

RALEIGH, N.C.,
THURSDAY,
JUNE 13, 1991
VOL. 50, NO. 58

N.C.'s Semi-Weekly
DEDICATED TO THE SPIRIT OF JESUS CHRIST

IN RALEIGH 25¢
ELSEWHERE 30¢

Remembering Ruffin: Where
Are The Answers?
See Page 22

St. Augustine's College
Showers Awards
See Page 24

Federal Study Finds

Health Care System Plagued With Discrimination, Racism

MINNEAPOLIS, Minn. (AP)—The health care system is still plagued with discrimination and racism nearly 20 years after a federal study exploited black men infected with syphilis, the government's top health official said.

"I am afraid that we have lost our frustration and anger, our natural aversion to racism," said Dr. Louis Sullivan, secretary of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. "Many of us no longer feel disdain or revulsion when we read of

racism or see the results of discrimination."

Sullivan spoke June 1 at a symposium that used the Tuskegee Syphilis Study as a starting point to explore issues of race, prejudice and health care. The study of about 400 black men in Alabama between 1932 and 1972 documented how the disease spreads and kills. Participants were not told they had the disease, nor were they given penicillin after it was discovered as a treatment.

"I am determined that this kind of

study is never repeated, ever," Sullivan said.

For participating in the U.S. Public Health Service's Tuskegee Study, the disease victims were given "free medical care," hot meals and burial stipends.

"They were allowed to be martyred without being told or asked if they enjoyed the honor," former Vice President Walter Mondale said.

Mondale vice chairman of a Senate subcommittee that investigated the human experimentation in 1973, said

the subjects "had it all going against them."

"They were impoverished. They were politically impotent," Mondale said. "They had the most despised disease possible. And they lived in a culture that every minute taught them how worthless they were."

Sullivan said infant mortality and life expectancy in blacks are just two modern-day examples of "clear, demonstrable, undeniable evidence of discrimination and racism in our health care system."

He said the infant mortality rate for blacks is double that for whites and life expectancy for blacks is six years less than for whites. He cited a 1990 report by his department which found that blacks wait twice as long as whites for a first kidney transplant.

"This is a shocking portrait of a two-tiered health care system, where examples like the Tuskegee Study are just one manifestation," Sullivan said.

He also said homicide is so pervasive among blacks that it must

be considered a public health concern rather than simply a criminal justice problem. Homicide is the leading cause of death for all blacks 15-24 years old.

"For the black community, homicide steals our strength," our youth and our potential, Sullivan said.

Researchers involved in the Tuskegee Study were amazed at how controllable their subjects were, said Bill Jenkins, an assistant professor of

(See HEALTH CARE, P. 2)

Possible HIV Infection Cause

Jailed For Unsafe Sex

Local Woman Arrested On Health Dept. Order Here

Beatrice O. Cox, 30, of Raleigh, was charged recently with violating the state communicable disease law by failing to comply with an isolation order issued by the Wake County Health Department.

Health officials allege Ms. Cox has not practiced safe sex and has not notified sexual partners of her condition.

The charges against Ms. Cox are the first of their kind in a Wake County Court.

According to reports, Ms. Cox was diagnosed in 1988 as having the virus that causes AIDS and was told what control measures to use to prevent the spread of the Human Immunodeficiency Virus. Those included using safe-sex practices, informing partners of the HIV infection, not sharing needles and not donating blood or organs.

The Wake health department began investigating Ms. Cox, in April, based on reports from another agency working with her. Included with the paperwork in the warrant were two arrest orders charging Cox with failing to show up in court in April to answer to two charges of soliciting for a crime against nature.

Wake County has 230 reported cases of AIDS.

The National Association of Social Workers has launched a year-long public service campaign to raise awareness about the devastating psychological and social problems engendered by the AIDS epidemic.

The campaign was launched in conjunction with the observance of Professional Social Work Month in March. The campaign's slogan is "AIDS: We need to know. We need to care."

