

SPORTS

Special Olympians Display Basketball Talents.
See page 9

RELIGION

Religious Deprogramming Is Attacked.
See page 6

ENTERTAINMENT

Non-Profit Arts Organizations Merge.
See page 8

Court Nominee Should Face Tougher Test

BY LARRY A. STILL
NNPA News Service
WASHINGTON, D.C.—Although no major civil rights organization has announced opposition to Supreme Court nominee Judge Anthony Kennedy, several spokespersons urged closer scrutiny of President Ronald Reagan's third candidate during the U.S. Senate hearing.

"While the Leadership Conference on Civil Rights has not taken a position on Judge Kennedy's nomination, we believe that his record raises concerns that require a close examination of the nominee's judicial philosophy before passing on his fitness to take a lifetime seat on the nation's highest court," said a statement from the coalition of more than 150 civil rights, religious, labor, ethnic and senior citizens' organizations.

NAACP national president Benjamin L. Hooks, LCCR chairperson, and Ralph G. Neas, LCCR executive director, issued the statement declaring, "We are troubled by Judge Kennedy's views as expressed in a number of his judicial decisions involving issues of civil rights and women's rights." In cases involving voting rights, housing discrimination, equal educational opportunity and equal employment, he has written or joined in opinions that impose onerous requirements on persons claiming to be victims of discrimination," the spokespersons said.

"Further, it should be noted that members of the Leadership Conference have concerns about other aspects of the nominee's record including cases involving the rights of working people and trade unions," the statement added.

Washington NAACP Bureau Chief Althea Simmons said the organization had not decided whether to oppose Kennedy yet, but National Organization for Women President Molly Ward said she was "locked" at some of the nominee's views on abortion decisions.

However, Rep. Mervyn Dymally (D-Calif.) said he was not opposed to the confirmation of the California-based jurist. Dymally, who is currently chairman of the 23-member Congressional Black Caucus, does not vote on the nomination.

Joseph Rauh, veteran civil rights attorney representing the Americans for Democratic Action, urged the Senate Judiciary Committee to become much tougher in questioning the nominee. "You're playing patty-cake with him," declared Rauh. Sen. Joseph R. Biden (D-Del.) is committee chairman and Sen. Ted Kennedy (D-Mass.) was active in the questioning process.

Reform Plan Denounced

Welfare Recipients Need Jobs

A report commissioned by the Heritage Foundation, a conservative think-tank in Virginia, takes a strike at welfare recipients and stops short of saying many on welfare do not want to work.

Lawrence M. Mead of New York University, echoing the words of the Reagan administration, argues there are plenty of jobs currently available for welfare recipients, but the reason they don't take them is because they are not required to.

The \$5 billion welfare-reform plan

approved Dec. 16 by the House of Representatives, which would increase spending on child-care and training services, will not result in more welfare recipients taking jobs, Mead claims.

According to Mead, author of "Beyond Entitlement: The Social Obligations of Citizenship," Congress is attacking the wrong problem when it increases funding in these areas.

Mead says that although there are many jobs available to recipients, they are "low-skilled, low-paid jobs."

The reason welfare recipients don't take them, he says in an article in the winter 1988 issue of the Heritage Foundation quarterly, Policy Review, is not because they have trouble finding child-care or because they lack training. "The main reason for nonwork... is the reluctance of many recipients to take such jobs."

Welfare-reformers, he says, should be trying to overcome that reluctance. "While this probably requires some new services," he concedes, "it above all requires more clear-cut re-

quirements that recipients work in return for benefits."

Contrary to popular belief, research shows that the "presumed impediments" to employment—lack of child-care and inadequate training—"rarely keep people from working, at least in low-skilled, low-paid jobs," Mead says.

The publication has published a variety of articles in recent months on welfare reform. Policy Review Editor Adam Meyerson says he plans to continue the welfare-reform debate in future issues.

In Mead's article, which will be published in mid-January, the professor says the welfare reform, "to be

effective, must abandon the illusion that work is impossible for the poor.

"The major obstacles to welfare employment lie in the minds of the poor, and in the permissive attitudes of federal legislators," he says.

Mead says that his research shows that "work can be required of the majority of adult [welfare] recipients," and that such programs in the past have failed "mainly because they asked, and got, little commitment from their clients."

Mead says that "All assumed that benefits or some sort could entice the jobless poor to work more. All assumed that opportunity was the main pro-

(See WELFARE, P. 2)

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Attorney Surprised

Rape Charges Dismissed

Witness Will Not Testify

The Wake District Attorney's office recently dropped rape and sexual offense charges against former N.C. State University quarterback Percy R. Moorman, citing the alleged victim's unwillingness to testify at a second trial.

Wake District Attorney C. Colon Willoughby filed the dismissal, ending almost three years of court battles since Moorman was convicted in February 1985. Moorman had been charged with two felonies, second-degree rape and second-degree sex offense, and a misdemeanor charge of breaking and entering.

