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NCCU Head Coach John McLendon, left and Charles "Tex" Harrison.

## NCCU Retires Three Basketball Jerseys, Honor McLendon

The North Carolina Central University Department of Athletics will be retiring the basketball jerseys of Amba Kongolo, LeVelle Moton and Charles "Tex" Harrison, and honoring legendary hall of fame coach John McLendon in separate ceremonies during the NCCU hoops season, starting Saturday, Feb. 3.

On Saturday, Kongolo had her jersey retired following the NCCU women's basketball contest versus Delaware State University. Moton's jersey was retired on Monday, Feb. 5, during halftime of the NCCU men's basketball game against Hampton University. Harrison's jersey retirement and McLendon's recognition will take place on March 1 during halftime of NCCU's men's basketball match-up with North Carolina A&T State University.

Kongolo (1999-2002) is a two-time CIAA Women's Basketball Player of the Year (2001 and 2002) and 2002 NCAA Division II All-American, who became the first CIAA student-athlete drafted by the WNBA after amassing 1,536 points and 833 rebounds as a Lady Eagle.

Moton (1992-96) is the 1996 CIAA Men's Basketball Player of the Year, two-time CIAA All-Tournament Team selection, two-time NCAA Division II All-America Honorable Mention and the school's third all-time leading scorer with 1,714 career points.

Harrison (1950-54) scored 1,304 points as an Eagle, was a member of the 1950 CIAA Tournament Championship team and became the first player from an HBCU to earn all-America honors. He went on spend six decades as a player and coach with the Harlem Globetrotters.

McLendon coached the Eagles from 1940-52, capturing six tournament or visitation (regular season) championships and registering 239 victories by winning more than 77 percent of his games. McLendon has been inducted into numerous halls of fame, including the Naismith Memorial Basketball Hall of Fame twice, as both a pioneer and a coach.

Each of these celebrations will be held in McDougald-McLendon Arena. For tickets, contact the NCCU Ticket Office at (919) 530-5170 or visit NCCUEaglePride.com.



Ms. Amba Kongolo left and, LeVelle Moton

## Call For "Resistance" At The NCNAACP's Moral March

By Cash Michaels

CashWorks Media

With the theme, "Taking Resistance to the Ballot Box," the 12<sup>th</sup> Annual Moral March/Historic Thousands on Jones Street People's Assembly in Raleigh Feb. 10<sup>th</sup> attracted thousands of demonstrators from across the state despite heavy rains. With protest signs castigating everything from the Trump Administration, to North Carolina's legislative Republican leadership, the extraordinarily diverse crowd of young, old, black, white, Hispanic, straight, gay and others, marched through downtown Raleigh from Shaw University to just outside the state Capital.

There they heard from a plethora of speakers, representing the unique coalitions involved, all imploring those gathered to make sure their voices,

### Longtime North Carolina Rep. Michaux won't seek re-election

By Gary D. Robertson

RALEIGH (AP) - Democratic Rep. Mickey Michaux, currently North Carolina's longest-serving state legislator and a fixture at the General Assembly in the fight for voting rights and funding historically black colleges, said Feb. 8 he won't seek re-election.

Michaux, a Durham attorney, first joined the House in 1973 and has been elected to 20 two-year terms, with a stint as a federal prosecutor and unsuccessful runs for Congress sprinkled in between.

"I figured it's just time," the 87-year-old Michaux said after he announced his decision on the House floor. Candidate filing for this fall's General Assembly elections began Feb. 12.

Michaux, who was born in Durham, was a civil rights activist during the 1950s and 1960s and counted the Rev. Martin Luther King Jr. among his friends.

"I came out of the movement," he said on the floor. "I was a rebel."

Michaux served as the senior budget chairman and in a host of other leadership positions while in the House. He has fought to preserve voting rights protections and warned repeatedly against attempts by Republicans now in charge of the General Assembly to change election laws he said would harm minority voters.

He said he was proud of efforts at minority economic development and for drawing judicial election districts in the 1980s that helped expand the number of black judges. The building housing the education department at North Carolina Central University, his alma mater, bears his name.

Michaux left the House when he became a U.S. attorney for central North Carolina in the late 1970s. He later ran unsuccessfully for Congress, losing to Tim Valentine in a Democratic primary runoff in 1982 and to Mel Watt in a 1992 primary.

Michaux returned to the state House in 1985 after a nearly eight-year absence.

and votes, are heard come November for the midterm election.

Bishop Dr. William Barber, the former president of the NCNAACP, spoke to those gathered by phone, urging them to indeed turn out the vote, regardless of whatever barriers or restrictions are thrown at them.

But the highlight of the event were the pointed remarks of the NCNAACP's new president, Rev. Dr. T. Anthony Spearman, who used biblical analogies to illustrate the need for justice, and invoked inspiration from civil rights leader Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. to crystallize the societal evils that the NCNAACP leader said must be confronted.

"Moral Resistance is the means we use to dismantle the engines of destruction that drive us away from the mainlands of democracy while steering us toward the mountains of fascism," Rev. Spearman offered in a prepared speech.

Spearman said the three "...engines of destruction..." were "R.I.P." - "racism, impoverishment and persecution."

"The antidote to racism is representation," he continued. "Each human on this earth represents a spark of divinity. Representation begins with recognizing that every person has an equal spark of God within them. Representation is the reconstruction we seek when we resist racism at the ballot box."

Addressing



REV. DR. T. ANTHONY SPEARMAN, PRES., NCNAACP (Photo courtesy of Phil Fonville)

impoverishment, Dr. Spearman said the antidote was "investment."

"Investment in our justice system is not only ensuring access to counsel and reconstructing our bail system so that it is not a poor tax. Investment in our justice system means reconstructing the administrative process so that someone who needs a protective order from an abusive ex-spouse doesn't have to take two days off work to sit in the back of a courtroom waiting to be heard for ten minutes."

"Investment is the reconstruction we seek when we resist impoverishment at the ballot box."

Lastly, Dr. Spearman warned about militarism, which he called "persecution."

"The antidote to persecution is peace, he said. "Our people are gunned down in the streets in numbers that

exceed the numbers who were lynched and are imprisoned in numbers that exceed the numbers who were enslaved."

"Peace is the reconstruction we seek when we resist persecution at the ballot box."

Rev. Spearman called on NAACP members and coalition partners to "...take your resistance to the ballot box..." per the 2018 midterm elections, and ultimately the 2020 presidential election.

"In the buildings which line Jones street, the men who cloak themselves with smiling faces by day and in white sheets by night have returned, and they are lynching our democracy," he charged, adding, "This unconstitutional General Assembly on Jones Street is what the KKK looks like in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century."

"Let's take our resistance," Dr. Spearman concluded, "...to the ballot box."



Thousands of demonstrators from all across north carolina jammed fayetteville street leading up to the state capital saturday for the moral march/hk on j people's assembly (Photo courtesy of the NCNAACP)