

NOTICE

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The Carolina Times

THE TRUTH UNDISGUISED

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Words Of Wisdom
The best preparation for the future is the present well seen to, the last duty well done.
—G. Macdonald

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Most folks are about as happy as they make up their minds to be.
—Abraham Lincoln

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Saint Augustine's College recently hosted its annual High School Visitation Day in which high school students and counselors visited the campus. Left to right: William Newkirk, dean of students, Ms. Angela Parks, Randy Speight, students at North Lenoir High School; Richard Randell, counselor, Ms. Sharon Speight, senior, North Edgecombe High School and Dr. Wiley M. Davis, vice president for administration. Dr. Davis shares a welcome packet with the group following the High School Day luncheon.

Con Men Are Out To Get You Don't Be Marked

By Milton Jordan
Executive Editor

Okay, here's a quick quiz in current social studies. What do the following people have in common?

* Mary Jones is discussing her good fortune with her good friend, Marie, and how she and her unemployed husband really need half of the \$10,000 she and Marie just found because they have only about \$2,000 left in their savings.

* Mrs. Christine Morris, 66, is outraged that a teller at the local bank has apparently been embezzling money. She wants to do anything she can, she says to Mr. Smith, the bank official, to help catch the culprit.

* Clutching his last \$100 of holiday shopping money tightly in his hand, Paul gazes greedily at the diamond solitaire ring glistening in the man's outstretched hand. The man looks like his wife left him, took the kids, all the furniture and everything else, but by mistake left the \$1000 diamond wedding ring. He looks like he hasn't eaten for days, and would sell anything to get some money.

If you haven't guessed already, each of these people is about to be conned. All names have been changed to protect the duped.

There are several important points to remember about con games and con artists.

* Con games always sound like a fabulous, one-time only deal that's almost too good to be true.

* To be conned, you must participate in the scam. In other words, you must help the con artist take your money.

* The average con artist is not ignorant, sleazy looking, but on the contrary is usually very well dressed, very articulate and personable, just the type of person you'd like to know if he or she wasn't tricking you out of your hard earned money.

* In almost every instance, a con artist will be a stranger, someone that might be very hard to describe to police once you realize you've been had.

* "People should just generally beware of any long conversation with a stranger," said Captain E.A. Allen, chief of the Durham Public Safety Department's detective bureau. "People should beware of deals and buy only from reputable firms, and certainly avoid buying anything off the street, out of the trunk of a car."

The confidence business, the trade name for con games, is a major industry in this country, ripping people off to the tune of more than \$40 billion last

year. This figure is a rough estimate because law enforcement agencies say that most victims of con games never report the incident to the police.

"Most of them are simply too embarrassed to admit that they've been had," said detective J.C. Morris who specializes in fraud investigations with Durham's police. "It's one thing to report that someone took your money. It's a lot harder to report that you helped give it away."

Giving away money is exactly what con games victims do. Consider the three examples cited earlier — three of the most popular con games around the country.

The first, involving Mary Jones, is known as the "pigeon drop" or "pocketbook drop". In this trick someone places a pocketbook or purse packed with money right in your path and "find" it about the same time you do.

Talking smoothly and confidently all the time, your new-found "friend" volunteers to help. He or she, usually a well-dressed, friendly, articulate person who frankly could be your next door neighbor and best friend, calls their lawyer for advice.

The advice always is to split the money, after waiting a reasonable amount of time to make sure no one claims it. But to show good faith, you have to put up some money, that will go into the kitty, and of course you get it back once the split is made.

Usually, the so-called good faith money is about 10 or 15 per cent of the total take, and usually there is \$10,000 or \$15,000 in the envelope. So if it cost you \$1000 to \$1500 to get your half of the money.

If you still seem a little skeptical about the whole thing, the con artist slips in the "sting". The sting is the clincher, the final piece of the puzzle that helps you part with your money.

They say you get to keep the envelope. How can you lose? You have your money, their "good faith" money and the found "money". It's a sure thing you think, and at that point, you con yourself into accepting their proposition.

