

The Daily Tar Heel

FRIDAY, APRIL 3, 1998
Volume 106, Issue 25

News/Features/Arts/Sports: 962-6245
Business/Advertising: 962-1163
Chapel Hill, North Carolina
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Impact of suit sparks debate among public

■ A federal judge threw out the suit Paula Jones filed against the president.

BY SCOTT HICKS
STAFF WRITER

Although a Little Rock, Ark., federal judge threw out Paula Jones's sexual harassment suit against President Bill Clinton, most experts say the standard to prove sexual harassment has not become more difficult.

Instead, the case has helped clarify what sexual harassment legally entails, experts said. People who believe they have been sexually harassed should still bring their cases to court.

"This case has helped us refine our understanding of what it takes to be sexual harassment," said Karen Booth, professor of women's studies and sociology. "It makes it much clearer what the grounds are for going to court."

But Jones' loss might keep some women from taking sexual harassment cases to court.

"On the one hand, it could make some women less likely to report harassment on the job," Booth said. "On the other hand, I think it says the legal system takes very seriously sexual harassment cases. I think it's been really positive for it to be out in the open."

Jones' suit was so open because it involved the president, and despite the trial's conclusion, many Americans still doubt the president's integrity.

"Ultimately, I think he's still guilty of something," said Scott Rubush of Common Sense.

Although Clinton won this latest round, people should not think the courts now hold a higher standard for proving sexual harassment.

"There is still no reason for anyone to put up with behaviors that would meet the legal definition of sexual harassment in the workplace or educational environment," said Judith Scott, the University's sexual harassment officer.

Women should be aware that there are many grievance processes available to them, Booth said.

"Many, many companies, including this University, have established systems for dealing with sexual harassment that could be publicized more," she said.

The media should also publicize recent victories in sexual harassment

SEE REACTION, PAGE 2

March to free Cannon reaches Chapel Hill

■ Organizers said unity highlighted the march to free Kwame Cannon.

BY ANNE FAWCETT
STAFF WRITER

Observers gradually crept across the street from McCorkle Place to the post office.

A kid with a mohawk dashed down the sidewalk to take a seat beside a man in khakis. A businessman in a suit and tie sat at a safe distance across the street and described what he had seen to passers-by on rollerblades.

The organizers of the April 4th Convergence on Raleigh said they wanted to promote unity by bringing to light the imprisonment of Kwame Cannon. They did.

"We don't deserve credit until we have eliminated inequity for everyone — blacks, hispanics and whites," said the Rev. Mazie Ferguson, one of the march's organizers. Ferguson is a member of the march's sponsor Jubilee 2000, a movement originating in Greensboro that promotes labor, education, prison and political reform.

Following a rally, marchers from Jubilee 2000, the Black Student Movement, Campus Y, Black Public Works Association and Student Environmental Action Coalition took the 1970s civil rights march route from St. Paul's AME Church down Franklin

Street to the post office. This course was symbolic for many.

"We're continuing the civil rights movement now," said Terrance Shawn McGill, Campus Y committee coordinator. "It didn't end by our sitting in the front of the bus."

African Americans are in danger and still need help, Ferguson said.

"People at the bottom of industry are in relatively the same shape as they were 100 years ago," she said. "If we can take care of those at the bottom, that will take care of the rest of the totem pole."

Jubilee 2000 planned the April 4th Convergence on Raleigh as a symbolic march to spread its mission of freedom for Cannon. He was imprisoned in 1986 with two life sentences for six counts of burglary, which marchers called unfair.

"(Cannon) got screwed over because he was made an example," said Craig Wexler, a member of the International Socialist Organization. "But he stands for more than just himself."

Other marchers agreed that they were rallying for more than one man.

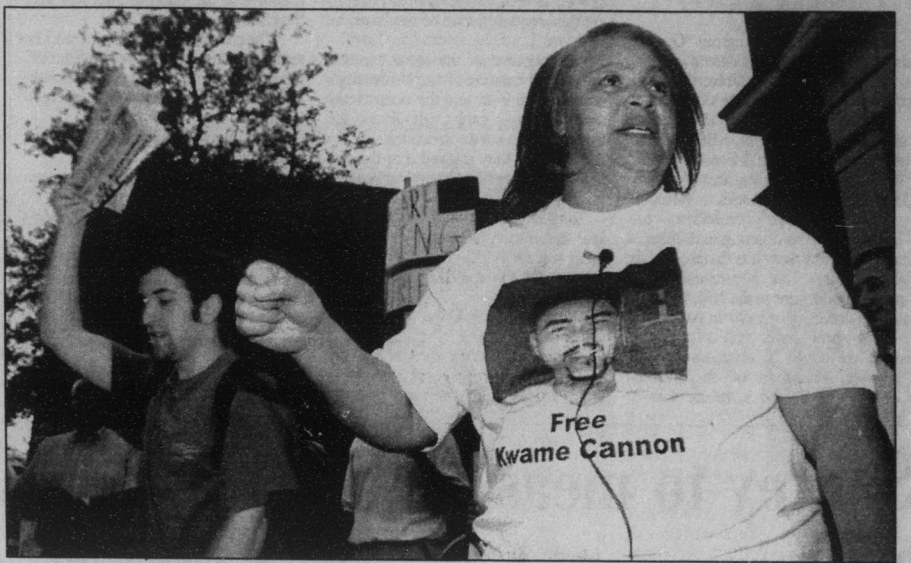
"We are not happy with the people who Kwame Cannon symbolizes," Ferguson said. "There are young people across the state with weird and crazy sentences that don't make sense. We want equitable sentences and justice for not just (white prisoners)."

