Another K-Mart Connected Horror Story Revealed in Raleigh

BY JOYCE RHYAN

A former Raleigh businessman and barber was recently ordered released from prison by Wake Superior Court Judge Edwin S. Preston Jr. after the N.C. Court of Appeals threw out a false pretense conviction.

William Arthur Moore believes it all started with K-Mart and a conspiracy against him. After reading THE CAROLINA TIMES report of K-Mart employees beating Bobby Sims, Moore felt compelled to tell his story which is contained in the following paragraphs.

In March 1976, Moore claims he was beaten and his automible damaged by K-Mart employees at 4500 Western Blvd. Moore was in the process of purchasing merchandise when the clerk asked to see his K-Mart check cashing card. After showing her the card, she asked him to remove it from the covering so it could be seen better. Moore refused saying it was visable enough.

Charles Carter, the security guard, was summoned. Moore said Carter asked him for the card not stating why h wanted it. When Moore again refused to give up the card he said Carter went to a microphone calling out a number that brought employees running. Moore then quietly walked from the store to a phone booth and called police. Moore said, "While sitting in my car, 9 to 10 K-Mart employees grabbed the door, pulled me out by the neck while the car was running, beat my head against the car, twisted my arm and kicked me." He recalls a black woman ran over and asked, "Why are you beating that man like that?" Moore a small built man continues, "I weighed only 140 at that time and this lady pleaded with them to stop beating me."

Moore was arrested and charged with disorderly conduct. The case was thrown out and Moore filed a lawsuit against K-mart for $500,000. Moore believes that this is the root to what he claims is a conspiracy against him.

Following the K-Mart incident, Moore was picked up on what he argues convincingly were false charges. One such false pretense charge was thrown out by Judge Green, Moore stated.

In March, 1977, Moore was again indicted on a false pretense charge. The indictment charged that W.A . Moore unlawfully and willfully did feloniously unto J.J. Morely Inc., a men's clothing store in Crabtree Valley Mall. Robert Sandy Harrison wrote Moore a check for $137 to purchase a suit. Moore declares that he had no knowledge of Harrison having closed out the checking account and the check being worthless. Moore purchased a $135 three-piece suit from J.J. Morley with the check written and signed by Harrison.

Although Harrison admitted writing the check to Moore and telling him that he had funds in the bank the accused was treid, f accused was tried, found guilty and sentenced to 8 to 10 years in prison by Judge Harry E. Canady. Moore's lawyer, Mohamed M. Shyllon stated in a written account that "the trial court should have granted the defendant's motion to dismiss because the state did not offer substantial evidence that Moore had actual knowledge that the check was not covered by sufficient funds. Shyllon appealed the conviction.

While awaiting appeal Moore was not released on bond but sent to Central Prison as a safekeeper inmate pending appeal. Once at Central Prison, Moore recalls several occasions he nearly lost his life. First, as white inmate walked up to him and said, "I come to get you boy." Moore said, "He then stabbed me in the chest three times with an object that I think was ether an ice pick or screw driver." Moore claims that he was not allowed to see a doctor. He filled out a grievance form and nine days of suffering had passed before he saw a doctor.

Shortly afterwards, another inmate beat Moore and attempted to throw him 50 feet from th fourth floor but was apprehended by two fellow inmates.

Moore suffered much harrassment and thought he had been through it all and then came the fire. On May 21, 1978 a fire broke out in Moore's 6 by 8 cell. Moore said, "I was awakened by a burning sensation near my leg. There was fire everywhere. I woke my roommate and we began to cry for help. Eveyrone on the floor was screaming fire.

A quick thinking Moore placed his feet in the commode and his head in the sink running water down his back. "Everything was burning the walls, the mattresses, my clothes, my shoes had even melted." I wanted to move from the commode," said Moore, "to give my roommate a break but I couldn't the flames were inches from my back." Moore said it took about twenty minutes for the guards to come open their cell.

Moore said, "I have been through it all and I am not afraid any more. I was afraid when I first stepped into Central Prison, I was afraid when I was stabbed, I was afraid in that fire.

He has filed over 9 lawsuits in federal court including $137 million against former Wake District Attorney Burley B. Mitchell Jr., two assistants, and the Wake Probation Office for conspiring to do him bodily harm and depriving him of his constitutional rights.

Moore spoke with members of the Department of Justice in Washington, D.C. He said the FBI are investigating his case now.

"When a person is locked up and feels there is no hope, his mind can go bad and I don't want to see that happen," says Mattie Gaines, a 51-year old grandmother of five in Detroit. "I tell them (prisoners) if they want to find anything good in life, they have to first find themselves." Mrs. Gaines has been spending every spare moment in the Wayne County Jail for the past eight years talking and listening to prisoners, and she loves it. "God gave me that mission one day," she said of her frequent visits on behalf of the prisoners which takes 12-to-24 hours of her time each week. UPI

Black Sanitation Worker Found Guilty of Assault

RALEIGH – A black Wake County district court judge found a former black sanitation worker guilty Monday of assaulting a white woman during an argument over garbage collection last month. Twenty-five year old Tyrone Akion was sentenced by Judge Safford Bullock to a 90-day jail term which was suspended upon payment of $50 and court costs. Akion's attorney, Cressie Thigpen of Raleigh gave the notice of appeal.

