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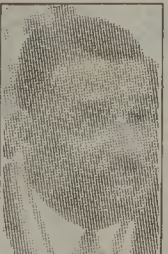
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A call to action against violence

By Cassandra Wynn
THE CHARLOTTE POST

If you come to the summit on crime, violence and killings Saturday, come with answers, warns Mecklenburg County Commissioner Bob Walton.

Summit set for Saturday

"I'm frustrated. It looks like all we do is talk," he said. "We've made a commitment to follow through on this." Through Wednesday, 118 people have been murdered

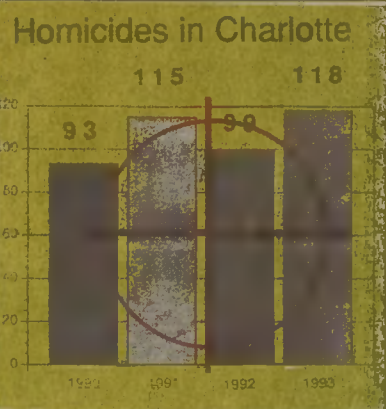
in Charlotte this year, making it the bloodiest in city history. Last year, 99 murders were recorded.

Walton said he has gotten good response to a press conference held last week to call

the summit. Scheduled from 9 a.m. - 12 p.m. at Mt. Moriah Primitive Baptist Church, 747 W. Trade St., the meeting will be tightly timed.

"People should bring typed or handwritten solutions. We don't want any long-winded

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Ready To

FIGHT BACK



PHOTO/CALVIN FERGUSON

Hattie Anthony's job is to move the controversy-plagued Fighting Back program ahead after two executive directors failed to please Mecklenburg County officials.

Rebuilding drug-prevention program is the challenge before Hattie Anthony

By Cassandra Wynn
THE CHARLOTTE POST

The new director of Mecklenburg County's Fighting Back project believes that her history of being an advocate for community causes will be a strength.

Hattie Anthony's appointment as Fighting

Back's director came last week, about six months after the controversial dismissal of Nathaniel Rock, who was charged by Mecklenburg County Mental Health director Peter Safir with not following policies and procedures.

Some community leaders fear that the way in which Rock was dismissed and the

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Buffalo Soldiers meet with President Clinton

President Clinton met with four living legends when he met with the "Buffalo Soldiers" at the White House. In a meeting in the Oval Office, Clinton met with 99-year-old Sgt. Maj. William Harrington, 98-year-old Sgt. Mark Matthews, Trooper James Madison and Trooper Frederick Williams. Harrison, the oldest member of the group, competed on the U.S. equestrian team in the 1916 Olympics. The Buffalo Soldiers were in Washington to help dedicate a new stamp commemorating the exploits of the all-black Army units, which served mostly in the West until an executive order totally desegregated the armed forces in 1952.



PHOTO/WHITE HOUSE

U.S. schools are reverting back to segregation

By Sonya Ross
ASSOCIATED PRESS

WASHINGTON - Racial segregation is spreading in America's public schools to a degree unseen since the 1960s, according to a study. But educators say today the quality of a class is more important than the color of a classmate.

The study by the Harvard Project on School Desegregation found that two of every three black children attended schools where blacks were more than half of the student population during the 1991-92 school term.

That's the highest percentage since 1968, when 77 percent of black students attended predominantly black schools.

Thirty-six of Charlotte-Mecklenburg's 102 public schools are more than 50 percent black.

"This report reflects what may be the beginning of a historic reversal," said Harvard Project director Gary Orfield. "The civil rights impulse from the 1960s is dead in the water and the ship is floating backward toward the shoals of racial segregation."

About 73 percent of Hispanic children attended minority-dominated schools in 1992, the study said. That number has increased steadily since 1968, when 54 percent of Hispanic students were enrolled in schools where blacks or Hispanics were more than half the student population.

Orfield attributed the increases to segregated housing patterns and "a huge change" in birth rates and immigration. But he discounted the flight of white students to suburban or private schools as a factor.

Public school enrollment grew 7 percent between 1984 and 1991, while private enrollment fell by 9 percent, he noted. And he said there has been a polarization in suburban as well as city schools. Fifty-eight percent of black and 64 percent of Hispanic children, who live in suburbs near large metropoli-

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America stepping up capture and return of Haitian refugees

By Karen Testa
ASSOCIATED PRESS

MIAMI - About 111 Haitians jammed onto a 35-foot sailboat were intercepted about 30 miles off the island's coast by the U.S. Coast Guard on Sunday and will be returned to their homeland, officials said.

Coast Guard officials working on Operation Able Manner spotted the vessel late Sunday morning about 30 miles northeast of Cap-Haitien, on the northern coast of Haiti.

The group of men, women and children were "all fine," said Petty Officer Alex Worden of the Coast Guard in Miami. They will spend two

nights on the cutter Legare, and be quickly repatriated, he said.

"We'll feed them, give them water, medical attention," he said.

It was the third group intercepted in eight days as they attempted to flee the island nation.

Eighty-one Haitians were intercepted last last Thursday and repatriated. Another group of more than 20 were spotted by Coast Guard officials Dec. 5 and returned.

Operation Able Manner began after the White House ordered that all Haitians intercepted at sea be returned to their troubled homeland without a hearing to determine if they were fleeing political persecution.