

Coalition Against Police Brutality Reforms To Fight Recent Acts

By Donald Alderman
In light of recent incidents between citizens of Durham and the Durham Public Safety Department, a group that was active in the fight against police harassment in the mid-1970's has reformed. The Durham Coalition Against Police Brutality announced at a press conference Monday that the group will resume its advocacy role and "will immediately begin to assist the city's poor and minorities in the fight against police brutality." "There is no change since the mid-seventies. Police officials are still going into black and poor neighborhoods beating people for no reason at all. The coalition's rebuilding is absolutely necessary," said Ms. Rosalind Pelles, the group's coordinator. Ms. Pelles said that "The Spot" incident sparked the group's reorganization. "The Dowd and Roxboro streets incident has raised concerns and questions in

the minds of many people. Innocent people were beaten there. People that were in no way associated with The Spot. We are not going to allow law enforcement officers to harass and physically abuse people just because they are too poor or otherwise unable to defend themselves," Ms. Pelles said. She was referring to a heated confrontation that developed between Durham Public Safety and a crowd at The Spot, a games room, June 17. The incident left seven persons injured, four arrested and numerous charges of police brutality. "The Spot incident is not an isolated case. Many related cases happen daily but are never reported. Black and poor communities need a way to respond to such official acts of terrorism. We intend to provide that vehicle," said Ms. Pelles. Ms. Pelles said the group will "investigate, monitor, and respond to all charges of police

brutality." When told that the police department has an internal affairs division which investigates all complaints, Ms. Pelles said, "If you beat me, I would be a fool to trust an ally of yours to investigate the complaint." She said police officials have historically frightened poor and black communities. Therefore, all investigations need to be conducted independently of the police department. Robert Smith, one of those arrested and beaten at The Spot, when informed of the group's intentions, said, "I think it is a good start. I just hope they can be effective. Something needs to be done. The police department is infested with racism." The Durham Coalition Against Police Brutality will hold its next meeting on Saturday, July 18 at 308 N. Hyde Park Ave. For additional information, contact Ms. Pelles at 596-7449.



Delta Flight Attendant

Miss Janice Elaine Dawson has completed the training course at Delta Air Lines' Training School at Hartsfield Atlanta International Airport and is now a Delta flight attendant assigned to the airline's Chicago flight attendant base. Miss Dawson, a native of Durham, is a 1975 graduate of Hampton Institute in Hampton, Virginia. She is the daughter of Dr. and Mrs. Robert E. Dawson of Durham.

School Elects Cobb



Cobb

WINSTON-SALEM — Timothy Fitzgerald Cobb of Durham has been elected second vice president of the Student Government Association of the Governor's School West 19th summer session. Led by four student officers, the Student Government Association is comprised of the remaining 393 students attending the school. Cobb is the son of Rev. and Mrs. Harold J. Cobb, Sr., of 912 Brandon Place, Durham. A rising junior at Phillips Academy and a former student at Charles

school newspaper staff, and the Varsity Basketball team. Cobb is also assistant Sunday School superintendent, worship chairman of the Youth for General Baptist State Convention, and third vice president of the Durham Youth Missionary Circle. Honors he has received include being selected "Most Valuable Player" in basketball and being awarded the NEDT Certificate. Cobb was selected to attend the Governor's School West in Social Science.

E. Jordan High School, he is member of the Science Seminar, the Fellowship of Christian Athletes, the Monogram Club, the National Honor Society, the

Church

(Continued from Page 4)
PUSH are in line with the blueprint for the Beloved Community left by King in his book *Where Do We Go From Here?* King wrote that "one positive response to our dilemma is to develop a rugged sense of somebodyness. . . . This sense of somebodyness means the refusal to be ashamed of being black." Blacks must "aspire to excellence" and "make full and constructive use of the freedom we now possess." King wrote.

