

The Carolina Times

THE TRUTH UNBRIDLED

WILSON LIBRARY
N.C. COLLECTION
LNC-CH
CHAPEL HILL
08/20/75
NC 27514

VOLUME 74 - NUMBER 15

DURHAM, NORTH CAROLINA — SATURDAY, APRIL 13, 1996

TELEPHONE (919) 682-2913

PRICE: 30 CENTS

**NCCU Student is Top Scorer
In Brain Power Tourney**
See Page 13

Black College Sports Page
See Page 12

**NAACP Urges 'Peace
In the Streets'**
See Page 11



NCCU Chancellor Julius Chambers is pictured here in a television interview prior to the unveiling ceremony of the Motor Vessel Ocracoke - "The N.C. Central University Ferry Boat" Saturday, April 6. The institution's official emblem was covered at the time this picture was made. Its permanent placement where what appears in this photograph to be a black rectangle centered in a black line. (NCCU Photo by Robert Lawson)

Ramona Africa Gets 'Day in Court'

Ramona Africa's civil lawsuit against the city of Philadelphia is now in federal court. Ms. Africa is the sole adult survivor of the 1985 fire-bombing of the MOVE organization which resulted in 11 deaths, the burning of 60 homes and the worst residential fire in Philadelphia history. The lawsuit contends the city violated Africa's rights when Philadelphia police dropped a bomb on her and her family and allowed the ensuing fire to burn. Africa says, "I filed a civil lawsuit against officials in 1987 when none of them were ever held legally accountable for their vicious crimes." Her attorney says, "We are confident that a fair and impartial jury will let the city, the nation and everyone else listening know that it will not condone the use of a bomb and fire for tactical purposes." Both former Police Commissioner Gregore Sambor and former Fire Commissioner William Richmond will stand trial. The city has hired a private attorney at a cost of \$250,000 to handle the suit.

Ford Increases Purchasing From Minority Vendors

On the heels of lengthy strike at General Motors over "outsourcing," Ford Motor Company announced at a recent Michigan Minority Business Council lunch that it has established a target to source at least five percent of its annual U.S. purchases from minority suppliers by the year 2000. Successful achievement of this goal would increase Ford's sourcing to minority suppliers from \$1.8 billion in 1995 to about \$2.5 billion. The U.S. Big Three purchase approximately \$4 billion in parts and service from minority suppliers annually and Ford represents about 45 percent of these buys. "Although we're proud of the fact that today we make the greatest dollar buy from minority suppliers of any automotive or other U.S. organization, we're not satisfied," said Ford Purchasing Vice President Carlos Mazzorin. "We want to be a greater force in the future." Mazzorin said, as he outlined some of the activities Ford will continue to pursue to ensure that viable minority component manufacturers remain a part of the auto company's supply base. "We are exploring how we can help suppliers grow at a robust rate in order to support Ford," Mazzorin said. He also explained to the minority business group that future opportunities in the automotive industry will likely come from emerging markets in Asia and South America and to compete in global market minority suppliers must respond quickly to customer demands with high quality, low cost innovative products and solutions.

**2nd Annual Parren J. Mitchell Awards
Scheduled for Washington, D.C.**

The Minority business Enterprise Legal Defense and Education Fund, Inc. (MBELDEF) will hold its 2nd Annual Parren J. Mitchell Awards Gala/Dinner April 18, at the Hyatt Regency Hotel on Capitol Hill. The Gala, "Capital Formation in the new Millennium," will honor individuals from business, in general, and the financial world, specifically, who have had an impact upon capital formation within the areas of municipal finance, philanthropy, insurance, commercial banking and investment clubs. Retired Atlanta Life Insurance CEO Jesse Hill, Jr. and U.S. Rep. Donald Payne (D-N.J.) are Co-Chairmen of the event, named in honor of the first black U.S. Representative from the state of Maryland who also founded MBELDEF in 1980. Among the honorees are: Maynard Jackson of Jackson Securities, Atlanta, Ga.; Maceo Sloan, Sloan Financial, Durham; Patricia Garrison-Whitman, National Association of Security Professionals, Philadelphia, Pa.; and JoAnn Price, Fairview Capital of Farmington, Conn.

Diabetes Epidemic in Black Community

The Toledo Journal is reporting that the American Diabetes Association has launched an aggressive public education campaign to increase awareness of the near epidemic rate of diabetes among African Americans, a group nearly twice as likely to have the disease as the general population.

