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# Newly Elected DNC Chairman, Making History, But Faces White Suspicion

BY CHESTER A. HIGGINS, SR.  
NPA News Editor

WASHINGTON, D.C.—The Democratic Party is setting an eye on winning back the White House in 1992 and the new chairman of its Democratic National Committee, Ronald H. Brown, has emphatically announced that he will let nothing come between him and attainment of that goal.

Brown, the smooth, articulate Washington insider and a partner of one of the Capital City's most powerful law firms, made headlines when he became the first black in U.S. history to be elected chairman of a major American political party. He is

47 and the 36th chairman of the DNC which now has 404 members. eye may, indeed, be a bloodshot if not a black one. Before he was elected by

**"I can't ignore the history of the moment. In choosing an African-American... you have made history. I did not run for this on a basis of race, but I won't run away from it. I am proud of who I am..."**

**Ronald H. Brown**

But uneasy rests the crown on the winner's head and the Democratic acclamation at the DNC's midwinter meeting, an affair that had all the col-

orful and tumultuous trappings of a mini-Democratic National Convention, a rumored walkout of Southern state Democratic chairs threatened to split the committee asunder.

Brown, against the perceived wisdom of many pundits and insiders, including such "knowledgeable" observers as this writer, had eliminated opponents long before the DNC meeting. He wrapped up the

(See ELECTED, P. 2)

# Robinson Named To Accrediting Board Of Higher Education

Saint Augustine's College President Prezell R. Robinson has been elected to the board of trustees of the Atlanta-based Southern Association of Colleges and Schools to represent higher education institutions. The 27-member board acts as the administrative body of the regional accrediting organization.

School accreditation is a peer-evaluation process to ensure that an education program meets standards set by educators from other similar member schools.

Robinson has been a Department of State lecturer to 12 African nations, State Department representative to major Chinese universities, and a Smithsonian Institution team member to visit Indian universities.

He participated in the U.S. Department of Interior's Steering Committee on Historically Black Colleges and Universities, and served as past president of the National Association for Equal Opportunity in Higher Education.

Robinson, a former member of the executive council of the association's Commission on Colleges, has published more than a dozen articles in professional

journals and has read numerous papers at meetings of professional organizations.

He holds the Ph.D. and M.A. from Cornell University in rural education and the B.S. degree in economics and social science from St. Augustine's. He has studied at Berkeley, Penn State University, and was in 1973 a visiting fellow at Harvard.

A former teacher and professor, he has been president of St. Augustine's since 1967. He is a lay reader for the Protestant Episcopal Church and a member of the Raleigh Chamber of Commerce.

The Southern Association of Colleges and Schools is one of six regional accrediting organizations in the nation. The nongovernmental, voluntary organization has more than 12,000 members including private and public universities, colleges, junior colleges, occupational institutions, secondary schools, middle and junior high schools, and elementary schools, enrolling approximately 10 million students in 11 Southern state and Latin America.

Each member school has one vote in the delegate assembly of (See DR. ROBINSON, P. 2)

## INSIDE AFRICA

BY DANIEL MAROLEN

Last week's Part One of this series of three articles on the "Origins of Apartheid" revealed the failure of the first Dutch immigrants to establish coexistence with the natives of the Cape of Good Hope. The immigrants did not heed the warning of their Dutch East India Company to "live amicably and peacefully with the natives." Instead, they used dishonest measures in their barter trade with the natives: stole their cattle, sheep, goats, children and wives.

The Dutch showed their aggression against the natives by building a fortified castle, surrounded by a thorn hedge. They looked down upon the natives as inferiors. Then their greed led the Dutch to grab the natives' lands, stock and property. They kept on pushing the Khoi-Khoi, Strandlopers and San people farther and farther north. The natives' bows and arrows were no match for the Dutch bullets and guns. Soon the Dutch decimated whole nations to the Khoi-Khoi, San and Strandlopers.

There is a big lie that historians tell of the Dutch immigrants discovering an unpopulated Cape of Good Hope which they occupied. It is a blatant lie. The Strandlopers were there fishing for their living; the Khoi-Khoi were there hunting game with their bows and poisoned arrows, and the San were there plying their daily trade of moving their herds from pasture to pasture, when the Dutch first came to the Cape of Good Hope. The tale of an "empty land" was a fallacy. But the Dutch used it (and still do) to justify their occupation of native lands in South Africa.

Surviving shipwrecked Dutch (See INSIDE AFRICA, P. 2)

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## Reward Program

# STAR Aims At Thieves

## New Weapon In War On Theft Rings

A new top-dollar reward program now gives law enforcement officers a new weapon in their war on theft rings operating across the state.

The program, called Stop Thefts Assist Recoveries, pays for information leading to the arrest and indictment of high-volume thieves.

