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EASTER BLESSINGS



TO ALL OUR GOOD FRIENDS

Carnage Parents To School Bd. Showdown

BY CASH MICHAELS
Staff Writer

If several outraged African-American parents and community leaders have their way, next Monday's meeting of the Wake County School Board will be a showdown on several key issues, especially a raging controversy over a proposed academically gifted program at Southeast Raleigh's Carnage Middle School.

The school board says that gifted children are served better when enrolled in programs specially designed to challenge their talents, so to answer the demand to expand the AG programs currently at Hunter and Fuller elementary schools and J.W. Ligon Middle School, next year Carnage Middle School will also adopt the format.

But African-American parents with children at Carnage say that the AG program separates children, benefits white children mostly, and because of biased testing, permanently tracks black children who don't make it into lower achievers classes. These parents argue that by and large, black students are not given the same opportunities to enroll in the AG program, and because of the way the system is set up, will virtually never have the chance. They want their children to be exposed to the same AG curriculum with the AG students.

Yvonne Lewis Holly, spokesperson for 60 black and white Carnage parents, has been the most vocal opponent of the proposed change.

"The issue is a school within a school," she told The CAROLINIAN. "These [AG] students do not mix, do not mingle, do not have anything to do with the other student body. They are told they are the brightest of the world. [The school system] brings these kids in and

recruits them from the white community to come into our inner-city black schools to balance the integration, except that none of the classes are integrated."

Ms. Holly illustrated her point by offering the following scenario: students are chosen for the AG program by their teachers, and then are tested. If they score in the top three percent on a combination of standardized tests, plus have high grades, then by state definition they are academically gifted. If a child fails the tests, they can be re-tested privately by a psychologist, and as long as they pass per standard, they can be admitted to the program.

The problem with that scenario, according to Ms. Holly, is that teachers rarely will consider black children who are high achievers for the AG program, which means that a high number of potential candidates never even get the chance to be tested. And if by some reason a qualified black student is chosen, but for some reason doesn't pass the

(See CARNAGE AG, P. 2)

At Worship Services...



REJOICING — Hosanna Jesus Christ and the Bible are the greatest role models. Jesus came proclaiming love and understanding said Rev. Howard Todd, pastor of Zebulon First Baptist Church on Palm Sunday. The subject

of the morning was Seek Excellency from Matt. 25, and Phil. 4:8-9. The choir is shown singing Come To the Waters, prior to Communion. (Photo by James Giles)

African American Business Expo Set For Garner Rd. 'YM'

The first phase of a multi-faceted community consumer education project will take place on Saturday, May 9, at the Garner Road Family YMCA, when the Raleigh Ministerial Alliance and the Business Building Society, in association with the Crabtree II Community Task Force, presents "Your Community Business Expo '92." It is touted to be the first African-American business exposition of its kind anywhere in the Triangle area.

According to Ms. Margaret Rose Murray, president of BBS, African-Americans will now have a place to go where 50 or more black vendors will offer fine selections of top-quality merchandise and special services.

"This will be an opportunity to meet and greet African-American entrepreneurs who will save you so much money at this pre-Mother's Day sales spectacular. It's something we've always dreamed was possible, and now we're doing it for the community to show that it can happen, and the price will be right, too."

Ms. Murray told The CAROLINIAN that the Black Business Expo will be more than just a shopper's opportunity to get good buys, but a learning experience for the community by participating in the economic empowerment of our community. Wise shopping techniques will be offered to show African-Americans the true value of their dollars and what they should expect by way of price, service and respect.

Rev. David Dolby, president of the Raleigh Ministerial Alliance, told The CAROLINIAN that in most ethnic communities, a dollar turns over five to six times before it leaves that community. But in the African-American community, the dollar goes out without turnover (with the exception of the barber shop or beauty parlor). "The need for black economic development is apparent," says Rev. Dolby.

In a recent Ministerial Alliance meeting, this issue became a focal point, with the general conclusion that black churches must work to change the perception of our community about businesses. Rev. Dolby said, "We must encourage the African-American community to break out of the traditional mold and to think of self-employment. To ensure the success of black businesses, we must shed our 'victims' mentality. We need to break the shackles of not trusting each other, and feeling that black people offer inferior goods and services."

Rev. Dolby said that the alliance knows that African-Americans are "a God-blessed and talented

people," and that we come from a people who built civilizations. Our proud heritage, crafts and skills, in this face of low wages, is clearly documented. "The curse must be reversed," demands Rev. Dolby, and

he sees the May 9 Black Business Expo as the beginning to this end.

