

The Triangle TRIBUNE

THE TRIANGLE'S CHOICE FOR THE BLACK VOICE

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Cary Invasion heads back to championship game after win over Bull City Legacy.



Another principal for SE Raleigh

Candis Jones is fourth leader for magnet school in three years

By Latisha Catchatoorian
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RALEIGH - Though summer is in full swing, one area high school welcomed a new principal and is already gearing up for next year.

Southeast Raleigh Magnet High held a meet and greet last Thursday for new principal Candis Jones. Jones was chosen from a pool of nine candidates, and was previously assistant principal at Wake Forest High.

She is replacing former principal David Schwenker, who was one of seven principal transfers in the school district.

Jones is the fourth principal Southeast Raleigh has seen since 2011.

"We couldn't match the money," said City Councilman Eugene Weeks of previous principals before Schwenker. "If somebody is going to give you more than what you are getting in Wake County, then they are going to go and I have no problem with that. You're not going to be able to keep them."

Some parents, however, are upset about the administrative turnover while others are unbothered.

"I am utterly appalled at the disregard, perhaps even disdain, you have shown for the community, the parents, the staff, and even the principal at Southeast Raleigh Magnet High School," parent Deb Faulkner wrote in an open letter to the school district. "The secretive way you chose to remove an outstanding administrator, with no explanation, and no discussion, leads one to believe there is a personal agenda at play."

Parent Stephannie Senegal said the changeovers haven't bothered her as much.

"It's a new day, we're moving forward. We're excited about her (Jones') mission and her vision," she said. "Change is inevitable."

Weeks said the school board went through a rigorous selection process in choosing Jones and felt that changes needed to be made in order to take Southeast to the next level.

Jones said her vision is to make Southeast the premier high school of Wake County.

"It will be a place where students yearn to attend school here, where parents go through great lengths and measures to send their students here, and we become the school that needs an overflow," she said. "Our mission will be to increase

Please see **SE RALEIGH/2A**

GOP board reaches out

Republican panel aims to connect with black N.C. voters leading up to midterm elections

By Herbert L. White

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The Republican Party is stepping up efforts to reach North Carolina's black voters.

The Republican National Committee and the Republican Party of North Carolina launched the Black Advisory Board to improve ties between the GOP and blacks across the state.

The 11-member panel will advise the RNC on engagement efforts.

"We are fortunate to have this accomplished group of leaders to help guide our engagement efforts in North Carolina," RNC Chairman Reince Priebus said in a statement. "Their knowledge and roots in

black communities across the state will be invaluable as we share our message of empowerment and expanding access to the American Dream."

N.C. Republicans launched an African-American engagement effort last year by opening a series of community outreach centers.

The advisory board includes two members from the Raleigh area: Kevin Daniels and Felice Pete.

"An engagement strategy which is inclusive of age, gender, occupational considerations, regional diversity and county needs will help the RNC, the state party and other communities throughout the

Please see **REPUBLICANS/3A**



PHOTO/AP

The Civil Rights Act of 1964 celebrates 50 years

What has really changed since landmark law was signed

By Latisha Catchatoorian

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Voting rights. Education rights. Health care and jobs for the poor. Much of what civil rights advocates fight for today is what they fought for five decades ago.

One of the most notable lobbying periods for equality in this country was the Civil Rights Movement. July 2 will make 50 years since the Civil Rights Act of 1964 was signed into legislation, designating a benchmark for African-American rights.

"The passage of the Civil Rights

Act of 1964 marked a time when leaders came together in a bipartisan agreement to do the right thing against tremendous pressure and with a backdrop of violence," said Randy Voller, chairman of the N.C. Democratic Party. "The role of government at its core is to create a more just society and provide for the equality of opportunity for its citizens."

What did the Act accomplish? It made discrimination based on race, color, sex, religion or national origin illegal. It also ended unequal voter registration requirements and segregation in

schools and other public places. But change did not occur overnight and the struggle continues.

"From all the progress gained under 50 years of the Civil Rights Act, civil rights remains unfinished business in America," said Judith Browne Dianis, co-director of the Advancement Project, a civil rights organization in Washington, D.C. "From fair access to the ballot box to equal pay for equal work to inequities in our schools and justice system,

Please see **A HALF-CENTURY/2A**

Thousands host sit-in at N.C. General Assembly building

SPECIAL TO THE TRIBUNE

RALEIGH - The Forward Together Movement kicked off its Moral March to the Polls Monday as thousands of people flooded the N.C. General Assembly to hold sit-ins and plan-ins around get-out-the-vote efforts back in their home communities. Fifteen were later arrested inside the General Assembly building.

More than 3,500 citizens rallied before the Assembly passes the 2014-15 budget. Carrying signs, waving flags and sporting T-shirts that read "We Love Public Schools," and "Love Conquers Hate," they challenged the legislature's regressive public policy agenda.

Monday's rally marked 60 weeks of Moral Mondays organizing and protest, including more than 120 actions statewide and over 1,000 arrests for civil disobedience. As part of its transition toward voter mobilization, the Forward Together Movement will hold a live-stream event on can-

vassing and voter registration to prepare people all across the state next Monday. The first Moral March to the Polls rally is July 7 in Winston-Salem.

"I am here because poverty is an LGBTQ issue, health care is an LGBTQ issue," said Serena Sebring, co-director of Southerners on New Ground and one of the McCrory 11. "But more importantly, I am here because

voting rights is a North Carolina issue."

Rick Rapfogel from Boone had to speak through another witness who could raise his voice enough to reach the third floor.

"I may have lost most of my voice to cancer, but I am not going to lose my right to vote or my voice as a citizen of North Carolina," he said.



FILE PHOTO

Budget concerns school leaders

Superintendents leery of what N.C. lawmakers will come up with

By Lindsay Wagner

THE POLICY WATCH

Four superintendents from North Carolina's largest school districts came together last week to express their concerns about lawmakers' 2014 budget proposals.

"At a time when other businesses are recovering from the economic recession and are steadily reinvesting in their work, North Carolina has failed to reinvest in its schools," Wake County Schools Superintendent Jim Merrill said before reporters at Wake County schools' headquarters in Cary. "More specifically, [North Carolina] has failed to reinvest in the lifeblood of its schools, and that would be the teachers."

