

DECEMBER 10-17  
Human Rights  
Week

# The Carolina Times

THE TRUTH UNDISGUISED

Words of Wisdom

The great law of culture is: Let each become all that he was created capable of being.

—Carlyle

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## NAACP Official Watches Store Employees Beat Black Man

### Says 15 or 20 Whites Kick and Beat Man

An official of the Durham Chapter of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP) alleges that K-Mart employees beat 31-year-old Bobby Sims, a black man last week. Mrs. Josephine Turner, a member of the NAACP's executive committee, described as "shocking and brutal" the beating fifteen to twenty K-Mart employees gave Sims. The NAACP has decided

to take up the case. Sims' trial is set for December 19.

Mrs. Turner, an unsuccessful candidate for City Council in 1976, said she had entered K-Mart on Avondale when she saw fifteen or twenty whites surround the black man, pick him from the floor and slam him on the concrete floor. Then the man was kicked and beaten, Mrs. Turner said. Shortly after police

were summoned, and Sims was arrested allegedly for shoplifting and assaulting store manager John Robert Cox.

Sims told THE CAROLINA TIMES that he had gone to K-Mart the evening of November 29 to return some items he had purchased the day before. After exchanging the sunglasses, film and flash cubes, Sims said he began to shop for other items with the replaced merchandise which was stapled in a

bag by a K-Mart employee.

Then Sims said he had picked up another item, a small bracelet worth about \$5 when store detective N.M. Butler approached him saying "you're in for it now buddy. I just saw you heist that bracelet."

After explaining to the detective that he was not shoplifting, the detective invited Sims to go to the back of the store to further discuss the matter.

"On the way back, the detective stopped and whispered to several other employees who followed us to the back," Sims recalls.

Surrounded in the back of the store by the white men declaring that he was a shoplifter, Sims a man who weighs about 215 pounds says he started to leave when all the men jumped on him and beat him badly.

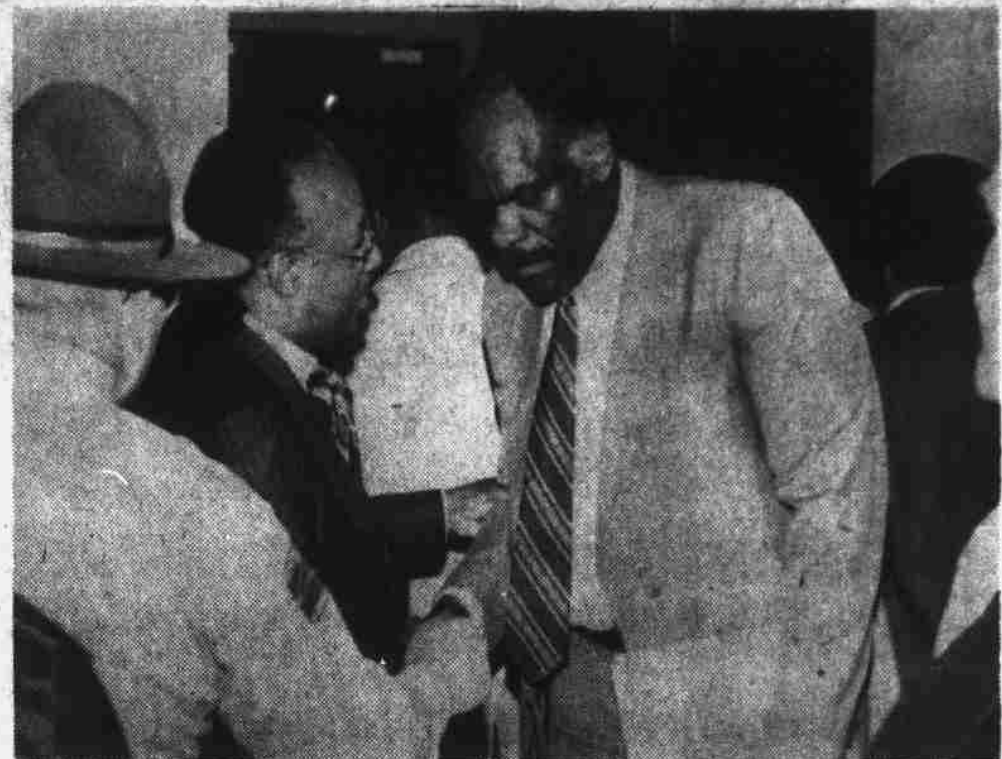
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## White Denies Suspension; Saved By Kerr

BY PAT BRYANT

Johnny White's career as a housing manager for the Durham Housing Authority took a downward turn last week when Director of Operations Willie Griffin suspended White. According to sources, Griffin asked White to resign. Disputing informed sources, White said Griffin did not ask him to resign but only told him (White) he was going to suspend him. Sources say White was off the job Monday, but was reinstated by DHA Director James Kerr.

