

IRAQ

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thousands and thousands of Jewish people there. They were the backbone of the banking industry, of all the crafts, the shops... all the work that you expected to have done. They were the lawyers, they were the heart of the community in Baghdad," she told The CAROLINIAN.

But when Palestinian refugees, driven out of their land, began to migrate to places like Baghdad in search of food and sustenance, the Iraqi government, in retaliation for what had happened to their Arab brothers, ordered the Jews out of Baghdad.

Mayor Cannon also confirms that indeed the tiny country known as Kuwait was once part of Iraq, and was created only after the British and French drew borderlines and installed puppet monarchies to maintain control in the region. She said that despite the unlawful invasion by Saddam Hussein's Iraqi forces, Kuwait was never well-liked among the Arab nations because of its tremendous wealth, and virtual enslavement of Palestinians, Pakistanis and other peoples into servitude, and yes, even chattel slavery... all to keep oil flowing to the West.

On one occasion, she and her husband were once ordered to evacuate the American embassy in Baghdad because both British and American intelligence thought the Russians were preparing to invade the region in order to take over the British oil pipeline. The invasion never took place, and the evacuation was called off.

Like all Americans, Ms. Cannon hopes and prays for a speedy end to the war, and the safe return of our troops and their families. She most certainly agrees that Saddam Hussein is an evil man, but she is quick to note that he is not indicative of the Iraqi people. "The Iraqi people are a loving, caring people," she said. She remembers them as being very generous and very community-minded.

How the conflict will resolve itself is, according to Ms. Cannon, still a mystery, but she dreads the suffering that is being inflicted on Iraq's citizenry (she believes sanctions should have been given more time), and the instability in the region that may very well be the aftermath of the war.

NEWS BRIEFS

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HUMANITARIAN AWARD

The Wendell-Wake County Branch of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People will observe Black History Month on Sunday, Feb. 17, at 3 p.m. at the New Bethel Baptist Church in Rolesville.

Sheriff John H. Baker, Jr. will be this year's recipient of the branch's Humanitarian Award. Rev. Theodore Carter, Sheriff Baker's pastor from Cokesbury United Methodist Church, will be guest speaker, along with his choir. The John H. Baker Choir will be featured also.

ROBERTS PARK TENNIS COURTS

Roberts Park will get hand-me-down lights for its tennis court from Millbrook Exchange Park after the North Raleigh park gets new lights. The Raleigh City Council recently awarded a \$100,458 contract to Floyd S. Pike Electrical Contractor of Raleigh to install the lights. Roberts Park, 1300 E. Martin St., has two recreational tennis courts. Millbrook Exchange Park 1905 Spring Forest Road, has an active tennis program and 15 courts that need additional lighting, said John M. Hoppe, a landscape architect with the Raleigh Parks and Recreation Department. The idea is to save the city some money and to provide better lights at Roberts.

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LOTTERY

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lottery as a moral issue should ask themselves if they have ever entered a magazine sweepstakes or invested money in any way "because the core of the gambling issue is getting something for nothing. But anyone who has ever invested wisely in the stock market has done just that and made money for a minimum amount of effort."

But Rep. Coy Privette, R-Cabarrus, the executive director of the Christian Action League and a lottery opponent, said the lottery was not strictly a moral issue.

"The purpose of this body is to set public policy," Privette said. "And a lottery is bad public policy."

A lottery bill sponsored by Royall passed the Senate in 1989, but stalled in the House. The House, in fact, abruptly adjourned the session last summer rather than bring the lottery bill from a committee to the House floor.

But Royall said the change in the House leadership, with the election of Rep. Dan Blue, D-Wake, as House speaker, meant the lottery bill would have a better chance.

"The last time, the House didn't even take it up in committee," Royall said. "That was because of the leadership of the House. I don't think that would happen again if the Senate passes it."

THREATENED

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blacks in American life, and the Bush administration seems willing to push minorities over the abyss.

