

# Huey Newton Was Seen As Hero And Scoundrel

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tin Luther King." Newton's career was marked by many clashes with the law. Over the years, Newton was accused of two slayings and stood trial five times. His conviction in the 1967 killing of an Oakland police officer was overturned and two trials in the 1974 death of a young prostitute resulted in hung juries. Newton went into self-exile in Cuba shortly thereafter, returning to the United States in 1977.

Last year, he served two months in San Quentin Prison for a parole violation. In March of this year he pleaded no contest to misappropriating \$15,000 in public funds earmarked for a community school the party ran in the early 1980s. Although the Panthers were credited with running a major

get-out-the-vote drive that helped to elect the first black mayor of Oakland in 1976, the party was in disarray when Newton returned from Cuba and never regained its former status. "He was a person who contributed an awful lot to the consciousness of this country in the early years of his participation in the Black Panther Party," said former Panther Johnny Spain. "In the last few years of his life, unfortunately he wasn't able to contribute."

Charles Garry, who acted as Newton's lawyer for many years and defended him in the police murder case, hailed Newton as the founder of "the renaissance of the black liberation movement. He predates Martin Luther King."

Garry said he never saw a violent side to Newton.

"I saw a very sweet side, a humane side a dignified side, a man who was theoretically in favor of a better world."

But Garry said Newton became paranoid and his personality changed years ago when he was targeted by the FBI.

"They destroyed him over 10 years ago," Garry said. "To me, Huey died 10 years ago."

Newton earned a doctor of philosophy degree at age 38 from the University of California at Santa Cruz, where he wrote a dissertation titled: "War Against the Panthers, a Study of Repression in America."

But law enforcement authorities had a different view of the man whose legal plight popularized the cry of "Free Huey!"

Tom Orloff, deputy district attorney for Alameda County who prosecuted Newton in a 1974 as-

sault case, called him "a man who lived by violence and outside the law."

"At the time that I dealt with him, when he came back from Cuba in 1977, there were certainly no political activities that he was involved in that were of any significance to the community or really no political activities at all. It was basically a small gangster organization."

Orloff said authorities never viewed Newton as a champion for blacks.

"When I dealt with him in the late '70s for the crimes he committed in 1974, he certainly was nothing but a gangster."

But Hiestand said police targeted Newton for harassment, noting that Newton's only complaint recently was of being stopped and detained by police about two weeks ago while they

checked for outstanding warrants.

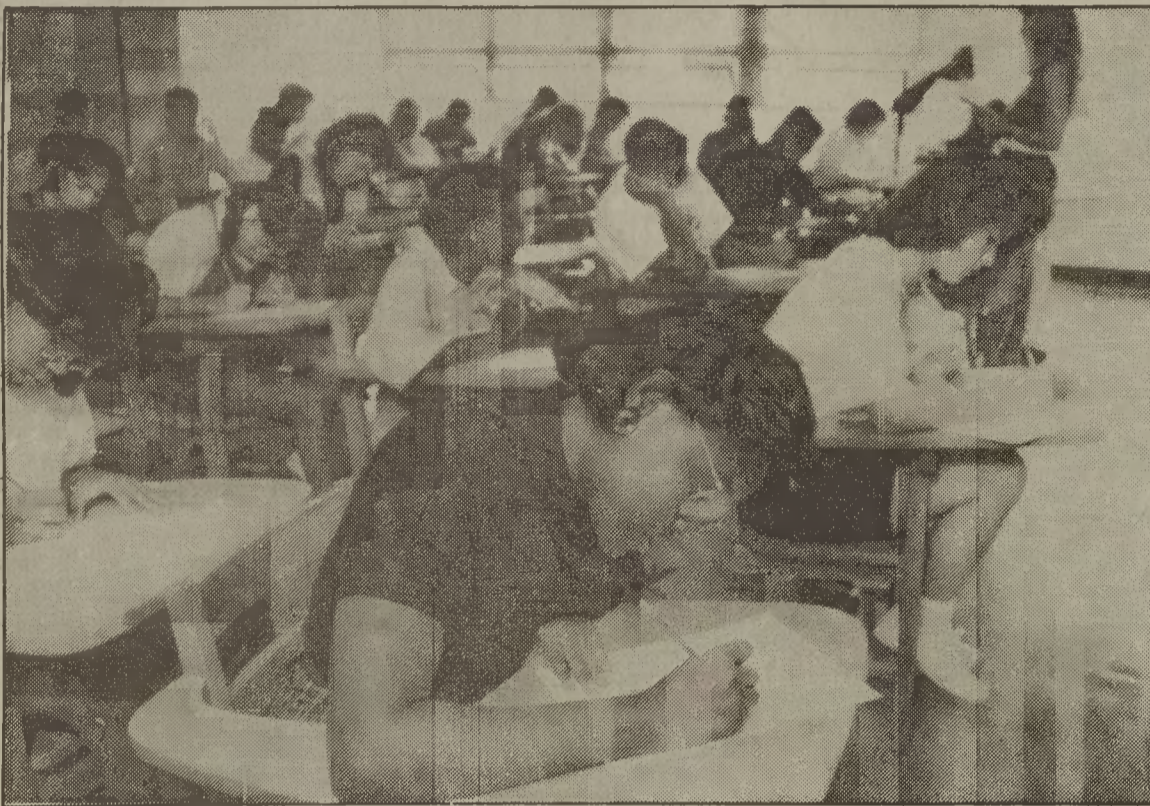
"There are still a large number of police that feel it's their duty to assume he was guilty for the cop killing for which he was tried," he said.

