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FEBRUARY 20, 1992
VOL. 51, NO. 26

N.C.'s Semi-Weekly

DEDICATED TO THE SPIRIT OF JESUS CHRIST

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BLACK HISTORY MONTH

See Our Special Salute To Black History Month, Pages 19-26, Focusing On Historically Black Colleges And Universities.

Parent Voices Cause For Change At F.J. Carnage

As a result of parents, community leaders and concerned citizens making themselves heard, the Wake County School Board will reconsider plans to develop a program for academically gifted students at Carnage Middle School. The board took up the issue at its meeting last Monday night.

According to Wake District 4 School Board representative Harriet B. Webster, the board last year mandated to have an AG program at Carnage that was to mirror the program at Ligon [Middle School].

She went on to tell The CAROLINIAN, "I understand that the [current] program at Carnage is meeting the needs of the academically gifted children, as well as those children who did not qualify for AG but have the ability to perform. The parents became concerned because if the children were going to be placed into classes according to AG guidelines as prescribed by the state, it would eliminate some services to children who did not have that tag. That was the basic concern that the parents had."

Many parents of students at Carnage, both black and white, told the Wake School Board and administrators that Ligon "has a school within a school" where children are not

(See CARNAGE PLAN, P. 2)

Rosa Parks Award Recipient...



WITH HUMBLE EMOTIONS—Dorothy Allen-Freeman (seated left), executive director of Wake Opportunities, recently received the Women's Center's First Annual Rosa Parks Award. The award honors the legacy of Rosa Parks, the Alabama seamstress, who refused to move to the back of a bus 37 years ago and spurred the civil rights movement. With tears on her cheeks and a trembling

voice, Allen-Freeman expressed gratitude to her staff, community based organizations and Saint Augustine's College Gospel Ensemble for rendering, "For The Good Of Them." "Only God knows how I made it to this point, and I had no idea I could be in the class or ballpark with Rosa Parks," said Allen-Freeman. (Photo by James Giles)

Elvia Walker Replaces Missing Irmis Estes

It's now been five weeks since West Cary Middle School Principal Irmis M. Estes disappeared without a clue from his home on Pleasant Union Church Road. And the impact on his family, friends and students has been disturbing. Not knowing where he is, or even if he is all right, hangs like a cloud over the campus where Estes served and was loved.

In an attempt to restore some stability to the school, the Wake County School Board last Monday moved to install a permanent replacement. Ms. Elvia N. Walker, currently an assistant principal at Broughton High School in Raleigh, was named to the post. Though the appointment is considered permanent, the board left open the possibility that Estes may be found or may return until the end of the school year.

Despite the unusual circumstances, many agree that Ms. Walker is the kind of administrative leader that West Cary Middle School needs right now. Those familiar with her teaching at Fuquay High and Ligon Junior High, and

(See ESTES REPLACED, P. 2)

D.C. Mayor Demands More Jobs/Contracts

BY LARRY A. STILL
NNPA News Service

Refusing to back down from her victorious 1991 election theme of "Yes We Can, Yes We Will," Washington, D.C. Mayor Sharon Pratt Kelly urged supporters and critics to provide an "Honest Deal" for the capital city by paying more local taxes, replacing some government workers with minority contractors and streamlining the area's "bloated bureaucracy."

"We cannot continue to operate with millions of dollars leaving the city every night," Mayor Kelly said in reference to district workers living in the nearby Maryland and Virginia suburban communities without paying taxes on services provided in the area where they work. Other metropolitan agencies such as the airport authority and the D.C., Maryland, Virginia transit system provide 32,000 to 50,000 jobs in the area without district residents getting their fair share of the employment or contracts, Mayor Kelly emphasized to reporters earlier before delivering her first annual report to the public.

She also referred to a reported agreement with Washington Red-

(See TWO YEARS, P. 2)

(See DC MAYOR, P. 2)

NEWS BRIEFS

YMCA HONORS DIRECTOR

The Garner Road Family YMCA's Adult Achiever of the Year award was presented recently to Dorothy Allen-Freeman, executive director of Wake Opportunities, Inc.

"Ms. Allen-Freeman was chosen our adult achiever of the year because she has exemplified extraordinary talents and has gone beyond the call to make sure that people in the community are served," Evelyn Scott, the YMCA's black achiever coordinator, said.

DETECTIVE STRICKEN

Police Det. Jimmy M. Glover, who suffered an apparent heart attack recently, was listed in stable condition this week at Wake Medical Center following surgery. Glover had been the center of a major controversy last year after he shot Tony Farrell, a black man he mistakenly thought was a robbery suspect. Glover suffered an apparent heart attack while working at a computer terminal at the police station. Friends and co-workers said Glover was haunted by the shooting.

INJURED BY BOTTLE BOMB

A suspended Enloe High School student's prank backfired when a homemade bottle bomb exploded in his hands outside the school. David Hamman, 17, received cuts and minor burns to his face and hands in the incident recently. Another student who was standing nearby also received minor injuries but was treated and released from Wake Medical Center. Hamman remained at Duke University Medical Center last week for evaluation.

