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ND — About 50,000 people
 Swaziland's Sombhlo Stadium to
 ascent to the crown of 18-year old
 rative, who will now be known as
 III. Here the new king, dressed in

brilliant feathers, loin cloths and animal skins
 acknowledges the roar of approval from the
 crowd, which included several foreign
 dignitaries.

(UPI Photo)

Public Forum Candidates

Racism and Housing: A Different Problem To Solve

By Milton Jordan

Racism affects housing here, but it's difficult to determine precisely where, when, and how; and even more difficult to develop a solution, according to panelists who tackled the perplexing problem in a public discussion at the County Library last Thursday.

An eight-member panel that included local government officials and representatives from various elements of the real estate industry did, however, present some of the following observations:

Marshall Isler, a developer, noted that some of the basic principles in the industry serve to maintain the status quo and make it difficult to determine if discrimination is based upon race or economics.

On the other hand, Joe Parker, a local banker who specializes in real estate transactions, observed that in the last 15 years, European Americans sell and move less often now when an African American family moves into a neighborhood. But he also noted that many buyers want to know the racial makeup of a neighborhood and often won't move there if the complexion is predominantly African American.

Allen Aldridge, Jr., a local realtor, said that the basic principles driving the real estate industry are economic, while Jim Tabron, director of the Durham Housing Authority, added that economic forces also drive the public sector's ability to respond

to housing problems.

The public discussion, second in a series of four forums sponsored by the Greater Durham Chamber of Commerce tried to tackle the broad and rather complicated question of housing problems in Durham.

Panel members included Isler, Parker, Aldridge, Tabron, along with County Commission chairman William Bell, Durham mayor Wib Gulley, G.L. Jeffrey, president of the Durham Board of Realtors and Ms. Pat Rogers, a local activist who specializes in housing problems that affect low income residents.

About 75 Durhamites attended the forum, and several asked questions, ranging from how to provide better housing resources for the elderly to what recourse do renters have when landlords won't repair rental housing?

The panel also tackled a number of other questions, framed by the Chamber's human relations committee sub-committee that designed the forum series.

Responses yielded the following conclusions:

Do we have white flight in Durham?

According to Parker, fewer European Americans move from neighborhoods now to avoid either school desegregation or an integrated neighborhood.

"We have a strong black buying market here," Parker noted, "and whites have realized that while they can run, they can't hide."

Is affirmative action occurring in the employment of real estate

salespersons, brokers and appraisers?

Without giving any specific figures, Parker said he is encouraged by how much progress Durham has made in that area as compared to other North Carolina cities such as Greensboro and Wilmington.

Are white families purchasing homes or renting apartments in the black community?

Aldridge said he didn't know, but concluded that there would be more rental efforts in that direction than there would be home buying.

Isler said one of the factors that makes that type of "progress" difficult is principles endemic to the real estate industry that seek to maintain the status quo and that generally predominantly African American neighborhoods are viewed as less attractive locations by realtors themselves.

Again, Parker added that questions about the racial makeup of a neighborhood are common for European American buyers and renters to ask.

"Some ask if there are any blacks in the neighborhood," Parker said, "while others say they have no problem with blacks, but don't want to be in the minority."

How does the housing pattern affect the public school enrollments?

Council Commission Chairman Bell said that with most of the Durham area's growth occurring outside the city limits, the

(Continued On Page 3)

Director of CRJ

Rev. Ben Chavis Installed Ceremony At Duke Chapel

By Milton Jordan

our service, featuring and "Christian" Benjamin F. Chavis Sunday as the Executive Director of the Commission on Justice of the Peace of Christ.

is the youngest executive of a major church in the country. He is the second director of the commission that was created 15 years ago.

Installation service completed late last week at Union Chapel. Dr. Charles Cobb, Chavis' first executive director, announced his retirement.

