# THE CAROLINIAN

RALEIGH, N.C., THURSDAY, **SEPTEMBER 12, 1991** VOL. 50, NO. 84

N.C.'s Semi-Weekly

**DEDICATED TO THE SPIRIT OF JESUS CHRIST** 

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Senate Hearings Continue As

### African-Americans Split On Judge Thomas Pick

The NAACP's decisive vote to oppose the nomination of Clarence Thomas to the U.S. Supreme Court surprised many who thought the organization's decision would be influenced by Thomas' race. If confirmed, he would be the second black justice in Supreme Court history, replacing civil rights champion Thurgood Marshall.

But the NAACP's deliberations, which led to Thomas' rejection also disclose a widening rift in black ideology and politics. Some African-Americans have rallied to support Judge Thomas because of his advocacy of black self-help. Opponents say the notion that

Crime may not pay, but big bucks

According to police records, Larry

Jones, 26, of 1115 Pender Street, was

charged recently for possession of cocaine. Jones was caught on the

corner of the 300 block of Carver

Street. Officer S.D. Little, of the

Raleigh Police Department found on

Jones; crack-cocaine - 1/2 grams,

valued at \$50.00 along with \$80.00 of

U.S. currency. Jonathan Reid, 20, of 722½ Quarry

block of Bloodworth Street. Officer

officials said Monday.

North Carolina Drug Cabinet.

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**NEWS BRIEFS** 

**GOSPEL CONCERT FOR** 

SICKLE CELL

sored by Evangelist Shirley

Caesar, Young Christians of Raleigh and the Triangle Area

Sickle Cell Task Force to benefit

the N.C. Sickle Cell Foundation,

Sept. 14 at 6 p.m. and Sept. 15 at 4

p.,m. at First Baptist Church, 101

A march to commemorate

Sickle Cell Month is also schedul-

ed for Sept. 15 from Mt. Calvary

Holy Church at 3 p.m. to First

Baptist for the concert at 4 p.m.

Come share and enjoy this ex-

perience and help a worthwhile

**CANDIDATES' FORUM** 

The Raleigh-Apex Branch of the National Association for the

Advancement of Colored People

will sponsor a "Meet the Can-

didates" forum on Saturday,

Sept. 27, at 4 p.m. at Martin Street Baptist Church, 1001 E.

Candidates for the Raleigh City

Council and the Wake County

Board of Education will present

A question-and-answer period

Rev. H.B. Pickett, Jr. is branch

**FOUNDATION AWARDS** 

The Greater Triangle Com-

munity Foundation will conclude

(See NEWS BRIEFS, P. 2)

will follow. Come out and meet

Martin St.

their platforms.

your candidates.

president.

S. Wilmington St.

A gospel concert is being spon-

are involved with illegal drug deals

even for the state.

African-Americans can overcome Marshall," said the Rev. John past and present racism and economic exploitation by exclusively relying on our own resources is seriously flawed and naive.

"Many African-Americans who mean well and others who are clearly opportunistic are pushing for his confirmation because he was poor and black and advanced to become a lawyer, an administrator over the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission and an Appeals Court Judge. Others are suggesting he ought to be confirmed because he may be our only hope of getting another African-American to succeed

"There are those who want to give him a chance even though they know he is a neo-conservative and opposes the traditional ways African-Americans have struggled against inequality and injustice, but they believe he can be saved," Mendez said. "Our future is too important to us and the world for it to be left to blind chance and fear. I believe that Thomas is not to be pitied or admired because he is black. He is to be accepted or opposed because of his record and what he represents. Hence, while I can appreciate the legendary human civil rights diversity I have no commendation for champion, Justice Thurgood conscious betrayal."

Augustine's College said "in the final analysis, it will not matter who ultimately replaces Mr. Marshall (he can never be replaced)), as the court already stacked conservatives. Thomas' vote will not make any difference one way or the other. Most people seem to fail to realize this point. It appears that most people I talk to are opposed to Thomas, but I fear that he will win a seat on the Supreme Court."

The White House has expressed confidence that the Senate will confirm Thomas to Supreme Court. President George Bush has urged the lawmakers to "preserve the

Dr. Frank Godfrey, a Harvard independence of the court" by not graduate and professor at Saint asking the nominee how he would vote on legal issues.