White has long been a target of tenant complaints charging improper discharge of his duties and poor project administration of the Oxford [Continued On Page 7]



CONGRATULATIONS - Sheriff John Baker is congratulated as he leaves courtroom following his swearing in. He was on his way to administer the oath of office to his deputies. (Photo by Kelvin A. Bell)

## Sheriff Baker Sworn In, Thanks His Friends

BY KELVIN A. BELL

"I can't thank the citizens enough for electing me as their chief law enforcement officer," said John H. Baker, Jr., the first black to be elected as a North Carolina sheriff since Reconstruction. His comments came in an interview following his swearing in as Wake County Sheriff Monday, before several hundred persons.

Baker was elected Nov. 7, and replaces retiring Wake sheriff Robert J. Pleasants, who headed the department since 1946. The 43-year-old Baker is a former pro football star and Senate aide. He defeated Democrat Lester W. Kelly and Republican Clyde R. Cook to win the four-year term.

In his address to his men following their being sworn in, Baker said "I want you to be firm in enforcing the law, but I also want you to be fair."

Everyone is to be treated equally—black or white—rich or poor." The well respected man added that if there was anyone there who felt that he or she could not deal with these things, they are free to turn in their resignation.

Baker assured his personnel that he would try to get the best possible equipment for them because "I realize that you need it to do your job." He continued by saying that "there is no reason at all why we shouldn't have the best law enforcement agency in the state... We should be a model for the rest of the country."

"We have one purpose and that's to serve the community."

Baker also informed his personnel that they would all be on a six month probationary period. In a telephone interview Wednesday, he said it would be an "overall evaluation" [Continued On Page 13]

## WUNC-FM and UNC-TV Network Licenses Are Challenged

The University of North Carolina's public radio and television stations have been charged with "racist hiring practices and racist programming" in a citizens petition to deny re-licensing of WUNC-FM and eight stations in the UNC television network.

Relying on the historic decision of the NAACP vs. Federal Power Commission, the Durham Coalition for Responsive Media contends in the petition to the Federal Communications Commission that "unequal employment opportunities make it less likely that broadcast licensee's programming is responsive to and fairly reflects the tastes and viewpoints of minority groups."

Since 1955, the UNC network has operated without having its application challenged. Stations are required to have their licenses renewed every three years and show plans to serve the public interest.

The data supporting the Coalition for Responsive

Media challenge shows that WUNC-FM employed ten full-time employees, seven white men and three white women. From a listing of nine part-time employees, seven were white and two were black.

Likewise, the University of North Carolina Television Network employs ninety employees of which four are black men and three are black women. Data for both the radio station and network were taken from the renewal application of each.

"We are particularly concerned with the power the broadcast media has in shaping the community's ideas, not only about other things, but about themselves," said Ben Currence, attorney and spokesman for the Coalition. "I think that the term propaganda can be used," Currence continued. "Propaganda can be a good thing and a bad thing, and when you start having no input by certain groups that are being written on and reported on, then immediately that

raises my eyebrows and makes me think that there is something missing."

Gary Shivers, Director of WUNC-FM said he, too, was concerned about the station's programming and lack of "minority perspective". Defending the programming attempts of the station, he said that coverage had been done on the Crest Street dispute, the Wilmington 10 and the competency test.

Declaring that affirmative action efforts of either UNC-TV or WUNC-FM are

"within the zone of reasonableness", according to the petition, the FCC has determined unreasonable the full-time employment of minorities in less than half their percentage in the population.

The petition asserts that the network and radio station do not advertise locally for minority applicants.

Shivers told THE CAROLINA TIMES that recruitment had been done at Shaw University and a few [Continued On Page 10]

## N.C. Death Penalty Loses Political Utility; Death Row Populated Again

BY PAT BRYANT

RALEIGH—The death penalty, as a political issue is losing its utility to politicians around the country, says Alan McGregor, director of the N.C. Prison and Jail Project. McGregor cites as proof, losses suffered by death penalty proponents around the country in recent elections.

"The first phase of the death penalty's political cycle is coming to an end," said McGregor. "The death penalty as a political

issue is losing its utility to politicians around the country. This is indicated by the fact that Governor Hugh Carey won the governorship of New York against opponents who were using the death penalty against him where he had vetoed the New York death penalty law and he was still elected." McGregor also pointed out that the death penalty's most vocal proponent, Florida Attorney General Robert Shevin, lost

his bid for governor clutching to the death penalty as his main issue.

