



ACADEMIC HONORS

Reginald Springer a Ligon Middle School student will be recognized by Duke University Identification Program for academic achievement.

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HEAD FOOTBALL COACH

Jerome Harper, assistant coach at Alabama State University has accepted position as head football coach at Fayetteville State University.

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The first black slaves arrived in Virginia on a Dutch ship on May 29 in 1619. But as late as 1704, with a white population of 76,000, there were still only 10,000 blacks in Virginia, some of whom were freedmen.

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Henderson Wants Black Police Chief

BY CASH MICHAELS

HENDERSON—You wouldn't know that Melvin Smith is at the center of a raging controversy in the town of Henderson to talk with him. His easygoing manner and confident charm seem to emotionally distance him from the deep-rooted feelings of hurt and anger that now permeate through the African-American community

there. And yet, Smith knows all too well what the battle is about, and what role he must play.

People in Henderson say what has happened to Melvin Smith has happened before, but this time they're not standing for it. When Henderson Police Chief DeBoyd Kimball announced his retirement earlier this year, it was assumed that the most senior officer on the force would be appointed to the

post. That has been the tradition in this Vance County town for as long as folks can remember.

If tradition held true, then that man would be Smith. Capt. Melvin Smith is a 28-year veteran and beyond being a well-respected professional and admired figure in the community, he holds the distinction of being the first African-American ever to join the Henderson Police Force. After paying his

dues and gaining the support of the community, people were looking forward to what seemed to be a sure thing... Police Chief Melvin Smith.

But it was not to be.

Eric Williams, Henderson's city manager, reportedly decided that the police force lacked professionalism, and needed an overhaul not only of leadership, but direction. Williams made the decision to

break from tradition and look beyond Henderson for the next chief. So the qualifications for the post were changed, and all of a sudden, Capt. Smith was no longer in the running, because he didn't qualify.

The police chief of Clinton, Steve Kinchlow, was hired instead. He was white, and an outsider. The African-American community was outraged.

"The reason the process [for se-

lecting a chief] was changed was because of racism," said an angry Rev. Albert Moses, pastor of Cotton Memorial Baptist Church. Rev. Moses was one of 200 black citizens who rallied in front of the Vance County Courthouse Thursday night, demanding the city manager rescind his decision.

"[The white leadership] saw that a black man had an opportunity to

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N.C. Lags In Health Care

Race Plays Role

North Carolinians exceed the national average in deaths from heart disease, cancer, stroke, motor vehicle and other accidents, lung disease, pneumonia and influenza, diabetes, and chronic liver disease, says the N.C. Center for Public Policy Research in the latest issue of its quarterly magazine, "North Carolina Insight." The center also says the state is lower than the national average in deaths from suicide, homicide, kidney disease and hardening of the arteries.

"Healthwise, North Carolina's population is on the mend. But the state still lags much of the nation, and race and geography still seem to play a role in the health of individuals," says Mike McLaughlin, editor of Insight.

The center sorted through data kept by state agencies, plus a number of other studies and opinion polls, to formulate its report on the health status of North Carolina's population. State Health Director Ron Levine best summed up the results of this analysis. "Compared to ourselves, we are healthier than ever before," says Levine. "Compared to the United States, we are not as healthy as we should be."

Mortality rates currently pro-

(See N.C. HEALTH, P. 2)



BEST IN THE STATE — EFNEP Assistant Mia Burgin, left, receives a Minnie Miller Brown Award from Ms. Brown, retired head of EFNEP in North Carolina. The award, sponsored by the North Carolina Association of Extension Home Economists, is presented to the top

EFNEP assistant in the state. Burgin also received a 1992 Paraprofessional Award from that organization and a Distinguished Service Award from the North Carolina Cooperative Extension Service.

Raleigh Woman Gets Outstanding Performance Award As "Pioneer"

After just two years as an Extension Nutrition Program assistant, a Raleigh woman has been named top Expanded Food and Nutrition Education Program assistant in North Carolina.

Ida Burgin received the Minnie Miller Brown State Award from

the North Carolina Association of Extension Home Economists for outstanding performance at the EFNEP State Conference May 12-14 in Raleigh.

Burgin and two other Wake County EFNEP assistants—Mary Jane Chedester and Clara Meekins, both of Raleigh—were among nine receiving Outstanding Performance Awards from the North Carolina Cooperative Extension Service. All work in Extension's Wake County center.

"Ida helped pioneer EFNEP's work with non-traditional groups, such as people in homeless shelters, at the Correctional Center for Women, in the Housing Authority

and through Habitat for Humanity," said Jewel Winslow, extension home economics agent in Gates County, who represented the NCAEHE award. "She has spunkiness and an optimistic attitude, but if I had to choose just one word to describe Ida, it would be 'pioneer'."

Minnie Miller Brown, for whom the award was named, presented the plaque to Burgin at the awards ceremony May 13. Brown worked 35 years with Extension, combatting rural poverty and malnutrition. As a member of a national task force in 1968, she

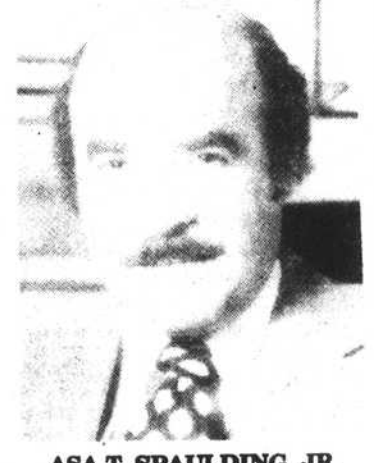
(See TOP WOMAN, P. 2)

Black Business Resource Center Plans Incubator

BY CASH MICHAELS

More and more, economic development in the African-American community is seen as the key toward maintaining any parity with the constant changes of mainstream society. Last week, another project to address that need was introduced here in Raleigh.

