

The Carolina Times

THE TRUTH UNBRIDLED

VOLUME 93 - NUMBER 26

DURHAM, NORTH CAROLINA - SATURDAY, JUNE 28, 2014

TELEPHONE (919) 682-2913 PRICE: 30

Hagan wants Tillis apology over 'Traditional Voters' Remark

RALEIGH (AP) - Democratic U.S. Sen. Kay Hagan urged her Republican challenger une 18 to apologize for comments he made two years ago on a television show when discussing GOP efforts to attract voters from minority groups.

Hagan said House Speaker Thom Tillis was wrong to separate black and Hispanic North Carolina residents from what he called the "traditional population of North Carolina" and the U.S.

"As an elected official, Speaker Tillis sets the wrong example by classifying some North Carolinians as traditional and implying others are not, and he should apologize for this offensive comment immediately," she said in a release.

Tillis, the GOP nominee facing Hagan in November, isn't apologizing for the comments, which resurfaced in a report on the Talking Points Memo political website. Campaign manager Jordan Shaw said Tillis believes North

Carolina Republicans need a message that resonates with all residents.



Speaker Thom Tillis

Tillis "believes the philosophy of growth and hard work and freedom has appeal to people across North Carolina, whether they are natives of the state or newcomers and regardless of their demographics," Shaw said in an email. Hagan said Tillis was dismissing North Carolina as being a diverse state.

Tillis' comments, made on the Carolina Business Review show on public television, responded to a question about the Republican Party's future. The interviewer asked about the shift of Hispanic voters to
(Continued On Page 3)



Nicholas Perkins

Fayetteville State alumnus gives \$1 million to school

FAYETTEVILLE (AP) - An alumnus of Fayetteville State University is giving a \$1 million gift to his alma mater's fundraising campaign.

Chancellor James A. Anderson announced that Nicholas Perkins gave the gift in support of the \$25 million "Campaign for Fayetteville State University: From a Proud Legacy to a 21st Century University."

Perkins is a 2003 graduate of Fayetteville State, and is president and founder of Perkins Management Services Co. of Charlotte.

In October 2012, Perkins donated \$100,000 to FSU's School of Business and Economics. The money is being used to train young entrepreneurs.

Perkins said the most recent gift is in response to the financial difficulties faced by many historically black colleges and universities. He said he wanted to do his part in making sure that Fayetteville State continues to thrive.

Sotomayor: Affirmative action options don't work

By Kevin Freking

WASHINGTON (AP) - Supreme Court Justice Sonia Sotomayor rejected on June 22 the notion that alternatives to affirmative action such as income or residency could achieve similar results in diversifying the nation's colleges and universities.

When asked whether other "less fractious" measures could achieve similar results for schools, she said that statistics show the alternatives simply don't work.

Sotomayor strongly backs affirmative action and wrote the dissent in April in a 6-2 decision that upheld a state's right to outlaw the use of race in determining admissions.

Sotomayor is the first Hispanic on the Supreme Court and graduated from Princeton University. She said her alma mater could fill its freshman class with students who scored perfectly on undergraduate metrics, but it chooses not to do so because it would not create a diverse class based on standards the school considers important for success in life.

She also pointed out that some students boost their prospects for attending a school based on their family's history.

"Look, we have legacy admissions. If your parents or your grandparents have been to that school, they're going to give you an advantage in getting into the school again," Sotomayor said. "Legacy admission is a wonderful thing because it means even if you're not as qualified as others you're going to get that slight advantage."

Sotomayor participated in the rare television interview on ABC's "This Week" as she promotes the paperback edition of her book, "My Beloved World."



President Barack Obama, with First Lady Michelle Obama, greets a young boy during the Cannon Ball Flag Day Celebration at the Cannon Ball powwow grounds during a visit to the Standing Rock Sioux Tribe Reservation in Cannon Ball, N.D., June 13. (Official White House Photo by Pete Souza)

Settlement in Central Park jogger case

By Jonathan Lemire

NEW YORK (AP) - All but closing the books on one of the most sensational crime cases in New York history, the city has agreed to a \$40 million settlement with five men who were falsely convicted in the vicious 1989 rape and beating of a Central Park jogger, a city official said June 20.

The official had direct knowledge of the agreement but wasn't allowed to discuss it publicly and spoke to The Associated Press on condition of anonymity. The deal still needs the approval of the city comptroller and a federal judge.

The five black and Hispanic defendants were found guilty as teenagers in 1990 in the attack on a white woman who had gone for a run in the park.

They served anywhere from six to 13 years in prison before their convictions were thrown out in 2002 when evidence connected someone else to the crime.

More than a decade ago, they brought a \$250 million civil rights lawsuit against police and prosecutors.

Civil rights activist the Rev. Al Sharpton said in a statement that the proposed settlement signifies "a monumental victory" for the men and their families.

"It is also a victory for those in the community that stood with them from day one and believed in their innocence in this case," Sharpton said. "As supporters, we were viciously attacked for standing with them, but we were on the right side of history."

The attack on 28-year-old investment banker Trisha Meili was one of the most notorious crimes in New York City history and came to be seen as a lurid symbol of the city's racial and class divide and its rampant crime. It gave rise to the term "wilding" for urban mayhem by marauding teenagers.

When Meili was found in the brush, more than 75 percent of her blood had drained from her body and her skull was smashed. She was in a coma for 12 days, left with permanent damage, and remembers nothing about the attack.

The AP does not usually identify victims of sexual assault, but Meili went public as a motivational speaker and wrote a book.

Raymond Santana and Kevin Richardson, both 14 at the time, Antron McCray and Yusef Salaam, 15, and Corey Wise, 16, were rounded up and arrested. After hours of interrogation, four of them gave confessions on video.

At the trials, their lawyers argued the confessions were coerced. At the time, DNA testing was not sophisticated enough to make or break the case.

In 2002, a re-examination of the case found that DNA on the victim's sock pointed to Matias Reyes, a murderer and serial rapist who confessed that he alone attacked the jogger.

Then-District Attorney Robert Morgenthau stopped short of declaring the five innocent but withdrew all charges and did not seek a retrial. The statute of limitations for charging Reyes had run out; he is serving a life sentence for other crimes.

The case that stood as symbol of urban lawlessness became instead an example of a colossal breakdown in the legal system.

Jonathan C. Moore, a lawyer for the five men, declined to comment, as did a spokeswoman for the city's Law Department.

Andrew G. Celli, a lawyer who took an interest in the case submitted a brief in the litigation, welcomed news of a settlement.

"A settlement this large, this dynamic, will have an impact," he said. "It will cause police and prosecutors to think a bit more carefully about the ramifications of a particular investigation."



SPAULDING

NC party chairman says he erred on Cooper comment

RALEIGH (AP) - A 2016 hopeful for governor and a North Carolina Democratic Party caucus are unhappy with comments made by the party chairman they say favored potential gubernatorial candidate Attorney General Roy Cooper.

Ken Spaulding and the party's African-American Caucus have written Chairman Randy Voller complaining he referred to Cooper as the "next governor" when Cooper spoke June 7 at the party's Jefferson-Jackson Dinner.

Spaulding is a Durham attorney who is black and announced his bid for governor last summer. Cooper says he's planning a gubernatorial run but hasn't announced he's in.

Voller said Monday his comments were a mistake and a slip of the tongue and shouldn't be considered an endorsement. He says he wants a constructive dialogue on the 2016 race but is now focused on electing Democrats this year.

Join The NAACP