

"Stu" Nunn Was A Nice Guy: So Why Did He Die?

By Larry T. Thomas
CHAPEL HILL —
Everybody liked Rodney
"Stu" Nunn.

They liked his
friendliness, his bright
infectious smile, and at
26, Nunn appeared to be
an odds-on favorite to
live a quiet, peaceful and
long life.

But then everyone also
liked Thomas Edwards,
16, a high school basket-
ball star, good student
and member of the Class
of '82 at Chapel Hill
Senior High School.

Something happened
to these two nice guys,
both with apparently
bright futures and most
of their lives ahead of
them. At a Saturday
night graduation party
about two weeks ago,
Edwards smashed a ball
bat against Nunn's skull
in a bone-crushing blow.
Nunn died in the hospital
the following Monday
morning. Edwards is

charged with second
degree murder in the
incident.

The obvious question
is why?
Hundreds of relatives
and friends who attend-
ed Nunn's funeral on the
Thursday following his
death, asked that very
question.

"The only thing I can
say is that 'Stu' was lov-
ed," explained his
mother, Mrs. Gertrude
F. Nunn, a Chapel Hill
housewife. "You can ask
anyone about him. They
will tell you that he
always greeted you with
a smile and never had a
bad thing to say about
anyone. That's why I
just don't understand
how he could have got-
ten involved in a fight;
how he could have died
the way he did."

As yet, no one has that
answer, though there are
at least two rumors.

One says Nunn, an

uninvited guest at the
graduation party in a
teacher's home near the
end of Piney Mountain
Road, argued with Sher-
wood Weaver, another
CHSHS graduating
senior and friend of
Thomas. A fight started,
and minutes later, accord-
ing to this rumor,
Thomas waded into the
fight with his bat.

Another rumor, equal-
ly as unsubstantiated,
but just as popular, says
the fight started after
Thomas accidentally
broke the radio antenna
on Nunn's car.

But even these rumors
don't answer the major
question about the
violent and tragic death
that nipped one man's
life in the bud, and has a
teenager facing a possi-
ble lifelong prison term.

Why was Nunn, 26, at a
graduation party for
teenagers, most of whom
were about ten years

younger than he?

Some say he came to
see a former girlfriend,
danced with her a couple
of times, sparking the
argument with Weaver,
the girl's current beau.

The Chapel Hill police
won't talk much about
the incident, saying
simply that there was a
fight, Nunn was serious-
ly injured, later died,
and Thomas has been
charged with murder.

Thomas' court date is
set for June 24.

Thomas remains free
on a \$10,000 bond that
was raised from \$2,500
originally set before
Nunn died and the
charge was assault.

So, the mystery re-
mains. Some of these
questions might be
answered at Thomas'
trial. But the most im-
portant question — why
did one nice guy kill
another nice guy —
might never be
answered.



NEW YORK—Zakes Mokea (r) accepts the Tony Award for outstanding performance by a featured actor for "Master Harold ... and the Boys" from James Earl Jones at the Imperial Theatre. UPI Photo

Knowing What To Do If A Hurricane Hits Could Save Your Life

By Elson Armstrong

Hurricanes kill, but they are survivable if people caught in one of the destructively violent storms do the right thing at the right time.

Hurricanes are cyclonic disturbances that originate over tropical waters. A low pressure system forms and clouds build up in the beginning stages of a hurricane. The clouds develop into squalls and thunderstorms which begin to circulate around an organized center or "eye".

The 1982 hurricane season began June 1 and it will run until November 1. Although June hurricanes are rare, North Carolina has been affected by them. In 1968, the dying stages of Hurricane Abby caused a small tornado in the Charlotte area.

Weather officials say the development along the Carolina coast could lead to a major disaster if a hurricane the power of Hazel hit. Hazel ripped through North Carolina in October 1954, causing several deaths and hundreds of thousands of dollars in damage.

Weather officials also say that North Carolina is well overdue for another major hurricane, and since more of the state's residents either haven't ever experienced a hurricane or haven't seen one since Donna, they may tend to ignore warnings and fail to follow evacuation instructions.

Donna, the state's last major hurricane, slashed through North Carolina in 1960, with winds of more than 115 mph.

For the next six months, here are some things you should listen for in your weather reports, and here's what they mean:

* When the winds of a low pressure hit a constant speed of 35 mph, the system is called a tropical depression, many of which die before becoming a hurricane.

* When the winds in the system reach at least 39 mph, it is then called a tropical storm, and named by weather officials.

* When the winds reach at least 74 mph, the storm becomes known as a hurricane, one of the most powerful forces in nature.

Hurricane winds can reach speeds of more than 200 mph. Hurricane Camille, which smashed the Mississippi Coast in 1969, contained such winds. It was the most powerful storm ever to cross the U.S. coastline in recorded weather annals.

Officials say that North Carolina is well overdue for another major hurricane, and since most residents either haven't experienced a big storm, or haven't been through one since Donna, they may tend to ignore warnings and fail to follow evacuation instructions.

Instructions come in several categories. A hurricane watch means that all interests in the area of the watch should stay tuned because a hurricane may approach.

A hurricane warning means that the storm is on the way and you should take all necessary precautions to insure safety.

If you happen to be in an area that's under a hurricane watch, that means a hurricane may hit within 12 to 24 hours. When a watch is issued, the following precautions should be met:

* Windows should be boarded up to protect them against flying debris.

* Articles such as garbage cans or hanging plants should be moved inside. Hurricane winds can pick up such articles and toss them like frisbees.

* Stock up as much non-perishable canned foods as you can. Often the power can be knocked off for hours during and after a storm.

* Make sure that you have at least two battery operated flash lights and radios on hand.

