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N.C.'s Semi-Week

DEDICATED TO THE SPIRIT OF JESUS CHRIST

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What's Beyond Medicaid?
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TransAfrica Calls For Action As Haitian Crisis Deepens

BY LARRY A. STILL

Capitol News Service

Calling for direct-action picketing and boycotts which led to worldwide anti-apartheid mobilization against South Africa, TransAfrica officials in Washington, D.C. urged all Americans to support an effective national lobby for a more positive U.S. policy toward the Republic of Haiti as well as other oppressed peoples and

governments.

The same intensity and commitment that African-Americans fostered to end the separatist governments in South Africa must now be brought to the broader concerns affecting the political and economic empowerment of all Africans, Randall Robinson, TransAfrica executive director, declared at the opening of the organization's 1992 conference recently.

"As the Rodney King verdict showed, the struggles waged by Africans and African-Americans are not divergent. The quest for freedom, justice, self-determination, human rights and economic empowerment [are the same]... the marginalization of Africa has coincided with the marginalization of blacks in America," Robinson said in his report.

"Black organizations—churches,

social groups, schools, trade unions, professionals and others—must now step up efforts to inform and instruct their constituents about events in Africa. The Congressional Black Caucus is pivotal in ensuring that the African-American voice is heard in the corridors of power. Africare's Constituency for Africa project will do much to bolster grassroots interest in Africa. The black media have an

even greater task in ensuring that Africa and its multitude of issues are not forgotten," he emphasized.

Speaking at TransAfrica's 15th annual dinner, Robinson and other officials paid tribute to deposed Haitian President Jean Bertrand Aristide and thousands of refugees seeking relocation in the U.S. until the first democratic government is restored in the Caribbean island. Human rights advocates Alice

Walker, author of *The Color Purple*; union leader William Lucy and Rev. Charles Cobb, retired minister and civil rights activist, were also honored at the dinner which highlighted TransAfrica's annual foreign policy conference.

President Aristide also told the black-tie guests, "In one sense, you already know what I have to say because my history is your history, (See HAITI, P. 2)

Violence Prevention Seminar Turnout Low

BY CASH MICHAELS

Staff Writer

Maybe it's because it's something the African-American community isn't proud of that few people came out to learn how to deal with it. Or maybe so many people are so afraid that they feel nothing can be done.

Whichever it is, the fact remains: Our young black men are increasingly becoming the victims of violence in their own community, and something must be done to turn the trend around.

So imagine the shock when the Fine Arts Theater at St. Augustine's College last Saturday wasn't even 10 percent full for part one of "Stop the Madness/End the Sadness," a symposium on violence prevention among African-American teenage males. Presented by the Male Alliance for Life Extension, the program brought community activists, professional counselors, and black teenagers together to explore the problem of rising black teen violence, and what some solutions should be.

There were panel discussions, keynote addresses, even a dramatic presentation that graphically portrayed the need for African-American males to reclaim their rightful leadership role in

(See VIOLENCE, 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.

ATTEMPTED ARMED ROBBERY

Nineteen-year-old Daryl Glass, listed by Raleigh police as living at 7007 Apt. 3-C Raleigh Blvd., was arrested and charged with attempted armed robbery. Police say he attempted to rob David Brickle of Durham on the 6700 block of Six Forks Road with a knife.

ASSAULT ON A POLICE OFFICER

Michael J. Reilly, 25, of 673-3 Horton's Camping, Fort Bragg, Fayetteville, was charged with assault on a law enforcement officer, resisting and delaying arrest, and drunk and disorderly. The alleged victim was Officer S.M. Utley. Police say Officer Utley received a bruised hand.

BURGLARY

Police arrested Clarence Wayne Bass (no address) and charged him with burglary at a carburetor and tune-up clinic at 5409-101 Oak Forest Drive. Police say there was damage to a window in the rear door and a soft drink machine totaling \$700. Two motor vehicle inspection stickers were taken, as well as coins and currency valued at \$16.90.

(See CRIME BEAT, P. 2)



HOMELESS RESCUE MAN—James Bagley points to location where teenage assailants fled after attacking an elderly man in Moore Park recently. Sixty-seven-year-old Kenneth Harris was rescued by a group of homeless men

from a nearby shelter who saw him being chased by two assailants into the Moore Square bus station, where they held them at bay until police arrived. (Photo by James Giles)

Homeless Hero Saves Man, Urges Others 'Get Involved'

BY CASH MICHAELS

Staff Writer

It is going to take some getting used to, but James Bagley has a new last name now: Hero.

