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THE CAROLINIAN

N.C.'s Semi-Weekly

DEDICATED TO THE SPIRIT OF JESUS CHRIST

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RALEIGH, N. C.
VOL. 48, NO. 97
TUESDAY
NOVEMBER 7, 1989

Wilder, Candidates Breaking New Ground Mainstream Views Attract Votes, Most Attention

WASHINGTON, D.C. (AP)—Black candidates whose views and resumes place them in the political mainstream are breaking new ground as they seek white support in settings as varied as Tidewater Virginia, the boroughs of New York and the neighborhoods of Cleveland and New Haven.

Leading the way are L. Douglas Wilder, with his strong bid to make Virginia the first state to elect a black governor, and David Dinkins, who could become the first black mayor of New York City.

A former state legislator now in his fourth year as lieutenant governor of

Virginia, Wilder is running as a supporter of the "fiscally conservative management" of Democratic Gov. Gerald Baliles, who cannot succeed himself. His opponent, Republican J. Marshall Coleman, contends Wilder would take the state back "to the days of higher taxes, high interest rates and high inflation."

"What was unthinkable only a couple of years ago has become inevitable," said pollster Ron Lester when asked about the progress blacks were making attracting white votes. While Wilder and Dinkins are attracting the most attention in the off-year elections to be decided Nov. 7, they

are not the only candidates bidding for racial breakthroughs.

This year's elections are also providing the first electoral test of the impact of the Supreme Court's recent decision on abortion.

Like Virginia, New Jersey is electing a governor and hundreds of cities from New York, Detroit, Cleveland and Seattle, to some of the nation's smallest, are choosing mayors. In most cases, incumbents seeking new terms face only token opposition.

Voters in Virginia and New Jersey also are filling legislative seats, while in Maine a referendum asks whether people favor stopping cruise missile

tests in the state.

The race to succeed Republican Gov. Thomas H. Kean of New Jersey is between two House members, Democrat James J. Florio and Republican James A. Courter.

While blacks seek new gains in Virginia, New York, Seattle and New Haven, Conn., and to build on earlier successes in cities like Detroit and Cleveland, the most prominent black in national politics, Jesse Jackson, has played a lesser role.

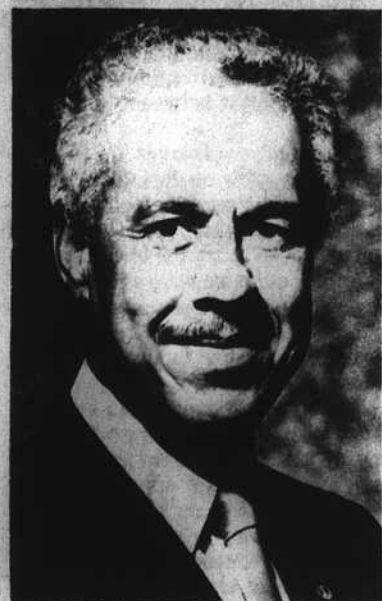
Jackson has stayed out of Virginia, at Wilder's request.

"I think Jesse is an activist," said Wilder in an interview. "I have been

involved with compromises—getting half of the loaf when you couldn't get the whole loaf. I don't want to walk away empty-handed."

Lester, who specializes in polling for minority candidates, said the new wave of black politicians "seem to have developed a particular way of connecting with the electorate. If you look at most of them, there is something about them that makes them more acceptable to white folks."

"I think we are certainly seeing a kind of different appeal on the part of black candidates," said Linda (See NEW GROUND, P. 2)



DOUGLAS WILDER

King Coalition Questions Facts In Controversy

BY LARRY A. STILL

NPNA News Service
"In a spirit of love and nonviolence, an unprecedented coalition of friends and beneficiaries of the Martin Luther King, Jr. Dream" issued another dramatic statement "questioning the factual and psychological foundation of the book, 'And the Walls Came Tumbling Down,'" by Ralph David Abernathy, a lifelong friend of Dr. King.

"Despite our distaste and disdain for public squabbles, we were forced to issue this second and final statement to put the whole controversy to rest," declared Jesse Hill, Atlanta Life Insurance executive and chairman of the Martin Luther King Center for Nonviolent Social Change. The group met the media at the Shiloh Baptist Church in Washington 12 days after an Atlanta press conference.

