

## Seat Belt Usage

(Continued From Front)

they do to keep your roads safe and thank all North Carolinians for leading the way by becoming safe and sober motorists."

North Carolina's "Click It or Tickle" seat belt and child restraint program was launched in 1993 when seat belt use hovered around 65 percent. Since then, seat belt use statewide has jumped to 84 percent, one of the highest rates in the nation. In addition to seat belts, the program has educated motorists about the importance of getting children buckled up in age-appropriate restraint systems and in the back seat — particularly in vehicles with passenger-side airbags.

"Click It or Tickle" has cut fatal and serious injuries statewide 14

percent and has saved North Carolinians an estimated \$118 million in health-care related costs.

The companion "Booze It & Lose It" program is one of the most extensive crackdowns on drunk driving in state history. More than 35,000 people have been arrested for driving while impaired (DWI) at checkpoints and at roving patrols since the program started in 1994.

A study showed that "Booze It & Lose It" cut in half the number of legally intoxicated drivers found at late-night checkpoints.

Secretary Norris Tolson, who took charge of the state Department of Transportation in February, told law enforcement officers that their efforts exemplify his goals for improving highway safety. "The Gov-

ernor and the Department of Transportation are deeply committed to highway safety. In fact, we don't only want North Carolina to be known as the 'good roads state,' we also want to be known as the 'safe roads state,'" Tolson said. "Thanks to your hard work, that will happen."

N.C. Crime Control and Public Safety Secretary Richard Moore praised the cooperative spirit that has been a hallmark of "Click It or Tickle" and "Booze It & Lose It" events. "I've been to many checkpoints and child seat clinics, and it gives me great pride to view the sea of different law enforcement officers standing shoulder to shoulder making sure that babies are buckled in safely, that motorists are wearing their seat belts and that no one is driving drunk on our highways."

"Never underestimate the importance of what you do every day to protect people who travel our roadways. Law enforcement agencies across the country are looking at us and seeing what they want to see in their own backyards," Moore said. "As important as it is to be a national model, don't forget why you wear your badge and work where you do. I'm sure everyone in this room can think of a particular day — a particular crash — that makes you strive to do all your can to educate North Carolina motorists and passengers to be as safe as they can be on our roadways."

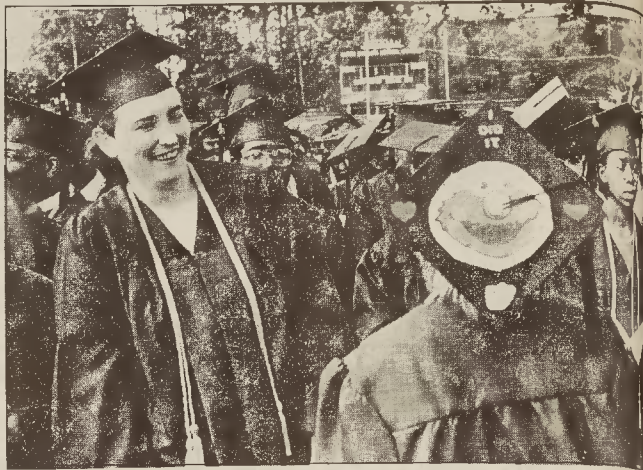
The Insurance Institute for Highway Safety (IIHS), a national, independent, nonprofit, research and communications organization based in Arlington, Va., has been a partner with North Carolina on these programs since the start.

"North Carolina is truly on the cutting edge," IIHS President Brian O'Neill said. "Everybody in this room can take credit for being first to prove that what works to save lives in other countries can work in the United States. You have broken new ground with the use of seat belt feedback signs in many North Carolina cities, and you have emphasized partnerships between the public and private sectors. The Insurance Institute is proud to have been a partner with you."

The two highway safety programs will continue, according to Joe Parker, director of the Governor's Highway Safety Program (GHSP), which coordinates "Click It or Tickle" and "Booze It & Lose It." The next "Click It or Tickle" campaign will run statewide from May 18 through June 7, with a kickoff celebration at 11 a.m. Wednesday, May 20, on the Government Plaza in downtown Raleigh. The next "Booze It & Lose It" campaign will be held June 29 through July 5. Details regarding a major kickoff event and statewide checkpoints will be announced soon.

One of the hallmarks of both programs is that they are public-private partnerships bringing together state and local law enforcement agencies, state and national government agencies and research institutes.

The "Click It or Tickle" program has been named a "best practice" by the U.S. Department of Transportation. Other states are adopting the North Carolina model of stepped up enforcement of highway safety laws and public education to save lives and prevent injuries on the highways.



Kate Parker, of Durham, admires Emily Becker, of Chapel Hill, cap design during commencement ceremonies at NCCU. (Photo by Lawson)

## Toyota Hosts Business Orientation Workshops for Young Black Scholars

TORRANCE, Calif. — Toyota Motor Sales (TMS), U.S.A., Inc. has hosted the first meetings in a series of business orientation workshops for students participating in the 100 Black Men of Los Angeles Young Black Scholars (YBS) Program. Approximately 300 high school sophomores, juniors and seniors from Los Angeles-area schools attended the workshops which introduced the students to the automotive industry and Toyota.

