

Political rally features candidate chats

By Linda Hammonds
 What's better than homemade barbecue with a secret sauce, slaw, baked beans, Coke and good conversation?

Barbecue with a secret sauce, slaw, baked beans, Coke and political conversation, of course! This was the order of the day at the recent political rally and plate sale hosted by the Saddletree Jaycees.

Soliciting voter support for gubernatorial hopefuls were David Branch for Rufus Edmisten, Greg Bryant for Lauch Faircloth, and Lee Stevens for Eddie Knox.

Also present and seeking support were incumbents Danny DeVane, John C. (Pete) Hasty and Rev. Sidney Locks for the House of Representatives and individually optimistic to win one of the three seats in the House were Tracy Britt, William Gay, Bernard Lowry and Tommy Wellington.

David Branch, Edmisten's Robeson County Campaign Manager, said "Edmisten has done more for consumer protection than any one person in the past."

"Since 1977, he has sponsored 21 consumer bills, and in 1983 he was the driving force in the passage of the Victim's Compensation Act. North Carolina is known throughout the nation as having the toughest, fairest and most coped consumer protection laws," Branch said.

Branch described Edmisten as "A hardworking Attorney General whose experience and inclination to work hard would carry him forward to the office of governor."

According to Greg Bryant, D.M. (Lauch) Faircloth is a "down-to-earth" individual because he received his foundation at the early age of 20 on his father's farm, which he turned into a very thriving enterprise.

Later in life, he branched into other business enterprises.

Citing agriculture and its related fields as North Carolina's largest industry, Bryant said Faircloth's administration would be based around agriculture and business.

Lee Stevens, Chairman of Knox's campaign headquarters in Robeson County, noted that Knox was reared on the farm, and his interest in farming continued as a young adult. He obtained an agricultural degree from State.

As a farmer, Knox is solicitous about farming programs and their future.

Danny DeVane

Incumbent for the North Carolina House of Representatives, Danny DeVane says, "I feel good about my first term. I have met a lot of nice people, made a lot of friends, learned the process of state government which was facilitated by my six years as a Hoke County Commissioner, ruffled some feathers and made a few mistakes. I have tried to represent

the people of the 16th district, collectively and individually, by being attentive to their problems and concerns."

As a freshman, DeVane introduced nine (four state and five local) bills which were ratified.

For a first term, he feels this indicates a job well done.

Working in cooperation with other members of the delegation, he is very proud of being the prime sponsor of a bill in which the Robeson County Planetarium received \$100,000. He also introduced the Rural Voluntary Fireman's Bill that prohibits frivolous and malicious lawsuits against voluntary firemen in the performance of their duty; a bill that comes under the Good Samaritan Law.

Serving on the Appropriations Budget, Rules of the House, Judiciary II, Health, and the Law Enforcement Committees have provided DeVane a broad spectrum of experience.

As for further priorities, he plans to be close to the people, adhere to their needs and concerns, and continue the job of representing the 16th district.

Pete Hasty

John C. (Pete) Hasty, in his first term says, "First termers are in a learning process."

In state government, he has learned that no man is an island; in order to accomplish tasks, one must have help. "I have had to establish friends and learn the people who are most influential in helping to get issues passed," he continued.

Legislators who have served for more than one term usually know more people and have a closer relationship with the staff; therefore, are more effective he further stated.

Sponsoring the funding of the Moss Neck Water Shed is only one of the highlights of his first term in office.

Rev. Sidney Locks

Realizing the importance of sharing concerns about issues with the people, listening to other people's opinions and knowing what to do, when to do it, and how to

get it done are just a few of the lessons Rev. Locks has learned during his first term.

For the future, he plans to be laborious in informing the public how state government works through community meetings in each county, by encouraging young people to visit the state capital and experience government, and by a media commitment to be more responsive to informing the public about state government.

Tracy Britt

Describing himself as an advocate for human rights, Tracy Britt feels that the people of Robeson, Hoke and Scotland have "taxation without representation." Representation of the working man is on the decline in state government," stated Britt. "Legislative action dealing with budget cuts, salary freezes, and poor working conditions has been to the detriment of the working class."

