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### Words Of Wisdom

When you stop having dreams and ideals, you might as well stop altogether. —Marian Anderson

It is much more important to be human than it is to be important. —Thomas Jefferson

## Hit-Run Killer Charged With Murder



### Protest Death Of Youth In Police Custody

Several thousand demonstrators march through downtown Milwaukee, Wisconsin protesting the death of a 22-year-old Ernest Lacy who died in police custody after a scuffle with police officers who picked him up for questioning. UPI Photo

DUDLEY — Six young people, returning from visiting a friend Sunday night about 10 o'clock, were walking along Old Mount Olive Highway between Goldsboro and Dudley, on the correct side of the road shoulder facing oncoming traffic, when a pickup truck approaching from behind them, sped up, swerved across the center line, ran through the group, and sped away from the scene.

Two of the girls, Latonya Nicholson, 7, of Goldsboro and Marilyn Manley, 16, of Dudley, were pronounced dead at the scene. A third, Melissa King, 12, of Dudley, died Monday at Wayne Memorial Hospital in Goldsboro.

The fourth victim, Melissa Manley, 17, sister of Marilyn Manley, is listed in very critical condition at Wayne Memorial Hospital.

Felicia King, sister of Melissa King, and an unidentified boy, escaped injury.

According to investigators, the truck believed to have been involved in the incident was found abandoned about four miles from the scene.

Eugene Best, a 33-year-old Goldsboro man, was arrested Tuesday and is being held without privilege of bond in the Wayne County jail, Goldsboro, charged with three counts of murder in connection with the deaths. He was also charged with one count of assault with a deadly weapon with intent to kill and four counts of failure to stop at the scene of an accident.

### Food Stamps and AFDC

## Federal Cuts To Be Felt In Durham Households

By Donald Alderman

The federal social program package for the coming fiscal year which features a twenty per cent cut in most services will cause Triangle area households that depend on government support to tighten their economic belts and find other means to cushion the reduced federal benefits.

More specifically, the cuts in the food stamp and Aid to Families with Dependent Children (AFDC) programs will go far beyond the targets of the budget hawks, affecting families in destitution, according to Dan Hudgins, director, Durham County Department of Social Services.

"You can't take that much money (20% or more) and not hurt the truly needy," Hudgins said.

The Reagan administration contends the cuts are targeted to eliminate fraud and to prevent strikers, students and the working poor (families whose incomes are at the poverty level) from receiving government funds, and not to deprive the "truly needy" of the necessities of life.

However, Hudgins said, those groups compose on-

ly ten per cent of the total receiving aid. Since the cuts are more than ten per cent, even the poorest families will feel the budget pinch, he explained.

The food stamp program will be reduced by not allowing an upward adjustment for inflation. "This will have the effect of putting a person a year behind," Hudgins said. "This will result in 7,000 households or 17,000 county residents with less than a subsistence allocation," he added.

The AFDC program is being cut more drastically than the food stamp program, Hudgins said. The tougher eligibility requirements will make a person working forty hours per week at the minimum wage ineligible for the child care benefits. A recipient can deduct no work-related or child care expenses from his/her income to qualify. Hudgins said the tougher requirements may discourage recipients from working, having an adverse effect.

The current poverty level is \$7,450 annually for a family of four. A mother working a forty hour week, minimum wage job will gross \$6,968

in 1981 — well below the poverty level but not eligible for AFDC benefits under the tougher requirements.

Most AFDC families are comprised of a mother and children. Currently, 27% of the county's AFDC mothers also work a fulltime, minimum wage job.

Hudgins said the popular claim that the food stamp program is overrun by fraud is unfounded. He said persons receiving food stamps who probably should not be, probably amount to only about five per cent of the program's allocation. At any rate, he said, a complete elimination of fraud is almost impossible because some people will always beat the system.

Hudgins dismissed the claim that much of social services budget is used for administrative costs. He said, of the county's seven million dollar allocation for this year, \$500,000 is being spent to administer the programs.

Hudgins said the budget slash will affect all county recipients of food stamps and AFDC. Hundreds will be eliminated and all remaining recipients will face benefit reductions, he said.

