

INSIDE AFRICA

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"I had to make it abundantly clear to Mengistu that we were not going to supply Ethiopia with arms," Lubrani said.

President Bush, who was closely involved in the 1984 airlift, dispatched former Sen. Rudy Boschwitz, R-Minn., to ask Mengistu to speed up the Jews' departure in exchange for a U.S.-mediated ceasefire in Ethiopia's civil war.

"This operation could not take place without the full, devoted help of the United States," Lubrani said.

Mengistu's escape last week and the advance of rebel forces on Addis Ababa also made the airlift possible.

"We had to carry it out within some crack between the removal of one government and the coming of another. We had to place the whole operation into this crack," Shamir said.

TOO MUCH TV

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Department of Public Instruction, several of these low-scoring states and territories had at least one common factor. Like North Carolina, many of the students in Hawaii, the District of Columbia and the Virgin Islands, report that they spend a lot of time in front of the television.

Of the 2,000 North Carolina eighth graders who took part in the first national assessment, more than 50 percent said they watch four or more hours of television per day. More than 21 percent watch six hours or more a day.

State Superintendent Bob Etheridge said he is disappointed with the performance of North Carolina's students. "This is just one more indicator that we need a major infusion of support to change North Carolina's public schools. This poor showing in mathematics does not bode well for our students to compete with students from other states in the years to come."

Dr. Sammie Campbell Parrish, assistant superintendent for program services, announced that several efforts are under way to improve the achievement of North Carolina's students, including revising the mathematics curriculum, changing the way students are tested, increasing graduation requirements for students to include Algebra I, improving and increasing training for teachers, and adopting new mathematics textbooks to reflecting changing mathematics skills. When the NAEP test was conducted some 18 months ago, many of the changes in mathematics education had just begun. State officials expect the NAEP test to provide a good way to measure the effects of the changes in the mathematics curriculum and the renewed effort to align the mathematics curriculum with the actual skills students need.

By participating in the National Assessment of Educational Progress, North Carolina is able to review the performance of eighth-grade mathematics students in this state in comparison with those in other states. The highest-performing states on the NAEP are North Dakota, Montana, Iowa, Nebraska, Minnesota and Wisconsin. These states tend to have fewer students in free lunch programs, smaller percentages of minority students, fewer students who watch six or more hours of television each day, and a larger percentage of students with both parents in the home. The lower performing states tend to be in the Southeast.

The NAEP results show that North Carolina students need work in applying skills, an area that is also a weakness for students taking the Scholastic Aptitude Test.

The National Assessment of Educational Progress has existed since 1969, and for years it has provided national data on the performance of 9, 13 and 17-year-olds. The new state-to-state report in eighth grade mathematics is NAEP's first effort to provide information for state comparisons.

Congressional legislation authorizing the assessment prohibits the release of results for individual schools involved in the trial program, so that the scores cannot be used to rank, compare or otherwise evaluate individual students, schools or school systems.

Another trial NAEP program is slated to take place in 1992. In that year, a state sample of fourth graders will be assessed in reading, while a sample of fourth and eighth grades will take the assessments in areas of mathematics and reading. North Carolina has agreed to participate in the 1992 program.

ABC STORES

(Continued from page 1)

current ABC employees to keep the system the way it is currently structured. Keeping the status quo obviously favors them. The reason I offered my bill is to answer the question that I think is more relevant than protecting the ABC's "turf." What is best for the people of North Carolina? When that question is answered, the best course to take will be obvious.

SECOND PHASE

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"This conference has given us an opportunity to hear ideas, concepts and program activities from education professionals, academicians, attorneys and NAACP leaders that can go into the development of policy positions that the board of directors, with input from staff, can develop for the association, both for immediate action and long-range planning."

As counsel for the NAACP in the Brown case, Judge Careter brought a firsthand perspective to his closing remarks about the status of desegregation. After Brown, Judge Carter served as the NAACP's assistant special counsel and later as its general counsel before being appointed to the federal bench in 1972.

"There is evidence and data to indicate poor black children from disadvantaged neighborhoods can still succeed in school, and that educators are denying our children effective curricula offerings—putting them in tracks where they will not be exposed to equal education," he declared.

