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# The Carolina Times

THE TRUTH UNBROKEN

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### Words Of Wisdom

Don't be afraid to be different. Your way may be the better one.

—Paul Talbot

Every fool is fully convinced, and everyone fully persuaded is a fool.

—Baltasar Gracian

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## Police To Try New Drug Cleanup Effort

By Hayes Thompson

Lt. C.W. Warren, head of Durham's drug and vice operations in the Public Safety Department, thinks Durham deserves the title "All-American" city.

Ms. Joan Burton, a community worker in the Few Gardens-Edgemont neighborhoods, believes the city falls way short of that designation.

But together, they might help the city live up to the designation it is trying to win in a national competition.

Thus if Durham wins the All-American City tag, efforts by Warren and Ms. Burton could keep the victory from being tainted. The award is given each year by the National Municipal League, and this year, Durham is among 16 finalists selected from about

600 cities that applied for the designation. The winners will be announced in August in Seattle, Washington during the League's convention.

The taint of the title would come from the fact that though city leaders used efforts by a coalition of agencies to solve the Few Gardens-Edgemont drug problem to qualify for the title, the problem is as bad as ever, according to some community residents.

The taint could be removed by efforts of Ms. Burton and Warren to launch a new anti-drug abuse program in the two neighborhoods that would center more around prevention, than just arresting people who sell drugs. This approach, Warren believes, might do more toward solving the problem

than just "busting" offenders.

The anti-drug abuse project was one of three local efforts cited in Durham's application for the All-American City designation.

Others were the community-based fund raising drive to finance a new building for the Lincoln Community Health Center, and a citywide economic development strategy that was developed last year by a 32-member citizens group.

And while two of the projects — the fund raising and the economic development strategy — clearly show Durham citizens working together to solve a problem, the other project appears to have only driven the problem underground, from public view.

And, according to Ms. Burton, drug trafficking in the northeastern Durham neighborhoods is just as bad as ever.

"The problem is not solved by any stretch of the imagination," said Ms. Burton during a recent interview. "I work here every day and I can testify that things are almost as bad as they were before they (the police) came in."

The police came in during the summer last year following a growing chorus of complaints about drug trafficking in the area.

According to several residents of the area, the neighborhood was like "...an open-air narcotics supermarket."

Before the police crackdown, drug dealers lined the sidewalks, moving

quickly to sell narcotics to motorists driving through the area. Buyers simply drove by slowly, made a transaction and drove away. Many of the sales occurred in broad open daylight. During that time, the Few Gardens-Edgemont neighborhoods were the city's drug dealing centers.

Warren agrees.

"The corner of Morning Glory Avenue and Holman Street was an embarrassment to the neighborhood," he said. "There were drug ripoffs, and older citizens were afraid to venture from their homes. The police department was getting a lot of negative feedback because of the problem."

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## Grimes Indicted By Grand Jury

By Isaiah Singletary

Following a grand jury indictment last week, the man charged in the death of a pedestrian in May is scheduled for an arraignment in Superior Court on July 26.

The grand jury indictment Robert B. Grimes, 19, on involuntary manslaughter and hit and run charges in the death of Chester Reams. Grimes' trial date, according to the Superior Court Clerk's office, will be set at the arraignment.

The indictment and scheduled trial are the latest developments in a highly controversial case that has included charges

that Grimes, who is white, ran over Reams, a black man, because he (Reams) was walking along the 2400 block of Guess Road with a white woman.

Several local organizations have said that Grimes should be charged with murder, but both local police who investigated the case, and the District Attorney's office have maintained that the evidence does not support a murder charge.

In light of that position, and the charges against Grimes, it is not clear if the District Attorney's Office will call

two eyewitnesses to the killing to testify in the trial.

These eyewitnesses, one of them the dead man's brother, Eugene Reams, told *The Carolina Times* that he saw the car that killed his brother pass the couple, swing around in the road several blocks away and come back. The car, according to Eugene Reams, swung from the center lane, jumped the curb, struck his brother and sped away with the lights off.

The other witness, Ms. Patricia Reid, the white woman Reams was walking with, and who told police she was his wife,

tells essentially the same story. Ms. Reid, however, adds that she heard the driver of the car yell racial epithets at them.

