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THE CAROLINA

N.C. DEPARTMENT OF
CULTURAL RESOURCES
310 BLOUNT ST.
RALEIGH NC 27611

RALEIGH, N.C.,
THURSDAY,
DECEMBER 5, 1991
VOL. 51, NO. 4

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

SINGLE COPY **25¢**
IN RALEIGH
ELSEWHERE **30¢**

DA Subpoenas WLELE Tapes

BY CASH MICHAELS
Contributing Writer
The Wake County District Attorney's Office has subpoenaed from WLE-AM 570 a copy of taped interviews it conducted with witnesses who dispute the official version of the Nov. 8 police killing of 35-year-old Ivan Lorenzo Ingram.

Ingram was shot to death by Raleigh Police Officer Vent Kerr during a drug raid outside of 314 N. Carver St. Though Kerr says the victim failed to halt when ordered and made a threatening move, no weapons or drugs were found on Ingram's body afterwards. The subpoenaed tape was picked up from WLE by the SBI on Tuesday.

Following new procedures adopted earlier this year by the Raleigh City Council after another unarmed African-American was shot by police, the State Bureau of Investigation is conducting the probe and will issue a report to Wake D.A. Colon Willoughby, who is expected to turn over the report and any other evidence to a grand jury for determination as to whether charges will be filed against Officer Kerr.

Willoughby's office called the station last week to request a copy of interviews that this reporter had with several of the residents of 314 N. Carver St. about the shooting. During those interviews, conducted and first broadcast on Sunday, Nov. 10 (and subsequently updated on Nov. 12), witnesses who were in the house at the time claimed that

House Speaker Leads Call For Better Community Relations

BY CASH MICHAELS
Contributing Writer
Speaker of the N.C. House of Representatives Daniel T. Blue, Jr. (D-Wake), while chastising the Raleigh Police Department, nonetheless has called for better relations between it and the African-American community in the wake of the recent Ivan Ingram Shooting.



DANIEL T. BLUE, JR.

Though Ingram was the second unarmed African-American citizen to be shot by Raleigh police this year, he was the only one to be killed. As a result, tensions between Raleigh's African-American community and the RPD is at its highest in years.

According to an unedited tape of his speech made at the annual Raleigh-Wake Citizens Association Community Service Banquet recently, Rep. Blue, while addressing the need for citizens to get re-involved with their government to change the Reagan-Bush policies and racial policies of the past decade, drew immediate applause when he said, "...just like it's up to people to make sure of those things, it's up to us to make sure that our police department in this city is responsive to our concerns. We still don't have all the facts [about the Ingram shooting], and I'm conservative in that regard in that I tend not to move until I get the facts. But I do know that this recent shooting tells us something that we have to be ever

mindful of." Blue continued, "We know that it's never right for an innocent man to be killed or to be hurt under any circumstances, just because he may happen to be in the wrong place. We know that as an absolute. We also know that regardless of what version we may have gotten from the police department, because of skepticism developed about that department by us [African-Americans] over the years, that you take with a grain of salt whatever the story is. And we know that, and that is something that we have to be ever

One Arrest Made

Man Charged In Slayings

Local Police Seek Second Suspect

The Raleigh Police Department has arrested four persons in connection with the Nov. 19 homicides of Suraj Lekhal Ibrahim, 40, and Corede Sundunke, 31.

Among those arrested was a 19-year-old St. Augustine's College student and police are seeking a second suspect in the drug-related slayings of the two men whose bodies were dumped last month near Wake Medical Center.

Arrest warrants were issued Dec. 2 for Andrew Robinson, Jr., 19, of Ft. Washington, Md., and Egbert Francis, Jr., 22, of Brooklyn, N.Y. Robinson currently is in the Wake County Jail charged with two counts of murder. The warrants have not been served on Francis, who also has a Raleigh address of 4700 Apt. B, Matt Drive.

Robinson's mother, Eva Robinson, also of Ft. Washington, and Ronald Albert Stewart of Landover, Md., were arrested Tuesday in Raleigh and charged with accessory after the fact of murder in connection with the Nov. 19 slayings.

Ibrahim and Sundunke were Nigerians and shared a Brooklyn address.

According to police investigators, the victims were drug runners who funneled drugs through New York City. The victims are believed to have gotten into a dispute with the suspects, who police allege dealt

(See SLAYINGS, P. 2)



IN HALL OF FAME—Hubert A. Poole (center) accompanied by his wife (left), the former Mary Holden of Raleigh, receives plaque and congratulatory remarks from (right) Wake County Sheriff John Baker, who is a former professional football player. Poole was inducted into Shaw

University's Athletic Hall of Fame during the week of university's 126th Founders Day festivities. Poole played center on the 1947 National Championship team. (See story COACHES BOX) Photo by James Giles.

Court Implements Plan To Reduce Cost Of Legal Representation To Poor

WILMINGTON—The legal profession here and local court officials have implemented a plan to reduce the costs of legal representation for indigents which could be "an example for the entire state." The plan is being put into effect after lengthy study and consultations between judges, prosecutors and other local court officials and leaders of the Fifth Judicial District Bar's Indigent Representation Committee, headed by local attorney Brandon Tise.

Franklin Freeman, Jr., director of the Administrative Office of the Courts in Raleigh, has studied the plan and said in a letter to Tise that it could set a good example for the state.

