

THE CAROLINIAN

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Actor Eddie Murphy as con man who gets religion in new film "Distinguished Gentleman" Page 6

Top Black Assistant superintendent, Dr. Sammie Parrish leaves post to head Cleveland System Page 13

In The Wake Of Rodney King Tragedy

NAACP Defense Fund Proposes Legal Reform

NEW YORK, N.Y.—In an effort to prevent the recurrence of tragedies like the Rodney King verdict, the NAACP Legal Defense and Educational Fund last week proposed a series of six major legal reforms designed to restore America's faith in its criminal justice system.

Responding not only to the King verdict, but to numerous other egregious cases, Legal Defense Fund Director-Counsel Julius L. Chambers pointed to a recent poll showing

that 81 percent of African-Americans believe the judicial system is racially biased, and said, "Armed with an understanding of this astonishing verdict and the judicial system that made it possible, America must take concrete steps to remove race discrimination from our legal system."

LDF's proposals are as follows:
1. Take steps to end exclusion of African-Americans from state and federal judicial posts. Be-

cause the judiciary is nearly lily-white, African-Americans hold little confidence in the capacity of courts to dispense color-blind justice, according to the statement. Of the nearly 12,000 full-time state court judges across the country, only 465 were African-American in 1991. In Georgia, only nine of 175 trial court judges are African-American; in New York, only 71 of 1,129 judges are African-American. Only four percent of the federal judiciary is

African-American, only three percent is Hispanic and less than one percent is Asian-American.

States that elect judges must abolish electoral schemes that deny African-Americans a fair chance to select their judicial officers. The federal government and states that appoint judges must take affirmative steps to put more people of color on the bench.

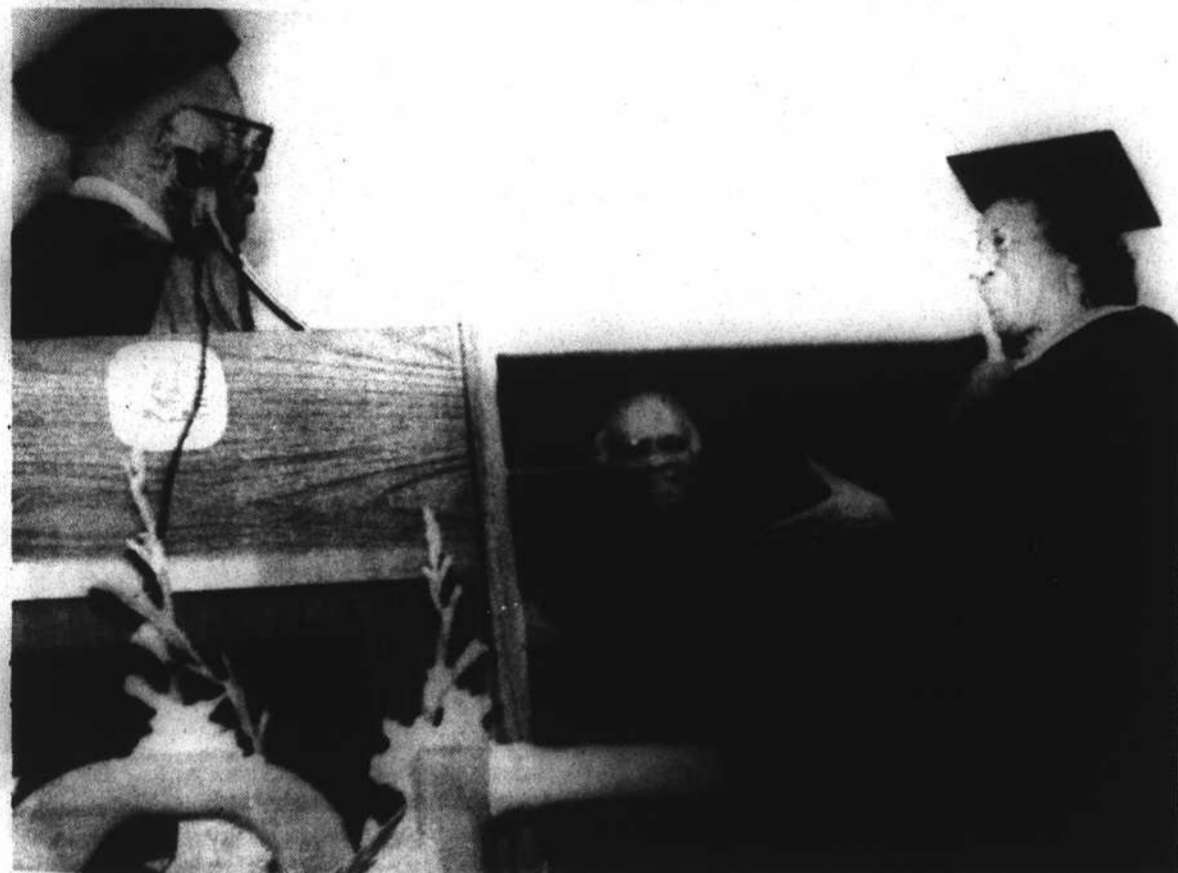
2. African-Americans must be given an equal opportunity to