Wake County has experienced unusually high teacher turnover this year, attributable to years of no raises for teachers, severe cuts to classroom resources and the eventual dissolution of tenure, which offers teachers due process in the event of dismissal or demotion.

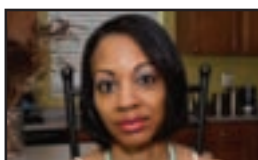
All four superintendents were grateful for the prospect of some kind of pay raise for teachers that each of the budget proposals put forth. Gov. Pat McCrory's budget proposal includes an average 2 percent raise for teachers and boosts pay for beginning teachers. The Senate budget would offer teachers an eye watering 11 percent raise on average but only if they relinquish their tenure protections immediately. It's a move that's seen as a reaction to a recent court decision that ruled the repeal of tenure for those who have already achieved it is unconstitutional, so lawmakers would instead force teachers to voluntarily give up tenure if they want to pull themselves out of a low-wage hole.

The Senate budget also slashes other areas of education to pay for the steep raise, notably cutting the jobs of more than 7,000 teacher assistants and crippling the Department of Public Instruction with a 30-percent reduction. The House has its own proposal for paying teachers on average 5 percent more and is generally more in line with McCrory's budget pitch.

What remains unclear is how the House will pay for the teacher pay raise - their budget relies heavily on increased lottery revenue thanks to doubling the lottery's advertising budget, but that proposal was put into question when it was

Please see **SUPERINTENDENTS/2A**

Read one woman's diagnosis and journey with Lyme's Disease.



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A half-century later, the Civil Rights Act endures

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there's much more work to be done."

William Chafe, the Alice Mary Baldwin professor of history emeritus at Duke University, said when the bill finally became law, it was at least 350 years late.

But it certainly began the process of "delivering the promise of the Declaration of Independence."

"It achieved an enormous amount, but it did not solve the problem of poverty and did not solve the ongoing issues of minority members in our society who are caught in the vicious cycle of joblessness," he said.

"The big problem today is there is such an effort to undo the extraordinary positive efforts of the Civil Rights Act."

Senator Floyd McKissick Jr., whose father worked closely with Martin Luther King Jr., was in Washington, D.C., Tuesday for the commemoration ceremony of the Civil Rights Act.

He said it was inspiring to see the nation celebrate it in a memorable way.

"I think we've made significant progress and the doors of opportunity have been open, particularly for African-Americans in politics, in business - a lot of glass ceilings have been broken for the middle class mainstream and beyond," he said.

McKissick said that while the black community has achieved things previous generations would have thought "conceivable but not believable" in 1964, the Supreme Court is backing away from some of that advancement.

"If we are not mindful and uniquely aware of the gains that occurred, we stand to lose ground," he said. "In recent years, we are becoming more segregated. It should ring off a loud siren to

those that are active today that they can't become complacent."

Chafe said that from one point of view, the election of a black president was a reflection of the Civil Rights Movement, but President Barack Obama's election is only a reflection, not a victory.

"True victory of civil rights will happen when you have equality of rights and opportunity for all people," he said.

Added McKissick: "There are so many leaders throughout the country and our nation that led to the passage of the Civil Rights Act. We need to be mindful of all those leaders. If not, we tend to lose part of our own history."

"I saw them day in and day out. I saw them getting arrested, strategizing. They were just as visible in many respects, but history has made them an asterisk or footnote."

SE Raleigh principal



New Southeast Raleigh High Principal Candis Jones.

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student academic achievement and equip students with the knowledge, skills and attitudes to become productive citizens and leaders who foster change within the global community."

Jones, who has already met individually with several parents, teachers and student groups, said her first priority is to provide a safe and caring environment where all students feel appreciated and valued, but also push them to reach their fullest academic potential and beyond.

"The first 90 days will consist of (me) observing students as well as teachers, being in classrooms more than in the office, and making sure that we build relationships with parents, teachers, students and the community," she said.

Valerie Thomas, mother of Southeast's SGA student body president Kayla Davis, said Kayla had a favorable meeting with Jones.

"(Kayla) was very impressed. She thought (Jones) having an open-door policy, very welcoming," Thomas said.

"(Jones) was very positive, nothing negative to say. Just thought that they would have a good school year and looking forward to making Southeast - it's already a good school, but making it back to the best school in Wake County."

"Ms. Jones was kind enough to meet with me last week, and I'll tell you guys, she gets it. I've worked with a lot of principals over the last nine years and magnet schools are truly a different animal, and some principals get it and some don't, but she truly gets the magnet idea and I was truly impressed," parent Vicki Adamson said. "I'm excited about the opportunity to work with her. I think she's going to be really good for Southeast."

Added Jones: "I've met some phenomenal students and some dedicated teachers. I have to say, honestly, in everyone that I have spoken to, Southeast Raleigh Magnet High School is the best kept secret in Wake County. But I pose to you this: I no longer want it to be a secret, I want everyone to know how great we are."

Superintendents leery of state's education budget

Continued from page 1A revealed that their revenue projections for the lottery could be grossly overstated.

The superintendents were encouraged by the prospect of a teacher pay raise as well as the Career Pathways plan that is contained in both the governor's budget as well as the House plan.

Career pathways would provide more financial incentives for teachers who produce positive outcomes in the classroom, such as higher test scores; for those who teach subjects that are in high demand in the marketplace (e.g. chemistry or math); and for those who teach in hard to staff schools.

"The [career pathways plan] is inclusive, it rewards teachers and it has flexibility," said Tim Markley, superintendent of New Hanover County Schools.

Ed Croom, superintendent

of Johnston County Schools, said one of his concerns with the budget is the shifting of state fiscal responsibilities to local counties.

"Shifting financial responsibilities to our counties will have a tremendous impact on both their budget and on the school budget," he said.

In many school districts, teachers are paid not only from state funds but local funds, too.

An across-the-board pay raise instituted without taking this funding structure into account will force local school districts to come up with extra funds to be sure all teachers get the same pay raise.

For the 10 largest school districts in the state, an additional \$30 million in recurring funds will be necessary to fund pay raises.