Freeman said he thinks the plan "will result in a substantial reduction in indigent costs" before the General Assembly has to make a

action is taken on their cases. What was described by the local prosecutor as "a crucial portion" of the plan provides for a "Friday Felony Court" to be held each week in District Court.

At this court session, court-appointed lawyers are able to discuss their cases and negotiate with the assistant district attorney who's responsible for monitoring and trying felony cases in Superior Court.

A main purpose of the Friday sessions is to weed out and dispose of cases which don't really need to go to Superior Court, including cases that should be dismissed, those in which plea bargains can be struck, and those in which the evidence may justify a misdemeanor but not a felony charge.

About 20 cases are being disposed of at each of the Friday sessions. In

nile, District and Superior Court. Judges also will decline to appoint attorneys for indigent defendants in cases in which the defendant is "not likely to be imprisoned if he is convicted of the offense for which he is charged."

Other steps provide for closer screening of "prospective indigents" and "expanded use of waiver of arraignment and advance continuances so that fewer attorneys and clients must attend Monday calendar call in Superior Court."

Judge Smith and attorney Tise said that charges involving Juvenile Court are an important part of the

(See LEGAL COSTS, P. 2)

Common Sense Campaign Against NC Crime Began By Fellowship

Charles W. Colson, former presidential aide and chairman of Prison Fellowship, recently announced a comprehensive campaign to address crime in North Carolina.

Just Common Sense, a multi-year campaign spearheaded by Prison Fellowship, seeks to mobilize North Carolina churches and concerned citizens to respond to the state's crime problem. The statewide campaign will bring unprecedented attention to the problems of crime and imprisonment, with the involvement of an estimated 3,000 volunteers from 425 churches.

"Government cannot adequately address crime because crime is a moral problem," said Colson. "The common-sense solution involves individuals, the church, and the community. Change begins in the human heart. We are serious about a campaign which acknowledges this fact and advances programs to deal with spiritual and interpersonal issues.

"Corrections and criminal justice officials are working diligently. But

building more and more prisons is extremely expensive and it doesn't address the root causes," Colson said. "We are not only leaving families and victims uncared for, but justice is ill served and ex-prisoners are seldom restored to productive work. It's time for 'Just Common Sense.'"

The Just Common Sense campaign will work with the state chaplaincy through a variety of in-prison programs at levels never before planned. A public policy group called Justified fellowship will assist North Carolina public officials in dealing with criminal justice reform issues.

Campaign plans call for volunteers to:

- Conduct evangelistic projects in North Carolina prisons;
- Conduct in-prison seminars and Bible studies;
- Conduct life plan seminars for soon-to-be-released inmates, teaching them how to live responsible lives so they won't come back to prison;
- Participate in mentoring rela-

tionships with prisoners and ex-prisoners; and

• Minister to the special needs of prisoners' families, including 8,000 children, through a Christmas gift-giving program called Angel Tree.

Training and resources will be provided by Prison Fellowship, an organization with 15 years of experience ministering to the unique needs of prisoners, ex-prisoners and their families.

As another part of Just Common Sense, the North Carolina Justice Fellowship Task Force will work for criminal justice reforms to:

- Reduce the state's severe prison overcrowding to ensure that truly violent offenders are kept behind bars;
- Increase the collection of restitution for crime victims;
- Establish prison industry programs involving private sector businesses; and
- Hold criminals accountable to repay their victims and communi-

(See N.C. PRISON, P. 2)

NEWS BRIEFS

DISCRIMINATION LAWSUIT FILED

The U.S. Equal Employment Opportunity Commission has filed a lawsuit against Sears, Roebuck and Co. alleging that the company failed to accommodate the religious practices of an employee. According to the complaint filed in the U.S. District Court for the Western District of North Carolina, Charlotte Division, the defendant violated Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, as amended, by failing to accommodate the religious practices of Marshall E. Long.

FOSTER CARE INFO MEETING SET

An informational meeting about foster care in Wake County, given by the Wake County Department of Social Services, will be held Thursday, Dec. 19, from 6:30-9 p.m. at the Richard B. Harrison Library.

Wake DSS has taken more children into the protective custody of the agency in the first three months of this year than it did for the entire year of 1989. The most significant increase in cases—44 percent since last year—has been in

(See NEWS BRIEFS, P. 2)

The plan focuses on ways to increase efficiency by reducing the time court-appointed attorneys spend waiting in court before some action is taken on their cases. Other steps provide for closer screening of prospective indigents and expanded use of waiver of arraignment.

decision on whether to establish a public defender's office in the Fifth Judicial District, which includes New Hanover and Pender counties. "At the same time, the quality of representation is not compromised by the plan," Freeman said.

Cost-saving steps by judges and prosecutors as well as court-appointed attorneys in the handling of indigents' cases are spelled out in the plan.

The plan focuses on ways to increase efficiency by reducing the time court-appointed attorneys spend waiting in court before some

instances where pleas are entered at the Friday sessions, the cases are disposed of the following Monday in Superior Court.

The plan provides for a single court-appointed attorney to represent all defendants charged with misdemeanors whose cases are called on a given day in a District Court. Attorneys on the list for representing these defendants are appointed on a rotating basis under the plan.

Another proviso is that judges will give priority, "where practicable," to cases involving indigents in Juve-