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THE CAROLINIAN

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Gantt Reaches Into Community In Politics, The Name Means Everything

Who is Harvey Gantt anyway? What's his favorite television show? What are his children like? What kind of music does he listen to? Is he the man who can bring new leadership to the U.S. Senate? With the May 8 Democratic primary less than a month away, Gantt, a Charlotte architect who was the city's first black mayor, is trying to answer all those questions and then some.

who has held the North Carolina Senate Seat for at least 18 years. Helmes has etched out a reputation in the minds of North Carolina voters. Good or bad, that reputation will be hard to beat. Gantt, as well as the other Democratic candidates, are scrambling to get their message out and get the public's interest. "Part of their campaign strategies is to get their records out there," said Harold H. Webb, fourth district co-coordinator for Gantt's campaign. Gantt, who calls his agenda "pro-

gressive" and one that would contrast with Helms' conservative style, hopes his style will appeal to the masses. Gantt is campaigning on the issues he said affect the majority of North Carolinians, such as health care, education, low college board scores, the high infant mortality rate and the increasing problems associated with poverty. He is taking those issues to the community, initiating dialogues and generating public interests in politics and in politicians.

"He talks about his vision of where North Carolina is and where it ought to be," said his press secretary Susan Jetton. "We think he is being well received," she said. On April 18, Harvey Gantt Day will be held in Wake, Orange, Chatham and Franklin counties, Webb said. Gantt is scheduled for breakfast in Siler City, a reception in Chapel Hill, two receptions in Raleigh and a dinner in Zebulon, among others. His democratic opponents are District Attorney Michael F. Easley, of Southport, former Insurance com-

missioner John R. Ingram of Cary and former state Sen. R. P. "Bo" Thomas of Hendersonville. Ingram, who has generated much of his reputation from his dealings as commissioner, is why Gantt is making an effort to get out into the public. "If you're in Charlotte, you'll get a different impression about Gantt," Webb said. In Charlotte, Gantt's name is big. He is trying to take that impression and spread it across the state. "We concentrated on the eastern counties, that's where he was least

known," Jetton said. People are saying that they think he is a man who can represent them, that he is mainstream North Carolina. He has the experiences of most North Carolinians," she said. In trying to get into the public however, Gantt's campaigning is in need of funding, Jetton said. Gantt was in Raleigh last month at a fundraiser to support some of his efforts. Ministers in black churches have set aside Harvey Gantt Day to make congregations aware of some of the (See HARVEY GANTT, P. 2)

Deputies Seek Clues

Woman Raped, Beaten With Gun

Victim Taken To Dirt Road

Wake sheriffs are looking for a man who raped and beat a Sanford woman early Friday. Deputies said the woman was attacked after she was offered a ride home. The man was described as a black man in his late 20's, about 6 ft., 2 inches. He was also described as slim with a short hair style. Deputies said he was driving a greenish gray four door Buick built in the late 1960s. Deputies said the victim, 28, had gone with two male friends to the Casablanca Club in New Hill-Holleman Road in the New-Hill Community in the extreme southwest corner of the county. According to deputies, at about 1:30 a.m., the woman's friends began arguing with each other in the parking lot and she decided to leave. Deputies said at that point the woman asked a man to drive her to a nearby house. Deputies said the woman did not know the man. Deputies said the man drove her down a dirt road near the Shearon Harris Nuclear Plant, began beating her on the head with a gun and then raped her in the car. In other news, a man who was released from the Wake County jail on bond last year while awaiting a (See VICTIM, P. 2)



KING MEMORIAL WALL—Jason Mitchell, left of Garner and Macine Powell of Raleigh took time out to look along the wall of the King Memorial Plaza where the names of people, and organizations have been written in brick in honor of the late Dr. Martin Luther King. The Martin Luther King Celebration Committee, Inc. extended an invitation to come see the memorial wall being constructed and share with other community residents the historic development of the gardens. (Photo by Talib Sabir-Calloway)

