

**Be Sure To
VOTE
In The
MAY 8TH PRIMARY**

First Union Capital Center

Churches Fight City Over Parking Deck

BY W. MASON, JR.
Staff Writer

What began as an effort to bring business and new commerce to the downtown area has turned into a conflict between church morality and the overpowering influence of new money.

Clifford Wimberley, a member of First Baptist Church, stood before the City Council and read the church's statement opposing a parking deck the city wants to build around the church.

"The council seems strong on

words but woefully short of courage when it comes to doing the right thing," she said, her voice wavering as she stood at the podium.

"We ask you as public servants, to reconsider your preliminary decision on this matter, and act according to your previous commitment to study this in depth and to involve the larger community in the resolution of this matter," she said.

Her statements, and those of Tabernacle Baptist Church members, came as a result of the city's effort to put a multi-level parking

deck in the downtown area.

City officials say the parking decks are important if the city is to see success from the First Union Capital Center, a \$65 million, 29-story office tower rising on the 100 block of Fayetteville Street Mall.

But members of both churches said the parking deck will stifle their growth as a downtown church. They also said the City Council has not been up front with the churches in trying to resolve the matter.

The council, however, is worried about getting the project started.

"We need to move ahead with this," said Mayor Avery C. Upchurch. For the past couple of months, the city has initiated dialogues with the churches in an effort to come to an agreement about how the city can build its parking deck without destroying the institutions' viability.

At a work session prior to the meeting, the council voted to proceed with putting the parking deck along two blocks east of Hargett Street and were planning to finalize the vote at its regular meeting. The vote would have hurt First Baptist Church.

Councilmember Mary C. Cates, however, said because the churches were not made aware of the work session and were obviously slighted because of the city's haste to approve the plan, they should be given an opportunity to at least learn in detail what the city plans to do.

"I don't know if First Baptist Church has reviewed the issues," she said. "We need to give them a chance. Also, Mr. Campbell is not here. This is his district. I think it's important that he be here," she said. Ralph Campbell, Jr., who has been

instrumental in the negotiations between the church and the city, was out of town on business.

Mayor Upchurch agreed to wait two more weeks, before the council will take a vote on the site of the new parking deck, hoping it will give the churches a chance to learn about the city's plan and to act according to that plan.

First Tabernacle Church members have said they might be interested in forming a parking deck with the city, which would free First Baptist from (See CHURCHES, P. 2)

NEWS BRIEFS

FINANCIAL SERVICES

On Thursday, May 17, through Saturday, May 19, Financial Women International, formerly the National Association of Bank Women, will hold its 1990 state conference in North Carolina at the Holiday Inn, Research Triangle Park.

TRANSPORTATION

The N.C. Board of Transportation will consider highway contracts totaling \$10.6 million at its meeting May 4 in Raleigh. Included are contracts to build bridges to carry eastbound traffic on the U.S. 70 Smithfield bypass over the proposed Selma Bypass in Johnston County, to widen 4.7 miles of the U.S. 421 Miller City Bypass in Chatham County and to widen 1.1 miles of Harden Street in Burlington in Alamance County to five lanes.

DRIVERS EDUCATION

If you have been wondering what to take to the beach to read this summer, then try the North Carolina Commercial Driver's Manual. Developed in an effort by the N.C. Department of Transportation to keep unskilled commercial drivers off the state's roads, the manuals are now available to the public.

INVESTING

Venture '89, the seventh annual venture financing conference organized by the Triangle-based Council for Entrepreneurial Development, has been expanded this year to include a separate session from 3-6 p.m. on Wednesday, May 16, which will showcase presentations by companies seeking low capital and seed investment. (See NEWS BRIEFS, P. 2)

Saturday Night Tragedy

TWO MEN SOUGHT IN RAPE CASE

Woman Attacked In Park

Police are searching for two men suspected of raping a woman as she walked through Nash Square in downtown Raleigh Saturday night.

Raleigh police said the woman was walking through the square, which is directly across from the police station, at about 10:17 p.m. when she was approached by two men. Police said she was grabbed by one of the men and forced to the ground and then was sexually assaulted.

The woman was not otherwise injured, police said. She was taken to Wake Medical Center for treatment. Both men were described as black, about 20-30 years old and about 5'7" tall.

In other news, the recent shooting of a Wake County sheriff's deputy and a woman in Holly Springs has prompted the state Highway Patrol to assign troopers to check driver's licenses at points in town over the past weekend.

Police said a disrespect for law enforcement has translated into danger for police officers on patrol. The stepup in law enforcement comes after a sheriff's deputy was lured to a convenience store in Holly Springs on April 20 and then was ambushed and struck in the face with shotgun pellets in what may have been retaliation for the sheriff's department's drug raid a week before.

Last weekend, troopers stopped traffic and checked for licenses on some of the town's busier highways and state roads.