Dr. Cobb, and Dr. Chavis recently completed their work at Union Chapel Seminary in New York City. Chavis' "celebration" in the Chapel was a

a Durham native, the fact that, though in Durham, washed in a medical school, and in the cafeteria, it was his first visit to the University Chapel.

an Oxford native, in his closing remarks as a magna cum laude at Duke, he will graduate to join him their diplomas to the next shanty town Duke campus to promote university's investments in business that do business government of South

the long ceremony, several speakers "a almost every part of the program Chavis as wise and committed to justice and all people.

among the many accused to describe Chavis

and his work were:

*...a piece of steel, tempered in the crucible where the flame is hottest.

*...a strong and significant new leader in the United Church of Christ.

*...a firm and convicted believer in justice, and a courageous leader.

*...a wise leader, a priest and a prophet.

Those accolades are a far cry from the terms used to describe Chavis about 15 years ago when he became known as the leader of the Wilmington 10.

Then, North Carolina law enforcement and judicial figures called Chavis, among other things, "...the most dangerous man in North Carolina," "a rabble rouser," and "a criminal hiding behind a clerical collar."

The Wilmington 10 were nine African American men, including Chavis and one European



REV. CHAVIS

American woman who were convicted on rioting charges that grew out of a week of racial violence in Wilmington in early 1971.

The 10 were given prison (Continued On Page 2)

Chain to Hold 48th Awards Banquet May 3

The Durham Business and Professional Chain will hold its 48th Annual Awards Banquet on May 3 at 8 p.m. in the W.G. Pearson

Cafeteria on the campus of N.C. Central University. The guest speaker will be Dr. Tyrone Richmond, Chancellor-Elect.

Tickets are \$20 and \$50 for patrons. Additional information can be obtained at (919) 683-1047 or 683-2329.

Several awards will be presented to local business and professional persons.

MOVE's Ramona Africa Sentenced

PHILADELPHIA, PA. — Romona Africa has been sentenced to up to 7 years in jail on riot and conspiracy charges growing out of the fiery MOVE confrontation with Philadelphia police. She was the only adult MOVE member to survive.



DR. RICHMOND

New Program To Treat Criminals In The Community

By Milton Jordan

A Durham-based organization hopes to deter about 25 convicted criminals from prison over the next two years and rehabilitate them in the community. According to program officials, this approach will save taxpayers more than \$300,000 in prison costs.

The organization — The Prison and Jail Project — recently received a \$20,000 grant from Project Hometown America, a national giving program sponsored by American Express, to develop a community penalties program for Durham.

According to Larry Vellani, director of the Prison and Jail Project, the American Express grant is almost half of the pro-

gram's projected first year budget of some \$45,000.

"We are currently in the planning stages of the program," Vellani said during a recent telephone interview, "and we hope to be ready to crank up the in Fall."

The Community Penalties Program, launched by the N.C. General Assembly in 1983, is designed to both relieve prison overcrowding, and to prove that some criminals can be served better by community treatment, rather than prison.

"I think also," Vellani explained, "that this approach is a better use of the taxpayers' criminal justice dollar. I think the taxpayer gets a bigger bang for

the buck with a community penalties approach, rather than sending everyone to prison."

The program is designed to serve convicted criminals, who committed non-violent property crimes, and who appear certain to go to prison.

According to Vellani, about 52% of criminals convicted in North Carolina don't go to prison, and the program is not for those persons who would have been put on probation anyway.

"The Institute of Government has developed a prison risk assessment instrument that uses certain predictable factors, such as multiple charges, previous (Continued On Page 3)



Richard F. Sherman, President of Church's Fried Chicken, Inc., (center) with Rev. Jesse L. Jackson (right) and Dr. Edward B. Fort, Chancellor of North Carolina A&T State University (left). Sherman presented Rev. Jackson with

the F.D. Patterson Award and a \$1000 scholarship in Jackson's honor to North Carolina A&T during the Leadership Awards Banquet of the National Association for Equal Opportunity in Higher Education.