

Case continued again

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the parties involved. He said he had conferred with Chief District Court Judge Abner Alexander, who concurred with the decision.

Judge Alexander said Friday, "None of us should do it (try the case). We're too close to the DA. We'll get someone from another county."

Tisdale was a passenger in his car during the accident and was present Friday for the trial.

The case was originally set for Jan. 9, but it was continued because Oakley's blood alcohol test had not come back from the State Bureau of Investigation lab in Raleigh.

Burleson said he told Oakley's defense attorney, Daniel S. Johnson, at that time to meet with Assistant District Attorney Walter Holden, who appeared in court Jan. 9 to prosecute the case, and make arrangements to have a judge from outside the city hear the case.

Burleson said he only found out on Wednesday that no arrangements had been made and that he was to hear the case again.

Routine procedure would be for the judge in criminal court, in this case Alexander, to hear the case. However, Johnson said he did not find out until Thursday that Alexander would also not hear the case.

Burleson said that he and a judge from Greensboro will probably switch locations in order to have the case tried in March.

Burleson worked as an assistant district attorney

under Tisdale for three years before being elected to his judgeship in 1984. He said he knows both Tisdale and Miss Oakley.

Johnson told Burleson in the courtroom that he would be comfortable with any judge. He said later that it is a simple case.

"I respect the judges' feelings," he said. "We were not trying to continue the case; we wanted to get rid of it today. It's a simple case. My client (Miss Oakley) has a clean record."

He would not reveal how his client will plead in the case, or whether Tisdale will testify.

Miss Oakley's test results, returned from Raleigh last Monday, revealed a blood alcohol concentration of 0.18, above the legal limit of 0.10.

A driver who is found to exceed the legal limit automatically has his or her driving privileges revoked for 10 days, at which time a \$25 fee must be paid pending the outcome of the trial. Miss Oakley's license was turned in to the clerk of court's office on Jan. 30.

Officer Brenda S. Setzer charged Miss Oakley with DWI after the accident. She said after the proceedings that her superiors, Capt. B.R. Pearman and Assistant Chief G.L. Sweat, were answering all questions about the case.

Tisdale could be charged with "allowing," or aiding and abetting Oakley in driving while impaired. Sweat said in January that whether charges

are filed against Tisdale would depend on the outcome of the Oakley case.

Tisdale rarely prosecutes traffic cases himself, but does set policy for any drunk-driving-related charges in Forsyth County.

Assistant District Attorney Bob Brown, and not Holden, was prosecuting traffic cases Friday.

Tisdale pleaded guilty to drunk-driving charges in Greensboro in 1981. He received a suspended 29-day jail sentence, had to pay \$31 in court costs and attended a state-sponsored DWI school.

The case involving the driver of the other vehicle in the accident, Todd Apperson Mercy of Charlotte, was also continued until March 6.

Lobbyist: Regime will fall

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in South Africa. Shell has the largest oil refinery in South Africa, Robinson said, and is a major part of the South African business infrastructure.

"I couldn't think of a more appropriate way to honor the memory of Martin than to stand for the principles that he stood for," said Robinson, sniffing from a cold resulting from his previous night's experience.

Unlike students of the 60s, said Robinson, today's students, much like all Americans, are ignorant of what happens in the world around them. Even President Reagan, said Robinson, toasted one Latin American country when in another. "The problem starts at the top and goes to the bottom," said Robinson.

Robinson urged the students to awaken and become aware of what's going on next door. Failure to do so, he said, could be dangerous.

"Our nation is and has been for the last 40 years on the wrong side of South Africa," said Robinson.

"We have the capacity to say, 'Sit down at the table while there is still time and negotiate.' If we don't, those that come to power, and they will, will remember us. You better bet on the right horse. You can't change your bet after the horses are out and running. The horses in South Africa are out and running and people who have committed to be free shall be free."

In a press conference following his 30-minute speech, Robinson, the brother of former ABC television news anchor Max Robinson, said he never dreamed that his Thanksgiving Day protest would develop into a nationwide campaign.

"I don't think anybody could envision that it would get this much support," said Robinson. "We decided in 1984 that there was a strong need to do something, to make a statement. Since then, 30,000 people have followed us and been arrested."

Although Robinson's actions have grabbed the attention of the country and caused numerous

organizations to examine their investments in South Africa, many also have criticized TransAfrica's efforts.

Black poet Nikki Giovanni called the protests a well-orchestrated production - arrested after lunch and out by supper, Robinson said he never expected all people to support the efforts but believes that the majority of the country has been made aware of black South Africans' plight and supports efforts for their freedom.

"Let's not expect that everybody will march to the same tune," said Robinson. "But you do need a generous, energetic, committed and thoughtful few and we had that."

Echoing the words of Nobel Peace Prize winner Bishop Desmond Tutu, Robinson said the question is no longer if South African blacks will be free but when they will be free.

"They should fight," said Robinson, when asked if he expects violence. "Non-violence has its place. It had its place in India. But non-violence has been tried in South Africa for 48 years without fruits. So they have to take up arms. When it's your life, it (violence) is something that is carefully thought out."

Robinson urged those Americans struggling with the South African question not to be swayed by threats that the proponents of majority rule are communists.

