

Gates to stay put for now

TRENTON, N.J. - The head of Harvard University's black studies department said he would not join two colleagues leaving for Princeton in the coming academic year. But Henry Louis Gates did not rule out such a move altogether, telling The Harvard Crimson and The Star-Ledger of Newark that he would make a final decision on Princeton's standing offer this summer.



Gates

"It would be devastating to Afro-American studies to leave now, and I want to start rebuilding the department with my friends and colleagues," he told the Crimson, which broke the story on its Web site Friday.

By delaying a final decision, Gates extends a drama that has played out on the rival Ivy League campuses since late last year.

Two members of Harvard's Afro-American studies department, regarded as one of the nation's best, accepted offers from Princeton earlier this year after a dispute with Harvard's new president, Lawrence Summers.

Summers was criticized for not making a strong statement in support of affirmative action at an early meeting with department members.

He also reportedly accused professor Cornel West of allowing grade inflation and rebuked him for recording a rap CD and leading a political committee for the Rev. Al Sharpton's possible presidential campaign.

West said he had been "dishonored," and accepted an offer from Princeton in April.

Another professor, K. Anthony Appiah, was appointed to Princeton's faculty in January. He cited personal reasons, not the dispute with Summers.

AKAs plan to donate more than \$100,000 during convention

Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority will donate more than \$100,000 to four organizations whose missions mirror AKA's program targets: education, health, the black family, economics and the arts. The donation, which will be divided among the four agencies, will be made during AKA's national convention, which is scheduled to start today and end Wednesday in Orlando, Fla.

In making the announcement, National President Norma Solomon White declared that each recipient organization has demonstrated its power to carry out its mission and these contributions underscore AKA's support.

The recipients are:

- United Negro College Fund, whose work at getting African-American students scholarships to historically black colleges is legendary

- National Council of Negro Women, which under the leadership of Dr. Dorothy Height, has promoted the black family through a host of initiatives, including its most recent effort titled "Leave No Child Behind," which is dedicated to helping all children, including those labeled "at risk."

- The Martin Luther King Monument, which operates under the auspices of the Martin Luther King Center for Social Change and is soliciting funds to erect a Monument to Dr. King in Atlanta, Ga.

- IFESH for African Schools Projects, IFESH (International Foundation for Education and Self-Help) is a global trust founded by the late Rev. Leon Sullivan. Through this effort, schools are being built and staffed in South Africa to help children in rural areas gain an education. In collaboration with IFESH, Alpha Kappa Alpha has built nine schools in South Africa; each is known as an Ivy AKAdemy South Africa.

"Through these contributions, Alpha Kappa Alpha is providing funds that will enable these organizations to continue to strengthen African-American communities nationwide," said National President White. "Ultimately, these are the goals that Alpha Kappa Alpha shares and supports."

Interracial couple may be honored

BOWLING GREEN, Va. - An interracial couple whose marriage led to a change in segregation laws 35 years ago may be honored on a historical monument after all.

Caroline County supervisors had initially rejected a proposal to fill one side of the monument with the story of Mildred and Richard Loving. The Caroline County couple's marriage led to a 1967 U.S. Supreme Court ruling that overturned laws against interracial marriage.

At a meeting last week with a committee of five black residents appointed to revise the text for the monument, supervisors got a new proposal that listed the Lovings among other notable Caroline blacks.

The county has been grappling with what text to include since a now-defunct tourism committee proposed a black history monument for the county's courthouse square two years ago.

After rejecting a proposal to feature the Lovings' story prominently on the monument, as well as a failed slave rebellion in 1800, supervisors decided to pay homage to Quakers and other immigrants on the monument instead.

The Loving case was placed on a plaque inside the Caroline courthouse where the original trial took place.

Lloyd Fox, the committee member who wrote the new text that mentions the Lovings, said he wasn't trying to change the supervisors' minds.

"I was trying to give input as to what accomplishments have been made in the African-American community that people of the county would be proud of. The Lovings' case is a groundbreaking accomplishment that changed laws up to the federal level" Fox said.

