

**NEWS BRIEFS**

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calling record that would be three million more than last year. Residential customers make more long-distance calls on Christmas than any other day of the year, according to AT&T, which serves about 70 percent of the U.S. long-distance market.

**BLACKMON PROMOTED**

First Union National Bank of North Carolina has promoted Reginald V. Blackmon to assistant vice president. Blackmon is manager of First Union's Queensgate branch in Charlotte. Blackmon joined First Union in 1985 as manager of the Signal Hill branch in Statesville. A Raleigh native, he graduated from the University of North Carolina at Charlotte with a bachelor's degree in business administration.

**RADIOACTIVE WASTE**

Gov. James G. Martin has appointed R. Michael Jones of Raleigh to the N.C. Low Level Radioactive Waste Management Authority. He replaces Tenny Deane and will serve until June 30, 1993.

Jones, 42, a former attorney for the city of Wilmington, works as the director of external affairs at Carolina Power and Light Co. in Raleigh.

**INAUGURAL BALL**

The Inaugural Ball honoring Gov. and Mrs. James G. Martin will be held Jan. 7, 1989, in the Civic Center in Raleigh. The event is sponsored by the Junior League of Raleigh, Inc.

**KWANZAA CELEBRATION**

The Durham Arts Council invites everyone to join in celebrating the third annual Kwanzaa Cultural Arts Celebration. This free performing arts extravaganza will take place on Sunday, Jan. 1, 1989, at 3:30 p.m. in the Durham Civic Center, 220 Foster St.

The celebration will feature the Umoja Children's Ensemble from Wilmington; Sansic, the exciting South African student choral group; Alayante, the children's unit of the African American Dance Ensemble; the soulful a cappella sounds of the Golden Tones of Harmony and other special guests. For more information call the Durham Arts Council, 1-566-2787.

**MAX ROBINSON**

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Reynolds in Washington. Robinson's tenure at ABC was troubled as he zealously waged a battle against racism at the network level. He often complained publicly about the network and charged it with racism in a speech he delivered at Smith College in February 1981.

Robinson's former Washington co-chair, Gordon Peterson, said, "There were personal demons he was wrestling with. I kind of wish he had stayed here. I don't think it [working at the network] worked well for him." Robinson was deliberately excluded from any decision-making related to the newscast, said Carl Bernstein, ABC Chicago bureau chief in 1980 and 1981.

"There are those, I believe, in the industry, who were either jealous or had problems with Max," said Dwight Ellis, head of the National Association of Broadcasters. "He was really an outspoken man."

"He had a great presence on the air," said former co-workers James Snyder, vice president for news at the Post-Newsweek Stations. He and others said the pressures on Robinson as a pioneer had worked against him. He had a lot of pressure, pressure from his friends. But he had the opportunity to be the first black news anchorman at the network level. He had to take it.

**INTRUDER**

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through a sliding glass door. This case has some similarities to a rape that took place two weeks ago at the home of a Martin Street woman. But, as of yet there has been no official tie-in between the cases. In the attack on the woman on Martin Street, a sharp weapon was used.

In related events: Two men were being held Wednesday in Wake County Jail on charges stemming from a robbery last week.

Harold Wesley "Buttercup" Jones, 48, of 562 Lipscomb Court, and James Louis "Ike" Davis, 38, of 718 Kendall Circle, were charged with robbery with a weapon after allegedly holding up the State Employees Credit Union at Dorothea Dix Hospital. Ms. Constance Maria Odiasse, 36, of 406-B Kinsey St., was charged as an accessory after the fact to a felony.

Ms. Odiasse was charged with aiding the pair by allegedly hiding the money, according to arrest warrants. An arrest warrant said Jones

threatened an employee with a pistol and the pair took \$12,500 in cash.

Jones was also charged with possession of cocaine with intent to sell and deliver, according to the arrest warrant. During the arrest, officers allegedly found 10 grams of cocaine in his possession.

The two robbers wore stocking masks and carried handguns. After taking the money in cash and coins, the men pulled off their masks, ran from the building and scaled a fence, got in a 1982 white Pontiac Grand Prix and sped away. The car was discovered later in a parking lot of the Walnut Terrace apartment complex. It had been reported stolen on Nov. 20.

**GODFATHER**

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released "Please, Please, Please." James Brown was on his way.

A string of hits—"I Got You (I Feel Good)," "Papa's Got a Brand-New Bag," "Good Sweat"—defined 1960s soul music. With frenetic, repeating guitar rhythms, bullet-sharp horn blasts and Brown's inimitable yowls and growls, nothing before—or since—sounded like it. With his sweat, his jet-black pompadour and his constant shuffling, leg-splitting dancing, nobody looked like James Brown, either.

