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# CAROLINIAN

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## Senseless Acts Of Bigotry

# Racial Violence Increasing In America

Racism in the United States continues to kill African-Americans. For some this is a difficult reality to understand given the increasing multiracial character of American society. But for the vast majority of 30 million African-Americans

throughout the United States, the consequences of racism, resulting in brutality and death, are all too familiar. According to Benjamin F. Chavis, Jr., executive director of the Commission for Racial Justice, the

senseless murder of 16-year-old Yusef Hawkins in the Bensonhurst section of Brooklyn, N.Y., is but the latest example of a society gone mad with racial hatred and bigotry. Hawkins and three other African-American youths were walking

through the predominantly Italian-American neighborhood of Bensonhurst when 30 or more white youths attacked them with baseball bats and a gun. Hawkins was shot twice in the chest and died. According to press reports, Joseph

Fama, 18, was the alleged trigger man. Witnesses have confirmed that Fama in his rage shouted, "The hell with beating them up. Forget the bats. I'm gonna shoot the nigger." Four shots were fired and two hit Hawkins at close range.

"No society can afford to let this type of racist violence go unchallenged," says Chavis. As of this writing, only five of the 30 white youths had been apprehended by police and there is a question as to (See RISING RACISM, P. 2)

## New Superintendent Wentz Seeks Strong Area Support, Business "Partnerships"

The new Wake County school superintendent, Robert E. Wentz, has been on the job since Aug. 15 and has already outlined his future goals for Wake County's public schools.

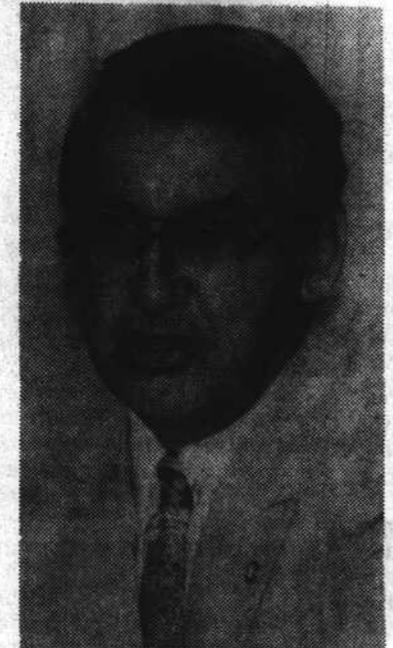
Wentz, who has served as superintendent of the St. Louis School System and the Clark County (Nev.) School District, said that he was impressed with the "strong relationships" already in place between the schools and the Wake County business community.

After leaving Nevada, Wentz said he was a bit reluctant about moving to the east coast, but after visiting Raleigh and seeing "the commitment that has been made to education," he changed his mind.

Wentz and his wife, Dr. Jance Wentz, along with four sons, ages 15-early 30s, live in Cary's Lochmere subdivision. Ms. Wentz is a former elementary school principal and school district administrator. She is now owner of a computer consulting firm.

This week Wentz, when asked about early closings due to inclement weather, said he would be reluctant to close schools.

Wentz told the Wake Board of Education at its meeting that he did not close schools early last week when temperatures rose into the high 80s despite calls from



DR. ROBERT E. WENTZ parents and teachers.

During his reign as superintendent, Wentz says he plans the following:

• A longer school year. "Some day we will have a longer school year than the traditional 180-day agriculture-based school year. But it probably won't happen while I'm superintendent. I know students will boo me out of an auditorium if I tell them they'll (See DR. WENTZ, P. 2)

## 1979 Slaying

# Jury Convicts Two For Murder

## Testimony Of Witness Differed

After deliberating for several hours a Wake County Superior Court jury found two men guilty of second-degree murder in the 1979 slaying of an unidentified woman.

Phillip B. Price told Wake County detectives in 1987 that he had seen Lenn E. Spivey and Dwight Godson, the two men charged, kill a woman, then dump her body near Turf Grass Road located off U.S. 64.

