

The Black Press—  
Our Freedom Depends  
On It!

# The Carolina Times

THE TRUTH UNBIDDEN

Words of Wisdom

Our business in life is not to get ahead of others, but to get ahead of ourselves.  
—Anonymous

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## HUNT REFUSES TO MEET WITH CONGRESSMEN

### SUPPORT OF WILMINGTON 10 Durham Ministerial Alliance To Participate In Protest March

The Interdenominational Ministerial Alliance of Durham and Vicinity will participate in the Protest Walk in support of the Wilmington 10. The marchers, led by the Rev. James Barnette of Charlotte, will leave Charlotte on December 10. They will be joined by other ministers en route to Durham. Upon their arrival in Durham on Friday December 16, they will be greeted by ministers of various denominations at the Russell Memorial Christian Methodist Church, 703 South Alston Avenue, Rev. L. H. Whelchel is the pastor, located near the Interstate 40. The ministers have planned a mass meeting to be held at the church on Friday evening at 7:30 p.m. At this time a statement will be released to the press and to Governor James B. Hunt.

At this meeting there will be speakers who will provide updated information pertaining to the case. The public is urged to attend this mass meeting which demonstrates the ministers' and community's faith and commitment to God's call for justice and liberation for ALL OF HIS PEOPLE.

The ministers will join the marchers as they leave Durham en route to Raleigh. They expect to meet with Governor Hunt on Monday.

All area ministers are asked to take part in this march for justice.



REV. ROBERT DRIAN, (second from right) D.-Mass. makes a point with District of Columbia, attentive Congressman Walter Fauntroy (right). Left of Drian is Donald Edwards, Chairman of the Civil Rights Subcommittee of the House Judiciary Committee, Jack Cozort legal advisor to Gov. Hunt and Cong. Stark, D.-Oakland, Calif.



SEATED (left to right) BANKS TALLEY, executive assistant to Gov. James Hunt, Md. Congressman Parren Mitchell, Calif. Congressman Fournety Stark, and Jack Cozort, Hut's legal advisor. Standing is Golden Frinks, staff member of the Southern Christian Leadership Conference.



SIX CONGRESSMEN, Wilmington 10 supporters, and press arrive at Pullen Memorial Church for meeting with Gov. Hunt's aides.

### Congressmen Plead For Wilmington 10 Pardon

RALEIGH - Six Congressmen pleaded, with staff members of Governor James Hunt Sunday in Raleigh to urge the state's chief executive to use his power to pardon the Wilmington 10. None of the congressmen was from North Carolina. Their pleas were part of last ditch efforts of Wilmington 10 supporters to get the group pardoned by Christmas, a feat which political observers say is unlikely.

Congressman Don Edwards, chairman of the Subcommittee on Civil Rights of the House Judiciary Committee said the state has no witnesses against the Wilmington 10, at one point recalling how at a post conviction hearing, Allen Hall, the state's main witness, recanted his testimony, as did the other witness, all claiming favors from state prosecutor Jay Stroud, and light sentences in return for their testimonies.

Representing Hunt were Banks Talley, Hunt's executive assistant, John R. Larkins, Assistant for Minority Affairs, and Jack Cozort, Hunt's legal advisor. Hunt had refused to meet with the Congressmen saying he always reserves Sunday to be with his family.

The lawmakers seemed a little irritated at Hunt's failure to meet with them, but nevertheless they went about the city, each speaking at a different church congregation obviously building support for Hunt to pardon the Wilmington 10.

The Wilmington 10 were convicted in 1972 of buring a white-owned grocery during white vigilantes attacks upon Wilmington's black ghetto. Unless Governor Hunt or President Carter chose to pardon them, many of the group will serve a good portion of the 282 years of the combined sentences. Mrs. Anne Sheppard Turner, the only white defendant, is also the only defendant paroled at this time. She had the lightest sentence - ten years.

Parren Mitchell, D. - Md. and Chairman of the Congressional Black Caucus, expressed little optimism as he pleaded "please don't destroy my faith. Don't you destroy that! Because if you do, you destroy that in 50,000 to 500,000 people at the same time."

There is not a shred of evidence for holding them" said Rev. Robert F. Drian, a Massachusetts Congressman.

The Justice Department's involvement in the case has been, seemingly, a source of irritation to Hunt. Last August, sixty congressmen, including the six who met with Hunt aides, asked U. S. Attorney General Griffin Bell to intercede in the case on behalf of the Wilmington 10. The Justice Department has since filed a friend of the court brief in behalf of the ten defendants in federal court. But while urging Hunt's aides to relay their concern for pardon, the congressmen kept reminding that the case would take possibly several years to resolve in the courts.

Cozort said that Hunt's position had not changed - on requests to pardon the Wilmington 10 - that is, no action until all appeals in the case are exhausted.

