

NORTH CAROLINA CENTRAL UNIVERSITY

## Beard named temp chief

Durham PD vet fills in

By SHEREKA LITTLEJOHN  
ECHO STAFF WRITER

N.C. Central University has turned to a retired 27-year veteran of the Durham Police Department for its interim police chief.



Glenda Beard

Major Glenda Beard was the first female sergeant, lieutenant, captain and major in Durham's police department.

Beard, an NCCU alumna, taught middle school in Warren County, N.C., before turning to law enforcement. She retired from the Durham Police Department in July 2001.

Beard was reluctant to come out of retirement, but many people in the department know her because she was administrative assistant to former NCCU Police Chief McDonald Vick for 4 years. Earlier this year the two started efforts to get accreditation for the police department at NCCU, which Beard says will hopefully be completed by winter.

Beard plans to fill some vacancies in the department by hiring five new police officers and an investigator.

"My main focus is to just maintain the department and keep the staff going," Beard said. "It's important to have a good relationship with everyone on campus."

Beard says she has no plans to apply for a permanent police chief position.

Vick, an 18-year veteran of the Durham Police Department, resigned as police chief in February after 11 years of service to NCCU.

He is now police chief at the University of Kentucky in Lexington.



Christopher Barnett on the walkway to the halfway house he runs at 1608 Fayetteville Street.

KHARI JACKSON/Echo Staff Photographer

## Just like Job

Faith helps recovering addict help others

By KRISTIANA BENNETT  
ECHO STAFF WRITER

While N.C. Central University students are reading literature and studying microeconomics, the occupants of the New Way of Life Recovery House a few blocks away at 1608 Fayetteville St. are getting a different education: how to recover from drug and alcohol addiction.

The crucial lessons at New Way of Life are taught by a man who didn't even attend high school — Pastor Christopher Barnett.

Barnett, a short, stocky man with softly graying hair and soulful dark eyes, knows the life of an addict.

The Durham native started drinking and smoking marijuana when he was 12 years old. At 14, he was shooting speed, and by his 20s was a heroin and crack cocaine addict.

And like those he helps, he was in and out prison for much of his life.

But in 1989, he says, he had accepted Jesus Christ as his savior and started turning his life around.

"God changed my life ... he sent me a vision of a halfway house to help lost and hurting people suffer-

ing from substance abuse," said Barnett.

Barnett has been drug-free since 1997. He started New Way of Life in 1999 when he took two recovering addicts into his home.

Two quickly became 11. New Way of Life now has three houses and 32 recovering occupants.

"In my judgment, God has given Chris a unique ability to go out and find hurting people and to bring them to a haven like this to inspire, motivate and comfort them," said Pastor Milton Jordan, Sr., a member of St. Joseph's Church, which provides financial support to Barnett's efforts.

"Not all people have this gift."

According to Jordan, saving an addict is a wise investment. He says the average crack addict spends upwards of \$100 a day on his or her addiction.

So 32 addicts freeing themselves from drugs keeps \$3,200 a day from being involved in crime.

Residents say they appreciate and admire Barnett.

"I was hurting on the inside and this house is a godsend for me," said Gerald Smith, a 41-year-old

recovering crack addict and a former NCCU student.

"The doors were opened to give me an opportunity to get my life together and to build a personal relationship with God."

Barnett's recovery plan is based on the Bible and Rick Warren's "The Purpose-Driven Life."

It includes an education and training curriculum; participants commit to 3-hour workshops for 40 weeks.

The recovering addicts pay \$90 a week for rent. Most work at Champion Wash on Wheels, Barnett's mobile car wash.

Funding and support comes from churches, including First Baptist Church and St. Joseph's Church, and area businesses, including Wal-Mart and Food Lion. The Durham Food Bank donates \$400 worth of food each month.

Barnett is modest about his work helping recovering addicts.

"I think I'm overworked and underpaid, but I feel successful," said Barnett.

"I keep on doing it because it feels good to be God's instrument ... I enjoy seeing people's lives change."

## SGA

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wanted to know what the three week wait was for.

"It's not that there was anything shaky with the process," said Renee Clark SGA president.

"We couldn't release an official slate until the grievance was met."

The grievance comes from a discrepancy in the constitution.

