

THE CAROLINIAN

RALEIGH, N.C.,
THURSDAY,
JULY 16, 1992
VOL. 51, NO. 68

N.C.'s Semi-Week
DEDICATED TO THE SPIRIT OF JESUS CHRIS

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Celebrates 35th In City
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NAACP To Unveil Anti-Crime
Presentation At Convention
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Census Reports N.C. African Americans 100 Years Behind

As African-Americans in Raleigh and North Carolina strive to achieve economic and educational parity with their white counterparts, sobering news has recently come from the U.S. Census Bureau: It will take more than 100 years to happen.

According to the latest figures from the 1990 Census, North Carolina African-American median income in 1990 was approximately 63 percent of white median income. The good news is that the figure is up three percent from 1980. But the bad news is that despite current efforts, an analysis

shows it would take 117 years for African-Americans to close the gap.

In education, the picture is just as bleak.

Census figures show that when it comes to high school, 42 percent of African-Americans age 25 and older didn't finish in 1990, compared to 27 percent of whites. In higher education, only 10 percent of African-Americans have completed four or more years of college, as opposed to 20 percent of whites.

Many observers point to poverty figures as a key reason for the dis-

parity.

Twenty-seven percent of African-Americans in North Carolina are in poverty, compared to nine percent of whites. Though there has been a two-percent improvement since 1980, analysts estimate that it would take almost 92 years for this gap to be narrowed.

The reasons why this drastic condition for African-Americans exists differ according to who you ask. Some, like NAACP state President Kelly Alexander, Jr., say racism is still a key reason why African-Americans are unable to catch up, though racism has taken

a more subtle, institutional form.

That "institutional" racism, or organized racial barrier, may have been the reason why African-Americans could not access those resources to help their cause, some say. According to Dr. Audrey Johnson, a social science professor at UNC-Chapel Hill, that access was blocked during President Ronald Reagan's term because his economic policies helped only those who already had wealth and resources. Thus, there was much more economic growth in the white community than in the black.

(See 100 YEARS BEHIND, P. 2)

NEA Reports Little Hope Of Minorities Or Men Deciding On A Teaching Career

(AP)—Tar Heel educators say they have little reason to think that significant numbers of minorities or men will decide to become teachers in the near future.

A report this week from the National Education Association shows about 28 percent of the nation's teachers are male and 13 percent are minorities. Blacks are the largest minority at eight percent.

Only 19 percent of North Carolina's teachers are male and 17.5 percent are minorities. Blacks also are the largest minority in the state at 16 percent.

Although the percentage of black teachers in North Carolina is almost double the national rate, their percentage has steadily declined since 1980, when it was 21 percent.

Less than three percent of the state's teachers are black men.

"We would certainly do better if the pay were raised," said Dixie Spiegel, assistant dean of students for the School of Education at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. "Most males are still concerned about supporting their families, and most females just assume they are going to be the sec-

ond income."

Many other careers offer better working conditions, more decision-making chances and more respect, said Bobby Etheridge, state superintendent of public instruction.

"Sometimes I think teachers are the closest thing we have to missionaries," Etheridge said. "You really have to love your work to stick with it."

About 32 percent of North Carolina's students are black, 66 percent are white and less than three percent are Asian, Hispanic or American Indian.

"There are so few role models," said Nathan Burton, who will graduate from Western Carolina University as part of the state's Teaching Fellows Program. "I am always encouraging other minorities, and especially males, to get into the classrooms because we are a breed that is falling fast."

A few teacher recruitment programs have shown some promise. One called Project Teach is credited with attracting the highest percentage of males and minorities ever recruited in this year's group of 400 teaching fellows.

Gladys Graves, director of the Teaching Fellows Program, said 23 percent of the students are minorities and 29 percent are men.

The program offers teachers free college education in exchange for four years of service in the state's public schools. Project Teach works primarily with minority students, encouraging them as early as middle school to consider college in general and teaching in particular.

Support For Clinton Ticket Soft Among African Americans Throughout Nation

BY CASH MICHAELS
Staff Writer

At the Democratic National Convention in New York this week, there was no doubt about how African-American Democrats with the North Carolina delegation felt.

"[Clinton-Gore] is an exciting ticket. We'll win in the fall," said Bernard Allen, N.C. lobbyist, to Peter Jennings of ABC News. Behind him, Mary E. Perry, chairperson of the Wake County Democratic Party, joined other African-Americans in the North Carolina section waving Clinton-Gore signs. Last Friday, when she was getting ready to leave for New York, Ms. Perry told a local television station that she was all for the "all-South" ticket.

Other prominent N.C. African-Americans like former Charlotte Mayor Harvey Gantt and Wake County Commissioner Abe Jones, have voiced unbridled support for Arkansas Gov. Bill Clinton and Tennessee Sen. Al Gore to be the next president and vice president of the United States.

But polls show that beyond those African-Americans directly involved in Democratic politics, support for the "Bubba Ticket" of Clinton-Gore in the black community is soft, and observers say the reason for it is simple: black issues. No one is addressing them.

According to a recent survey conducted for a Charlotte newspaper, Clinton is getting the least support of any Democratic candidate for president in some time.