That scenario is complicated by the fact that budget proposals are also looking to

shift the fiscal liability for workers compensation from the state's coffers to local districts.

In Johnston County alone, that's an increased liability of \$3 million in recurring funds.

Frank Till, superintendent of Cumberland County schools, deplored the Senate's proposed cuts to teacher assistants and noted that lawmakers misrepresented the research pointed to as justification for those cuts.

Till, on behalf of the superintendents, also held up his support for the Common Core, which are more rigorous academic standards the state recently adopted but are now up for repeal by the legislature.

"We know it's not perfect; let's fix it, not nix it," Till said.

Duke Medicine receives award to treat disorders

SPECIAL TO THE TRIBUNE

DURHAM - Duke Medicine has been awarded \$15 million to support an innovative research program that explores the use of umbilical cord blood cells to treat autism, stroke, cerebral palsy and related brain disorders.

The award from The Marcus Foundation, an Atlanta-based philanthropic organization, will fund the first two years of a planned five-year, \$41 million project by Joanne Kurtzberg, M.D., chief scientific and medical officer of Duke's Robertson Cell and Translational Therapy Program, and Geraldine Dawson, Ph.D., director of the Duke Center for Autism Diagnosis and Treatment.

"I am excited about this unprecedented opportunity," said Victor Dzau, M.D., chancellor for health affairs and president and CEO of Duke University Health System. "Joanne Kurtzberg has done groundbreaking work on cord blood transplantation at Duke, and Geri Dawson brings an enormous wealth of knowledge and experience of autism. Together, they will explore innovative approaches to treating these challenging brain disorders. This research holds the promise of truly transformational discovery, and we are deeply grateful to The Marcus Foundation for making it possible."

Kurtzberg and Dawson hope to develop cell-based therapies that can potentially restore brain function in people with the disorders, for which there currently are no cures. If successful, the study could identify therapies for further evaluation in clinical trials to potentially decrease disabilities and improve the quality of life for millions of

children and adults.

"Duke University and Health System greatly appreciate the vision of The Marcus Foundation," Duke President Richard H. Brodhead said. "This gift will enable the expertise of Duke's medical researchers to be focused on new approaches and treatments, with the goal of bettering the lives of millions."

The project will consist of a series of clinical trials using umbilical cord blood cells to treat a total of 390 children and adults with autism, 100 children with cerebral palsy and 90 adults with stroke. Based on previous research, Kurtzberg and Dawson hypothesize that cord blood may promote repair of dysfunctional or damaged areas of the brain.

"Funding for this type of research is very scarce, so the only way we can truly make

progress is with support from private philanthropic organizations like The Marcus Foundation," said Dr. Nancy Andrews, dean of Duke University School of Medicine. "With the foundation's help, we hope to give untold numbers of people with autism and related disorders hope for a better outcome."

There are approximately 2 million people in the United States with autism spectrum disorder, a group of conditions affecting social communication and behavior. Stroke kills an average of nearly 130,000 in the U.S. every year, while cerebral palsy currently affects an estimated 764,000 children and young adults.

The initial phase of the program - a preliminary trial involving 20 pediatric subjects with autism using their

Please see DUKE/3A

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Republicans launch outreach committee

Continued from page 1A

state significantly grow the party, win the future and better lead this state and nation," said Ada M. Fisher, a member of the Republican National Committee.

The GOP faces an uphill battle in converting black North Carolinians to the Republican brand.

African-Americans overwhelmingly supported President Barack Obama in 2008 and 2012, winning the

state in 2008.

GOP advocates are eager to campaign among African-Americans on the party's behalf.

"The advisory board is a great opportunity for the GOP to add credibility, depth, and experience to its effort to expand the party by engaging black voters," said Felice Pete of Raleigh, past president of the Wake County Republican Women's Club.

Republican National Committee North Carolina Black Advisory Board:

- Miriam Pinnix-Aikens and Norris Aikens (Reidsville)
- Simpson Brown (Winston-Salem)
- Kevin Daniels (Raleigh)
- Dr. Ada Fisher (Salisbury)
- Clarence Henderson (High Point)
- Robert McGhee (Wilmington)
- Derek Parlee (Huntersville)
- Felice Pete (Raleigh)
- Archie Threatt (Matthews)
- Tany Wallace (Shelby)

Duke Medicine earns award for brain disease research

Continued from 2A

own banked cord blood - is already underway. It will conclude with Phase II trials using donated cord blood in children with autism and cerebral palsy and adults with stroke.

"The whole program has enormous potential," said

Kurtzberg, who is also director of the Pediatric Blood and Marrow Transplant Program and the Carolinas Cord Blood Bank. "Autism, stroke and cerebral palsy are all neurologic conditions that impair function and quality of life for these children and adults. If we can make that better, it will have a huge personal and

societal impact."

Cord blood cells are collected without risk to the mother or baby from the placenta, which is otherwise discarded as medical waste after a baby is born. After collection, the cells can be frozen and stored for future use in blood stem cell transplantation or cellular therapies.



Rachel Jeantel graduated high school as a promise to Trayvon Martin.

Trayvon Martin's friend Rachel Jeantel: I'm still standing

By Jazelle Hunt
NATIONAL NEWSPAPER
PUBLISHERS ASSOCIATION

WASHINGTON - As Rachel Jeantel inched toward a high school diploma, she tried to keep in mind that she had a promise to keep. Her slain friend, Trayvon Martin, would have wanted her to finish school, and she had promised his parents and other supporters that she would.

Now, she has kept that promise.

The world met Jeantel last year, when it was disclosed that she was the last person to speak to Martin before George Zimmerman killed him. Over two days of testifying as a key witness in the Zimmerman trial - in which she was questioned for six hours - a storm of opinions, analyses, and judgments were made about her - some on target, some not.

At the time, she was just a teenager thrown into the spotlight in the midst of a personal and national tragedy.

It's a chapter of her life she doesn't like to talk about, mostly referring to it in solemn tones as "the situation." Bringing it up immediately deflates her cheery, laugh-filled conversation.

"I'm grateful for Trayvon and everyday when I work hard or have the smack-down on me, I just say if he was here he would say 'keep going,'" Jeantel said in an interview. "The situation was a learning experience for me, and for everyone. As every-

one was watching the trial, we were all learning things about the United States. But I'm still standing. You don't need to be afraid of me, and you don't need to feel bad about the situation. Justice will still be served."