Ferguson and Jubilee 2000 are pushing for a commission to look at the sentences of every black inmate in the state to see if they are reasonable and if not, will push for the prisoner's release.

They also support a living wage, workers' compensation for occupational injuries and commissions to examine student suspensions from school.

"These are major issues of survival of a race," Ferguson said. "Our race is relegated to a status worse than slaves."

BPWA representative Steve England agreed that it was time to act. "(Kwame Cannon) is the future of this society, not just our race," he said. "Now is the time for us to stand up and demand our rights as citizens of this country."



Willena Cannon joined a rally in front of the Franklin Street post office in honor of her son, Kwame Cannon. The group marched on Franklin Street from St. Paul's AME Church.

UNC seniors, alumnus using film to capture Cannon story

■ Willena Cannon has actively participated in civil rights movements.

BY DEVONA A. BROWN
STAFF WRITER

In the wake of this weekend's march to free the son of civil rights activist Willena Cannon from prison, three local filmmakers are working to make sure no one forgets the Cannon story.

Two seniors and a recent graduate formed Blank Pictures, a production company, in February to make a documentary of Cannon's activism in the 1970s and its connection to her son's two life sentences for burglary.

Willena Cannon participated in several civil rights protests in the 1970s, including one she organized against a Ku Klux Klan march in Greensboro. In 1986, her son, Kwame, received two consecutive life sentences for six counts of first-degree burglary. Kwame Cannon is serving his sentence at the Caswell County Correctional Center.

Greensboro ministers will march to Raleigh on Saturday to petition Gov. Jim Hunt for his release. The march led to a project for Blank Pictures.

Senior Monty Marsh of Greensboro said Blank Pictures, which he founded, would focus on Kwame Cannon and his political connection to his mother.

"We're covering 19 years of history, from Nov. 3, 1979, through April 1998," Marsh said. "The point here is the relationship between he and his mother."

UNC graduate Richard Harris III, who is currently filming footage from the march, said the documentary would go beyond interviews and coverage of the 1979 march. "We're really trying to document a process (of what the Cannons endured) and the struggle that's lasted for 20 years," he said.

"Also, we're trying to get really personal. Our focus on 1979 is minor compared to these relationships and the way in which these relationships have changed since these events."

Harris said the documentary would include childhood pictures of Kwame Cannon, letters sent between Cannon and his mother and an account of the events occurring in the Cannon household between the two marches.

Harris and Marsh, with Senior Terry Billups of Orlando, Fla., as co-producer, are interviewing those closely associated with the family.

The idea for the documentary, tentatively titled "The Last Victim," arose from Marsh's interest in acting and his desire to educate others about the Cannons' plight.

"I did some research, and (the documentary) became a passion," Marsh said. "The more research I did, the more I became enthralled." He said a part of that passion was because he grew up

with the Cannon family. Marsh said he was involved in the issue because of his ties to the area where the Cannons lived.

"This is my neighborhood, my community," he said. "This is where I grew up. I felt it was my obligation in the position that I am (of having University support and resources) to do this story."

The driving force behind Marsh's passion for the Cannon story is to make everyone aware of society's past and present social injustices. "I'm doing this to bring about social change, and to educate people (of high school and college age)," he said. "We as a society have become desensitized. There are Kwame Cannons all over the country."

Harris agreed something had to be done about Kwame Cannon's jail sentence. "When he went to jail, he was fresh out of puberty. Now he has gray hair," Harris said. "He went in before he was a man, and now he'll come out an old man. That's wrong."

Marsh said he hoped the documentary would also prompt society to take action against social injustice.

"It hurts me to know that society doesn't care to preserve this history," he said. "We as a people need to come together and realize that we all need to make an effort for social change, to create true equality."

Harris said he and Marsh should finish filming the documentary in June and that they hope to premiere it in August.

On the trail of Justice

The Daily Tar Heel is following the Free Kwame Cannon March, which began Wednesday in Greensboro and continues until Saturday in Raleigh. The coverage includes interviews with the people involved, the UNC students documenting the event and the march itself.

On the trail of Justice

Details of the march

The march to free Kwame Cannon will culminate in Raleigh on Saturday. Participants began the march in Greensboro on Wednesday.

