



Musicians Mecca
Stars like Whitney Houston are flocking to Atlanta
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Mandela Receives
Mandela receives degree
Page 10

N.C. DEPARTMENT OF CULTURAL RESOURCES
310 BLOUNT ST.
RALEIGH NC 27611

On July 10, 1875, educator
McLeod Bethune
On July 13,
Congress Outlaws
in the Northwest
and on July 14,
resident Lincoln
slavery.

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Taxes From Businesses Evaluated

Not Paying Fair Education Share

Business executives in North Carolina need to redirect their lobbyists and trade associations to re-evaluate their position on taxes.

So says tax analyst and independent lobbyist Janis Ramquist who argues that North Carolina businesses are not paying their fair share of the state's education budget.

With a state budget shortfall of more than \$500 million projected for the coming fiscal year, including \$185 million additional money to adequately fund public education during the year, businesses must pay more in taxes, says Ramquist.

Otherwise, she says, vitally needed improvements in the state's education system may not be funded.

Ramquist, who represents the League of Women Voters in North Carolina and other organizations, has prepared a detailed analysis of taxation in North Carolina.

She points out that North

Since 1986 businesses have enjoyed tax cuts that cost the state \$112 million annually. This would finance over half of the state's need for education in the coming fiscal year...

Carolina ranks dead last in Scholastic Aptitude Test scores and high in illiteracy rates. "We spend less than the national average on teacher salaries and education for exceptional children," she says, "and our classrooms remain overcrowded."

Since 1986 businesses have enjoyed tax cuts that cost the state \$112 million annually. This would finance over half of the state's needs for education in the coming fiscal year, notes Ramquist.

Undercutting the state's education needs is bad for businesses as well as for the state's children, she argues. Ramquist notes that the Corporation for Enterprise Development has given a low ranking to North Carolina's business climate—in part because of the poor condition of the state's education system.

Studies show that out-of-state

(See TAXES, P. 2)



DR. JOYCE T. BERRY

Plans For Redistricting

GOP Woos Blacks For Alliances

BY CHERYL MILLER

The Republican Party, which is in the minority in every chamber of every Southern legislature, is looking for black and Hispanic allies for coming redistricting fights. It is unlikely that Republicans, who currently make up only 25 percent of the state legislators in the South, will win enough new seats in the 1990 elections

to control the redistricting process in any state below the Mason-Dixon Line. Understanding this, the GOP is seeking to build coalitions with minority politicians as a way of increasing the party's leverage in 1991 when new legislative districts are drawn.

The Republicans theorize that since approximately 90 percent of blacks continue to identify with the

Democratic Party, concentrating them in one district dilutes the Democratic strength in other districts. Thus, the "whiter" non-majority black districts are, the theory goes, the greater the opportunities they offer for Republican electoral success.

"Too often, congressional and legislative lines are drawn by Democratic-controlled state

legislatures that maintain the power status quo and lock out others—primarily Republicans, minorities, and especially African-Americans," says Thelma Duggin, director of national outreach at the Republican National Committee. The GOP speculates that the 24 black members of Congress could double their number as a result of the redistricting process.

Republican officials claim that the experience after the 1980 Census demonstrates that in redistricting, blacks and Republicans can pursue common interests. One cited example is the successful challenge of Georgia's 1981 congressional redistricting plan. As an outcome of

(See REDISTRICTING, P. 2)

POLICE BUST COCAINE DEALERS

Former St. Aug's Students

A Wake prosecutor stated that a Wake grand jury has indicted six former St. Augustine's College students and a seventh man, charging them with operating a cocaine dealing ring.

Jacqueline Lambert, a Wake assistant district attorney, said the ring had operated between 1987 and 1989 while the men attended school. At its height it allegedly had sold more than a pound of cocaine a week.

Charged in leading the group is a New Jersey man, Mark Pitt. Mr. Pitt was convicted in Wake Superior Court in April of conspiracy to traffic in cocaine, and was sentenced to 35 years in prison.

Ms. Lambert said that the indictments had been returned by a special investigative grand jury, which had pursued information that had come to light during Pitt's trial.

A New York courier testified at the trial that she had been arrested in August for not paying a \$15 cab fare. After her arrest, police searched her and found that she had been carrying more than \$70,000 worth of cocaine for Pitt.

Under the new indictments, issued last week, Pitt faces charges of operating a continuing criminal enterprise and conspiracy to traffic in cocaine. Under the criminal enterprise charge, Pitt could face a maximum penalty of life in prison.

Charged with aiding and abetting the criminal enterprise and conspiracy to traffic in cocaine was Terrence Jeffries. During Pitt's trial, Jeffries was mentioned as one who had arranged the purchase of cocaine from New York distributors.

Five other men were charged with possession of cocaine and conspiracy to sell and deliver cocaine. They were Cedric Ingram, Eric Ramsey, Leon Collins, Eddie Barthell and Andre Waller.