Key Democratic black leaders
(See SUPPORT, P. 2)



COMING HOME!—(Top left) Bob Jones (center), a renowned local visual artist, is shown explaining vendor sites to Cynthia Rice of Finest Ice Cream and Dumala Jack of Ethnic Wear Unlimited. Jones said of the event, "Things went well Dorothy Shaw Thompson gave an extraordinary roast of Elizabeth Coffield and Leroy Trice, our chief chef, prepared a wonderful African American cuisine for the

banquet Thursday night at the Civic Center." (Top right) Spectators, shoppers and vendors turn their attention to (Bottom right) dancers from Heritage Park who performed African American dance and song. "Coming Home" of the Raleigh Wake-Triangle was a three-day celebration to bring African Americans together for a united family reunion and show support to black businesses in the community. (Photos by James Giles)

NEWS BRIEFS

EIGHT-YEAR-OLD SHOT

A Durham youth was shot in the thigh when two groups of men from New York and Miami began shooting at each other in a Durham housing complex Monday night. Police arrested a man they identify as "John Doe," and charged him with assault with a deadly weapon inflicting serious injury. Police say the shooting was part of a turf war between factions of New York and Miami drug gangs.

WIDOW SAYS EVANGELIST STOLE

A Florida widow bound to a wheelchair testified this week that she did not give more than \$900,000 to TV evangelist Jim Whittington. The North Carolina preacher, along with four associates, are standing trial in federal court in New Bern for allegedly bilking 74-year-old Valeria Lust of cash and assets in 1987. Whittington denies the charges. When asked if she signed a check for \$20,000 to Whittington, Lust asked the federal prosecutor if he was drunk, and claimed she never wrote the check.

(See NEWS BRIEFS, P. 2)

BY CASH MICHAELS
Staff Writer

The political talk of the town this week has been how state Sen. Joseph Johnson (D-Wake) was able to skirt a traffic ticket by quoting an obscure 205-year-old state law to the Wake District Attorney's office. On top of that, Johnson demanded that the two Raleigh police officers responsible for the ticket be fired for violating that law. There is no indication that the officers will lose their jobs.

The perception that Sen. Johnson was trying to place himself "above the law has caused the phones at radio stations, the Raleigh Police Department, and especially the state Legislature to ring off the hook with complaints.

Ultimately, that was all it took to get lawmakers in both the Senate and House moving on repealing the 1787 law the exempted legislators from arrest while traveling to and from the General Assembly on state business. They say it should not have applied in Johnson's case.

Johnson was reportedly going to a party when he was stopped two weeks ago on Atlantic Avenue and given a ticket for not wearing his seatbelt. What makes the situation more ironic is that Johnson was one of the senators who pushed hard for passage of the seatbelt law in the Legislature.

African-Americans recall that this isn't the first time Johnson has switched gears for political expediency.

In 1987, while the bill establishing a state paid holiday honoring Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. was being voted on in the Senate, Johnson voted against it. When African-American political leaders saw his vote, they went back to a videotape of the 1986 Raleigh-Wake Citizens Association Candidates' Forum, where Johnson was one of the participants running for re-election.

On the tape, when asked if he would vote for the King holiday, even if it meant replacing a current holiday, Johnson was clearly seen answering that he would.

But when called by The CAROLINIAN after he voted against the King holiday, and reminded of his pledge, Sen. Johnson denied making it. Even after having a tape recording of his remarks played over the phone, Sen. Johnson said he still "didn't remember" making that pledge, and that even if he

(See SEN. JOHNSON, P. 2)

Crowd Chants 'Rodney King' In Greensboro Confrontation

GREENSBORO (AP)—An angry crowd of about 75 people shouted "Rodney King" and pummeled a police car—and two Greensboro police officers—with rocks, bricks and bottles early Saturday after they arrested a 19-year-old outside a loud party, police say.

The car-bashing incident got a teenager thrown in jail, caused \$2,500 in damages to one police car and soured police relationships with some residents living in the apartment complex where the late-night party occurred.

The two officers weren't injured.

Thomas Andre Potter is accused of pushing Officer C.H. Fox and resisting arrest after fox and Officer D.L. Taylor arrived about 12:30 a.m. to investigate a loud party.

Potter approached the officer, advised he was having the party and became hostile," Officer A.A. Amaker said.

Potter was charged with assault of a law enforcement officer and delaying and obstructing a law enforcement officer.

He is in the Guilford County Jail in lieu of \$100 bond.

But eyewitnesses said Potter didn't push the police officer. Potter was thrown to the ground, handcuffed and taken to the police cruiser, said Gregory X, who is an apartment resident. That prompted the comparison to Rodney King, a black motorist attacked by a group of Los Angeles police officers.

"This is not going to be tolerated any more," said Gregory X. "People have seen what has gone on around the country and they're not going to stand around and see someone thrown to the ground."

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.

STOLEN PROPERTY

Thirty-seven-year-old Allen Tinsley of 511 Peyton St. was charged with possession of stolen property. Police say Tinsley was allegedly caught with one DMV inspection sticker, one 12-gauge sawed-off shotgun, and one locking blade pocket knife.

STRONG-ARM ROBBERY

Roy Lee Hill, 23, (no address) was charged with common law robbery. Police say Hill robbed a woman at 300 W. Lane St., damaging her prescription glasses valued at \$200.

STEALING CIGARETTES

Twenty-five-year-old Beverly Teresa Faison of 1600 Poole Road was charged with misdemeanor larceny. Police say Ms. Faison allegedly stole seven packs of cigarettes from a supermarket at 1100 Raleigh Blvd.

ASSAULT

Ernest Lee DuBois, 42, of 23158 Mayview Road, was charged with assault with a deadly weapon and assault with a firearm. Police say DuBois assaulted Dwayne Hedgepeth of 1104 Parker St. Hedgepeth was taken to Wake Medical Center for a laceration to the elbow.

COCAINE

Markus Dootez Chavis, 21, of 327 Dacian Road, was charged with felony possession of cocaine. Police say Chavis was arrested with a plastic bag containing .08 grams of a rocky substance that tested as cocaine, and another plastic baggie with three "rocks" weighing .50 grams.