(See COALITION, P. 2)

King "Great Issues" Series Begins At Shaw

BY DR. ALBERT JABS

Contributing Writer
6 Dr. Delores Tucker, chairperson of the National Black Caucus, opened the Martin Luther King Great Issues Series at Shaw University.

Organized by Dr. Alvin H. McLean, vice president for Student Affairs, the series will feature such noted personalities as Mrs. Coretta King, Dr. James Farmer (Human Rights Activist), Dr. Mervyn Dymally (Congressman), Dr. John Hope Franklin (Historian), and Dr. Frances Welsing (Psychiatrist).

Tucker was an apt opening speaker. She told the largely student audience to "know the rules and master the tools." With one third of the workforce being minority by 2,000, she cited that dollars should move within the community (300 (See SERIES, P. 2)

Black Lawyers Offering Aid To Losing Farmers

Recognizing the social and economic importance of family farming, the North Carolina General Assembly has appropriated \$100,000 to the state's Land Loss Prevention Project. Founded by the N.C. Association of Black Lawyers, LLFP provides free legal assistance to individual farmers threatened with foreclosure and works with organizations devoted to making family farming economically viable.

In the past five years, North Carolina has lost more than 20 percent of its small farms. According to the latest U.S. Census of Agriculture, during a time when the number of farms larger than 1,000 acres increased almost 14 percent, farms under 50 acres declined by more than 21 percent. In a state where small farmers predominate, gains in large farms have failed to offset losses in small farms. Total farmland declined by nearly one million acres between 1982 and 1987.

With the loss of family farms comes a series of adverse consequences. Family farmers often lack transferable skills, and unemployment,

welfare-dependency and lowered self-esteem typically accompany displacement from land. Such displacement also has ramifications for the larger economy. "When a farmer goes out of business, the negative effects reverberate throughout the rural economy; stores banks and other rural businesses fail," said David Harris, Jr., LLFP's executive director. Growth in corporate farms rarely compensates for such a loss. As a 1978 study by the U.S. General Accounting Office concluded, "Rural businesses have declined since the more sophisticated needs of larger farmers, coupled with improved transportation, have carried much farm business out of rural business centers."

The census also shows that minority farmers are going out of business at a rate close to twice that of all small farmers. Between censuses, 1962-87, the number of black-owned farms in North Carolina dropped from 4,413 to 2,640, a decline of more than 40 percent. During the same period, the number of Native (See LAWYERS, P. 2)

All New Admissions

Prisons Begin AIDS Testing

Program To Begin Nov. 13

In an effort to determine how the AIDS epidemic has affected the prison population, the North Carolina Department of Correction will begin six months of prevalence testing for the HIV infection among all new admissions starting November 13.

Acting upon the department's request, the General Assembly set aside \$58,200 for this purpose during the recent legislative session. The department will be required to report its findings to the lawmakers in May 1990.

"Whether or not we will need a dedicated ward for AIDS patients is yet to be determined," said Richard Panek, Director of Health Services for the Division of Prisons. "We hope to give the General Assembly a comprehensive report on AIDS in the prison system and subsequent costs."

This testing will take place at 10 prison diagnostic centers across the state, where new inmates first enter the prison system. These centers are located at: Central Prison, North Carolina Correctional Institution for Women, Piedmont Correctional Institution, southern Correctional Institution, Western Youth Institution, Polk Youth Institution, Triangle Correctional Institution, Rowan Correctional Center, Guilford Correctional; Center, and Hoke Correctional Institution.

The first true case of AIDS, Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome, within the state prison system (See AIDS TESTING, P. 2)



AFFORDABLE HOUSING—Pictured are Mr. and Mrs. Hodgopath and children cutting the ribbon to Jeffries Ridge. Accompanying them are Congressman Price and Mayor Upchurch. The Hodgopaths will be moving into their new 3 bedroom apartment on the last weekend of October. Jeffries Ridge was developed by DHC to bring affordable housing to the residents of Raleigh.

Legislature Remembers Veterans, Salutes Heroes And Dedication

The 1989 General Assembly passed a number of new laws and policies aimed at thanking the many men and women who served our great nation so ably in peacetime and in war.

This past session, the Legislature voted to salute winners of the nation's Purple Heart military decoration by

providing those brave North Carolinians with specialized license plates so that everyone who drives past them will know who they are.