Brown took a step toward the political with songs such as "Say It Loud—I'm Black and I'm Proud," and his influence was large. His TV appearances following the assassination of Martin Luther King, Jr. were credited by President Johnson with helping avoid further violence. He urged kids not to get messed up on drugs.

Brown later tried to ride the disco tide, with only partial success. Financial problems followed. The IRS says he still owes \$6 million.

But the late '80s brought nostalgia for Brown's music. And unlike many rock legends, the Godfather of Soul was still out there working. His "Living in America," from the film "Rocky IV," won a Grammy in 1987, his second.

But 1987 also saw Brown's life beginning to crack. He was getting arrested, for driving violations, assaulting police, drugs. Before, he had gotten probation and fines. Not this time in the South Carolina courtroom.

"I don't want to take too much of your time, sir," Brown told Alken County Judge Hubert Long last week. "But I'm fighting for my life."

"James Brown, the man, wants to do right," he continued. "I've wanted to do right all my life. I'll do anything I can not to go to prison, so I can continue my work."

"I've considered that you've done a lot of good," the judge said, "but I've got to consider some of the bad."

Brown will be eligible for parole in 18 months—earlier, if he behaves himself.

"James Brown is a survivor," Dallas said. "We have not even touched the depths of James Brown yet. This is a setback. It is not the end. I don't think people want it to be the end."

**JUDGES' BENCH**

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diction team made the arrest around 9:30 a.m. after he got off a flight from New York City.

**NO FURTHER INDICTMENTS**

Federal prosecutors will seek no further indictments in the 16-month grand jury probe into Jim Bakker's leadership of the PTL Club. Two weeks ago, Dec. 5, Bakker and three former associates were indicted on charges that they misused millions of dollars in PTL money. Bakker and his former top deputy Richard Dortch were charged with mail fraud, wire fraud and conspiracy.

Bakker's former personal secretary, David Taggart, and James Taggart, the PTL's former interior decorator, were charged with tax evasion and conspiracy.

**FAIR TREATMENT RESOLUTION**

In a 7-2 vote, the Greensboro City Council approved a resolution encouraging fair treatment of all citizens. The council declined a resolution that would acknowledge and condemn anti-gay discrimination in the city. The approved resolution was drafted by the Human Relations Commission as part of a report released on anti-gay discrimination last week.

**MURDER CHARGES**

A Fayetteville woman and a Fort Bragg soldier have been charged with two counts of first-degree murder in the slayings of two men at a Rowland motel Nov. 1.

The two men murdered, Timmy Oxendine, 23, and Roger Ray Strickland, 20, were found in the hotel along US 301. Oxendine was found shot in the office of the motel, and Strickland was found in one of the rooms with his throat cut and gunshot wounds. The two men managed the motel and lived there. About \$700 was thought to have been missing in connection with the killings.

Dana Denise Adams and Army Sgt. Daniel Thomas Garner have been charged in the slayings of Oxendine and Strickland.

**PATROL TO HONOR TROOPERS**

A Christmas memorial service honoring all state Highway Patrol

troopers who have been killed in the line of duty will be held Dec. 22 at the Highway Patrol Training Center, 3318 Old Garner Road.

The public is invited to attend the 6 p.m. service, said Sgt. J.R. Stevens, assistant commandant of the 83rd patrol basic school now training trooper cadets.

Forty-seven troopers have been killed since the patrol started in 1929. The first trooper to die in the line of duty, Ira Thompson, was killed July 2, 1929, one day after the patrol was started with 29 troopers.

**WORKERS EVACUATED**

Employees of Capitol Broadcasting Co., Inc. were evacuated from their Hillsborough Street offices when company officials thought they had found a live charge of dynamite in the elevator shaft.

After further investigation, police and a demolitions expert found the tip of an old blasting cap that had apparently survived the original blasts from 20 years ago.

**HUNTING VIOLATIONS**

Last month the Rangers at Umstead Park received a report that gunshots were being fired on the fringe of the park. When they arrived at the scene, the Rangers found a 1987 Dodge Ram parked on Ebenezer Road near Duralough Road. The Rangers also spotted a man dressed in camouflage gear leaving the park. According to reports, the Rangers also found a rifle, a hunting stand and a dead deer.

William Kenneth Leach, 24, of 3221 Walnut Creek Parkway, was charged with hunting within state park boundaries, failing to tag the carcass of a doe deer at the site of the kill, taking an antler-less deer and possessing and transporting a doe deer.

In the court proceeding, Leach pleaded guilty to the first charge and not guilty to the other charges. Judge George R. Greene ordered Leach to forfeit his rifle for educational and display purposes, to reimburse the state \$279 for the dead deer and to pay a \$100 fine and \$40 in court costs. Leach's rifle was valued at more than \$600. Hunting in state parks is prohibited.

