

Dr. Samuel D. Proctor To Launch NSC Inauguration Week

NORFOLK - Dr. Samuel D. Proctor, a native of Norfolk and currently a member of the Rutgers University (New Jersey) faculty, will be the principal speaker when inauguration activities for Norfolk State College's new president, Dr. Harrison B. Wilson, get underway Sunday, November 16.

Dr. Proctor, former president of North Carolina A. & T. State University, Greensboro, and Virginia Union University, Richmond, will deliver the address for the convocation scheduled for 7 p.m., in the College Gymnasium.

The convocation launches a week of activity that will be climaxed by the inauguration, which will be held Sunday, November 23, in Norfolk's Chrysler Hall at 2 p.m., and the inaugural reception set for 5-7 p.m. in the College Center. All inauguration activities are open to the public.

Also listed on the week's agenda are a concert, Thursday, November 20, in the Little Theater (G. W. C. Brown Memorial Hall), at 8 p.m.; the inaugural ball, Friday, November 21, at Holiday Inn-Scope, 10 p.m. to 2 a.m.; a musical salute to President Wilson by the Norfolk State marching band during a special show at the intermission of the Norfolk State-Saint Paul's College football game at Foreman Field, Saturday, November 22; and the inaugural brunch at 11 a.m. in the West Campus Dining Hall, Sunday, November 23.

Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday, November 17, 18, and 19, have been left open for activities sponsored by departments and student organizations. Highlighting the concert will be

the appearance of the Norfolk State choir, sextet and dance ensemble, and the Norfolk Chamber Consort.

Tickets for the inaugural ball will be \$25 per couple and \$15 for a single person. The brunch will be for guests attending the inauguration.

Invitations to attend the inauguration have been extended to Virginia Colleges, Southern Region Colleges, selected Colleges and Universities nation-wide, learned societies, and state and local education organizations and officials.

Also invited are elected state and local officials and other supporters of Norfolk State College.

Composed of representative from departments and the Student Government Association a Central Committee is planning and coordinating inauguration activities. Its co-chairpersons are Dr. Thelma Curl, and Dr. Ann McKinney.

Willie Burnett to Stand Trial on Charge of Rape

LOUISVILLE, KY. - On December 9, Willie Burnett will stand trial for the second time on charges of raping a white woman - a crime he did not commit.

Burnett, a Black man, was convicted of the charge in June, 1974 - in the face of overwhelming evidence that he was not the man involved. He was sentenced to "life without parole" and incarcerated at Eddyville State Prison.

Last spring, the Kentucky Court of Appeals overturned his conviction. The ruling said that there was not enough evidence that Burnett was the man involved, and that the trial judge erred in allowing testimony about a previous conviction. A few months later, Burnett was released on bond pending a new trial.

Officials have offered to plea bargain with Burnett. If he will plead guilty to the charge, they have promised to set the sentence at time already served. But Burnett refuses to consider this, even though he has already spent 18 months behind bars on the charge. "I won't say I did something if I didn't do it - even if I have to go back to Eddyville," he said. He has already passed two lie detector tests, and is asking his attorney to arrange for him to take "truth serum."

At the original trial, Burnett was identified by the woman as the man who attacked her in the restroom of a laundromat. Previously, she had told police that the rapist was quite a bit shorter than her husband, Burnett is taller.

Others who were present at the laundromat at the time of the alleged attack testified that a Black man had strolled out of the

restroom a few minutes before the woman did, but that she had made no outcry or comment of any kind. Instead, she continued doing her laundry. All of the witnesses except the woman stated unequivocally that Burnett was not the man who preceded her out of the restroom.

A movement to free Burnett is developing in Louisville. His supporters believe he is innocent, and should not have to stand trial a second time on the same charges. They see this case as part of a general resurgence of the racist use of the rape charge in the South.

They are asking the Commonwealth's Attorney in Louisville to drop the charge against Burnett before it comes to trial in December.

MISS WAGSTAFF IS WINNER OF SCHOLARSHIP



WAGSTAFF

Miss Patricia Y. Wagstaff of Durham has been named as the first recipient of the Alfonso Elder Scholarship at North Carolina Central University.

The scholarship, given by Mrs. Alfonso Elder in memory of the late president of the university, is awarded to the sophomore mathematics major who was the outstanding freshman mathematics student at North Carolina Central. Dr. Elder, president of NCCU from 1948 to 1963, was a mathematician.

Miss Wagstaff is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Alvernia Wagstaff of Durham. She is a graduate of Durham's Hillside High School.

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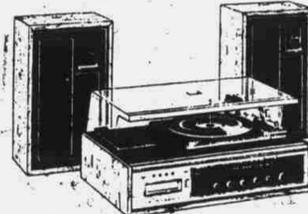
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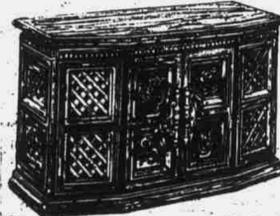
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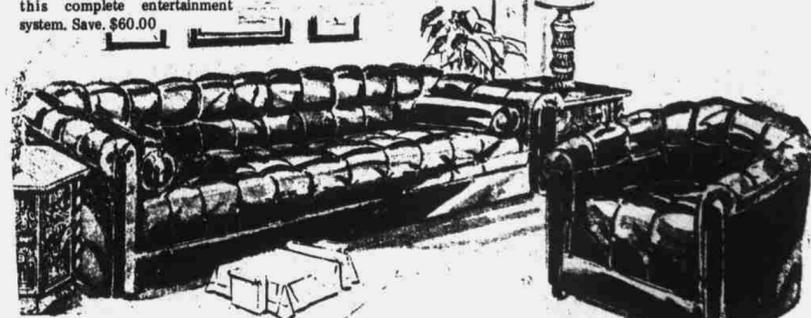
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