In addition, legislators designated April ninth as Prisoner of War Recognition day here in North Carolina. They also passed a law to

permit the official POW/MIA flag to fly over our State Capitol on veterans Day, Memorial Day, Armed Forces Day and on all other national holidays honoring our veterans.

The recent General Assembly did two things to particularly help the state's disabled veterans and their families. Legislators broadened coverage under the state's scholarship program for children of war veterans to include those whose parent had received a wartime service disability of 20 percent. Those scholarships had been available only to those children whose parent received a 30 percent disability.

The Legislature further helped the state's disabled veterans by raising (See VETERANS, P. 2)

INSIDE AFRICA

BY DANIEL MAROLEN

NPNA News Service
President F.W. de Klerk wants dialogue between African and white leaders. Some Africans do, too. They think that it can solve Africa's problem. But it cannot.

Everything has been aired about what should bring about harmonious race relations in the country. Everyone knows that apartheid is the only wrong thing in the country, and that the only thing necessary is to abolish it. There's no other panacea.

Now, what will dialogue serve? Dialogue can serve no useful purpose because President de Klerk already has all the answers at his fingertips. The problem is already identified for him. It is white domination. Now, all de Klerk need do is simply end it. The United Nations and other global forums have provided the answers of how to end apartheid and make South Africa a free, unitary and democratic state, in which every individual, irrespective of race, color, creed, sex or belief must enjoy equal justice, freedom, citizenship, power-sharing and participation in the government of the country.

It's all that simple... the president understands this, but he doesn't want to do the right thing. He must fool nobody by saying that he needs an "indaba" in the cream and intelligentsia of white and black South African leadership... Is he a fool or a fake to need that "indaba"? President de Klerk seems determined to perpetuate Afrikaner domination over the other 93 percent of South Africa's population.

The answers are there, and aren't too far to seek.

The erstwhile African leaders of (See AFRICA, P. 2)

More Mobile Society

Voter Registration System Examined

BY JOSEPHUS L. MAVRETIC

Special to The CAROLINIAN

An Analysis

North Carolinians are not a people who jump to change for the sake of change. Indeed, they put much store in the familiar phrase, "If it ain't broke, don't fix it." I would add a corollary: "When it's worn out, replace it." That's good practice, whether you're working with a disk plow or a

computer chip. And I believe a strong case can be made that the state's voter registration system, if not broke, is certainly wearing thin in some of its parts.

Let's make an inspection of the system.

In a world where we have witnessed people giving up their lives and livelihoods in China and East Germany for the fresh air of democracy,

we in the United States are becoming more and more apathetic or just plain disgusted with the voting process. The Congressional Research Service shows that voter participation has been dropping over the past four decades. In the 1968 presidential election, only half of the voting age population in America went to the polls. The average participation during the past forty years is 57 percent.

North Carolina voters reflect this downward trend. According to one report, only 43.3 percent of the state's voting age population voted in the national, state and local elections last year. That's below even the poor showing at the national level, and it placed the old North State 46th among the 50 states in voter turnout.

That ranking alone should indicate that something in our voting process is not in working order!

One big item that's missing from the system is the voter himself. Unlike some countries such as Canada which conduct constant voter registration drives, we take a passive approach and largely leave it up to the citizen to find his or her way through the registration maze...and it can be a puzzle when you consider that each of our 100 counties may operate a slightly different system.

The most recent figures for North Carolina show that there are about 1.97 million Democrats registered, about 956 thousand Republicans and 148 thousand affiliated. That comes to a total of 3,084,600 registered voters. That's not so many when you figure the state's total population is 6.3 million.

We are missing an estimated 35 percent of our eligible voters right from the start. They're not even registered.

There are explanations for these breakdowns. From my own personal experience as an elected official and political campaigner, I know we are a much more mobile society than we were 40 years ago. People move (See VOTERS, P. 2)



PHOTOGRAPHS—Local community members recently held a "Just Say No Workshop" at Rush Metropolitan ABE Bible Church as part of an on-going effort to help eliminate drug abuse with participants including law enforcement agencies. In photo: officers John G. Annis, R. S. Brown, S. R. Nannant, P. J. Dolan, B. R. Lane and Tony Gibson.