Last year, Jeantel wanted nothing more than to be left alone. She was grieving and feeling guilty, choosing not to attend Martin's funeral.

"I was running from Sybrina [Fulton], "she says referring to Martin's mother. "I wasn't ready to face her. I didn't want to talk about it."

She was traveling constantly, for questioning as part of FBI, law enforcement and legal investigations. She was missing a lot of school. Only her closest friends knew that she had been on the phone with Martin when Zimmerman first spotted him.

"Nobody knew where I was.

I'd lie about where I'd been every time somebody brought up Trayvon, and they would always bring it up in school [that he had been on the phone]. I'd deny saying it was me," Jeantel said. "All the traveling and talking to the FBI was too much on me, and I was doing it by myself. I still wanted my normal life."

That normalcy never quite returned. She still gets recognized at Wal-Mart, where people ask her why she shops there "now that [she's] a celebrity." They want to take pictures. Sometimes they're too nervous to approach her and send their children to ask instead.

She shrugs off the attention, often responding to strangers that she still needs clothes and make-up just as they do. "For now, I just deal with it," she said.

HBCU education deans hope brainstorming proves to be fruitful

By Jamal Watson

DIVERSE ISSUES IN EDUCATION

NEW BRUNSWICK, N.J. — For the third year in a row, education deans from historically black colleges and universities across the nation gathered at Rutgers University to strategize on how best to strengthen teacher education programs at their respective institutions.

Amid deep financial cutbacks and mounting challenges over graduation and retention rates within higher education in general, the deans spent two full days last week engaged in discussions over how to improve academic standards, generate outside funding to support new programs and initiatives, and find ways — when necessary — to collaborate with each other.

Dubbed the HBCU Education Dean's Think Tank, the annual event is the brainchild of Dr. Fred A. Bonner II, who currently holds the endowed Samuel DeWitt Proctor Chair in Education at Rutgers.

Bonner said that, since its inception, the think tank has already proved successful in advancing the dialogue and "moving the needle" on the issue of how HBCUs can better prepare students to become career educators.

"We wanted to give the deans a safe space where they could come, talk and be

themselves," said Bonner, a prominent scholar and an expert on black male students who arrived at Rutgers in 2012 from Texas A&M University—College Station. "Whenever we talk about black colleges, it's often from the perspective of others. We wanted to let the deans talk about their experience from an authentic space, from where they sit."

Bonner, who uses funds attached to his endowed chair to support the initiative, said he also hopes to build a pipeline to recruit HBCU education students into graduate programs housed at the Rutgers University Graduate School of Education.

Education deans from Alcorn State, Florida A&M, Claflin, Prairie View A&M, Harris-Stowe State, Central State, Cheyney and Bowie State universities were all in attendance.

"Our country is moving closer to becoming a minority-majority population," interim FAMU Dean Dr. Patricia Green-Powell said. "The work completed by the great minds of this think tank will assist HBCUs to take full advantage of this population shift."

The outcomes from the think tank will be circulated in a white paper and disseminated to HBCU college presidents across the nation, said Dr. Chance W. Lewis, the Carol Grotnes Belk

Distinguished Professor and Endowed Chair of Urban Education at the University of North Carolina at Charlotte and the think tank facilitator for the past three years.

Lewis said the deans also will participate in a panel at the American Educational Research Association annual conference in Chicago.

"I think this is a great opportunity for them to think things through and strategize," said Lewis, who graduated from Southern University in Baton Rouge. "The goal is for them to have a network. Most of the deans don't get a chance to meet other deans and so they don't know each other. This think tank gives them the opportunity to hear about issues going on across campuses."

Still, Lewis warned that HBCUs, like predominantly white institutions, are not monolithic and that the challenges facing the schools are often unique.

"As a result of you being dean at this time, how should things be different for generations to come based on what you've envisioned or implemented?" he asked the participants in the opening session. "What specific aspects of effectively teaching black children are your students getting from your program? And when you put your stamp of approval on them as a dean, how do you know they know?"

N.Y.'s 'Central Park Five' get \$40 million settlement

Five black, Hispanic men falsely convicted in jogger case

By Jonathan Lemire
ASSOCIATED PRESS

NEW YORK — All but closing the books on one of the most lurid crime cases in New York history, the city has agreed to a \$40 million settlement with five men who were falsely convicted in the vicious 1989 rape and beating of a Central Park jogger, a city official said Friday.

The official had direct knowledge of the agreement but wasn't allowed to discuss it publicly and spoke to The Associated Press on condition of anonymity. The deal still needs the approval of the city comptroller and a federal judge.

The five black and Hispanic defendants were found guilty as teenagers in 1990 in the attack on a white woman — an investment banker — who had gone for a run in the park.

With New York awash in murder and drugs at the

time, the crime was seen as a terrifying symbol of the city's racial and class divide, and evidence that it was sliding into lawlessness. The case gave rise to the term "wilding" for urban mayhem by marauding teenagers.

The defendants served six to 13 years in prison before their convictions were thrown out in 2002 because of evidence that someone else, acting alone, committed the crime. The five brought a \$250 million civil rights lawsuit against police and prosecutors. Civil rights activist the Rev. Al Sharpton said in a statement that the tentative settlement signifies "a monumental victory" for the men and their families.

"It is also a victory for those in the community that stood with them from Day One and believed in their innocence in this case," Sharpton said. "As supporters, we were viciously attacked for standing with them, but we were on the

right side of history."

The victim, Trisha Meili, then 28, was found in the brush, more than 75 percent of her blood drained from her body and her skull smashed. She was in a coma for 12 days, suffered permanent damage and remembers nothing about the attack. Raymond Santana and Kevin Richardson, both 14 at the time, Antron McCray and Yusef Salaam, 15, and Corey Wise, 16, were rounded up and arrested.

After hours of interrogation, four of them gave confessions on video. At the trials, their lawyers argued the confessions were coerced. At the time, DNA testing was not sophisticated enough to make or break the case. In 2002, a re-examination of the case found that DNA on the victim's sock pointed to Matias Reyes, a murderer and serial rapist who confessed that he alone attacked the jogger.

