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## Crabtree II Task Force Supports McCoy

**BY CASH MICHAELS**  
Contributing Writer  
In the wake of the latest controversy and new evidence of alleged racial discrimination at Crabtree Valley Mall, a community task force made up of various representatives of Raleigh's African-American community has been formed to ensure a strong and united direction toward dealing with the situation.

At a meeting at the Garner Road YMCA last Saturday which included several representatives of area NAACP branches, officers were voted in to head up the "Crabtree II Community Task Force."

By unanimous vote, Ms. Margaret Rose Murray, community activist, radio commentator and business woman, was elected as chairperson. Other officers included Ms. Elaine Dillahunt as youth liaison, Bruce

Lightner and Ms. Mary Perry as organizational liaisons, Frank Roberts as communications officer, and Rev. Clifton Buckrham as religious community liaison.

According to Ms. Murray, the task force will be made up of representatives of as many community, civic, youth, religious, social and political organizations in the African-American community as have an interest in the latest controversy surround-

ing Crabtree Valley Mall.

The first priority of the task force is the continued support of Lorenzo McCoy and his family. McCoy, a 16-year-old African-American, was scheduled to go on trial Tuesday for charges stemming from an altercation with Crabtree security guards Jan. 25 after McCoy was asked to leave the mall. He and his friends were then stopped by security again, and McCoy claims he was

beaten. A report from the Raleigh Human Relations Commission blamed mall security for the incident and alleged racial discrimination, causing a Crabtree attorney to announce a 10-day suspension of the security chief. But the mall still decided to press charge against the youth.

The Crabtree II Task Force had representatives at the trial. Ms. Murray told The CAROLINIAN,

"This recent development at Crabtree is unfortunate, unjust, and will not go unchallenged. Youth in the African-American community continue to be disrespected and singled out by Crabtree officials. As a community task force, we are coming together to collectively and responsibly address these injustices."

(See CRABTREE II, P. 2)

## Shaw University Holds Career Development Meet

Success is preparation that meets opportunity—this according to Evon Smith, a branch manager of First Citizens Bank and trust and a 1988 Shaw University graduate. Ms. Smith was one of 15 business and industry representatives who participated in Shaw University's annual Career Development Task Force recently.

Shaw students had the opportunity to pick the brains of successful African-American business leaders who took the time to visit classrooms and to chat with students in

(See SHAW CAREER, P. 2)



**A MOTHER'S TEARS**—Mrs. Soloana Ingram (c.) wipes away tears during a press conference concerning an "Award" to the Raleigh Police Officer, who shot her son Ivan. Mrs. Ingram, Mrs. Lucy Johnson (next to her) her

sister, and Mr. Bernard Obie of the New Alliance Party, led 75 marchers last Saturday to Police Headquarters to protest the PBA Award. (Photo by Cash Michaels)

## Project Phoenix Program To Expand With \$100 G Grant

The Raleigh Police Department will expand its part of Project Phoenix to help clean up drug activities in several high-risk communities, thanks to a \$100,000 federal grant.

For the next two years, police will receive \$50,000 from the Raleigh Housing Authority to increase patrols in six neighborhoods: Heritage Park, Kentwood Park, Halifax Court, Walnut Terrace, Dandridge Downs, and Chavis Heights.

Although these areas are already part of Project Phoenix, the city's multi-faceted drug intervention initiative, police and Housing Authority officials agree more police presence is needed.

This grant will allow police to assign four more patrol officers to work part-time in these areas. It is part of a \$410,000 grant the RHA has received through the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development's Public Housing Drug Elimination Program.

Money from this HUD grant also will be used to support the city Parks and Recreation Department's programs in the housing areas, erect security fences and better lighting in two areas, purchase playground equipment and help fund several other community service programs throughout the Housing Authority neighborhoods.

Sgt. R.H. Strickland, who heads up the police department's CLEAN unit, said the police department is already making a real difference in the neighborhoods and the grant funds will simply make the job a little easier.