For example, in terms of health care, an alarming gap has been created between African-Americans and whites. According to the National Center for Health Statistics, the life expectancy for black men has fallen to 64.9 years, below retirement age. Millions of black women aren't receiving adequate prenatal care, and infant mortality rates are not surprisingly twice the rate for blacks than whites. Another recent health study found that blacks, who represent only 13 percent of the total U.S. population, now account for 80 percent of all premature deaths—that is, deaths of individuals between the ages of 15 to 44 years—because of abnormally high rates of pneumonia, asthma, bladder infections, and other diseases. Blacks, Hispanics and low-income people die sooner than upper-class whites, because they have no access to regular health-care services and because many have no health insurance.

Economically, the same picture of inequality emerges. The recent failure of Harlem's Freedom National Bank, one of the largest minority-owned financial institutions in the country, revealed that the government was unwilling to bail out economically distressed institutions when they held blacks' funds. As the recession deepens, the jobless rates in the black community have soared, while the Bush administration does nothing.

What all these elements have in common is the phony concept of "reverse racism" that blacks have been given too much over the years. The only way to reverse these trends is to rebuild the black protest movement, to challenge the system which perpetuates inequality.

DAN BLUE

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or she comes from the remotest part of Robeson County, with its traditional Southern school systems, but now one; or whether that child comes from the most affluent area of Mecklenburg or Wake County, it is our duty and responsibility to assure that he or she is given the opportunity, through an education, to develop into everything that God gave him or her the ability to develop into.

"I'm not talking about not simply looking towards 1992, in dealing with all the political rhetoric, wondering what the... others are going to do if we do X, Y and Z," said Blue. "That makes a forward progressive state, but looking at those things so that at the turn of the century, North Carolina can not only be the leader in the region, but a leader in the nation."

"I suggest, with forward thinking men and women of the General Assembly who have the vision to move this state where it ought to be, we can look back 60 years from now and say that there came a team of leadership in North Carolina in the '90s, that made it go forward, that was sensitive to history of deprivation and discrimination, but at the same time look forward to take the entire state where it ought to be going and made every child in this state, every man and woman in this state, regardless of his or her status in life, be proud to call North Carolina the state from which they hailed.

"And I look to you, to help us with that kind of leadership over the next two years. You haven't failed me yet, and I know that you will not fail over this two-year period," he said.

Addressing the audience, Dr. Prezell Robinson, president of St. Augustine's College, said, "We had the pleasure of changing him [Blue] last evening from a mere human being to a doctor, and we are real pleased. We are pleased to have you here, and we are pleased to have hosted this very special occasion. I think it is very prophetic, the words of Dr. Martin Luther King: 'We have come a very long, long way. But we have a



WEEK OF FEB. 14-30
HAPPY VALENTINE'S DAY

Truly it is all in the stars. For sure you are all out there wondering what to buy that special one. Here's a clue. Since this is a New Moon period, it is good to buy that very special someone a beautiful heart of amethyst. For this is a good vibrational breakfast for all. It will touch the hearts of all you Aquarians and especially for those seeking more balance in their lives. It will be like icing on the cake. Have a beautiful day and a wonderful week for all of those who are born in the cycle of Aquarius. Your mind is very active at this time and the ideas that you come up with may just be what is needed to make the boss take a second look at your performance.

long, long way to go.' I think you will agree with me. Indeed, we have come a long, long way, and indeed we have a long way to go."

Dr. Robinson quoted a prayer attributed to Sir Francis Drake who landed on the shores of North America in early 1578: "O Lord God, when Thou grant Thy people any great endeavor, grant them to know that it is not the beginning, but the finishing of the same that grants us the true glory."

"I would suggest that we have a great task that lies before us. And as we meet on this historic campus of St. Augustine's College, which was founded in 1867, at a time when people had very little confidence in the ability of the newly freed slaves, a pool of about 30, out of that four million, who had the equivalent of a college education.

"There were those who believed that God sent these people into the world for three reasons: one was to hew the wood, till the soil and to draw water; but as you and I know, that is not true. And I think that the presence of the speaker of the House, who happens to be a person of color, is blind to that fact."

OFFICER KILLS

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tion is completed, said Chief Gilliam. Bullock said Wyche had been troubled recently, and had been laid off from his job at a Franklinton cotton mill.

