

# THE CAROLINIAN

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**Spike Lee Enters Harvard's  
Ivy Halls Teaching Cinema  
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Offers Black History Workshops  
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## Current Economic Woes No 'Laughing Matter'

BY J.A. CHANEY

An Analysis

One of the many reasons Lincoln's Gettysburg Address remains a classic of American declamation is that Abraham Lincoln wrote it himself. Orations today usually begin with a funny observation and are ended with laughter and applause. Humor has its place in politics and public speak-

ing. The problem is that the humor employed by politicians on television is as contrived as that of television humorists—and as shallow.

Comedians like Johnny Carson have teams of gag writers. Presidents have teams of speech writers, as do most politicians running for election or re-election.

And it's not helping them. Be-

cause the public has come to know the formula they follow: The strained humor, the cliché, the gestures, the earnest facial expressions, the pauses signaled in advance for laughter and applause. And, of course, the rhetoric, always the rhetoric.

There is no funny side to the present economic catastrophe. If humor

is to be extracted from the 1990 sequel to the "Great Depression" of the 1930s, it must come from irony.

We need somebody like Will Rogers, the satirist of the Depression years, to see the irony and put the "recession" in perspective.

He used to say on the radio, "I read in the paper all the news that's fit to print; now I'll choose a little news

and read between the lines."

Then with dry and often biting wit, he punctured the egos of politicians, humbugs and tycoons. He perceived the irony of a nation founder because its decision-makers lacked vision. He put a verbal finger on the greed and hypocrisy. He helped America chuckle when there was little in politics and business to

laugh about.

Unfortunately, that's true again. And we don't have in this "recession" a Will Rogers to read between the lines.

Like us, he'd recognize our "recession" as a euphemism, an oxymoron like "happy bankruptcy," for a

(See ECONOMY, P. 2)

## City Panel Asks Police Community Relations Be Improved

From CAROLINIAN Staff Reports

The Raleigh Police Department should offer "more extensive training in human relations than is currently provided" to its officers, and "foster the public perception of individual officer accountability," particularly with African-Americans, women, and other groups. Those recommendations and more are contained in an extensive report issued by the Raleigh Human Resources and Human Relations Advisory Commission on police training, procedures and community relations, officially given to the City Council last Tuesday.

The 35-page report, the result of various interviews, surveys of community agencies, professional conference discussions and independent research over a nine-month period, examines the current status of relations between the Raleigh Police Department and the citizens it serves. The study was requested by the Raleigh City Council after the mistaken shooting of an innocent African-American citizen by a plainclothes Raleigh police detective last year.

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**ONE DAY SESSION**—Recently thousands met at the Raleigh Civic Center for the 39th Woman's Baptist Home and Foreign Missionary Convention of North Carolina, featuring the seniors, the young adults and the youth. The theme of the meet was, "The Family Life Ministries (Discipleship)." Dorothy Frink of Charlotte,

N.C. and a member of the Little Prong Baptist Church in Ash, N.C., said, "We will return to Raleigh for another session April 4th from 9:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m. Eva H. Johnson is president. (Photo by James L. Giles)

## State Of Black USA Campaign '92 Issue

WASHINGTON, D.C.—As the candidates for the presidential nomination of the country's two major political parties opened the 1992 election campaign, some 300 black public officials "from all across the country" convened here to discuss four top issues affecting African-American: the nation's economy, health care, education and drugs.

The meeting of black elected and appointed officials, called the National Policy Institute, was first organized in 1967, with subsequent meetings held in 1969 and in every presidential election year since 1980. The institute was formed by the Joint Center for Political and Economic Studies and six other national organizations of black officials.

In addition to the JCPES, the participating groups included the Congressional Black Caucus, the Judicial Council of the National Bar Association, the National Association of Black County Officials, National Black Caucus of Local Elected Officials, National Black Caucus of State Legislators, National Caucus of Black School Board Members and the National Caucus of Black Mayors.

