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Words Of Wisdom
By perseverance the snail reached the Ark.
—C.H. Spurgeon

Trickery and treachery are the practices of
fools that have not wits enough to be honest.
—Benjamin Franklin

VOLUME 60 — NUMBER 31

DURHAM, NORTH CAROLINA — SATURDAY, AUGUST 7, 1982

TELEPHONE (919) 682-2913

PRICE: 30 CENTS

Dawson Honored By Medical Association

Dr. Robert E. Dawson, a Durham ophthalmologist for over 35 years, was honored by the National Medical Association at its annual meeting in San Francisco, California.

Dawson was awarded the Distinguished Service Award, the NMA's highest award, for 40 years of devoted service, interest and concern for the growth and development of the profession and its institutions, according to Dr. Alexander A. Williams, chairman of the awards committee.



DAWSON

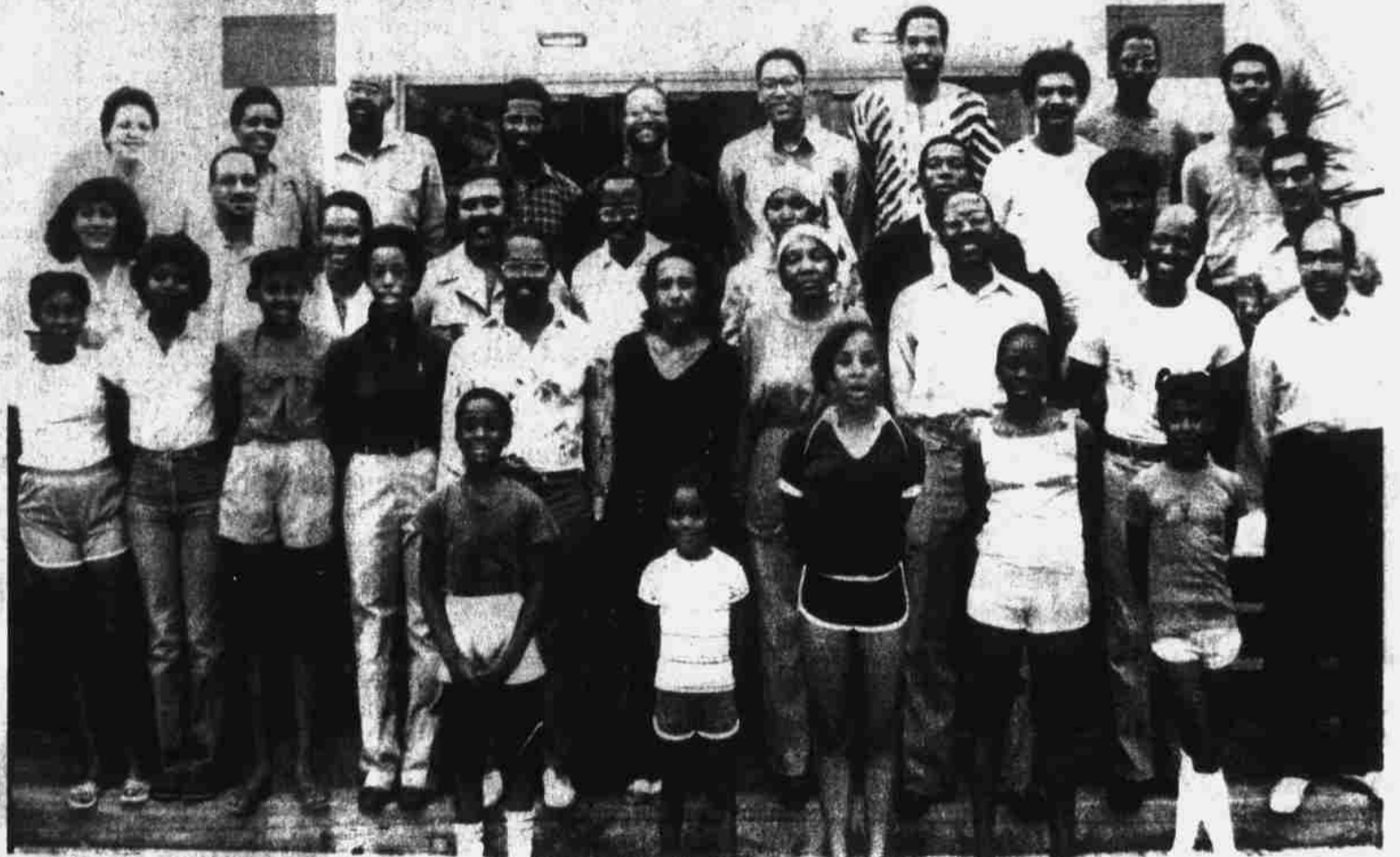
Dr. Dawson, a Fellow of the American College of Surgeons and a Diplomate of the American Board of Ophthalmology, is an assistant clinical professor of ophthalmology at Duke University Eye Center as well as a member of the attending staff, ophthalmology, Durham County General Hospital where he is a member of the Board of Trustees. Dawson, a

