

Madison Lady Patriots



THE 1985 MADISON HIGH LADY PATRIOTS softball team will conclude their season with road games this week. Team members include Rebecca Ammons, Jackie Thomas, Sandy Baldwin, Anna Marie Davis, Cynthia Anglin, Charlene Honeycutt, Jody Carter, Kelly Carter, Elka Wortey, Sherri Davis, Kim Wortey, Angie Ramsey, Tina Rice, Tammy Thomas, Debbie Edwards, Diane Cuthall, Stacy Rice and manager Kathy Fox. Squad is coached by Elsberry Wyatt and Jeff Treadway.

Tax Cut

Continued from Page 1

native tax package which includes partial repeal of the inventory and intangibles taxes, and repeal of the sales tax only on food purchased with food stamps.

But the House plan includes five tax cuts not proposed by Martin, including a reduction in the state income tax and repeal of the state inheritance and gift taxes.

The tax cuts are now being considered by the Senate Finance Committee, which is expected to recommend border cuts in the inventory and intangibles taxes than the House approved.

Neither Martin or Jordan would discuss details of the negotiations. But according to several legislative sources, Martin wants total repeal of the intangibles tax before backing any bipartisan package.

But while Senate Democrats appear ready to broaden the intangibles tax cut proposed by the House, there is some opposition to its total repeal, sources said.

Martin administration officials have also pressed for deeper cuts in

the inventory tax than proposed by the House, but have not made that their top priority, sources said.

Martin has all but given up efforts to push for repeal of the sales tax on food, sources said.

At his news conference, the governor acknowledged that prospects for repealing the food tax were slim.

"We have not seen much support in the Senate for the sales tax on food," said Martin.

In a last ditch effort to rescue the sales tax repeal proposal, state AFL-CIO President Christopher Scott and spokesmen for the North Carolina People's Alliance, a 9-year-old liberal lobbying group, held a joint news conference Thursday.

"The issue of tax reform has dominated this legislative session but the question of tax relief for the state's low-and-moderate-income citizens has been all but ignored," said Travis Payne, a spokesman for the alliance.

Martin also disclosed that his own political action committee has been attempting to build public support for his tax package.

Martin said the committee sent 40,000 letters to supporters around the state urging them to write legislators to support his tax cut proposals.

Tobacco

Continued from Page 1

negotiations" between health organizations and tobacco-state legislators to agree to ear-mark parts of the tax both for Medicare and "to save the tobacco program."

Bradley in effect asked senators to choose between increases in the Medicare premiums on Part B coverage of the medical insurance paid by the elderly and the cigarette tax.

"It is absurd to reduce taxes on a product that has caused major increases in recent years in health care costs while at the same time significantly increasing the premiums paid the elderly for health care," Bradley said.

Helms said that passing the Bradley proposal would be a breach of faith made by the Congress in 1982 when it doubled the cigarette tax. At that time, Congress adopted an amendment by Helms to "sunset" the additional 8 cents this year.

Helms said that the excise tax should be the prerogative of the states and that the federal drop in the tax would allow states hard hit by the budget cuts to replace the revenues.

Sen. Wendell H. Ford, D-Ky., predicted most states would raise their state cigarette taxes if the federal tax is reduced.

The 8 cents added in 1982, Ford said, "will never go off. It's whether you want to keep it here or at the local level."

Plaut Receives Degree

Peer Lance Plaut of Marshall received a bachelor's degree in economics from Guilford College in Greensboro during commencement exercises held on May 4.

Plaut is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Plaut of Route 2, Marshall.

Marshall

Continued from Page 1

taxes due and delinquent water and sewer accounts totaling \$9,380.35. A listing of all delinquent taxpayers is scheduled to be published in next week's edition of The News Record.

The town is facing bond payments totaling \$30,251.25 on June 1.

Town officials had been hoping to use some of the \$80,000 in Farmers Home Administration (FmHA) funds remaining from the sewer project to make the bond payment, but ap-

parently won't be allowed to do so.

A letter from Larry Merrill, district director of FmHA, was distributed to the aldermen during Monday's meeting. In the letter, Merrill said he would not authorize a proposed project for additional improvements to the sewer system on Worley Hollow that would use a portion of the remaining funds.

Instead, Merrill called for a complete audit of the sewer project, with any funds remaining reverting to either the Farmers Home Administration or the Appalachian Regional Commission (ARC.) Both FmHA and ARC funds were used in the completed sewer project.

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