Research reveals that in the four years before 1989 there were only six documented cases of African-American males who died in incidents involving the police in North Carolina. Following the shooting death of Sidney Bowen, former mayor of Bolton, in February 1990, the state police issued a statement that four people of all races had been killed in encounters involving state troopers in the previous year. There had been eight such incidents since 1983.

Between January of 1989 and February of this year seven African-American men died in encounters with police officers in North Carolina. Two of the incidents involved state troopers, the others involved city police officers. All of the incidents stemmed from arrests or attempted arrests.

Law enforcement officials believe that the increase in violence stems from the fact that there is less respect for the law. Citizens, they say, are more likely to resist and use force against police officers, and officers are being forced to use their weapons more often in self-defense.

Christina Davis-McCoy, executive director of North Carolinians Against Racist and Religious Violence, said guidelines set forth by the U.S. Justice Department's Community Relations Service and advice from law enforcement experts in North Carolina suggest policies that could reduce the potential for such violent confrontations.

All of these policies underscore the main conclusions from the Justice Department report. "Violent encounters between the police and citizens can be reduced if a given police force consciously emphasizes the value of protecting human life and crime prevention. Police must also tailor their services to meet the needs of the community they serve and be accountable to that community," she said.

There are a number of specific policies that can reduce the potential for violent encounters between police and citizens. For example, the North Carolina Criminal Justice Education and Training Standards Commission could develop a uniform, statewide policy to govern the use of weapons by law enforcement officers. Many police departments, according to the Justice Department, limit the use of deadly force to circumstances that endanger the life of an officer or other citizen.

Experts say police departments in the state should also address the problematic issue of armed pursuit. Many departments require a chase be terminated when it poses a greater threat than the crime for which the pursuit was initiated.

When violence does occur, experts recommend that citizens assist in investigations of the incidents. The NAACP called on the Greensboro City Council to establish a citizen review board after the arrests surrounding a residential fire increased tensions between that city's police and African-Americans.

"Ideally, North Carolina's legislature should provide a citizens

review process," Ms. McCoy states. "This would allow the community to better understand why the police often react with deadly force. Such a process would also make the police accountable to the community and may lead both the police and the community toward cooperation, instead of confrontation."

PANEL

(Continued from page 1)

Pickett delivered the following statement to The CAROLINIAN:

"Since July of 1868, the 14th Amendment to the U.S. Constitution has provided more meaningfully the rights and privileges of all American citizens. The first section of the 14th Amendment includes this statement: 'No state shall make or enforce any law which shall abridge the privileges or immunities of citizens of the United States; nor shall any state deprive any person of life, liberty or property without due process of law, nor deny to any person within its jurisdiction the equal protection of the laws.'

"On Thursday evening, Jan. 24, 1991, a young black man was denied the privilege of going home to eat dinner. He was stopped by a Raleigh police officer in plain clothes. The of-

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ficer did not turn on his blue light nor show any type of identification, but he did draw his firearm. Mr. Tony Farrell did what any other black citizen would have done; he tried to leave the scene.

"No one should be shot by a police officer simply because his skin is black. No police officer has the right to serve as judge, jury, and prosecutor. As a veteran of the Raleigh Police Department, the officer should have known that other means could have been used to apprehend Mr. Farrell without resorting to deadly force.

"What the mayor thinks is 'sensitive' is vastly different to citizens who complain to the Raleigh-Apex Branch, NAACP. Such wide differences need to be eliminated or reduced if government or 'all the people' is to become a reality. Alienation and different standards must not be tolerated in our system of government. When law or policy is violated, swift, corrective response action is mandated, not compassionate, justification statements.

"As long as racism remains in America, it will bring about incidents such as the shooting of an innocent citizen. All citizens of Raleigh should speak out against racist acts such as the one that unfortunately occurred on Ashe Avenue."

At a meeting last week, Chief Heineman conceded that Det. Glover had not displayed his blue light and he failed to show identification when he approached the car. He also aired a tape that disclosed significant discrepancies between the descrip-

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tion of clothing worn by the robbery suspect and that of Farrell.

If the city were to reach a settlement with Farrell, some of the money may come from the city's insurance fund. About four years ago, the city moved from a premium-based policy to a self-insurance fund when rates became exorbitant. "We do have certain reserves as part of the insurance program," Benton said.

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