



HAVE A HAPPY SPRING BREAK

THE CAMPUS ECHO

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Teacher of the Year speaks at N.C. Central

By Wyllisa Bennett

"Black children need role models. We must show by example that courage, fortitude, and genius is not a respecter of the color of one's skin," stated Donna Oliver—North Carolina's Teacher of the Year 1986-87—on Feb. 23 in the Taylor Education Building. Oliver's visit was sponsored by the Department of English of North Carolina Central University as part of their annual Teacher Education Career Day.

Oliver spoke to students and faculty about the importance of education and the future of the younger generation.

"Education is like Burger King—it lets you 'have it your way.' Education is like Coca Cola—it's 'the real thing.' Education is like Southern Bell—it lets you 'reach out and touch someone.' Education is like Hallmark Cards—it lets you 'send the very best,' and education is like a slow poke sundae—it 'lasts a long, long time,'" Oliver said.

Oliver confessed that her most important objective as Teacher of the Year is talking to young students interested in education as a career.

"Education is the right choice," she said.

She instructed students not to let their peers persuade them against a career in education: "Tell them it is because of teachers that you can select your major."

Oliver said that by 1990-91, America may be faced with a teacher shortage. "Our youth—the greatest natural resource—will suffer," she said. Oliver emphasized the unique attributes of the American public school system:

"In America, the public school system takes any child that comes—the rich, the poor, those that want to learn, and those that could care less about learning," she said. Oliver told teachers "we must demand excellence of ourselves." She also stated that teachers must make sure they are competent, knowledgeable, and skillful in their area of teaching. "We must model excellence, then demand excellence," she added. "A teacher should feel guilty if he allows a student to pass on to the next grade, and not even be able to read.

She told her colleagues to

look to the past with pride and learn from previous mistakes.

"Live each day with enthusiasm, and look to tomorrow with competence for a better place to live," she said.

Oliver professed that the future looks "very good" for education. She feels that North Carolina realizes that increasing salaries for teachers in order to make education competitive with other businesses is an effective way to lure good students into the teaching profession.

"The eighties are prime time for education," she said. Oliver said that the State has allotted \$700 million plus for education. More money is available to teachers for professional growth; scholarships are available for them to continue their education, as well as money for staff development programs to enhance their teaching ability.

Oliver said it is important to keep the clock of education ticking to secure it in this progressive society. "We must join together in education to keep the future looking bright."

Why does one choose
See TEACHER, p. 3



Kip Branch

Donna Oliver, North Carolina's Teacher of the Year and finalist for National Teacher of the Year, spoke to students and faculty about the importance of the education as a career choice.

Martin Luther King Jr.'s birthday celebrated

Reports from

Durham Morning Herald

Cries of "Let Freedom Ring" rang through McDougald Gymnasium at N.C. Central University January 19, 1987 as blacks and whites celebrated the birthday of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.

The celebration included gospel and secular music, religious and political speeches and pleas for unity among people of all races.

Some speakers criticized not only racial prejudice in

America but foreign policy in South Africa and Central America.

The featured speaker was Patricia Russell-McCloud, a professional speaker and lawyer from Atlanta. She whipped the crowd up as she punctuated her speech with calls for "Let Freedom Ring," the line from the song MY COUNTRY! 'TIS OF THEE.

Russell-McCloud said that racial equality and unity are imperative. "We are going to have to learn to live together

as brothers and sisters or die together as fools," she said.

She credited the blacks and whites, Jews and Gentiles in Durham who have learned to work and live together.

There were also calls for the state of North Carolina to do what Durham city and county governments have done—declare the third Monday in January a paid government holiday. Forty states have done so and many countries celebrate King's birthday.

See KING, p. 2

President Reagan portrayed as a confused and remote figure

Compiled by Tonya Hall
Washington (The New York Times News Service) — The Tower Commission, the special review board that investigated the Iranian arms scandal, has portrayed President Reagan as a confused and remote figure who failed to understand or control the secret arms deal with Iran, and who thus had to "take responsibility" for a policy that in the end caused "chaos" at home and embarrassment abroad.

Using somber and forceful tones, the presidential commission issued a highly detailed report of more than 300 pages that was sharply critical of a president who dominated the political life of the country for six years, guiding gracefully across the national stage with an optimistic smile. Former Sen. John G. Tower, a Republican who headed the commission, said at a news conference that "the president clearly didn't understand the nature of the operation, who was involved, or what was happening." The report was particularly harsh on the president's aides, especially former White House chief of staff Donald T. Regan, who quarreled with many inside the White House. Most political observers say that the major overhaul in the White House staff, which seemed imminent for weeks, is now in full swing.