During an argument with Akion on August 3, Mrs. Patrica Lee Edwards, a 31 year old white woman testified that she called Akion a "S.O.B.". Mrs. Edwards further testified that she returned to her house and attempted to phone the city's sanitation division. After getting no answer, the woman claimed she returned to the garbage truck, complained to Akion's supervisor James Allen and Akion then knocked her down. After getting up from the ground, the woman testified Akion knocked her down a second time.

Akion's supervisor James Allen and fellow santitation worker George Fogg contradicted the white woman's testimony insisting that Akion was struck first and was agitated by the woman.

Fogg testified that he saw Mrs. Edwards standing in front of Akion cursing, screaming, and yelling obsenities. Then the woman slapped Akion, Fogg testified, and Akion hit the woman once before the two locked in struggle.

Allen testified that from his position at the front of the truck he did not see the first lick passed, but that Mrs. Edwards was all over Akion. Allen said he separated the two and ordered Akion to go to the rear of the garbage truck.

Mrs. Edwards followed Akion to the truck's rear, swung at the sanitation worker and was pushed down by Akion, Allen

A neighbor of Mrs.

[Continued On Page 10]

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Renewal Cards For License Plates Were Mailed Dec. 18

RALEIGH – The Division of Motor Vehicles of the North Carolina Department of Transportation reminded motorists today validation stickers and plates for 1979 will go on sale throughout the state on January 2.

Renewal cards necessary for obtaining a 1979 sticker or plate were mailed December 18 and should be received by December 29. Anyone not receiving a renewal card should notify the Division of Motor Vehicles in Raleigh by mail at 1100 New Bern Avenue or by telephone at (919) 733-3025.

Elbert L. Peters, Jr., Commissioner of Motor Vehicles, said, "It will take from ten days to two weeks to obtain a card and new plates or stickers must be displayed by midnight, February 15."

Newcomers to North Carolina or those buying a car for the first time should make application for a license plate at the nearest local agency.

With the exception of some special classifications, 1979 automobile licenses will be renewed with a validation sticker to be affixed to the upper right-hand corner of the current plate, over the 1978 sitcker. Care should be taken to place the sticker exactly as instructed to prevent accidental removal.

An annual license plate will continue to be issued for all other classifications, including trucks.

Any newly acquired vehicle will be issued a plate and sticker unless a plate is to be transferred.

"There are 111 license agencies across the state," said Director of Registration Gonzalie Rivers. "We hope citizens will take advantage of these offices and buy their licenses early."

Rivers said the division is lauching a new communications program this year to encourage vehicle owners to purchase the license plate or stickers before the end of the renewal period. Carrying the slogan, "Get Yours Early," posters, counter cards, and public service announcements will convey the message.

"We feel this program will aid in the reduction of waiting time and provide better efficiency at our offices," said Rivers.

Mr. Hooks, Mrs. Aaron, Mr. Aaron

A LETTER OF APPEAL FROM THE NAACP

Dear Friend;

"It was the best of times, it was the worst of times. . ." So wrote Charles Dickens in the opening passage of his classic, "A Tale of Two Cities," more than 119 years ago. The same thoughts apply today to America's oldest and most influential civil rights organization, the NAACP. On the one hand, we have initiated several new and exciting programs, while at the same time, we are experiencing one of the worst cash flow crises in recent years.

Several events, including the Bakke decision and the implications behind Proposition 13 have necessitated an increase in supportive services to our units. Despite the steady rise of individual contributions, these factors, coupled with spiraling inflation have produced a critical financial situation which gravely threatens our ability to serve the 30 million Black Americans throughout the Nation. A small gift of $5.00 or more from the thousands of concerned Americans in this country would put the NAACP on firm financial footing.

A group of outstanding Americans have joined us in making this special Holiday appeal to raise vitally needed funds to keep the Association effective. When your Christmas gift, large or small, is added to the contributions of thousands of others, the NAACP will be able to continue the pursuit of equality and justice.

Please join us in the Campaign to assure the NAACP the merriest Christmas ever. Donations can be made by mail or by calling our toll-free number (800) 223-0616. MASTER CHARGE and VISA credit card pledges are also accepted as well as money orders, checks or cash. Put us at the top of your Christmas list this year, and pledge your gift today!

Wishing you and yours the joy and peace of Christmas—all year long.

Benjamin L. Hooks *Billye Aaron* *Hank Aaron*

CHRISTMAS GIFT TO THE NAACP

In this joyous season of giving, please find enclosed my gift of $_____ to help the NAACP continue its struggle to win equality for all mankind.

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Rankin Security Awarded Contracts

G. R. Rankin Security Service has been awarded a $100,000 commercial contract by Avon Products, Inc., of Rye, New York, for unarmed guard service to begin January 1 and continue for one year. Ten guards will be utilized.

Sixteen fulltime positions of continued guard service through September has been awarded Rankin Security in a $78,000 federal contract to provide unarmed guard service for the Environmental Protection Agency for the Motor Vehicle Emission Laboratory in Ann Arbor, Michigan.

Hatley Reports For Duty At Camp Lejeune

Marine Private First Class Alvin D. Hatley, son of Mrs. A.B. Hatley of 5-H Wabash Ave., Durham, N.C. has reproted for duty with 2nd Marine Division, Marine Corps Base Camp Lejeune, N.C.

A 1978 graduate of Durham High Schoo, he joined the Marine Corps in February 1978.

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