

Thomas' views draw angry protests

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

SALISBURY, Md. — A speech by Supreme Court justice Clarence Thomas scheduled for next week has been canceled because of planned protests, organizers say.

NAACP officials say they are organizing a protest of the Jan. 18 speech before a youth festival.

The Boys & Girls Club chapter sponsoring the gathering say the protest could force it to cancel the event, which they expect to raise \$20,000 to fund a tutoring program.

Festival organizers plan to decide early this week whether to cancel the event, revoke Thomas' invitation, or forge ahead, organizer George Krupanski said.

About 100 tickets have been sold, about the same number as this time last year, but controversy over the Thomas

invitation has overshadowed the weeklong event, he said.

The National Association for the Advancement of Colored People opposed Thomas' appointment to the Supreme Court, challenging his conservative views on equal rights and affirmative action.

"We have a conscience we must follow, and we cannot in good conscience stand or sit by and have him come into our state as a role model for black youth without conveying our antipathies about him and his philosophies," said Hanley Norment, Maryland NAACP state conference president.

The civil rights group moved its state conference from Annapolis to Salisbury to enable members to join in the protest. The annual gathering of the NAACP's 24 Maryland branches occurs at the same time as the banquet sponsored by the Boys and Girls Club of

Western Sussex Inc., based in Seaford, Del.

Thomas is one of three scheduled keynote speakers at the banquet, which climaxes the Festival for Youth, a weeklong series of events designed by Seaford community leaders to provide role models for youths.

"The festival has been going on for five years, and we've never gotten this attention at this point," said Krupanski, who met with NAACP officials last week.

Canceling the event could force the group to cut back or even terminate the tutoring program, event organizers said.

Thomas won Senate confirmation by a slim margin — 52-48 — after he endured a day-long grilling about the allegations of sexual harassment made by a former employee, Anita Hill.

Thomas quickly established himself as one of the most conservative members of a generally conservative court.

Most notably — and most disconcertingly to civil rights activists — Thomas opposes most current forms of affirmative action. He believes that racial preferences are based on the false assumption that all black Americans need special help.

His view has found its way into American law in several 5-4 Supreme Court decisions.

Some Seat Pleasant residents protested loudly when Thomas accepted an invitation to speak at an awards ceremony for eighth-graders in the majority-black Washington suburb last year. For a while, it was thought Thomas would back out. The justice showed up and gave his speech.

Addicted moms sue S.C. hospital

By Amy Kuebelbeck
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

CHARLESTON, S.C. — Several women choked back tears Monday as their lawyer showed a federal court jury the belt and shackles they wore to jail shortly after giving birth at the Medical University of South Carolina.

The women have sued MUSC and school officials, the city of Charleston and local police over the program that required pregnant women who tested positive for cocaine to seek drug treatment or face arrest.

"We are not seeking a wind-fall. We are not seeking a reward. We are seeking compensation to make these women whole for the terrible things the defendants have done," their lawyer, John Wherry, said in closing arguments.

The suit alleges the policy that ended in 1994 was discriminatory because it targeted black mothers. The women also contend that giving the results of hospital drug tests to police

amounted to an unconstitutional search.

U.S. District Judge C. Weston Houck gave jurors their instructions late Monday after a five-week trial. The jurors returned Tuesday to begin deliberations.

Wherry noted the treatment-or-jail program was in effect only at MUSC, which serves a higher percentage of poor black patients than other Charleston hospitals.

A total of 253 pregnant women tested positive for cocaine during the five years the program operated. Most went to drug treatment but 30 were arrested before they chose treatment. Two pleaded guilty but

also got treatment.

Hospital attorney Bobby Hood said there was no racial motive. Nine of the 10 plaintiffs kicked their cocaine habits as a result, and two of the women suing are white, he said.

The program was designed to protect unborn children, Hood said.

"The goal is a constitutionally acceptable goal. It ain't got nothing to do with race. It ain't got nothing to do with search and seizure," he said.

He urged the jury of seven whites and one black not to give the women a penny.

"We have 10 individuals who came to a hospital admitting a felony, getting free medical help ... then fussing because they have to go to substance abuse," he said.

Attorney Lynn Paltrow, representing the women, said no one is arguing the women had a right to abuse cocaine. But the women who came to the hospital pregnant and with a drug problem expected "confidential, respectful health care — not a

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SPA-131T	Elementary Spanish	HUM 110
LS-234T	Studies In Society II	HUM 111
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ACC-236T	Principles of Accounting II	EDU 301
MKT-331T	Principles of Marketing	EDU 303
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BUS-233T	Business Statistics	HUM 111
RHC-192T	Freshman Rhetoric II	HUM 112
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TUESDAY/THURSDAY 6P-7:25P		
REL-131T	Great Living Religions	HUM 110
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LS-130T	Identity/Self, African/Amer. Culture	EDU 115
MTH-137T	Pre-calculus I	SHA 207
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BUS-335T	Legal Environment of the Firm	HUM 110
PSY-131T	General Psychology I	HUM 111
ECO-232T	Prin. of Economics II	HUM 112
ECO-231T	Prin. of Economics I	EDU 301
MTH-132T	Basic Math II	SHA 207
SATURDAY 8A-10:40A		
MGT-435T	Business Policy	HUM 110
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ACC-336T	Intermediate Financial Acct. II	HUM 112
SATURDAY 10:50A-1:30P		
ART-231T	Art Appreciation	HUM 110
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