



Mickey Michaux, democratic candidate for U.S. Congress in the second district, is greeted by his host and other honored guests at a Masonic Banquet, June 18 at Raleigh's Royal Villa Hotel. From left to right are Captain Robert B. Gorham, Chief Rabbah, William B. Cheek, Illustrious Potentate, Mickey Michaux, democratic candidate, James R. Barnes, Imperial Deputy of the Oasis, William T. Pratt, Imperial 2nd Ceremony Master.

Duke Scientist Develops Device To Preventing Operating Mishaps

Researchers at Duke University Medical Center say that trials of a new monitoring device have been so successful the instrument may "dramatically reduce" the number of people who die or are left severely brain damaged following operating room mishaps.

The instrument, in use at the hospital since April 1, as a monitor on surgical patients under general anesthesia, is "capable of indicating within two or three seconds whether the amount of oxygen available to the patient's brain is sufficient," said Dr. Michael Mitnick, a physiology research associate.

Mitnick and Dr. Elisabeth Fox, and associate professor of anesthesiology, said the instrument, called a NIROS-SCOPE (Near Infra Red Oxygen Sufficiency Scope) is considered a "revolutionary development" in operating room technology because it continuously monitors the amount of oxygen available to the brain.

"Most anesthetic injuries (when patients die or are severely brain damaged) occur when the supply of oxygen to the brain is insufficient, for any reason," Dr. Fox said. "Anesthesiologists usually rely on blood pressure, heart rate, and EKG readings (graphic record of the heart beats) to monitor the patient's condition."

But those body readings fall short as

warning signals to the anesthesiologist, Mitnick said, because they are indirect indicators.

"Three minutes is approximately the maximum time the brain can go without oxygen and not be permanently damaged," Mitnick said. "Lack of oxygen supply to the brain can leave a patient in a vegetative state."

Dr. Fox said the NIROS-SCOPE is "an invaluable tool" for the anesthesiologist.

"It gives us, for the first time, a continuous, non-invasive way of directly monitoring the amount of oxygen available to the nerve cells in the brain for proper function and survival," she said.

The instrument, invented and developed by a Duke professor of physiology, Dr. Frans Jobsis, has been patented and licensed to the American Hospital

Supply Corp. Jobsis hopes to see the instrument commercially available in 1983 and widely used by hospitals within the next few years.

The NIROS-SCOPE works by shining different "colors" of near infrared light (representing different wave lengths) through the skin and skull into the brain and measuring how much of that light comes back out. Near infrared light is just beyond the darkest red color we can see.

"I discovered that infrared light can penetrate skin and bone tissue much more easily than thought before," said Jobsis. "I also discovered that brain tissue changes its absorption of this kind of light depending on the amount of oxygen available to the nerve cells."

Jobsis said recent ad-

vances in near infrared light sources and detectors coupled with recent advances in microelectronics and microcomputers "set the stage for development of a new instrument for clinical use." Various versions of the NIROS-SCOPE have been tested on animals and human volunteers.

The infrared light is carried through hairlike strands of glass fibers, bound together in flexible "bundles." A tube containing these bundles of optical fibers directs the beam of light into the patient's head. The tubes containing the bundles are attached on the patient's forehead with a simple headgear.

"There is no risk at all to the patients," said Dr. Fox. "You actually get about the same amount of infrared exposure as you do when walking around on a sunny day in North Carolina."

Number of One Parent Families Rises Sharply

The number of one-parent families doubled between 1970 and 1981, according to a report issued last week by the Commerce Department's Census Bureau.

About one of five of the nation's 31.6 million families with children are now maintained by one parent. One-parent families totaled 6.6 million in 1981, compared with 3.3 million in

1970. The number of two-parent families has dropped by 2% since 1970, although they still comprise about four out of five families with children.

Approximately 90% families are maintained by mothers; fathers head only 10%. Nearly three-fourths of the men and women maintaining single parent families were either separated or divorced.

The percentage of one-parent families with children was much higher among blacks — 51% — than whites, 17%. Of all one-parent families in 1981, 68% were maintained by whites.

The bureau notes that the report is based on a 1981 national survey. Comparable data for areas will soon be available from the 1980 Census of Population and Housing.