It is not the name his mother gave him, it is one that James wears proudly. It was Tuesday, June 16, when James and three of his friends forgot their troubles of being homeless and got involved when they saw two white teenagers violently assaulting an elderly African-American man in Moore Square with a pipe.

Thanks to James and his friends, 67-year-old Kenneth Harris is alive today, and the two alleged attackers, 19-year-old John Rera and 15-year-old Michael Wrenn, were arrested and charged with assault with intent to kill.

Publishers Hold 52nd Annual Meet

BY MALIK SHABAZZ

Washington Afro Staff

From near and far, members of the African-American press made their way to Baltimore, commonly called "The City That Reads," for the 52nd annual National Newspaper Publishers Convention, from June 10-14, at the Hyatt Regency Inner Harbor Hotel.

Several hundred participants gathered for the NNPA event to celebrate this year's theme of "Building a Stronger Foundation."

Activities began with a publishers' orientation and subsequent reception at the Harbor View Marina, facing Baltimore's Inner Harbor.

In the midst of music and merriment, the NNPA honored Daniel T. Blue, Jr., the first African-American to be elected North Carolina's speaker of the House of Representatives.

While commending the black press on supporting legislators such as himself, Blue remarked, "As we have marched through the last 12 years trying to figure out

(See PUBLISHERS, P. 2)

Reportedly, the two drove all the way from Louisburg in Franklin County to Raleigh that night, just to find a black, and in the words of the assistant district attorney during their arraignment, "beat him to death."

While both were jailed under \$100,000 bond each, the youngest, Michael Wrenn, was bailed out last Thursday by his family.

To Bagley, the attack that night was something he couldn't just sit by and let happen.

"I come to Raleigh to kill a nigger in Moore Square Park," is what James claims he heard one of the teens say that caught his attention. James and his friends were sitting on the benches on the Person Street side of the park. As one of the teens began beating on Harris with a pipe, the other, James believes it may have been Wrenn, seemed to have a change of heart and wanted to go.

"He tried to get [the other youth] to leave, but he wouldn't leave," remembers James. By this time, Harris was pleading for help. "The guy commenced in beating him on the back of the neck. [Harris]

didn't see him coming up behind him. He kept hitting him a couple of blows, and [Harris] fell. When he fell, blood was shooting from his body."

James and his friends began yelling at the pair to leave Harris alone, and ran to the spot. The teens fled. Harris was on the ground, his left arm broken, blood gushing out of his head.

While someone was getting help for Harris, James and others chased the teens into the Moore Square bus station. Once trapped, they were held there until the police came and arrested them.

James Bagley has since been featured on television and radio for his deeds that night. People are openly calling him a hero and saluting him for getting involved in something that most people would have run from.

When you hear James talk about why he got involved, it is clear he has an abiding love for his fellow man.

"Thank the Lord we were able to get in there and stop this before something really serious happened," (See HOMELESS, P. 2)

N. C. Laws Still Ban Cross burning Despite Supreme Court

BY CASH MICHAELS

Staff Writer

What the U.S. Supreme Court won't do, burning permits and trespass laws will.

Citizens in Raleigh's African-American community are still shaking their heads over Monday's U.S. Supreme Court decision declaring a St. Paul, Minn. ordinance against burning crosses unconstitutional. In a unanimous decision, the nine justices said that no matter how reprehensible the act associated with hate groups is, it is still an expression of free speech, and must be protected by the U.S. Constitution.

But here in North Carolina, the hate crime law on the books is in good shape. Even after the high court ruling, according to John Simmons of the N.C. attorney general's office, our law is more narrowly defined, going beyond

what is expressed.

"The person or persons must also intrude on someone else's property for the purpose of intimidation. Unless you have permission to do so from that property owner, which is highly unlikely, then you break the law when you burn a cross on someone's lawn here in North Carolina," said Simmons.

Beyond state law, there are local burning ordinances that St. Paul could have used to buttress their law.