But as soon as you go to the bank, get your money, put it in the envelope, the con artist switches envelopes, and leaves you holding an identical envelope of cut paper.

According to national studies, women are especially susceptible to this particular con game. The pigeon drop con hits women four out of five times, according to statistics.

"Women have a tendency to want to be thought of as pleasant and polite," said Clair Villano, presi-

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Durham Inching Toward National Trends Murder In The City '82

By Milton Jordan
and
Isaiah Singletary

On a crisp, sunny Saturday several weeks ago, shots rang out from behind a row of store buildings in the 2500 block of Fayetteville Street. Seconds later Sam Winston, a reputed drug dealer staggered to the front of the stores and fell dead.

His death, still unsolved, reflects what Durham Police Detective Captain E.A. Allen calls "a growing change in the character of murder in Durham."

"Things are really changing on the streets of Durham as far as homicides are concerned," said Allen during a recent interview in his office. "In the past, most of the killings in Durham were crimes of passion, hothead killings, and usually there was a witness. And even when there wasn't an eyewitness, people would cooperate and help us solve the crimes."

But, according to Capt. Allen, a 30-year veteran with the Durham police, many of the murders being committed in the

city are "whodunits," and, he continues, "...we really have to beat the bushes to find a suspect."

In addition to a death like Winston's — drug related — Allen also noted other changes in the character of Durham's violence, such as violence against the elderly, and a higher incidence of violence, primarily because of the easy availability of guns.

These changes are beginning to pull Durham, a mostly sleepy, medium-sized city, more into the paths of national crime trends.

Violent crime, particularly murder, is a national epidemic. According to most recent available statistics, there's a murder somewhere in America every 24 minutes. That works out to over 20,000 murders a year in this country. In other words, every year in this country, we kill off a town about the size of Chapel Hill.

But violence is not new. Some years ago, militant H. Rap Brown angered a lot of patriots when he said something that almost everyone knows to be

true: "violence is as American as apple pie."

But today's violence appears to be much more random, and more often than in the past, occurs between strangers.

According to the national statistics, murder at the hands of a stranger has increased twice as fast as murder by friends, relatives and acquaintances. Murder has also become senseless.

"They'll kill you for nothing," a New York district attorney said during a recent speech to law enforcement officials. They'll stare through you. They're cold and callous. They have no remorse."

According to author Charles Silberman in his book *Criminal Violence, Criminal Justice*, "...people kill, maim and injure without reason or remorse."

In Durham, murder has not reached the epidemic proportions that it has in other large cities. But indications are that if the character of violence continues at current trends, Durham will likely have a major problem with ur-

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A HAPPY THANKSGIVING TO ALL! Durham's Freedom Fund Dinner A Good Thing Getting Better

By Milton Jordan
Executive Editor

Like the popular slim cigarette, Durham's Freedom Fund Dinner has come a long way.

From a rather poorly organized and uncoordinated affair in 1974, the annual fundraiser for the Durham Branch of the NAACP has grown into a slick, well-coordinated program that, according to many followers, gets better every year.

The 1982 version came off without a hitch last Saturday night in the Durham Civic Center.

About 350 guests most of them black, turned out to honor T.R. Speight, a Durham businessman who has been a member of the Durham Branch for more than fifty years.

It was almost a "Who's Who" in black Durham, plus a rather impressive smattering of local, state and nationally elected officials.

But the man of the hour was Speight, a quiet, but strong man, described by one speaker as a "double barreled freedom fighter."

Speight, a native of Snow Hill, came to Durham in 1931, and opened his business eight years later. He has operated his service station business ever since, moving through several locations until coming to its present spot on Barbee Road.

According to many of the speakers who honored Speight Saturday night, he has always mixed his business with his freedom fighting.

"Speight kept our fight to integrate the law school at UNC-Chapel Hill going," said Oxford attorney Floyd B. McKissick, "because he not only donated the gas to keep our '39 Plymouth running, but he also recapped the tires, free. That's the kind of man we're here to honor tonight."

