

**National Consumer  
Education Week  
October 5-11**

# The Carolina Times

THE TRUTH UNCOVERED

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**Words Of Wisdom**  
Plastic surgeons nowadays can do almost anything with the human nose except keep it out of other people's business.  
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The tongue is like a race horse, which runs faster the less weight it carries.

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## U. S. Senate Confirms Judge Richard Erwin



Judge Richard C. Erwin... speaking in Durham last week at the NCCU Law School Dedication

WASHINGTON — North Carolina Appeals Court Judge Richard C. Erwin was finally confirmed by the U.S. Senate Monday, September 29, and becomes the first Afro-American to serve as a federal court judge in North Carolina since Reconstruction. He will assume a new judgeship in the state's Middle Judicial

District. Erwin was nominated by Democratic Senator Robert (NC) Morgan for the post, and was strongly supported by Governor James B. Hunt. Erwin's nomination had been stalled, however, for several months by North Carolina's Republican Senator Jesse Helms, who refused to send his "blue

slip" to the Senate Judiciary Committee, giving formal endorsement or rejection of Erwin. Helms claimed "reservations" about Erwin's sponsorship of a remote labor law in the General Assembly, and refused to return Erwin's phone calls on the matter. Erwin, 56, was a veteran Forsyth County

state representative, a member of the Penal Study Commission, a member of the General Statutes Commission and chairman of the board of Bennett College, Greensboro in late 1977 when Gov. Hunt appointed him to one of three appeals court seats created by anti-crime legislation.

## Hillside High School Student Named Merit Scholarship Semifinalist

Miss Kimberly Jo Battle, daughter of Dr. and Mrs. Joseph Battle, 1636 Marian Avenue, Durham, and a senior at Hillside High School, has been selected as a Semifinalist in competition for Merit Scholarships to be offered in 1981. Semifinalists named in every state, by the National Merit Scholarship Corporation, represent the top half of one per cent of the state's



Cullowhee Experience School for Gifted Students; member of Mu Alpha Theta Math Honor Society; member, National Junior Honor Society, and president of the National Honor Society. Her other extracurricular activities include Marching Band and Symphonic Band, Band Flag Captain, Human Relations Committee, and Student Council.

Miss Battle has lived and traveled extensively in Africa.

## A.I. USA Reports Torture Occurring in Zaire

NEW YORK — The U.S. Section of Amnesty International announced last week that people arrested in the Zairean capital, Kinshasa, on suspicion of political dissent or for taking part in demonstrations have been severely tortured. Despite official Zairean denials of ill treatment of prisoners, Amnesty International had evidence of torture of scores of political prisoners in the capital within the past year, the U.S. Section said. Torture methods include electric shocks and being hung upside down, it said. The worldwide human

rights organization launched an international campaign last May to draw international attention to political arrests, torture and killings of political prisoners in Zaire. Since then it has continued to receive eye-witness information about such human rights violations. Some of AI's information comes from eighty former Zairean prisoners who left their country and were examined between May 1979 and May 1980 by doctors acting for AI, who found evidence that sixty of them had been tortured. The Zaire authorities (Continued from Page 3)

## NCCU Holds Fall Convocation

By Trelle L. Jeffers

At the second annual Fall Convocation at North Carolina Central University Thursday, September 25, Chancellor Albert N. Whiting praised the college for the "contribution it has made to North Carolina and the entire nation," and he attacked the press, particularly the Raleigh News and Observer, for its demeaning remarks about predominantly black colleges.

Referring to a recent article that appeared in the Raleigh newspaper which referred to NCCU as an "Academic Slum," Whiting said, "The remark reflected an ethnocentric bias unworthy of any responsible newspaper."

Whiting said, "NCCU has been the recipient of equitable funding only since 1971, and now we are expected to make the same progress as the elite colleges." He referred to a sign which he said hung in his general's office in Japan when he (Whiting) was there during World War II which had the message, "The difficult we do right away; the impossible takes a little longer." He indicated that the school has been expected to do the impossi-

ble because it has not received funding equal to that of the predominantly white colleges.

He cited the NCCU library as an example saying that funds had to be secured from the Mellon and Carnegie foundations in order to upgrade the library.

Whiting said, "NCCU has been able to build a library worthy of Phi Beta Kappa, and another school despite its size, despite its funding has been unable to do so."

Citing other accomplishments that he said were worthy of praise, Whiting contended that the show-cause order has been removed from the NCCU Law School by the Accreditation Committee of the Section of Legal Education and Admissions to the Bar of the American Bar Association, and that the Law School is now fully accredited and would remain so for the next ten years. He said that the Nursing School, the Department of Education and the Home Economics Department are still in danger.

