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Guard **Jerome Givens** leads the basketball team in the Tip Off Classic

**IN SPORTS**



Football Golden Bulls earn first Pioneer Bowl berth

Volume 32 No. 9

\$1.00

# The Charlotte Post

The Voice of the Black Community

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WEEK OF NOVEMBER 18-20, 2006

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## Symposium tackles immigration issues

By Erica Singleton  
FOR THE CHARLOTTE POST

A melting pot of Charlotte activists will meet Saturday to talk about immigration.

The Millions More Movement of Charlotte in conjunction with eight community groups is holding a symposium titled "Conversations Across Borders"

at Spencer Memorial United Methodist Church at 1025 E.35th Street. The event is scheduled from 9 a.m.-12 p.m.

"We realized we needed to have, or begin to have an education process for the community," said Millions More Movement board Chair C. Maria Macon, which is organizing the symposium.

"Conversations Across Borders is our way of initiating this process."

In January, Mayor Pat McCrory announced he was setting up an Immigration Study Commission. Though Community Relations Committee Executive Director Willie Ratford and N.C. Sen. Malcolm Graham were asked to

join the commission, Millions More felt the commission lacked a voice that represented a cross section of the black community. Activists wrote McCrory, through the NAACP, in April to urge him to add a representative from the African-American community.

In a letter dated May 17, Please see **SYMPOSIUM/2A**

## Equations to draw blacks to math

By Lorinda M. Bullock  
NATIONAL NEWSPAPER PUBLISHERS ASSOCIATION

WASHINGTON

Mathematicians are known for figuring out the world's most difficult equations and finding ways to apply them to nearly every aspect of daily life. Black mathematicians find themselves not only working in their chosen field of study, but also working to solve one of their most complex equations yet—why so few of them exist.

Of the nearly 15,000 math professors in the United States, there are only about 300 who are Black and about 500 who are Hispanic. Out of the 433 Math Ph.D.s awarded last year to U.S. citizens, 14 were awarded to Black Americans, said the American Mathematical Society.

Duane Cooper, a math professor at Morehouse College, said a general perception of math being "too difficult" contributes to the low numbers.

"I think when students say math doesn't make sense; it just kind of hurts me because nothing makes more sense than mathematics," Cooper said. "Everything fits together beautifully and logically and so in some sense if it doesn't make sense, somewhere we have failed to help you see why it makes sense."

So rather than keep their elite club of professors, statisticians, and analysts exclusive, Black mathematicians like Cooper are striving to widen their circle.

In just the last two weeks, two major events have taken place to encourage greater Black and minority participation in all levels of math—the

Please see **EQUATION/6A**

## Transition stirs Harding High



PHOTO: CALVIN FERGUSON

Harding University High School students and parents rallied at the Charlotte-Mecklenburg School Board meeting Tuesday. They want stability in administration and empty teacher positions filled.

### Parents, students demand top teachers, leaders

By Herbert L. White

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Dana Harris struggles with her statistics class at Harding University High School.

Not that she can't do the work. No one's been in class long enough to teach it.

Three teachers have been assigned to Harris' Advanced Placement class in as many months. She said that uncertainty will affect her grades.

"The first two weeks of school, we didn't do anything," she says. "We didn't see any books. We're

still on chapter 1 and we're going into the second quarter. We feel like we're at a disadvantage because this is an AP course and this affects our grades."

Harris voiced her concern Tuesday before the Charlotte-Mecklenburg School board. She was joined by classmates and Harding parents who demanded more qualified teachers and administrators at the math and science magnet school.

Charlene Price-Patterson, whose daughter Charise is a senior, said CMS's slow response

to placing teachers in Harding classrooms places an unfair burden on students.

"Here we are 11 weeks into the school year and we're just getting teachers," she says. "It's inexcusable."

Harding's college preparatory curriculum has been a model of academic achievement while other inner city campuses have struggled. Newsweek magazine ranked the school No. 66 among the nation's most challenging high schools. In 2005, Harding

Please see **HARDING/7A**

## Historic designation may keep Coffee Cup percolating

By Cheris F. Hodges

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It looks as though the Coffee Cup hasn't fried its last chicken or served its last batch of collard greens.

On Monday, the Charlotte-Mecklenburg Historic Landmarks commission voted to recommend a historic designation that would save the restaurant

from demolition.

This was welcome news to the lunch time diners at the West Morehead Street restaurant.

For nearly 60 years, the Coffee Cup has been a staple in the community, famous for its down home cooking and soul food. It was also one of the first places in Charlotte to desegregate. The original white owners promoted a black cook to

business partner in the 1950s before civil rights reform.

"There's no way they can tear this down," said customer Karen Dawkins. "I came to Charlotte to visit my daughter and she said 'let me take you to the Coffee Cup.'"

Dawkins, who is from Spartanburg, S.C., said the food is delicious and she couldn't get over

the number of people frequenting the restaurant.

Gardine Wilson, co-owners of the Coffee Cup, said Monday's vote left him and partner Anthony McCarver excited.

"This is a nice plateau to look over after a long journey," Wilson said, adding there are "hills and valleys that we have to get to

Please see **COFFEE/3A**

## United Way aims for late rally

Nonprofit agency may fall short of funding goal

By Cheris F. Hodges

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The United Way of Central Carolinas could miss its fund raising goal if it doesn't come up with \$800,000 by today.

The organization announced this week that they had only reached 83 percent of their goal of \$44,075,000.

"We're short. For many years we've met goal and for many years it's been taken for granted that we'll meet goal," said Edward "Ned" Curran, United Way Board chair.

The United Way, which is celebrating its 75th anniversary, supports 97 agencies in the Charlotte metro area, including the United Negro College Fund, Urban League of Central Carolinas, Crisis Assistance Ministries, MedAssist of Mecklenburg and Metrolina AIDS Project.

According to Michael Baker, the regional campaign chairman, one in three people in the community use a United Way service.

"This is very important for the health and welfare of this community," said Baker.

This year's goal was ambitious, Curran said, but added that Charlotte is a "can do" community and though the United Way wanted to raise more money, the agency felt it could be done.

"We set a more ambitious goal because this community has grown," Curran said, adding that there is likely to be more than 5,000 homeless people on the street this year. And the needs grow as the temperature drops.

This isn't the first time the United Way has faced a potential shortfall. Last year with a

Please see **UNITED/2A**

### thebox

NEWS, NOTES & TRENDS

## Bradley inspired black journalists

By Demetrius Patterson

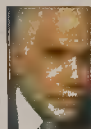
THE CHICAGO DEFENDER

CHICAGO — For most of his nearly 26 years with the television news stable, 60 Minutes, Ed Bradley was the lone African-American face for the award-winning program.

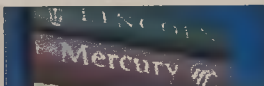
Known for his relaxed presence and laid back style - with one earring in his left ear - Bradley interviewed a who's who in the world of politics, crime, entertainment and the common man. His voice was silenced a week ago Thursday after a long bout with leukemia. He was 65.

The death of Bradley stunned many African-Americans in the journalism field, along with influential people who met him or were subjects of his interviews.

Please see **BRADLEY/3A**



Bradley



Black Ford dealers want automaker to reconsider closing some franchises/6C

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