In addition to the plaque given by the local NAACP Branch, Speight also received plaques from his church — Community Baptist — and several other community groups.

In accepting his honor, Speight noted that a woman selling

peanuts near the corner of Chapel Hill Street in Durham to keep her family from having to stand in soup lines inspired him and showed him what can be done if you're willing to work hard. He also noted that three major groups have led the fight for freedom in Durham. They are the NAACP, black attorneys and the black press.

"The NAACP is not just an organization," Speight declared, "and the greatest cheaters of freedom are members of

our race who are not members of the NAACP."

He had similar praise for black lawyers, and for the late L.E. Austin, founder and longtime publisher of *The Carolina Times*.

"I don't know any single individual," Speight said, "who meant more to change in this city and elsewhere than L.E. Austin."

The dinner's keynote speaker was Leroy Mobley, director of the NAACP's Prison Program, a division that

sponsors and supports chapters of the organization in the nation's federal and state prison.

Mobley, himself an ex-convict who founded the nation's first NAACP chapter in prison at the Lewiston, Pennsylvania federal penitentiary, spoke on how the NAACP will achieve its goal of one million members.

He concluded that black Americans should make joining the NAACP a matter of principle.

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Two Deans Join Fray

Central Chancellor Search Fight Still Rocks Along

By Donald Alderman

Two NCCU deans, longtime members of the university's administration, recently added their "weight" to the voices of those who are dissatisfied with the way a new chancellor is being selected for the school.

In a letter to the chairman of the Chancellor Search Committee Dr. W.H. Pattillo, dean of the undergraduate school of arts and sciences and Dr. T.R. Richmond, dean of the

business school, said among other things: "Our initial trepidations about the search process have come to fruition."

They called for the search to be "reconsidered, replanned and reopened."

The Carolina Times obtained a copy of the letter.

But despite their protest, part of a growing sense of unrest on the campus, the embattled chancellor search committee rocks right along. According to the chair-

man, the search committee will make its final recommendation for the chancellor by mid-January.

NCCU Chancellor Dr. Albert N. Whiting retires June 30, after 16 years as head of the 73-year-old predominantly black liberal arts university.

An 11-member search committee, appointed by the board of trustees, recently narrowed the search down to four candidates from more than 100 who applied.

But in their letter to the committee chairman, a copy of which was sent to all members of the search committee, the two deans called the search "unproductive" and labeled the final applicants as "unexceptional."

But Hillary Holloway, search committee chairman, said if the search is reopened it will be because the search committee thinks it should be, not because of pressure from the deans of the university.

"We are completing the process," he said in a phone interview, "and if the search committee, after some more checking, thinks neither of the finalists would be a good person to lead the university, then we'll reconsider. But until then, we'll submit two names to the board of trustees."

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City Manager Leaves For College Town Peace

By Donald Alderman

Durham City Manager Barry Del Castilho leaves the city Dec. 17 for Amherst, Mass., where he expects to manage a picturesque college town with only a fraction of the headaches he suffered in Durham.

In a recent interview, Del Castilho outlined the qualifications he thinks the new manager should have to tackle "a difficult city". He's not sure though that the person can be found.

"I think previous experience as a city manager is almost a requirement — that would be number one," he said. "There's probably someone out there who