The workshops are the most recent addition to the Toyota/YBS Mentor Program, which began in 1996. The program matches TMS employees with students enrolled in the YBS program. Mentors and scholars meet regularly to attend academic workshops and discuss a variety of topics including options for college and employment opportunities.

"The Young Black Scholars Mentor Program was a natural fit for Toyota," said Guylhermo Hysaw, TMS corporate manager and vice president of 100 Black Men of Los Angeles. "Toyota's community relations program is focused on educational opportunity. The mentor program offered a viable means for associates to get directly involved in the academic and professional lives of America's future leaders."

The TMS mentors represent various departments of the company including Logistics, Marketing, Human Resources, Toyota Motor Credit Corporation and Customer Satisfaction. The scholars have a demonstrated record of academic excellence and come from high schools throughout Los Angeles County. Mentors and scholars are introduced at the beginning of the student's freshman (9 grade) year in high school and commit to a four year partnership.

### Inmates

(Continued From Front)

job done right," said Cleve Buchanan, Correction Engineering's building construction superintendent for the Tyrell project.

Work began on the first project in 1995 at Yanceyville. Correction Engineers and prison staff found medium security inmates with construction experience and put them to work building the housing unit at the Dan River Prison Work Farm. It was dedicated in 1997 and now houses 620 inmates.

Dan River set the pattern for later projects. Outside contractors prepared the construction site leaving the carbon pad where the structure would be built. A crew of minimum security inmates erected a fence and security towers around the construction site. Then correction engineers arrived with a crew of medium security inmates that spent the next 18 months to two years building the facility.

After their work on the three prison housing projects, the inmate construction crews will turn to new projects. One crew will go to Columbus Correctional Institution at Brunswick to construct a prison industry building. Another crew will be assigned to build green houses for the Dan River prison farm.

Correction engineering and the Division of Prisons have placed inmates in other construction work. Prisons assigned inmates to work release jobs with construction companies building prisons. Other inmates have been put to work by Correction engineering tackling light construction jobs and erecting prison security fences.

## ACT-SO

(Continued From Front)

plenty of seats left for parents, too.

"We know it's hard on kids these days," said McCauley, who put goose bumps when his 15-year-old veteran namesake takes the podium to the audience with his oratory. "It's our job to keep him motivated and make sure he accentuates his talents."

### THE FUTURE LOOKS BRIGHT

Durham ACT-SO's first-place winners will go to Atlanta in July for national competition.

"It's a great opportunity to showcase the talent of Durham, because a lot of times the kids don't get to do that," said Les Hayward, who put things together for the local ACT-SO chapter. He went to last year's national competition and was blown away.

"You never would have thought such a talent pool existed," Hayward said of the more than 900 black high school students who drew prizes and snapped them, and set it all to music.

McCauley said he came across a young violinist who could have been dropped in the middle of the Boston Symphony Orchestra and wouldn't miss a beat.

No students from the Durham chapter captured any national award this year but McCauley has higher hopes this year.

"I'm always optimistic," he said. "Even if they don't win first, second or third place, the experience of being around their peers in those particular areas is a positive one."

Kevin Bethea hopes for one last high school hurrah before heading to the N.C. School of the Arts. The 17-year-old Southern High senior placed first in the dance category. While most guys demonstrate athletic prowess on the fields and courts, Bethea sidesteps on the dance floor.

"It helps me be free," Bethea said. "It lets me express myself in a way that basketball and football didn't let me do."

Bethea said the guys at school don't give him much grief. In fact, he said they admire what he does and want to give it a try themselves.

And then there's young Alexander Alston. As a third-grader, he placed first in the dance category. While most guys demonstrate athletic prowess on the fields and courts, Bethea sidesteps on the dance floor.

"It gives him exposure and it's practice," said his mother, Brenda Alston. "She likes what she hears. ACT-SO will have been in Durham for a decade by the time Alexander is ready to compete. By then, the crooner will be ready to put his voice to the test."

But is he the next R-Kelly?  
"I hope so," Ms. Alston said.

## City of Durham Weekly Calendar

**WEEKLY CALENDAR: MAY 25, 1998 - MAY 29, 1998**  
The DURHAM CITY COUNCIL holds its regular meetings of **FIRST and THIRD MONDAY OF EACH MONTH** at 7:30 p.m. in City Council Chamber, located on the first floor of City Hall. The meetings are open to the public.