Other highlights from the report:

- Since 1970, the number of households

has increased by 19.0 million to a total of 82.4 million. Of these, 22.1 million were nonfamily households, an increase of 10.1 million.

- The average population per household dropped from 3.14 persons in 1970 to 2.73 persons in 1981.

- Only 60% of all households in 1981 were maintained by married couples, compared to 71% in 1970.

- About one out of every five households had a householder age 65 or older in 1981; 46% of them were nonfamily households, and 97% of this group lived alone.

As in all sample surveys, the data in this report are subject to sampling variability and errors of response. A detailed explanation appears in the report.

Copies of the report, *Household and Family Characteristics: March 1981, Series P-20 No. 371*, (GPO Stock No. 003-001-90770-4) may be obtained for \$7 each

Shriners Play Host To Michaux

The Shriners and Masons played host last Friday to Mickey Michaux, Democratic candidate for U.S. Congress, at their Annual Regional Masonic Banquet in Raleigh's Royal Villa.

Michaux, a Master Mason himself, was guest of Captain Robert Gorham, Chief Rabbah of the Henderson Masonic order. The dinner-dance was given in honor of William Cheek, who has the title of Illustrious Potentate, a position similar to chapter president. The dance was also occasion for the chapter to present the Imperial Officer and the Imperial Deputy of North Carolina with \$1000 toward the medical research foundation.

The Imran Temple No. 168 is one of sixteen Shriner's chapters in North Carolina. The first Masonic Chapter was founded by Prince Hall, a French African who worked his way over to the U.S. on shipboard in the 1700's.

Hall, a Revolutionary War hero at Bunker Hill, was also a highly respected businessman and minister. Settling in Boston, he founded the first lodge there in the U.S. in 1775.

North Carolina's first lodge was founded in New Bern in the late 1800's. Eighty per cent of the Henderson chapter members are from Granville, Vance and Warren counties, all part of North Carolina's new second district where Michaux is running for the U.S. congressional seat.

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Zafa Temple Youth Get IBM Gift

Pernell Canaday, left, looks on as Ross Farrington, right, presents \$1,000 check from IBM to John T. Tucker, Illustrious Potentate of Zafa Temple 176. Canaday is the director of the youth department of Zafa Temple. Farrington is a staff engineer with the department of plans and control of IBM. He is also on the youth committee of Zafa Temple and serves as drill instructor for the parade and competitive drill teams.

Photo by Silas Mayfield

Students Participate In Disarmament Project

Students and graduates from Duke, Davidson, and Cornell are currently participating in the North Carolina Disarmament Project, the summer project of the North Carolina Public Interest Research Group. The project, which runs from May 27 until July 22, involves research and community organizing around the issue of nuclear disarmament.

There are six full time project members and several part-time members. The six full time people live together in a house located at 825 Wilkerson Avenue in Durham, situated close to downtown, the West End community, and Duke's East Campus.

The majority of the group is returning from New York following its participation in the June 12 Rally in support of

the Second Special Session on Disarmament of the United Nations. The group marched together in a street theatre presentation, orchestrated by local artist Allan Troxler, which brought to life a passage from Jonathan Schell's book, *The Fate of the Earth*. The group hoped to bring to attention the effects of nuclear war on the natural world as well as to human life.

On June 12, as a local manifestation of the national rally, the project distributed information on disarmament in general and the group in particular and continued to collect freeze petition signatures at a table located at Well Spring Grocery in Durham, a local business supporting the group's efforts. Profits from Well Spring sales that day will be distributed to various groups in the area work-

ing on disarmament including the NCDP.