STAR is sponsored and funded by the property and casualty insurance industry through the North Carolina Rate Bureau and offers \$1,000 or more for information on thieves who steal more than \$100,000 worth of goods, or commit 10 or more burglaries, or steal five or more vehicles.

"We're hoping STAR will help put some of the state's most active criminals out of business and behind bars," said Art Ivey, chairman of the Rate Bureau and regional underwriting manager for Allstate Insurance Co.

"These crimes don't just hit property owners hard, they also make up a sizable chunk of the \$1.7 billion in claims paid out by insurers annually. If we can help the police catch some of these thieves, then we can keep our costs and our customers' rates

(See THEFT RINGS, P. 2)



CITED FOR BUSINESS ACHIEVEMENT—Dr. Gregory Headen, president of Shaw Divinity School, (left) presents one of two Business Achievement Awards to Grady Perkins. Mr. Perkins is the Chief Executive Officer of the Raleigh Institute of Cosmetology. The occasion was the 2nd Annual Heritage Festival held on the Divinity School campus. Ms. C. J. Pitts of Civella Beauty College was also honored in the field of business at the event. (J. D. Hinton Photo)

## Prison Cap Triggered; New Act Implemented

State Correction Secretary Aaron Johnson last week informed Gov. Jim Martin and State Parole Commission Chairman Sam Wilson that special provisions of the recently amended Emergency Prison Population Stabilization Act, the so-called Prison Cap, have been triggered.

As a result, the Parole Commission will have 90 days, or until May 16, to reduce the total population of the state's 89 prisons to no more than 17,460. This is the sixth time these provisions have been triggered since the law was first ratified March 11, 1987 and the first time since the General Assembly amended the Prison Cap on Jan. 31.

Last week, the state's prison population totaled 17,706. That marked the 15th consecutive day that the prison population had been above the legislatively-mandated ceiling of 17,460.

The Prison Cap is needed to demonstrate to the courts that North

Carolina is serious about easing prison overcrowding, a source of major litigation here and in other states. However, during the 23 months since the original law was enacted, public concern over measures designed to stabilize the prison population signaled a need for changes in the law.

The recent changes in the legislation are designed to give the state Parole Commission more flexibility in its efforts to control the prison population. The changes were part of a special emergency package proposed by Gov. Martin Jan. 18 to ease both prison overcrowding and public concerns about the early release of convicted offenders from prison. The remainder of that package, which call

(See NEW ACT, P. 2)

## Increased Funds Vital For Public Education

President Bush and the new Congress must "substitute results for rhetoric" if the financial needs of the public schools are to be met in providing the education necessary for the nation's youth.

That was the message from nearly 800 local school board members who met in Washington, D.C. recently for the 16th annual conference of the Federal Relations Network, a component of the National School Boards Association. The conference was climaxed on the final day by meetings of individual attendees with their senators and representatives on Capitol Hill.

NSBA President-elect James R. Oglesby, of Columbia, Mo., said that "While federal funding is not the only answer, the federal government must accept its share of the financial burden and responsibility." He noted that many of the problems facing the public schools are "societal in nature, not academic. We inherited them. The schools cannot do the job alone."

Oglesby, speaking on behalf of NSBA President Leonard Rovins and the board of directors, called for a 10 percent increase, or \$1.4 billion, in federal funding for major education programs. These would include Chapter I programs for disadvantaged students, programs for handicapped students, preschool education, dropout prevention, Even Start programs, and teacher education programs.

Additional budget priorities, he said, include full reauthorization of the Vocational Education Act, renewal of the Child Nutrition Act, and the National School Lunch Act, increasing the number of minority teachers, and improving the safety and health environment of students in the schools.

Oglesby noted that currently only 77 cents of every \$100 in the federal budget is spent on elementary and secondary education. "That kind of spending is simply not adequate to meet today's needs," he said.

"The fiscal 1990 budget proposal inherited by President Bush," he said, "shows a real-dollar decline in fun-

## The federal government must accept its share of the financial burden and responsibility of the many problems facing the public schools.

ding. It does not keep up with the 4.1 percent inflation rate projected for 1990, much less provide for new initiatives."

Said Oglesby, "If George Bush really wants to be remembered as the 'education president,' he must make a real commitment. That means fighting for the kinds of education programs and budgets that make a difference."

Sen. Edward Kennedy (D-Mass.), chairman of the Senate Labor and Human Resources Committee, in a luncheon speech, said, "The road to a 'kinder, gentler' nation begins at the school house. If we are to have a strong and prosperous society with opportunity for all Americans, we need federal investment and federal leadership in education." A top priority in the 101st Congress, he said, is "Smart Start" legislation he has authored to expand the availability of early childhood education.

