

Former Public Safety Officers Sue Duke For \$1 Million

By Milton Jordan
Three former Duke University public safety officers have filed a \$1 million racial discrimination lawsuit against the university.

The three — Dennis Ellis, Ms. Rosa Scarborough and Edward Smith — charge that they were mistreated, overlooked for promotions and either fired or forced to resign because they are black.

The suit, filed last month in the U.S. District Court for the North Carolina Eastern District, is filed as a class action suit. But it must be certified as a class action by the court.

University officials refused to comment on the suit.

Specifically, the suit charges that Ellis, who was hired as a Duke University public safety officer in February 1973 and who was promoted to lieutenant in 1978, was "busted" to corporal and later fired on charges of insubordination by disobeying an order to wear his corporal's bars, an insignia of his rank. He was also charged with less serious infractions. According to Ellis, the firing came while he was on temporary leave of absence, and "...Caucasian employees involved in similar problems were not demoted in rank or required to lose their position of employment."

Ellis, 31, said in a recent interview that the suit was filed, not simply to get at what he called "concrete racism, but

Girl Scout Troops Recommit Themselves To High Ideals

By Milton Jordan
Slowly, the overhead lights winked out in the sanctuary at Community Baptist Church Sunday evening, leaving the flickering light of about fifty candles to break the darkness. It was Scout Sunday at Community, a small Baptist Church of some 125 families at 4821 Barbee Road. The church sponsors four Girl Scout troops and one Boy Scout troop, which includes a Cub Scout pack, according to Ms. Connie Montague, the church's Girl Scout coordinator.

Scout Sunday is now an annual event at the church where the scouts reaffirm their commitment to scouting's lofty ideals. The major part of the program featured the Girl Scouts going point-by-point through the Girl Scout law, explaining what it means.

Principles of the law include honesty, fairness, cheerfulness, friendliness and consideration, respect for authority, wise utilization of resources, a desire to protect and improve their world, and respect for self and others. As each girl announced each point of the law, she lit a candle, and when the candles were all lit, the lights flashed out, leaving just the candles, described by the girls as symbolizing "a small but strong light of hope in the world."

Members of the church's Boy Scout troop opened and closed the "Honor Court", with a presentation of the American Flag and the Bible.



THE COLOR GUARD for one of the four Girl Scout troops at Community Baptist Church helps to open Scout Sunday at the church.



JUST A FEW of the more than fifty Girl Scouts at Community Baptist Church wait for the Scout Sunday program to begin at the church.

In an interview following the program, several Girl Scouts discussed their purposes, goals and problems with scouting.

"Scouting is an excellent way to meet new people," said Harriett Hayes, 13, who has been a scout for three years. "And it teaches you how to be self-confident in almost every situation."

Audrey Jordan, 13, who has been a scout for seven years, said she got into scouting because she likes participating in group activities, but being a scout does present peer problems.

"That's one of the biggest problems with being a Girl Scout," Audrey said, "because sometimes your peers give you a hard time because they consider scouting to be for little girls and therefore a waste of time for a teenager."

How does she handle the pressure?

"I tell them that since that's the way they feel," Audrey explained, "it's a sure sign they need to be in scouting."

For Kim Harrison, 13, one of scouting's main attractions is being able to travel. She and other members of her troop visited Florida's Disneyworld last summer.

Tamika Wright, 11,

sees an additional long range value to scouting, a sort of lifelong lesson. "It teaches you how to handle other people."

Community's Girl Scout troops are members of the Pines of Carolina Girl Scout Council, the state's largest Girl Scout council, with troops in twenty counties in the Piedmont area of the state. According to Ms. Carol Hyman, Pines of Carolina field director, there are about 1400 girls who are regular active members of scout troops that comprise the council, and about 500 of them are black. She said the council's membership means that one in every 13 girls between six and 17 years old in the council's twenty counties is a Girl Scout.

"Our goal", she said, "is a 1-10 ratio."

