

## In Local Controversy

# Bail Bonds Study Could Lead To Solution

By Milton Jordan

Durham's longstanding controversy over bail bonds could be settled this summer, following an extensive year long study by the Institute of Government at UNC-Chapel Hill.

"A lot of what we will do about the bail bonds situation hinges on what that study says," explained Chief District Court Judge David LaBarre. "And while we won't rely solely on the study, it will play a major role in helping us develop a new strategy."

According to LaBarre, the Institute of Government was asked last summer to begin a year-long study of Durham's bail bonds procedures. The study should answer such questions as: what does the amount and type of bond have to do with a defendant's appearance in court; to what extent does the type and amount of bond inhibit the preparation of a defense against charges and exactly what role should professional bail bondsmen play in the scenario of pre-

trial release.

These questions, with no specific, data-based answers, have created swirling controversy in the local court system.

On the one hand, a group of bondsmen have charged that local magistrates are endangering the public by releasing potentially dangerous defendants, including people charged with multiple DWI charges, on unsecured bonds.

On the other hand, Judge LaBarre has said that bondsmen are griping because their profits are down because magistrates are

not requiring defendants to use bondsmen to get out of jail.

A professional bail bondsman is licensed by the N.C. Insurance Department to stand as a "surety" for persons charged with various crimes, and ordered to put up a bond as a condition of being released from jail, pending trial.

Bondsmen charge defendants 15% of the total bond as a fee or premium for signing the defendant out of jail.

Therefore, obviously, the more secured bonds a magistrate requires, the more money bond-

smen make, if people are to get out of jail before trial.

In a recent interview, LaBarre said the issue is not really how much money bondsmen make or don't make, but what is the most equitable way of dealing with a complex constitutional issue.

"Both state law, and a policy in Durham County, based upon that law advocate the less stringent methods of pre-trial release," LaBarre explained. "Our goal is to consider as many factors as we can in making that decision, and to keep the public's

(Continued On Page 2)



BEVERLY ROGERS and BERNARD DILLARD, state officers of the Association of North Carolina, who will preside during the convention May 16-17 at the Raleigh Civic Center. They are also members of the Rogers-Herr School Career Exploration Club. Beverly is 1985-86 District III vice president and Trisha is 1985-86 president.

## North Carolina Mutual Life Reports Positive 1985 Gains

Under the leadership of Maceo A. Sloan as vice chairman of the NCM Board, Sloan's retirement ends his 48 years of service to NCM. Kennedy also introduced James N. Parrish to the policyholders. Parrish, a Fellow of the Society of Actuaries, is the company's new senior vice president-chief actuary.

1985, NCM sold its two radio stations for a profit, and continues to remain active in the communications industry with ownership of two cable franchises and recent involvement in cellular radio.

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KWAME TURE, formerly Stokely Carmichael, organizer of the All African Peoples Revolutionary Party, spoke last week at North Carolina Central University as part of a tour of North Carolina colleges that took him to six campuses in seven days.

Photo by NCCU News Bureau

## Miss Tonya Michelle Evans

By Milton Jordan

Tonya Michelle Evans took accounting in the 11th grade last year, and by her own description, "...went wild about business."

"After that," she said during a recent interview, "I want to learn everything I can about business."

Last week, Ms. Evans, 17, a Hillside High School senior, was honored as Outstanding Business Education Student in Durham Orange and Wake counties.

The honor was given by the Research Triangle Chapter of the Administrative Management Society. She received a \$100 savings bond.

The Administrative Management Society is a professional management association that promotes the exchange of technical knowledge, management information and the development of individual careers.

Ms. Evans, the youngest of ten children, and the only one still living at home in Durham, says she is well on her way in developing her career in business.

A short term goal, she said, is to major in Business Administration at North Carolina Central University after graduating from Hillside in June. The senior carries a 91.2 grade point average to graduation.

"After college I want to work in accounting or marketing with a major company," she said. "Though somewhere down the road, I think I would want to run my own business, though I don't know in what area of business right now."

Other than settling on the fact that she particularly enjoys accounting and marketing, mostly because she wants to learn much more about both, Ms. Evans said she has not settled yet on her favorite area of business.

"Frankly," she said, "I love every area right now. I like working with people, dealing with the public. I like dealing with figures, learning how corporations work

and how they got started."

A busy student, Ms. Evans is president of the Hillside Drama Club and a member of Future Business Leaders of America, Science, Math and the Mu Alpha Theta clubs, in addition to other extracurricular activities.

According to information from Triangle Chapter of the Administrative Management Society, the Outstanding Business Education Student was selected by comparing scholarship, leadership, service and preparation for a business career.

To cover the subject of preparation, Ms. Evans submitted a paper of the judges, entitled "Preparing for a Business Career," which said, in part:

"I have always believed that an individual can accomplish what he or she wishes, given minimal opportunities, adequate motivation and average intelligence. Aristotle was an astronomer

without a telescope, a biologist without a microscope, a chemist without a laboratory. Yet for 2,000 years, his concept of natural phenomena ruled science. Inspired by his example and those of countless others, I am eager to devote my God-given talent to

(Continued On Page 4)

## Hillside Senior Wins Outstanding Business Award



WASHINGTON — Defense Secretary Caspar Weinberger points to a map of Libya at a Pentagon briefing on Navy warplanes striking a Libyan missile launch site and destroying two Libyan missile boats. (UPI Photo)