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The Carolina Times

THE TRUTH UNDISCOVERED
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Words of Wisdom

"Cease to ask what the morrow will bring forth,
and set down as gain each day that fortune
grants."
Horace.

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College Fund Drive Launched In Durham Mayor Proclaims Nov. As UNCF Month

A group of Durham Citizens has organized a campaign in the interest of the United Negro College Fund. Mayor Wade L. Cavin issued a proclamation Friday designating the month of November as United Negro College Fund month.

UNCF represents a consortium of 41 predominately black colleges and universities throughout the United States — all are private and fully accredited. These UNCF institutions provide aid for quality education for more than

50,000 young men and women. Without such aid, a college education for many of them would be an impossible dream.

Durham joins Raleigh, Charlotte, Winston-Salem and High Point in North Carolina in promoting such a campaign in 1979. The national effort in 1978 raised more than \$19,000,000 to aid these 41 colleges, of which more than \$1.5 million went to support the six private black colleges in North Carolina.

The steering committee [Continued on Page 2]



Proclamation Signing

Left to right are: Chancellor Kenneth Pye, Duke University; Mayor Wade Cavin; Miss Cynthia Perry; Regional Director of UNCF, Dr. C. E. Boulware, chairman of Durham Campaign.



World's Most Premature Baby

SAN DIEGO — Mimi Faulkner, believed to be the world's most premature baby ever to survive, is cradled in arms of her mother, Myrna, with father, Curtis, in background, at a homecoming party for the baby's family and Children's Hospital staff. UPI Photo.

Geronimo Pratt: Frame-up Exposed

"The Case of Elmer 'Geronimo' Pratt is a microcosm of the history of black people in the United States — a strong black leader that federal and state authorities had to 'neutralize' because they could not tolerate the combination of his strength, his leadership, and his political determination that black and other Third World people should be entitled to the same benefits that are possessed by the majority."

Committee to Free Geronimo Pratt
By U.S. Congressman
Ronald Y. Dellums

Geronimo Pratt is a political prisoner fighting for his freedom. His story shows how far government agencies have been willing to go to stop movements for social change, particularly the black struggle. The campaign to free him is an example of our ability to fight back and win.

The full weight of my office is behind Geronimo's struggle. I call on all of you to join us.

In 1969, Geronimo Pratt, a UCLA law student, rose to national prominence as a leader of the Black Panther Party. Documents recently uncovered by his lawyer show that the FBI gave "constant consideration" during those years to "counterintelligence measures toward neutralizing Pratt as an effective BPP functionary." After failing several times to stop his work and discredit him, the FBI and police finally framed Geronimo for a crime they knew he did not commit.

Not content with imprisoning Geronimo, these same agencies worked with the California Department of Corrections to keep him in solitary

confinement. For seven straight years Geronimo was locked up in a dingy 4' x 8' cell 23 1/2 hours a day. He was forced to visit his family and friends in handcuffs and shackles; his contact with the outside world was from behind a glass screen. But Geronimo fought back with a federal lawsuit which forced his release into the general population at San Quentin.

In February, 1978, a board headed by Ray Brown, who had worked against the Panthers as head of the Oakland Police riot squad, refused to set any parole date for Geronimo. This flagrant abuse only strengthened Geronimo's determination and built broader support for the fight to vindicate him through unconditional release.

Geronimo and his lawyers and supporters are now winning this fight. If public support continues to grow, Geronimo will be free this year.

Like so many black people, Pratt's roots are in the Deep South. He grew up in the Deep South. He grew up "separate and unequal" in rural Morgan City, Louisiana, the youngest of eight children in a close-knit, hard-working religious family. Determined to see their children educated, his parents managed to put all his brothers and sisters through college.

When his father became too sick to work, Pratt, then seventeen, enlisted in the Army to earn money to support his family. He did two battle tours in Viet Nam, rising to the rank of Staff Sergeant. His ability as a scout and his mix of American Indian and Afro-Haitian ancestry led to a nickname that stuck — "Geronimo".