Whiting also praised the faculty for its outstanding qualifications and for its ability to motivate (Continued on Page 2)

## LIBRARY TO BE DEDICATED

The ceremony to dedicate the new main Durham County Library building will be held Sunday, October 5, in the garden area at the rear of the main library. A concert by the Durham Symphony Orchestra at 2 p.m. will precede the ceremony. Dewey Scarborough, Chairman of the Durham Board of County Commissioners will preside over the event, which is scheduled to begin at 2:30 p.m.

The program will include remarks by Dr. Benjamin Powell, chairman of the Durham County Library Board of Trustees, Mrs. Charles Watts, member of the Library Board, and George Linder, director of the Library. Musical selections will be offered by the Scarborough Nursery School and the Durham Symphony. Also participating in the program will be Reverend Charles Smith, Boy Scout Troop Number 451, Reverend William C. Bennett, and Reverend W.W. Basley. David McKay, director of the Division of State Library, North Carolina Department of Cultural Resources, will deliver the dedicatory address.

A reception and open house will follow the ceremony. At 5 p.m. Dr. Lily Tong Chou will offer a piano concert in the library's auditorium. The public is invited and encouraged to attend. In the event of rain, the program will be held inside the library on the third floor.

The new 65,000 square foot library was opened to the public on March 17, 1980. Designed by Hackley, Kohn, and Sears, Architects, the library was built with funds committed as a result of overwhelming public support for a \$3 million bond issue in 1976. Land for the building was donated by Capital Cities Communication Corporation, and support for the bond issue was solicited by a broad coalition of community groups, organized by the Durham Junior League.

Since the opening of the new library in March, public response to the services provided there has been dramatic. Visitors to the library have numbered over 130,000. Over 4,000 new borrowers have registered for library cards. Book circulation has increased fifty per cent over the same period last year in the old main library, a 5,400 square foot Carnegie library built in 1921.

Miss Battle was one of over one million students nationwide who entered the 1981 Merit Program by taking the PSAT/NMSQT in 1979. An active student at Hillside, Miss Battle's honors include: Semifinalist, National Achievement Scholarship Program; student at the North Carolina Governor's School-East in mathematics, 1979; Duke University Pre-College Program, 1980; Western Carolina University high school senior class.

## Carolina Action Demands Property Tax Relief

Hundreds of Carolina Action members from across North Carolina converged on Raleigh Thursday to demand relief from skyrocketing property taxes. "How a moderate income people pay a disproportionate tax burden in this state for a local government is outrageous," declared Bob Manna, a spokesman for the group. "It is time that our families get the breaks and the corporations were made to pay their fair share!"

CA is advocating a Circuit-Breaker Property Tax System to give relief to working and fixed-income families whose taxes have not kept up with soaring property values. The Circuit-Breaker property taxes to a family's income, so that they will only have to pay as much property tax as they can afford to pay. Mrs. Christine Strudwick of Durham commented: "Duke Power Company, General Telephone, and Southern Bell just got property tax cuts in Durham County totaling over \$260,000! Why is it that we are being forced out of our homes, apartments, and farms when the corporations are getting more tax cuts?" CA's Circuit-Breaker

would give relief not only to homeowners, but to renters and small farmers also. CA estimates that

about seven per cent of a person's rent goes to pay the landlord's property taxes. (Continued on Page 4)

## GOVERNOR PROCLAIMS OCTOBER "HUNGER FIGHTING MONTH"

RALEIGH — Governor James B. Hunt, Jr., has proclaimed October as "Hunger-Fighting Month" throughout North Carolina in full support for over twenty CROP Hunger Walks to be held in the state this month.

In his proclamation, the governor stated that "one person dies every eight seconds from hunger-related causes throughout the globe." He added that "up to eighty per cent of the rural inhabitants in Asia, Africa, and Latin America lack safe drinking water and access to basic health care" and frequently have to walk twenty miles a day just to reach water or a clinic.

He further expressed the state's concern for the undernourished and malnourished citizens in isolated rural and urban pockets of poverty in

North Carolina. Twenty-five per cent of the CROP Hunger Walk proceeds will stay in the local event communities to help local hunger-fighting agencies, such as Meals-on-Wheels, do their jobs better.