member of the Alpha Omega Alpha Honor Society, was cited recently for serving as an examiner for the American Board of Ophthalmology. He is a former member of the Board of Trustees of Meharry Medical College, his alma mater, and the Board of Visitors of Clark College. Dr. Dawson is also a member of the International

Glaucoma Congress and a member of the Board of Directors of the National Society to Prevent Blindness where he serves as vice president.

Dr. Robert Hillard, president of the NMA, in presenting the award, said: "For forty years, Dr. Dawson has brought distinction to the medical profession as an outstanding practitioner whose leadership and devotion have been exemplary. His timeless and unselfish service as president of the National Medical Association and as a member of boards and councils of many prestigious associations has brought recognition nationally and internationally to the medical profession and the National Medical Association."

Dr. Dawson is married to the former Ms. Julia B. Davis of Summit, N.J. They have three daughters and one son, Dianne, Janice, Melanie and Robert, Jr.



SEMINAR CROWD — The crowd of young blacks who flocked to the most recent session of Bruce Bridges' cultural awareness seminar last Thursday took time out to pose for a pic-

ture. Bridges, a professor at St. Augustine's College in Raleigh, and who conducts the seminars, is standing on the back row, second from the far right.

Photo by Silas Mayfield

Blacks Take New View of Past To Better Grasp Future

By Alvis Tinnen
Black history predates America.

It goes all the way back to Africa, the cradle of civilization where blacks successfully ruled sprawling kingdoms, discovered many so-called mysteries of life, and freely shared them with marauding, but inquisitive whites from Europe.

This act of friendliness began the downfall of black people, a descent that produced popular and widely held myths of blacks running around barefoot and ignorant in Africa when whites arrived.

One graphically ap-

parent result of this wholesale "whitewash" of history is an America where 30 million blacks, with a combined income of about \$140 billion annually can't seem to figure out how not to be poor in this land of plenty.

But Bruce Bridges, a St. Augustine's College professor, believes that linking today's black Americans with a renewed and broadened view of African history will help build a bridge of motivation over which blacks can march to a brighter future.

"Knowledge of one's history is a motivating force," explained Bridges, who is currently conducting a series of what he calls cultural awareness seminars. "It is an impetus that causes one to realize that one can accomplish today what our history reveals that we accomplished in the past."

For the past nine weeks or so Bridges has been preaching this philosophy of "looking to the past to better see the future," to an every growing group of interested young blacks.

They've met each Thursday from 7 to 9 p.m., in the Student Union building at NCCU, but with the advent of school, the series has now moved to St. Joseph's Church on Fayetteville Street.

"I am very pleased with the way the response has grown," Bridges said during a recent interview. "Each week we get more people, and the interest appears to be continuing to grow."

According to Bridges, WDUK Radio will begin broadcasting one hour of the two-hour seminar live from the church next Thursday. The broadcast is scheduled to begin at 7:30 p.m.

"We want to see more people come out to the seminar," Bridges said, "and we hope to be able to continue the series indefinitely, because this information is so vital to our success."

The information Bridges gives is often new and shocking to his audience. For example, Bridges contends that philosophers such as Socrates, Plato and Aristotle did not

originate the reasonings, the conclusions and the observations generally attributed to them, but they stole them from the black high priests of "mysteries" in Africa.

The audiences love it.

"In order to build truth, you must have the proper foundation," said William McLaughlin, a local businessman who has attended most sessions of the seminar series.

"Bruce is providing the foundation of a consciousness that has been missing in the lives of black people."

A local psychologist who has attended the series, echoes similar comments. "The knowledge is valuable because it gives me in-

sight I can't get anywhere else in Durham," said Dr. Faheem Ashanti, "and it can be applied to all levels of my life..."

But Bridges says he wants the information to be more than an exercise in intellectual double talk.

