

# Millions More rally's message rings out

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1995 March, said that the devastating effects of Katrina helped put black community issues into focus for many of the Movement's speakers.

Walters added that the Movement crowd differed from that of the March because many people came out of curiosity following the success of the first March.

"They were not as intense or as intensely involved," Walters said of Saturday's crowd, which unlike the Million Man March, embraced the involvement of women and children. Families were propped up on lawn chairs and blankets from the Capitol lawn to the grassy area around the Ulysses S. Grant memorial, where many watched speakers such as Al Sharpton, Erykah Badu and Nation of Islam leader Louis Farrakhan, on jumbo screens

"This is my first time ever in D.C., to see this many people in one place. I feel at home here," said Jimmy Graham, a 26-year-old from Michigan.

Graham said he did not make the 1995 march but wanted to be a part of its historical follow-up to "see what we've improved on and what we haven't done."

"In the first one, I didn't really see anything come out of it," he added.

Graham said he was looking for something to take back to Michigan.

Olu Daniels, 23, of Washington, was one of several black entrepreneurs that used the Movement as a venue for business, which some felt made the event more "commercial" than the 1995 rally. T Street vendors sold food and Movement memorabilia.

At 13, Daniels attended the Million Man March with his

church.

"(The Million Man March) meant much more to me as a young black man. I was only 13 then. It moved me," he said.

"(The Millions More Movement) seems like more of a spectacle—more of an event," Daniels said, but added, "the message still rings clear."

Walter Simmons, 25, of Savannah, Ga., said he felt that while vendors created a seemingly different atmosphere, their presence represented the empowerment attained at the 1995 march.

"It's black empowerment," said Simmons, works for Tag Team Marketing, a black networking company. He passed out black business directories at the Movement.

Omitunde Slack, a native of Baltimore, said although she could not attend the 1995 March she still "felt a part of it."

But instead of taping television broadcasts as she did a decade earlier, Slack was able to relive the unity she felt from her living room 10 years ago.

"It's about celebration," Slack said, pointing to a

Jumbotron that brought the speeches being made from the Capitol steps closer to movement participants, many of whom gathered by the Grant memorial. "See that guy dancing? That's how people feel inside."

Slack said the casual atmosphere did not take away from the movement or its connection to the Million Man March.

"It's the same kind of vibe. It's love."

## New N.C. NAACP president wants to press advocacy

By Cynthia Dean  
THE TRIANGLE TRIBUNE

RALEIGH — Activism is in the Rev. William Barber's blood. That's why the 42-year-old Goldsboro resident finds himself leading a branch of the nation's oldest civil rights organization.

Barber beat incumbent Melvin "Skip" Alston in the race for president of the North Carolina State NAACP last week, receiving 60 percent of the vote. The race for the seat during the organization's 62nd annual convention drew more members out to the event than in the past few years. The convention was held at the Four Seasons Hotel in Greensboro.

Barber said his first reaction was one of humility when he learned that he had won.

"I am humbled by the choice of the people," he said. "I am overwhelmed and thankful for their tremendous support."

As a young child, Barber joined the NAACP Youth Chapter in Washington County. He recalls winning the NAACP youth president of the year honor in the 1970s. Barber said his family played a major role in integration efforts in Washington County.

Later, as a college student

at North Carolina Central, Barber was elected president of the Student Government Association.

James E. "Uncle Bubba" Fields of Durham remembers Barber as a young man taking on leadership roles. He said Barber was a profound speaker.

"If you turned your back, you might think that Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. was speaking," Fields said. "He sounds just like him."

Fields said Barber will do a fantastic job because he's a man of action.

"He'll bring the NAACP back (to) where it needs to be," he said. "He's a powerful guy."

Barber recently served on the executive board of the Goldsboro Branch of the NAACP. He is pastor of Greenleaf Christian Church, and he heads a nonprofit organization. Barber is married to Rebecca Barber, and they have five children.

The level of support for Barber signals that members of the NAACP local branches are ready for change.

Barber hopes that under his leadership the state chapter will become more aggressive on important issues.

"We do not test the winds to decide our direction," he said. "We stand by our decision even if the winds of society are blowing in the opposite direction."

Some of the challenges he will lead the organization in

tackling include closing the achievement gap, the loss of African Americans in political power and poverty among minorities.