ANNIVERSARY DINNER — Joining dinner chairman Henry H. Brown (right), vice president, marketing development and affairs, Anheuser-Busch, Inc. at Howard's 20th Anniversary Dinner, held recently in Washington, D. C. are Harvey C. Russell (left), retired vice president of PepsiCo, Inc. and Maurice Williams (center), director of hotel and motel management programs at Howard University's School of Business.

Groups Urging Representatives To Oppose Art Funding Restrictions

A host of major organizations rallied to the aid of the embattled National Endowment for the Arts, calling on senators and members of Congress to "oppose the campaign to muzzle artistic expression."

"Free societies do not censor art," a joint letter released by the North Carolina Office of People for the American Way Action Fund, stated with signatures ranging from the American Dance Festival in Durham to the City Gallery of Contemporary Art in Raleigh.

Twenty-five diverse cultural and civic groups co-signed the letter urging North Carolina's congressional delegation to "vote" to reauthorize the NEA without content restrictions at full funding.

"For the past 25 years, the National Endowment for the Arts has supported more than 80,000 cultural pro-

jects across the nation. But now the endowment is threatened by a small, but highly vocal, minority that wants to punish the NEA for a handful of grants for projects they find offensive," the letter said.

"In an atmosphere of liberty, artists and patrons are free to think the unthinkable and create the audacious... where there's liberty, art succeeds. In societies that are not free, art dies," the letter stated, asking congressional members to oppose the "far right's campaign to muzzle artistic expression."

NEA critics propose strict, government-imposed controls on the agency's grantmaking or the total elimination of federal arts funding. The agency's fate will be decided in Congress soon. Supporters of free expression in the arts have recently stepped up efforts to save the NEA.

"The rising tide of censorship threatens to engulf our free expression rights," commented Cathy Stuart, director of the North Carolina office of People for the American Way Action Fund, which organized the group effort. "We are taking a stand not just in defense of a federal agency, but in defense of the principle

(See ART FUNDING, P. 2)

Dr. Berry, Caucus On Aging Focus On Plight Of Forgotten Minority

A strong advocate of seniors' rights who heads the Administration on Aging says more effort is needed to make certain all elderly Americans get the services they need.

Dr. Joyce T. Berry, of the U.S. Commission on Aging, an agency within the federal Department of Health and Human Services who was profiled recently by the National Bar Association, said, "We must work to ensure that the legal profession helps to ensure that the rights of older people are respected and that they receive the support and assistance that they have earned through years of productive service to this country."

The AOA is charged with developing a range of community-based services and opportunities for all older persons throughout the nation. Dr. Berry joined the AOA in 1974 but has been active in the field of aging since

1971. Since 1980, she has been responsible for the development and implementation of a wide variety of programs and has held positions at the

demanding challenges. It is vitally important that we as a society focus on the need to build our capacity to respond to dramatic increases in our

"We must harness the resources of educational institutions, churches, neighbors, families, shopkeepers, professionals, and businesses—everyone and everything—to ensure that adequate services for older Americans are available..." Joyce Berry

highest level of administration within the agency. She has served as associate commissioner of education and training, deputy associate commissioner for program development and associate commissioner for state and tribal programs.

"The maturing of our population offers both great opportunities and

older population during the next century," she said.

The elderly, and especially elderly African-Americans, are among the most deprived groups in this society and are in many respects an invisible or a forgotten minority.

(See DR. JOYCE BERRY, P. 2)

Foster Care Rates High For Funding \$4 Million For Child Services

Human Resources' Secretary David T. Flaherty has announced that the Division of Social Services has successfully passed at the highest level a federal review of the state's foster care program. Passing the review means that the state will continue to receive approximately \$4 million in federal Child Welfare Services funds above the amount that would have been available to the state had they failed the review.

The review was conducted in Raleigh during the week of June 11 by a panel of federal child welfare specialists from Washington and Atlanta and division staff. Two hundred case records of children who had been in foster care for at least six months were selected from across the state in a random sample for review.

In order for a state to pass the review at least 90 percent of the cases reviewed must verify that the children and their families have received services that are designed to prevent children from remaining in long term unplanned foster care placements, often known as "foster care drift." During the period which was subject to review, October 1, 1988 through September 30, 1989, there were 4,076 children in North Carolina who were in foster care for six or more months.

Flaherty commended social workers in county departments of social services for the excellent case plans which they had prepared and that were contained in the records. "The federal agency has asked our permission to use the plan as a model

(See FOSTER PARENTS, P. 2)



WATCH YOUR OPPONENT — Karate instructor Thomas Jarratt steps in to separate two fighters during sparring competition at Blinners Hills Community Center. Shawn Reid, right also seems to be keeping an eye on his opponent, too. (Photo by Talib Sabir-Calloway)