The Foundation for Economic and Educational Development (FEED), a non-profit, non-partisan organization developed to encourage business and educa-



ASA T. SPAULDING, JR.

The center will be a unique facility that will have a definite impact on economic growth in the African-American community and the city of Raleigh as a whole.

tional endeavors among people of color and women, announced plans for the Minority Business Resource Center and Small Business Incubator.

When finished, the MERC/SBI will be located at 112 Cox Avenue, formerly the headquarters of the North Carolina Hospital Association.

According to Asa T. Spaulding, Jr., president of FEED, the center will be a unique facility that will have a definite impact on economic growth not only

on Raleigh's African-American community but on the city as a whole.

"We believe that the center will be a real first of its kind in North Carolina and the Southeast," Spaulding told THE CAROLINIAN. "You won't find another such operation between Washington, D.C. and Atlanta, Ga."

Spaulding said the facility will be state-of-the-art, housing a small business incubator consisting of shared office space at or below prevailing commercial market rates. Support resources and services vital to African-American and women owned businesses will be brought together under one roof. Those resources and services include utilities, conference rooms, receptionists, telephone answering and more.

Spaulding adds that the MBRC/SBI will spawn satellite sites in "economically disadvantaged" counties across the state. The plan is

(See BUSINESS, P. 2)

Community Calendar

SICKLE CELL FUNDRAISER

The Women's Opportunity Network is hosting local high school students in their efforts to help raise money for the N.C. Sickle Cell Anemia Foundation. "Who's Got the Juice?", a talent show, will be held Saturday, May 30, at 7:30 p.m. at St. Augustine's College Fine Arts Building. Tickets are \$5 in advance or \$6 at the door. For more information, call 231-1559.

INTERNATIONAL DINNER

Good Shepherd United Methodist Church announces its third International Dinner on Saturday, May 30, from 5-7 p.m. at Oak Grove Elementary School, Wake Forest Highway at Mineral Springs Road.

The community is invited to share in the fellowship and supper. Guests are invited to bring a dish representing their national heritage.

Please contact Good Shepherd Church at 596-8516 if you need directions or more information.

ORDINATION SERVICE

Faith Tabernacle United Holy Church, 741 E. Juniper Avenue, Wake Forest, will hold an ordination service for deacons Sunday, May 31, at 5 p.m. District Elder Robert Siler will be in charge.

On Sunday, June 7, at 4 p.m., Sis. Miriam Upperman will preach her initial sermon.

The pastor is Elder Eula Coleman.

GREEN ROAD COMMUNITY CENTER CLASSES

Green Road Community Center at 4201 Green Road is offering the following:

Kids Time. Children ages 3 to 5 have a ball on Mondays and Wednesdays from 9 a.m. to noon. Activities include: arts and crafts, cooking, letters, nature, colors, numbers and much more. City residents, only \$48

(See CALENDAR, P. 2)

Historical, Economic Perspective

U.S. Policy And Family Stability

BY DR. IRENE R. CLARK

An Analysis

On May 17, President Bush focused on the fact that the nation must "restore our families" to solve its problems. He went on to say, "Whatever form our most pressing problems may take, ultimately all are related to the disintegration of the family."

These were words uttered at the commencement ceremonies at the University of Notre Dame in South Bend, Ind. He called the American family "an institution under siege from the following: divorce, teen pregnancy, single-parent households and youth violence."

Vice President Dan Quayle denounced even more recently the morals of a fictional character—

Murphy Brown—for assisting in the corruption of our society by having her TV baby out of wedlock. For African-Americans, family life has been historically under siege, often with the sanction of our system of justice. President Bush concluded his remarks on this matter with, "We all know that putting America's families back on track is essential to putting our country back on track."

Bush as well as Quayle were perhaps correct in focusing on the importance of the family as a key institution in any society. However, there is much missing from the remarks of our country's leaders in terms of the total historical picture and its cause-and-effect relationships. We do not need a fic-

tional character to see the truth of the matter on family stability. All we need to do is look at history.

U.S. policies on matters which have seriously affected the stability of the African-American family go back a long way and continue to haunt us generations later. From the breakup of the African family during slavery going back to the 15th century and beyond, to the overwhelming urbanization of African-Americans in the 1960s, to the overflow of anger in the L.A. riots of 1992, black family life has been in a constant state of upheaval, oppressed and degraded by human, economic and social forces emanating from white European racism in our larger society.

The family system which devel-

oped among African-Americans during slavery was one, according to Alphonso Pinkney (in *Black Americans*, Prentice-Hall, Inc., 1969), with "few characteristics that were normal to the white American family of the time." The very nature of slavery as an economic institution, as well as the attitudes which led to the institutionalization of American Negro slavery, militated against the black family's developing stability.

Associations between male and female slaves were frequently engaged in for the sole purpose of satisfying sexual desires. Slaveholders, some of whom admittedly were non-white, could and often did mate their slaves to produce

(See FAMILY, P. 2)