Dr. Agatha Carroo, an associate professor of psychology at North Carolina Central University in with Durham and a graduate of Cornell University said "the point is that the problem with Judge Thomas' nomination does not lie with him, but with us. He seems to have played the hand dealt to him in life with sensitivity, intelligence, finesse and conviction and took his chances, win or lose.

"The dialogue precipitated by Thomas' nomination is good. Perhaps

(See JUDGE THOMAS, P. 2)



JUDGE CLARENCE THOMAS

**Amid University Turmoil** 

## NCCU's Richmond Resigns

#### **Durham Prexy Says** Pressure **No Factor**

Tyronza R. Richmond, chancellor at North Carolina Central University in Durham resigned Tuesday saying Street, was charged recently with to faculty members he wanted to possession of cocaine with the intent return to the classroom. to sell. Reid was caught in the 700

Dr. Richmond said his resignation B.L. Kennon, of the Raleigh Police had nothing to do with allegations of Department found on Reid, 15 plastic financial mismanagement and a bags of cocaine, valued at \$300.00 along with \$85.00 in U.S. currency. weak leadership that have plagued the university much of the past year. A state agency has collected more than \$1 million in taxes, penalties and "My vocation, my calling if you will, has clearly been to the scholarly interest on illegal drugs during the endeavors of a faculty member, and I first two months of the budget year, view my service as chancellor on this campus merely as an interruption of The Controlled Substance Tax my life."

Section of the Revenue Department Dr. Richmond, 51, dismissed has collected \$1,026,000 since the reports he was pressured to resign by fiscal year began on July 1, said Bob UNC system officials in General Crump, manager of the section. By Administration while under scrutiny comparison, collections for all of the for financial mismanagement and fiscal year 1990-91 totaled \$1.1 questions about accountability million, he said at a meeting of the resulting from media reports that the university broke promises to award Under legislation that created the nearly \$1 million in academic and program, drug dealers are supposed athletic scholarships.

to buy tax stamps and attach them to And a former athletics director faces allegations for receiving financial kickbacks.

SBI agents have been on the campus for the past two weeks and auditors are to arrive this week in a continuing investigation of the school's spending practices.

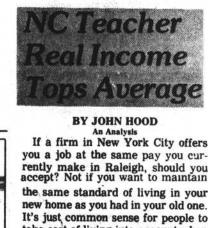
In addition to questions about the serious flaws in the school's revolves around professor Clarence Brown, a Durham City Council member who double-billed the city and university for travel expenses.

divorce papers filed by his wife, Prattsie Cunningham-Brown, of using cocaine and of supplying marijuana to a graduate student described as his lover.

(See NCCU LEADER, P. 2)

VISIBILITY 2000-On the recommendation of an executive search committee, U.S. Representative William H. Gray, III (D-Pa) was elected to become the United Negro College Fund's new president and CEO. The appointment became effective Sept. 11. Gray, who was the House Majority Whip and is presently the highest-ranking African American in Congress, is expected to bring new visibility to

CAMPAIGN 2000. Pictured left to right: Joseph D. Williams, chairman and CEO of Warner-Lambert Co. and chairman of UNCF's board of directors; Hugh Cullman, retired vice chairman of Philip Morris Companies and national chairman of CAMPAIGN 2000; William H. Gray, III; and Dr. Haywood L. Strickland, vice president and national director of UNCF's CAMPAIGN 2000.



you a job at the same pay you currently make in Raleigh, should you accept? Not if you want to maintain the same standard of living in your new home as you had in your old one. It's just common sense for people to take cost-of-living into account when they consider such decisions as accepting a new job or moving to a different city.

Why, then, do public officials, policy analysts, and the press ignore cost-of-living when they discuss such issues as teacher pay? The findings of a recent report by the Southern Regional Education Board, for example, were accepted without question: that North Carolina "lags behind the nation" in teacher pay. That's true only if you ignore the fact that \$30,000 in North Carolina can buy a lot more than the same salary in New York.

The truth is that, regardless of whether you look at beginning teacher salaries or average pay across the entire teaching force, North Carolina ranks above the national average in real compensation. According to a survey prepared for the State of Washington by a California consulting firm, North Carolina teachers on average received a total of \$35,344 in compensation this year-including contract pay, extracurricular pay, and benefits such as health insurance and pension plans. When you adjust every state's numbers by their cost-of-living relative to North Carolina, you find that our state ranks 19th in the country in total teacher compensation, above the national average of \$34,446 and the Southern regional average of \$32,647.