A third suspect, Sylvester Holden, was charged in the woman's death. However, Holden agreed to exchange his testimony for pleading guilty to being an accessory after the fact to second-degree murder. He is expected to receive a suspended sentence and intensive probation, according to Jacqueline Lambert, assistant district attorney.

Last week, Holden testified that he had been in a car during the summer of 1979 with Goodson and Spivey while the two men had sex with a woman. Holden said, however, that he did not see a murder.

Although Price said he had seen the slaying, he admitted that his testimony differed in several details from statements he made earlier to Wake detectives. (See MURDER TRIAL, P. 2)



STAND UP AND BE COUNTED—Members of the Asian-American community have taken their places alongside concerned black and white citizens over the racist killing of area resident Ming Hai Lee. (Photo by Talib Sabir-Calloway)

## Bush Offering Strategy For U.S. Against Drugs "Sapping Strength"

President Bush this week, calling the drug problem the "toughest domestic challenge we've faced in decades," proposed a national drug control strategy that focuses heavily against drug sellers and users. Some dealers do not believe this will stop the flow of cocaine, crack

and other drugs. "It would be better to legalize it," an informant who did not want his name used said. "Anytime you have a woman who will sell her body or her child to get cocaine, or a man who does not care whether he lives or dies to get it, you need more than cops and arrests."

Nearly 70 percent of the proposed drug package is directed at law enforcement, and the plan seeks stiffer sentences, for everyone involved in drugs, from occasional users to international drug traffickers.

Bush, in his plan, gives little to education and prevention efforts as well as treatment of drug addicts. His plan calls for increasing the nation's police effort and creating more federal prison space for drug offenders, as well as some additional money for treatment programs for addicts. It would also provide more military and economic aid to Colombia, Peru and Bolivia, the main sources of cocaine.

Dealers are also investing in guns, the CAROLINIAN informant said. "There are plenty of guns in Raleigh like Uzi pistol and carbine, some MAC-10s, AK-47s and pocket piece, the 9 mm. You can see them even at the flea markets." (See COCAINE, P. 2)

## NEWS BRIEFS

### FBI LOOKS INTO RIOTS

The FBI and the Justice Department's civil rights division are reviewing the disturbance in Virginia Beach, Va., over the weekend, and a Justice Department spokesman said that it was "very likely" the agency would open an investigation. The spokesman, Deborah Burston-Wade, said allegations of police brutality or deprivation of civil rights likely would trigger a probe. Officials with the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People said they were considering filing formal complaints.

The riots reportedly broke out after nightstick-wielding police charged an orderly group of black students standing on sidewalks and in parking lots who were in town for a fraternity convention.

### GOP PUSH ON DISTRICTS

The Wake County Board of Commissioners decided this week not to consider a proposal by the Wake Republican Party to change the way commissioners are elected. The county GOP had proposed that some commissioners be elected by districts. Party officials contend that a district system would be fairer to Republicans and minorities. Commissioner Robert B. Hester moved to kill discussion on the matter and said any consideration would "open the door" to further changes.

### HAZARDOUS WASTE FIRM EYES RALEIGH

A hazardous waste disposal company now based in Columbia, S.C. may move its national administrative headquarters to Raleigh. Chem-Nuclear Systems, Inc. already has opened its North Carolina headquarters in Carolina Corporate Center in Raleigh. The company recently was awarded a \$15 million contract to find a site, build, operate (See NEWS BRIEFS, P. 2)

## Proud Of Achievements

# Washington High: Legacies, History

BY JOHN THOMPSON MOORE, JR. Contributing Writer  
If Principal Mack W. Akiens, Prof. C.L. Levister, Ms. Margaret Brown Bugg, Louise Fountain Perrin, Louise Latham, Clara Brown Hunt and dean of the boys Henry Thomas Johnson, Coach Charles (Mack) Williams and numerous other deceased faculty members were alive today, they

would indeed be very, very proud of the achievements of their graduates and former students of Washington High School.