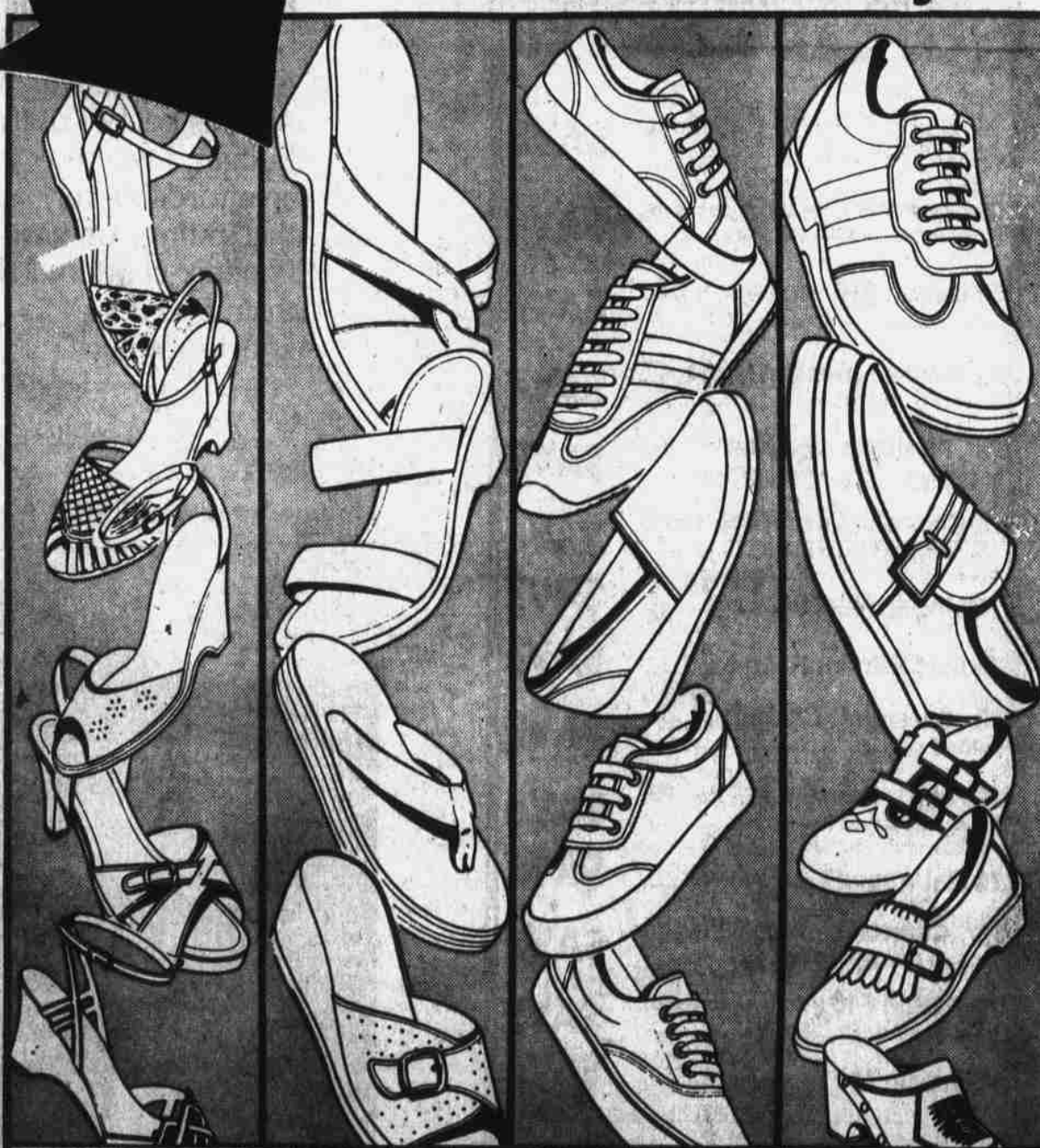
Prior to the journey to New York, NCDP members participated in the successful Durham freeze campaign. The group circulated petitions in local neighborhoods and contributed over 1,000 of the campaigns 10,000 signatures presented to the Durham City Council on June 7. Durham became the first city in the state to pass a freeze resolution by a vote of 9-4 that night.

The group has commenced long term projects which may take the following forms:

- educational outreach among local groups including civic groups and church groups
- a critique of the civil defense plan in Durham
- a study of the effects of the increase in defense spending on human needs spending in the Triangle area.

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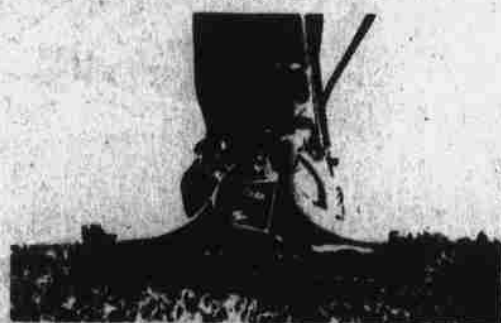
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