On the subject of all-black male schools that have been proposed by several sources, Judge Carter said:

"My feeling is this is just a gimmick and we are being seduced. We are going to have to reject that."

At the opening session, two distinguished panelists, Arthur Fletcher, chairman of the U.S. Commission on Civil Rights, and Derrick Bell, Weld Professor of Law at Harvard University, presented pro and con arguments in a session titled "Is School Desegregation Still Feasible?" The session was moderated by Washington, D.C. journalist Joseph Madison.

Presenting the pro side of the debate, Fletcher strongly backed the NAACP's efforts to desegregate the nation's schools and asserted that desegregation remains an important issue today, and the types of efforts and actions that brought about the Brown decision need to be maintained.

Presenting the other side of the debate, Prof. Bell said what needs to be looked at and examined is the larger and more current picture into which school desegregation fits.

While he was not openly critical of the means the NAACP used in order to achieve the 1954 landmark decision, Prof. Bell said the continuing fight for educational fairness and equity needs to be examined and discussed in the context of the nation's continued idea of racial suppression. Prof. Bell said white society is willing to make whatever sacrifices necessary in order to maintain a strategy that will thwart the racial progress of blacks. He also suggested that the NAACP should have done more strategic planning when it was working to bring about the 1954 decision.

"Today we recognize as we didn't then that racism is endemic and a critically important stabilizer for this country," he said.

At the banquet, Ernest Green, one of the original members of the "Little Rock Nine"—the black students who integrated Little Rock's Central High School—called the present educational crisis in America "both a personal and a societal crisis."

Green, now a managing partner with Shearson, Lehman, Hutton, and a member of the NAACP National Board of Directors, credited the efforts of the NAACP and Ms. Bates for securing his education at the school, but noted that he was also driven by his own standards of excellence and belief that he and the other Little Rock Nine could change the conditions surrounding them.

Green expressed discouragement at the current status of education for blacks and said today's black students do not view education seriously or recognize fully the merits of not having to be educated in separate school systems.

LOOK AT ISSUES

(Continued from page 1)

women of color and white women from throughout the United States to explore the barriers that prevent the participation by women of color in the reproductive health movement and that prevent women of color and white women from working collectively.

"We must begin to understand the impact that lack of access to reproductive health care has on women of color in this country and abroad. In many Latin American and sub-Saharan African countries, illegal and unsafe abortions are the number one cause of death for women of childbearing age," said Jodi Hall, director of the Women of Color Partnership Program. "There should be no doubt in our minds that women of color in America will suffer the same fate if reproductive health care continues to be inaccessible and abortion becomes illegal."

Speakers on Friday night included Lynn Paltrow of the American Civil Liberties Union and Heather Berthoud, of the National Abortion Rights Action League. Lillie Allen of the Lillie Allen Institute in Atlanta will facilitate a daylong workshop on Saturday on how women of color can

BATTLE MEMORIES

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295th Supply Co., Ft. Lewis, Wash., Wheeler recalled his efforts during the battle to free Kuwait.

"My company was responsible for supplying the troops with whatever was necessary, food, water and clothing," said Wheeler, a 1989 graduate of Cary High School.

While oil wells burn and reconstruction begins in Kuwait, American troops anxiously wait for word when they will be going home. They're recuperating somewhat impatiently, passing time by playing cards, volleyball, basketball and just reminiscing about their role in Desert Storm.

"When we first arrived it was hard to deal with the heat. Work was very demanding and there was never a time when there was nothing to do. It's good to see everyone going home but I hate it when I can't help each soldier who comes through our company," he said.

As more and more troops leave by the plane load each day, the memories of trekking through hot, sandy dunes; scurrying to put on gas masks during SCUD attacks; inspecting Iraqi bunkers and capturing enemy prisoners is an experience these soldiers will relieve forever as they tell generations to come of the 100-day war.

"Being a part of Desert Storm is an honor and something I can tell my kids about," Wheeler said.

work together more effectively and come together with white women on common concerns. The conference closed on Sunday with an address by Pat Tyson, the executive director of the Religious Coalition for Abortion Rights and member of the Coalition for 100 Black Women.

