

THE CAROLINIAN

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Enloe Principal Ready For Challenge

BY CASH MICHAELS
Staff Writer

If Calvin Dobbins knows anything, it is that his next job will not be easy. Taking over as the new principal of Enloe High School on July 1 will be one of the greatest challenges in his 19-year professional career as an educator. But Raleigh's first African-American high school principal in a long time is looking forward to facing the challenge with an open ear... and heart.

"It will be an inclusive type of leadership, however I know where the buck stops," Dobbins told The

CAROLINIAN. He said he was pleased that the Wake Board of Education appointed him to the post to succeed Dr. Howard Coleman, but he knows he's going to have to go in with his eyes wide open.

His mission is to bring the students, faculty, parents and community of the state's largest high school together on one team, so that children can learn in the most positive atmosphere.

"The most definitive challenge right now is bringing people together in that school. I see it as a goldmine of talent, both with kids

and with teachers. What we've got to do is identify all of that talent, and then nurture that talent and maximize it. My task is to find the key that unlocks it all and bring it together, and that's exciting," Dobbins said.

Currently the director of elementary school employment for the Wake Public School System, the 40-year-old St. Augustine's College alumnus describes himself as a man who does care about children and people. "When I get committed to a task, I'm determined to bring it to fruition. I'm an achiever, genuinely concerned to

make things work."

One of the goals Principal Dobbins must achieve is forging a better relationship with the African-

"We will listen to people, collect facts, and make the best decisions that are in the best interests of kids and teachers," said Dobbins. "Understanding is a real key. One of the things I'll focus on is a higher level of understanding American community and Enloe High. The school has had a history of racial discontent, with black students and parents charging Enloe faculty and administrators with insensitivity, with the added

call from many community leaders for an African-American to take over as principal. Dobbins now knows that he must be both accessible and accountable.

among all of us. Among my teachers and me, of how I lead, of my expectations and their expectations for themselves, and that they have for kids. A lot of times problems arise from a lack of understanding, so that will be a key focus."

Dobbins says attending the race awareness seminar conducted by the Rev. C.T. Vivian last year was very instrumental in "bringing

home" a lot of things he's been through in his life, and feels that it would have an impact on his faculty if they attended, too.

Dobbins says everyone in the school system basically wants the same things for students. But sometimes that gets lost in the shuffle of distractions. As the father of a 14-year-old daughter and an eight-week-old son, he knows

that the most important thing is that all students learn and grow. As of July 1, new Enloe Principal Calvin Dobbins, Jr. is ready for the challenge.

Organization Empowering Youth To Fight For, Protect Their Rights

BY SHEHETTIZI WOODLEY
Staff Writer

When children speak, adults will listen.

According to Steve White, director of the Ella Baker Child Policy Training Institute, children and young adults have the capacity to create positive changes in their communities by organizing themselves and challenging adults to take action on issues they are concerned about.

White, who is also coordinator for the Black Student Leadership Network of the Children's Defense Fund, Inc., said the country is "witnessing a new student movement, with a new spirit."

White spent the last two weeks at Shaw University directing the Ella Baker Institute, which is designed to give 25 selected college students and recent college graduates from around the country the skills to help children and other young adults empower themselves to effect change in their communities.

He said the college students,

upon graduation from the institute's two-week program, will be sent to various communities in North Carolina to work as interns with various child-advocacy organizations.

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Matthew Countryman, co-facilitator of the institute, said the students will intern in groups of five with five different programs.

He said each of the organiza-

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Steve White,
Director

White said the students were given the opportunity "to learn from the successes and the mistakes from past student movements.

"Compared to the youth movement of the '60s," he said, "young people today have a better feel as to what changes are needed, spe-

cially as it affects children." Matthew Countryman, co-facilitator of the institute, said the students will intern in groups of five with five different programs.

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COMIN' HOME - World record-breaking celebration of African Americans will be held at the Raleigh Boulevard Plaza shopping center on July 9. Mrs. Elizabeth Coffield

will be honored for her service as the first African American and woman to serve on the Wake County Board of Commissioners.