New FBI freedoms cause concern

More than 30 groups send letters of complaint to members of the U.S. Senate

BY HAZEL TRICE EDNEY
NNPA CORRESPONDENT

WASHINGTON - Attorney General John Ashcroft's plan to loosen FBI guidelines may be illegal and could pose a threat to lawful political and religious activities, charge leaders of 33 civil rights organizations.

"This decision raises matters of constitutional authority that require immediate congressional attention," states a letter from the diverse religious and political organizations sent this week to leaders of the U.S. Senate and House judiciary committees.

"We do not believe that the attorney general has the legal authority to pursue domestic spying.... We are also concerned that the changes authorize unchecked surveillance of lawful religious and political activity, and that such surveillance will be targeted against Arab-Americans, Muslims and immigrants, among others."

The 33 groups include the NAACP, the American Civil Liberties Union, People for the American Way and the American-Arab Anti-Discrimination Committee.

Letters were sent to Senate Judiciary Chairman Patrick J. Leahy (D-Vt.) and Orrin Hatch of Utah, the ranking Republican leader; and to House Judiciary Chairman F. James Sensenbrenner Jr. (R-Wis.) and John Conyers of Michigan, the ranking Democrat.

A Senate hearing set for today is expected to raise the concerns with FBI Director Robert Mueller.

"The changes that are being proposed are quite horrifying in too many ways. We fought very hard to make sure we could protect the integrity and the anonymity of our membership records," said Hilary Shelton, director of the Washington Bureau of the NAACP. "For the Justice Department to be able to now spy and actually get access to these kinds of records and to be able to tie in those organizations that they perceive might be participating in terrorist activities is absolutely un-American."

At the whim of an overzealous FBI agent, the NAACP could be banned or discredited



New rules were imposed on the FBI after the assassination of MLK. It was discovered that agents used all sorts of methods to keep tab on King.

similar to the manner in which its Alabama State Conference was made illegal during the Civil Rights Movement, Shelton said. The organization was outlawed when it refused to give its members lists to state officials. When the NAACP sued the state, the U.S. Supreme Court in 1958 ruled that its First Amendment rights had been violated.

Shelton is among several civil rights activists who were taken aback by the new guidelines announced by Ashcroft last week. Also raising questions about the legality of the guidelines are the National Urban League and the Center for Democracy & Technology.

Civil rights organizations are in a precarious position, said Hugh Price, president and chief executive officer of the National Urban League.

"This is very tough stuff because we can't just sort of blithely say you can't do anything," Price said. "But, we've got to be sure that the powers they are seeking aren't excessive and aren't abused and are fully rationalized."

"I don't think the agency should be given a blank check," he said. "I think it'll have to be monitored."

Both Price and Shelton are pushing for congressional hearings on the guidelines.

Laura W. Murphy, director of the ACLU's

Washington National Office, said, "The government is rewarding failure" just after FBI Director Mueller admitted the agency should have done more to investigate warnings of potential hijackers before Sept. 11.

The new guidelines relax those put in place 20 years ago after J. Edgar Hoover's COINTEL-PRO operation spied on civil rights leaders, broke into homes and violated civil liberties. That program was used to harass and attempt to embarrass Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., the Black Panthers and others.

After congressional investigations into the King case, guidelines were issued to limit the scope of surveillance and infiltration of religious and political organizations in order to avoid persecution, false accusations and false arrests. Agents were not allowed to infiltrate such organizations unless an official investigation was under way. Under Ashcroft, this rule has been relaxed.

"FBI field agents may enter any public place that is open to other citizens unless they are prohibited from doing so by the Constitution or federal statute for the specific purpose of detecting or preventing terrorist activities," says a Justice Department summary of the guidelines.

See FBI on A10

Carter builds homes for the poor in South Africa

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

JOHANNESBURG, South Africa - Former President Jimmy Carter laid bricks



Carter

and spread concrete Monday while helping to build a low-income housing project in South Africa.

Carter was among 4,500 volunteers organized by Habitat for Humanity to build 100 homes this week in the coastal city of Durban.

Every year, Carter, the organization's best-known volunteer, selects a housing project to work on.

Since the Americas, Ga.-based Habitat for Humanity was founded in 1976, it has built more than 100,000 homes in 60 countries.