In 1987, former Grand Dragon of the Christian Knights of the Ku Klux Klan Carroll Crawford was arrested by a black Charlotte police officer when he burned a cross on property he owned. When Crawford was taken in, he was charged with "burning without a permit" within the city limits. Raleigh has the same ordinance.

BY SHEHETTIZI WOODLEY

Staff Writer

The Low-Income Housing Tax Credit Program and the Mortgage Revenue Bond Program, designed to enable first-time home buyers to obtain fixed-rate mortgages at 7.4 percent will expire June 30.

According to Gov. James G. Martin, the N.C. Housing Finance Agency has used the MRBP since 1976 to help thousands of lower-income families buy homes.

The MRBP allows state housing finance agencies to sell tax-exempt revenue bonds to investors, without any state obligation.

Gov. Martin said that unless the U.S. Congress and the president extend the expiration date, \$51.1 million in 30-year, fixed-rate mortgages will not be available to assist appropriately 925 home buyers with low and moderate incomes.

"By helping working families afford homes, these mortgages support North Carolina's housing industry and continuing economic growth for our state," Gov. Martin said.

"New residential construction showed a heartening recovery in the first quarter of 1992, compared with a year ago. We need to encourage that excellent trend," Martin said.

More than 47,000 North Carolina families own homes or live in affordable apartments because of MRBP and the Tax Credit Program.

To urge that the programs not be allowed to expire, Gov. Martin last month wrote President Bush's chief of staff, Samuel Skinner, and members of a committee drafting the administration's urban relief plan, urging that the extension of housing programs be included in the plan.

"The two programs have proven themselves to be cost-effective in providing housing opportunities for working families who are the backbone of our communities," Gov. Martin said. "The programs encourage private investment in economically disadvantaged areas, create jobs, and stimulate economic development."

In North Carolina, the two programs have supported more than

No one is permitted to burn anything within the city limits without a permit from the City Fire Department. And most legal experts agree that it is highly unlikely that the fire chief will issue a permit to someone looking to burn a cross in your front yard.

Then there is the issue of trespass. In order for someone to intimidate you with a burning cross, or swastikas spray-painted on your home or car, they must first trespass on your property. Once the act is complete, it is also considered vandalism, another unlawful offense.

These legal protections aren't real protections if someone really wants to intimidate a citizen with a hate act, but unlike the Supreme Court's verdict of earlier this week, at least our local laws offer legal recourse in the event.

First-time Home Buyers Program/Housing Income Tax Program To Expire

\$2 billion in real estate development, generating 16,000 jobs and \$150 million in local and state revenues through 1991.

NEWS BRIEFS

OPERATION BUCKLE DOWN

Three Raleigh police officers will receive a special "Saved by the Belt" award. All three officers were involved in serious on-the-job traffic accidents where the use of their seatbelts helped keep them from more serious injury or even death.

Det. D. Brown and officers G.E. Teachey and R.A. McLeod received the award at a special press conference Wednesday.

WAKE HEALTH DEPT. IS "OUTSTANDING"

The Wake County Department of Health has been designated Outstanding Public Health Department for the Eastern District North Carolina Public Health Association for 1991. The award recognizes the county for its leadership and innovation in such areas as AIDS management, the homeless, the Women, Infants and Children's Program, and the environment.

This designation distinguishes the Wake County Health Department from all others in the eastern half of North Carolina as providing the most outstanding overall service in the area of public health.

WAKE EMS HONORED

Wake County Emergency Medical Services has been honored with four of nine annual awards given by the Triangle J Council of Governments EMS Council, which represents Chatham, Durham, Johnston, Orange, Lee and Wake counties.

Among the awards received by the county was the Outstanding EMS Provider Award for best overall EMS department. Two Wake County EMS employees won other awards for individual achievements.

GOV. APPOINTS TWO

Gov. Jim Martin has appointed Sylvester A. White, Jr. of Raleigh and Larry R. Pierce of Wilson to the State Board of Barber Examiners. Both will serve until June 30, 1993.

White is the owner of White's Barber Shop in Raleigh. He is the associate pastor at First Baptist Church, vice president of the Capital City Master Barbers Association and a member of the NAACP.

Pierce is owner and manager of Larry and Co. of Wilson. He received his barber degree from the Dur-

(See NEWS BRIEFS, P. 2)