20th Anniversary march on Washington planned

Coalition organizes to keep King's dream alive, hopes to rejuvenate original spirit of civil rights

By ANDY HODGES Tar Heel Staff Writer

"I have a dream that one day this nation will rise up and live out the true meaning of its creed: 'We hold these truths to be self-evident; that all men are created equal.'"

> Martin Luther King Jr. Aug. 28, 1963, march on Washington

One national coalition and hundreds of local coalitions nationwide are working together to organize a 20th Anniversary March on Washington to commemorate and rejuvenate the spirit of King's message and the original march.

According to the national organizing group, "a year-long mobilization of a New Coalition of Conscience" will be launched to bring people together for the 20th Arniversary March on Aug. 27, and to work for the passage of legislation regarding jobs, peace and freedom at the national, state and local levels. The group also will work for the designation of Jan. 15 as a national public holiday in honor of King's birth.

Yonni Chapman, a member of the coordinating committee of the march for the Orange County area, said at the first local organizational meeting Sunday, "We should see this not only as an opportunity to get people to go to Washington, but to develop programs that we want to work for."

Fred Battle, chairman of the coordinating committee, said promoting the national interest will be of primary importance in the early stages of planning for the march.

"The way we figure to tie in locally," said Battle, "is to focus first on the march on Washington, and then the local issues will fall in after that."

Chapel Hill Town Council member and march supporter Joe W. Straley told the group, "If you're going up there planning to

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make a personal presentation, forget it.

"You're going to be there in the midst of 100,000 people, I hope."

Straley, who participated in the 1963 march, said Monday that he does not expect the anniversary march to equal the first one.

"It would be very difficult to follow up that kind of zeal," he said. "I would be very impressed if we were to get half as many people as the original march."

Brown said, "It is important to look at the courage people had and the commitments and sacrifices people made at that time so as not to forget them.

"We also need to look at some of the promises made. I think when we look at them closely we are going to see that some of them were just sloughed off."

Chapman said the march is not only being held because it is the 20th anniversary, but because American citizens are facing more hardships now than ever before.

"The American dream is becoming more like a nightmare," he said.

Chapman said organizing coalitions have been established all over the country. "The motion to organize this thing is really taking place in the grassroots," he said.

The local group will hold its second organizational meeting on Sunday, June 12 at 3 p.m. at the First Baptist Church on North Roberson Street in Chapel Hill.



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Student abducted from Granville lot

By HALEH MODDASSER

Tar Heel Staff Writer

A UNC student was kidnapped at gunpoint from the Granville Towers parking lot, Wednesday night, May 25, officials at the Chapel Hill Police Department said Tuesday.

Around 11 p.m. the man walked to his car in the Granville lot after visiting a friend, the police said. He was approached by three black males carrying a gun. They forced him into his car and made him drive to a deserted lot in Durham.

Officials at the Chapel Hill Police Department said the kidnappers after asking the time, took the student's wrist watch, and spare tire, then instructed him to lay down in the seat and wait.

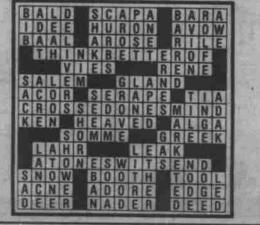
After a few moments, the student drove to the Durham Police Department to report the case. Durham police are working with the Chapel Hill police in an investigation to apprehend the three kidnappers.

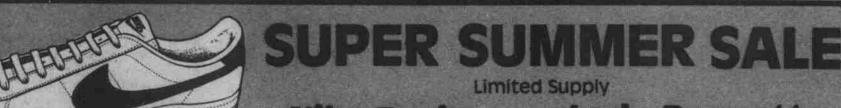
Detective Lt. Summey of the Chapel Hill Police Department said that the Allied Security guard on duty from 10 p.m. to 8 a.m. at Granville Wednesday night matched one description of a black male seen in the Granville vicinity about an hour before the incident occurred.

At present, the victim wishes to remain anonymous while attempting to identify the three males from photographs. No suspects have been identified.

Lt. Brooks of Chapel Hill police said a probable motive for the incident was transportation to Durham. Brooks said "If I get them, they'll be charged with kidnapping and robbery."







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