"The institute will serve as a unique forum for informed deliberation on public policy issues," said Joint Center president Eddie N. Williams, in opening the sessions Jan. 23-25. Key speakers were listed as Atlanta Mayor Maynard Jackson and the Rev. Jesse Jackson, president of the National Rainbow Coalition and "shadow senator" for the District of Columbia.

The overall number of blacks elected to local, county, state and congressional offices has increased nearly fivefold since 1970, from 1,469 to more than 7,000, JCPES officials announced. Other scheduled speakers included Dr. Jewelle Taylor Gibbs, noted authority on

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## Concerns Mount Over Alleged Beating Of Youth By Security Guards Here

BY CASH MICHAELS

Contributing Writer

While concerned Raleigh community leaders prepare to meet regarding the alleged beating of a 16-year-old African-American youth by security guards at Crabtree Valley Mall two weeks ago, the city's human relations panel has voted to officially investigate and mediate the situation.

Both efforts seem designed to head off an explosion of charges and countercharges reminiscent of the confrontation African-American youth had with the mall over racial issues 2 1/2 years ago.

At the center of this latest controversy is 16-year-old Lorenzo McKoy. McKoy alleges that on Saturday, Jan. 25, he and two other youths were unfairly accused of loitering after they had visited several clothing stores in Crabtree Valley Mall. McKoy says he laid away a pair of jeans that he was going to buy two days later when he got paid.

After shopping, then buying some yogurt and gum, McKoy says he and his two companions were sitting on the benches on the upper level when a security officer told them they would have to move on or leave the mall.

McKoy said he demanded to know why white people sitting on benches were not told to move on, and, receiving no satisfactory answer, called the guard a racist and began to leave.

McKoy contends that the guard became belligerent, challenged the youth, called for backup and then prevented them from leaving. McKoy says security guards then ordered him to go down a dark hallway. When he refused, McKoy says, a struggle ensued during which he was struck in the face.

McKoy says he was hit with a nightstick, but mall management, which disputes McKoy's version of

events, contends he was hit with a fist.

McKoy was arrested and charged with assault, trespassing and resisting arrest. The arrest citations allege that McKoy assaulted John Wilson, chief of Crabtree Valley Mall security. The citations were signed by Lt. L.W. Orcutt. McKoy claims that Wilson was the officer who told him to leave the mall and then blocked his way, and Orcutt was the guard who hit him.

John B. Grimaldi, vice president of Crabtree Valley Mall, refused to offer the mall's version of events to The CAROLINIAN when contacted, but did say that he felt their security acted properly and followed established policies and procedures.

Last Saturday during its annual retreat, the Raleigh Human Resources/Human Relations Advisory Commission voted to officially investigate the circumstances surrounding the incident. Dr. Allan Cooper, a member of the commission and chair of the special task force looking into the matter, told The CAROLINIAN, "The commission created a special four-member task force to investigate this incident and to offer its services to find a resolution that will satisfy the interests of both Mr. McKoy and the mall. Crabtree Mall expressed its willingness to seek a conciliation process from our commission within three days of the incident. We are hopeful that an amicable resolution to this matter can be reached shortly."

Cooper also indicated that the task force will examine the "no-loitering" policy at Crabtree Mall. Mall officials indicate that the policy is designed to cut down on people "hanging out" at the mall instead of making purchases. But many African-American youth claim that the policy is selectively enforced by security, with some told that if they

don't have shopping bags they must either keep moving or leave.

Ms. Margaret Rose Murray, a community activist and one of the original protesters to picket with black youth in 1989 when Crabtree tried to cut off weekend bus service from the black community, has asked that several concerned citizens and leaders come together to discuss this latest situation and

determine a plan of action.

Ms. Murray told The CAROLINIAN, "Once again the community is faced with correcting these problems that seem to be languishing, problems that our youth continuously have at that mall. The insensitivity of the personnel, management and ownership is clear evidence of

(See CRABTREE, P. 2)

## Can Republican Party Win Black Support In '92 Presidential Race?

BY JAMES E. ALSBROOK

Special To THE CAROLINIAN

Ever since Civil War ended, U.S. Presidents as political leaders have caused the voting allegiances of African-Americans to swing between the Republicans and the Democrats.