Maryland Woman Uncovers Scandal In Cemetery Practices

From Carolinian Staff Reports
Annette Branche, 49, a Maryland mother, blew the whistle on fraudulent gravesite practices that were bringing grief to families in cemetery scandals from Maryland to California and for her efforts has been denied working in the cemetery industry. Arthur B. Haynes, a first vice president of the Prince George's County Southern Christian Leadership Conference and other organizations, including Golden Frinks from North Carolina, in 1988 began investigating repeated allegations by Ms. Branche of fraudulent practices including racism and sexism in the cemetery industry. Ms. Branche, a nine-year employee of a corporation that operates three Maryland cemeteries charged that her ex-employers used bait-and-switch tactics, inflated interest rates and burial costs, and withheld commission from their sales force. Instead of being treated as a hero, Ms. Branche told The CAROLINIAN

after losing her job, home and car, she was new living in a cold room with no electricity. She said she had to beg for money to buy food. Maryland National Memorial Park is an expansive burial ground located between Baltimore and Washington, D.C. Formerly known as Carver Memorial Cemetery, the 280 acre site, where thousands of blacks are buried, was purchased in the early 1970's by the New York based H.I.G. Corporation. Ms. Branche, who became the first black female director at Maryland National said she was repeatedly harassed and later physically assaulted by both male and female administrative officers on the company's premises. She said she was paid \$100 per week plus commission for her services while white directors at other cemeteries owned by Maryland National's corporate parent netted weekly salaries of more than \$1,000. She also said a most

disturbing element was the cemetery's practice of withholding commission monies earned by herself and other black sales people and estimates that her commission totals more than \$100,000. Standard prices for opening and closing a grave at Maryland Na- (See SCANDAL, P. 2)

Homeless People Find Support In Local United Way

Programs Aid Poverty War

BY DONNA E. TOMPKINS
Special To The CAROLINIAN
Like most crises, we think it will never happen to us. Yet statistics suggest otherwise. A 1988 study indicates approximately three million people in the United States are homeless. And those numbers are swelling each day to include entire families. Where does an individual or family turn in such a crisis? Here in Wake County, the homeless can find help and support through two programs financially supported by United Way venture grants—Samaritans and Families Together. Venture grants allows United Way to encourage the development of innovative projects that are designed to meet human care needs. Samaritans is an ecumenical, faith-based program that supports the outreach to homeless/transitional persons by recruiting, training and matching interested individuals with agencies in need of volunteers. The program grew out of a workshop held in 1987 that identified the emotional needs of the homeless as an unmet need. Workshop participant Lisa Nance, then a social work

graduate student at UNC-Chapel Hill, volunteered to coordinate the project which evolved from the workshop. In 1988, the project was piloted by the Raleigh Area Ministries, a coalition of 40 Raleigh churches which meet once a month to discuss what's happening in Raleigh in social ministry. In July 1989, the pilot

Low-income people live day-to-day and often have crises during their lives. The Samaritans seek to help the poor and homeless.

became a program under the Raleigh Housing Fund and Nance, now with a master's in social work, was hired as its part-time coordinator. According to Nance, now with the Raleigh Housing Authority, "This kind of work does so much to educate people, to make them aware of the trials some people encounter. It's life-changing for the volunteers." Nance defines the program as a service for volunteers to enable them to serve the area agencies. (See HOMELESS, P. 2)

INSIDE AFRICA

BY DANIEL MAROLEN
An Analysis
Handing over independence and majority rule to Namibia recently at Windhoek, South Africa's President F.W. de Klerk said, "We extend a hand of friendship to our new neighbor. Good neighborliness is in our mutual interest." In those words de Klerk was jibing at the people of Namibia to whom relations with their enforced South African rulers have always been most unfriendly, ferocious and bordering on genocide. In the 70 years (1920-1990) that the Afrikaners have ruled over the people of Namibia, there has always been conflict after conflict between the rulers and the ruled. Who does not know about the brutality of the Afrikaners, who subjugated, murdered, jailed, pillaged, dehumanized, and segregated Namibians into apartheid-type concentration camps known as Bantustans? And who does not know of South Africa's deceptive tactics which stalled Namibia's independence at the United Nations for years? And more recently, who does not remember the vile activities of the Kooisvoet secret murder squads who killed and maimed Namibian men, women and children wantonly in their villages, and devastated their homes and property? Thousands of Namibians died from South African gunfire, while fighting for their independence. In the process, the Namibians lost their land, property, human rights and political and citizenship rights. Are all these atrocities signs of "good neighborliness" or "friendliness"? Surely, de Klerk should have apologized for those atrocious acts of unfriendliness, instead of jibing as he did at the oppressed people of Namibia, whom the community of world nations have (See INSIDE AFRICA, P. 2)

