SAT., MAY 22, 1976

## MAGAZINE WEEK

THE CAROLINA TIMES

The murders of two great black leaders, Martin Luther King, Jr., and Malcolm X, are examined in PLAY-BOYS "History of Assassination in America, Part VI." Their killings and the lingering speculations about what persons or groups carried them out and why - are detailed by James Mc-Kinley in the June issue of the magazine.

"Chickens coming home to roost never made me sad" was Malcolm's X'x bitter comment following the assassination of John F. Kennedy, whom he blamed - along with the system Kennedy represented - for poor progress in civil rights issues

Then came the killings of the "incendiary" Malcolm himself and the "genuine martyr," Martin Luther King -birds of a different feather, perhaps, but both with a cock - o'-the walk charisma that incited their enemies to murder.

McKinley notes that Malcolm was a man whose father had been killed by white racists. He had gone through the zoot-suit era dealing in cocaine and masterminding burglaries. Then he spent six years in prison, where he discovered books and began to correspond with Elijah Muhammed. After rising to the rank of Muhammed's first lieutenant. Malcolm began to question his obsession with "white devils" and the idea of a separate state for blacks. So he left the Muslims and, when harassed, threatened to tell all he knew about a lest worthy side of the organization - the 67year-old Elijah's sexual promiseuity with teenage "secretaries" and the territory deals with the Kn Klux Klan and the American Nazi Party. On February 21, 1965, while

On February 21, 1965, while speaking in a New York auditorium,

the killing, specualtion continues that he was "victimized, almost framed, by Malcolm was shot to death. Of the three men soon arrested for the crime, two had reputations for the Muslims. In 1966, all three were convicted of Malcolm's murder and given life sentences.

Was it that simple? According to McKinley, some insiders believe Malcolm's growing importance was not only a threat to the Muslim power structure, but also to the CIA. CORE director James Farmer said Malcolm could have been killed by Harlenn narcotics interests because of his crusade against drugs. Others throught the killing was arranged by the Red Chinese, Turks or Arabs, whose drug profits were being threatened. Some, remembering only Malcolm's separatist position of the early days, said "Good riddance". But Malcolm had "risen to a

new idealism." Study, trips abroad and a pilgrimage to Mecca had convinced him of the need for a brotherhodd of all oppressed peoples, instead of a war between races. His outstanding autobiography suggests what he might have become had he lived.

Three years later, Martin Luther King died for his dream of brotherhood. King's assassination also remains heavily shrouded in controvery. On April 4, 1968, as King leaned on the second-floor balcony railing of his Memphis motel, talking to triends below, a rifly bullet riprol through his right jaw and severed his spine, killing him instantly. That bullet launched a world-wide search for his killer and eventually brought "petty criminal and lifelong loser" lames Earl Ray to trail. Even though Ray is not serving a life sentence for

## DEATH CROSSES THE COLOR BAR

judicial irregularities, the cover-up of important facts in the slaying and a failure by the FBI and Memphis police to investigate thoroughly the possibility of a conspiracy."

McKinley details Ray's story: his deplorable childhood, his.racism, his erratic movements both before and after the killing, his escape to England and his references to a man called Raoul, who Ray claims planned the whole thing. His lawyers "may have been more interested in capitalizing on the notorious case than in representing the best interest of their client" - both were financed by a man who was gathering and publishing information that indicated Ray was guilty. Four attorneys who have since taken up the case now believe Ray was set up. But in February 1975 the court ruled against a petition for a new trial despite reintroduction of vital evidence that Ray did NOT act alone. Other clues link the myster ious Raoul to a King-CIA-Cuba-Dallas plot. The Ku Klux Klan, the Mafta, a Castro mercenary and a group of wealthy whites also have been implicated.

Would a new investigation be in order? McKinley reports that the lone-killer theory is rejected by many, including Coretta King, Ralph Abernathy and Jesse Jackson, who think King fell to a conspiracy. The best witness - James Earl Ray - is available. He seeks a new trial, but he has said he won't help solve the crime by naming conspirators.

The concept of justiced professed by King and Malcolm remains clouded as long as these questions go unanswered.