Along with two purple hearts, two air medals and many other decora-

tions, Geronimo returned in 1968 with serious criticism of U.S. treatment of Third World people. He started UCLA, where he met Bunchy Carter, a leader of the Black Panther Party. Geronimo studied Black History, joined the Party, and determined to dedicate his life to our continuing struggle for freedom.

These were the years when black people were increasingly active in fighting their oppression. Throughout the country programs emerged to combat the wretched conditions people are forced to live under, programs ranging from free breakfasts and health care to new educational and cultural activities.

From the community, from the prisons, from the campus, came the demand for the right of black people to determine our own destiny. A movement grew for Black Pride, Black Power, and Black Liberation.

Because of the Black Panther Party's role in this struggle, J. Edgar Hoover named it "the greatest threat to the internal security of the country" and the main target of the FBI's Counterintelligence Program — COINTELPRO. The stated purpose of this infamous program was to stop the black movement by "discrediting" and "neutralizing" its leaders. Previous black targets of the FBI included Martin Luther King, Malcolm X, Andrew Young and Dick Gregory.

Hoover had his FBI agents come up with "hard-hitting proposals aimed at crippling the BPP." They forged letters and used other dirty tricks to turn local black groups against the Party, until their rivalry exploded into violent conflict that cost many Panthers' lives, including Bunchy Carter's. After Bunchy was killed in January, 1969, Geronimo took his close friend's place

as head of the Party in Los Angeles.

In 1969, police raided and wrecked Panther offices across the country.

On December 4, 1969, Chicago police murdered Panther leader Fred Hampton in his sleep. An FBI informer who had been head of the security for the Chicago Panthers provided a floor plan of Hampton's apartment, showing where he slept.

In the pre-dawn hours of December 8, 1969, 350 heavily armed police attacked three Panther offices in Los Angeles. At one location, the Panthers held the police off for five hours until people from the community came forward to protect them. At another, Geronimo narrowly escaped death.

Following the raid, Geronimo and seventeen others were charged with conspiracy to murder the police. But when the case came to trial, the jury found that the Panthers had acted in self-defense and acquitted them of all major charges.

Alarmed by the massive public outcry against the murder of Fred Hampton and other police attacks on the Panthers, government officials feared that another attempt to kill Geronimo or jail him on political charges would only create one more revolutionary martyr. So they moved against him in a way which would thoroughly discredit him as a leader of his people.

In the fall of 1970, they suddenly brought forth an informer who claimed that two years earlier Geronimo had confessed to a senseless murder committed in the course of a \$30 robbery on a Santa Monica tennis court. This agent was a former L.A. deputy sheriff, now believed to have had ties [Continued on Page 2]

Durhamite Promoted To D.C. Police Captain

WASHINGTON, D.C. — Metropolitan Police Department Chief of Police Burtell M. Jefferson announced the promotion of a Durham native, Jimmy L. Wilson, to the rank of Police Captain on November 2. Captain Wilson, an eleven year veteran of the D.C. police force, is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Larry N. Wilson of 132 East End Avenue. He graduated from Hillside High school in 1964 and received a bachelor of science degree in Administration of Justice from the American University at Washington, D.C. where he also has done graduate work. He has a fourteen year old daughter, Sharen A. Wilson, who resides in Forresterville, Maryland. Captain Wilson has

served as a patrolman, evidence technician and a detective in the sixth district; a detective, supervisory lieutenant and acting branch commander in the Internal Affairs Division. With his promotion, Captain Wilson has been reassigned as branch commander of The Special Investigations Branch, Criminal Justice Division. His most noteworthy accomplishment was to assist the Virgin Islands Chief of Police in preparing procedures to be followed by Investigative and Support Personnel at the scene of death investigations and training the chief's staff in the implementation of the program.

Mrs. Juanita Wilson, the Captain's mother, attended the promotion ceremony.

