

# Family wants help for operation Continued from A1

Biliary atresia affects approximately one infant in every 20,000 live births. Girls are not affected slightly more often than boys, but no racial or ethnic group appears to be more affected than any other. The cause of the disease has not yet been discovered.

Help is waiting in the form of a liver transplant operation, which she is to have at Wylter Children's Hospital in Chicago. "Without the transplant, they

say she won't make it within a year," the distraught mother said. But, money and organ availability are the problems right now. "It (the operation) costs \$100,000," said Ms. Clark. "Medicaid, if it goes through, will pay 75 percent of it. We'll have to pay the rest."

Her stepfather, Khalid Fattah Griggs, has made an urgent plea with Ms. Clark, saying, "It's real critical, and something has to be done real

soon." Meanwhile, Griggs and Ms. Clark are starting to canvass anyone and everyone that they can think of to help raise the \$25,000 needed. "We discussed setting up a fund, sending jars out to various businesses and churches," she said in describing a process that they have only just begun.

Getting in line as a liver recipient is another problem. "They usually go by the ones who need it first," Ms.

Clark explained. "She's at Level II. If she gets real sick, then they'll move her up." She also said that the doctors at the center in Chicago advised her to "get the ticket now, so when (they) call us...within 4-6 weeks...we can go on up."

For now, Ms. Clark and her family are doing what they can to find out more about Safiya's baffling disease in conversations with their doctors. Of

the very little that is known about the cause, researchers do not believe that biliary atresia is a hereditary condition. All that Ms. Clark knows is that, without the transplant and some help from her community of friends, her baby will die.

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# Jesse Helms style unchanged Continued A1

Helms believes. For example, Helms thinks the education bill was a bloated bill with a nice name; it called for billions over what the president suggested as fiscally responsible.

### Social Security and Health Care:

Helms voted against a bill in 1985 to restore full social security cost-of-living adjustments for 1986 and against a bill in 1986 to transfer \$2.2 billion from the strategic defense initiative to a program that would bring meals to the elderly.

### Education:

Helms believes the more the federal government gets involved with the public education system, the worse it gets. The United States spends more money per pupil than almost any other developed country. Responsibility for public school systems should be left to state and

local governments.

He voted against funds for Head Start in 1981, 1982, 1985, and 1989 and against Bush's Excellence in Education Act of 1990.

Helms thinks it is important to return prayer to schools.

Helms is concerned about the great number of defaults on college loans, which cost the government \$2.4 billion this year. He is considering several solutions to remedy the situation; his staff did not outline his specific ideas. He voted against funding for Pell Grants in 1981, 1982, 1985, 1986, 1987, and 1989.

### Abortion:

Helms is opposed to abortion except in cases where the mother's life is in danger. He is not opposed to the use of contraception, but believes the federal government

should not be involved in the education about or distribution of contraceptives.

### AIDS Research:

Helms is not opposed to AIDS research, but believes that when the federal government decides where research money will be allocated, everything needs to be put in perspective. Other diseases such as Alzheimer's disease, diabetes, heart disease and various types of cancer need to be looked at as well.

The AIDS situation is tragic, Helms agrees, but the number of people dying from the disease doesn't stack up compared to other diseases. Of all diseases, AIDS causes the eighth largest number of deaths but is allocated the largest amount of money for research, according to Helms' office staff.

### Environment:

Helms believes there needs to

be a balance between economic and industrial growth and a healthy, safe environment, but the problem needs to be approached in a logical manner. The Clean Air Act, passed last year, contains several good points, but also included \$75 million that was not necessary, according to Helms. He led the way to cutting this provision of the bill before it was passed.

### South African Sanctions:

Helms believes economic sanctions in South Africa hurt the people the United States is trying to help the most. Many people are out of work because of the sanctions. Instead of sanctions, the United States need to help get all the parties involved in the conflict, the whites, the African National Congress, and the Zulus, to work together to solve the problem.



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# Harvey Gantt strategies in full gear Continued from A1

North Carolina.

Born in Charleston, S.C., Gantt is an architect and is a partner in Gantt-Huberman Architects. He served two terms as mayor of Charlotte, N.C.

He elected, Gantt would be the fourth African-American to serve in the U.S. Senate and the first African-American Democratic Sen-

### Reducing the Deficit:

Gantt said the government needs to eliminate waste and fraud in the government. He believes the defense budget should be cut significantly because of reduced tensions in the world. He believes every government program and agency should be thoroughly reviewed, and only those which are demonstrated to be critical to human health and public safety should be exempt from cuts.

He said people with higher incomes have benefited from the tax structure in the past 10 years, and he believes the burden of reducing the budget should be shared proportionately.

### Social Security and Health Care:

Gantt does not want social security cut and is opposed to a cost-of-living freeze for social security payments.

Higher deductibles may be a necessity with the current budget crisis, but Gantt believes the burden born by the elderly should be reduced as much as possible.

Gantt said he supports universal access to a minimum package of health care and long term medical care.

### Education:

Gantt believes education is the most important single issue in the campaign. He said he supports the Head Start program and school lunch subsidies. He believes local and state governments should keep control over the public school system, but that the federal government

can be a partner.

Gantt believes partnerships between schools and business enterprises, where the business does not control the school but works with it, could be beneficial to the education system in the U.S.

Gantt has called for expansion of early childhood education programs concentrating on children up to five years old. The programs would give children a desire to learn and an appreciation of the value of an education.

Gantt would support more student loans to qualified students so they could attend college. He said no child who successfully completes 12 years of schooling should be denied the opportunity to continue his or her education and training because of a lack of money.

### Abortion:

Gantt believes the decision

about whether to have an abortion should be left up to the mother and whoever else she wants involved. The government should not interfere with her right to privacy.

He is an advocate of financial aid for abortions provided for poor women so that they, too, will have the opportunity to choose whether or not to have an abortion.

Gantt is an advocate of education about pregnancy and contraceptives. He supports family planning efforts and sex education in schools.

### AIDS research:

AIDS is a disease that should be addressed frontally and aggressively, Gantt said. He would support a bill for funding of AIDS research.

### Environment:

Gantt is opposed to the proposed regional hazardous waste incinerator and wants the governor

and the North Carolina Hazardous Waste Commission to go back to square one and begin the process all over again. Although it is a state issue, Gantt said he can use his voice to raise the concerns of the citizens of North Carolina.

He said he would work for more federal involvement in research on human health effects from waste and enforcement of laws and regulations protecting the environment. Gantt supports stricter criminal penalties on polluters.

### South African Sanctions:

Gantt opposes the U.S. removing sanctions against South Africa until all vestiges of apartheid are removed.

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