SCAM HURTS

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William Robinson of Everett told the committee how his father was duped into taking out short-term home improvement loans totalling about \$157,000. "They knew he couldn't pay back the loan. But they still gave it to him," Robinson said.

"And then they just came for the house," he said. The elder Robinson still lives at the property and is not paying back the loan because of legal action.

Lawrence Robinson, a Dorchester resident who cannot read or write, was told by the mortgage company that the improvements on his property would make it suitable for tenants, and he could use the rents to pay back the loan.

"Our poor, elderly and minority citizens, without access to legitimate forms of credit, have been brutally exploited by unregulated mortgage companies and home repair outfits," said Rep. Joseph P. Kennedy, D-Mass. He called the scams a "national tragedy."

The panel was chaired by Rep. Henry Gonzalez, D-Texas, and included Sen. John Kerry, D-Mass.; Rep. Barney Frank, D-Mass.; Rep. Richard Neal, D-Mass.; and Rep. Gerald Kleczka, D-Wis.

The panel examined whether lending companies should be regulated and whether laws should be passed to strengthen the Community Reinvestment Act which requires banks to meet the needs of the communities they serve.

Following the meeting leaders of four banks promised to review mortgages in the city's minority neighborhoods and consider refinancing any that have unfair terms.

Wilkerson said even if lawmakers draft legislation to combat the alleged scam, the problem will not be solved.

"It's not going to do a damn thing for the people who have lost their homes," she said.

The first American ship to visit Hawaii was the Columbia, in 1789.

NEWS OF EDUCATION

Scholarships Available For Engineering Students

Helping to meet tomorrow's need for skilled engineers today: That's the goal of a special program that will provide \$700,000 in scholarship support this year for talented young people eager to pursue careers in engineering and science.

Educators say that the demand for engineers in the '90s and beyond will be overwhelming. By nurturing the next generation of scientists, researchers and engineers, the Promise Fund of New York's Polytechnic University, the second oldest technological university in the nation, makes an absolutely vital investment in the future of this nation.

Most of the Fund's awards go to women, minorities and students from low-income families, all traditionally under-represented in the engineering and science fields. Promise Fund Scholarships are distributed on the basis of financial need and academic achievement.

In addition to scholarships, the Fund provides operating money for Polytechnic's Center for Youth in Engineering and Science (YES) outreach programs. The Center was founded in 1985 to encourage high school students in New York City and Long Island to pursue an education in science or engineering. The program began as a pilot project be-

NC Legal Service Attys Nominated Legal Honors

Legal Services of North Carolina has announced that Christine O'Connor Heinberg and Roger Manus, both of Carolina Legal Assistance, have been nominated for the North Carolina Bar Association's Legal Services Attorney of the Year Award.

Ms. Heinberg, a staff attorney, has devoted her entire legal career to working for Carolina Legal Assistance. Last year, she served as co-counsel for a suit against a nursing home and the state Division of Facility Services whose job is to regulate the nursing and rest home industry. The case settlement has completely changed the way that regulators track violations of residents' rights, resulting in better care for the elderly in nursing and rest homes.

Roger Manus, senior staff attorney for Carolina Legal Assistance, won a landmark case for the hundreds of people with mental retardation in state psychiatric hospitals. The outcome of this case made it possible for persons with mental retardation to receive the appropriate care they need instead of being placed in institutions that impede them from becoming contributing members of our society.

"Legal Services has many unsung heroes in our statewide programs. The bar association's nominations recognize a few of those individuals and the valuable service they provide to the poor of our state. Chris and Roger are both an asset to Legal Services," said Richard Taylor, Jr., director, Legal Services of North Carolina.

The North Carolina Bar Association conducted the nominating process. A total of eight attorneys were nominated from the 18 Legal Services statewide projects. This is the first year that such an award will be given to a Legal Services attorney. The award will be presented at the annual meeting of the North Carolina Bar Association in Asheville in June.

The largest island of the Hawaiian group is Hawaii, called the Big Island and the island on which that flavorful favorite of tourists and others, the Macadamia nut, is grown commercially.

Babe Ruth once planted a tree in front of the Hilo Hawaiian Hotel.