Scholarship and character were the emphasis this school stressed and over the holiday weekend, hundreds of former students and alumni from various states attended a banquet and dance at the Radisson Plaza

Hotel for their annual reunion and gala.

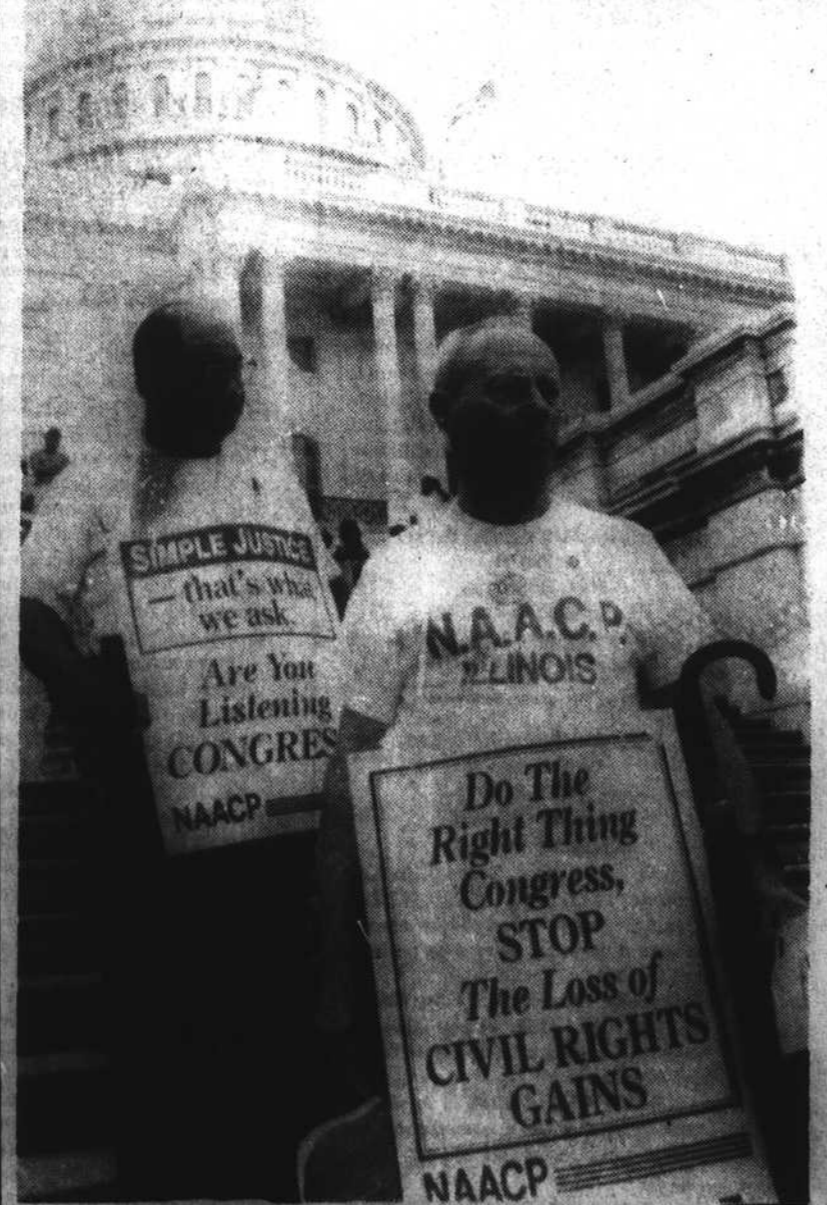
Former students and their guests danced gracefully to the music of a band from Fayetteville and listened to an eloquent address by an alumna, Ms. Thelma Cumbe Lennon, who is well-known in education. She electrified the audience and received a standing ovation after enthusiastically describing the determination that grandchildren and great-grandchildren of former slaves had during the 1930s and '40s to attend the only black high school in the city of Raleigh.