City Government meetings scheduled during the next week include the following:

MONDAY, May 25, 1998	NO MEETINGS SCHEDULED
<b>TUESDAY, May 26, 1998</b>	
8:30 a.m.	SPECIAL FINANCE COMMITTEE MEETING SUBJECT: PRELIMINARY FY 1999/2000 BUDGET HEARING (Committee Room 2nd Floor)
3:00 p.m.	PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE (Committee Room 2nd Floor)
6:00 p.m.	EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE ON HUMAN RELATIONS COMMISSION (Theatre Room 1st Floor)
<b>WEDNESDAY, May 27, 1998</b>	
8:30 a.m.	SPECIAL FINANCE COMMITTEE MEETING SUBJECT: PRELIMINARY FY 1999/2000 BUDGET HEARING (Committee Room 2nd Floor)
9:00 a.m.	TECHNICAL COORDINATING COMMITTEE (Theatre Room 1st Floor)
7:00 p.m.	TAXICAB COMMISSION (Transportation Dept. Conf. Rm 410)
<b>THURSDAY, May 28, 1998</b>	
8:30 a.m.	COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE (Committee Room 2nd Floor)
1:00 p.m.	SPECIAL FINANCE COMMITTEE MEETING SUBJECT: PRELIMINARY FY 1999/2000 BUDGET HEARING (Committee Room 2nd Floor)
<b>FRIDAY, May 29, 1998</b>	
8:30 a.m.	SPECIAL FINANCE COMMITTEE MEETING SUBJECT: PRELIMINARY FY 1999/2000 BUDGET HEARING (Committee Room 2nd Floor)
<b>SATURDAY, May 30, 1998</b>	
9:00 a.m.	HUMAN RELATIONS COMMISSION'S REPORT (Durham Arts Council/120 Morris St.)

All meetings are held in City Hall, 101 City Hall Plaza, unless otherwise indicated. Additional meetings July be scheduled during the month of June. Free parking is available during all meetings by giving a 48-hour notice. If needed, please telephone 590-4649.

Any citizen wishing to be heard on agenda matters, please call City Clerk's Office at 560-4166 to place your name on the speaker list. Interpreters for the Deaf and the Hearing Impaired are available by giving a 48-hour notice. If needed, please telephone 590-4649.

CITY LIFE PROGRAM will be on Cable Channel 23 the first day of each month from 7:30 to 8:00 p.m.

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**ANNOUNCEMENT**

The Durham Board of County Commissioners solicits applicants to fill positions on the following citizen boards and commissions:

- Area Mental Health Board: One position for a primary consumer presently and openly in recovery representing the interests of individuals suffering from alcoholism or other drug abuse (term expires July 2002). Appointments will be made after the Mental Health Board completes the interview process. Time required per month — 6 to 10 hours. This Board formulates policy for the Mental Health Department.
- Board of Adjustment: One expired regular position and one expired alternate position (terms expire June 30, 2001). Time required per month — approximately 10 hours. The board considers applications for use permits and variances, decides appeals of zoning district boundaries, and decides appeals of decisions by the administrative officials interpreting the zoning ordinance.
- Durham Planning Commission: One expired Lebanon Township position and one expired Mangum Township position (must live in township); terms expire June 30, 2001. Time required per month — one 2-hour meeting. The commission reviews recommended plans, policies, and reports of the professional planning staff, and makes recommendations to the governing bodies on planning policy and implementation actions, including rezonings and zoning ordinance changes.
- Durham County Emergency Medical Services Council: Four expired consumer positions; terms expire June 2001. Time required bimonthly—one hour. The council is entrusted to consider issues and advise the Board of County Commissioners on matters concerning emergency medical services.
- Environmental Affairs Board: One unexpired term for the "Public Health" position and one expired term for the "Engineering" position; terms expire June 1999 and June 2001, respectively. Time required per month — 3 to 4 hours. Specific duties include the following:
  - advise the City and County with regard to environmental policy;
  - educate the public and local officials on environmental issues;
  - perform special studies and projects on environmental questions as requested by the City or County;
  - study changes in environmental science and law; and
  - promote intergovernmental and public/private cooperation.
 (City-County Planning Committee will recommend applicants.)
- Memorial Stadium Authority: One expired term (expires May 2003). This authority supervises and directs the general operation of the Durham County Memorial Stadium. Time required per quarter — 2 hours.
- Region J Emergency Medical Services Council: One consumer position and one provider position (terms expire July 2000). Time required per month—six hours. This council advises the Triangle J Council of Governments concerning emergency medical services.
- Women's Commission: Two expired terms (expire June 2001). Time required per month — approximately 7 hours. This commission is an advisory board on the status of Durham County women.

Property tax listing must be current. County and City taxes must not reflect any delinquencies before an application is submitted. Appointments will be considered by the County Commissioners on Monday, June 22, 1998, at 7:00 p.m. in the Commissioners' Meeting Room, second floor, Durham County Government Administrative Complex, 200 East Main Street.

For applications or additional information, contact Garry E. Umstead, Clerk to the Board of County Commissioners (560-0025).  
Deadline for receipt of applications — 3:00 p.m., June 8, 1998.  
Garry E. Umstead, CMC  
Clerk to the Board

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