



REV. JESSE L. JACKSON

Jackson Plans Commencement Speech At A&T

GREENSBORO—The scheduled 1988 A&T State University commencement, with U.S. presidential candidate the Rev. Jesse Jackson as speaker, is expected to attract a record crowd to the Greensboro Coliseum.

Jackson, a 1964 A&T graduate and one of its most distinguished alumni, will speak at 11 a.m. to the nearly 1,000 graduating seniors, their parents, the A&T faculty and staff and friends.

"We are extremely fortunate and grateful to have the Rev. Jackson, the internationally prominent human rights leader, to address our commencement," A&T Chancellor Edward B. Fort said. "The reality of the situation is that he is very much en route to becoming the next president of the United States."

The occasion will take on additional meaning for Jackson as two of his sons, Jonathan and Jesse Jr., will be among those marching in the commencement exercise. Jackson's wife, Jacqueline, also attended A&T, and will be present for the graduation.

Jackson is a native of Greenville, S.C. His distinguished career in public service began while he was an A&T student. He was a quarterback on the football team and was elected president of the Student Government Association. While in Greensboro he led student demonstrations against segregated facilities. After graduation from A&T, he moved to Chicago where he attended Chicago Theological Seminary.

In 1967, the late Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. appointed him director of SCLC's Operation Breadbasket. He remained in that position until 1971 when he founded Operation PUSH.

Jackson has been much honored for his humanitarian service to the nation. He has more than 17 honorary degrees. He has received the Golden (See JESSE JACKSON, P. 2)

Candidates Speak

RWCA Begins Selection Process

BY R.P. CORNWALL CHUNN
Staff Writer

A political forum at St. Augustine's College sponsored by the Raleigh-Wake Citizens Association heard statewide candidates making promises ranging from putting the Bible back in schools from a labor commissioner aspirant to giving Rev. Jesse Jackson a campaign donation if he should be the Democratic Party's presidential nominee.

A host of statewide office-seekers led by gubernatorial candidates Lt. Gov. Robert Jordan and Bruce A. Friedman, and the candidate for the Fourth District congressional seat, faced questioning from a panel of examiners and a fair-sized audience.

Edward T. Smith, chairman of the RWCA political action committee, was moderator for the event, with Margaret Rose Murray, Oscar Smith and attorney Geoffrey Simmons serving as the questioning panel for the 2½-hour session on Wednesday evening.

A second political forum will be sponsored by the RWCA on Thursday, April 14, at 7:30 p.m. at St. Ambrose Episcopal Church. The organization's endorsement meeting is scheduled for Thursday, April 21, at 7:30 p.m. at the Hargett Street Branch of the YWCA.

Democratic and Republican candidates for Council of State positions, lieutenant governor and governor at

Wednesday most frequent their willin top decision state depar

respond to community concerns over drugs, black economic development, education and consumer issues.

State Attorney General Lacy Thornburg said combatting drugs in the state "seems to be a losing battle, but nevertheless we're continuing it."

"The first thing we had to do was get at the demand side... why and how to say no... it's working beautifully," said Thornburg, who is seeking to return to office on the Democratic ticket. "We're working on it at the international, national and

N.C. STATE LIBRARY
ACQUISITIONS DEPT.
105 EAST HARGETT ST.
RALEIGH, N.C. 27601

food," he said.

Republican candidate for insurance commissioner H.L. Redenhour and a representative of current commissioner, Democrat Jim Long, agreed to the need to relieve the difficulties on female heads of households in obtaining insurance.

Fourth District congressional candidate (See RWCA, P. 2)

THE CAROLINIAN

RALEIGH, N.C.,
MONDAY
APRIL 11, 1988

NC's Semi-Weekly

DEDICATED TO THE SPIRIT OF JESUS CHRIST

SINGLE COPY 25¢
IN RALEIGH ELSEWHERE 30¢
VOL. 47, NO. 37

Assaulted After Jogging

Woman Raped In Home

Police Look For Suspect

Police were searching at press time for a male suspect who reportedly raped a Raleigh woman in her home last week.

The woman was raped after she returned to her East Raleigh home after jogging, police say.

Police say the man grabbed the woman as she was getting her house key out.

The man forced the woman into her East Cabarrus Street home and locked the screen door behind them.

The woman said the man indicated he had a knife and pushed something against her side.

Police describe the suspect as a black male, about 5'7", 180 pounds, chubby, with a medium complexion and a medium afro. He was last seen wearing a burgundy shirt, blue jeans, a blue jacket and a red cap.

In related events: Army Spec. 4 Ronald Adrin Gray may face a death sentence after he was found guilty of all 14 rape, robbery, attempted murder and murder charges leveled against him by the Army.

Unanimous guilty verdicts by the general court-martial panel on the murder counts make it possible for the Army to sentence him to death.

He has already been sentenced to eight life terms by the state after he confessed to raping and killing two Fayetteville women.

(See POLICE, P. 2)



NAACP SPT—Ms. Portia Brandon, Raleigh-Appx chapter president for the NAACP gives a gift to Ms. Gwendolyn Banks membership chairman during the Freedom Fund banquet sponsored by the NAACP.

Ligon Middle School Observes Career Day

The members of the eighth grade at Ligon Middle School celebrated the coming of spring recently by participating in Career Day. The purpose of Career Day was to introduce the members of the class to a variety of occupations by those who know them on an intimate and practical basis, who are actively participating in those fields or who train people who

work in those areas.