Lennon also urged the alumni to help prepare the future African-Americans to meet the challenges of the times in job preparation, etc. Many Washington High School graduates' parents were not college graduates and they did not have the opportunities on the job markets as the graduates of the Hugh Morrison

or Needham Broughton high schools.

Even though Washington High students received an unequal education, one must pay tribute to the values that Principal Akiens taught the students in being punctual in attending classes, good behavior in public places, etiquette, etc. Also, the dean of girls, Ms. Latham, was involved in training African-Americans to be "ladylike" and Ms. Emily Mae Morgan Kelly taught classical and African-American music appreciation. Hats off to Ms. Bugg and Ms. Jeanette Hicks, who taught Latin and French, which most students of today do not know.

Furthermore, most remember Ms. Susie Vick Perry and the "Crown and Scepter" Club. She would post on the bulletin board a list of students who made the "honor roll." Many of the students then would be depressed because they did not make that honor (See WASHINGTON HIGH, P. 2)



DO THE RIGHT THING—Two members of the Central, III. Chapter of the NAACP made their feelings known about the recent turn of events in the civil rights arena. (Photo by Talib Sabir-Calloway)

## Dr. Bridges Is Honored By UNCF As "Man Of Vision"

BY E.H. HINTON Staff Writer  
The appreciation dinner held recently for former Wake Schools superintendent Dr. Robert E. Bridges was themed "A Man of Vision, Integrity and Purpose." The Raleigh-Wake UNCF Committee in conjunction with Harris Wholesale sponsored the gala affair.

Kenneth Wilkins, Wake County register of deeds and 1989 chairman of the Raleigh-Wake UNCF Committee, said, "The banquet was highly successful and gave the United Negro College Fund campaign exposure to a dimension of the corporate sector that had never been achieved before."

Wilkins pointed out that aside from more than 400 people in attendance, there were members from the corporate sector including IBM, Raleigh Chamber of Commerce, WQOK-FM 97.5, Saint Augustine's College, Shaw University, Garner Road YMCA, CP&L and numerous other organizations based in and around the Triangle.

Wilkins added that the affair was

successful as a fundraiser and that Dr. Bridges was held in the highest esteem for allowing the banquet to be held honoring him, with proceeds going to UNCF.

"With all the success achieved by the banquet a special note of thanks is given to Harris Wholesale for underwriting the cost and being an integral part of an event with the long-term positive effects that will be generated from this banquet," Wilkins said.

"A special note of thanks is given to ADM Associates," he added, "and Doris Bennett, who were responsible for handling almost 4,000 pieces of mail for the contribution and support of the UNCF."

Music for the evening was provided by the Wake County Faculty String Ensemble and Reggie Jeffries. Dr. Bridges received strong support from his colleagues in which one traveled for four hours just to attend, support and show his appreciation to Bridges for his accomplishments.

There were many individuals who paid tribute to Bridges. He received accolades from Fourth District Rep. (See DR. BRIDGES, P. 2)

## Education Tool For Successful Blacks In U.S.

BY MARIE FAUBERT Special To The CAROLINIAN

There are fewer African-Americans in college now than 10 years ago. A significant number of African-American high school and college students do not persevere to graduation. The need for African-American professionals is growing, and the pool from which to get them is shrinking.

What are the characteristics that distinguish successful African-American students from those who do not succeed in academic endeavors? Who succeeds? What strengths do successful students bring to the college experience from their homes and from their high schools?

The following eight characteristics are those which are indicative of successful African-American students. The first is positive self-concept or self-confidence. Young people who have strong feelings of self-worth, who have strength of character, who have self-determination and independence have better chances of succeeding than those who do not.

The second is realistic self-appraisal. Young people who have realistic understandings of their academic strengths and weaknesses have better chances of succeeding than those who do not. If young people can use their strengths to work on their weaknesses, they seem to be in better positions to persevere to do well academically and later in life.

The third is understanding and dealing with racism effectively. African-American students who understand and deal with racism ef- (See EDUCATION, P. 2)