

Jackson Dancing Around Questions About Race For Mayor Of Washington



REV. JESSE JACKSON

Rep. Towns Challenges A&T Grads

GREENSBORO—The graduates of North Carolina A&T State University were challenged Sunday by a former university student to use their education to improve existing conditions.

"You must use your education to build a better world to live in," Rep. Edolphus Towns (D-N.Y.) told the graduates. "You must come up with a plan to turn things around. You must find solutions and you are compelled to make a change."

It was the 98th commencement exercise at A&T and Towns, a 1956 alumnus, delivered an address which drew thunderous applause from the 900 graduates and a crowd of 12,000 at the Greensboro Coliseum.

A&T Chancellor Edward B. Fort awarded the degrees with C.D. Spangler, president of the University of North Carolina system, among the honored guests.

Lloyd Best, an electrical engineering major from Whiteville, was the top honor graduate with a 3.98 grade-point average. Tijuana Rountree, an accounting major from Elm City, and Charles Miller, a manufacturing major from Portsmouth, Va., were second and third honor graduates, respectively.

In addition to conferring degrees to the candidates, Fort awarded the honorary doctor of science to Dr. Benjamin Carson, an acclaimed neurosurgeon who is the director of pediatric neurosurgery at Johns Hopkins Children's Center.

A&T also honored two members of its faculty and staff. Dr. Willie T. Ellis, associate vice chancellor for academic affairs, was honored as administrator of the year, and Dr. Mark Kiel, chairman of the department of accounting, was recognized as teacher of the year.

Towns, a native of Chadbourne, told the graduates to find their place in society and join an impressive list of other A&T graduates, including former presidential candidates Jesse Jackson and North Carolina Supreme Court Associate Justice Henry E. Frye.

WASHINGTON, D.C. (AP)—Jesse Jackson isn't ruling out a campaign for mayor of Washington, D.C., but says he's "not looking for something to do" and has no current plans to run.

Facing persistent questions about reports he is weighing a race for mayor of the nation's capital, Jackson repeated his pledge not to challenge embattled incumbent Marion S. Barry, Jr.

But he declined to say what he would do if Barry steps aside.

"I need not deal in the hypothetical," Jackson said. "I take this process of public service seriously, and I take it one day at a time."

The two-time candidate for the Democratic presidential nomination responded to questions about the mayoral race at a news conference following an appearance before a Senate committee where he called for a federal law making voter registration easier and more accessible.

Entering the hearing, Jackson got a taste of the speculation about his future that has filled political circles.

"Should we be saying, 'Welcome, Mr. Mayor?'" Sen. Edward Kennedy, D-Mass., asked jokingly as Jackson took his seat at the witness table.

"I think it's out of order," Jackson responded.

Jackson dismissed a Washington Post poll showing he would be the runaway leader if he runs for mayor, saying it would not influence his thinking.

"As a matter of fact, if they conducted a poll on who Democrats would want nationally to be the [presidential] nominee, I'd be number one in that poll as well," he said. "So I must keep all those polls in focus."

The poll said Jackson would win 68 percent of the vote to 17 percent for Barry. The poll of 1,021 registered voters in the city also found that Barry, facing declining support because of questionable behavior and mounting city problems, would lose in one-on-one matchups with four other possible challengers. The poll had a margin of error of plus or minus three percentage points.

Jackson lives in Chicago and would have to move to

(See JESSE JACKSON, P. 2)

THE CAROLINIAN
RALEIGH, N.C. VOL. 48 NO. 47
TUESDAY MAY 16, 1989
N.C.'s Semi-Weekly SINGLE COPY 25¢
DEDICATED TO THE SPIRIT OF JESUS CHRIST IN RALEIGH ELSEWHERE 30¢

White Supremacist Trial

Gas Poured On Victims

Three Men Killed In Bookstore

SHELBY (AP)—Douglas Sheets, a white supremacist on trial for killing three men at an adult bookstore, said he and a co-defendant poured gasoline on the victims after two other men shot them, a former cellmate testified last week.

Bobby Gene Pryor testified that Sheets told him "Two soldiers went in [the bookstore] and shot them [the victims] while Sheets and [Robert] Jackson poured kerosene and gasoline on them. He said he used a .22 and a .45 caliber guns."

Sheets is charged with murder, arson, robbery with a dangerous weapon, conspiracy and first-degree kidnapping in the January 1987 execution-style slayings of three men at the Shelby III adult bookstore.

Before fleeing, the assailants tried to burn the bookstore, a hangout for homosexuals. Two men were seriously wounded in the incident.

"[Sheets] told me that he would never be tried because they were going to get him out," Pryor testified. "He said they would blow this damn building to hell, that was exactly what he said."

"He said if they would not have left those two queers alive, he would not be here [in jail]. He said two of those queers were still alive."