**Osha Gray
Davidson to
Autograph
Book Friday at
Hayti Heritage
Center**

Osha Gray Davidson, author of *The Best of Enemies: Race and Redemption in the New South*, will be in Durham Thursday, Friday and Saturday of this week. On Friday, April 12, he will autograph his book at Hayti Heritage Center from 5:30 to 7 p.m. A formal program will begin at 7 o'clock.



DAVIDSON

The Best of Enemies is a saga about happenings in Durham during the 1960s and what led up to that time and events.

The famous writer Studs Terkel of Chicago said, "For eighty years we've waited for a reply to Birth of a Nation. At last Osha Gray Davidson has done the job. The story of C.P. Ellis, Exalted Cyclops of the Ku Klux Klan of Durham, North Carolina, and of Ann Atwater, a black civil rights advocate, his enemy for so many years, is one of the most moving love stories I've ever come across. More than that, in a time of bleakness, it sounds a note of hope... a glorious work."

Described by *Kirkus Review* as an "eloquent blend of history and advocacy journalism,"... Osha Gray Davidson chronicles the extraordinary and unlikely friendship between a black civil rights activist, Ann Atwater, and a former Ku Klux Klansman, Claiborne Paul "C.P." Ellis. With lush detail, Davidson examines the difficult issues of race and class during the

(Continued On Page 2)

Mel Watt:

Congress Deserves A Failing Grade on Education

By Ray Trent

The majority in the U.S. Congress is being led by a group of freshmen who believe that the government should have no role in education and are targeting education for large, crippling cuts. When President Clinton refused to accept those cuts, the majority in Congress decided to fund government week-to-week at sharply reduced levels.

Since October 1, 1995, the beginning of this federal fiscal year, Congress has approved funding for education through a series of short-term "Continuing Resolutions" (CRs). CRs approved funding for seven to ten days at a time while negotiations continued about the education budget for the balance of the fiscal year. The twelfth CR was passed on March 29, 1996. This CR will expire on April 24. The CRs authorize funding at approximately 75% of the 1995 funding level.

CRs are temporary and make it impossible for North Carolina school districts to plan, budget and contract with teachers for the 1996-97 school year.

At some point, the delays will result in massive inefficiencies at the local school level.

The present method of funding will result in cuts in North Carolina. Goal 2000 Education Reform cut 25% (\$1.9 million), Title I programs cut 17% (\$1.3 million), Safe and Drug Free Schools and Communities cut 25% (\$2.3 million), Eisenhower Professional Development State Grant cut 25% (\$1.3 million), Title VI cut 25% (between \$2 and \$3.5 million), Basic grants for Vocational Education cut 18% (\$4.9 million).

Armed with this information, Congressman Mel Watt, the week before Easter, made a run through the North Carolina 12th District which he represents, talking to school board members and other education-

centered civic groups about the seriousness of this matter and the critical situation North Carolina school districts are in.

On Thursday, he came to the new Hillside High School in Durham for a town hall meeting, sporting the beard he began growing on November 20th with a vow not to shave until we had a full year federal government budget. Although all members of the Durham school board were invited, only School Board Chair Kathryn Meyers showed up along with the assistant school superintendent, McArthur Jackson. There were members of the Political Action Committee of the Durham Committee on the Affairs of Black People, the NAACP Education Committee chair and members of black retired school teachers organization.

Congressman Watt endeavored foremost to get the word out to the citizens that on April 24th Congress, the President, and Senate will be making crucial decisions about the federal commitment the nation will make to education. The choices on that day will be to pass another CR or pass a budget for the rest of this fiscal year and allow school districts to plan, budget, hire staff and do their jobs. There also will be a choice of funding education based on 1995 funding levels or look ahead to the realistic needs of children in 1996, 1997 and beyond.

Congressman Watt further said that "Elected officials work for you. You can influence our choices. You must let us know before April 24 that you want a budget, not a CR; that you want funding which looks to the future of children, not to last year, and that you want education to be a national priority again. You should tell every federal elected official that reducing our federal commitment to education is not acceptable. It is not too late yet, but it will be soon."



Congressman Mel Watt (D-NC) and retired black school teachers at an April 4 meeting at Hillside High School.



From left, School Board Chairman Kathryn Meyers and Congressman Mel Watt listen to McArthur Jackson, assistant school superintendent. (Photos by Ray Trent)