March timeline

10:30 a.m. — Assemble at I-40 Exit 300 Rock Quarry Road, Business Park parking lot.

11:00 a.m. — March to State Capitol. Proceed down Rock Quarry Road to Martin Luther King Boulevard and to Coleman Street. Left to Bragg Street, right to State Street, right to Martin Luther King Boulevard, left to Chavis Way, right to East Lenor Street. Left to Wilmington Street, right to the State Capitol.

1:00 p.m. — Rally for the April 4th Statewide Convergence on Raleigh at State Capitol.

3:30 p.m. — Rally ends.

DTH/JAKE ZARNEGAR AND BRIANNA BUSCH

Group seeks possible improvements to computing initiative

BY LAURA STOEHR
STAFF WRITER

One size does not fit all, especially when it comes to computers, said the leaders of People for Computational Freedom on Thursday.

The group held an interest meeting to gather support in investigating how UNC has handled the Carolina Computing Initiative.

The CCI, which Chancellor Michael Hooker introduced in February, will require freshmen to own a laptop by 2000. All laptops must be PCs. The University will take bids to companies in about a month, said John Oberlin, executive director of Academic Technology & Networks.

PCF leaders said they do not oppose requiring students to buy computers that meet certain software specifications per system, such as a requiring PC users to purchase Microsoft Windows 95. But they do question the motive behind requiring one type of computing system.

"Freedom of choice is essential," said Michael Neece, Morehead Planetarium assistant educator. "What we've heard and seen is so sketchily laid out by the administration."

Rob McCauley, a junior computer science major from Hillsborough, said he was concerned UNC would eliminate student choice. "The whole thing doesn't make sense to me," he said.

Besides the specifications of the plan, others are worried about its timing.

Planetarium employee Drew Gilmore said he doubted classroom technology would be ready by 2000.

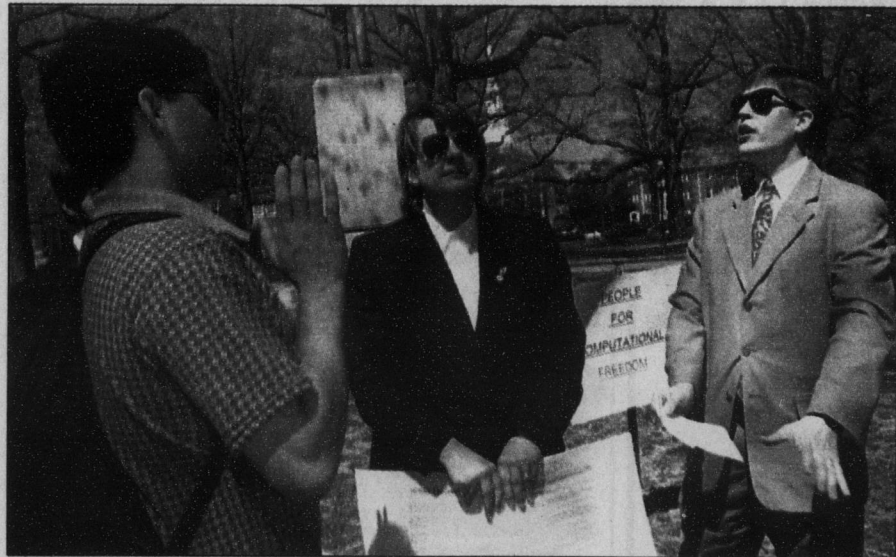
"Considering how long it's taken for all the dorms to be wired, I'm skeptical you'll be able to plug into every building you want," he said.

McCauley said laptops would not be helpful in class. "I've taken my portable to class, but I didn't use it," he said. "It's not effective. I left it sitting next to my chair."

The group voiced concerns that faculty would not be trained to integrate the technology. "Most classes are done in a lecture format," said Jeremy Reynolds, a graduate student in sociology.

"To make these things effective, the faculty are really going to have to change the way they teach."

But Oberlin said Thursday that classrooms would be renovated and faculty would receive appropriate training.



Jackie Kylander and Michael Neece (right), members of People for Computational Freedom, met at McCorkle Place to protest the Carolina Computing Initiative. Mo Nathan (left) defends the initiative.

Liberty means responsibility. That is why most men dread it.

George Bernard Shaw

INSIDE

Fraternities hit Kenan

UNC football coach Carl Torbush (left) invited 15 fraternity members to play in Saturday's Blue-White Spring Game. Page 7

¡Baile conmigo anoche!

ChispA presents its seventh annual Noche Latina Saturday night in the Great Hall and Cabaret. Page 2

Today's the day

Today is the deadline to submit proposals for the Joanna Howell Fund award, which honors the memory of a former DTH member. Proposals are due by 5 p.m. Call 962-0245 for more information.

Today's weather

Late showers;
High 60s
This weekend: Partly sunny,
mid 60s.