"I said, 'Would you do that again if you could get out of here?' and he said, 'Hell, yes.' He said they [the victims] were supposed to die because

(See POURS GAS, P. 2)



KEYS TO SUCCESS—Brenda Rand Davis spoke at the Saint Augustine's College's chapter of Alpha Epsilon Rho national broadcasting honor society program. The theme of the program was "Motivation, Determination and Preparation: You Make It Happen," and was attended by prominent black broadcasters from throughout the Triangle area. (Photo by Talib Sabir-Calloway)

Dr. Key Feted Following Distinguished Career

BY DR. ALBERT JABS
Special To THE CAROLINIAN
The 41 year career of Thomas Key at Shaw University is a role model that contradicts cultural stereotypes and myths.

The Moynihan report of the late 1960's that saw the African-American

family as weak and unstructured would be demolished by the clear example of the Thomas Key family, which exemplifies loyalty, education, talent, commitment, and vision.

For the many who gathered in Spaulding Gymnasium on May 12th to pay tribute to the long tenure of Key as a professor, administrator, and

(See CAREER, P. 2)

Educator Key To Competent Work Force, Leaders, Officials Warn

"Has the meltdown of American education started?"

That was the key question posed by E. Michael Latta, executive director of the State Advisory Council on Vocational Education, at the fifth annual Andrew Johnson Memorial Apprenticeship Forum held May 4 in Raleigh.

Business leaders, employers, worker representatives, educators, and state officials gathered at the forum to discuss ways to improve the

education and jobs training delivery systems in North Carolina.

Latta said, "Warnings come from across a wide spectrum... What we are seeing is a widespread consensus that we are in deep trouble, perhaps more seriously than most of us realize."

Latta warned that good, quality education and jobs training and a healthy economy are inextricably linked. To maintain America's economic muscle and strength, both

must be improved.

He presented the following points to buttress his argument:

- Approximately 25 million American adults read below fifth-grade level. Another 35 to 40 million can only read between the fifth and eighth-grade level.

- North Carolina ranks 37th among the states in high school graduates, with an annual dropout rate of 23,000 to 27,000.

(See EDUCATION, P. 2)

What's In A Name? The Debate Of The African-American

BY SAM CAMERON
Special To NNPA

NEW ORLEANS, La.—The African-American Summit got underway in New Orleans with much on the agenda to be debated as well as the introduction of many new ideas from delegates across the country.

The forum for the introduction of new ideas came in the workshops and plenary sessions and included such diverse topics as education, housing, the African-American family, youth and economic development.

However, one of the more lively debates came from the floor of the African-American Summit, and that was the debate over the use of the term "African-American" to describe blacks in this country. This topic was not up for the debate according to the agenda put forth by the steering committee, but each delegate that came to the floor microphone to either ask a question or introduce an amendment had a comment regarding the use of the term.

One young activist from Spelman College in Atlanta felt that blacks in America were merely trying to legitimize the name "African" by adding America to it. She suggested that we drop the "American" part and just call ourselves African.

One brother countered by saying that he liked the term "African" but he was born in America and his ancestors helped build America, so he saw it fitting and proper to say "African-American."

Another older gentleman went to the microphone and introduced himself as a minister (adding that he did not wish to disclose his long list of other accolades). He said we are not African-Americans but "Negreians." "Brothers and sisters, we are Negreians. We are not African-Americans." He said he had the information to prove it, and if anyone desired proof of his claims, they could consult him and he would be glad to share his wealth of knowledge about the subject with them. However, no one was observed by this reporter rushing to consult him.

On Sunday morning, the final day of the summit, Minister Louis Farrakhan added his comments about what we should call ourselves. He said that he did not mind the use of the term "African-American" for our ancestors surely came from Africa and our ancestors certainly helped build America. But he said we should not forget that long before there was an Africa and long before there was an America, we were called black. That received a great round of applause.

Other speakers at the podium from the delegates to distinguished guests seated at the dais tried to be consistent with the use of the term "African-American." However, because of the newness of the term and because of the multiple syllables it contains, some speakers lapsed back to the old term black Americans.

Assemblywoman Maxine Waters of California got so emotional in the delivery of her speech that she almost always used the term black American. This was not out of protest over the use of the term. However, it seemed that she was better able to make her point by using the shorter term.

Regardless of the opinions expressed from the floor about the use of the term "African-American," the summit closed with the consensus that African-American is what we should call ourselves, and that we should not get so caught up in labels. Rather, we should concentrate on the urgent issues that so much affect the African-American communities in this country.

Ms. King Hails Senate 90-7 Commission Vote

WASHINGTON, D.C.—The U.S. Senate, beating back a determined bid by Sen. Jesse Helms (D-N.C.) to scuttle the measure, extended the Martin Luther King, Jr. Holiday Commission for five years by an overwhelming 90-7 vote. The bill, sponsored by Sen. Sam Nunn (D-Ga.), also includes for the first time funding in the amount of \$1.5 million, to be allocated in \$300,000 yearly increments.