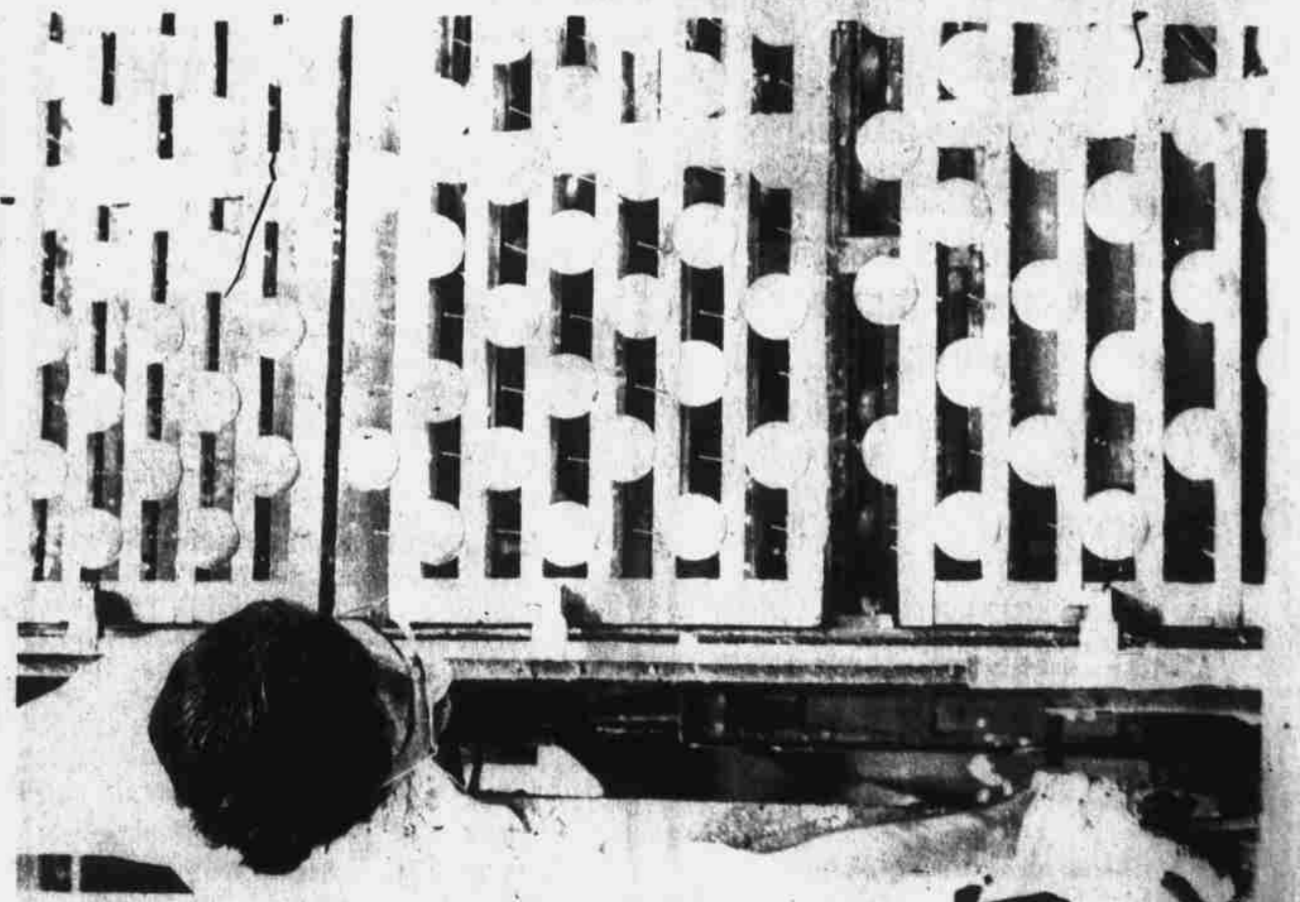
could do it without that experience but it would be an unusual person."

Members of the City Council search committee recently appointed assistant city manager Cecil Brown as interim city manager until a replacement can be found for Del Castilho.

Del Castilho has been city manager for two years.

He moved through the local government ranks from an administrative assistant to Public Safety director before being named city manager after the rocky departure of Dean Hunter. On the matter of his successor Del Castilho, 35, said,

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EYE ON THE BALLS—A worker watches as brilliantly colored sponge balls made from Goodyear's Natsyn synthetic rubber emerge from their paint bath at Eagle Plastics Division—Hedstrom Company, Ashland, Ohio. Eagle will distribute to retailer's shelves this year. Natsyn also is used in such products as pipe gaskets, shoes, rubber bands and automobile tires.