"His whole adult life had been constant struggle with law enforcement, with police," said Hiestand. "The party was born

out of Huey's notion that the police were a pretty brutal force in Oakland at the time."

As Newton was recalled alternately as a hero and a scoundrel, Hiestand said there was hidden significance to the contrary descriptions.

"I tell you, Huey said that contradiction was the ruling philosophy of the universe," he said.



Amia Canada (In foreground) writes notes during the first day of classes at West Charlotte High.

High.

Photo/CALVIN FERGUSON

## A Sophomore's First Day

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family that graduated from her new school. She also said she was attracted to the school's mix of

academics and athletics. She looks forward to attending pep rallies and sporting events.

"I want to go to the first game. I feel that I am truly a Lion now and I have to show my spirit," Canada said.

## JCSU Gears Up For Another Year

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"It's difficult, but I'm meeting new people and I'm learning to be more responsible by myself," Lewis said. "It's a big change from college to high school but I am learning to be more confident."

Lewis plans to major in child psychology.

"You have to do stuff by yourself, like wash your own clothes. I had my mom to do that," Derrick Evans said. Evans is from Winston-Salem and plans to major in accounting. He also said he has to be careful and watch his money so that he doesn't end up "broke and looking stupid."

Albrika Stokes, a freshman from New York City, said she has been away from home before but this will be for the longest time. She said she came to Smith to "get away from the city and go some place where I would have a better environment to study."

"Plus I wanted to attend a (United Negro College Fund) school," Stokes said, who plans to major in accounting. "They push and give you more help. They are more concerned with us as black students."

La France Carpenter, a freshman from Augusta, Ga., who plans to major in communications, said she also chose Smith because of its African-American heritage.

"I feel I will learn more about my own people," Carpenter said. "I'm glad that we have a large class because that shows there are more blacks interested in college." She said she plans to obtain a 3.8 grade point average.

The upperclassmen started arriving Sunday. Most of them are glad to be back and plan to have a busy year by getting more involved in campus affairs.

"I plan on being involved in student government and all other organizations I can assist," said Ardath Goins, a sophomore biology/chemistry major from Pittsburgh. She plans to go to medical school and has been involved with the campus theatre group.

Cindy Brown, a sophomore accounting major from Miami, said she "couldn't wait to get back."

"I missed it a lot," Brown said. "Last year I didn't do anything. This year I want to get involved with the Student Government Association."

Rafika O. Hargett, also a biology/chemistry major, from Brooklyn, said she wants to be more involved also but has really enjoyed the freshmen since she's been back.

"They make my day everyday," she said. "They are intelligent and they really are nice people. They really are."

Carl L. Williams, a junior psychology major from Hookerton,

NC, had different reasons for being back.

"It feels great to be back, seeing all my fraternity brothers again," Williams said. He is a member of Omega Psi Phi. "I hope to benefit from the academic setting at JCSU." He said he is working to "get out of here in four and graduate with honors."

All was not perfect, however. There were a few complaints about the food.

"The food is very lousy," said Maria Duncan, a freshman from Manhattan.

But Evans from Winston-Salem was a little more positive.

"I like their Fruit Loops. They don't make those."

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## Mayors' Drug Initiative

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everybody's lines and it's everybody's problem," she said. "Our problem is severe and is getting worse. We have to work together as a community."

The mayors have called for a repeal of section 6077 of the federal Anti-Drug Abuse Act which does not allow law enforcement agencies to receive money

seized from drug busts.

Stricter penalties are proposed for people arrested for possession of cocaine, selling to minors, and on school grounds.

"People are set free because there are not a lot of prosecutors and the jails are too full. You have to put prisoners in jail as soon as you take them out," Myrick said.

## UNCC Offers SAT Prep Course

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couraged to assure a place in the course.

The SAT course is scheduled at the following times during the 1989-90 year:

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Session II: Nov. 4, 11 and 18.

Session III: March 10, 17 and 24.

Session IV: May 12, 19 and 26.

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