

Marching For Freedom Is Family Affair

By Donald Alderman
About six weeks ago, Harrison Nash, III, his wife and three young children left home to march more than 2000 miles from Tuskegee, Alabama to Washington, D.C. Nash, 30, and his wife, Janice, 23, of St. Petersburg, Florida, are marching in a pilgrimage in support of, among other things, extension of the 1964 Voting Rights Act.

"I understand the importance of something like this more now than when I was younger. I have kids and I want them to have a good future. I want their kids to have a good, bright future. That's what we are fighting for. If blacks generations ago hadn't fought for justice and better opportunities, we might not even be here today."

The Voting Rights Act, passed during the height of the civil rights movement, overruled most unconstitutional efforts to bar blacks from voting. Up for renewal, the act has come under fire by some congressmen who contend that the act is no longer needed because the problems have been solved.

Civil rights leaders and many black politicians, however, contend that failure to renew the law will open the door to rampant voting right violations.

The Alabama to Washington march symbolically returns to the

heyday of the civil rights movement. The movement began in Alabama when a black woman on a public bus refused to give her seat to a white man. A highlight of the movement came during the 1963 March on Washington when the late Dr. Martin Luther King stirred more than 200,000 people with his famous speech, "I Have a Dream".

The 1982 march, featuring about eighty people who have covered most of the distance, hit Durham Tuesday. Marchers gathered at Duke Park in North Durham and later trekked through downtown, ending at the NCCU campus. The out-of-towners were joined by about 1000 Durhamites.

Nash and his wife walked near the back of the crowd while their three young children got to ride in one of the several vehicles in the long "parade".

Earlier, sitting in a blue Plymouth at Duke Park, waiting for the march to begin, Nash, a robust, bearded man talked of the experience and why he believes it's important.

"Everybody can't sit home and watch television," he said. "Somebody has to be committed to the struggle."

The struggle, according to march organizers, is not only for the protection of voting rights, but also in support of creating better economic opportunities for blacks. Nash agrees.

"The job situation and outlook for blacks is gloomy at best," Mrs. Nash said, while holding the youngest member of the family — seven months old Fatimah. Two other Nash children — George, 3, and Ayesah, 2 — played happily nearby. "We're not asking



THE HARRISON NASH FAMILY
"Going All The Way"

prepared for as many as 100 marchers and had assigned police officers to be with the marchers at every intersection. He did not know just how much the march would cost the city, but some police officers would be working overtime.

"This group has a religious philosophy," Schooley said, "we have not had any threats against them. Attitudes are different than they were fifteen years ago."

Schooley said that officials in Greensboro and in Burlington had reported no incidents and that Durham officials did not expect any here.

"We have worked very closely with the national and local organizers of the march," Schooley said, "they have been very cooperative with us and we have given them as much assistance as possible."

He said that the department had



WEDNESDAY'S SCLC PILGRIMAGE MARCHERS NEARING END OF DURHAM SEGMENT

Hit/Run Driver Linked To Drugs: Death Case May Go To Grand Jury

By Isaiah Singletary
The man charged with the hit and run death of a Guess Road pedestrian has also been linked with local drug trafficking.

About seven months ago, Robert B. Grimes faced three drug charges in Durham Superior Court. However, the state prosecutor in the case accepted a voluntary dismissal with leave before the cases were heard in court.

The prosecutor, Alan Mason, an assistant district attorney, could not be reached Tuesday for comment. But sources close to the case told *The Carolina Times* this week that the drug charges were dropped against Grimes because

because he and her brother, Allen Reid, had been "involved with dope together".

The drug connection fits.

High level sources say that Grimes apparently both used and sold narcotics, and was arrested last year following extensive undercover work. However, the Durham Public Safety Officer, J.W. Piatt, who arrested Grimes last June, could not be reached Tuesday for comment.

Durham County Superior Court records show that on June 14, 1981, Grimes was arrested and charged with growing about seventy plants of marijuana in pots on the roof of his apartment building at 720 N. Gregson Street. He was also charged with possession for sale of five ounces of marijuana. Police also found some LSD on the premises.

In yet another development over the past two weeks, Durham police have answered two calls at 311 S. LaSalle St., Apartment 46-D. The resident there, Ms. Barbara F. Grimes, told police that Robert Grimes, her estranged husband, had broken her apartment window on one occasion and tried to kick her door in on another. The first incident occurred, according to police reports, on Friday, May 7 and the second incident occurred on Wednesday, May 19.

Durham Police Help Demonstrators Through City

By Joseph E. Green
More than thirty Durham City police officers were assigned to the Civil Rights demonstrators who passed through the city Wednesday on their march to Washington, according to Durham City Police Major Thomas A. Schooley.

Schooley said that most of the officers were assigned to traffic control and that Durham officials had been in contact with public safety officers in Burlington

and Greensboro, cities where the marchers had passed through, to determine if they experienced any problems with crowd control or with counter demonstrators.

"As far as we are concerned, this is a peaceful demonstration," Schooley said, "most of our officers will be directing traffic. We will have a car in front of the marchers and a car in the rear." Schooley said during an interview at Public Safety headquarters.

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City Human Relations Department Under Fire Again

By Donald Alderman
For the second straight year, talk of abolishing the city's human relations operation cropped up during Durham City Council's budget sessions.