"My preference is that people take what we talk about in the seminars and incorporate it into their lives, and use it to spark positive action," Bridges explained.

"Knowledge, for the sake of knowledge is not nearly as valuable as knowledge put to use."

Obataiyee Akinwale, a Durham writer, and former radio personality, agrees: "The seminars are serving as

an inspiration for me," he said, "to get up and do something constructive."

Bridges, who tops six feet by several inches, and who commands attention as he speaks, drives the information home to his audiences with gestures, facial expressions, and humor. But after "preaching for an hour or so, he closes each session with a simple challenge:

"Don't just take my word for any of this," he says with a smile. Go home, get some books and check it out for yourself, and once you know it, share it with someone else, and do something about it yourself."

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Once Over The "Bar" Life Returns To Normal

By Edward Bishop

Now that the North Carolina Bar Exam is over, Karl Rudd has his wife and daughter back.

Before the two-day exam, which was given on the 27th and 28th of July, Rudd, a North Carolina Central Law School graduate, sent his wife, Sheila, and their one-year-old daughter away from their Durham home so that he could concentrate on his studies.

"There was a lot of

tension," Rudd said, "the people who took the exam had all prepared themselves for it, but the anxiety was frightening."

Rudd and about 575 people from all across the country took the North Carolina Bar Exam, which will determine if those taking it will be able to practice law in the courts of this state. Rudd, who graduated last May, said that he thought that he had done well and that the 36 other

students from Central who had taken it had similar feelings.

"After the first day of examination, many of the students went out to dinner or did a little studying," he said, "I read some materials that I felt needed a little attention, but not much."

Rudd, like most of the students who took the bar, enrolled in one of several bar review courses that were being offered two months

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Youths Do Good Deeds

By Josephine Scarlett

Charlotte Ambrister likes what she's doing this summer. She and 19 other youngsters in the Few Gardens housing development are doing good things for themselves and other people as members of the Few Gardens 4-H Club.

"We give dances, bake sales and other activities to raise money to send the club to camp each summer," said Ms. Ambrister, a 14-year-old Durham High School student. She is the secretary-treasurer of the club which was formed in the federally-subsidized housing development one year ago by Ms. Hattie Farrar.

"The children in that club have done quite well. They've had fundraisers, participated in first aid workshops at the American Red Cross; they wrote a play," said Deniece Johnson of the Durham 4-H Council, "and won the 4-H Sharing the Fun talent show."

The Few Gardens 4-Hers are also active in the Durham political arena. They've helped with previous primary and city council elections by passing out flyers and helping the elderly and handicapped get transportation to the polls.

Parents in the community are also interested in the activities of the 4-Hers. Ms. Hattie Farrar, coordinator of

the Few Gardens 4-H Club, Mrs. Dorothy Nelson, a Few Gardens community worker, and George White, a retired postal worker from Chicago, support the club members in their activities.

Even though the 4-Hers have no activities on the immediate agen-

da, Ms. Ambrister said they will have a back-to-school dance in their community. "I think that the things I'm learning in 4-H will help me with other things," said Ms. Ambrister.

No matter how many tales of violence and destruction come out of

the Few Gardens community; there is a light at the end of the tunnel. So the next time you wonder what's wrong with these kids today, remember, there are some kids who care — enough to try to build up their community and their character along with it.



YOUNGSTERS IN FEW GARDENS have spent the summer working in the community. One of their activities was to help encourage residents in the neighborhood to vote, and to help arrange rides for the elderly and handicapped persons who

wanted to go to the polls. They are (-r): Pamela Farrar, Sharon Manning, Sharlet Ambrister, Tracey Jones, Mrs. Dorothy Nelson, Christine Jones, Ronald Ambrister, Roy Nelson and George White.

Photo by Silas Mayfield

Local Woman's First Trip To Africa Calls For Second

By Edward Bishop

Any black American who can afford to should go to Africa at least once. And one black woman who just returned from a month's tour of Senegal, who attended undergraduate school at the University of North Carolina, "the misery

called Goree, a former center of early slave trading near Dakar. "I could imagine the slaves being shackled in the bottom of those slave trading ships," said Ms. Mills, who attended undergraduate school at the University of North Carolina, "the misery

must have been tremendous." She said that each time that she took the trip, she nearly cried. "It was a very moving and emotional experience for me," she said, "it was chilling and

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MISS MILLS
...in native dress