Starting at 11 p.m. Friday and Saturday, troopers looked for drunk drivers in the area for about an hour. Police said troopers had arrested (See WOMAN ATTACKED, P. 2)



BLACK WOMEN ABORTION SUPPORTERS—An abortion supporters' march and rally in downtown Raleigh brought out politicians and organizers in support of a woman's right to an abortion, and among the more than 2,000 demonstrators was this group of black women, including N. C. State representative Annie Brown Kennedy of Winston-Salem, N.C. (2nd from left) and Patricia Tyson, far right of the National Religious Coalition for Abortion Rights in Washington, D.C. (Photo by Talib Sabir-Calloway)

Project Phoenix Under Scrutiny By Residents, Harassment Cited

BY W. MASON, JR.
Staff Writer

A community meeting regarding the city's Project Phoenix program was closed to the public this week to give residents of public housing a chance to talk about the program, said a spokesman with the Chavis Heights Copeland Center.

"There's been too much in the media already," the spokesman said. "We want to give residents a chance to talk about this."

The program, scheduled Wednesday night at the Copeland Center, addressed the topic, "Does the Phoenix Project Work For You?" The meeting was hosted by the Friends Committee.

The meeting is being held after some residents of the city's public housing project complained that Project Phoenix, a program aimed to remove drug use and abuse from the city's public housing projects, is resulting in harassment of public

housing residents. The program is an effort to clean up the city's housing projects by arresting those residents caught with drugs and evicting residents suspected of dealing drugs.

In recent years, residents pressed the city to develop a program to provide more protection and provide more activities to residents in public housing who are fighting their own drug war.

More police officers are patrolling the streets in and around the city's housing projects and in some cases walking the streets and talking to people suspected of using or selling drugs.

Some residents, however, said the city police department is going beyond targeting drug pushers and in some cases is stopping people on the street without reason.

Major Ken Johnson, with the Raleigh Police Department, said, however, that no one has complained about the project to the police.

(See PROJECT PHOENIX, P. 2)

May 8th Primary Gantt And Price Get RWCA Backing

The Raleigh-Wake Citizens Association has announced its endorsements for the primary elections to be held May 8.

For the Democratic primary, they are: Harvey Gantt, U.S. Senate; David Price, Fourth Congressional District; Eugene Phillips, Judge, Court of Appeals; Ann B. Salisbury, District Court judge; James Speed, 11th District, State Senate; Brad Miller, 61st State House district; Bob Hensley, 64th State House district; and County Commissioners Hal C. Perry, Stewart Adcock; Abe Jones and Jack Nichols.

For the Republican primary, they are: George Wimbush, U.S. Senate; Robert Smith and Hill Carrow for 14th District, State Senate; and George Batten, 64th State House

district. The RWCA M-PAC political action committee has studied the records, platforms and proposals of the various candidates and it is the RWCA's position that the best interests of the community and the community at-large would best be served by election of the candidates who have been endorsed.

"These candidates received the endorsement of the RWCA and we strongly encourage" community support, the political action committee said.

Gantt, in a message concerning his candidacy, said, "I want you to know that I am serious about my run for the U.S. Senate. This is real. I want to take a message that the people of North Carolina can take control of

their destiny and can elect a senator from North Carolina, and we will retire Jesse Helms and send him home to Raleigh.

"It is important that you appreciate the power we have to effect change in our lives. We can control our destiny and make a difference. I have often said, as Charles Dickens wrote, 'these are the best and worst of times.'"

"I know these are the best of times when I see that, almost 45 years ago, half of the world followed our model of democracy. And in 1989-90, much of the other half of the world is preparing to do the same. I know these are the best of times for America and its ideals when I see black and white sitting together at an NAACP function. I can remember my father back in the

1940s telling me, 'son, to carry an NAACP card is a badge of courage.' But to see pulp leaders, government leaders, civic leaders and concerned citizens sitting together as one tells me these are the best of times.

"When I know the job titles of some of you, when I know that you are one (See ENDORSEMENTS, P. 2)

Danner Shaw Honors Speaker

Addressing more than 400 Shaw University students who earned academic honors during the year, Ray Danner, president and chief executive officer of Shoney's, Inc., described Shaw University as "one of the great educational institutions in our nation. I am honored and proud to be able to participate with the faculty and administration of this institution in honoring its students," he added.

In what he called "Dannerisms," Danner admonished the students to be totally determined, single-minded and "with an abundance of energy for the long days and years in succeeding in their efforts to reach the top." He said, "Your ship won't come in less you row out to meet it."