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Black voters and Southern politics

By Chris Kromm
THE POLICY WATCH

This month marks the 50th anniversary of Freedom Summer, the massive organizing project that brought more than 1,000 volunteers to Mississippi and drew national attention to the ongoing civil rights struggle in the South.

Freedom Summer was launched as an assault on segregation and inequality on many fronts. Activists set up 30 Freedom Schools as an alternative to the state's underfunded and segregated education system. The Medical Committee for Human Rights offered free health clinics.

While Freedom Summer went beyond electoral politics, a key focus from the beginning was breaking down voting barriers and harnessing African-American political power. Mississippi was chosen in part because less than 7 percent of the state's black voters were registered in 1962, according to the Congress of Racial Equality, and Freedom Summer built on ongoing voter registration efforts. Organizers launched the Mississippi Freedom Democratic Party as a rival to the white-controlled state Democratic Party, and Freedom Summer helped pave the way for passage of the Voting Rights Act of 1965.

This year, with elections looming in Southern states that could decide who controls the U.S. Senate, political observers and strategists have rediscovered the importance of the black vote. Recent analyses in The New York Times, The Washington Post and elsewhere have shown that key U.S. Senate races in Arkansas, Georgia, Louisiana and North Carolina will hinge in part on mobilizing black voters.

But a new report by the Center for American Progress and Southern Elections Foundation argues that a Freedom Summer-like push to register and mobilize African-American voters - along with Latinos, Asian-Americans, youth and other pieces of the so-called New American Electorate - could reshape Southern politics far beyond the 2014 elections, something Facing South has been arguing for several years.

"True South: Unleashing Democracy in the Black Belt 50 Years After Freedom Summer" by former NAACP leader Ben Jealous looks at the unrealized potential of African-American and other new majority voters. It argues that, with a coordinated national effort, political change could come to the South much more quickly than previously imagined.

Drawing on Census Bureau data, the report estimates there are 3.7 million unregistered black voters in Black Belt states, and 4 million eligible Latinos and Asian-Americans who aren't registered. As Jealous wrote in a follow-up piece for MSNBC, getting just a portion of those voters signed up and to the polls could have immediate results, starting with the example of Georgia. [T]he average margin of victory in Georgia over the last three elections was minimal: just over 260,000 votes. So what would it take to give minority voters a voice?

Our report found that a massive wave of voter registration could shake up the political dynamic. If organizers were to register 60 percent of unregistered black voters in the state, and those voters then turned out at previous levels, it would create a corps of 290,000 new black voters. That is 30,000 more than the average margin of victory for a governor in the state. Moreover, a voter drive that registered 60 percent of unregistered black, Hispanic and Asian voters would create 369,000 new voters of color, or 109,000 more than the margin of victory.

Looking at other Southern states, the report comes to the same conclusion. In South Carolina, registering 40 percent of new majority voters would be enough to change election outcomes; in North Carolina, it would only take 10 percent.

As Jealous concludes: "All in all, the report found that registering 60 percent of unregistered black, Hispanic and Asian voters would upset the balance of power in Florida, Georgia, Maryland, North Carolina, South Carolina, Tennessee and Texas in either a presidential or midterm election year. In a presidential election year, Alabama would be added to the list."

But of course, demography by itself isn't destiny. The makeup of Southern states is rapidly changing, but there are still very real barriers to the new majority realizing its full political potential. The raft of election law changes, including restrictive voter ID laws and slashing early voting days, will hit the emerging Southern electorate the hardest.

Post-2010 redistricting in state legislatures and Congressional districts has diluted the power of African-American, Latino and other new majority voters. State-level anti-immigration laws and the rise of deportations in recent years have created a chilling climate in communities of newcomers.

To overcome these and other obstacles, those seeking to harness the potential power for change in the South need to think big, think strategically and think long term. Reaching, registering and mobilizing new majority voters in the South will take a big investment of resources from national groups and working through local leadership. For the new majority to emerge as a real political force, there will have to be strong coalitions and alliances among those communities.

And it will also take a long-term view that isn't driven by election cycles and immediate political payoff but is focused on building long-term power in disenfranchised communities. As the "True South" report argues, this is another lesson to be learned from Freedom Summer, 50 years on.

The Central Park jogger case settlement

How much is a person's innocence worth?

That's the most fundamental question framing the news that, after years of bitter dispute, a settlement has been reached in the lawsuit stemming from the notorious Central Park Jogger case that a quarter-century ago inflamed racial tensions in New York City and across the country, sent five black and Latino youth to prison for years - and since then has become one of the best-known examples of the injustice that's corroded much of America's criminal justice system.

The five men, who, though 14 to 16 years old at the time, were tried as adults for beat-

ing and raping the young white woman, will now receive about a million dollars for each year they served in prison. Four of the men - Antron McCray, Kevin Richardson, Yusef Salaam and Raymond Santana Jr. - spent about seven years in prison. Kharey Wise served about 13 years.

More than a decade after their trial, DNA and other evidence uncovered by the Manhattan District Attorney's office proved that none of the five youths had beaten and raped the jogger. The evidence tied the attack to one man, Matias Reyes, who by then was in prison for murdering a woman shortly after he had attacked the jogger, then confessed to the crime.

The convictions of the five were vacated in 2002, but for a decade New York City Mayor Michael Bloomberg's

administration refused to settle their lawsuit that charged that police and prosecutors had deliberately suppressed the DNA and other evidence. City officials, however, then maintained that the police and prosecutors had not committed any wrongdoing and therefore could not be held liable.

By contrast, the administration of Mayor Bill de Blasio, who took office in January, moved quickly to settle the case, which yet remains one of the most notorious examples of the egregious mistakes and willful misconduct by police, prosecutors and judges that have sentenced men and women of all backgrounds to long terms in prison - and some to death row.