## **NCCU Alumni Award 16 Scholarships**

Sixteen students, including one graduate student, will enter North Carolina Central University next fall as National Alumni Scholars. The They have been awarded scholarships by the university's Alumni Association. Autor Student, will a total of \$8,550 for the 1976-77 academic year. In addition, 22 Alumni Scholars already enrolled will receive S10,450 for the year in renewal scholarships. The 38 scholarships, valued at \$19,000 for the

William P. Evans, director of alumni affairs. said through the contributions the 16 scholars will receive and fund-raising efforts of the

76-77 academic year. In lition, 22 Alumni Scholars eady enrolled will receive 0,450 for the year in reval scholarships. The 38 scholarships, the scholarship fund comes from a MR./MS. Alumni contest conducted annually by the local chapters of the association.

00 for the The new undergraduate ed entirely Alumni Scholars are as follows: forts of the Avis Annette Archer of

university's graduates. The greatest portion of the scholarship fund comes from a MR./MS. Alumni contest conducted annually by the local chapters of the association. the state of North Duplin High School, Calypso, the state of North Duplin High

Rita Rochelle Bracken of Jacksonville, whose parents are Mr. and Mrs. Joe Robert Bracken; graduate of Jack-

The state

Winton, whose parents are Mr. and Mrs. Everette W: Archere.; graduate of Murfreesboro High School. Competition

> Over \$5000 in cash will be awarded in the Bicentennial Poetry Contest sponsored by the World of Poetry, a monthly newsletter for poets. The Grand prize is \$1776.

In addition, there will be



EX-ADDICTS AND DRUG ABUSERS FROM treatment facilities around the state of N have erected tents along the Hudson River at Albany and yow they will stay in what the "City of the Forgotten" until cuts in the state drug programs are restored. Three of the about 100 try to dry their belongings after a reinstorm. (UPI).

ten Second prizes of \$100 each, ten Third prizes of the \$25 each, and 19 honorable mentions, 50 prizes in all. Me Poems of all styles and sa on any subject are eligible for

competition. "A bicentannial theme would be appropriate says Contest Director Joseph Mellon, "but is not nece sary." Contest dead Rules and official entry 31, 1976.

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sonville Senior High School. Totu Annelte Brown of Durham, whose parents are Mr. and Mrs. Samuel H Brown; graduate of Hillside High School.

Twyla Gunell Brown of Riegelwood, father is John W. Brown, graduate of Douglass Byrd Senior High School, Fayetteville

Florence Teresa Bryant, of Creased, parents Mr. and Mrs. Alvin Bryant, graduate of Columbia High School. Vanessa Coley agrof Greensboro, Mrs. Margaret Coley Goldsboro Senior High Rosalind L. Cooper, En-

field; Mr. and Mrs. Thurman Gooper; Eastman High Phylins Optene:Trenton; Mr. and Mrs. Jobbie Optene;

Sr.: Jones Seniol High.

Kevin DeKarlo Harris of Charlotte; Mr. and Mrs. Norman E. Harris; Harding High

Ruby Hunter, Decatur, Ga., Mr. and Mrs. Richard Hunter; David J. Howard High School, Atlanta;

Donald Ray Jenkins, Weldon Mrs. Maxine Jenkins, Weldon High School.

Andrew E. Smith, Jr. Philadelphia, Mrs. Beatrice E. Smith; Olney High;

Emma Steele of Patterson, N. J.: Mrs. Hattie M. Steelc, graduate of Eastside High School;

Michelle L. Stokes of Newport, News, Va.; Mr. and Mrs. John H. Stokes, graduate of Homer L. Ferguson High School.

Entering the School of Library Science at North Carolina Central as the alumni association's first graduate Alumni Scholar, will be Sheila Mae Bailey of North Wilkesboro, who holds a bachelor of arts degree in sociology from Winston-Salem State Univ.

## Editor's Quote Book In making our decisions, we must use the brains

that God has given us. But we must also use our hearts which he also gave us.

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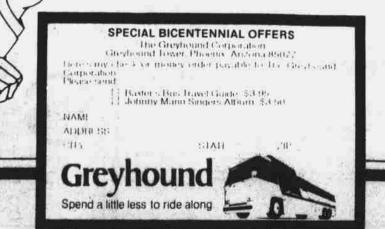
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