Although the pendulum today is on the Democratic side, President Bush can bring millions of black voters to the Republican Party by doing two things:

1. Apologizing to black people for enslavement and racial discrimination suffered by blacks from 1619 until today.

2. Proposing sincerely and urging that for the next three generations or sixty years all qualified blacks be educated in academic institutions, trade schools, or rehabilitation centers through scholarships at Government expense.

This second proposal would include psychological counseling, self-image development and reassessment of values and priorities. It would increase the pool of trained workers enormously and help this nation compete with Japan, the new European common market, resurgent China and ambitious Southeast Asia.

If you think these proposals are absurd or impossible, think of the 1954 Supreme Court decision achieved through a persuasive Republican Supreme Court Chief

Justice Earl Warren and the 1960s Civil Rights laws achieved through a persuasive Southern Democrat President Lyndon Johnson.

The history of this nation is replete with political actions taken by Presidents who gained or lost the support of black voters:

**REPUBLICAN, POSITIVE**  
Abraham Lincoln (1860-1865) issued Emancipation Proclamation, defeated Lee's slavery-supporting army and won freedom for nation's black people.

**REPUBLICAN, NEGATIVE**  
Rutherford Hayes (1876-1880) Withdrew Union Army from the South, leaving blacks without "forty acres and a mule" and at the mercies of Southern white politicians who helped him get the presidency. Gave help to the white South.

**REPUBLICAN, POSITIVE**  
Theodore Roosevelt (1901-1908) fascinated many blacks because of his liberal tendencies. He outraged conservatives by inviting Booker T. Washington to dinner and being seen with various black people.

**DEMOCRAT, NEGATIVE**  
Woodrow Wilson (1912-1920) offended thousands of blacks by intensifying racial segregation in public facilities in Washington, D.C. Segregation laws were made more stringent under his administration.

**DEMOCRAT, POSITIVE**  
Franklin Roosevelt (1932-1945)

fought for the poor, and that included millions of blacks. His wife befriended Mary McCloud Bethune. Gave moral support to blacks by resigning from the Daughters of the American Revolution when that group refused to let Marian Anderson sing in its hall.

**DEMOCRAT, POSITIVE**  
Harry Truman (1945-1952) won favor of blacks by integrating the armed forces after WW II and by continuing retirement pensions for widows after the death of federal employee husbands.

**REPUBLICAN, MIXED**  
Dwight Eisenhower (1952-1960) ordered federal troops to protect black children at Central High School in Little Rock, Ark., in 1957, after the 1954 desegregation decision. Advised blacks to "go slow" after the decision.

**DEMOCRAT, POSITIVE**  
John F. Kennedy (1960-1963) sent federal marshals to South to enforce desegregation orders. Opposed racism, communicated with black leaders often.

**DEMOCRAT, VERY POSITIVE**  
Lyndon Johnson (1963-1968) pushed through Congress most civil rights laws that exist today. Appointed H.U.D. Secretary Robert Weaver and Supreme Court Justice Thurgood Marshall. Told nation on TV, "We

(See PRESIDENTS, P. 2)

## NEWS BRIEFS

### SUCCESSOR FOR BENNETT

Will B. Spence, Jr., Wachovia Bank's regional executive for Wake and Orange counties, has been promoted to regional executives for the Winston-Salem bank's business in 29 counties in eastern North Carolina. He will assume many of the duties now performed by Thomas A. Bennett, who is responsible for the bank's business in western North Carolina but will retire April 1.

### BANK SERVICE FEES INCREASE

Customer fees have increased at North Carolina's two largest banks but remained stable at a third, which raised rates last year. First Union customers in North Carolina on Saturday started paying more for basic banking services. On Jan. 7, NationsBank customers in North Carolina started paying higher fees for some services.

### PRISONER ESCAPES

A prisoner being transported from Wake County to Franklin County jumped out of a patrol car and fled on foot into the woods in North Raleigh on Monday. Casey Dominique Thomas, 26, was being transported by a Franklin County sheriff's deputy back to Franklin County on burglary charges when he escaped. The car had stopped at the corner of New Hope

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