

The Black Press— Our Freedom Depends On It!

The Carolina Times

THE TRUTH UNBIDDEN

Words of Wisdom

"Worry about the future is kind of insane;
why open your umbrella before it starts to
rain?"

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POST CONVICTION HEARING WILMINGTON 10

Monday, May 9, Burgaw, N.C.
Civil rights groups, legal organizations, religious
bodies, community - at - large, are asked to go to
Burgaw Monday to show their support for justice on
behalf of the Wilmington 10.

May 1-7

Be Kind To Animals
Week

Gov. Hunt Appoints Two To Influential Positions

John Winters And Jim Richardson Get Posts

RALEIGH — Governor James Hunt appointed two black North Carolinians to influential positions last week. Raleigh real estate broker and construction contractor John W. Winters was appointed to a term on the N. C. Utilities Commission and Jim Richardson of Charlotte to a term as Chairman of the N. C. Social Services Commission.

Winters is now serving a second term in the N. C. Senate. If confirmed by the Senate, Winters will begin his duties July 1, 1977. Questioned about the reasons for accepting the nomination, Winters said, "As a commissioner there has to be a credibility established by the Commission. Very few people have any confidence in the commission." Winters had been under consideration by President Carter to an ambassadorship in the Caribbean.

Richardson is the postmaster of Mount Holly, and is a graduate of Johnson C. Smith University. Richardson's top priority, he says, is "making males in the state of North Carolina that are unemployed and underemployed eligible for Aid to Families With Dependent Children (AFDC)." Richardson says many black families break up because males are unable "to take care of their families on the jobs they have either through unemployment or underemployment and have a tendency to sometimes leave families." Preventive measures he advocates will "in the long run lessen the welfare roles and give people self-esteem to be able to

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WINTERS

Vendetta Kills

Program At

Piedmont College

CHARLOTTE — A federally-funded program designed to interest first offenders in education and job training has been dropped by Central Piedmont Community College as of June 30 of this year.

Harold Parks, Director of the Program, stated that the program is being dropped because of a "personal vendetta" waged by Mecklenburg District Attorney Peter Gilchrist III against T. J. Reddy, a counselor in the program.

Reddy, a poet, artist and political activist, is one of the Charlotte 3 who claim they were framed on a politically

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LEADING THE PARADE — Bull City Elks Lodge No. 317 and Salome Temple No. 704 were hosts this week for the 57th Annual State Association of the Improved Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks of the World. Leading the Antler Guard State Parade on Sunday afternoon were (front seat) Grand Secretary Carl O. Dickerson, (l-r, rear seat) O. C. Johnson, State Security Guard; Dr. J. E. Jones, State Medical Director, and J. Thomas Walker, local Exalted Ruler. [Other photos and stories of the six day meet are on inside pages of this issue.] (Photo by Kevin Bell)

N. C. Human Relations Commission Role Uncertain

RALEIGH — Governor James Hunt has designated all of the staff members of the N. C. Human Relations Commission exempt from the Personnel Act - a move which press aide Gary Pearce says will make the staff an extension of the Governor's staff. Pearce also said that Hunt intends to give newly appointed Director Ben Ruffin power to hire and fire his staff in order to implement the agency's goals. His first day on the job, Ruffin said that he does not plan to ask for resignations of any of

played by the Commission. Most of the Commission's staffers have been in very fixed positions for the past several years. All except two hold the same position that they held when they entered the Commission. For the professional staff there are only three positions: two supervisors and the executive director. Field workers handle complaint investigations.

Exactly what the Commission's role will be is not yet certain. Interviewed after his appointment Ruffin the nine member staff em-

ployed by the Commission. Most of the Commission's staffers have been in very fixed positions for the past several years. All except two hold the same position that they held when they entered the Commission. For the professional staff there are only three positions: two supervisors and the executive director. Field workers handle complaint investigations.

If Ruffin does go to the people of the state to get a program for Commission activities. However, Governor James Hunt, at the prodding of black politicians, campaigned last fall saying he wanted the Commission to investigate discriminatory hiring practices of state government.

School Suspensions And Expulsions—Parents Recommend Alternatives

[Editor's Note: This report is the second in a series of reports on expulsions and suspensions in the Chapel Hill - Carrboro School system. There are some differences in the socio-economic makeup of Chapel Hill, but the facts revealed by a study financed by the U. S. Department of Health Education and Welfare suggests that suspension-expulsion problem is as much a problem in every community of the state and nation as it is in Chapel Hill.]

CHAPEL HILL — Hoover Byrd, a 16 year old black youth found a coat that he said was near a trash can at Chapel Hill Senior High School. Assuming the coat was discarded by its owner, Hoover said he wore the coat until a white youth "walked up and demanded the coat. Before I could give the coat he went to the principal's office and told Dr. Rush that I had the coat."

Assistant Principal R. D. Smith and Principal Dr. Findley Rush found Hoover and told him to accompany them to the office. Hoover refused and was suspended. Smith said that he conferred with Hoover's mother, an employee of the Town of Chapel Hill, told her of Hoover's offense, the theft of the coat, and expelled him from school for the rest of the school year.

Witnesses, at an informal hearing, according to Smith, were the white youth who claimed Hoover stole his coat, Dr. Rush and Smith, all who saw Hoover with the coat but no witnesses who saw him take it.

Hoover was no stranger to Smith or Rush. He had been to the office before — "one or two times for teacher com-

plaints, a couple times for class cutting, altogether about five times."

Asked why he did not accompany Rush to the office, "Well when they tell you to go with them to office they have their minds made up. They are not fair anyway."

Smith says "due process is followed in all cases of suspensions and expulsions. There is no kid that won't get a fair trial. That is my reason for being here. If you check it, any person in this community will take notice of that."

It appears that all people

in the small university town, particularly its black citizens, do not agree. Student suspensions and expulsions have been such an issue with many parents that an organization called "Parents for Educational Progress" has met with Rush and Smith and has presented

detailed recommendations to implement a data collection system which would document facts of each suspension, assess teacher and administrator training needs, and alternatives to suspensions.

Dr. Rush said the proposal is now being studied by

a school discipline committee, appointed by him, to review the recommendations. Rush is a member of the committee that includes teachers, students and administrators. Rush will decide what recommendations, if any, will be adopted. "My observations as principal will be based on what the committee recommends," Rush said when he refused to give comments concerning the proposals.

PEP has recommended that a committee of five people, appointed by the School Board, evaluate the performance of teachers and principals every six months. A grievance committee has been asked to be revitalized. PEP suggests an equal number of blacks and whites on the committee made up of "teachers, parents, students, community leaders, and school administrators." A recommendation that no student be suspended unless the "student is a threat to self and others" was also made.

The recommendations are based on data and analysis provided PEP by Community Opportunities for Educational Directions Project (CO-ED). Fifty-eight per cent of students suspended at Chapel Hill Senior High during the fall semester, the CO-ED project found, were suspended for fighting, "Profanity, theft, and destruction of property represent eight per cent each as reasons for suspension."

Only one white student was suspended out of a total of thirteen. While members of the PEP committee indicate racism is a factor, R. D. Smith says "that's just not



DEMONSTRATORS INVADE CITY HALL — About forty or fifty demonstrators, including AFSCME officials, gathered on the first floor of City Hall in Atlanta, Georgia. The strikers then rushed up to the second floor and invaded the office of Mayor Maynard Jackson. The demonstrators ignored orders to leave and when police pushed them out, fists flew. Police said they arrested several demonstrators, two of them officials of the American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees Union. (UPI).

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