serve as jurors. In many cases, throughout the country, people of color continue to be struck because of their race by prosecutors from juries. For example, in Alabama, it is not unusual to see prosecutors use more than 20 strikes to remove all African-Americans from juries in death penalty cases. Lawmakers must pass statutes allowing the removal of jurors only for case-related reasons.

3. In racially charged cases,

changes of venue must not have the effect of excluding people of color from the judicial process. Cases should be moved only when it is clearly shown that the move is necessary to ensure a fair trial, and only to communities with comparable ethnic or racial characteristics. This problem can be addressed through legislation.

4. The elimination of police (See NAACP PLAN, P. 2)



CITATION—During their 125th Commencement held recently at the Civic Center, Saint Augustine's College gave recognition to the Class of 1942 on their 50th Anniversary. St. Augustine's President Prezell Robinson presented twenty members of the class with awards of appreciation for loyal and dedicated service to their Alma

Mater. Pictured receiving the award is Bonnie L. Stude of Raleigh, a retired Assistant Cashier and Loan Officer at Mechanics & Farmers Bank (Durham-Raleigh) offices of 41-years. Raleigh native, Dr. John H. Brown, Jr. gave the initiative of honoring 50th year anniversary classes in 1988. (Photo by James Giles)

African Americans Face Threat Of Planned Scholarship Restrictions

BY LELA MCDOWELL
NNPA News Service
WASHINGTON, D.C.—Anne is the single mother of three small children. Last year she and her family were living on the streets of San Francisco. Getting enough food

to eat was her major task, finding temporary shelter for the night her daily challenge. This year Anne, whose name has been changed to protect her identity, is in college. She has a small apartment with her three children and she is working part-time.

The dramatic change in her circumstance came as a result of San Francisco State advisor/transition program specialist Samuel Jones who had to first move Anne into a garage to qualify her for financial aid. The financial aid allows Anne to go to college, eventually get a good job and become a tax-paying citizen instead of the homeless mother of one year ago.

The type of financial aid that gave Anne her chance will be made illegal if the Bush administration's ruling restricting minority scholarships becomes law. Proposed last Decem-

ber, the policy will soon become the rule unless Congress intervenes or the administration changes its proposal.

It is a tragedy for the nation, says Jones, who notes that close to 80 percent of his students will be forced to drop out of school or disrupt their education.

"The Rodney King incident showed us the only way we can save these generations of African-Americans and Hispanics is to give them a better future, a better opportunity, a better education so that they can contribute to society," says Jones. "These monies are the easiest, and the most direct form of giving individuals the ability to be self-supporting and functional in our society."