Barber also wants to take on large corporations that move to the state and dodge requirements to employ minorities, as well as state departments that get around awarding bids to black contractors.

He said there is also a need for the organization to celebrate students who are succeeding in school.

"We need to partner with (Historically Black Colleges and Universities)," Barber said, explaining that he wants the N.C. chapter's Academic Cultural Technological Scientific Olympics to become the premier event recognizing bright students across North Carolina.

Alston took the loss in stride.

"I accept it," he said during a telephone interview. "I wish Rev. Barber and his administration the best. I will give him my total support."

## Wake Co. busing foes make mark at school election

By Cynthia Dean  
THE TRIANGLE TRIBUNE

RALEIGH — The tables could soon turn for opponents of busing students in Wake County public schools.

Anti-busing contenders for the Wake County School Board have a pretty good chance of winning.

Busing in the county was established to increase economic diversity in the classroom. In recent years many Wake County residents have come together to speak out against the bussing policy, complaining that their children should not be bused across town when good schools are right in their backyards. One group against busing in the Triangle named themselves Assignment By Choice (ABC).

About three percent of the county's students are bused from their neighborhoods to other areas. The majority are low-income students from Southeast Raleigh who are bused to Garner, Cary and schools in North Raleigh.

Last week, provisional ballots were still being counted to settle close races.

Debra McHenry of Garner lost to Horace Tart who openly opposes busing. Tart took home 53 percent of the votes in last week's election.

It was the first time she had ever put her bid in for a public office.

"It got pretty rough at the end," she said. "I need some rest." McHenry said she supports diversity. "All kinds of diversity is important in general because we live in a diverse society."

Please see WAKE/8A

### STEELE CREEK AREA BUSINESSES

Steele Creek Elementary is located near Arrowood Road, and I-485, adjacent to Kennedy Middle School and Olympic High School.

This year's Steele Creek Elementary PTA Fall Festival will be the segue for next year's Fall Festival combining all Steele Creek elementary schools and adding more food and more fun with the same great "family-style" entertainment.

We need your support to make this a successful Fall Festival. Our goal is to find sponsors for each event and activity.

We also offer the opportunity for your organization to set up a table for a \$50.00 donation.

All of the festival proceeds are given back to Steele Creek Elementary School. Our school has close to 1,200 kids attending. It is close to 40 years old and has yet to be included in a bond program.

The PTA is committed to improving our students' reading scores; we presently lack resources that other schools realize. Our teachers have done and continue to do an extraordinary job but they need the basics: books, technology resources and equipment.

For more festival and sponsorship information please contact: Andrea Spool-White, 704.807.3070 or [awhite@steelecreekpta.org](mailto:awhite@steelecreekpta.org)

Olympic High School Stadium is the site of the Fall Festival. However, access and parking will be from Steele Creek Elementary.

Children can look forward to, but not limited to:

Clown Slide	Seaweed
Bounce Clown	Double Shot
Bounce Tiger	Football Pass
Hi Striker	Spin Art
Golf Challenge	Monkey Bean Bag
Police Car	Fire Truck
Hay Rides	Face Painting
Pizza	Cotton Candy
Snow Cones	

## Steele Creek Elementary PTA Fall Festival

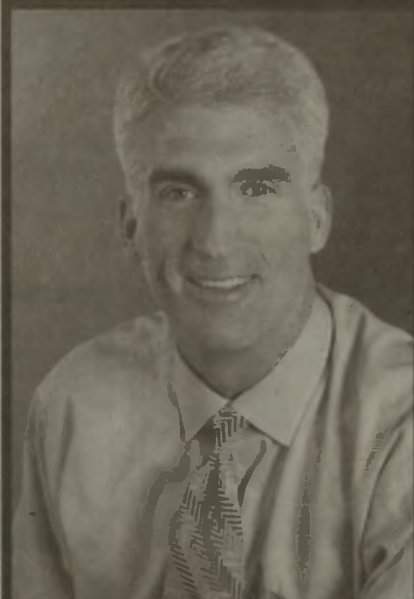
Saturday  
Oct. 29, 2005  
4pm – 8pm

[www.steelecreekpta.org](http://www.steelecreekpta.org)

A family event for the entire community

# Mumford

## City Council at Large



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Vote November 8th

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