This time, Councilman Harwood Smith said Monday that he thinks the human relations department has outlived its usefulness.

"I'm serious about this," Smith told his fellow elected officials. "I think human relations ought to be done away with."

But Smith made no motion to that effect, and the item was "flagged" for future discussion during the week-long budget hearings.

In a later interview with *The Carolina Times*, city Human Relations Director Joe Beeton said he believes the department's work continues to be effective and necessary mostly because the problems they work

on remain unsolved.

The Human Relations Commission investigates complaints of discrimination in employment, housing and public and private accommodation on the bases of such criteria as race and sex. It also assists employers in correctly applying Equal Employment Opportunity Commission (EEOC) regulations.

"What some council members don't understand," Beeton said, "is that while some agencies understand EEOC's regulations, they don't necessarily comply."

In his discussion during budget hearings, one of Smith's complaints was that all local executives understand the EEOC regulations, and there's no need now for the Human Relations Commission to explain them.

This year's arguments against the Human Relations Department are

much the same as the criticisms raised last year during budget hearings when Councilmen Paul Vick, Kim Griffin and Barney West led an effort to abolish the department. They, like Smith this year, also attacked the city's affirmative action office.

The Human Relations Commission is a 15-member volunteer board that operates with a city staff. The Human Relations Division is a staff agency with three full-time staffers and a part-time college intern.

This year's budget is \$65,000, and the City Manager's proposed budget for the department in the coming fiscal year is \$71,000, a reduction of Becton's \$86,000 request for next year.

The budget hearings began Monday and continued throughout the week as the council's finance committee combed over City Manager Barry Del Castillo's pro-

posed \$48.5 million budget for the fiscal year that begins July 1.

For the most part, discussions centered around efforts to trim the proposed budget, presumably to cut back the manager's proposed one cent hike in the property tax. The tax increase is designed to help underwrite operations of a proposed downtown civic center that will go before city voters in a proposed \$10.5 million bond referendum next month.

In the budget hearings, council members appear to be trying to reduce the budget enough to eliminate the tax increase, but to also keep money in the budget for the civic center subsidy.

As an example, Smith's comments came during discussions of the general government section of the budget which is funded mostly by city

Here's How The City Decides How Much Of Your Money It Gets

By Donald Alderman
Durham's local government operations start with your house.

For illustration purposes, let's say you live in a comfortable home, valued at \$50,000. At Durham's current tax rate of 95 cents per \$100 valuation, your home is worth \$475 per year to the city.

Under current budget discussions on a proposed \$48.5 million operating budget for the city's next fiscal year that begins July 1, local government might take another five dollars out of your pocket for your home.

Durham City Manager Barry Del Castillo has proposed a one cent tax hike for the new budget, with the increase to help pay for a proposed downtown civic center. The civic center subject goes before voters next month in a \$10.5 million bond referendum.

According to Del Castillo, explaining his proposed tax hike to members of the Durham City Council's finance committee Monday when budget hearings opened, the new tax money will still be needed for new development, even if the bond referendum fails.

The new budget, when approved, will finance city operations until June 30, 1983, and according to the manager's recommendations, practically everything will cost more than it did this year.

For example:

- If you use about 800 cubic feet of water and sewer around your house, as the average Durhamite does, your monthly water bill will cost you about \$17.78 the next fiscal year, rather than the current \$16.28.
- Industrial and commercial water and sewer users' bills will go up also, actually about eleven per cent, but relatively speaking they pay a smaller portion of the citywide water and sewer cost because large users pay less per cubic foot for water and sewer services.
- City employees are to get a five per cent salary hike in the proposed

budget, which comes to a total of about \$23.2 million for the city's 120 workers. That works out to an average of just over \$19,000 per worker. In budget discussions, the finance committee recommended a three per cent hike instead, which will lower the overall cost slightly.

Operating expenses and capital improvements take another \$22 million of the budget.

Del Castillo says he expects revenues from property, licenses, permits and investments to bring in about \$26 million; the water fund to generate about \$12 million and other money collected by the city to total about \$10.5 million.

One way or the other, all that money comes from you. Here's how they get it.

About September each year, the city budget office sends questionnaires to all department directors, asking those executives to estimate what money they will need to run their departments for the next year.

A short while later, each director submits a request to the city manager. The manager then studies the requests, with an eye not only to what the departments want to do, but also watching where the money will come from. Most city operations money comes from the local property tax.

In several instances, the manager lowered department requests, and in a few, he increased them. Then the proposed budget, now the manager's recommendation, goes to the council.

The council then studies the recommendations, cutting here, revising there, shifting dollars around in accordance with political preference as well as efficiency.

Every once in a while they listen to citizen views on where the money should come from and how it should be spent. But for the most part, your major part with the budgeting process is to start paying once the council tells you how much it wants.

That decision, by law, must be made by June 30.

Glossary of Budget Terms

- Tax:** a charge the government can levy against any property, personal or real.
- Tax base:** the amount of property to be taxed.
- Tax rate:** the rate at which property will be assessed. For example, Durham's current tax rate is 95 cents per \$100 worth of property.
- At that rate, \$50,000 worth of property, such as a house, would yield \$475 in tax revenue.**
- Assessment:** the actual tax bill.
- Real property:** land.
- Personal property:** all holdings besides land.

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