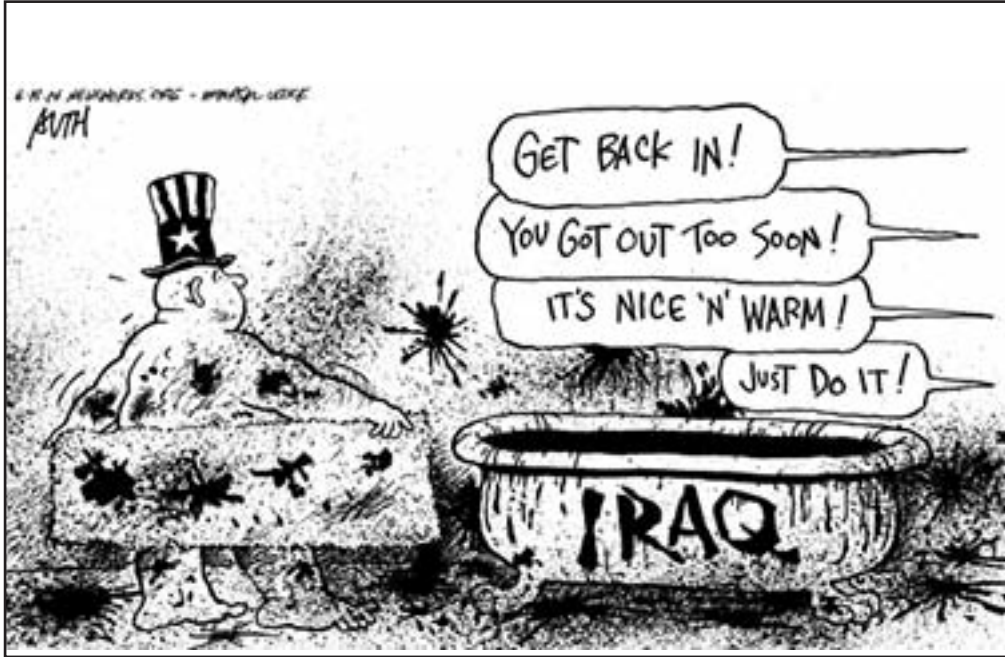
Thanks to technological advances in the use of DNA evidence and action taken by

some state legislatures and some police and prosecutors, too, the list of the exonerated has grown significantly in the decade since the Central Park Jogger Five were cleared.

According to data from The Innocence Project, a national litigation and public policy organization, there have now been 316 post-conviction DNA exonerations in the country. That includes 18 people who were sentenced to death before DNA proved their innocence. The average sentence those convicted served before their DNA-based exoneration was nearly 14 years - 70 percent of those exonerated were minorities, and in 50 percent of the cases, the true criminal was identified by the DNA testing.

Undoubtedly, the most stunning example of the criminal justice system's wrongful conviction dynamic is now unfolding in Brooklyn, New York. Growing doubts about numerous murder convictions obtained there in the 1980s and 1990s in recent years led the New York City borough's longtime prosecutor, Charles J. Hynes, to establish a special unit to investigate claims of innocence. The result: In recent months, six men who had already spent as much as 23 years in prison after being convicted of murder, have been exonerated and set free.

Now, Kenneth Thompson, Brooklyn's newly-elected district attorney, is, as the New York Times put it in a recent news article, "grappling with a metastasizing wrongful conviction scandal in which dozens of imprisoned men have asked for freedom..."



Blacks need more 'racists' like the Koch brothers

A few weeks ago, the United Negro College Fund made a stunning announcement that caused a lot of consternation in the black community. UNCF had accepted a \$25 million contribution from Koch Industries and the Charles Koch Foundation.



RAYNARD JACKSON

Under normal circumstances, David and Charles Koch - the brothers who control the two entities - would be applauded for their generosity. But some blacks have labeled the Koch brothers as racist simply because they are white, conservative and libertarians who believe in smaller government, lower taxes and ballot integrity.

However, when the critics are asked to specify what the Koch family has done that is racist, they draw blanks. They equate philosophical disagreements with being a racist. Even if that were the case, why reject money that will actually benefit black students? The gift is one of largest in UNCF's history.

The UNCF is the primary fundraising organization for students at private, historical-

ly black colleges. UNCF President Michael Lomax had no problem accepting the check, saying, "... We believe that our cause is a cause that all Americans can and should support regardless of their views on other matters."

The money will be allocated as follows: \$18.5 million will be used to create the UNCF/Koch Scholars Program, which will provide funds to "exemplary students with demonstrated financial need and an interest in the study of how entrepreneurship, economics, and innovation contribute to well-being for individuals, communities and society."

\$6.5 million will provide general support to the UNCF and historically black colleges, of which \$4 million of those funds will be reserved to help the 37 UNCF member institutions help students who have been hurt by the denial of PLUS loans (a parent loan program). Lomax is being criticized for accepting these funds essentially because they oppose virtually everything Obama stands for, and are willing to spend billions of their own money to help their cause. It's their money and they can do what they

please with it. Everyone should be happy that they chose to support black colleges.

Many are quick to criticize the Koch brothers but don't have the courage to criticize the brother in the White House. Obama's policies have had a devastating impact on black colleges.

Last month, I wrote a column titled "Why Black Men Need More White Women." I pointed out that two conservative white women were supporting policies more beneficial to African-Americans than the nation's first black president.

Now you have two Koch entities trying to correct a different policy from the same black president that is destroying the black community.

In Oct. 2011, Obama's Department of Education quietly and without public notice changed the underwriting standards for the very popular PLUS loan. The changes created more stringent requirements on a parent's ability to secure a loan.

This shift in PLUS eligibility standards has resulted in many parents of students at black colleges having their loan applications denied, and those denials have been cited as the reason many black stu-

dents have dropped out of school.

According to Mark Kantrowitz, publisher of FinAid.org, "Based on last year's trends [2011], nearly half of would-be PLUS borrowers this academic year [2012] might be turned away...The denials have hit particularly hard at historically black colleges and universities, presidents of those colleges, as well as higher education associations, say. They have warned that some students might not return because they can't get the loans to pay for college."

When the Education Department switched entirely to direct lending, the high approval rates for direct loans continued. In 2010-11, the first year when all loans were direct loans, 72 percent of PLUS applicants were approved, and just 28 percent were denied, according to department data. At the same time, the loans continued to grow, from \$7.6 billion in 2008 to \$10.4 billion in 2011, according to Education Department disbursement data.

