

Opinions

OUR VIEW

Dukakis Faces Uphill Battle

How will people in Kings Mountain and Cleveland County vote in next month's presidential election?

That question is up for grabs as the November 8 election day draws near, and that's not good news for Democrats.

The Kings Mountain Herald is currently conducting a survey of local voters to see how they feel about the national presidential candidates. Survey results will be published in coming weeks, but preliminary tallies show Republican Presidential candidate George Bush slightly ahead of Democratic contender Michael Dukakis.

Long a stronghold for Democrats, if Cleveland County is a close call for Dukakis then he is running poorly elsewhere in North Carolina and in the South.

Why is Dukakis running behind?

Voters say that the Dukakis campaign has failed to change the image that has so successfully been cast by Republicans...an image of a big spender, a big taxer, soft on crime, and weak on national defense.

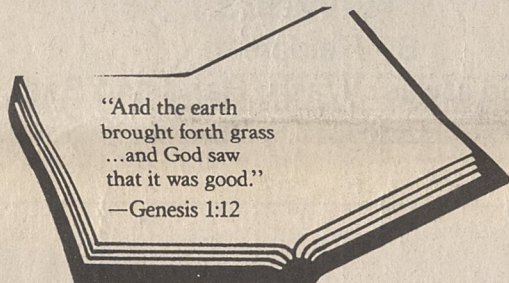
A review of the Dukakis record makes a lot of those arguments tough to refute. Add Dukakis' boast of being a card-carrying member of the American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU), and it spells a long-uphill battle on election day for Democrats.

Voters feel that Dukakis is a "liberal," a term that only 15 percent of the national population endorses as their stance politically.

We thought that last week's debate between vice presidential candidate Dan Quayle and Lloyd Bentsen might make a big difference in favor of Democrats. But the polls don't show it, and neither does our local survey.

Unless Dukakis can turn the tables over the next several weeks, or unless George Bush has a monumental foul-up, it looks like the American voters want another four years of what they've had for the past two terms...a Republican president.

TODAY'S BIBLE VERSE



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Kings Mountain Herald

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Randall Barber
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Cartoonitorial

By J. Day



Looking Both Ways

(Ed. Note: It's interesting that Rusty Gates thinks cheating is so bad when he works half an hour a week and then demands a raise because he put in overtime. But we'll double his pay and hope that he'll be happy with \$2 per week.)

Earlier I told you about Gerry Mander and his driving, but you don't know yet about his sister Sally, the school teacher.

She's the one the kids loved to give a hard time, partly because she is old and crotchety and absent-minded and set in her ways and maybe partly because she has standards and wants the kids to learn a little something before they take over the world.

Her problem was threefold: she hated cheating, she wanted the kids to pass their work, and the principal insisted on absolute proof that cheating occurred.

"How do I prove they cheated?" Sally wanted to know. "I show you papers with answers exactly alike and all of them wrong?"

"Maybe they made honest mistakes," the principal said.

"You think it's an honest mistake when seven boys on one corner of the room all answered that the first wife of Henry VIII was Liz Taylor and that the reaper was invented by Lum 'n Abner?"

"But you have no proof!" he insisted.

"I saw them copying with my own eyes!" she protested.

"Have you had your eyes tested lately? Maybe they were only reading dirty books."

"I saw and heard them talking and exchanging answers."

"Maybe they were whispering that your slip was showing?"

"I was wearing hot pants that day," said Sally, who is six feet tall and could hide behind a clothesline. The principal shuddered.

"Maybe all that activity was only gambling or some other harmless schoolboy activity," he said.

"If you want me to take action, you must provide proof. And that's final."

Sally returned to her classroom and prepared for the final exam. The schedule called for the tests to be given the first hour, and in the second hour the teacher would go over the tests so students could get some idea how badly they flunked.

So while the students doodled and scratched around on their test papers, Sally was busily typing out little notes and sticking a short piece of Scotch tape on them. As each student turned in his paper, Sally unobtrusively opened the paper, stuck the note to the first page, then refolded the paper.

When all papers were turned in, she announced that she had to go to the office and, stashing the

papers in her desk drawer, she left officiously. Now the building she taught in was across the courtyard from the principal's office, and she hurried across, grabbed a math teacher who was grading papers and a coach who was trying to remember if he was going to class or had just come from class, and hurried to the principal's office.

She pulled him and the others to Room 5 where the four of them watched in silence as the kids rushed to Sally's desk, pulled out their test papers, and prepared to change answers frantically.

As each student opened his paper, the first thing he saw was the note from Sally Mander which read: As you know, cheating is a no-no in some classrooms. This is one of them. When you read this note, look across to Room 5. If we wave, you fail."

One by one the guilt-ridden students peeked timidly across the courtyard to the other building. As each one looked, Sally, the principal, and the math teacher waved. The coach was too busy trying to remember whether he had eaten lunch yet and whether he and his wife had been married eight years and had a two-year old son or whether they had been married two years and had an eight-year old daughter.

"Well?" Sally demanded. "Is that proof of cheating?"

The principal became confused and turned to the coach to ask if they had eaten lunch yet.

"Never mind," said Sally. "I'm going to flunk the whole carload of them. If you can't decide, I can."

"But," wailed the principal, "what's to become of them? What will happen if they don't graduate?"

"Nothing important," Sally said. "They'll eventually pass their course work, graduate, find some flunky school and ooze around it for eight or nine years, and then come back here to become school administrators or members of the Board of Education."

The principal beamed happily. "Oh, well, then," he said, "just as long as nothing bad happens...."

