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The Carolina Times

THE TRUTH UNDISGUISED

Words Of Wisdom
A prudent person profits from personal experience, a wise one from the experience of others.
—Joseph Collins, M.D.

The only people who make no mistakes are dead people.
—Rev. Henry Alford Porter

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Johnson Moves On

By Donald Alderman
Judge Clifton E. Johnson likes his work. "I've always wanted to be in the judiciary," says Johnson, who was the state's first resident Superior Court judge. "It's where I can serve as a role model for our young people and, of course, it's exciting."



Judge Johnson

The 40 year old judge will take a seat on the N.C. Court of Appeals August 30. Gov. James B. Hunt Jr. appointed Johnson to the twelve-member court after the governor appointed Judge Harry C. Martin, then an appeal court judge, to the state Supreme Court. The N.C. Court of Appeals hears cases on appeal from the state's Superior Courts.

Johnson's friends and colleagues say he's the man for the job. "He was always a very serious minded person," said Charles Daye, dean of the NCCU law school, noting that he remembers Johnson from the college days. Johnson graduated from the predominantly black law school in 1967. Judge Milton Read, a Durham County District Court Judge, describes Johnson as an "excellent person." "I couldn't think of a more deserving person to sit on the court of appeals."

Johnson's relationship with Read started in 1968 while Johnson was working with the Durham law firm of Pearson, Malone, Johnson, De-Jarmon and Spaulding. Johnson was doing defense work but he became interested in prosecution. "When I was the only person prosecuting misdemeanor cases in District Court," Read said, "I would often hire Johnson on a per day basis to help out with the heavy case load."

Making Johnson's decision a little more difficult was the "uplift in experiences" that a black serving as a superior court judge gave the state. He says it helped citizens and jurors have more confidence in the criminal justice system. But he conceded that serving on the appeals court should also help the integrity of the judicial process.

While attending high school in his native Williamston, a small eastern town in rural Martin County about 60 miles east of Raleigh, Johnson says he learned about a program at N.C. College that would allow him to attend law school after three years of undergraduate work. Johnson chose that route.

His parents, Mr. and Mrs. Charlie M. Johnson, encouraged him to take that route, along with his aunt and uncle. Mr. and Mrs. John Mason of Durham, with whom Johnson stayed during his six year of school. It seems Johnson has been on a steady course ever since. It now brings him to Durham where he, his wife, Brenda, and twelve year old son, Clifton Jr., will live, which is about twenty miles from his new job in Raleigh. Johnson's eighteen year old daughter, Yolanda, will attend Charlotte's Central Piedmont Community College in September.

Write-In Campaign Underway

By Donald Alderman
WARRENTON — Unexcited by the prospect of voting for either of the white candidates running for Congress in the Second District, a district-wide black organization recently launched a write-in campaign to elect H.M. "Mickey" Michaux to Congress.

Hinton and Johnny "Red" Williams. The Durham Committee, as did all the county groups represented in the caucus, supported Michaux unequivocally from the time he announced for the office until July 27 when Michaux lost his bid to become the state's first black congressman since 1901.

I.T. Valentine beat Michaux by nearly 10,000 votes. Valentine, a Nash County Democrat whom many of Michaux's supporters call "a Republican in disguise," faces Durham in November. But now, he also faces the caucus and its plans to convince Second District voters to write-in Michaux's name.

According to caucus members, several factors brought about the write-in effort. For one, they say, voters throughout the district want to vote for Michaux a third time. Dr. James P. Green of Henderson said the Vance County Black Caucus conducted an informal survey which showed that Michaux could win a well coordinated write-in campaign. (Continued on Page 6)

Saying "we have no other choice" members of the 2nd Congressional District Black Caucus voted unanimously Saturday to initiate "a well-coordinated effort to get Michaux elected".

Many Voters Back Michaux Write-In

By Donald Alderman
Many voters across the Second Congressional District responded with jubilation over the decision by a district wide group to launch a write-in campaign for H.M. "Mickey" Michaux. "I was going to write in his name anyway," said a happy Durhamite, William Frederick, 25, a NCCU graduate and Research Triangle Park employee. "But I'm thrilled to see some organization to the movement. This is what the people want and I think Michaux can win."

Completed the arduous feat back in 1898. But the decision probably will not be supported by all. It is expected to cause a rumble in the Democratic Party because some say with blacks still behind Michaux, Marin stands a better chance to win. But apparently black leaders see the situation somewhat differently. Nine of the ten counties reported that the grassroots sentiment is to write-in Michaux, and they added that it would be more of a liability to go against that sentiment than to worry about the happiness of white Democrats.