The Girl Scout program operates on four levels, covering four different age groups:

Brownie, 6-8; Junior, 9-11; Cadet, 12-14; and Senior, 15-17.

Community Baptist's Girl Scout program includes one Brownie troop, two Junior troops and one Cadet troop.

"I think we will have some girls ready to go to senior scout next year," said Ms. Montague, "and we are thinking about starting our own troop. There are no black senior troops in

this area, and maybe we will have the first one."

One other important element of the Girl Scout program, according to Ms. Hyman, is the adult volunteers who work with the girls, teaching them the principles and serving as role models.

Ms. Kathy Carver, 23, a former Girl Scout, is such a volunteer. She coordinated and produced Sunday's program at the church.

"I do this because I really enjoy working with young people," she said, "and because I feel it is important for these girls to have role models so they can see that the principles we are

teaching them really work later in life."

Explaining the scouting program from a practical basis, Ms. Carver said the girls come in as Brownies and spend that period learning the basics of interpersonal skills, and as they progress up the scouting ladder, they learn such important lessons as how to get along with others and to work as a team.

Scout programs are financed by weekly dues and other fundraising projects, such as selling Girl Scout Cookies. Last year, according to Ms. Montague Community's Girl Scouts sold about \$15,000 in cookies.

thanked the hosts.

The next meeting will be at the home of Mrs. Louise Moore, 910 Lawson Street.

We Said It Wrong

In the story entitled "Law School Solves Problems, Money Still a Headache", we reported that Dean Charles Daye was in his second year at the school. Actually Daye is ending his first year at the law school. The Class of 1984 is the first class completely under Daye's administration instead of the Class of 1983 as reported.

On a diet? Try munching celery instead of crackers or potato chips. Celery has only five calories per eight-inch stalk.

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Dr. C. Eric Lincoln To Preach at Russell Memorial

Dr. C. Eric Lincoln, professor of Religion and Culture at Duke University, will preach at Russell Memorial Christian Methodist Episcopal Church on Sunday, March 14, at 11 a.m.

Dr. Lincoln is recognized as an international authority on the Black Muslims in America and the Black Church in America. He is the sole author of more than ten books and his contribution to scholarly journals and magazines exceeds a hundred.

The public is cordially invited to come and hear this preacher, professor and prolific writer.



DR. LINCOLN

Brotherhood Sunday at Union

Brotherhood Sunday will be held at Union Baptist Church, Sunday, March 6 at 11 a.m. Dr. C. Eric Lincoln of the Duke Divinity School, will be the guest speaker.

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6:30 P.M. Mid-Week Service

Bus Service for Church Sunday School and Morning Worship Services. Everyone is welcome to come and join us in all services.

Publisher Schedules Autograph Party

Sekoni Publishers of Durham will host an autograph party for Abayomi Moses, whose recently-published directory of law schools has begun to attract public attention, at 7 p.m., Friday, March 5, in the Alfonso Elder Student Union at North Carolina Central University.

Moses is a graduate of the NCCU School of Library Science, and created the directory, *U.S. Law Schools*, as a result of his experience as a law school librarian. His directory compiles the specialties and special courses offered by most of the nation's law schools; the information had been available primarily through the catalogs of the individual schools.

Juvenile Delinquency Is A Grinding Society Headache and Prevention Is The Cure

But current juvenile delinquency prevention programs and the needs of troubled youth daily grow more complex. There is also need for more creative approaches on the local level to get maximum use of local resources.

These and other issues will be addressed during the three-day N.C. Conference on Delinquency Prevention, March 10, 11 and 12.

PLUS... JESSE JACKSON

Jesse Jackson, this year's keynote speaker, will address the conference at 1:30 p.m. on Thursday, March 11, at the Mission Valley Inn, Raleigh.

The public is invited to hear Mr. Jackson. Admission is \$3. Make checks payable to NCJSA/DP and mail to:

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For more information, contact Jesse Gibson 493-4933.