Rusty Gates



Your Right To Say It

Thanks For Support

Dear Editor,

What an exceptional right to see a standing room only audience for a performance of Shakespeare's "Macbeth." Last Saturday night on the stage of Dover Theatre at Gardner-Webb College many citizens of Cleveland County took advantage of the challenging opportunity to see a fine performance of one of the world's greatest pieces of literature.

The success of the evening was due in a great part to the energy and involvement of some special people. There were many teachers who strongly encouraged their students to attend and indeed even brought them by the bus load. There were over 135 students and teachers from the Kings Mountain school district. Thank you teachers! There were numerous individuals in this county and others who helped promote and publicize the event and there were hard working technical crews who ably assisted the touring group backstage. We want to especially thank the Kings Mountain Herald for its important coverage of the production.

Thank you Cleveland County for supporting the Arts!

BARBARA BROCK, COORDINATOR
CLEVELAND COUNTY ARTS COUNCIL
JOHN BROCK, VISITING PROFESSOR
THEATRE ARTS
GARDNER-WEBB COLLEGE

Car Wash Success

Dear Editor,

The Kings Mountain Jaycees would like to thank everyone who helped make our car wash on Oct. 1 such a success. Because of the large turnout we were able to donate \$280 to the Kings Mountain United Fund. We would like to give a special thanks to Bridges Hardware for allowing us to use their parking lot.

Jaycees have more projects planned and hope everyone will help us provide happier holidays for members of our community.

KINGS MOUNTAIN JAYCEES
Dr. Bryan Baker, President
Darleen Ruff, Treasurer

Letter Policy

We ask that you follow these guidelines and deadlines when submitting letters:

Keep the letters brief and to the point. Type and double-space them, if possible, but sign them in ink and include your full name, address and telephone number for verification.

The Herald reserves the right to edit the letters for spelling, good taste, libel, or any other reason, and reserves the right to refuse the letters for any reason.

All letters must be mailed to Letter to the Editor, P.O. Box 769, Kings Mountain, N.C. 28086. Under no circumstances will hand-delivered letters be published.

Community Calendar

THURSDAY:

11:00 - Young At Heart Club at David Baptist Church Fellowship Hall.

12:00 - Kings Mountain Kiwanis Club at the Woman's Club.

7:00 - Hospice Volunteer training course at First Baptist Church, West King Street.

FRIDAY

5-8 p.m. - Kings Mountain Kiwanis Club will have its annual pancake supper at the KMHS cafeteria. \$3 per person.

8 p.m. - Kings Mountain High homecoming football game against R-S Central at Gamble Stadium.

SUNDAY:

3:30-5:30 p.m. - Open House at Harris Funeral Home Chapel, North Piedmont Avenue.

MONDAY

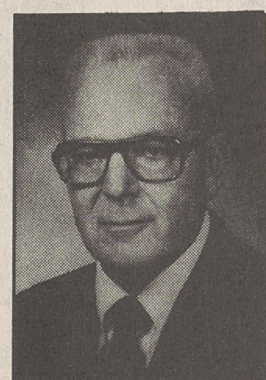
7:00 - Community Watch meeting at Depot Center. Public invited.

WEDNESDAY:

10:00 - Woman's Club "Vote America Festival" at the clubhouse on East Mountain St. (Lunch from 11:30 until 1:30 p.m. and supper from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. Luncheon tickets are \$5 for adults and supper tickets are \$6. Children plates, 12 and under, lunch \$2.50; supper, \$3. The menu for lunch is chicken salad or ham and turkey with all the trimmings and dessert. The evening meal will feature the same plus oyster casserole.)

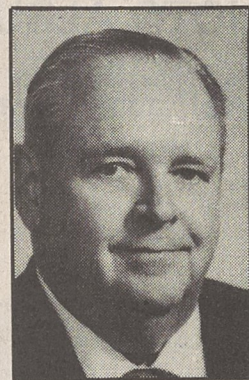
SIDEWALK SURVEY

What do you think about Reagan vetoing the Textile Bill?



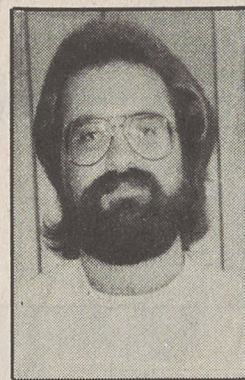
JOSH HINNANT

Being from Textile Country, I think he should not have vetoed it. I was very disappointed.



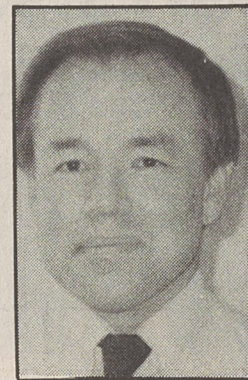
W.K. MAUNEY JR.

That was one bill he should have let ride. The textile industry has suffered bad from unfair trade imports. Had the President not vetoed the bill it would have been a great bonanza for the textile industry.



CLAUDE SUBER

I had mixed feelings, but textiles are my livelihood and the President's veto of the textile bill has affected our business and other outerwear industries like us.



BERNARD HARVEY

I'm not a protectionist, but I think America needed a fair share and didn't get it by the President's veto of the textile bill.



RICK WHITMAN

I was disappointed that the textile bill was vetoed. I think we needed the legislation to prevent more textile jobs from being lost to foreign countries.



LAVON STRICKLAND

The President made a terrible mistake for the textile industry. Are the foreign importers now going to be given guidelines to make their products comparable to 'Made In USA'!