CLEAN stands for Community Law Enforcement Against Narcotics. The CLEAN unit consists of Sgt. Strickland, four full-time officers and two additional part-time patrol teams. Along with the six areas targeted under the new grant, CLEAN's "floating patrol" also works in Eastwood Court, Rich Park, College Park and, beginning just recently, Birchwood.

"We're having a big impact in all

these areas," Sgt. Strickland said. "One of our biggest effects, however, has been in the improvement of community relations between the police department and these neighborhoods."

Sgt. Strickland said his officers' day-to-day presence in the housing areas, along with the other Project Phoenix programs, has built an atmosphere of trust and cooperation with the residents. More and more often, residents are turning to police for assistance and support.

One example of this growing relationship is the popularity of the CLEAN officers' new 24-hour pager numbers. Not a night goes by, Sgt. Strickland said, without at least one of the officers receiving a pager call from residents.

Most of the time, residents want

(See CLEAN PROGRAM, P. 2)

## Pulitzer Prize Winner Orator At A&T State

GREENSBORO—A Pulitzer Prize-winning newspaper columnist and a vice president of the Gannett Corp. will keynote the annual Communications Conference at N.C. A&T State University March 26-27.

Addressing the opening session on Thursday, March 26 at 9 a.m. in Merrick Hall Auditorium will be Eleanor Brown, vice president for personnel for Gannett Broadcasting. Theme of the conference is "The Job Hunt: Outpacing the Recession."

Speaker for the conference luncheon on Friday, March 27, at 6 p.m. in the Memorial Union Ballroom will be Clarence Page, a columnist and editorial board member of the Chicago Tribune.

A special feature of the conference will be a Job Fair on Thursday, (See A&T SPEAKER, P. 2)

## NEWS BRIEFS

### WAKE BOARD EYES GUNS IN SCHOOL

In an effort to curb the over-increasing number of students bringing guns and deadly weapons to school, the Wake County School Board voted Monday to consider taking legal action against parents in such cases. There have already been 23 cases of students bringing working guns to school campuses since last August. The most serious was when a gun went off in a student's bookbag at Sanderson High School March 5, wounding the student. The board agreed to send notices to parents warning them about their possible liability if their children are caught with deadly weapons on school grounds.

### JONES SAYS WAKE NOT PROMOTING BLACKS

While the Wake County Board of Commissioners approved a new affirmative action plan Monday for the coming year, Commissioner Abraham Jones had sharp criticism of the job county government is doing in promoting qualified people of color to high-ranking and supervisory positions of authority. Jones said that with the exception of the Sheriff's

(See NEWS BRIEFS, P. 2)

## Marchers Protest Award; PBA Head Makes Apology

**BY CASH MICHAELS**  
Contributing Writer

The head of the local Police Benevolent Association chapter says there was no intent to hurt the family of an unarmed citizen who was shot to death by a Raleigh policeman, when they gave the officer a letter of recognition and support recently. But upon hearing the explanation, many in Raleigh's African-American community are still not satisfied with what they feel was an outrageous slight to the family.

In an exclusive interview with The CAROLINIAN, Sgt. Jeffrey Fluck of the Raleigh Police Department, president of the Raleigh-Wake chapter of the PBA, explained how a presentation to Officer Vincent Kerr, the Raleigh police officer who shot and killed 85-year-old Ivan Ingram last November, became "misinterpreted" as an award for the killing of an unarmed man.

Ingram, who had no weapon or drugs on his person, had no drugs or alcohol in his system, was killed when Officer Kerr shot him in the chest with a 12-gauge shotgun last Nov. 8. Ingram's family says Ivan was an uninvolved bystander as Raleigh police were raiding an address for drugs.

Officer Kerr contends that Ingram was one of several men told to halt during the raid, and when Ingram didn't stop, Kerr shot him. Though a grand jury has cleared Officer Kerr of criminal wrongdoing, a final administrative report from Raleigh Police Chief Frederick K. Heineman was released to the public at a Police Affairs Committee meeting Wednesday.

The family of Ingram expressed deep hurt and outrage when the Raleigh-Wake PBA recognized Officer Kerr during its fifth annual Outstanding Performance Ceremonies at the Raleigh Hilton on March 4. When asked how her aunt, Ms. Soloana Ingram (Ivan Ingram's mother) had taken the news of the recognition, Ms. Royleen Smith, a family member, responded, "How would you feel if someone was just given an award for killing your son?"