APPOINTED FELLOW

Alphonso Pearson, director

(See NEWS BRIEFS, P. 2)

Student Gets Two Years For Bringing BB Gun To School

BY CASH MICHAELS

Contributing Writer

Sixteen-year-old Willie Morris Barnes is a handsome, bright-eyed, intelligent young man with a winning smile and dreams of becoming a surgeon one day. But he may never get the chance because of a youthful error that has him snared in the judicial system and may send him to prison for two years.

On Feb. 4, Willie was convicted in District Court of three counts of assault and two counts of verbal threats. The charges stemmed from an incident last November when Willie allegedly brought a broken BB gun to the Enloe High School campus.

Though the gun, which had a broken barrel and firing mecha-

nism, was never seen by anyone other than the one friend that Willie showed it to before going to class, administrators heard about it and called Willie out of class.

When questioned, Willie voluntarily admitted bringing the BB gun to school, but would not allow officials to search him unless his mother or the police were called. When officials did not do either and started to leave Willie in an office, the young man, who later said he was afraid of what would happen next, ran for the door.

He was grabbed by two of the administrators and taken to the ground, where they tried again to search him. He resisted their attempt and got loose and left the school grounds. A police officer

stopped Willie outside and searched him, finding nothing (Willie had left the BB gun in his locker in school). An administrator then came out, told the officer that Willie was being charged with assault and would be suspended for the rest of the year. Willie was arrested and taken downtown.

On Dec. 10, Willie went before a school appeals board. He had already served a weekend in jail, and his parents, Mattie Barnes and stepdad Jim Scales, had his bail reduced from a \$3,000 cash bond to \$1,000. The board upheld the long-term suspension, but Wake Superintendent Dr. Robert Wentz, after looking over Willie's record and reviewing the facts of the case, decided not to suspend Willie, and

transferred him instead to Mary E. Phillips School to give him a second chance.

There is no record of Willie being in trouble with the law before, and his only disciplinary problems previously had been unexplained absences from school. His parents further disciplined Willie by taking away virtually all of his privileges, and he was made to understand that bringing a gun, even a broken BB gun, to school was wrong.

By the superintendent's actions, it seemed that the gun and assault charges had been put into proper context, and Willie was seen as a young man who had simply made a mistake, and was not a danger to others.

When the case finally was heard before District Judge Anne B. Salisbury on Feb. 4, the administrators all gave their version of what hap-

One Day Meet's Theme: "Lost Legacy Of Black Schools" To City Saturday

From CAROLINIAN Staff Reports

When you ask Ms. Docenia Hammond about her days at Washington High School during the '50s, her eyes light up, her manner becomes direct, and her words get as sharp and sure as the finest blade.

"When you were growing up, everybody told you about Washington School. You've got to go there, you've got to work, and those teachers that were there, they were also your Sunday School teachers. They were your models in the community, and the community knew itself."

If ever there was a tribute to a legacy, a way of life, Ms. Hammond's memories of her days at Washington High is it.

That's why this Saturday, Feb. 22, in the Fine Arts Building on the campus of St. Augustine's College, many who attended and graduated from Washington, Ligon, Berry O'Kelly and many of the other black high schools that were prominent here in Raleigh and Wake County, will gather to share their memories, and identify some of the values that helped them learn and grow.

"Lost Legacy—Our Historically Black High Schools" is a conference sponsored by the North Carolina Afro-American Historical and Ge-

nealogical Society, Inc. The one-day conference was made possible through a grant from the N.C. Humanities Council.

Ms. Linda Simmons-Henry, historian and program chairperson, told The CAROLINIAN that the conference will feature exhibitions and presentations by local historians, who will discuss unique aspects of the black high school as an institution and its contributions to the African-American community and the heritage of North Carolina.

"We wanted to document the history of those high schools through the students, teachers and administrators' perspectives through oral history," she said.

"We wanted to interview to see what it was actually like to teach students. What role did the faculty play in the community, not only in the classroom but outside the classroom? Who were some of those teachers who motivated students to go on to higher education, and how did they serve as a role model to those students?"

Ms. Henry says it is important to look back at the legacy of historically black schools because not many of them still exist. Many have

been renamed because of integration, or closed down. Out of well over 200 that were prominent in the state from 1930 to 1970, only five still exist in any form.

Many of the former students of these schools, like Ms. Hammond, who was the first student to graduate from J.W. Ligon High school in 1954, or Ms. Gertrude Pope, who attended Berry O'Kelly School during the '40s, then transferred to Washington High, point to the values of family, respect and discipline as what kept them in line as students.

They firmly believe that these values can be instituted for young people today, despite drugs, media and peer pressure.

"We also had prayer," said Ms. Hammond. "It set the tone for the day. Every child had to lead devotion, which meant every child had to have some sense of what God was about."

Many of the notable citizens who have graduated from historically black high schools include Wake County Sheriff John Baker, Clarence Lightner, and John Winters. The conference begins at 10 a.m. on Saturday.

Valentine Cheer...



VALENTINE CHEER—Ms. Charlotte Smith of Ashe Ave. is pictured in Cameron Village with Valentine gifts from an admirer. Many merchants' greeting card and valentine's gift offerings were nearly depleted late Friday past, as loved ones were remembered on Cupid's Day! (Photo by James Giles)