The campaign first emphasizes the "need to know" — the need to know about how AIDS spreads and how it can be prevented. It advocates sex

(See UNSAFE SEX, P. 2)



ANSWERING THE CHALLENGE—Dr. Shirley Lewis, center, director of the United Methodist Black College Fund, and Beverly James, right, a senior at Bennett College, Greensboro, talk about the continuing importance

of historically black colleges. They appeared this week on "Catch the Spirit," the national television series of the United Methodist Church.

St. Augustine's & Shaw Respond To Challenge For Top Students & Profs.

Sharon Neal has all it takes to make her a prize catch for any college. She's young, brilliant, holder of a Ph.D.—and African-American.

So last fall, Neal, a 32-year-old analytical chemist, left a teaching post at Spelman College, a black women's college two miles from downtown Atlanta, and accepted an assistant professorship at University of California-Riverside.

"They are giving her three labs. Can you imagine; Three labs!" exclaims Johnnetta Cole, Spelman's president.

Mainstream, predominantly white colleges and universities, under

growing pressure to diversify their faculties, are vying for such rare minority scholars as Sharon Neal. And black academics such as Neal can write their own ticket to almost any university.

On the surface, it would appear to be a losing battle for black colleges. Wealthy research campuses can promise minority scholars like Neal state-of-the-art lab facilities and much lighter teaching loads than either Spelman or any of the nation's 105 other historically black colleges and universities could match.

"Even if Spelman could give me three labs it wouldn't make a

difference," Neal says. "There is a research infrastructure that they can't replicate."

"I need grad students. I need an outstanding library. I need other colleagues to bounce ideas off of. I just decided that this was my opportunity to see how far I could go as a scientist."

But the traffic is not entirely one-way, a visit to Spelman disclosed.

At least half a dozen teachers interviewed here said they had given up higher-paying jobs at predominantly white schools to teach at Spelman.

They, as well as minority teachers at other campuses, expressed career motivations that go beyond dollars and perks. In many ways, their views echo those of minority students who sometimes find mainstream campuses less than congenial.

Dr. Robert E. Bridges, provost at St. Augustine's College, said it is a challenge in the faculty area to combat white institutions offering hefty salaries to African-American professors. "It is tough to match financially," he said. "We don't have those resources that the major institutions have."

"The strong point is the desire of the professors to teach at black institutions. I have observed since being here [St. Augustine's] that frequently highly prepared and marketable black professors choose to come to black colleges and work in this setting for a period of time and we benefit from that experience," Dr. Bridges said.

(See EDUCATION, P. 2)

Rev. H.B. Pickett Retires From Wake Schools

Rev. H.B. Pickett has retired after 30 years of service in the field of education.

Rev. Pickett, who is a native of Morehead City, attended Elizabeth City State University where he received a bachelor's degree in elementary education in 1961. He then served two years in the U.S. Army and received an honorable discharge in 1963.

He was employed by the Raleigh School System in 1963 as an elementary teacher at Mary Phillips School. During the school year of 1970-71 he taught at Lucille Hunter Sixth Grade Center. In 1972-73, he attended North Carolina Central University to complete his master's work in guidance and personnel counseling and also served as counselor and foreign student advisor at St. Augustine's College.

He then returned to the Wake County School System as a counselor at Fuquay-Varina Junior High School. In 1978, he joined the faculty at East Millbrook Junior High School, where he served until retirement.

Rev. Pickett is currently president of the Raleigh-Apex Branch of the NAACP, minister of the year for the North Carolina Conference of Branches and doctrine teacher for

(See H.B. PICKETT, P. 2)

Ms. W. McCullers Retires From School System

BY DAVID SAWYER

A teacher assistant of 50 years described by colleagues as a person of integrity and love for children says adieu to the Wake County School System.

Ms. Willie McCullers of Bugg Elementary School was given a farewell reception recently and received accolades and praise from principal, teachers, and friends.

Ms. Sally Bragg, principal of Bugg Elementary School, a classical studies magnet, said Ms. McCullers has been at the school as a teacher's assistant for three years in the Trainable Mentally Handicapped program which was transferred from another school. Ms. Bragg has been principal there since 1982 and was former principal of Vance Elementary School in Garner.