**FRATERNITY**

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ceremonies for the awards program. The greetings, welcome and response were brought by Dr. Dudley E. Flood, the chapter's president; Dr. Wiley M. Davis, state and regional officer; and Hubert Gooch, immediate past president, respectively. Jesse Saunders brought the invocation.

While only four brothers were honored during the awards ceremony, each brother present at the affair received a copy of the Sigma Directory. The directory, one of the major objectives of Dr. Flood's administration, is an organizational publication consisting of a picture and brief biographical sketch of each brother in the chapter.

On Dr. Flood's request, Dallas Foster authored the 52 biographies contained in the directory and Chris Hinton, co-owner of J.D. Hinton Photography Studio, was responsible for the photography.

**CHRISTMAS WISH**

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everywhere. Well, some men rebuked Him, and finally they crucified Him because He could do no wrong.

Those of us who still believe in peace, harmony and goodwill are still trying to achieve it. We find that the forces of evil are much more prevalent in the world today than ever before. Where have we failed?

We may still have the peace we are seeking if we are willing to rededicate ourselves to the task, and strive together; to put all our faith and trust in Jesus Christ and believe that peace is truly possible through Him.

This prayer I would like to include: "Our Father, Jesus Christ, Son of God, Lord of Lords, King of Kings, Thou art my Savior, my Beloved, my very life; have mercy on us as sinners, heal our bodies and souls, and spirits. Give us Thy faith, Thy love, and the wisdom to know and do Thy will. Bless us with the continual consciousness of Thy holy presence, for we love Thee. Amen."

We must be reminded that the real desire for peace begins within the individual, in your heart and mine. If we can handle the spark of love and peace in the hearts of men everywhere, we may still hope for peace on earth and goodwill toward men throughout the world.

**NAAACP**

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"This time I asked Bush about that and the racist perception it projected," Hooks said. "And he said that he was unaware of how this was being used at first. In any campaign there are folks at lower levels doing things without authorization. When he discovered they were using the black man's picture, he ordered it stopped. He would rather have used a white criminal. The issue was one of violent crime and they discovered it was a national issue."

"For black people, the issue is also more than a racial one. We have to begin to look beyond race. It is also

one of violent crime. And who suffers more from violent crime than blacks? Black-on-black crime is rising. Many black churches do not hold night meetings anymore for fear of crime," said Hooks, himself a Baptist minister and a lawyer. "These churches spend \$20,000 to \$40,000 a year for security purposes—protecting parking lots, etc. Older blacks live in constant fear. They can't venture from their homes at night. Drugs were ravaging our communities 15-20 years ago, but had not become a national issue. Today they are a national issue."

"So for blacks, there are police brutality and the fear of crime, two issues we are having to deal with. White people have an irrational fear of crime in the street. Blacks are the real victims of it."

Hooks recalled when this writer accompanied him and a small NAACP delegation in the spring of 1981 to the Reagan White House to present NAACP's alternative budget plan to the Reaganites' absurd and now discredited "supply-side economics."

"We didn't meet with Reagan, however," Hooks said, "for Reagan had just been shot by would-be assassin James Hinckley. We were ushered into the White House and presented the plan to Vice President Bush, spending nearly an hour briefing him on it as he courteously listened."

"Years later, Reagan came out with the negative income plan for the poor, which was a part of our plan, and I almost fell on the floor," Hooks recalled.

"As the executive director of the NAACP, I would like for blacks to get as much from the Bush administration as we can get. I believe he is much more amenable to blacks than Reagan. Our people have real problems and we have to deal with them. Bush was not in position to help us much before. He is now."

And finally, one other thing was troubling Hooks: "The whole business of furloughing prisoners. Prisons will become explosive if we can't offer a man some hope of rehabilitation. Prison furloughs are just one of the means of giving the incarcerated hope."

"Simply building more jail cells won't be enough unless we change the socioeconomic conditions that engender helplessness, despair and alienation among so many of our people, especially the young," he added, signalling that this is an issue his huge organization would soon target for an expanded assault.

**College Gets \$200,000 Grant For Building**

Saint Augustine's College has received a \$200,000 federal grant to aid development efforts in three predominantly black communities. Fourth District Congressman David Price announced earlier this month.

The U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development grant will let St. Augustine's provide technical assistance to community development programs in Wake, Richmond and Edgecombe counties. Price said, St. Augustine's will use the money for consultants to help the Wake County community of Holly Springs and two other areas apply for state community development block grants over the next two years.

The HUD grant was part of \$1.4 million in community development funds awarded to 15 predominantly black colleges and universities in the first days of December. Community development block grants are used to finance improvements to low- and moderate-income communities, including improved neighborhoods, better housing and new jobs. Price serves on the House Banking Committee, which funds the grant program.