Ms. Reid also has said that she recognized Grimes as the driver of the car because he and her brother were involved in drug dealings together.

An investigation by *The Carolina Times* later revealed that Grimes has a long police and court record, including drug trafficking charges, though most of the charges against him have subsequently been dropped by the prosecution before trial.



Mrs. Chisholm

## No Time For Foolishness Shirley Chisholm Warns Blacks To Get Serious

By Joseph E. Green

In one of the most blistering speeches of her political career, Congresswoman Shirley Chisholm told a gathering of North Carolina blacks that black people have no "organized agenda for collective survival and that black minds are being wasted on television and the 'pursuit of meaninglessness'."

Speaking before the fifth annual conference on the state's Black Leadership Caucus on last Saturday evening at NCCU, Mrs. Chisholm, who is retiring from Congress, said that blacks have to "leave the good times alone" and get serious.

"The battle grounds have shifted from the national level to the state level," said Mrs. Chisholm, who described herself as a "maverick and fighter."

She told the audience of about 800 blacks, most of whom are politically active, that if they were serious about making progress in North Carolina, they would send "Mickey Michaux to Congress."

"Why do so many blacks have to follow the lives of middle class America into self-indulgence?" she asked. "We have to get away from blaming someone else for our inefficiencies."

Mrs. Chisholm, who was the first black woman to run for the presidency of the United States, told the conference participants that she was retiring from Congress, but not retiring from political involvement.

"I am going back to the streets," she said. "We have got to get ready for 1984. This is not my funeral. I will fight to the very end."

While a member of Congress, Mrs. Chisholm has maintained contacts with blacks from all across the country.

"I have been following what has been going on in North Carolina," she said. "a bloodless political battle is taking place here," she said to the roaring approval of the conference participants.

The Congresswoman from Brooklyn, who rarely bites her tongue, and who has a reputation for espousing a biting and realistic order of black problems told the audience that they should "stop making excuses for the lack of black progress," and begin taking some concrete steps toward action.

"Where are the Malcolm X's and the Martin Luther Kings," she asked, recalling two of the country's foremost leaders.

"Blacks are engaged in petty foolishness," she said. "Where is the unity so that we can achieve?"

"Shirley Chisholm is marching straight ahead," she said about herself. "She is not looking to the north or to the south, to the east or to the west. She is just marching ever-forward."

### Notice

- The Second Primary is July 27.
- Polls are open 6:30 a.m. to 7:30 p.m.
- Only registered Democrats may vote.
- The deadline for applying for absentee ballots is 5 p.m., July 22.
- One-stop absentee voting is available until 5 p.m., July 22 at the Board of Elections.
- The deadline for receipt of the absentee ballots by the Board of Elections is 5 p.m., July 26.
- Unaffiliated voters cannot vote in this election.
- For more information, call the Board of Elections, 682-5745.

### Sheriff Allen

## Reels From Controversies

By Isaiah Singletary

In the gun lap of his race to keep his job for four more years, Durham County Sheriff Bill Allen must feel like a punch drunk fighter trying to duck left hooks

### Analysis

with his hands tied behind him.

During the last weeks, Allen, who faces Durham County ABC Chief Roland Leary in a runoff election Tuesday, has been hit with two or three good shots to the

head. First, Durham Public Safety officers arrested one of Allen's deputies and charged him with selling a gun to a jail prisoner last January. The gun allegedly was later used to help the man escape.

On the heels of that, came charges that the same deputy, and a magistrate solicited sexual favors from a woman prisoner in return for helping her with a drunken driving charge.

And last, but certainly not least, a neatly typed flyer that began quietly circulating in the black

community charges Allen with running a racist department.

None of these charges taken separately packs that much of a wallop, because Allen contends that he can answer each of them. But coming together like a vicious combination of jobs and hooks to the head, the charges could have Allen job hunting this time next week.

So the fight for the sheriff's office has been mean and vicious. But the real question is has the fight for the job opened wounds that could hamper effective

## Michaux Run-Off Is Hard Ball Game

By Joseph E. Green

As the July 27 primary run-off election nears for the 2nd District congressional seat, H.M. "Mickey" Michaux continues to hurl political hard ball at I.T. "Tim" Valentine.

