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NCCU Nursing Program Makes Strides

BY DAVID L. SAWYER
Staff Writer III

North Carolina Central University has improved its scores on the national nursing exam, making dramatic advances toward the requirements set forth last spring by the University of North Carolina system's Board of Governors.

Chancellor Tyrone R. Richmond

says challenges are to come but the results are a clear demonstration that NCCU is able and ready to provide first-class nursing education to all qualified students. Richmond said that the department of nursing achieved a 94 percent passing rate for the first-time takers of the July nursing board examinations.

Fifteen of 16 NCCU nursing graduates passed the examination,

according to the North Carolina Board of Nursing. NCCU also awarded baccalaureate degrees this year to 12 graduates who were already registered nurses, and were not required to repeat the examination.

Previously, UNC System President C.D. Spangler, Jr. proposed to his board that the Central program be moved to southeastern North Carolina and be shared by Fayetteville State University and Pembroke State University, but pressure from the board of trustees, faculty, students, parents, alumni and legislators won a reprieve.

Bernard Allen, chairman of the board of trustees, said the board has indicated to the chancellor they need to resolve glaring areas revealed in the news concerning the university and that the results of the nursing ex-

ams point to some of the positive things the university is doing.

Allen, who was recently appointed to another four-year term by the Board of Governors, said, "Enrollment is high along with SAT scores. Students are doing exceptionally well in math and science. The university has a rich heritage of strong leadership over the years and was once viewed as the flagship of historical in-

stitutions. My goal is to see it return to that status.

"I will not be a candidate for the chair in September," Allen said, referring to a retreat Sept. 16-18 for new board members and a status report. "I served two terms and now it's time to shift the leadership around. Any member is qualified to

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Beacon Plaza Bank Robbed

Bandit Escapes In 280 ZX

Lunchtime Robbery One Of Many In Wake County

According to police reports, a bandit held up a crowded Northeast Raleigh bank, escaping with an undisclosed amount of cash during lunchtime Tuesday.

Raleigh now has a total of 30 bank robberies so far this year.

The incident occurred about 12:45 p.m. at the Wachovia Bank and Trust Co. in the Beacon Plaza Shopping Center on the corner of New Bern Avenue and New Hope Road, according to records of the Raleigh Police Department.

The bandit waited in line, then handed the teller a note implying that he had a gun. No weapon was ever seen.

The man fled the bank driving a black Nissan 280ZX, with tinted and dark tinted windows, according to police.

The robber is described as six feet tall, 175 pounds with a medium-brown complexion. He was wearing a medium blue work shirt, a fluorescent orange vest, and blue work pants.

In other news: Orange County's 911 system is now under scrutiny. Manager John Link, Jr. said he would study ways to reform the 911 emergency system following an incident in which dispatchers joked about a victim's race and were slow to call deputies to the scene of a fatal accident. The incident was detailed in an anonymous letter distributed last week to the county commissioners and the news media.



WINNING PRINCIPAL—North Carolina's 1991 Principal of the Year, Dr. John Schroeder, is shown here reading to children enrolled in pre-school program at Fairview Elementary School in High Point. He was

bombarded by congratulatory gifts and phone calls from colleagues and friends, some of whom he hadn't heard from in years. In the eight years since he was named principal of Fairview in High Point in 1983, Schroeder has established a developmental preschool program that is a model for others around the state.

Hundreds of thousands of citizens will be marching on Washington, D.C. to demand the rights of workers in the United States in seeking the American dream.

A wide spectrum of leaders in America recently issued a strong statement calling for an end to the growing management practice of firing workers who go on strike by giving their jobs to "permanent

"There are presently key bills being drafted in the Congress to restore workers' rights and to ensure greater fairness in the workplace, the name of the legislation we support is the 'Workplace Fairness Bill' introduced by William Clay of Missouri and Sen. Howard Metzenbaum of Ohio," Chavis said.

"During the last ten years, workers have been unjustly fired for engaging

rights and workers rights. Justice delayed is justice denied. Justice must be for all or justice will be for none.

The 30 leaders called on civil rights proponents, the black community, religious, political and business organizations around the country to contact their congressional representatives and President Bush in support of the bill, which has 211 co-sponsors in the House and 32 co-sponsors in the Senate.

"All workers should have the right to maintain their jobs without employment discrimination or racial harassment."

—Rev. Benjamin F. Chavis, Jr.
Director, UCC Commission for Racial Justice

replacements" and calling on Congress to pass the Workplace Fairness Bill, HR 6/555, which would outlaw the practice. The March will be held Saturday and is being sponsored by the Labor Movement.

An African American Leadership Committee for Workplace Fairness has been organized in Washington to support the efforts of African American workers. William Lucy, secretary-treasurer of AFSCME; Norman Hill, president of the A. Philip Randolph Institute; Benjamin L. Hooks, executive director of the NAACP; Joseph E. Lowery, president of SCLC; and Congresswoman Eleanor Holmes Norton have initiated an effort to get African American leaders to sign and support a document entitled, "Helping Blacks Achieve the American Dream: Justice at Work."

