[redacted]
FAYETTEVILLE, NC 28301

C Span
ATTN. MR BRIAN LAMB

003944 NOV 20 90

Greetings Mr Lamb.

First, I want to thank you and C Span for your excellent programs.
Next, I would like to share the enclosed extract with those who denigrate North Carolina because of Senator Helms.

God speed,

[redacted]

NOV 26 ANS'D

cc: Steve Scully

No To Gantt

Your November 8 editorial, "The N.C. Races," missed all the reasons that persuaded me to vote for Jesse Helms rather than Harvey Gantt.

Early in the race I was thinking seriously about voting for Mr. Gantt, but the content of his commercials drove me away.

It was incredible for Mr. Gantt to blame Mr. Helms for declines in SAT scores in North Carolina. There has been a nationwide decline in SAT scores since the start of federal aid to education. We no longer control our local educational programs. There is a better correlation between declining SAT scores and increasing federal control through federal aid than there is between SAT scores and Helms' voting record on education.

It was incredible for Mr. Gantt to blame Mr. Helms for acid rain, polluted waters, the need for a toxic-materials incinerator and the general decline of the state of North Carolina over the years.

Sen. Helms has one vote. The Democrats have been in power in the Congress and in the Legislature for longer than I can remember. They have many votes. It doesn't take much intelligence to conclude that the responsibility for these horrendous conditions rests squarely on the shoulders of the party in power. Anyone who can think past his nose had to conclude that Mr. Gantt and his campaign managers have a very low opinion of the intelligence level of the people of this state even to attempt such arguments.

The final insult to my intelligence came when Mr. Gantt tried to justify his TV station shenanigans by saying that "The FCC found nothing wrong..." You and I both know that in the sale of a station franchise the FCC is only interested in the qualifications of the buyer, not the character of the seller or his motives. Approval of the sale says nothing about Mr. Gantt's ethics and principles. Mr. Gantt tried to use the old "If you can't convice 'em, confuse 'em" technique, but his attempt was bound to fail with intelligent voters.

You criticize Sen. Helms for even bringing up this subject because it raises the "race" issue. In an attempt to atone for past injustice, Congress has made it clear that minorities are to receive special consideration by the FCC in terms of license grants. To take a position that such special consideration should not be given might be racist. To bring to the attention of the public Mr. Gantt's use of this privileged status for his own benefit is not.

To the extent that this issue helped us judge the man and his character, bringing it to our attention was a public service. To take the position that the special status which Mr. Gantt enjoyed, and which he holds because of his race, also renders him immune to criticism is circuitous reasoning. If he wants to play the game, he must be willing to be judged as a man. Race is irrelevant in matters of character.

You and columnists such as Roy Parker Jr. (Nov. 10 issue) and AP writer Christopher Sullivan (Nov. 11 issue) are "sobbing," just as Sen. Helms predicted you would. How is it that you and they criticize Sen. Helms's commercials so extensively but do not comment on the fallacies in Mr. Gantt's?

It may be true that racism did play a part in the outcome. Blacks voted their color to a greater extent than whites (67 percent of whites voted for Sen. Helms and 93 percent of blacks voted for Mr. Gantt). Doesn't this suggest that, as a race, blacks may be more bigoted than whites? Or is the term "bigot" reserved exclusively for those whites who vote for whites?

You are selling the people of North Carolina short when you ignore the excellent reasons that Mr. Gantt created to persuade us not to vote for him. You and the liberal press would serve your readers better if you were more even-handed in your analyses of current events.

ROBERT L. CASSELBERRY
Pinehurst

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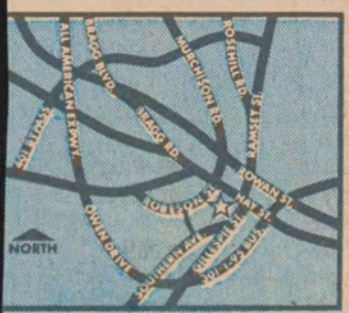

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Suede

The Fabric's Popularity Is Running Smoothly

See Story, Page 10A

Pirates' Drabek Wins Cy Young

See Sports, Page 1C

Remember

Fayetteville Observer-Times

25 Cents | Thursday, November 15, 1990 | HOME EDITION | Fayetteville, N.C. | Vol. CLXXV-No. 46

WEATHER

TODAY
Sunny and mild with a high near 70 and a low near 40.

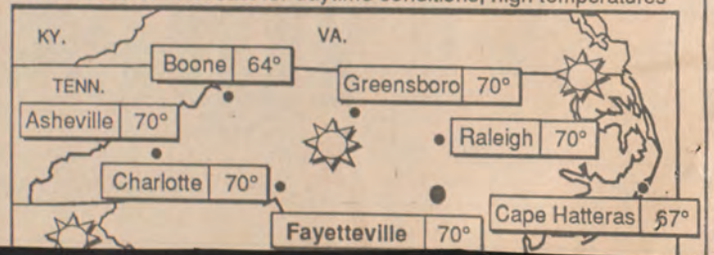
FRIDAY
Continued sunny and mild with a high in the low 70s.

SATURDAY
Cooler, with a high in the 60s and a low in the 40s.

STATE

Thursday, Nov. 15

Accu-Weather® forecast for daytime conditions, high temperatures



Moore

From Page 1A

killed Mr. Reid to gain part of his estate.

Mrs. Moore also is charged with murder in the poisoning of her first husband, James Taylor, in 1973, and with assault for allegedly trying to kill her estranged husband, the Rev. Dwight Moore, after their honeymoon last year. No trial dates have been set on those charges.

"I know arsenic was found in these three people, but I know that I didn't do it," Mrs. Moore testified last week. "I've never physically harmed other people."

Officials exhumed five bodies while investigating the case, including those of Mrs. Moore's father, Mr. Taylor's mother and a former co-worker of Mrs. Moore's. They found arsenic in the remains of Mrs. Moore's father, Parker D. Kiser Sr., but she was not charged in connection with his death.

Officials began investigating Mr. Reid's death after Moore's arsenic poisoning was discovered by doctors last year.

Prosecutor Janet Branch said 53 witnesses supported the state's contention that Mrs. Moore fed home-cooked food to Mr. Reid while he was hospitalized at North Carolina Baptist Hospital in Winston-Salem. Prosecution witnesses also testified that Mrs. Moore sought to buy Anti-Ant, an insect poison.

Mrs. Moore testified that she never sought the poison, never owned any of it and never fed Mr. Reid home-cooked food in the hospital.

Defense attorneys tried to lay the blame for the deaths upon an acquaintance of Mrs. Moore's, Garvin Thomas. They produced a rambling, five-page letter in which he allegedly confessed to the crimes. Mr. Thomas died before the letter arrived at Mrs. Moore's jail cell.

"I can't tell you I regret any decision we made," Mr. McEntire said about the defense. "... I regret the result."

Handwriting experts differed on whether Mrs. Moore or Mr. Thomas could have penned the letter.

"It's intriguing to say she did it," Mr. McEntire said. "It's like a case of delightful horror. (It) captured (the imagination) of the jury as a secret killer. To me it's more satisfying to believe that some handicapped and pathetic figure like Garvin Thomas would be guilty."

Schools

From Page 1A

Licenses

From Page 1A