"This grant will be a valuable tool in bettering the quality of life in these communities," Price said. "Not only does this money help the citizens of Holly Springs, it strengthens the relationship and interaction between black communities and black colleges."



**HANDING OUT THE HARDWARE**—The Ram Athletic Club held its Awards Banquet recently at the Biltmore Hills Center. In the above photo, Ram Athletic Club chairperson Pat Douglas and vice chairman and coach Bob Davis prepare to present awards. The club was recently granted a charter by the state of North Carolina to function as a non-profit organization.

**College Students Play A Role In Helping Needy**

Throughout the year but especially during the Christmas season, the Edgecombe Community College Student Government Association plays a vital role in the life of the college. Each year the SGA sponsors several Christmas projects that enhance the spirit of giving and fellowship for ECC students, faculty, staff and for those in the community.

One of the association's Christmas projects is the Needy Family Drive. Two Edgecombe County families are selected to receive food and toys which are contributed by students, teachers and anyone willing to give. This drive is a serious effort, not just a casual project. Verne Jacobs, SGA president, heads the drive this year. She and her committee will make posters, write memos, and request that instructors promote the effort in classes. Receiving stations will be set up in the student centers on the Tarboro campus and at the Rocky Mount center.

Another annual project of the SGA is the sponsoring of a float for both Tarboro and Rocky Mount Christmas parades. The theme of this year's float was "Sounds of Christmas." The float was decorated with a Christmas tree, candy canes, and a lamp post. Everett Smith, purchasing agent/equipment coordinator at ECC, sang carols down the main streets of Tarboro and Rocky Mount. Riding on the float with Smith were Student Government representatives and Ms. ECC, Allison Battle of Rocky Mount, a criminal justice student.

Battle, the first Ms. ECC, was elected in the newly begun Ms. ECC contest. Sponsored by the SGA, any female student, married or single, can enter. According to the rules, those who enter have to have a 2.5 or better grade-point average, and have to be involved in community and school activities.

Placing and decorating a tree in the Rocky Mount Center Student Lounge each year is a third SGA Christmas project. This year the organization had a "Lighting of the Tree Ceremony" on the Tarboro campus. A cedar tree, approximately 35 feet tall, outside the administrative building was decorated by SGA members and lighted at 2:30 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 15. Students, faculty, and staff members gathered around the tree for its lighting. Smith and Tony Deaton, ECC visiting artist, led the group in singing Christmas carols. Afterward a reception with light refreshments was held in the student lounge.

Christmas is not the only time this group is active. They have ongoing projects all year long. Student Appreciation Week is held yearly during the summer quarter. The SGA plans events and contests with prizes throughout the week and has a hot dog cookout as the culminating activity.

One activity of particular interest is Field Day. Among the other events the SGA rents a dunking booth which is the highlight of the day. Administrators and teachers are good sports and agree to be dunked time and time again. The money raised from the booth is given to the ECC Foundation.

This year a semiformal dance for students was sponsored by the SGA in May. It was held at the Sheraton Hotel in Rocky Mount and was attended by more than 300 students and guests.

The SGA is totally involved with graduation activities. It sponsored a sandwich buffet luncheon for every student who participated in the commencement exercise practice this year. Every year at graduation the organization also presents several awards to students, faculty and staff members.

The group provides scholarships and makes a contribution to the ECC Foundation annually. The SGA has a project for the Thanksgiving holiday as well. This project is usually treating a needy family to a Thanksgiving dinner.

Every quarter but summer quarter, the North Carolina Comprehensive Community College Student Government Association holds a state meeting. The ECC Student Government Association always attends. The group is also very active in the Eastern Division of the NACSGA. Ginny McLendon, counselor for ECC and advisor for the SGA, said, "It is such a pleasure to work with this group. The new president, Verne Jacobs, is bright, industrious, creative and is a good leader, so 1989 should be another successful year for the SGA. In fact it may be our best year. The new officers have many new and interesting ideas."

They plan to begin a scrapbook, a student newsletter and a college yearbook. The group also has plans for a dance, hat day, an Easter egg hunt, a Valentine party, a field day and several dinners among other things.

McLendon, the SGA officers and representatives join the ECC faculty and staff in wishing the college's friends and supporters a very merry Christmas and a happy, healthy and prosperous New Year.



**FOR NEEDY FAMILIES**—The Capital City Barbers (Raleigh above from left are Sydney Macoe, Eddie High, Kimbino and Wendell) gathered and prepared some food for needy Nicholson, Carlton Nicholson, Theodore Baxter and Richard families in Raleigh, Zebulon and Wendell recently. Pictured Bowen of Jones Barber Shop.