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In the 1984 Census Bureau report, it was found that 29 percent of black households in the United States were middle-class, compared to 44 percent of white households. It also eported 25 percent of black and white households were working-class, but a smaller percentage of white households were considered

This Week

THE CAROLINIAN

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DEDICATED TO THE SPIRIT OF JESUS CHRIST

IN RALEIGH 25 **ELSEWHERE 30¢**



DEMOCRATIC NOMINEES—Bill Clinton and his running mate, Sen. Al Gore of Tennessee.

N.C. Black Democrats Need Strong Clinton Turnout To Win Election

BY CASH MICHAELS

National Convention is history, there's just that bad. and Bill Clinton and Al Gore have received their marching orders to do battle with George Bush and Dan Quayle for the presidency, the question remains: Will African-Americans come out this fall in rican-American community gets meaningful numbers to support the ticket?

The answer is... They'd better, or else there will be a bunch of black North Carolina Democratic candidates that might be left at the campaign altar come Novem- That will ultimately hurt black ber, wondering why.

The equation is not only clear, but historic. Weak national ticket,

local/state candidates either lose An Analysis or just squeak by. Strong national Now that last week's Democratic ticket, everybody wins, unless

So Ralph Campbell is not guaranteed to become state auditor, Eva Clayton may not represent the First District in Congress, nor Mel Watt the 12th, unless the Afexcited about the Clinton-Gore ticket.

If a presidential ticket isn't strong enough to get black voters out to the polls, then you know the local/statewide races won't do it.

Democratic candidates, who've, for hard. better or worse, tied their political fortunes and futures to the allure of the babyface governor from Arkansas, and his sidekick for vice president, the senator from Ten-

That's why, despite the reported soft African-American support in the polls for the Clinton ticket, the flap with Jesse Jackson, and the blatant wooing of white Reagan-Bush Democrats and refugees from the Ross Perot campaign, you will be hearing black Democrats singing the praises of Clinton-Gore, and they will be singing

Consider the following: White Democrats, long ago exposed for their willingness to take the black vote for granted in time of crisis (which has been for the last 25 years), want the White House more than bad. It's been 16 long years since a president had a donkey after his name. Coincidentally, it's also been that long since a white Southerner has been called 'commander-in-chief."

Now, not only do national Democrats have a chance to oust George

(See DEMOCRATS, P. 2)

Missing Principal's Wife Says She Is Not A Suspect In Case

BY CASH MICHAELS Staff Writer

The wife of a missing Wake County school principal says she is "devastated" by allegations that she may be a suspect because she tried to have her husband declared legally dead shortly after his dis-

appearance last January. Estell Estes, wife of West Carv Middle School Principal Irmis Estes, says she filed a court claim less than six weeks after her husband vanished on advice of her attorney. Reportedly, the claim, once granted, would give her control of her husband's assets. Ms. Estes said that was needed in order to pay bills and keep his medical payments up.

But both the lawyer in charge of Irmis Estes' estate and the Wake

Sheriff's Department say it is peculiar for a family member to one declared dead after a disap-

It was six months ago on Jan. 19, when anyone last saw 42-yearold Irmis Estes. Reportedly, he stayed home ill as the rest of the family went on to church. When Ms. Estes and their two young sons returned later that day, he was gone. Investigators found his 1984 Monte Carlo five miles away near a trailer. There was no trace

All of the family members were questioned, but according to Capt. Max Pickett of the Wake Sheriff's only one who refused to take a sooner.

polygraph test. Capt. Pickett refused to say whether this makes move so quickly to have a loved Ms. Estes a suspect in her husband's disappearance, but he made it clear that trying to gain legal control of his assets so soon after is something authorities can't overlook.

According to attorneys The CAROLINIAN has spoken to, usually it takes seven years before a spouse or loved one can be awarded the assets or estate of a missing person under the presumption of death. The fact that it takes seven years doesn't mean the spouse cannot petition the court sooner, and a judge can be asked to consider special circum-Department, Ms. Estes was the stances if such a claim is made



LOCAL TALENT-Only together nine months, Fly Girtz, residents of Heritage Park have been in demand to perform Afre-American song and dance. Performances include Saint Augustine's College 125th year celebration, Reunion

in the Grove and most recently "Coming Home." The troupe ranges in age from 12-16 years, and is being nurtured by I ya Yetunde (mether has returned) shown standing center. (Photo by James Giles)

Garner Family's Gravesite Found Safe From Housing Sub-Division

BY CASH MICHAELS Staff Writer

Faced with what could have been a devastating family tragedy, all Alice Graves could count on was the "help of the Lord."