A special scholarship program helps America meet the need for many new engineers, researchers and scientists.

tween Polytechnic and Brooklyn Technical High School. Today, over 100 high schools and several hundred students participate in the four outreach programs: Summer Research Program, College Preview Program, Computer Outreach Program, and Saturday Seminar Series.

"The Promise Fund helps ensure that young people who wish to become scientists, engineers or professionals in other technological fields are able to make those dreams come true," says Dr. George Bugliarello, president of Polytechnic.

WILLIAMSTON WHISTLINGS

BY JOYCE GRAY

WILLIAMSTON—On May 26, My Lord, what a morning! A gospel melodrama written and directed by Elder Milton D. Sutton was presented to the playgoers in Martin County.

Ms. Yvonne Price sponsored the two-act play which portrays two families with very different backgrounds.

Ms. Eula Scott and Ms. Larree Cherry co-sponsored the event with Ms. Price for the AKA Sorority debutante contestants. They are working with those who missed supporting this fundraiser might give their support now by contributing to the sponsors or the contestants directly.

Proof in the pudding! Yes, there are some faithful Democrats in Martin County. According to the attendance at the May 28 dinner/meeting, there is proof.

With a weekend holiday just endless than three weeks' notice and not many call-in reservations, they came, the women and some even sent their husbands when there was a conflict. Some men started to apologize for attending a Democratic women's dinner meeting, but yours truly was at the door passing out the meat ticket and assured them to be at ease because the speaker, Sen. Beverly Perdue, would be interesting, the new chairman, Ms. Mary Andrews, would be very graceful and the food would be delicious.

My prayer for an increase in membership was answered, too. However, those of you who haven't joined to date, the plea is still extended. Any day, the sooner, the better. In case you prefer dealing directly with the treasurer, you may reach her by the following: Ms. Dorothy Griffin, 792-3130.

Happy birthday greetings to Ms. Fannie Fagan Ray, Keven Fitzgerald, Dallas Lyons, Ms. Vondra Joyner and Robert Lee Brown.

On the sick and shut-in list: Ms. Artie Manson, Alton Bell, Ms. Betty S. Lanier, Ms. Grace P. Smithwick, Sam Brown, Ms. Daisy H. Biggs, Frederick Bennett, Mr. and Mrs. George T. Hyman, Ms. Armaza C. Roberson, David B. Feggins, Joe Biggs, Ms. Mamie Keyes, Ms. Winnie Davis, Ms. Mattie H. Perry, Ms. Rosa Best, Ms. Annabel Best, Jessie Bell, Ms. Marie Biggs, George Anthony Perry, Mr. and Mrs. James Marriner, Ms. Zara Chance, Ms. Christine Council, Ms. Rachel Hill, Ms. Devie Hill, Ms. Ophelia Peele, Mr. and Mrs. Earnhart Winborne, Ms. Roxie West, Ms. Eileen Reese, Jerome Aikens and Harry Respass.

In Roper, Rudolph Wilkins. In Plymouth, Ms. Esther Roberts and Ms. Pauline Brown.

The North Carolina Black Leadership Caucus met June 1 at St. Augustine's College, Raleigh.

The First Congressional District Black Leadership Caucus met on Saturday, June 8, in Washington.

"Sowing Seeds for a Healthier Future—Healthy People, Healthy Families, Healthy Community" is the theme for the 15th annual conference being held July 19-21 by the North Carolina Black Leadership Caucus.

The 1991 NCBLC Conference host committee chairman, Ralph Campbell, Jr., is inviting everyone to start making reservations at the Brownstone Hotel, Raleigh, as early as possible for what promises to be an exciting and informative conference.

For additional information, write the North Carolina Black Leadership Caucus, P.O. Box 244, Rockingham 28379. Elijah "Pete" Peterson is chairman.

Final plans are being made for the annual retreat of the First Congressional District Black Leadership Caucus, scheduled for Saturday, June 22, in Beaufort County with Bill Booth and George Bailey in charge. County contacts should pick up their banquet raffle tickets at this time also. Anyone may attend the retreat, and youth, especially, are invited. Adults are always encouraged to bring some youth. Please contact your key person for final details. Notices were mailed after the June 8 meeting.