At least \$4 million of the Koch contribution will go towards trying to remedy this Obama created disaster for these worthy college students. It is estimated that this money will help 3,000 students stay in school. So, once again, we have white persons coming to the rescue.

OUR VOICES

A simple lack of respect to Moral Monday protesters

By Rob Schofield
SPECIAL TO THE TRIBUNE

The right sinks to a new low with latest accusations against Moral Mondays protests.

There are a lot of reasons that thousands of North Carolinians have remained motivated to devote big chunks of time from their busy lives to attending Moral Monday events at the state Legislative Building over the past year-plus: the sustained assault on public education, the disastrous failure to expand Medicaid to a half-million people in need, the attacks on voting rights, the harshest-in-the-nation cuts to unemployment insurance, and the list goes on and on.

If there's a single factor, however, that serves as perhaps the most important catalyst, it might just be this: the utter lack of respect that state leaders have accorded the protest movement and its leaders.

On the day the right swept

to power in the General Assembly in Jan. 2011, the days of genuine conversation and give and take in the North Carolina political world basically came to an end. Rather than at least listening seriously to those who voiced grave concerns about the radically different direction they were taking the state, conservative leaders made clear that protesters were, in effect, the enemy - a group to be ignored, belittled and, if possible, thoroughly routed.

Speaker Tom Tillis, Senate President Pro Tem Phil Berger, Budget Director Art Pope and Gov. Pat McCrory can issue all the carefully measured statements they want about their supposed respect for free speech, opposing points of view and willingness to hear from protesters, but, ultimately, their actions speak louder than their words.

And, on this front, nothing speaks louder than the repeated efforts to silence the protests with police power, and the absurd and offensive attacks directed at the movement, its leaders and its objectives.

Last year, as you may recall, the Pope-Civitas Institute launched a venomous and, at times, dishonest series of broadsides against the movement in which it published photos and other identifying information about protesters and then followed it up with a series of outrageous accusations that movement leaders were motivated by personal financial gain.

This year, in a new line of scurrilous attacks, the Pope people (along with Berger and other conservative advocacy organizations) are attempting to argue that the Moral Mondays movement is seeking to foist a massive and debilitating tax increase on the N.C. citizenry.

Here's Pope-Civitas Director Francis X. De Luca in a recent fundraising appeal:

"Dear Friend, William Barber and his 'Money Monday' allies want \$4,000 a year from your family. That's \$333 per month-per family of four-to meet the \$10 Billion worth of demands from the loudest and most vitriolic sector of North Carolina's Left. Let me be clear: Our victories for freedom of the past two years are under attack. And I need your help to defend those victories and build on them! Will you join with me in this fight with a donation of \$33? North Carolina was controlled by the Left for more than 140 years. They are desperate to regain their stranglehold on power. It's clear what they would do with that power: buy votes with special favors and taxpayer giveaways. They did it for many years, and they're telegraphing that they would love to do it again."

Here's Pope-Civitas Director Francis X. De Luca in a recent fundraising appeal:

And, on this front, nothing speaks louder than the repeated efforts to silence

CHEFS BATTLE
City Kitchen will compete in Fire in the Triangle's first competitive dining series June 30, 6:30 to 10 p.m. at 1705 Prime, 1705 E. Millbrook Rd. Call (919) 928-8200 for more information.
· City Kitchen will host Music Festival 2014 July 10 at 6:30 p.m. at University Mall in Chapel Hill.

NETWORKING
USA Baseball's "Extra Innings" annual networking event is July 1, 6 to 8 p.m. at USA Baseball, 200 Brooks Park Lane in Cary. Call 664-7070.
· Raleigh Chamber will host a Business After Hours July 16, 5:30 p.m. to 7 p.m. at Hard Knocks-Raleigh, 3501 Spring Forest Road. RSVP by July 9.

KNOW LUNCHEON
Morrisville Chamber will host its next KNOW luncheon July 10, 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. at Prestonwood Country Club, 300 Prestonwood Parkway. Register at www.MorrisvilleChamber.org
· The State of Morrisville is July 17, 7:30 to 9 a.m. at the White Ventures Chamber Building. Visit www.MorrisvilleChamber.org or call 463-7150.

BOTANIC GARDEN
Plant Delights Nursery and Juniper Level Botanic Garden's Summer Open Nursery and Garden Days is July 11-13, 18-20. Call 772-4794, ext. 29 for more information.


PARTNERS DINNER
Raleigh Chamber will host a Partners Dinner July 24, 6 p.m. at N.C. Museum of Art, 2110 Blue Ridge Road. RSVP by July 18 to 664-7090.

WOMEN'S LUNCHEON
Raleigh Chamber of Commerce will host its next Executive Women's Luncheon July 29, 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. at Embassy Suites-Cary. The topic is "Winning with Women." RSVP by July 22 to 664-7036.

START-UP PROGRAM
Raleigh will begin a support program for start-up businesses in the city. Visit www.raleigh4u.com or contact James Sauls at James.Sauls@raleighnc.gov.

FAST INTERNET
Chapel Hill and AT&T have reached an agreement to bring ultra-fast Internet access to residents and businesses. AT&T will provide U-verse with speeds of up to one gigabit per second.

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Business



NNPA PHOTO

More women are taking on home improvement projects.

Home Depot takes lead in providing DIY classes for women

By F. Sia Ahmadu and Shantella Y. Sherman
THE WASHINGTON INFORMER

As the heads of many American households, women are increasingly forced to reckon with not only the odd handyman job like mowing lawns or replacing sealants, but also more demanding household repairs including plumbing and electrical work.

In fact, what was once considered the man's terrain within the home has become a space where women actively flex their muscle.

According to a recent survey by the Home Improvement Research Institute, the number of home improvement products purchased by women has increased over the years. Women account for more than \$70 billion worth of purchases in the home improvement industry, up from just over \$55 billion in 1995. This rising trend is due to women owning their own homes and tackling their own repair projects.

Industry research shows that single women are purchasing new homes at twice the rate of single men, and within the first year of

home ownership, women spend almost \$9,000 on home improvement projects. Contributing to the growing trend of women purchasing tools are home improvement shows and hardware stores.