Faith Allen, executive director of elections, said the SGA 2005 constitution was not ratified, so they used the 2003 constitution.

The 2003 constitution states that election events can only be held on Tuesday, Wednesday, or Thursday.

Voting took place on a Friday.

An investigation was held after to determine whether or not the elections were unconstitutional — but the results had already been determined.

Students have mixed feelings about the election and voting outcome.

"Honestly, I wasn't expecting anything. I am satisfied with those who did win," said Kerry Atkinson, sophomore.

"I wish that we could be as serious about national and state elections as we were about SGA elections," said Crystal Douglas health education junior.

"I thought it was a lot of mudslinging," she continued.

Mukhtar Raqib said his future plans include making sure students take an active role in the legislative process.

"I want to make sure that students come out to meetings and become part of the SGA Senate," he said.

Tomasi Larry holds the same sentiment.

"I think we have been called to a higher level of professionalism. I'm not discouraged."

"Now we have something we need to take care of, and we're going to get it done," said Larry

## GRADUATION

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classes to be small anymore." Wilson proclaimed this to be a distinguished graduating class.

"We consider all of our students to be scholars and there are a good number of honor students," he said.

The keynote address will be given by Dennis P. Kimbro, author of "Think and Grow Rich: A Black Choice" and "Daily Motivations for African-American Success."

Kimbro is an educator, public speaker and business consultant who has appeared on television shows like the "Today Show" and "Larry King Live."

"We chose Dr. Kimbro because he is a well-known national figure, because of his dynamic personality and because he is also familiar with the campus and its students," said Wilson.

Kimbro studied the methodology of Napoleon Hill, author of the 1960 best-seller "Think and Grow."

His research helped him update Hill's book on the subject of black achievers.

Kimbro's book conveys the secrets of success of achievers such as Spike Lee, Jesse Jackson, Selma Burke and Oprah Winfrey.

He says he is still searching to discover how impoverished black Americans can pull themselves out of poverty and reach their full potential.

"I feel that Dr. Kimbro will convey a positive message for the student body," said Wilson.

Kimbro received his bachelor's and master's degrees from the University of Oklahoma. His doctorate is from Northwestern University, where he studied poverty and the creation of wealth in underdeveloped countries.

He has been a visiting professor at Hampton University, Albany State University and Kansas State University. He lectures widely in the U.S. and abroad.

Kimbro was the first director of the Center for Entrepreneurship at Clark Atlanta University.

Kimbro lives in Atlanta with his wife and three children.

## BUSINESS

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to apply for re-accreditation on time.

In a University news release, Newhouse said in his defense that leadership in the School of Business was busy working toward another accreditation from the Association to Advance Collegiate and Schools of Business International and thus did not respond to the ACBSP requests for information.

Chancellor James H. Ammons replaced Newhouse with Assistant Provost Bijoy Sahoo on an interim basis. Since losing its accreditation, the University has quickly taken action to regain accreditation. The school completed its self study on Jan. 31, 2006.

The self study was reviewed by a peer review

team, headed by Percy Vaughn, the former president of ACBSP.

In February, the peer review team made a site visit and submitted the results to the accreditation board. A week later, the school received the report and addressed the issues cited in the report.

Provided that the school meets all of the require-

ments to become re-accredited, it will be inducted June 16-19 at the annual ACBSP meeting in Chicago.

"Maybe all this that we went through was a wake up call for all of us to rise to the occasion and showcase the talent and potential of [our] students," said Sahoo.

Along with working on the accreditation with ACBSP, the school is also

taking steps to gain accreditation with AACSB, the accreditation that they were working on when they lost accreditation with ACBSP.

The final draft of the self-evaluation has been finished and is ready for review by external consultants.

George Stevens, who will be the consulting dean, has already made a visit during April 18-19 and met with fac-

ulty, AACSB accreditation committees, the dean, and provost Jones.

Stevens will return in the fall to conduct a review. After the review, a site visit is expected sometime between September and November.

"Everything we do with accreditation is to prepare students [to be] productive carriers and live noble lives."

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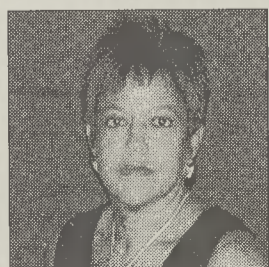
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