It was nice to see Ms. Fondella S. Green back on the job after a week on vacation. She always looks so mature behind that desk whenever I drop off her copy of The CAROLINIAN.

Martin County NAACP youth won second place in the state Youth of the Year Contest. Ms. Michelle Smith, Route 1, represented the council and is the recipient of mileage, double occupancy hotel accommodations for one night, and one banquet ticket for the North Carolina NAACP 1991 state convention.

The guest speaker for the youth luncheon which was held May 25 at the Radisson Plaza Hotel in Raleigh was Delores S. Todd, assistant commissioner, Atlantic Coast Conference.

This was Michele's first attendance at a state NAACP function, and accompanying her were her parents, Mr. and Mrs. J. Randolph Smith, and her sister, Trelese.

Women's Day at Bethlehem AME Zion Church last Sunday was an enjoyable service. Speaker, Missionary Mary Way, took as her subject, "What Kind of House Are You Building and Is It On A Sure Foundation?"

Reading the scripture was Ms. Edith Scott. Ms. Kimberly Trapp prayed and Ms. Gladys J. Hubbard introduced the speaker.

Ms. Joyce Hoiper sang a solo and the Junior Choir rendered several songs, accompanied by the pianist, Ms. Evora Rodgers. Pastor of the church is the Rev. Benjamin Thornton.

Arriving early has its benefits in more ways than one. Never one to whom making a grand entry was a big hit, and until taking care of my health became a top priority in my life, I became annoyed if anyone or anything caused tardiness for me... so I got a chance to greet the birthday lady before the crowd settled down.

The place was Cobb's Corner Holiday Inn, Williamston, on June 1, and the celebration was for honoring the 90th birthday of Ms. Minnie H. Keyes, a native of the Darden community, a section whom some refer to as the Freewill-Uniontown area.

Presiding was Ms. Vera Brown. Greetings were brought by Ms. Lona Garrett, one of Ms. Keyes' daughters. Ms. Eva Lee James did "This is Your Life," starting from the birth of Ms. Keyes, her early acceptance of Christian living and church membership, the courtship/marriage to the late bishop, Sir Walter Keyes, then the addition to the family by blessing of children. She easily incorporated bits of humor occasionally as she went from one point to another, thereby giving the audience a chance to chuckle.

All of Ms. Keyes' daughters, sons-in-law, grandchildren and their spouses, as well as the great and great-great-grandchildren were introduced. Some made remarks for their peers. Friends from each table were given the opportunity to make remarks but were limited to two minutes. Special remarks were made by her son-in-law, John Shipp, who stated he wasn't just an in-law, but a son. The eldest granddaughter, Ms. Eunice Callahan, sang a solo. Another solo was by Joseph James, Jr.

Flowers, a plaque and a fur coat were presented by daughters and other family members. Ministers giving comments, reading the scripture and offering prayer were elders John Armstrong, Allen Brooks, Bishop Daniel Boston and Bishop Otis Nixon.

Among those busy taking videos of the affair was a son-in-law, Melvin Moore. I hurriedly apologized to his wife Venita when his sister informed me that I had written in an earlier article that his name was "Melvin Lyons." Right away, I said, "Jean! I was told as a child that haste makes waste. Now you can say the lady is getting senile for sure when I knew that was his mother's maiden name, knew when he was born, knew his father and couldn't understand why he was such a crying baby."

Had the pleasure of meeting Venita nearly 19 years ago but had not ever met Ms. Keyes until greeting her and introducing myself. When the evening ended I said to Ms. Jean Fitzgerald, "I must have shocked some folk tonight with my sitting so quietly." The birthday celebration was a real display of love and family unity. And Ms. Keyes in her remarks and song showed gracefulness in every respect. This was a time she could see and smell the flowers, eat the food, hear the comments made about her by neighbors, friends, family and church members whom she had led in some organization, or taught in Church School, and on a cooler day wear the beautiful coat. It seems to me that this was the best of times.

Men's Day was held at Hood's Temple AME Church on June 8 and at Goddard Hill on June 1.

Expressions of sympathy are extended to the family of the late James "Buddy" Rodgers.

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