Ever since being arrested on Sept. 3, 1984, Moorman has denied he was guilty of the charges, and claimed he had relations with the alleged victim with her consent.

The N.C. Supreme Court in July ordered a new trial for Moorman, saying he had not received adequate representation from his attorney, Jerry Paul.

The dismissal forms said the case was being dropped because the "victim resides out of state and does not wish to prosecute further." According to Willoughby, the alleged victim has put her life back together and does not wish to go through the trauma again.

Moorman, now attending a junior college in Oakland, Calif., while out on bond, was elated by the news.

(See RAPE CHARGES, P. 2)



CAMPAGNING FOR VOTES—Recently, Jim Crawford, a candidate for lieutenant governor, was in the southeast Raleigh area campaigning for votes and meeting some of his potential constituency. Serving the food is Sterling Goodwin. The people in line are Robert Norhaot, left, Crawford, and an unidentified resident.

DWI Campaign Cited For Several Awards

The new year brings with it some important changes in North Carolina's driving-while-impaired program. Under a pilot program, which began Jan. 1 in 10 Tar Heel counties, persons convicted of driving while impaired will be assessed for alcohol and substance abuse problems. The assessment will take place regardless of the individual's alcohol content.

Pete Martin, chief of the Division of Mental Health, Mental Retardation and Substance Abuse Services of the N.C. Department of Human Resources, identified the 10 pilot counties as Alamance, Buncombe, Cabarrus, Forsyth, Iredell, New Hanover, Pender, Rowan, Wake and Wayne.

"The program changes will provide a greater opportunity for us to come to grips with the substance abuse problem in our state by providing the mechanism and assistance that may lead to the recovery of a person with a substance abuse problem," Martin said.

Changes will also take place in the DWI program in North Carolina's other 90 counties. There a person with an alcohol content of 0.15 or above convicted of DWI will be required to seek an assessment for alcohol or drug abuse problems. A person found to have such a problem, or who has had a previous DWI conviction during

(See DWI CHARGES, P. 2)

the District 2 county commissioner seat is Majeed's first bid for public office.

Former Raleigh Resident Bids For County Commissioner Seat In Heated Mecklenburg Battle

Stating that he is aware of the concerns and needs of the citizens of District 2, businessman Nasif Majeed officially declared his candidacy for the Mecklenburg County Board of County Commissioners, District 2, at a recent news conference.

Majeed, a Democrat, said the citizens of District 2 are concerned about "economic development, employment and affirmative action, human services and criminal justice."

"After consulting with many community leaders and analyzing these concerns, I have come to the realization that many of these issues and problems come under the authority of the Mecklenburg County Commissioners. Therefore, I believe I can best address the concerns of the people of District 2 by serving on this board," Majeed said.

The owner of a Burger King restaurant in Charlotte and president of the West Rade-Beatties Ford Road Merchants Association, Majeed has been active in the predominantly black west Charlotte community for several years.

"He is a member of the Charlotte-Mecklenburg Housing Authority, Project Catalyst and the West Charlotte Optimist Club. Majeed says his community involvement puts him in touch with many citizens of the westside community, who in turn, encouraged him to run for political office in 1988.

"Many have encouraged me to run," Majeed said. "I appreciate the opportunity to represent you and from henceforth the Majeed campaign will be a 'we,' 'our,' and 'us' effort. So whenever you hear me say we, you will know that I am speaking for all of us."

The District 2 county commissioner seat is Majeed's first bid for public office.



NASIF MAJEED

He says if elected he will bring a "new thrust" to the office.

"A new thrust that emphasizes a partnership between community and county government because I care about the quality of life for the citizens of District 2," Majeed says.

"Our new thrust for human services will focus on medical care for youth, accessible daycare and services to the elderly.

"Our new thrust for criminal justice will focus on prevention and rehabilitation through employment and education.

"Our new thrust will focus on hiring minority department heads and citizen input into long-term policy," declared Majeed.

he enters the District 2 county commissioner race along with another Democratic contender, optometrist

(See FORMER RESIDENT, P. 2)

Black Mayors' Event May Bypass Charlotte

Charlotte is looking less likely to be the host of this year's National Conference of Black Mayors convention.

The council's board of directors proposed recently to move the convention to a city with a black mayor in office unless contract commitments make it impossible to abandon Charlotte as a site.

The conference has a contract with the Marriott City Center Hotel to use their facilities April 12-17.

Charlotte was selected over Atlanta, Philadelphia, and Roanoke, Va., to host the 1988 convention, but those plans were sidetracked Nov. 3 when Harvey Gantt, the city's first black

mayor and a two-time incumbent, lost to Republican Sue Myrick by 995 votes.

(See BLACK MAYORS, P. 2)

Pitt Residents Try To Block At-Large Vote

GREENVILLE (AP)—A group of black Pitt County residents has filed a federal lawsuit in an attempt to block the use of at-large, or countywide, voting for members of the county board of commissioners.

In a lawsuit filed in U.S. District Court in New Bern, blacks contend that the county's current method of election and a new voting plan that is under consideration to violate voting rights by diluting black voting strength.