President Bush's refusal to support the Civil Rights Act of 1991 is indicative of the Administration's anti-labor attitude. "All workers should have the right to maintain their jobs without employment discrimination or racial harassment," said the Rev. Benjamin F. Chavis, Jr., executive director of the United Church of Christ Commission for Racial Justice.

in collective bargaining. Workers today are routinely fired when they strike to protest injustice in the workplace. The Workplace Fairness Bill would restore the basic rights of collective bargaining. Striking workers would be permitted to return to their jobs as originally intended by the National Labor Relations Act," he said.

The statement signed by the African American leaders asserted, the rights of workers to form unions and bargain contracts with their companies are under attack across the nation. "As a result, the well being of millions of working Americans, particularly black men and women is at risk," Chavis said.

The statement emphasized, "As leaders of the black community we cannot afford to sit idly by while the basic democratic rights of America's workers are eaten away. In the industrialized world, South Africa is the only other country that tolerates reprisals against legal strikers."

We recall the past unity between the Civil Rights Movement and the Labor Movement. Now is the time to rebuild that unity and to stand together for human rights, civil

ABA Endorsements Mixed In Judge Clarence Thomas To High Court Question

BY DENNIS SCHATZMAN
Special to THE CAROLINIAN

Applying the same approach used in evaluating Supreme Court nominees since they scuttled North Carolina's John J. Parker's nomination in 1930, the NAACP's national board of directors met in closed session in a hotel less than 2 miles from the Supreme Court and Congress.

"I move that the Board of Directors of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People oppose the nomination of Judge Clarence Thomas to the United States Supreme Court."

The motion was made by Kelly Miller Alexander, Jr., NAACP board member and president of the North Carolina State conference. The second came from Granadan Hills' John Mance, a 13-year veteran of the NAACP national board of directors.

The final vote: 50 nay; one nay. The lone negative vote was cast by Connecticut's Ben Andrews, the board's newly elected vice chairman. "We understood that," Mance explained during an interview. "He's an active Republican and he knows Clarence Thomas."

Mance, a retired personnel administrator with Lockheed, says the national board met in Washington, D. C. last Friday, just two weeks after the organization's national convention in Houston, "specifically and solely" to address the Clarence Thomas issue. The meeting lasted "about an hour," Mance said. "Hell, we could have done this in Houston," he mused. The national office paid for round trip tickets and overnight lodging for the

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Cooperative Learning Concept--A Trend Whose Time Has Now Come

BY DR. KHALIF RAMADAN
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

An Analysis

Cooperative learning means more than putting a bunch of students together and telling them to get to work. It means creating positive interdependence; that is, structuring students' interactions so that each depends on, and is accountable to the others. A group identity is a goal. Children realize that their contributions are each important to the collective goal.

Since every person is responsible for understanding the material no one can get away with less than active participation. And no one is finished until everyone in the group has mastered the lesson.

The overall result is that students are unavoidably concerned about each other's welfare. It is not a matter of altruism, or putting someone else's interest before their own.

Rather, positive interdependence means that their interests are bound together: I can succeed only if you succeed too. So there is a built-in incentive to help, to accept help, to root for others.

And as hundreds of studies attest, it works: not just for less achieving students, who are in effect the beneficiaries of intense peering tutoring, but also for the higher

achievers. Cooperation and interdependence mean that students share their talents and skills in a way that will benefit everyone. No one of us is as smart as all of us. The very act of orally reviewing the lesson reinforces knowledge; explaining a concept to someone else is, at least, as useful to the tutor as the tutored and students appear to have so much fun learning together that they may be more receptive to the material and thus quicker to pick it up.

More important than the well-documented increased academic results is the discovery that the cooperating students learn to like each other across barriers of class, ethnicity, gender, or physical handicaps. Prejudice declines and ridicule practically disappears. Children who are different from one another start to value the contributions of each other and enjoy being around each other and some studies document that many continue to socialize during their free time.

In my experience as a consultant with the U. S. Department of Health and Human Resources, I have reviewed over 130 grand application for funding consideration since May of 1980. The panel process involves each reviewing, reading the applications individually and then

meeting as a group to discuss our individual findings and assessments. What is so interesting and exciting about this process is that as the reviewers continue to read through the applications, each of us adds to our individual assessments the collective knowledge and viewpoints of the other review panelist. We find ourselves reading the applications with our individual talents, but then reflecting our concerns raised by other reviewers during previous group discussions. By the end of the week our individual assessments have come closer and closer together by this cooperative interdependent process and individuality is also preserved because each reviewer's strong points are adopted by the group and weak points are eliminated by the group.

If the Wake County Public Schools would promote the cooperative learning model, all children's contributions would be celebrated and we would eliminate the tracking that currently exists that reinforces societal racism, classism, sexism, etc.

In an up-coming article, I plan to discuss a need to emphasize intramural sports over varsity sports as a way of promoting positive interdependence and entire student body health and fitness.