<p><b>Half of Legend Dies in Maryland</b> Page 5</p> <p><b>National Scene Magazine Supplement</b></p>	<p><b>NCCU Eagles Report Saturday</b> Page 5</p> <p><b>Durham Deltas Award \$6,600</b> Page 11</p>
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**Dr. Valora Washington Is Congressional Science Fellow**

CHAPEL HILL — Dr. Valora Washington of Durham was selected as a 1981-82 Congressional Science Fellow to work with the United States Congress in Washington, D.C., for one year. She will work on national legislative matters affecting children or families and social policy.

Dr. Washington is assistant professor of Human Development and Psychological Services at the University of North Carolina-Chapel Hill. She was selected from 62,000 candidates as one of the Ten Outstanding Young Women of America and as the Outstanding Young Woman of North Carolina for 1980. She is president of the Black Child Development Institute-Durham affiliate; a director of the Chapel Hill Day Care Center and Durham League of Women Voters; and, a vice president of the National Council of Negro Women, Durham Chapter.

The fellowship program is sponsored by the Society for Research in Child Development/American Association for the Advancement of Science, and is highly competitive. The selection committee said that, due to the large number of highly qualified applicants, competition for the awards was rigorous. Dr. Washington was selected because of her "credentials, experience and promise for the future."

The Congressional Science Fellows Program

## Septic Tank Plan Expected to be Approved

By Donald Alderman

On April 6, angry land owners, developers and builders aired concerns about strict septic tank rules at a Durham County Commissioners meeting. The commissioners responded by appointing a special committee to examine the problem and suggest ways of improving the county's wastewater disposal systems.

In consideration of complaining citizens, the committee's final report admits that many septic tank problems are negative and "a positive approach must be taken if any improvement is to be made in the ground absorption sewage disposal system problems in Durham County." The commissioners are expected to approve the committee's recommendation at their next meeting.

Developers had contended that the county's waste disposal system installation rules are "unreasonably strict." The problem was blamed on the County Health Department whose officials examine soil for septic tank use.

The committee agreed saying the amendment of state septic tank installation rules by the Health Department "appears to be unreasonable." The six-member committee recommended the amendment be rescinded.

Health Department soil testers were said to be "arrogant" when county residents sought soil testing. The committee said, "Sanitarians should be cooperative and as helpful as possible in applying regulations, and when a lot is not suitable for a modified system, an understandable explanation should be given..."

In a move that should greatly increase county growth and development, the committee said all permits and letters of approval issued since July 1, 1977 should be honored unless the area approved has physically changed. Also all existing permits and letters of approval should be reevaluated.

## Half of Two Million Blacks Exist Below Poverty Line

NEW YORK — Almost half of the nearly two million blacks in this country over age 65 exist below the poverty line or so close to it that it is difficult to tell the difference, reports *Black Enterprise Magazine* in its September issue.

Victims of a social discrimination which forced blacks into the lowest paying and most stagnant jobs, elderly blacks sit at the bottom of the Social Security ladder. Few of them have pensions or any other outside source of income and subsequently, are totally dependent on government benefits. In 1979, Social Security payments averaged \$242.10 (compared to \$299.10 for whites). The National Center on the Black Aged (NCBA) found that less than half of the eligible elderly blacks in rural areas (where poverty is 70 per cent greater than in

(Continued On Page 3)



Gloria Toote  
Attorney, New York, N.Y.



Benjamin L. Hooks,  
Exec. Sec. NAACP



J. A. Parker,  
President, Lincoln Institute

### Keynoters For Blacks In Government

Several prominent black leaders will address the Third Annual Training Conference of Blacks in Government, August 25-28, in Washington. The conference is expected to attract some 5,000 black government employees to discuss the impact of the Reduction in Force program and to participate in several workshops. For conference information call (202) 726-6113. Pictured are: Dr. Gloria Toote (l), nominee to chair the Merit Protection Board; Dr. Benjamin Hooks (c), NAACP's executive director; and, J.A. Parker (r), president of Lincoln Institute, all of whom are among the keynote speaker.