"This concept of self-help is the economic imperative for changing our course in history," he says.

"Your Community Business Expo

'92' will be the first of a planned series in the near future. Licensed African-American vendors of all types are encouraged to contact Ms.

(See BLACK EXPO, P. 2)

Parent Blames Enloe Principal For Son's Arrest In BB Gun Case

BY CASH MICHAELS
Staff Writer

Is there a connection between the sudden departure of Enloe High School Principal Howard Coleman and the case of Willie Barnes, the 16-year-old African-American sentenced to a controversial two years in the Youth Correctional Center for bringing a broken BB gun to Enloe last fall?

Dr. Coleman, Enloe's principal since 1990, left the Wake County Public Schools this week to take a still undisclosed post with the Charlotte-Mecklenburg School System.

Some observers say the handling of the Barnes case by Coleman and three of his assistant principals may have been the final straw in a long series of racial controversies that plagued the state's largest high school. Mattie Barnes, the mother of Willie Barnes, contends that if Dr. Coleman had made better efforts to contact her when Willie was first pulled out of class, her son would never have been put into a position of being charged with assault and making verbal threats.

Willie Barnes has appealed his conviction on three counts of assault and two verbal-threat charges stemming from when he allegedly brought a broken BB gun to Enloe High last Nov. 15. Though both evidence and testimony against Willie were inconclusive, District Court Judge Anne B. Salisbury told Willie that she "was making an example of him" for bringing the BB gun to school, and found him guilty on all five counts. That decision is scheduled to be appealed in Wake Superior Court on Monday, April 27.

In an interview with The CAROLINIAN, Ms. Barnes recounted that Principal Coleman had failed to notify her until well into the afternoon about her son's plight.

"I had come back from lunch, and my boss told me that I received a phone call from the principal. The phone call came in around 1:30 p.m.," Ms. Barnes remembered. She said she works for the N.C. Department of Revenue, so every phone call that comes in is logged for recordkeeping purposes.

When she returned the call and spoke to Dr. Coleman, he told her

that Willie had been arrested for bringing a "pelvic BB gun" to school, and that three administrators had pressed charges against him. Ms. Barnes recalls that when she asked whether her son was at the Raleigh police station, Dr. Coleman gave her a terse, "I don't know where he's at," and the conversation ended.

When she finally found Willie in the magistrate's lockup, Ms. Barnes discovered that he was being held under a \$3,000 cash bond (money she didn't have), she would not be allowed to see him until the next day at the Wake County Jail, and Willie would have to spend the weekend behind bars. Because it was late Friday afternoon, no one was available to tell her what happened at the school, and her husband was stationed in Goldsboro for Air Force Reserve duty for the weekend.

"I felt so helpless for my son... I had nowhere to turn."

She subsequently found out that the incident actually took place at 8:45 a.m. but no call reached her until 1:30 that afternoon. There were no calls from the school recorded on the home answering service, either. When she finally

asked Dr. Coleman why there was no evidence of the school ever trying to reach her at work or home, he replied that he had two "wrong numbers," and then that "the phone kept ringing for two whole hours, but there was no answer." Ms. Barnes knew that that couldn't be true if indeed he had the correct number to the N.C. Department of Revenue. And since she had been in constant contact with the Enloe guidance department in the weeks prior to the incident, Ms. Barnes knew that the school knew how to reach her.

"In my opinion they did not try to reach me, and I told them I did not believe they tried hard enough," says Ms. Barnes.

She is also quick to point out that when Willie was originally pulled from class by the three assistant principals, and taken to an office to be questioned and then searched, the youth asked them to call both his mother and the police, but they refused. Mattie Barnes says if Dr. Coleman and his staff had done things differently, young Willie Barnes would never have been placed in the position he's in now.

Man Questions Citation, Lie Detector Test Given!

BY CASH MICHAELS
Staff Writer

A community activist who complained about an alleged racial slight by a Raleigh police officer says he was made to take a lie detector test to confirm his story.

Johnny Blaylock, founder of the Friends Committee Against Drugs and AIDS, says Capt. Otis Hinton of the Raleigh Police Internal Affairs Division contacted him to come down to headquarters last month, but didn't say what for. When Blaylock got down there, he says Capt. Hinton then proceeded to read a version of a Christmas Day incident that allegedly occurred between Blaylock and a white Raleigh police officer. Blaylock says he was surprised that Hinton knew anything because he'd never filed a formal

complaint about it.