"Willie is dependable and has been here everyday," Ms. Bragg said referring to the retiring teacher. "I do not think she has missed a day since she came to Bugg. She is wonderful with children—very caring and respectful and knowledgeable of their strengths and weaknesses."

"She is a happy lady who is cooperative and works well with everybody, children, parents and staff. We will surely miss Willie—but

(See MS. MCCULLERS, P. 2)



MS. WILLIE MCCULLERS

Dan Blue Addresses Position

DANIEL T. BLUE
N.C. House Speaker

BY GROVER BAILEY
Managing Editor

Editor's Note: As the host of aspiring politicians visits our community during weeks prior to elections in search of support, many are allowed to depart with votes without an agenda or program for accountability. This series on evaluating African-American politicians begins with N.C. House Speaker, Rep. Daniel T. Blue. Part II of the interview will be published next week.

Q. Speaker Blue, why do you consider the job of Speaker of the House important to the African-American community? It is important for our community to understand political strategies. A number of such strategies must have been used to secure the position. Could you elaborate on some of these?

A. The position of Speaker of the House is important to the African-American community for two primary reasons. First, it provides a high-profile, state-wide position from

(See DAN BLUE, P. 2)

NEWS BRIEFS

HISTORIC/GENEALOGICAL MEET

The North Carolina Afro-American Historic and Genealogical Society's fifth annual meeting and luncheon will be held Saturday between 11 a.m. and 2:30 p.m. The event will take place at the second floor, conference room 211, of the N.C. Archives and History Building, 109 E. Jones St., Raleigh.

WIDENING BELTLINE

The North Carolina Transportation Department recently awarded a \$21.5 million contract to C.C. Mangum, Inc. of Raleigh to begin widening the Raleigh Beltline.

The project—which is expected to begin June 17—calls for widening the Beltline from Glen Eden Drive to west of Old Wake Forest Road. As part of the first phase of construction, traffic on U.S. 70, N.C. 50 and U.S. 1 will be detoured either through the city or along the southern portion of the Beltline to alleviate congestion and improve safety in the work zone.

During various stages of this first project, one lane of the Beltline (in each direction) may

(See NEWS BRIEFS, P. 2)

Cablevision CEO James Wade Adapts To The Changes In The Cable Industry

BY THERESA WHITFIELD
Special To THE CAROLINIAN

"My life has gone full-circle. I came to St. Augustine's College to get an education and play football, my first love. Leaving the college in 1966, I looked forward to renewing friendships at homecoming and to charting my own course in life with the education I was now endowed with," states James Wade.

Exuding confidence, he exclaims, "I always thought that I would make a contribution and pondered how I could best help the school that has given me so much. I was shocked and thrilled when Dr. Robinson, St. Augustine's president, called to ask me to serve on the board of trustees. I am honored to have the opportunity to be of service." He considers Robinson his mentor and acknowledges him for having shaped and mold his will to succeed.

And succeed he has. Chief executive officer of Cablevision in Philadelphia, he is also chairman of a printing company in the city of brotherly love, as well as the principal of a real estate company in Florida. He is an astute entrepreneur



JAMES WADE

and wears each hat well. His spirituality is evident as he quotes from the Bible, "To whom much is given, much is required." He attributes his success to preparation, acknowledging that his achievements

have not been because he was the most intelligent person at the table, but that he's always been the most prepared.

The will to succeed was instilled in Wade by his father, who taught him that he could do anything he wanted to do if he applied himself. He is passing the baton on to young Afro-American children as he seeks to help them develop personally as well as professionally. As a successful role model, his interest is in enabling minorities to develop a positive attitude and good value system. He believes that people must be committed to giving back to their communities to foster success.

Wade espouses the viewpoint that poverty is more a state of mind than a condition. An income deficit should be looked at as a temporary derailment on the way to the American dream. Poverty is a social ill that we must not internalize. We must recognize our innate power to change our conditions and situations.

We are the sum total of our

(See CABLEVISION, P. 2)