Acting as presenters for the activity and their areas of expertise were: George Smart, architecture; Capt. Tyree Jones and his sister flight attendant Michelle Jones, aviation; Ms. Jane Richardson, banking; Ms. Judy Cross, careers in fashion design and modeling; Dallas Foster, Wake Technical College; Dr. Shrikant Kulkarne, chemistry; Dr. Reda Vilner, chiropractic medicine; Wilbert Williams, computer science.

Also, Ms. Montana Lee, counseling; Ms. Lois Staton, museum curator; Ms. Darlene Sams, dental science; Dr. David Powle, elementary education; Bob McCollum, mechanical engineering; attorney Larry Height, law (ABC commission); attorney Susan Iddings, law (General Assembly and private practice); Dr. William D. Lee, medicine; Sgt. Jim Beck, Army; Sgt. James Uley, Air Force; Petty Officer Penny Briley, Navy; Frank Derrickson, real estate; Ms. Sue Woodling, social work; Gerhardt Zimmerman, symphony music; and Dr. Ethelbert Chukwu, college education.

The participants met in the cafeteria at 7:30 a.m. for hot buns and coffee. They were welcomed to Ligon (See LIGON, P. 2)

Minority Economic Development Center Opens In Eastern N.C.

The Eastern N. C. Center for Minority Economic Development opened here Saturday, as Ted Hooker, project coordinator, and a host of well-wishers watched Mayor Ralph Elroney cut the ribbon officially opening the center at 305 East Nash St. in downtown Wilson. The center has as a goal to assist municipalities, community organizations and businesses in economic development planning and implementation.

The organizers and the initial supporters of the Center were concerned about the lack of day care facilities for moderate and low-income families, a lack of affordable housing,

an incoherent development strategy for the economic involvement of minorities, crime and the effect of rapid development outside the urban areas of cities and towns in Eastern North Carolina.

The project coordinator stressed the points of the minority community's need to raise its standard of living by attacking the continual drawbacks of teenage pregnancy, drugs and crime, plus the dire need to pull its small, independent contractors together so that as one they would be able to secure a greater percentage of the area's construction dollar.

The Center and its coordinator look

forward to developing a close working relationship with developers, real estate brokers and representatives of banking and lending institutions as partners in developing and implementing acceptable strategies for the revitalization of targeted neighborhoods. The programs envisioned will utilize the resources and technical expertise of the National Neighborhood Reinvestment Corporation.

M. L. Banner, compliance specialist with the Economic Development Administration of the U. S. Department of Commerce in Washington, D.C., was in attendance (See MINORITY, P. 2)



ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT CENTER OPENS—Mayor Ralph Elroney (3rd from left) cuts the ceremonial ribbon formally opening the Eastern North Carolina Center for Minority Economic Development at 305 East Nash St. in Wilson. On hand for the occasion were (l. - r.) Mable Parks, Ted Hooker, Project Coordinator; Leonard Cherry, Mayor Ralph Elroney; Robert Lee Clay, Lee Bynum, Ellis Brown, M. L. Banner, and others from the Wilson area. The Center is one of two centers within the non-profit N. C. Center for Minority Economic Development framework. (See story)

Activist Julian Pierce Assassination Of Leader

BY BENJAMIN F. CHAVIS, JR.
Special to The Carolinian
An Analysis

An assassination is always painful. It is particularly painful when it takes from us a leader who was beloved by his people and whose potential was so vibrant. Julian Pierce, a Lumbee Indian attorney and activist in Robeson County, was just such a man. He was killed on March 26 of this year.

Attorney Pierce had decided to run for a newly-created Superior Court judgeship in the May primary. It was a dangerous decision. For this is a county in which drug corruption reputedly reaches even into the offices of the sheriff and other local officials.

In addition, Pierce's opponent was Joe Freeman Britt, an established member of the power structure that runs the county. Britt is the current district attorney and holds the world's record for sending more people to death row—primarily Native American and African-American, than anyone else. In fact, he's in the "Guiness Book of World Records" for

this dubious distinction.

Together, the Native American and African-American populations make up 58 percent of Robeson County. Dexter Locklear, finance committee chairman for Pierce's campaign, noted that the passage of a recent school referendum showed the potential of the combined strength of the Native American and African American votes. Through Julian Pierce's candidacy, that coalition would have been strengthened even more.

Who was this man and why did someone feel he was so dangerous that he was shot down to death in his own home? Pierce was born and raised in neighboring Hoke County, graduated from college to become a chemist and then returned for his law degree. After receiving his master's degree in tax law from Georgetown University, he worked with the Securities and Exchange Commission in Washington, D.C.

Attorney Pierce could have stayed in Washington, earning a comfortable

living and working decent hours. Instead, he made the decision to return home and help empower his people. In 1978 he became the first director of Lumbee River Legal Services, formed to provide legal aid to the poor of the area.

Attorney Pierce prepared the petition for official federal recognition of the Lumbee Nation which would give them control over their community and its economic development. Pierce was also called upon to assist with numerous cases of unsolved murders of native Americans and African Americans, some even involving the local police.

However, Julian Pierce was not only involved in the law, rather, he participated in the entire life of his community. He was instrumental in organizing and served as chairman of the Robeson County Health Corporation which operated medical clinics in three Robeson County towns. He also served as chairman and chief fundraiser for an ongoing outdoor play (See ASSASSINATION, P. 2)