Carter said Monday the organization "has turned out to be the best thing in my life. It has been an inspiration to be part of helping others."

About 7.3 million South Africans lack proper shelter, a problem dating from the apartheid era, when blacks were confined to the economic fringes. They were kicked off prime land, which was reserved for whites, and moved into remote rural homelands or townships on the outskirts of cities and towns.

Many live in one-room shacks of wood, corrugated iron and plastic that were hastily nailed together at minimal expense.

NOTICE MINORITY AND WOMEN-OWNED FIRMS

The North Carolina Department of Transportation (NCDOT) is seeking minority and women-owned firms (M/WBE) to bid on upcoming highway projects throughout the State. The Locations of the projects are:

Project No.	County/Route	Type	Location	Metric/English	GOALS BY PERCENT		
					DBE	WBE	WBE
6.031009R	Chowan/Washington	Widening, milling and resurfacing	Four sections of NC-32	English	5%	3%	
6.181004	Greene	Grading, drainage and paving	Intersections of US-258/ US-13/ NC-903 and NC-91/ SR-1247 North of Snow Hill	English	10%	5%	
8.1242203	Duplin	Grading, drainage, paving and structure	Bridge over Limestone Creek and approaches on NC-241 near Beulaville.	English	5%		
8.1330505	Wayne	Grading, drainage, Y-Line paving and structures	US-117 from South of SR-1300 at Goldsboro to North of SR-1336	Metric	10%		
6.252001R	Brunswick Iredell Johnston New Hanover Chatham	Guardrail and dynamic message signing	I-40 & I-77 near Statesville, I-40 & 95 near Benson and US-17/NC-87, US-17/74/76, US-421 & NC-132 near Wilmington	English	0%	0%	
6.351010R	Durham Scotland	Widening, milling, resurfacing and guardrail	13 sections of NC-751	English	5%	3%	
8.2590502	Lee	Grading, drainage, paving and structure	Bridge over Big Shoe Heel Creek and approaches on SR-1612 near Maxton	English	5%		
6.549007T	Forsyth	Grading, drainage, paving and structure	US-421 & NC-87 (Sanford Bypass) from East of US-1 & US-15-501 to East of SR-1521	Metric	10%	5%	
8.1621204	Cabarrus	Grading, drainage, paving, guardrail, signing and structures	US-421 from West of US-158 interchange to SR-2662	Metric	9%		
8.1661007	Mecklenburg	Widening, grading, drainage, paving & structure	NC-49 from West of Irish Buffalo Creek to East of SR-2630 (Walker Road)	Metric	10%		
8.U672211	Wilkes	Grading, drainage, paving and structures	I-485 (Charlotte Outer Loop) from North of I-85 to NC-27	Metric	8%		
8.1762002	Avery	Median guardrail	US-421 from NC-268 to SR-2433	English	12%		
8.2721102	Gaston	Grading, drainage, paving and structure	Bridge over Roaring Creek and approaches on SR-1132 near valley	Metric	5%		
8.2812002	Madison	Grading, drainage, paving and culvert	RC box culvert at branch of Catawba Creek and approaches on SR-2445	English	9%		
8.1861002	Transylvania	Grading, drainage, paving and structure	Bridge over SR-1198 and Hayes Run Creek and approaches on US-25/70 & NC-213	Metric	5%		
8.2001103	Jackson	Grading, drainage, paving and structure	Bridge over Tinsley Creek and approaches on SR-1546 East of Brevard	English	7%		
8.2960702		Grading, drainage, paving and structure	Bridge over Thorpe Dam Spillway and approaches on SR-1157	Metric	3%		

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***** MONDAY, June 17, 2002 6 PM - MIDNIGHT *****
North Raleigh Hilton - 3415 Wake Forest Road - Raleigh, N.C.
LETTING DATE: June 18, 2002

Prime contractors will be available to receive quotes for trucking, sub-contracting and materials. M/WBE's needing more information and/or technical assistance may come to Room 522 to meet with representatives from the Bennington Corp., NCDOT's Supportive Provider. (919)832-6027

NCDOT Office of Civil Rights & Business Development 1-800-522-0453

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