There are some problems with making state-by-state comparisons of average pay for all teachers, whether the comparisons are adjusted for cost-of-living or not. Average pay will vary according to the composition of

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compensation.

Brown has also been accused in

Richmond and other NCCU

tect anonymous testing for the disease in Durham, dodging a state order that would eliminate the practice in 83 counties.

preliminary injunction on the request and for those at risk of contracting

AIDS activists won a decisive from the AIDA Coalition to Unleash round this week in their effort to pro- Power, forcing the state to continue anonymous testing in Durham until a lawsuit on the issue is heard, probably in several months.

Durham Superior Court Judge called Judge Hudson's action a Orlando F. Hudson issued a significant victory for public health

Supporters of anonymous testing

"This is really striking a blow in favor of the Constitution, in favor of citizens' rights to privacy and against the big brother idea of government," said Stewart Fisher, a lawyer representing ACT-UP, a group that filed suit against the state health officials who enacted the policy.

the virus that causes AIDS.

Earlier this year, the state Commission for Health Services decided to phase out anonymous testing statewide by 1994. The commission also asked State Health Director Ronald H. Levine to reduce the number of counties offering anonymous testing to 17 by September. Orange and Wake Counties were allowed to continue anonymous testing-but not Durham.

Beyond anonymous testing, legal problems surround AIDS and employment discrimination and according to Cathy Tamsberg, an attorney with East Central Community Legal Services, "No one wants to be told that he or she is infected with HIV, the virus which causes AIDS. If this happens to you, one of the questions which is likely to arise relates to employment: How is my HIV infection going to affect my job?"

AIDS and the virus which causes it have been known only for a little more than 10 years. Consequently, the laws which have been passed during this period to protect people with HIV and AIDS from discrimination and the public from infection are still developing. Many of the laws are so new that they have not been tested in court. Without court decisions interpreting the law, predicting the out-

the teaching force. If your state has a high percentage of experienced teachers, you will rank relatively higher than states with a lessexperienced teaching force. Similarly, if your teaching force holds more advanced degrees, your pay number will be higher.

In North Carolina's case, our teachers have relatively more experience (averaging 14 years, two years higher than the national average), but fewer advanced degrees (at 4.2 years of education, we rank 49th while the national average is 4.8 years). A cleaner comparison is on the basis of starting salary for teachers with bachelor's degrees. On this measure, North Carolina ranks fourth in the country

None of this should be interpreted as arguing that North Carolina teachers are necessarily wellpaid-only that they are well-paid relative to their counterparts in other

### State's Prison Crisis: Does It Put 'Questionable' Parolees On Streets

population crisis is eroding the criminal justice system, raising questions about whether parolees are contributing to a rising crime rate, of-

ficials say. Since the General Assembly approved a cap on prison inmates in 1987 to address lawsuits over crowded conditions, the average prison term for felons has fallen from 38 percent of sentences to 20.6 percent in 1990, said Ken Parker, a researcher with the Division of Prisons.

Judges are imposing longer sentences in felony cases—from an average of 73.8 months in 1987 to 78.8 months in 1990. But felons are serving shorter sentences. The average felon served 28.9 months in 1990, compared with 48 months in 1987.

"This year I'm sure it's going to go down dramatically because we've run out of misdemeanants to let out,"

Parker said.

The Parole Commission has worked frantically to keep the system in compliance with the prison cap. But ping to 16.4 percent in 1989, the last

North Carolina's continuing prison with each population crisis, more year for which figures were opulation crisis is eroding the "questionable" parolees are returned available, Parker said. to the streets, having served less and less time, said commission member Sam Boyd.

"I would say that could be due to a

loss of deterrence," he said. "I don't know whether that's the reason or

"The Parole Commission has worked frantically to keep the system in compliance with the prison cap. But with each population crisis, more "questionable" parolees are returned to the streets, having served less and less time...

Commission member Sam Boyd

sudden rise in the number of inmates returning to the system, Parker said. Recidivism within one year of an inmate's parole had hovered around 14.6 percent in 1984 and 1985. It was as low as 13.3 percent in 1988 before jum-

That may have contributed to a not. That's the only thing in the world that's happening. But that's the ob-

vious thing to look at." Parker said there are also philosophical problems in the Parole Commission's understandable reluc-

((See PRISON CRISIS, P. 2)

(See AIDS, P. 2)

(See TEACHER PAY, P. 2)