood alcohol level to be .15.

Sheriff E.Y. Ponder was called to testify by the prosecution. Ponder came to

Memorial Mission when notified of the incident. He told the court that he spoke with Miss Waller and took her statement relating to the incident.

Ponder told the court he had recovered the pistol from Waller's truck but was unable to find a knife at the scene of the incident. The sheriff told the court, "She (Waller) told me that Harris had been argumentative because she didn't want to go to the Country Store. She said she didn't go because he was overprotective and she thought he might alienate some of the local people."

Ponder told the court he contacted Ramsey and that he had come to the sheriff's office voluntarily.

Miller asked Ponder if he had searched Harris' home. When Ponder answered that he had, Miller asked if he had found any books. When the prosecution objected to the question, the judge ordered the jury from the court to hear Miller's explanation of his question.

When the jury returned, Judge Albright recessed the court until 9:30 a.m. Tuesday. Before dismissing jurors, he gave them instructions not to discuss the case outside the courtroom or form an opinion until the entire case was presented.

The jury was expected to decide the case on Tuesday.



LINDA GARDNER

Teacher Of The Year

MRS. GARDNER was selected by a vote of all Madison County teachers. She has taught business education at Madison High School for the past nine years and is chairman of the business department. She lives in Mars Hill with her husband Gary and their two children.

Campground Closed

The Rocky Bluff Recreation Area on the Pisgah National Forest at Hot Springs, N.C. will be closed for construction purposes beginning Oct. 19.

During this time, the roads in the camping and picnic area will be paved. According to District Ranger Charles Miller the area will be reopened as soon as the paving is completed. "We regret any in-

convenience to the public during this project but are glad to be able to improve the area" Miller stated.

After paving, the area will remain open as long as possible to accommodate those wanting to camp and picnic during the early winter. However, the bathrooms and water faucets will be closed and turned off to prevent damage from freezing.

Bus Service Begins Nov. 1

Getting around Madison County will become easier starting next month.

On Nov. 1, the county will inaugurate bus service, making it easier for those without automobiles to get to work and shopping.

Funded by grants from both the federal and state departments of transportation and by local contributions, the service will employ seven drivers to shuttle passengers from points throughout Madison County. Final plans for the seven bus service will be completed this week and presented in The News Record next week. At that time, routes and departure times will be made available.

The service will make it easier for senior citizens to get to the meal sites throughout Madison County and to shopping and doctors' offices in Asheville. The buses began test runs this week, taking the elderly of the Mars Hill area to the Senior Citizen Center and to shopping areas.

The program is funded primarily by a \$74,868 grant from the federal Department of Transportation. Matching state and local funds of \$9,358 each make up the rest of the budget. Fares will be collected from riders although the exact cost has not yet been determined.

When fully operational, the program will serve Hot Springs, Spring Creek, Marshall, Mars Hill, Laurel, Walnut and Greater Ivy.

Grand Jury Indicts Two

The Madison County grand jury returned true bills on both cases it heard Monday.

The jury indicted William J. Brittle Sr. of Mars Hill on charges of taking indecent liberties with a minor. Also indicated, on a charge of rape, was Isaac Welch of Mars Hill. Welch is charged with the rape of a Mars Hill College student last month.

Both Brittle and Welch remain free on bond pending trial.

Profitt Pays \$10,000 Fine

A 72-year old man convicted of manufacturing marijuana last spring paid off the remainder of his \$10,000 fine this week.

Elmer Bernard Profitt, Sr. who pleaded guilty to manufacturing a controlled substance was sentenced to a two-year term, suspended, and ordered to pay the \$10,000 fine by Judge C. Walter Allen in April in exchange for his guilty plea.

The 72-year old Madison County man paid the remainder of his fine to the clerk of court on Monday. He remains on probation under the terms of his sentence.

Tim Barnwell:

Madison County Chronicler



TIM BARNWELL

By ROBIN REEVIE

Tim Barnwell works to preserve what he sees as the rich heritage of Madison County. A freelance photographer, Barnwell has undertaken the challenge of recording as many aspects of the Madison County lifestyle

that he can find.

Barnwell believes that many of the traditional ways of mountain life are vanishing. His project is intended to give future generations a look at how things were in the mountains.

and preserve a way of life that's vanishing. It will be gone in a few years and there will be no records other than the photographs and the writings that people have done.

"What I see in Madison County are things that stay the same or change very slowly. It's like stepping back in time, not in a bad sense, but in a sense that you can still enjoy American Tradition in a pioneer sense. I titled a show 'Madison Pioneer Spirit Revisited.' To me, it's a way of getting away from the city life and going back to a slow-paced, thinking type of reality," Barnwell said.

Barnwell is documenting the complex lives of people who live by traditions originated by their ancestors.

"I've photographed them working with their animals and tobacco, raising and processing chickens. All these things are very very different from the way things are done now."

as you get closer to city life, vaniah. City life is less isolated. Today, even the mountains don't isolate as well as they used to. A lot of influences are coming into and changing the county. In some respects it doesn't look like things are changing, but they are changing in subtle ways," he said.

As modern methods of communication and transportation move further into the county, each generation of people moves closer to the industrial age way of life.

"In a way, I feel a sense of urgency to record this lifestyle while it still exists. In a few years no one will use animals to work the land. With upcoming technology, motorized machinery will be introduced to the hillsides. Much of the reason their farming methods have stayed the same is the geography of the land. It's a physical reality that they have to use horses and mules to plow the land," Barnwell said.

It's not that other surrounding counties don't have similar things to offer that Tim chose Madison County for his documentary. Rather, it is the uniqueness of Madison that appeals to him.

"The land is exceptionally beautiful, the people are wonderful, and I learn by sitting and talking with them. They teach me about their way of life, how they feel about things, how they were raised, and their value systems. Things like that I enjoy. It's a kinship I feel because they do what I would enjoy doing, but haven't taken the steps to do," he said.

Barnwell has photographed over 75 people in Madison County and has made some interesting friends while doing it.

"Many times my better photographs come from going back a second or third time. I

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(Photo by Tim Barnwell)