"America accuses all of those who seek freedom as communist," said Robinson. "Martin, Nelson Mandela, Winnie Mandela and Bishop Tutu have all been called communist. This country has a single-minded foreign policy - against communism. America considers nothing else. They supported the Shah of Iran, Haile Selassie, Somoza and Batista and ignored what they were doing to humans. Americans did this in the name of anti-communism. Let's not line up on the side of the wrong team this time."

Report's results

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of most recent promotion, demotion, transfer, suspension, separation or other change, and the office to which he or she is currently assigned. All other information is considered confidential.

Alderman Vivian H. Burke is the chairman of the Alderman's Public Safety Committee that oversees the police department. She asked Stuart to conduct his review after a report by the Rev. L.V. Lassiter raised several questions about the legitimacy of Hunt's arrest and prosecution. Mrs. Burke said at the time that Lassiter's report seriously questioned the level of police protection in the city. The results of Stuart's review only increased her concerns, she said.

Mrs. Burke said Tuesday that she expects to receive a copy of the internal investigation from Stuart.

"He'll have to give me a written report," Mrs. Burke said. "Whatever's in the report, we'll get it. The report he gives me will determine what steps I will take next."

But Masten, contacted on Tuesday, said the aldermen "don't get copies of internal investigation reports." To his recollection, he added, "the question had never come up."

Stuart said the internal investigation may or may not be a written document that can be given to the aldermen for review. He said he was not prepared to say "where we're going at the

moment in regards to specific reports."

If the aldermen request a specific written report of the internal investigation, he said, it would be the first time, to his recollection, that such a request has been made.

He also said that he did not intend to discuss such a matter with the press. "My conversations will be with the aldermen," he said.

Capt. Carl C. Koontz, head of internal affairs for the department, is conducting the investigation.

In his review last fall, Stuart said the department violated numerous standard procedures in the course of the investigation that led to Hunt's arrest.

In fact, Stuart's report went a long way toward saying that the department bungled the investigation, citing, for example, how the department may have allowed the district attorney's office to dictate investigative matters.

Stuart's report also just falls short of saying that Detective J.I. Daulton, who was in charge of the Sykes investigation, lied on the witness stand during the trial, giving testimony that contradicted statements he had previously made.

In addition, the report criticized how the police handled witness interviews and interrogations, police line-ups and the original call made to the department reporting the crime.

The outcome of the internal investigation affects two related developments.

Masten, after receiving directives in Stuart's report to review existing murder-case management procedures, announced in early December that the Sykes case and the rest of the city's unsolved murders since 1981 were to be reinvestigated from the beginning.

Masten said Friday that the reinvestigation of the homicide is indirectly related to the internal investigation. "They are not completely separate and apart," he said.

At that time, Masten also appointed Sgt. M.V. McCoy to replace Sgt. F.E. Mason as the head of the Crimes Against Persons section of the department. Mason was Daulton's supervisor during the Sykes investigation. Masten was transferred from the Crimes Against Persons section to the Fraud Squad.

In his new position, McCoy is responsible for conducting the fresh investigation of the Sykes murder. McCoy said Friday that he was awaiting results of the internal investigation before interviewing some people who also are being interviewed as part of the internal investigation.

The other development concerns the Hunt defense lawyers, Adam Stein and James Ferguson of Charlotte. They are preparing to file motions this week in the state Supreme Court in an effort to win a new trial for Hunt. Many of the questions raised by the Stuart report are expected to form some of the basis for Hunt's appeal request.

'Joel Coliseum'

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unanimously before the aldermen's meeting to support naming the facility the Veterans Memorial Coliseum.

"Our opposition to this (the Joel name) is not fiery," Kepley said last Monday. "We just have our own feelings about the facility being named for all veterans."

Kepley also dismissed accusations that the white VFW and American Legion organizations oppose the resolution because Joel was black. If Joel were white, one speaker said at the Feb. 3 meeting, the white veterans groups would not have opposed the resolution.

"I don't believe it's a matter of race," Kepley said. "It's sad that race has been brought into this."

When asked whether his organization's position would change if Joel were white, Kepley said, "I don't think so. I believe our position would be the same."

"Racism is an individual thing," he said. "If you ask 100 people, you'll get 100 different

concepts of racism. To me, it makes no difference, but I can only speak for myself."

Kepley signed a resolution in November supporting the Joel name. Later he withdrew his support.

"I was one of the first to say, 'Let's consider it,'" he said. "I supported the idea that the Lawrence Joel name be considered. But I also wanted to hear what the masses want - what the people want."

Paul S. Spilberg has led the Triad Vietnam Veterans Association's effort to name the facility for Joel and in honor of all veterans. He says his group and other supporters were disappointed with Northington's maneuver but are still determined to succeed.

"We had the votes," Spilberg said Wednesday. "We're disappointed that it could not be voted on, and we're disgusted with Northington for his lack of moral courage. We're also proud of the

fact that the board dealt with the matter in such a sensitive and wise manner.

"We intend to continue to lobby for passage of this worthy and honorable resolution. We're determined that it will be named the Lawrence Joel Veterans Memorial Coliseum."

"No veterans group can, in good faith, object to this name because it honors Lawrence Joel as a representative of all vets in this county," Spilberg said. "The TVVA supports totally Martha Wood's resolution to place a hall of honor in the new coliseum with the names of all the war dead of this century. We will offer our assistance to raise the funds for it. We would question the motives of anyone who objects to these resolutions."

Mayor Wayne A. Corpening said Monday that it will be up to the aldermen as to whether the matter will be open to public discussion again at the Feb. 17 meeting.



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