One Congressman, Augustus Hawkins, D. - Calif. not present at the meeting, said in a weekly column last

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### Kid Smith Charges Perry Racist

Kid Smith, a black painting contractor, says he has been waging a battle not to be excluded from rehabilitating houses for the Durham Redevelopment Commission. Smith told THE CAROLINA TIMES this week that until last April he was allowed to bid on several rehabilitation jobs, but because he is black, he is now being excluded. Several attempts to reach Ben Perry, Executive Director of the Durham Redevelopment Commission, proved fruitless.

According to Smith, last April, he was remodeling a house when its white occupant "came out and started

cursing and calling my crew 'niggers' ". The police were summoned to the house, Smith said, went into the house and came out saying the occupants were justified because they had complaints about the workmanship.

Smith said he withdrew his crew, hoping that Ben

Perry and his staff would resolve the situation the next day, which Smith charges was never resolved, until Perry sent him a letter last week saying that Smith was terminated from the program.

Other black contractors have been terminated from

rehabilitation contracts according to Smith, and have either gone out of business, looked for other business or moved out of town.

Funds spent by the Durham Redevelopment Commission are provided through contract with the U. S. Department of Housing and [Continued On Page 14]

### First Annual Criminal Justice Confab Convenes In State Capital

RALEIGH - Three hundred lawyers, college students, educators, community activists and state bureaucrats put their heads together in the first annual Criminal Justice Conference, resulting in a number of criticisms and recommendations for change.

A primary focus of the conference was affirmative hiring of blacks and minorities. Several of the participating state bureaucrats admitted their agencies were severely understaffed with blacks. Among them was Corrections Secretary Amos Reed who brought along his top black staff from throughout the prison system.

"I'll say this to you, and you're essentially a black

group that is here. I am not impressed with you coming to me and telling me that we don't have enough black people in the system. I say to you that you have the responsibility with me to get people referred in to me so that we can put them to work," Reed said, as he shifted his responsibility to recruit blacks to the conference participants.

The treatment of blacks in the courts, prisons, and police agencies was of concern with Dr. John Fleming, interim President of Shaw University, proclaiming in a welcoming address "justice is not incidental to law and order. Where justice reigns there will be a natural movement toward obedience to the law". Fleming went further to criticize President Carter's "human rights policy" as falling on "deaf ears" in other parts of the world because "there are too many examples of the denial of justice on the home front."

Michigan Congressman John Conyers, the conference keynote, said the Wilmington 10 case "has attracted more attention than any other instance of the injustice of our legal system than any other case currently on the docket."

The state's massive net-

work of 79 prisons Conyers characterized as "almost like the beginning of a police state with prison camps built contemporaneously to the urban centers so that you are either in jail or out of jail, you are a citizen and you may be conveniently tossed into the local state facility." Calling North Carolina's prisons archaic, Conyers said that modern prison facilities are centralized so that expensive rehabilitative services can be better provided.

The lack of blacks employed in the state's courts, prisons, and police agencies was cited by many participants as the reason for inhumane treatment of blacks in the criminal justice system.

But Reginald Eaves, Police Commissioner for Atlanta, Georgia, warned at the conference "the name of the game, once you get into the system, is not to become apathetic about those who are left behind." He continued saying, "too many of us, once we cross into the system, want to prove that we are so much like the other folk, until we are worse than those who have been perpetrating harm for those many years," as he admitted that he had fired more black policemen for police brutality.

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### Durham City Council Members Are Sworn In

"I do," these council members chorused as they were sworn in by council member Ms. Margaret Rawlings, filling in for Mayor Wade Carvin, who was away on business. Pictured right and second from right are incumbent councilman Ralph Hunt, and Clarence Brown, freshman councilman.

Hiring an interim replacement for City Manager I. Hardin Hughes, and Assistant City Manager Tom McPhearson stacks high on council business at the December 12th meeting. Hughes, long the subject of numerous complaints, resigned following the Novem-

ber election effective December 16. When Hughes' resignation was received by the council. Councilman Ralph Hunt immediately made it known that the time was right to implement one of his campaign promises - a black city assistant manager.

