



THOMASVILLE TIMES

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Coming Saturday

Business Columnist Marilyn Taylor continues her TaylorMade series on change in the workplace.

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Sheriff's race stirs controversy

BY ELIOT DUKE Staff Writer

This year's race for the Republican nomination for sheriff of Davidson County is shaping up like a good spy novel.

Two meetings involving the three Republican candidates — incumbent David Grice, former sheriff Gerald Hege and Ter-

ry Price — are painting a picture of intimidation and differing perspectives as to what went on away from the public eye.

When Edgar Shuler announced his decision to withdraw from the race and support Price on Tuesday, Sheriff Grice said he wasn't surprised



Grice



Hege



Price

because Price recently came to him with a proposition. According to Grice, he met with his

opponent a couple of weeks ago at the request of Price to discuss the campaign. During this meeting, Grice said that Price offered to withdraw from the race for the betterment of the

Republican party.

"[Price] sent word through two or three different individuals that he wanted to talk about it, about him withdrawing because he said he wanted to do anything to stop Mr. Hege," Grice said. "I called him back, he came in and we talked about him withdrawing as far as I can recollect."

Leading up to the meeting, Grice claims Neil Motsinger, one of Price's advisors, contacted Register of Deeds David

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Candidates square off during forum

BY ELIOT DUKE Staff Writer

Two of the three Republican candidates for Davidson County sheriff traded barbs Tuesday morning at Piedmont Crossing as the race enters its final month.

Incumbent David Grice and challenger Terry Price offered contrasting viewpoints as to what direction the sheriff's office is heading as the two fired back and forth on a variety of topics varying from the budget to a court case involving officer misconduct. Former sheriff Gerald Hege did not attend while Edgar Shuler did, an hour after he announced his decision to withdraw and support Price at the old Lexington courthouse.

Grice said that during his term he has rearranged the sheriff's office, purchased new equipment, published new jail and sheriff's office manuals, established checks and balances, policies and procedures, lowered the crime rate and published statistics.

"I was ready to retire and the opportunity came up to be sheriff in 2004," Grice said. "I have returned honesty to the sheriff's department. I have 39 years of experience in all forms of law enforcement. We've had some curveballs thrown at us in my time as sheriff and I have successfully managed those situations. Times are changing and people are a lot more aggressive towards

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Athletes work out on different field for spring break

BY ERIN WILTGEN Staff Writer

HIGH POINT — Eleven days after the tornados ripped through High Point, there's still lots of cleanup work to be done.

And volunteers are still coming out of the woodwork.

Donald Brewer, JV baseball coach at Wesleyan Christian Academy, has urged his team to become part of that workforce, cleaning up trees and general debris around local houses hit by the storm. Fourteen athletes joined a few parents, the coaching staff and Brewer's wife, Jennifer to work at some houses off of Bentbrook Drive

'They're doing good, they're working hard. They seem to appreciate what they're doing.'

— Donald Brewer Title

in High Point Wednesday from 4 until 6:30 p.m., the third time the crew had been out to help during their break.

"Instead of just sitting around the house, we got out and started working," Brewer said. "That says a lot about the kids, spending their spring break out there working."

Brewer's team also helped out in Blairwood Estates in High Point, bringing seven kids the first day and five the second.

"I just felt it would be a good idea for the kids to help out the community," Brewer said.

But parent Carel Michalski, who also was

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TIMES PHOTO/ERIN WILTGEN

Members of the Wesleyan Christian Academy JV baseball team Wednesday help to remove downed trees in a tornado victim's yard.

Denton pair battle for District 80

BY ERIN WILTGEN Staff Writer

In an election year that supposedly will favor Republicans, three of the four races representing Davidson County in the North Carolina state government will field only candidates from the right wing.

For the North Carolina House of Representatives District 80, Dick Johnson will challenge incumbent Jerry Dockham — the only race other than Holliman's N.C. House District 81 with a candidate besides the incumbent.

Piedmont Crossing to host County Commissioner's Forum Friday at 10:30 a.m.

"I live in Denton, the same town as my opponent, and there have been a lot of people there not happy with a couple of things," Johnson said. "A lot of people talked about doing things and didn't. My arm was twisted somewhat."

Although jumping into politics wasn't exactly something Johnson had expected to do, the Denton re-

altor said that his concern for the constituents and his work experience have prepared him for the job.

Johnson became a realtor four years ago after getting out of car sales, a trade he was born into since his grandfather founded the Chevrolet dealership in Denton that was closed in 1990.

"I see the same things in politics in what I've done to keep my customers happy," he said. "If they elect you to be there, they elect you to be their voice and voice their

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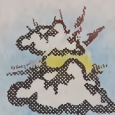
TIMES PHOTOS/ELIOT DUKE

N.C. District 80 Rep. Jerry Dockham (left) and challenger Dick Johnson face off at the candidate's forum Tuesday.

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Today's Weather



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