Public Education Must Be Reserved

By ADA M. FISHER

The spotlight is on American education this week and I think it's time we paused and gave thanks and support to public education. Right now the public school system is viciously under attack for trying valiantly to provide a public education for a broad base of pupils. The complaints mount that all teachers care about is their salary and tenure; students are uncontrollable; and parents are totally uninvolved.

But I'd like to go back just thirteen years ago to look at public education at its zenith. Though the schools were largely segregated, Hillside's graduating class had over 400 members. At our tenth reunion, we had produced three physicians several Ph.D.s, one pharmacist, more than six engineers, six lawyers, several doctoral candidates, draftsmen, pilots, teachers, computer technicians, hospital workers, assembly people, etc. They were doing something back then and it's something that in many ways I can be proud of since public education helped me get where I am today.

So what happened? First, integration has scared the majority of whites out of the school system. The proliferation of Christian Academies and private schools are a way for whites and those blacks who are class conscious to attack the base of public education. Second, the unionization of teachers has brought them more comfort, more benefits, and required less time in teaching and student activities. Third, parents have withdrawn from their responsibility to schools and students. There is less parental participation in PTA's, chaperoning of student activities, etc. Fourth, students have been allowed to seek mediocrity and have been channelled into tracks. Those with outstanding ability are led to the path for college. Those with borderline ability have been allowed to drift aimlessly and not get prepared for the real world. But lastly and most impor-

tantly, education has ceased to be a national priority. This is ironic since the cornerstone of democracy is an educated citizenry. It is sad that the newly created Department of Education will only have a budget of \$15 billion which is less than that budgeted for the MX Missile System.

It is high time we rethought our national priorities. The right to a good education is basic. To deny this is to commit a holocaust on the minds of our children and future generations. Any attempts to subsidize or exempt religious and private schools from taxes or give them special financial incentives should be vigorously opposed as this pulls money from public education. At least 95 per cent of all minority and poor peoples must depend on public education to teach their children. Without a strong tax base these schools can not do their job. Further, all education should be uniform in its teaching of certain basics such as reading, writing, and arithmetic. This will hopefully provide uniform standards and an equal framework for establishing competency. At a time when public education is under attack, we must support and defend it for in so doing, we look after our children's future. "Schools Do Make A Difference" (The Lancet, April 14, 1979) makes a strong case for humane discipline, strong and consistent academic emphasis, conscientious and punctual teachers, homework with meaning which is reviewed, and traditions. This is what public schools must be about if public education is to be meaningful and pupil competency achieved. This American Education Week with the theme, in this the International Year Of The Child, being "Teach All The Children. The best way to achieve this goal is to support and insure quality public education for all of our children.

Duke's Black Students Hold "Concerns" Rally

By Felicia M. Cassels
The Black Student Alliance of Duke University organized several activities last week in an attempt to voice their con-

cerns and problems to Duke's student body and administration.

Monday, the group recognized and celebrated

Black Solidarity Day. They displayed their unity by eating breakfast, lunch and dinner together. After participating in day long

games and activities, the day ended with an evening church service.

Wednesday, 250 students marched from West to East campus singing "We Shall Overcome," "Lift Every Voice and Sing," "And Ain't No Stopping Us Now."

Upon arrival at West campus the students prayed silently for a moment in recognition of the four men and one woman who were killed last Saturday in Greensboro by the Nazi Party and the Ku Klux Klan.

The students then held a rally and outlined their demands that they intend to present to the administration in the form of a petition.

The students are demanding more black faculty, an Afro-American Studies Department, a full time director for the department and an Afro-American cultural center.

Black Campus Minister, Bill Hairson gave an overall view of the black academic situation in America, while three [Continued on Page 2]



BIRMINGHAM MAYOR AND FAMILY

Richard Arrington was sworn in Tuesday morning as the first black mayor of Birmingham, Alabama, a city once synonymous with racism. Arrington, the son of a sharecropper who won by almost 2,000 votes over a white attorney, holds his young son. Mrs. Arrington is at right. UPI