What Capt. Hinton was reading from was a report on the status of Raleigh police community relations issued by the Raleigh Human Resources/Human Relations Advisory Committee. The study, requested by the Raleigh City Council last year after the police shooting of citizen Tony Farrell, recounted several instances of what it said were bad police relations with citizens in varying capacities. Blaylock had spoken with one of the investigating commission members in passing about a run-in he had had with a white police officer on Christmas Day last year.

Blaylock told of being stopped by the officer while driving because

(See LIE DETECTOR, P. 2)

Higher Education Act Backed By U. S. Lawmakers

BY LARRY A. STILL

NNPA News Service

WASHINGTON, D.C.—U.S. Rep. William Jefferson (D-New Orleans) is credited with leading the successful effort to win increased federal financial assistance for America's historically black colleges and universities and minority students in the 1992 Higher Education Reauthorization Act passed recently by the House of Representatives.

Last August, Rep. Jefferson introduced the "College Opportunity Act of 1992" which contained major provisions for HBCUs now adopted in the Higher Education Act. "Inclusion of these new provisions recognizes the outstanding job done by historically black colleges in producing undergraduates who move on" to higher degrees and other levels of achievement, the congressman said last week.

He cited the following measures that benefit HBCUs and minority students:

• Raising the eligibility ceiling for student (tuition) Pell Grants to \$49,000 for family income and increasing maximum student Pell Grants to \$4,500;

• Making post-graduate programs at 11 new HBCUs eligible to share in at least \$20 million of special federal grants to improve academic, scientific and professional programs.

Recent statistics underscore the importance of strengthening post-graduate programs at HBCUs, particularly in scientific fields, Jefferson said. The 11 new institutions now eligible for special grants to strengthen post-graduate programs are:

Southern University School of Law (La.); Xavier University School of Pharmacy (La.); Jackson State

(See EDUCATION ACT, P. 2)

CRIME BEAT

Editor's Note: This column, a fixture of The CAROLINIAN in years past, has returned to our pages in hopes of deterring crime in our community. The information contained herein is taken from public arrest records and does not necessarily mean those mentioned are guilty of crimes.

CAUGHT FOR CONCEALMENT

Linda Delores Bennett, 601 Umstead St., Durham, has been arrested and charged with concealment of \$268 of merchandise. The reported incident took place Friday between 4:39 and 4:45 p.m. at a business located at 4217 Six Forks Rd.

BREAKS DRUG LAW

Fernando Roy Williams, 18, has been arrested and charged with possession with intent to sell drugs, delay and obstruction of a law officer. Williams allegedly had 1.8 grams of rock crack cocaine valued at \$200. The incident occurred Tuesday between 1 and 1:30 a.m. at a rooming house located at 327 N. Fisher St.

GETS IN FIGHT

William B. Yarborough, 1121 Kitt Pl. and Wilson Webb, 617 Hilltop Drive., have been arrested and charged with engaging in an affray. The duo allegedly "squared off" Sunday at 3:36 p.m. at the Hilltop residence. No injuries were reported.

ATTEMPTS BURGLARY

Shelton Jones, 32, 101 Lee St., Wendell, has been arrested and charged with disorderly conduct and attempted first degree burglary. Jones allegedly forcibly tried to burglarize an apartment located at

(See CRIME BEAT, P. 2)

NEWS BRIEFS

HAMLET WORKERS ANNOUNCE MARCH

The Black Workers for Justice, along with several survivors of the Hamlet chicken processing plant fire that killed 25 last September, came to Raleigh Monday to announce a march in Hamlet scheduled for May 2. The group also called for Emmett Roe, the owner of the plant, to be indicted for murder. Many former employees of the plant are still unemployed and are seeking assistance to care for their families.

RWCA SETS FORUM FOR CANDIDATES

The Raleigh-Wake Citizens Association will offer a candidate's forum Thursday, starting at 7 p.m. at St. Ambrose Episcopal Church, 813 Darby St. in Raleigh. This event is free and open to all citizens.

TOPLESS CLUB GETS OKAY FROM CITY

Against the wishes of local anti-pornography forces, the Raleigh Board of Adjustment gave the green light to another red light district business: a topless club. Opponents are upset that this will be the fourth such business to locate on Capital Boulevard. The board also okayed an adult bookstore, which will join another adult bookstore and the Foxy Lady topless bar.

"BRENDLEVILLE" NO MORE

For four years, property owned by the Norfolk and

(See NEWS BRIEFS, P. 2)