cluded a method (nonviolent direct action), a goal (the Beloved Community), and a theological/philosophical foundation which critically appropriated enough black power, holy materialism, old time religion, and American Christianity to be a central contender for the ideal heir of unity in America through the black church." Samuels says the black church has "always struggled for existence within the context of the dominant white culture and its trappings." Black theology, consolidated chiefly in the ideas of freedom and liberation, has developed along the three responses to racism by Booker T. Washington (assimilation), W.E.B. DuBois (integration), and Marcus Garvey (emigration). In some ways, the old time religion is an outgrowth of Washington's concepts, holy materialism from

DuBois' views, and black power from Garvey's approach, Samuel says. King's community gospel is the model best suited to reconcile these differences, Samuels says, because it: —"is rooted in the rich traditions of the teachings of the old time faith —satisfies some of the needs which positive thinkers addressed for individual welfare and advancement, and —has the maturity and systematic qualities which can be grafted on to other modes of black religious expression." Samuels is assistant pastor and director of counseling at Commonwealth Community Church, 140 W. 81st St. For the past ten years, he also has been affiliated with Operation PUSH, first as director of the youth division and during the past two years as director of PUSH Excel. He earned a D.Mn. degree from the University of Chicago in June.

"Black Images" In Film Offered Public At NCCU

By Ruthell Howard
"Black Images In Film," a four evening series featuring noted actor Thalmus Rasulala, will be presented in North Carolina Central University's Communications Building July 20-23, 7:30-10 p.m. Rasulala — star of "Roots," "The Autobiography of Miss Jane Pittman," and

numerous television shows and motion pictures — will join NCCU English professor and film analyst Tom Evans in hosting the film series. "It's exciting working with Thalmus," said Evans. "His extensive experience and insight into the film industry and the relationship of Hollywood and blacks will be very provocative."

The films featured will be "Black Shadows on A Silver Screen," examples of independent black filmmaking from the 20s and 30s which developed as a response to Hollywood's racist images (July 20); "Nothing But A Man," one of the best black genre films ever made which accurately portrays the experience of blacks in a small southern town dur-

ing the 60s (July 21); "Cool Breeze," a black version of "The Asphalt Jungle" with Rasulala as the film's antihero (July 22); and "The from her tenth birthday as a slave on a Louisiana plantation in 1862 to her participation in a Civil Rights protest in 1962. The film also features Rasulala as Jane Pittman's son.

Autobiography of Miss Jane Pittman," a tour de force of make-up artistry and acting by Cicely Tyson (July 23). The film recounts the life of a remarkable black woman whose memory stretches "A lot of people would like to hear Thalmus talk about his role and involvement in 'Miss Jane Pittman,'" said Evans, "and 'Cool Breeze' will give Thalmus a chance to discuss the impact of 'blaxploitation' films on filmmaking and analyze the genre's current demise." "Thalmus isn't shy about voicing his opinions," Evans adds with a grin. "We should have some terrific audience discussion." Admission is free and open to the public.

North Carolina Central University presents

Black Images In Film

Four evenings of film with commentary by Thalmus Rasulala (star of "Roots" and "The Autobiography of Miss Jane Pittman") and film analyst Tom Evans



Thalmus Rasulala

Monday, July 20

"Black Shadows On A Silver Screen"

Examples of independent black filmmaking from the 20s and 30s which developed as a response to Hollywood's racist images.

Tuesday, July 21

"Nothing But A Man"

One of the best black genre films ever made which accurately portrays the experience of blacks in a small Southern town during the 60s.

Wednesday, July 22

"Cool Breeze"

Described as a "black version of 'The Asphalt Jungle'" with Rasulala as the film's antihero.

Thursday, July 23

"The Autobiography Of Miss Jane Pittman"

A tour de force of make-up artistry and acting by Cicely Tyson. The film recounts the life of a remarkable black woman whose memory stretches from her 10th birthday as a slave in 1862 to her participation in a civil rights protest in 1962. The film features Rasulala as Jane Pittman's son.

All sessions are free, open to the public, and will be held from 7:30 p.m. to 10 p.m. in the NCCU Communications Building. (on the corner of Fayetteville and Lawson St.)

This program is sponsored by NCCU Continuing Education and the N.C. Humanities Committee.

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