Citing this reason and through the encouragement of many people do so, Britt decided to announce his candidacy for a seat in the House of Representatives. Britt believes he has the common sense touch and approach the 16th district needs.

A small businessman who has experienced the hardships of life, familiarizes himself with the problems of the grassroots people, according to Britt. This familiarization is what he believes the 16th district needs for proper representation.

William Gay

"In 1985 far reaching changes will occur in the educational system and structure. Salaries, evaluation of teachers, and merit pay are just a few examples. With my heart in education, I want to be a part of writing this legislation," says William C. Gay. "For this reason, and as a result of the encouragement of friends and supporters, I decided to seek a seat in the House of Representatives."

Gay feels the House of Representatives needs legislators who represent a broad spectrum of issues.

As well as having an aptency to improve education, Gay is also concerned about the treatment of first offenders in minor cases and the point system in auto insurance.

In his opinion, incarcerating first offenders with the habitual criminal is not conducive to rehabilitations programs and he also sees the state in need of a unified automobile liability insurance.

If elected, Gay would like to see a farmer's market supported by "special needs money," non-committed money in the budget.

Among the legislation introduced and ratified while serving in the House during the 1981-82 session, Gay also sponsored the Carolina Theater Bill and co-sponsored the outdoor drama, "Strike At The Wind," by special needs money.

Tommy Wellington

"A working man's approach to government best summarizes my platform," House of Representatives candidate Tommy Wellington said. "The grass roots sector has been omitted by the professional politicians who are in office for their own vested interest or big business."

"As a farmer who has seen economic disaster in this area and in the state, I feel I can be a spokesperson who will be heard and responded to in rural America," he further stated.

In regards to education, Wellington sees a need for more communication between parents, administrators, and faculty. His concern for equality in education encompasses the 16th district, as well as, the entire state.

Should the need arise to raise additional revenue, Wellington visualizes exploring other ways and means besides increasing taxes. "Toll roads and exploring the possibility of using the incarcerated to provide the workforce in areas lacking adequate funding such as the Department of Transportation are two examples," he stated. "These examples are not all-inclusive. There are alternatives to raising taxes. Working together, we can find other solutions."

SAMPLE BALLOT OFFICIAL BALLOT DEMOCRATIC PRIMARY for STATE SENATOR & HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

INSTRUCTIONS TO VOTERS

- a. To vote for a candidate on the ballot, make a cross (x) mark in the square at the left of his name.
- b. If you tear or deface or wrongly mark the ballot, return it to the registrar and get another.


FOR STATE SENATOR Thirtieth District (You may vote for one)

[] DAVID PARNELL

FOR HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES Sixteenth District (You may vote for three)

- [] TRACY BRITT
- [] DANIEL H. DEVANE
- [] WILLIAM C. GAY
- [] JOHN C. (PETE) HASTY
- [] SIDNEY A. LOCKS
- [] BERNARD LOWRY
- [] TOMMY WELLINGTON

State of North Carolina
 Primary Election
 May 8, 1984


 J. Scott Poole, Chairman
 Hoke County Board of Elections

HOKE COUNTY LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS

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EXPERIENCE

- *ELECTED to 3 terms as a District Court Judge by the voters of Cumberland and Hoke counties.
- *31 years in the practice of law, including: Judge 10 years; District Attorney 8 1/2 years; private practice in State & Federal courts 12 1/2 years.
- *N.C. Highway Patrol

EDUCATION

- *Graduate University North Carolina School of Law.
- *Wake Forest University *Oak Ridge Military Academy

COMMUNITY SERVICE

- *Member of N.C. & Cumberland County Bar Ass.
- *WHO'S WHO in United States Volume covering Attorneys & Judges
- *World War II combat veteran
- *Past President LaFayette Kiwanis
- *Major Fayetteville Light Infantry
- *Member Knights of Pythias
- *Member Board of Directors of Raeford Rd. Fire Dept. 16 years
- *Past Member VFW
- *Life long active Democrat
- *Past President of Young Democrats

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