"Especially women and minorities today should be honored for having to work twice as hard to overcome the odds and realities in our society," he added. He said the improvement of our society is going to depend on higher education. Danner cited the models of Charles Spaulding, of North Carolina Mutual and Gen. Colin Powell, chairman of the Joint (See SHAW HONORS, P. 2)

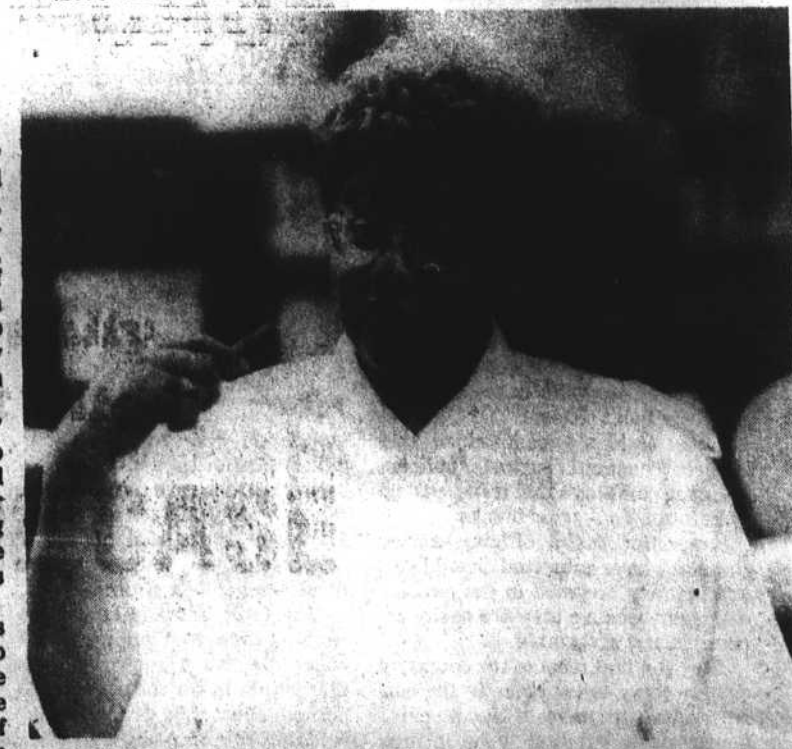
Jacki Wilson Wins Statewide Contest As Talented Writer

Jacqueline "Jacki" Wilson, a contributing writer to this newspaper, was one of five winners of the 1989 Black Writers Competition sponsored by the North Carolina Writers' Network. Her award was presented recently at a Black Writers Speak symposium held at the Neuse Regional Library in Kinston.

North Carolina has been home to generations of black writers, from turn-of-the-century Charles Chestnut to Maya Angelou, one of our nation's best-known and most-loved poets. Black Writers Speak is part of a multi-year effort, sponsored by the North Carolina Writers' Network, to help nurture a new generation of black writers in our state, to bring the voices and talents of emerging and established black writers to ever-wider audiences, and to promote reading and writing across North Carolina.



JACKI WILSON



HELPING HANDS OLYMPIAD III—rita Roberts of the Wake County P.T.A. Council spoke to parents of students in the Helping Hands Project of the importance of getting involved with their children's school work, during the Helping Hands Project's Olympiad III held at West Millbrook Middle School. (Photo by Talib Sabir-Calloway)

Laodicea Names Rev. Morrison Interim Pastor

From CAROLINIAN Staff Reports
James Woodrow Morrison has been installed as the interim pastor at Laodicea Church.

Morrison, who believes anything can be accomplished by the person who believes, has a long list of community service activities.

He established a day care center in Green Level community of Haw River, after initiating a request for and obtaining funding through a \$3,000 grant from the Racial Justice Department in 1969.

He organized a community corporation in the Green Level community and petitioned for a federal loan of \$350,000 to install a water and sewer system in the area in 1969.

He also established a Human Relations Council in Alamance County in 1965 and served as chairperson from 1970-71 and assisted in founding the Alamance County Committee on Civic Affairs, serving as its secretary from 1970-76.

Morrison also served as president of the Alamance County Community Action Program from 1973-75 and served as president of the Suffolk Branch of the NAACP from 1981-82.

While Morrison was pastor at the Tabernacle United Church of Christ (1979-82), the church made significant changes. The church purchased a parsonage, organized a Church Council, established a Church Con-

(See REV. MORRISON, P. 2)

YMCA Honors Supporters At Banquet

The Garner Road YMCA, through the efforts of community organizations and volunteers, continues to provide fitness, recreation and adult services to the community.

At its 45th annual meeting and awards banquet recently, the YMCA thanked members of the community for their devotion and service to the YMCA and their families.

The banquet also marked the final chairmanship for Dr. Wiley M. Davis, Sr.

Dr. Davis concluded his remarks by thanking the YMCA chief executive officer, who was one of the two honored with the Chairman's Award, for the efficiency of his leadership. He also thanked his fellow board members for their time, talents, energy and financial resources by seeing that the YMCA

(See YMCA BANQUET, P. 2)