According to census figures, by (See SCHOLARSHIPS, P. 2)

Crabtree Management Tells Of New Community Relations Group

The management of Crabtree Valley Mall has announced the creation of a community relations committee to "meet with special interest groups," in order to deal with some of the recent racial and youth problems it's had, and while the city's Human Relations Commission has hailed the announcement, there is little or no perceptible celebration in Raleigh's African-American community.

Crabtree has been the focus of racial tension since 1989, when it was revealed that mall management attempted to have public bus service cut off from Raleigh's African-American community to the mall on Saturday afternoons, allegedly to stop black teenagers from coming to the mall. Mall management denied the report, and black teens charged that they were the targets of racial harassment by mall secu-

rity guards.

After a picket and boycott of the mall, a youth task force, along with the Raleigh Human Resources/Human Relations Advisory Commission, finally signed an agreement in August 1991, in which the mall promised to hire more African-American security guards, train their officers in human relations, and develop a cooperative relationship with the African-American community.

But on Jan. 25 of this year, 16-year-old Lorenzo McKoy was beaten and arrested by Crabtree security after being asked to leave the mall. The ensuing controversy and trial revealed that even after the 1991 agreement, the mall maintained what was termed a discriminatory policy of targeting black teenagers at the mall. McKoy was acquitted of all charges, and has said he may sue

Crabtree for civil damages.

After an investigation and two controversial reports from HRHRAC alleging racial discrimination at the mall, the commission in March asked Crabtree to report back on what steps it will now take to deal with what is clearly a ruptured relationship with the African-American community.

At HRHRAC's May meeting, chairman Jim Fuller released a letter from Crabtree Executive Director John B. Grimaldi, announcing the creation of the mall's Community Relations Committee. The letter, copies of which were sent to Mayor Avery C. Upchurch, City Manager Dempsey E. Benton, and all members of the city council, said that the committee consisted of Ms. Sandra Grant, marketing manager;

(See CRABTREE, P. 2)

Black CAT Drivers Protest

BY CASH MICHAELS
Staff Writer

African-American bus drivers of the Capital Area Transit system protested what they called discrimination at the workplace on the part of company management this week, and said they want the public and the Raleigh City Council to know about it.

At least 35 black drivers of Local Amalgamated Transit Union 1328 met in front of the CAT terminal last Sunday morning to finalize a plan of action to combat what they termed unfair labor practices.

Joseph Alston, a CAT driver and local union president, told The CAROLINIAN that there are many problems that black drivers have been aware of, and it's time that people knew about them and man-

agement did something about them.

"We have brothers and sisters that get fired from the job, and we feel that it's time we let the boss know that we need to sit down and talk," he said. At least two of the members present at the meeting were identified to The CAROLINIAN as having been recently terminated, with one female worker's case still pending.

Alston said that General Manager Frederick "Rick" Murray, the "boss" in question, was invited to attend their Sunday morning meeting, but he declined. "He wanted us nowhere near the property or on the property, but we're here to show him that we're concerned, and that we have problems out here."

Alston said that the picket was

part of the grievance procedure as outlined in their labor contract with the company. By state law, the union is not allowed to strike or create a work stoppage, so any protests have to be conducted by union members on time off, and on lunch breaks.

Some of the problems alleged include difficult working conditions, swift policy changes with little or no warning, and firing of black drivers for infractions that white drivers are kept on the job for. Alston specifically talked about "miss-outs," where drivers are late reporting to work. "Black employees seem to be getting fired, white employees are coming back to work. We think this is unfair," said Alston. He also

(See BLACK DRIVERS, P. 2)

National Black Caucus To Convene On Issue

AIDS...No One Is Safe!

The National Black Caucus of State Legislators, a broad-based non-partisan coalition of more than 450 elected officials, will conduct a three-day fact-finding conference on "The Changing Face of AIDS," through Friday in Washington, D.C.

Colorado Sen. Regis F. Groff, NBCSL president, said recently that AIDS now presents the African-American community with a crisis that deserves the immediate attention of all those in a position to effect public policies that could stem the alarming spread of this disease.