Homeless Rescue Black Male From White Teen Attack In Moore Park

BY CASH MICHAELS
Staff Writer

Sixty-seven-year-old Kenneth Harris is a lucky man.

Late last Tuesday night, the elderly African-American was sitting on a park bench in downtown Raleigh's Moore Square Park,

when all of a sudden from behind, he heard someone say, "We gonna kill a nigger out here!" Harris tried to run, he was hit with a pipe and a stick, cutting his head and breaking his left arm.

As Harris shouted, "Help me, somebody," a group of homeless

men from a nearby shelter saw what was happening and chased the two alleged assailants into the Moore Square bus station, where they held them at bay until police could get there.

When it was all over, two white Franklin County teenagers from Louisburg were arrested and charged with the assault.

The oldest, 19-year-old John L. Rera, was charged with assault with intent to kill, carrying a concealed weapon, resisting arrest and delaying police. His alleged accomplice, 16-year-old Michael Wrenn, was charged with assault with intent to kill.

(See TEEN ATTACK, P. 2)

"Comin' Home" Planning Gala, Community Reunion

"Comin' Home" is a large community and personal reunion, a holiday, a semi-formal dinner, a Guinness Book of World Records event for the largest dance, the electric slide, an entertainment spectacle, a cultural arts festival, a mini-amusement park, and a financial opportunity for vendors and businesses.

"Comin' Home," the world record-breaker celebration of African-Americans, will be held at the Raleigh Boulevard Plaza shopping center, corner of Raleigh Boulevard and Glascock Street. This is a world-class event that is being televised via satellite to five major cities simultaneously during the height of the celebration.

The celebration will include many local and national artists, both visual and performing. Gospel, jazz, blues, reggae and rock music will be live on stage. There will be many supporting civic and governmental agencies along with private citizens and businesses. This is programmed to be the largest cultural activity ever in Raleigh's African-American community.

The event is organized around the idea of bringing economic development and commerce to the African-American community and

to defuse the tensions generated as a result of current economic distress.

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The People Speak

BY CARLA MONROE

Briefing: For the past several years, students, teachers and parents have protested the fact that Wake County public schools do not offer any African-American history courses. The CAROLINIAN asked several people in the community for their feelings on the subject, and here is what they had to say:



EMIL STEWART

I think that we should have African-American history so the black people can learn about their past. If we don't have African-American history we can't find out about our race.



LEONIA WRIGHT

While attending school at Garner Consolidated High in the '60s, I often wondered about the contributions of black African-Americans. Little was said, and even less could be found concerning inventions on the progress that we contributed. I think black history should be taught in all schools. It is important for our youth today to know about the success of our forefathers, the inventions that they contributed to mankind. It is also very important that we as blacks know and understand our black heritage. So we need to make African-American history mandatory in all schools. Because it is extremely important for the future of our children, black and white alike.



JERMAINE DAVIS

When I think of the subject, my feelings are the same as other African-Americans—I wonder why there aren't many African-American history courses offered. Is it because of the fact that we are black, or because Wake County doesn't want to teach them?

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

SUMMER READING PROGRAM

The South Raleigh Library will hold its Summer Reading Club program Tuesdays at 11 a.m. June 23-Aug. 11. Parents are invited to bring their preschoolers ages 3-5. Programs for school-age children will be held Tuesdays at 3 p.m.

The program needs volunteers. For more information, call 856-6598. The library is located at 1601-14 Cross Link Road in the Southgate Plaza.

INDIA AND NEPAL

The Raleigh Parks and Recreation Department will present a slide show titled "India and Nepal" at 2 p.m. June 29 at the Pullen Community Center. There is no charge. For more information, call 831-6052.

COPING WITH STRESS

The Women's Center will sponsor a seminar titled "High-Level Coping in a Stressful World" Saturday, June 27, from 9:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.

This all-day self-development seminar focuses on increasing self-esteem and decreasing depression. Discover how changing the way you think changes the way you feel. Learn techniques that reduce stress and increase energy... to add up to a happier life.

Registration is \$50. For more information, call 829-3711. The Women's Center is located at 128 E. Hargett St. (Montague Building).

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