That help came last Wednesday. Wake sheriff's investigators found the African-American cemetery that many had first thought was buried beneath a Garner housing subdivision off Mt. Hebrom Church Road. It was located approximately half a mile from where Walter Perry, the homeowner who first claimed it might be on his property, said it could be.

Though the headstones had indeed been removed, the plot of land was safely nestled near some

"We're very relieved," Ms. Graves said with her husband, Willie, at her side. Ms. Graves is a descendant of the Banks family, one of two African-American families believed to have been buried on the property ever since the turn of the century. A white doctor named Dr. Buffaloe allowed several African-Americans to bury their dead on his land, but after his death, the property changed hands several times.

Because the last member of her family to be buried there was in 1969, neither Ms. Graves nor other members of her family were aware of what happened to the gravesites after the property was developed for homes in the 1980s.

When Perry, who purchased his home in October 1991, was told by a neighbor that he could not build a swimming pool in his backyard because there were "graves under his home," Perry panicked and called authorities.

(See GRAVESITES, P. 2)

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

The Raleigh Jaycees will sponsor the Eric Reid Memorial Golf Tournament for golfers ages 13-18 years old. The tournament will be held on Aug. 10 at the Pine Hollow Golf Club in Clayton. Deadline for entry is Aug. 1. This tournament will benefit the N.C. Jaycee Burn Center. For more information, call 859-4808.

JAYCEES TO MEET

The Raleigh Jaycees meet at 6:30 p.m. the first and third Tuesdays of each month at the N.C. State Faculty Club, 4200 Hillsborough St. For more information, call 878-9378.

PULLEN ARTS CENTER OFFERS CLASSES

The Pullen Park Arts Center is offering the following classes: Aug. 3-CAMP (Children's Art Magic at Pullen). Ages 3-5, Monday through Friday, 9:30 a.m. to noon, \$37. Ages 6-9, Monday through Fri-

day, 8:30 a.m. to 2 p.m., \$69. Ages 10-15, 8:30 a.m. to 2 p.m., \$69. Aug. 3-Beginning Painting, ages 16 and up, 1:30 to 4:30 p.m., four

Aug. 5-Go for Gold, ages 8 and up, 3-4 p.m., \$5.

Aug. 5-Faces on the Wall, ages 11-15, 3-4 p.m., \$6. Aug. 6-Collage... Assemblage... Multi-Media, ages 6-12, 4-5:30 p.m., 6 weeks, \$36. Ages 16 and up, 7-8:30 p.m., 6 weeks, \$36.

(See CALENDAR, P. 2)

St. Aug's **Health Plan** To Aid Poor

In an era of escalating health hazards and staggering medical cost, the nation and specifically the city of Raleigh are crying out for a low-cost "preventive medicine" alternative that will be open to all the area residents wishing to monitor, maintain and improve their physical, psychological and emotional well-being.

The old adage "History has a way of repeating itself," has never been closer to the truth, with respect to St. Augustine's College's more focused approach toward better community service and allied

health care. St. Augustine's planned on-campus Student Activities Health and Wellness Center, coupled with the Division of Allied Health, will close the circle which began with

(See ST. AUG.'S, P. 2)

The People Speak



JOSEPH HARRISON

I feel the law should have been off the books to start with. Evidently this senator is studying things to protect himself. He should be more people-oriented.

Briefing: N.C. state Sen. Joe Johnson (D) sparked controversy by citing a 205-year-old law granting legal immunity to legislators to dodge a \$25 traffic ticket for failing to wear a seatbelt and furthermore demanded the firing of the two police officers. Although the senator has since apologized for his actions, his behavior has caused citizens to look upon him in an unfavorable light. Should Sen. Johnson have had to pay the fine?



MOHAMED KARCOO I really believe he should pay. I think everybody should have to.



ERIC TUCKER I feel he should have had to pay. Who he is isn't an excuse. I'm sure if it was me I would have had to pay.



LORENZO MCMILLAN Of course. He is human like everybody else.