* Hurricanes can flood and contaminate fresh water systems, therefore, before the storm arrives, it is wise to store containers of fresh water for drinking and cooking purposes.

* Listen to all storm broadcasts because a hurricane watch can quickly become the more ominous hurricane warning.

A hurricane warning means that your area will, in short time, be struck by hurricane winds (74 mph or more). Warnings can be issued as much as 24 hours in advance, but a fast moving hurricane can arrive within a couple of hours after a warning is issued.

If you are in a coastal location and a hurricane warning is issued, the best bet is to evacuate the area immediately. When these giant storms hit, the coast is the state's most vulnerable area. Storm-generated waves, especially at high tide, can reach more than 50 feet in height and beach roads can be inundated, totally blocking easy access to inland areas.

Hurricanes are not to be challenged. There have been several instances of so-called courageous people throwing "Hurricane Parties". Some are never found after the storm passes. A graphic example of a foolish hurricane party is portrayed in the television movie "Condominium".

In North Carolina, a strong hurricane can cause damaging winds as far inland as the Triangle Area

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Music Students To Present Recital

Mrs. Josephine DeNard will present her piano students in their first public recital on Sunday, June 20, at 5 p.m., in the Fellowship Hall of St. Mark, AMEZ Church, 530 South Roxboro St.

Eric Bolden of Durham will appear as guest artist. He is a violin student of Earl Sanders of NCCU. He is also studying with Mrs. Dorothy Kitchen in the Duke University String School. The public is cordially invited.

Cast Your Ballot! Vote For Your Favorite Minister

in the

Friends of Edgemont-Few Gardens Center Ministers Popularity Contest

Rev. J.C. Cheek Stretching His Lead

Some interesting developments appear to be shaping up in the contest raising questions of the possibility of a "dark-horse" bolting out of the pack at the ninety-ninth hour of the race.

Going into his fourth week in the lead in the Ministers Popularity Contest, sponsored by Friends of Edgemont-Few Gardens Community Center, REV. J.C. CHEEK, pastor of Mount Calvary United Church of Christ, Durham, has stretched his first place lead out beyond the second place vote-getter. But coming up in second place with a strong jump from seventh place since last report, is REV. ALEXANDER D. MOSELEY.

The winner of the balloting race will be sent on a trip to the Bahamas, according to the Friends of Edgemont-Few Gardens.

Close in third place this week is REV. JOHN MONROE, contest sponsors report, who quietly eased up from fifth place. REV. GRADY DAVIS is at fourth place and REV. DAVID BELL has moved into the fifth place slot. REV. L.H. WHELCHER, has dropped to sixth place, according to June 14 reports from the contest sponsors. REV. EARLE THORPE and REV. J.W. BARNES are now tied at seventh place. There are indications that there may be some surprising developments as the Ministers Popularity Contest gets nearer the finish line. Only time will tell for sure.

The purpose of the contest, in addition to raising money for the center, is to "boost the black church and the black press, locally and nationally", say Friends of Edgemont-Few Gardens.

The Carolina Times is cooperating with the contest by publishing the official ballot each week. To vote for your favorite minister, simply clip the ballot from an issue of The Carolina Times, complete it, and mail it to the Center. A \$1 donation must accompany each ballot in order that it be included in the official count.

The center spokesmen said the first prize for the contest is a trip to the Bahamas for the winning minister. Other prizes will be announced.

Contestants

- | | | |
|---------------------------|-----------------------|---------------------------|
| Rev. J.C. Cheek | Rev. B.A. Mack | Rev. V.E. Brown |
| Rev. Grady D. Davis | Elder Elroy Lewis | Bishop W.A. Jones |
| Rev. L.H. Whelchel | Rev. William Easley | Bishop John T. Moore |
| Rev. Earle Thorpe | Rev. Howard Haggler | Rev. Harold Cobb |
| Rev. David H. Bell | Rev. W.T. Bigelow | Elder R.A. Sloan |
| Rev. John L. Monroe | Rev. Leon Saunders | Rev. Marion Wright |
| Rev. James Daniels | Rev. J.W. Barnes | Rev. Bernard Morrison |
| Rev. Donald Fozard | Rev. Lowry Reid | Rev. Cureton Johnson |
| Rev. Lorenzo Lynch | Rev. Percy Chase | Rev. Johnny Leak |
| Rev. Alexander D. Moseley | Rev. Vernon Thompson | Rev. C.R. Stone |
| Rev. Z.D. Harris | Rev. J.R. Crutchfield | Rev. John L. Caldwell |
| Rev. Frizelle Yelverton | Rev. Arthur H. Parker | Rev. Mack Timberlake, Jr. |

Did you see YOUR minister's name in the list of nominees? Nominations remain open. Its not too late to nominate your minister. Do it today!

OFFICIAL BALLOT Ministers Popularity Contest

Minister's Name: _____

Name of Church: _____

Voter's Name: _____

Number of Votes: _____ Amount Enclosed: \$ _____

Mail or bring votes to:
Edgemont-Few Gardens Center
P.O. Box 1724
Durham, N.C. 27702

Mount Gilead Baptist Church

404 DOWD STREET
DURHAM, NORTH CAROLINA 27701

SUNDAY, JUNE 20, 1982

8:00 A.M. Morning Worship

9:30 A.M. Sunday Church School

11:00 A.M. Morning Worship

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Call 688-6052 or 682-8464 or 682-7160

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Rev. J. Cecil Cheek, B.Th., M.Div., Minister

SUNDAY, JUNE 20, 1982

9:30 A.M. Sunday School

11:00 A.M. Morning Worship

WEDNESDAY

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.

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Marion Wright, Pastor

Sunday—10:00 AM & 8:30 PM
Wednesday—7:30 PM
Friday—8:00 PM