The Senate must now work out a compromise in conference with the House which passed a much more liberal bill that would make the commission permanent and provide \$500,000 a year.

The widow of the slain martyr, Ms. Coretta Scott King, sat in the gallery watching the debate and hailed the vote as a victory for King's legacy. Senate Majority Leader Robert Dole (R-Kan.) rushed over to congratulate her on the bill's passage. Until now,

the King Holiday Commission has operated without federal funds. The Department of Housing and Urban Development, under Secretary Samuel Pierce, however, lent the organization key staff people and office space.

Helms, a bitter foe of King's in general, and of civil rights for blacks in particular, offered a series of amendments designed to gut the bill. All were beaten back. The bill, with the approval of Nunn and other sponsors, however, bars the commission from engaging in training for social protest or civil disobedience, an obvious concession to the implacably racist Helms.

Sen. Nunn, with the backing of a number of other white Southern Democrats, pushed the bill through to a one-sided victory. He said the federal government funds several other commissions ranging from the

(See DR. KING, P. 2)

Water, The Fountain Of Life For Africa

The National Association of Bench and Bar Spouses, Inc., has embarked on an ambitious program to provide clean and disease-free drinking water to remote villages in the southern African nation of Malawi. In the first year of this program, titled "African Fountains of Life," NABBS, working through the renowned Washington, D.C.-based African development organization Africare, will support the construction of 50 "protected springs" in the heavily populated Ntcheu district in southern Malawi.

In the Ntcheu district, an estimated 85 percent of the population lacks access to clean and safe drinking water. Most draw their water from a few deteriorating, muddy wells, each of which might serve 1,000 people or more in addition to assorted livestock. Other traditional water sources, such as rivers and streams, are also unsafe. The result of unsanitary drinking sources is that cholera and dysentery, water-borne diseases which are major killers of young children, are rampant in this area.

The "African Fountains of Life" program will make an enormous improvement in the quality of life of thousands of rural Malawians, by helping to increase the availability of clean water. In the first year of the campaign (1989-90), NABBS through its affiliate chapters will support the construction of 50 protected springs in Malawi. Each spring will require just \$700 in funding from NABBS.

The benefiting villagers will contribute unskilled labor to dig trenches and deliver stone and sand for the

concrete structures that surround the springs. To ensure long-lasting results, each village will also select three of its people for training in the operation and maintenance of the new protected spring system.

As a result of the protection of these springs, rural Malawians will have clean and reliable sources of water for a variety of purposes.

They will also realize a great reduction in the now frequent incidence of water-borne diseases.

Ms. Harriet A. Pitcher, president of the National Association of Bench and Bar Spouses, is encouraging the full participation of the NABBS family in this endeavor. She says, "Expanding our linkages with our sisters and brothers in Africa can lead to an improvement in the quality of life for

(See SENATE FUNDING, P. 2)



MRS. HARRIET A. PITCHER

New Initiatives

Sullivan Appoints Health Director

U.S. Health and Human Services Secretary Dr. Louis W. Sullivan has appointed Dr. William A. Robinson to be director of the Office of Minority Health and Dr. Audrey F. Manley deputy assistant secretary for health.

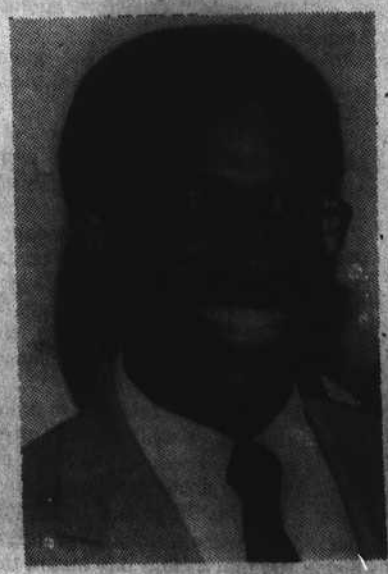
"I place special importance on the mission of the Office of Minority Health, and I will look to Dr. Robinson to coordinate all the initiatives within HHS to help eliminate the disparity in health status between minority and non-minority Americans," Secretary Sullivan said.

The Office of Minority Health was created in 1985 as part of the Office of the Assistant Secretary for Health, following a report by a special HHS task force on minority health. The task force investigated the differences in health status between minority and non-minority Americans and made recommendations for improving minority health

status. "A longstanding and persistent gap has existed in the United States in the health status of minorities as compared with the non-minority population," Dr. Sullivan said. "We must dedicate our best efforts to ensure optimum health for all Americans regardless of race or ethnic background."

Assistant Secretary for Health Dr. James O. Mason said, "I am delighted to have Dr. Robinson assume this extremely important position. I am confident that he will work tirelessly with Dr. Sullivan and me to achieve parity in health between minority and non-minority Americans."

Dr. Robinson comes to his new position from the Health Resources and Services Administration, where he most recently held the post of chief



DR. WILLIAM A. ROBINSON



DR. AUDREY F. MANLEY