Sen. Robert Dole (R-Kan.), Senate (See PUBLIC SCHOOLS, P. 2)

## Blacks Publish Three Noted Literary Works

BY CHESTER A. HIGGINS, SR.  
NPA News Editor

WASHINGTON, D.C.—Two outstanding African-American academicians and one outstanding African politician/diplomat wrote books over the past year. And although the settings somewhat differ, the themes and ultimate thrust of all three are remarkably similar.

"Maggie's American Dream: The Life and Times of a Black Family" by Dr. James P. Comer (New American Library) is a remarkable book on an unremarkable subject: the struggles of a poverty-stricken, virtually unschooled Mississippi-born woman who overcomes shattering odds to raise her four children and, even after her husband's death, manages

to see that every one of the children receives a basic college education or beyond.

"The Avenue, Clayton City," by C. Eric Lincoln (William Morrow & Co., New York) is the only fictional publication among this trio. Indeed, it is a series of short, interrelated stories, centered in a prototypical Southern town between World Wars I and II. It is told with such mastery that fiction becomes fact.

"A Walk Into the Past," by Philemon Ng'oma (Kenneth Kaunda Foundation), a native of Zambia, is an autobiographical rendering of one of Africa's most interesting public figures. I was somewhat surprised that Phil has turned author. Although (See OUTSTANDING, P. 2)



HISTORIC HEIGHTS—The recognition of African-American architects reached historic heights on Saturday, February 11, 1989. At a first ever awards presentation honoring Black architects, deJongh Associates of St. Thomas, Virgin Islands received the Young Firm Award from Howard University School Architecture and Planning. Mr. Robert and Mrs. Donna deJongh (center and right) were honored to be recognized by their alma mater as Harry G. Robinson, III (left), Dean of Howard University School of Architecture, presented the award.

## AIDS Researchers Revealing New Drug To Prevent Spread Of Virus

Scientists said recently they have discovered the three-dimensional structure of a crucial protein made by the AIDS virus, defining a target for potential new AIDS drugs.

The discovery will aid attempts to design drugs that block the action of the protein, crippling the ability of the virus to spread its infection, researchers said.

In the meantime, responding to figures released by the Atlanta-based Centers for Disease Control, Rep. Ronald V. Dellums urged the Bush administration and the House Budget Committee, chaired by Rep. Leon Panetta of California, to make AIDS research, prevention and treatment a health care funding priority in the FY 1990 budget.

Presently, Louisiana is experiencing a 64 percent death rate among persons with AIDS, eight percent higher than the national death rate for the disease of 56 percent.

AIDS cases in Louisiana reached 1,041 as of the first of the year and according to reports deaths of persons with AIDS have reached 666 in the state.

Dellums said "Earlier this week the number of confirmed AIDS deaths in this country surpassed the number of Americans killed during the entire war in Indochina. The projections are that the number of deaths will grow precipitously in the decade ahead."

Homosexual or bisexual males continue to represent the largest segment of Louisiana's AIDS population with 73 cases. Homosexual and

bisexual males who are also intravenous drug users represent the second largest category with 95 cases. Intravenous drug users are in third place with a total of 64 cases, 48 male and 16 female.

"The problem is especially acute in the black and Hispanic communities of our society," Dellums said. "Recent statistics indicate that the number of confirmed AIDS cases per 100,000 population is 65.9 for blacks and 58.2 for Hispanics. For the white community it is 21.5 per 100,000—less than a third the rate for blacks and less than half that for Hispanics."

Researchers say the new AIDS drug would not cure acquired immune deficiency syndrome, but it might keep the disease under control.

Isolating the virus' three-dimensional structure for the first time was "pretty dramatic," commented AIDS researcher Jay Levy of the University of California at San Francisco.

The protein is an enzyme, which is a class of substances that permit or speed up chemical reactions. The AIDS enzyme comes into play as the virus makes more copies of itself.

After the virus infects a cell, it orders the cell's protein-making machinery to make proteins for producing new viruses.

Nine scientists from the Merck Sharp and Dohme Research Laboratories in Rahway, N.J., and West Point, Pa., reported their discovery in the British journal Nature.

Dellums, Congressional Black

Caucus chair, said the Reagan administration's FY 1990 budget response to AIDS of \$1.6 billion in Public Health Service funding, an increase of 24 percent over last year, was "far below what is needed to challenge and contain this health crisis."

(See AIDS TREATMENT, P. 2)



RIGHTS LITIGATION—The first black professor of law at Harvard University, Dr. Derrick A. Bell, Jr., spoke recently at Stewart Theater on the NCSU campus on civil rights litigation and his experiences teaching in the area of civil rights constitutional law. (Photo by Talib Rahi-Calloway)