Rev. Darryl Peebles of Graham, N.C., kicked off the Fall Carolinas CROP hunger campaign by riding his bicycle 500 miles from Graham to Valley, Alabama, September 21-26, with sponsorship funds from Alamance County industry and business. Peebles helped Church World Service build emergency housing in Guatemala with CROP-raised funds after the 1976 earthquake. He will be raising community consciousness of local and global hunger issues and how they (local Carolina communities) can organize their own local (Continued on Page 2),

## APPEAL TO BLACK ELECTORATE

By Benjamin L. Hooks

Executive Director, NAACP

The power of the ballot box is grossly underestimated by many black Americans today, especially in this election year where the tide of events reshape the political race almost daily. Every four years, the presidential election affords us an opportunity to replace national disenchantment over the government, the economy, the judicial process, social issues and international relations with positive action. Almost every year we get a chance to vote in state or local elections.

The general trend toward focusing on our personal problems permeates all levels of this society contributing significantly to voter apathy. Yet, still another more serious attitude dominates the thinking of the seventeen million potential black voters in towns and cities across the nation. That attitude is a sense of "powerlessness" or the inability to change many inequities inherent in our American system creating the framework for a type of voter apathy which is, in some cases, extremely difficult to combat.

Voter apathy among our black constituency is as prevalent as the latest disco beat, a condition that reflects in our total voter strength. Black voter statistics from recent years indicate that less than half of our potential voting strength has ever been realized, with only 49 per cent turning out for the last presidential election. Yet, if we had 85 per cent of all registered black voters casting their ballots on November 4 — this would result in a total of 10.6 million votes.

The black electorate in this country can and does influence elections, and provide in some cases the margin of victory. Two years ago, black voters in Philadelphia responded to what they considered to be hostile, racist remarks by former Mayor Frank Rizzo, when a public referendum that would have allowed Rizzo to seek reelection was under consideration. With assistance from the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People's Registration-Get Out The Vote Campaign, some eighty per cent of the black voting population flocked to the polls resulting in the overwhelming defeat of the referendum. Today Frank Rizzo is no longer in politics and the new mayor is considered to be more sensitive to black concerns.

This NAACP Registration-Get Out The Vote Campaign is in full swing today, and this year's effort has developed into the largest and most comprehensive commitment of financial resources and manpower in history. Radio and television public service announcements, "door-to-door" registration, voter registration discos and a series of get out the vote activities are now in progress to sensitize black voters from coast to coast about the importance of voting this November. With the major push coming from NAACP branches across the country, the campaign projects that as many as eleven million potential black voters can be reached by Election Day.

For instituting change that will represent real progress for black Americans, the political and legal processes are the best weapons available. One of them, voting, doesn't cost a dime. But if we don't exercise our voting privileges, we run the risk of seeing longer unemployment lines, higher inflation rates and even more substandard and unequal educational institutions.

Black youth in particular are facing staggering unemployment levels, so they clearly have the most to gain from aggressive participation. Yet, although they comprise nearly a quarter of our voting age potential strength (approximately 22 per cent), they have the worst voting record of any age or ethnic group. The voting process is fairly simple today. We should not forget, however, the struggles and harassment that black voters endured as recently as the early '50's to preserve the sanctity of the "right to vote."

WE SHALL OVERCOME, the title of our illustrious black marching theme, will never ring true until we begin to combine our efforts in attacking the injustices in the American system. Black power begins at the ballot box.

## UDI-CDC Executive On Employment Policy Panel

R. Edward Stewart, executive director for UDI-Community Development Corporation has been asked to serve as a panelist on Economic Development and the Private Sector at a conference sponsored by the National Commission for Employment Policy.

The conference, to be held at the Marriott Hotel at Dulles International Airport in the Virginia-Washington area, will focus on Economic Development Policies to Reduce Structural Unemployment.

Stewart will speak on the activities involved in Economic Development by minorities and the activities of UDI-CDC. UDI-CDC is currently implementing an economic program designed to create over 1,500 jobs, revitalize a designated special impact area and promote two business ventures that employ over sixty persons and should gross over one million in sales this year.

The Industrial Park was started in 1979 and currently has one manufacturer located there employing 160 persons. According to present negotiations, the Park is scheduled to have at least three more manufacturers operating during 1981. Efforts are underway to expand the park from 41 acres to 130 acres over a five-year development plan. Stewart said the development plan is supported by a study by Research Triangle Management Institute.

UDI-CDC has a board of nineteen persons selected from community councils and the corporate structure to provide a cross-section in view points and representation while responding to the economic needs of the community under a defined plan. W.P. Edwards serves as chairman of the Board and William V. Bell is the president.