SAT., MAY 23, 1981

THE CAROLINA TIMES -7

# N.C. Native To Appear On Sportsworld In Karate Heavyweight Championship

On Sunday, May 24, NBC-TV's Sportsworld will air the Professional Karate Assocation (PKA) World Heavyweight Championship title bout which took place at Madison Square Garden's Felt Forum on May 1, bet-Demetrious ween "Oaktree" Edwards of Ayden, N.C., and Ross Scott of Los Angeles, California.

The heavyweight title the sport's inception in 1974. Former World Champ Ross Scott had lost his title to Demetrious "Oaktree" Edwards last August in a NBC-aired fight from Ottawa, Canada. Scott, until then thought to be unbeatable, suffered the loss before a stunned live audience and the largest NBC Sportsworld TV audience of the summer of 1980. That, particular segment of NBC's Sportsworld had a 10.1 rating, the highest segment rating of any Sportsworld in that sum-

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the mugger's neck, Last August, paralyzing him for life., Though Edwards was "Oaktree" Edwards was a world-rated light heavyweight full-contact totally exonerated, the incident affected him deepkarate fighter with a record of 31-2-2 and 2 KO's. But on August 12, in Ottawa, Canada, he stepped into the ring for his first heavyweight fight against Ross Scott who had held the World

Heavyweight crown for 41/2 years. When the evenfight on May I was the ing ended, Edwards had hottest grudge match since added one more win and one more KO to become. World PKA the Heavyweight Champion of full-contact karate. It was not an overnight success story.

Born and raised in Ayden, a small town outside Greenville, Edwards had wrestled and made All-State football in high school, going directly to the Washington Redskins after graduation. Four weeks after his arrival in Washington, Edwards was jumped by a mugger during a late night walk. In the struggle to defend

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ly. He quit the Redskins, and returned to Ayden, taking a job as a service. station mechanic, forgetting his dreams of athletic glory. Then he heard of a local karate trainer who had a stable of fighters making a name for themselves in the new sport of full contact. It was 1975, and the sport

> was in its infancy. But Edwards began hanging! around the gym of Bill McDonald, bugging the trainer to take him on. Finally, after a year, McDonald let Edwards climb into the ring for a sparring session. It was Edwards' first day of

> > Master's

At Bryn Mawr

Arts degree in English

from Bryn Mawr College

in Pennsylvania on May

Mrs. Hill is the

daughter of Dr. and Mrs.

Charles D. Watts of

Durham.

fighting. Five years later, Mrs. D.W. Hill Awarded

nimself, Edwards broke his stunning upset of Scott the mugger's neck, was watched by nearly 20.000.000 NBC viewers in the season's highest rated NBC Sportsworld segment.

Divorced with one son (called "Oak Stump" because he is a miniversion of his 28-year-old father), Edwards still lives in Ayden with his mother and sister. Once a year. Ayden has its big event, the Collard Festival. "Oaktree" used to check out the cars that carried the dignitaries in the annual parade. Now, he rides in one. When the Governor of North Carolina passes, he gets a healthy round of applause. It is Demetrius "Oaktree" Edwards, fullkarate's contact Heavyweight Champion of the World, who gets the standing ovation.



develop as a result of allergies, impurities in the atmosphere or from such common things as insect bites, poison ivy or other poisonous plants. Fortu-Mrs. Deborah Watts. nately, real relief is now Hill received the Master of available...new Lanacort Hydrocortisone 0.5% Creme ... from Lanacane, Lanacort, is formulated with hydrocortisone, formerly available only with a prescription. Lanacort's hydrocortisone acts to relieve skin irritations, eczema, and derma-titis...helps natural healing.

Scott

**C-H** Parents (Continued from Front)

to convey to those who held the destiny of their children in their hands, a simple matter of moving ' principals "where they best suited the purpose," these were human beings with feelings who had im: pacted powerfully on the lives of those who had in-

teracted with them. Marshall, it was pointed out, had hired 28 of his 38-member staff at Carrboro Elementary School. He therefore has established a rapport that parents believe difficult, if not impossible, for another principal to emulate. He lives in the community; his child attends school there; and it is believed that his effectiveness as principal is in part due to his respect in the community.

W.W. Edmonds became Culbreth Junior High School's first principal. A large number of black students attend this school, although his strong advocates Monday

He is one of Chapel Hill's few black administrators, and an obvious role model for black pupils who are experiencing problems in the school system. Parents wondered at the implication of transferring a principal whom black pupils may look up to in the most

night were white parents.

crucial stage of their lives. Mrs. Phyllis Sockwell, the school board chairman, told the parents, "I am sincerely happy that the schools have been serving you well and we want to keep on doing this." She promised them that the board would carefully consider their requests.

Many parents said that they are waiting to see how the school board will settle this issue that they feel is so vital to them and so basic in the lives of their children.

Some black parents present at the board meeting, Monday night said they have had to postpone their "fight" against the system until the transfer issue is resolved. Blacks have charged the system with

against black

Edwards

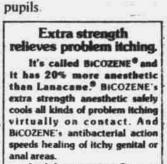
## ADDITION

racism

## To significant black achievements in Durham: 1950

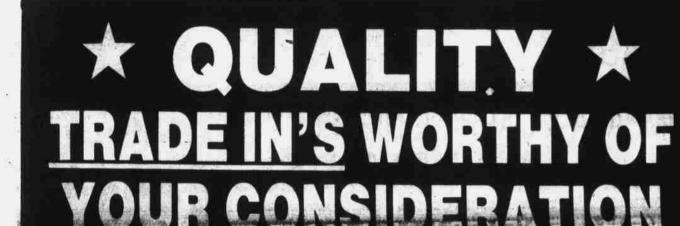
Charles A. Rogers, now a resident of Philadelphia, was appointed the first black full-time certified juvenile probation officer.

\*



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