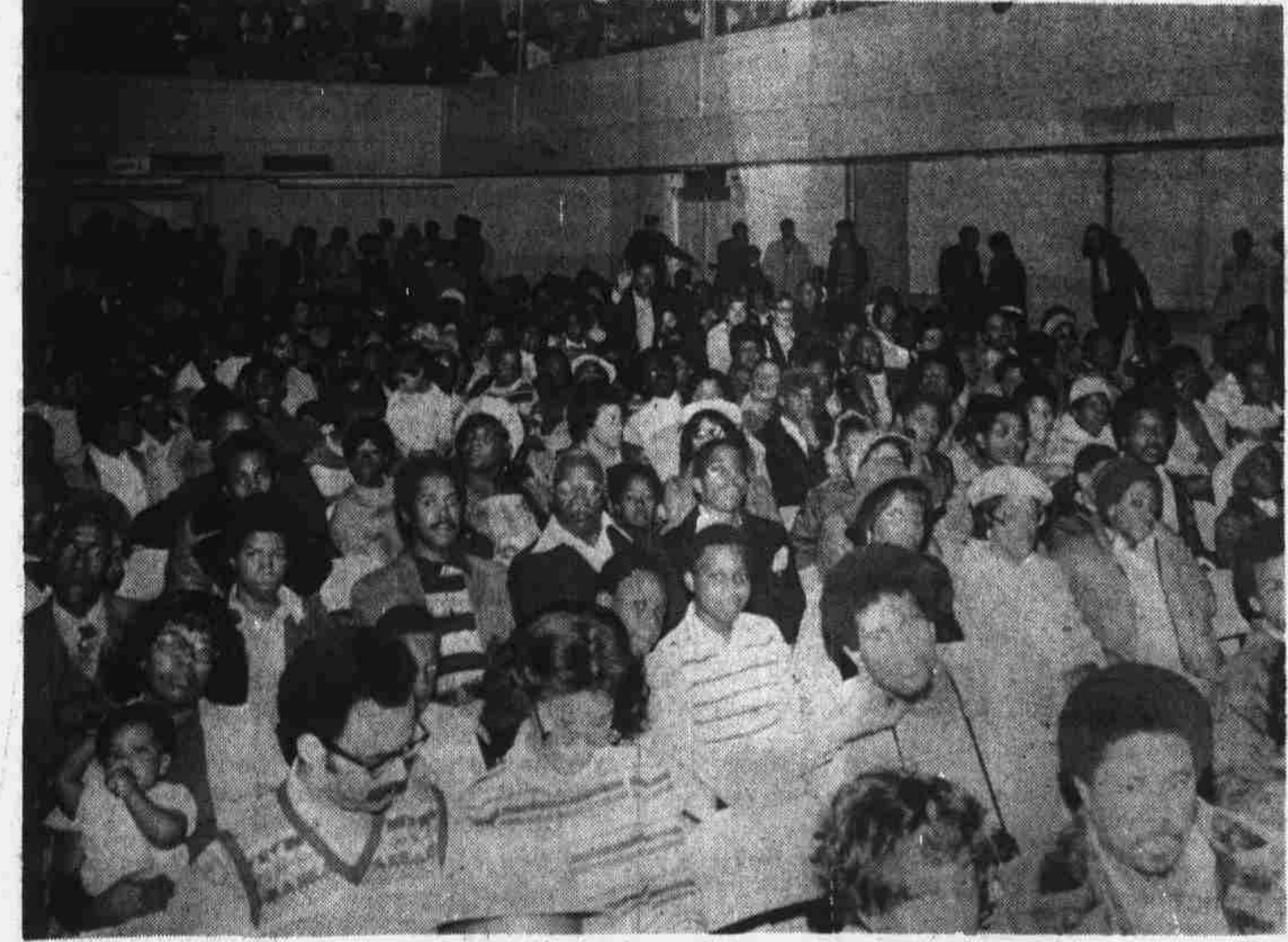
But at that time Thomas McPhearson was holding the job, which he has since resigned. McPhearson told THE CAROLINA TIMES that his resignation was not due to Hunt's desire to have a black named as assistant city manager, but he's going back to school to finish the re-

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SMITH

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AUDIENCE EAGERLY awaits Muhammad Ali's arrival at the Durham Civic Center on Tuesday night.



THE CHAMP AND BROTHER YUSEF (Photo by Kelvin A. Bell).

### THE PEOPLE SPEAK

[PCNS]  
PUBLIC OPINION COLUMN

The Peoples Collective News Service (PCNS) wishes to thank those participating individuals for their time and ideas while allowing us to make their opinions and views available to comment and criticism by the public through "The People Speak" column.

It is an encouraging experience to see citizens, young and old, using their right of free speech and thought in the confines of our column. Not only are these individuals generating different views on a wide range of topics, they, in essence, are guaranteeing the rights and liberties of us all by placing themselves and ideas on the line.

As a whole, we Americans, regardless of race, sex or age, tend to take our constitutional and, thank you Jimmy, our human rights

for granted. Many fail to realize a true, just democracy depends on an informed and active public.

Ideally, as the new year approaches and we all grow older, it is assumed we also grow wiser and more aware of the world around us. America is growing older. Maybe this will be our great national renaissance. People, their hopes, fears, dreams and actions will shape the future, not politicians and their bureaucracies. We, you and I, will make the thin difference between a new dawn of human consciousness or another age of tyranny and terror.

As the new year approaches, lets promise ourselves not to take anything for granted, our families, our health, our rights, even our food and energy. Lets grow old and wise together.