Sgt. Fluck told The CAROLINIAN that the impact of the killing had been very traumatic for Officer Kerr also, and that after award nominations were considered by the PBA board, a motion was made (and accepted) to give a letter of support and recognition to Kerr. "We as an association, felt that pain with him. We felt a need to let him know pub-

licly that we knew what he was going through, and that we are there for him, because quite frankly no one else is."

Sgt. Fluck said that because of the legal aspects of the case, the Raleigh police administration could not offer support to Officer Kerr. "They had their interests to look after. We (the PBA) are Officer Kerr's family, and what we did that evening was make a determination to let him know that."

The Raleigh-Wake PBA is the local arm of a 30,000-member regional professional service organization that provides support, counseling and legal assistance to mem-

(See PBA HEAD, P. 2)

## Fate Of Haitian Refugees May Become A Campaign '92 Issue

MT. RAINIER, Md.—In opposition to current U.S. policy toward Haiti, more than 3,500 individuals and organizations representing hundreds of thousands of U.S. citizens signed a full-page ad in the New York Times questioning the Bush administration's commitment to Haitian democracy and demanding specific actions to help restore the Aristide government to power.

The ad, appearing in the Times the week of March 15, represents the largest public condemnation to date of U.S. policy toward Haiti's coup d'etat, which took place since Sept. 30, 1991.

Pledging to continue to press for the return of Aristide, the signers call upon the administration and the member nations of the OAS to do the same by condemning the repression fomented by the coup leaders, reinstating a strict embargo until Aristide returns, and granting "temporary protected status" to all Haitian refugees. They also urge the nations of the hemisphere to support the replacement of the Haitian military with a civilian-controlled police force and to commit resources to a program of "substantial and collaborative" economic development once democracy is restored in the island nation.

Signers will be following up by lobbying the administration, Congress and political candidates for a strong pro-Aristide policy.

The ad was initiated and sponsored by Quest for Peace, an organization with a decade of experience in rallying thousands of citizens to challenge U.S. policies toward Nicaragua. "Like his predecessor, Mr. Bush is long on rhetoric and short on action when it comes to real democracy in the hemisphere," said Rev. William R. Callahan, coordinator of the Quest for Peace.

"Even in these difficult times, President Aristide, elected with 67 percent of the vote, continues to represent the only hope for the desperately poor people of Haiti. Yet the administration gutted the embargo, continues its inhuman policy of forced repatriation, and seems to be using the OAS negotiation process to covertly undermine Aristide's power," he continued. "It's time for U.S. citizens to make Haiti an issue in this year's elections."

The ad is signed by more than 3,500 individuals and organizations representing all 50 states, the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, and four foreign countries, including Haiti itself. Many organizational signers represent large national

constituencies. They include several religious denominations, Central America solidarity activists, the anti-apartheid movement, students, and human rights and refugee groups.

Individual signers expressed outrage over the duplicity of U.S. policy and the obvious racism toward Haitian refugees.

Rosa Capella Hodgson, a Cuban now living in Raynham, Mass., received U.S. asylum along with her son 30 years ago. "Nobody asked us if our reason for leaving Cuba was political or economic. We both were white... I cannot claim that either my life or my son's life was threatened when I left. The day that America ceases to be a beacon of hope and light for the refugees who land at her shores, the American dream is gone," she said.

"I'd like the world to know what Haiti and Haitians did for free blacks and my family," said L. Marie Guillory, a Fairfax, Va. resident whose ancestors received asylum in Haiti in the mid-1800s after fleeing repression in the United States. "I'd like to see my country respond with compassion and take the humanitarian route by giving asylum to

(See AD DENOUNCES, P. 2)



**REMEMBERING IVAN**—Mrs. Soloana Ingram and her husband, Isaac (lower right) lead a march Saturday to protest a PBA recognition of the Raleigh officer who shot their son, Ivan, to death. 75 marchers protested at Police Headquarters. (Photo by Cash Michaels)