Michaux and Valentine came in first and second in the June 26 Democratic primary, with Michaux garnering about 44 per cent of the vote, and Valentine picking up about 26 per cent of the vote.

Michaux has gotten

the support of major black and white national and state officials. Mrs. Coretta Scott King, widow of Martin Luther King, Jr., has sent a letter to 45,000 black voters in the district urging them to return to the polls. The letter does not tell them to vote for Michaux, but it is conceded that most of them will.

Morris Udall, Democratic Congressman from Arizona and a former presidential candidate, has sent a letter to more than 10,000 white voters in the district urging them to vote for Michaux.

Udall and many other Congress members believe that Michaux will be a better congressman than Valentine, because he will come to Congress with experience, having served as a former U.S. Attorney, according to Michaux aides.

"The people are beginning to realize that Michaux will be more effective than Valentine," said Ms. Pat Gill, a prin-

cipal Michaux aide. "He will be able to work with members in both branches of the Congress for the good of all of the people of North Carolina."

According to Michaux, one of the chief issues facing North Carolina is the tobacco price support program, which he supports.

Michaux said during an interview that the farmers of North Carolina were crucial to this state and crucial to the country.

According to political insiders, Senator Ted Kennedy voted for the tobacco price support program for the first time in his congressional history because of his relationship with Michaux and a few other political leaders in the state.

"There are only about ten or twelve people in this state who have the type of influence in Washington that Mickey will have," said one observer, "it would be a shame if the people of

law enforcement cooperation between the two departments in the future?"

No one wants to deal with that question just yet. Allen's enemies smell victory, and Allen says he's not looking beyond next Tuesday's election.

And whatever the outcome Tuesday, Allen is certain not to forget the last six months for a long time because, in many ways, the future of his 24-year law enforcement career boils down to just that — the last six months.

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MS. BYNUM

## A Day In Court Led To Another And Another

By Isaiah Singletary  
Ms. Cynthia Bynum went to court on a Monday in May, not to be tried, but to give her brother some moral support during his trial. Yet, it took her nine weeks to get out of court.

In the process, Ms. Bynum, 22, and A&T State University senior social services major, learned at least two valuable lessons that all citizens need to know.

She learned that the slightest mistake in dealing with the criminal justice system can toss the average law-abiding citizen into a swirling vortex of circumstances that can give one a police record, a migraine headache, and have one's name splashed across newspaper pages like that of a criminal.

In most of these circumstances, the citizen — the victim in this case — has little opportunity to explain what happened, and few people are willing to listen anyway.

She also learned that complaining to the police about being mistreated by a police officer often avails nothing because the police investigate themselves and then tell you nothing.

"I was really thinking about trying to do my internship in Durham as a juvenile court counselor," Ms. Bynum said during an interview about her experiences, "but now, there's no way."

But despite going through what she called "the absolute worst experience of my life," which included being arrested and charged with obstructing an officer and disorderly conduct, Ms. Bynum survived and won at least a partial victory.

On July 13, when she

finally went to court, after being charged on May 17, the prosecutor took a voluntary dismissal of the case. This means that her case can be reopened any time within the next two years. But reopened or not, Ms. Bynum now has a criminal record that normally would follow her the rest of her life.

But good news follow all this bad news for Ms. Bynum and anyone else who finds himself caught up in the criminal justice system, victimized by circumstances and the system's lack of sensitivity.

You can now have those police and court records erased completely, no more to haunt you in job-hunting efforts, or otherwise indicate that you are not an upstanding citizen.

But first, let us show how Ms. Bynum and, according to some court officials, many other people inadvertently get caught up in the criminal justice system.

Monday, May 17, was a brisk Spring day, sort of halfway between chilly and warm. Ms. Bynum's brother, Reginald, was due in court that morning. He was charged with speeding and resisting arrest. And while he pleaded guilty to the speeding charge, he contended to the court that the arresting officer beat him up for no reason.

But District Court Judge W.G. Pearson, II ruled against Bynum and ordered him to pay a fine and the costs of court. In a mixture of anger and disgust, the teenager strode from the courtroom, slamming the door behind him. The judge ordered police officers in the courtroom

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