A mid-November count by the American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU) indicated that 459 inmates sat on death rows around the country awaiting execution. As of this week, seven persons await death by cyanide poisoning in North Carolina Central Prison's gas chamber—James Calvin Jones of Robeson County, Johnny [Continued On Page 2]

## Long Arm of the Oppressor Blamed For The Jonestown Tragedy

(Editor's Note: The following article was originally published in the November 23, 1978 issue of the San Francisco Sun Reporter. A Black newspaper whose publisher is Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett, the immediate past president of the National Newspaper Publishers Association-The Black Press of America. Dr. Goodlett was also Rev. Jim Jones' personal physician.)

The deaths of more than 400 people in Jonestown, Guyana, many of them Black former residents of the Bay Area, show how deeply committed those people were to building the society espoused by the Rev. Jim Jones, according to Sun Reporter publisher Dr. Carlton Goodlett.

Goodlett was a long-time friend of Jim Jones and a firm believer in the work of Peoples Temple, which Jones founded. He was also Jones' personal physician and had paid a visit to the Temple's mission in Guyana in that capacity last August.

Goodlett blamed the "long arm of the oppressor" for reaching down into Guyana and perpetrating the tragedy that began with the assassination of Representative Leo Ryan and four others and that ended with the apparent mass suicide of 910 Temple members and the

scattering of hundreds of prized the pioneering agricultural mission in other Americans, who com-

northern Guyana. "This man offered hope and promise," Dr. Goodlett said. "He spoke to the people who were so oppressed by the system that they would make the ultimate sacrifice of hearth and home to try to build a new life in a distant land."

"But, when the long arm of the oppressor reaches six thousand miles and shattered their dream, they must have decided that life wasn't worth living anymore. When Jim said, 'The time has come for us to die,' they believed him. Their belief was that strong."

Dr. Goodlett said that as a Psychologist he can "understand" that non-violent people could be pressured "until they reached a critical point where their nonviolence failed." The government of Guyana has charged that it was Peoples Temple members who ambushed Ryan's party at the Port Kaituma airport, killing Ryan, three newsmen, and a Jonestown resident who was reportedly planning to leave the settlement.

Goodlett said Ryan's highly publicized visit to Jonestown was the climax of a long history of harassment and meddling experienced by the

residents of the agricultural mission. In past months marksmen had fired into the compound, a visitor

clandestinely poisoned large numbers of livestock, and disgruntled former Temple members have

tried repeatedly to get into Jonestown and to make trouble there. According to Goodlett,

Ryan's visit might have caused Jones and some of his supporters to panic and touch off the ghastly

series of events that ended with the virtual of Jonestown.

"You have to understand the desperation of people who find they are unable to escape from their oppressors," Goodlett said "You can see how they might feel that (Ryan's party) had killed their dream and say, 'And now we're going to kill them.'"

Goodlett said he had not known of any "suicide pact" among temple members.

Goodlett recalled a time, no so long ago, when the picture at the Peoples Temple settlement in Guyana was not so bleak.

The time was three months ago, when Goodlett spent a "very pleasant" day at Jonestown, touring the settlement and treating Jim Jones.

Jones, according to Goodlett, had some serious medical problems and had promised to submit to tests and hospitalization once the impending visit by Ryan's party was over. The Peoples Temple leader was running a daily temperature of between 102 and 103 degrees Fahrenheit and believed that the colony he headed wouldn't be able to function properly if he were not there "to offer leadership and the sharing of hardships." Goodlett said he saw

no evidence that Rev. Jones illness affected his intellectual capacity.

Moreover, Goodlett said, Jones' problems weren't affecting the well-being of the settlement in Guyana. He described the Jonestown medical facilities as probably the best rural clinic he has ever seen and praised the work of a young physician, formerly a drug addict in California, who had gone to medical school in Guadalajara, and at U.C.-Irvine as was treating patients throughout the Jonestown area.

Goodlett talked to many Jonestown settlers who had been his former patients when they lived in San Francisco.

"Some of them I was surprised to find were still alive," he said.

One such person was the mother of Larry Layton, who was reported to have been killed at the Port Kaituma airport when the shooting started.

The woman was dying of cancer, Dr. Goodlett reported. "But she was happy," he said. "She wanted to die in Jonestown."

Goodlett said he confronted Jones with the stories people were spreading in the Bay Area that Jonestown residents weren't allowed to leave the settlement. Jones assured him that this [Continued On Page 10]



LIFE-SAVING SLEEP - U.S. Vice Consul Richard Martin of Georgetown, Guyana, pushes Mrs. Hyscith Thrush in a wheelchair through the airport garden to her plane as she and six other survivors of the Jonestown mass suicide-killing left for the United States. Mrs. Thrush, who is 76 and ailing, told newsmen she slept through the orgy of death. UPI