"The Changing Face of AIDS" is being conducted by the NBCSL health committee under the leadership of Tennessee state Rep. Roscoe Dixon. Some 119 NBCSL members who are either members of legislative health committees in their home states or who are formulating legislation pertaining to health issues will participate in the conference. The urgency of the fact-finding forum was underscored by Sen. Groff.

"When women, infants and teenagers account for startling leaps in the statistics of newly reported AIDS cases in the African-American community, we are all at risk and no one is safe," he said.

Sen. Groff pointed out that, as of

the end of 1990, 28 percent of all AIDS victims in the United States were African-American men, women and children. In every category, including gay and bisexual men and IV drug users, African-Americans are not only more likely to be infected than their white counterparts, but are sicker at the time of diagnosis.

For this reason, the conference has been designed to address HIV

and AIDS infection from an African-American perspective with several objectives in mind: heightening awareness of the extent of HIV and AIDS infection in the African-American community; opening dialogue in the African-American community that will foster coordinated, community-based efforts to deal with HIV and AIDS; increasing the

(See FACE OF AIDS, 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.

POSSESSING ILLEGAL SHOTGUN
Thirty-one-year-old Fort Brooks of 305 Dacia Road and 18-year-old Jeremy Andrew Lane of 202 Lincoln Court were both arrested and charged each with possessing a weapon of mass destruction. Police say they confiscated a .410-gauge shotgun with a sawed-off barrel. The pair was arrested on the 800 block of East Hargett Street.

ASSAULT WITH FIREARM
James Lacy Davis, 49, of 5807 Old Farm Road, was arrested and charged with possession of marijuana, drug paraphernalia and assault with a deadly weapon by pointing a gun. Michael Benny Mason, 30, of an address in Wendell, was charged with simple assault. Police say the two assaulted Roy Lee Williams of 1410 Beichlor Road in Garner. The assault allegedly occurred at 3905 Wilmington St. A 9mm semi-automatic handgun, one magazine and one plastic bag with 12 grams of marijuana were recovered.

SHOPLIFTING
Clarence Wayne Bass, 37, of "Anywhere, USA," was arrested and charged with larceny, resisting arrest and delaying arrest. Police say he was shoplifting from a supermarket on Crosslink Road. He allegedly stole seven potted hanging plants, 240 miniature potted plants, and two shopping carts.

CHURCH BREAK-IN
Twenty-nine-year-old Timothy Lawrence Grant of 5508 Woodpond Court was arrested and charged with breaking and entering into Morning Missionary Baptist Church at 628 Quarry St. Police say Grant damaged a front door lock valued at \$20.

BURGLARY
Clyde Wayne Butts, 37, of "Anywhere, USA," was arrested and charged with breaking and entry and larceny. Police claim Butts stole 52 pieces of assorted ladies' clothing from a department store on the Fayetteville Street Mall.

FIRING WEAPON
Eugene Lee, 46, of 406 Lee St. was arrested and charged with illegally discharging a weapon within the Raleigh city limits. Police say Lee fired a 20-gauge shotgun at the address, damaging a window. Damage was put at \$100.

NEWS BRIEFS

EEOC OKAYS ST. AUGUSTINE'S SUIT

The Equal Employment Opportunity Commission has given St. Augustine's College professor Dr. Alan Cooper the green light to file a job discrimination suit against the historically black college. Dr. Cooper, in a complaint filed last October, alleged that he was denied tenure, promotions and pay raises at the school because he is white. When he complained about it, Cooper says he was then demoted. Dr. Cooper has taught at St. Aug. for more than 10 years. Dr. Prezell R. Robinson, president of the college, denies the charge. Dr. Cooper is expected to file suit in U.S. District Court next month.

MCNEAL GETS WAKE SCHOOLS POST

William McNeal, currently the assistant Wake Schools superintendent for school services, has been chosen to become the new associate superintendent for curriculum development and classroom instruction, succeeding Dr. Jane Hammond, who is leaving the system. McNeal, who was at one time principal (See NEWS BRIEFS, P. 2)