Congressman Rapped As "Bigot" For Attacks

WASHINGTON, D.C. (AP)—Jewish organizations are calling Rep. Gus Savage a bigot for his attacks on a pro-Israel lobbying group, but the black House member says the only racists are white. Savage, D-Ill., held a news conference last week, insisting in advance on "nonbelligerent" questions. He denied that his attacks on the American-Israel Public Affairs Committee for supporting his opponent in a recent primary election were anti-Semitic. And he declared, "Racism is white. There is no black racism." AIPAC spokeswoman Toby Der-showitz said, "Savage's insertion of bigotry and anti-Semitism into the political arena is regretful and abhorrent. The American Jewish community has long prided itself on a high level of political involvement." Justin J. Finger, associate national director of the Anti-Defamation League of B'nai B'rith, said Savage's statements "encourage hatred of Jews and Israel" and are "a reprehensible attempt to drive a wedge between blacks and Jews." Savage called the mostly restrained news conference to show reporters and interested House members a

videotape of his attacks on AIPAC during a March 17 primary campaign rally in Chicago. Savage narrowly won the election. At the rally, Savage said supporters of AIPAC—the main pro-Israel lobbying group—provided most of the financing last January and February for his defeated opponent, Mel Reynolds. Savage insisted there was "nothing anti-Semitic" in his statements. He said he read a list of Jewish contributors to Reynolds during the rally simply to show their connection to AIPAC. "I was unsure I had been targeted by AIPAC. I thought that was wrong," Savage said, adding it was "a disgrace" that the lobby and contributors from outside the district had a major influence on Reynolds. He questioned whether a majority of Jews support the pro-Israel lobby and declared he was one of the "very few members" willing to publicly oppose AIPAC. Also during the conference, Savage called the Academy Award-winning film "Driving Miss Daisy"—about an elderly white woman and her chauffeur (See GUS SAVAGE, P. 2)

Raleigh Links Celebrate Two Successful Anti-Drug Programs

The Raleigh Chapter of Links, Inc., witnessed another successful year in the implementation of two of its programs: acts, service to youth and the arts. Drug prevention programs were co-sponsored by the Hargett Street YMCA and the Garner Road YMCA. The "Just Say No" Program, a service for girls and boys, aged 7-10, educates youth on how to discriminate against drugs. Membership in the "Just Say No" Club pro-

vides opportunities through which positive self-esteem is nurtured and reinforced. Links LaVerne Goins and Clementine Holden served as co-chairpersons and with the assistance of sister Links conducted after-school, weekly sessions with "Just Say No" Club members at each of the two facilities. Educational activities included character-building exercises; understanding family roles and

responsibilities; increasing a level of awareness about self and others; and coping with peer pressures. "Just Say No" Club members communicate knowledge gained to classmates and friends. They seek commitments from them to remain drug-free by having them sign pledge cards to say no to drugs. Prizes were awarded to Linwood Kornegay and Shea Lane for soliciting more than (See DRUG PREVENTION, P. 2)



JUST SAY NO—This drug prevention program sponsored by the Raleigh Links, Inc., has been a service for the youth in the community. In photo, the Hargett Street YMCA "Just Say No" Club. First Row: left to right are: Ralph Richardson, Anthony Sutton, Antonio Whitby, Tara Joy, Molaine Poolo. Second Row: left to right: Nakia Tabron, Shawn Gerham, Shea Lova, Khalila Lova, Monica Poolo. Not pictured: Brandon Craig and Robert Hines, Mrs. Joyce Joy, parent.