The lawsuit seeks a court order blocking the election of commissioners in 1988 until a plan acceptable to minorities is developed.

Under the current method, commissioners are required to live in one of six districts in the county and to run on an at-large basis. A revised method now being reviewed by the U.S. Department of Justice calls for creation of a nine-member board with six members elected in districts and three members elected at large.

Two of the revised districts would have a majority of black residents.

Blacks make up about 39 percent of the county's population of about 90,000, but there are no blacks on the board of commissioners.

The lawsuit, prepared by Charlotte attorney Leslie Winner, asks the court to require an election method that gives black

(See VOTES, P. 2)

Attach Earnings Child Support Enforced

BY DAVID T. FLAHERTY
Special To The CAROLINIAN
An Analysis

Effective and efficient child support enforcement is important to maintaining the health and well-being of children in single-parent families. An active advocate of efforts to ensure that our state's children receive adequate financial support, Gov. Jim Martin has worked to strengthen the efforts of our state Child Support Enforcement Program and local child support enforcement agencies. Working together, we intend to find those parents who shirk their duty and compel them to provide adequate support for their children.

Administered through the North Carolina Department of Human Resources, our Child Support Enforcement Program is recognized as a model of excellence throughout the nation. The services of this program include locating absent parents, issuing child support orders, establishing paternity, and enforcing and collecting child support payments. These services are available to all eligible citizens, not just those receiving public assistance, whether non-supporting parents live in-state or outside North Carolina.

The success of our child support efforts is due in part to

(See CHILD SUPPORT, P. 2)

Nation Prepares For Annual King Tribute



DR. M. L. KING, JR.

During the month of January, the entire nation is gearing up to celebrate the birthday of leading civil rights activist Martin Luther King, Jr.

According to Bruce Lightner, co-chairman of the Raleigh-Wake Martin Luther King Celebration Committee, there will be a prayer breakfast at 7 a.m. Monday, Jan. 18, at Pullen Memorial Baptist Church and the speaker will be Dr. Grady Davis. A memorial march will follow, leaving the grounds of the Capitol Building and proceeding to the Civic Center.

Following this will be a noon observance featuring Bishop John Hurst Adams of Washington, D.C. At 6 p.m., there will be an evening celebration and concert featuring several local and regional groups.

In other activities honoring Dr. King, the third annual Martin Luther King, Jr. Festival will be held at North Carolina State University's McKimmon Center Saturday, Jan. 16, with seminars for all ages from noon

to 5 p.m., and the play, "Don't Bother Me, I Can't Cope," by the Shaw Players at Thompson Theatre at 1:30 p.m.

There will also be a cultural concert with dance, drama, music and oratory performed by students from NCSU, St. Augustine's College, Shaw University and Enloe High School at Stewart Theatre at 7 p.m.

All events are free and open to the public, but advance registration is requested. For details, contact Dr. Bruce Winston of NCSU at 737-2261.

The Black Workers for Justice will be sponsoring their fifth annual M.L. King Support for Labor Banquet on Saturday, Jan. 16, at 7 p.m. at Favers Entertainment Center.

National celebrations:

King Week 1988 will be observed Jan. 8-18 with special programs and celebrations in Atlanta, other major U.S. cities, and around the world, marking the 59th birthday anniversary and the third national holiday in honor of Dr. King.

In announcing the national celebrations, Coretta Scott King, president and chief executive officer of the King Center for Nonviolent Social Change, said, "both the symbolic tapping of the Liberty Bell and the ringing of the Independence Bell in Philadelphia Jan. 18 will initiate a ringing of replica liberty bells and other bells across the land and in other parts of the world. This will be a unique tribute to Dr. King, and a call for his holiday to be a universal day of peace without war or acts of violence."

The national theme for King Week '88 is "Living the Dream: Let Freedom Ring."

King Week activities will begin in Atlanta at a news briefing scheduled for Thursday, Jan. 7, in which Ms. King will give an overview of the celebrations.

Observances in Washington, D.C. will start Tuesday, Jan. 12, with the dedication and implanting of a time capsule on the Western Plaza at 14th

Street and Pennsylvania Avenue in honor of Dr. King. Samuel R. Pierce, Jr., secretary of Housing and Urban Development, will preside. That afternoon, Ms. King will speak at a peace service at the Vietnam Veterans Memorial. Later, she will be the honored guest at a diplomatic reception hosted by George Schultz, secretary of state, at the U.S. Department of State.

Scheduled in Atlanta that day are events including a service of rededication and peace and justice at Ebenezer Baptist Church. Rev. William Sloan Coffin, former pastor, Riverside Baptist Church, New York, will deliver the sermon.

On Jan. 8 and 9 in Atlanta, leading national scholars will participate in the first national conference on the oratory of Dr. King.

The 12th annual interfaith service will be held at the Central Presbyterian Church in Atlanta on Jan. 10. During the service, the

(See KING TRIBUTE, P. 2)