Complicated the arduous feat back in 1898. But the decision probably will not be supported by all. It is expected to cause a rumble in the Democratic Party because some say with blacks still behind Michaux, Marin stands a better chance to win. But apparently black leaders see the situation somewhat differently. Nine of the ten counties reported that the grassroots sentiment is to write-in Michaux, and they added that it would be more of a liability to go against that sentiment than to worry about the happiness of white Democrats. The Caucus' members include black groups from the district's ten counties, such as the Durham Committee on the Affairs of Black People. The district's counties are Caswell, Durham, Edgecombe, Granville, Halifax, Person, Vance, Wilson, Nash and Warren, and O'Neal Township in Johnston County. Michaux, a former local prosecutor, three-term state legislator, U.S. Attorney and businessman, lost his bid to be nominated as the Democratic candidate in a second primary runoff to I.T. Valentine, a Nash County lawyer. Now Valentine faces Republican Jack Marin of Durham as well as Michaux supporters. About 51,000 votes were cast for Michaux in the July 27 runoff election. And that has many voters jumping out of their socks. "It's about time that blacks stand up and be recognized," said Ms. (Continued on Page 8)

Marin Says He Won't March To Helms' Tune

By Joseph E. Green
According to his top campaign aides, if Jack Marin is elected to the 2nd District Congressional seat in the fall, he will not be a clone of Jesse Helms, the senior conservative senator from North Carolina, nor will Marin dance to any tune whistled by the powerful Congressional Club, the conservative political lobby that is backing his candidacy. "Jack Marin will not jump every time that Jesse Helms calls," said campaign aide Mike Harrell. "Jack is going to be his own man. Anyone who knows Jack knows that for certain."

\$300,000 for his bid against the Democratic nominee, Nashville attorney I.T. Valentine. Already, images of the two candidates have emerged in the campaign. Marin is known as the only candidate who can "slam dunk" a basketball, while the roly-poly looking Valentine, who has not been on a basketball court in years, strikes an Alfred Hitchcock-looking pose for the television cameras. One of his staff aides has dubbed him the "professor."

Some black Republicans, who say that they like Jack Marin, are uncomfortable with his alliance with the Congressional Club and say that they are not going to support him. "The Congressional Club is anti-black," said Lenzie Barnes, a black Republican in Durham who is a veteran of party politics. "Anybody who sides with them is not on my side or the side of any black people."

Harrell said that Marin was opposed to voting rights legislation, but only because the federal government was involved in it. Harrell said that Marin is against "big brother" type roles that the government plays. He added that Marin believes that all citizens have a fundamental right to vote, but that the states should run their voting procedures. Marin would protect the voting rights of black (Continued on Page 8)

Optimism Wanes As City Contract Draws To A Close

By Donald Alderman
Ervin Allen, Jr., executive director of the Durham Business and Professional Chain, started his job five months ago optimistic about the prospects of helping eight victims of Durham's urban renewal program. But with about one month left on the \$40,000 city government contract, Allen expresses the same frustration that the eight businesses did when the Chain entered into the contract.

"I've been personally disappointed in the lack of foresight and planning on the part of [the city]," Allen said in a recent interview. "Without involving the relocatees from the beginning, it's almost impossible to get what needs to be done in six months."

Six months ago the eight relocatees sounded a similar note: "How can the Chain solve a 20 year old municipal headache in six months?" From the beginning the Chain had a tough assignment. So much so that the Chain might well have been asked to build a house without a foundation. "I assumed the groundwork was basically laid," Allen said. "But what I found was a lot of reluctance, mistrust and bad feeling."

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Tatum Named AMNEWS Board Chairman

Durham native, Wilbert (Bill) Tatum was last week named Chairman of the Board of the *Amsterdam News*, New York's principal black newspaper. A part owner of the newspaper, he had served as a board vice chairman. Tatum's newspaper career goes back to the 1930's when his father, the late Eugene Tatum, worked at *The Carolina Times* under the stewardship of its founder, the late Louis E. Austin.



TATUM

Tatum recently reflected upon those roots in a telephone conversation with the newspaper. "I wish my dad was alive to share this accomplishment with me," Tatum said. "This was his dream."

A Hillside High School graduate who holds several college degrees, Tatum moved to New York in the 50s. His career began to take shape. He became director of Cooper Square, a low income housing assistance group. Later, he joined the administration of then New York Mayor John Lindsay, becoming director of community relations in the department of housing. Then he headed an urban renewal program for Central Harlem and directed the city's office of planning and development. Tatum is married and has one child.



Davie Street Presbyterian Church Daycampers

Some Raleigh youngsters and the staff of the Davie Street Presbyterian Church Daycamp program who have spent the summer in cultural and physical enrichment activities designed to assist and guide youth in selecting values by which their behavior will be governed. The program was directed by Mrs. Annie W. Kigg with Mrs. Mary Curry and Mrs. Katherine Brown. Rev. James W. Brown is the minister.