Websites like See Jane Drill and Be Jane explore women to step up and do the handiwork rather than wait on a male family member or pay for services they can do themselves. Be Jane coaxes: "Ladies, you don't have to be a Jack to be a Jack of all trades. You can Be Jane. And once you tackle home improvement, then life improvement and even world improvement are just around the corner."

And while Be Jane and See Jane Drill provide both instruction and support through social networking tools, services and user generated content, a vast array of blogs for female fixers exist to tackle almost any building or repair job.

"There is an enormous demand for home improvement information out there for the beginner, because no one is supplying it," said Karen DeVenaro, co-founder of See Jane Drill. "Even a task that sounds simple enough, like using a pressure washer to clean a deck, can be a

nightmare for the beginner. Yes, there is information available on how to use the pressure washer, but how do you set it up? How do you start the thing? Nobody tells you the basics, such as how to hook up the hoses. That's the problem in a nutshell. Home improvement resources generally make the assumption that you already know something, but the beginner, the gal or guy that doesn't know the difference between a miter saw and a table saw? Where can they go?"

Well, no place until See Jane Drill came along.

See Jane Drill provides all the help that many beginner DIY-ers are looking for, and until recently have not been able to find. Another feature of their company is that they will create videos upon request.

"We often get requests from our viewers on how to do tasks for which the information available is limited," points out Leah Bolden, master craftswoman and co-founder of See Jane Drill. "We have and will continue to create videos upon request that will then be available to anyone who wants to use them, and for free! How many other websites offer that?"

CVMSDC hosts Business Opportunity Conference

SPECIAL TO THE TRIBUNE

"Innovation" will take center stage as the theme for the 2014 Business Opportunity Conference, presented by Carolinas-Virginia Minority Supplier Development Council Aug. 4-5 at the Hilton Columbia Center in Columbia, South Carolina.

The two-day supplier diversity conference also will feature a golf tournament, awards banquet, business matchmaking sessions, a business opportunity tradeshow and theatrical depiction titled "Reality That Drives Innovation Through Our Lenses." Tuesday morning's general session speaker will be business professor and author of "Winning With Customers," D. Keith Piques, who will present the topic "Creating a New Model for Supplier Diversity."

The Aug. 4 golf tournament will allow corporate purchasing executives and minority business professionals to network and strengthen business connections. Afternoon sessions the following day will provide additional insight on doing business with the government and discussing proven 'Best Practices' for corporate supplier diversity programs.

"This year's theme reinforces the reality that in order to succeed, corporations and minority businesses will need to adapt to a changing landscape and business environment," CVMSDC President Eric Watson said. "The Business Opportunity Conference offers another opportunity to innovate our work, elevate our brand and Transform our model to support economic development in Virginia and the Carolinas."

The Carolinas-Virginia MSDC is a nonprofit corporation chartered to enhance business opportunities for minority-owned companies by providing support through developing mutually beneficial networking opportunities with corporate members and promoting minority business development. To learn more, visit www.cvmsdc.org and follow #2014BOC on social media.



Eric Watson

New report details evasive practices in predatory lending

By Charlene Crowell
NATIONAL NEWSPAPER PUBLISHERS ASSOCIATION

When it comes to payday and other small-dollar, high-cost loans, many envision urban areas plastered with signage and neon lights — often in minority communities. And while those images are all too true, predatory lenders have another favored target: America's military families.

Military installations populated by the men and women who wear the nation's uniform are also easy targets for high-cost lending. Often young but earning a steady paycheck, high-cost lenders beckon them with a wide range of

triple-digit interest rates on lending products ranging from payday and auto title loans to refund anticipation checks, installment loans and more.

In 2007, President George W. Bush signed into law the Military Lending Act. Before its enactment, the Department of Defense found that "predatory lending undermines military readiness." To address the abuses the MLA capped annual interest rates at no more than 36 percent for consumer credit. Further, it banned the use of a borrower's bank account as collateral for payday loans.

Has progress been made? Yes. But is small-dollar lending reform complete? Not at all.

Last month, the DoD issued a report that noted how too many service members are still caught in predatory debt. Other predatory lending products, such as high-cost installment loans, are now being offered but fall outside the scope of the existing MLA. As a result, the DoD now seeks to broaden its current protections to include other forms of abusive credit.

The DoD advised Congress that consumer education alone was simply not enough to overcome predatory lenders' aggressive marketing. "While the Department also believes that education is both important and helpful, it is simply not as effective in

steering vulnerable Service members away from high-cost loans as prohibiting those loans. Financial protections are an important part of fulfilling the Department's compact with Service members and their families."

A survey of active duty Service members posed questions concerning members' perspectives and experiences using credit. In response, 88 percent of enlisted members said they did not think they would be inconvenienced if there was no access to credit products with more than 36 percent interest rates.

The DoD also asked financial counselors who work with service members additional questions. Nearly the same number — 87 percent —

did not view a 36 percent annual percentage rate as being too restrictive.

With these and other findings, the DoD concluded that new, more comprehensive regulations are needed to protect service members from high-cost credit.

That same conclusion is shared by the Center for Responsible Lending. Independent research by the CRL has found that high-cost lending robs the most financially vulnerable of their monetary assets:

- Repeated payday borrowing costs consumers \$3.5 billion in fees each year
- Like payday lenders, auto title lenders derive more revenues from fees than on the actual principal borrowed

- The average car title customer renews his loan eight times
- Like payday and car title loans, installment loans have also been associated with repeated refinances and account for as much as 75 percent of this loan business
- Installment loans typically include high-cost, add-on products such as credit life, disability insurances and discount clubs that significantly raise the total costs of credit.

The DoD reports that 67 percent of enlisted service members reported seeing other military members get in trouble using credit. Additionally, due to conflicting state statutes, only 24 have the authority to enforce the MLA.

Good dental care an important part of a healthy life

NORTH AMERICAN PRECIS SYNDICATE

While it's often overlooked, good dental health plays an important role in keeping older adults healthy. Poor oral health care can lead to the deterioration of teeth and gums, infections in the mouth that turn into more serious illnesses such as pneumonia, and cardiovascular disease.

And missing teeth is no excuse to skip dental visits. Experts say visiting the dentist is not just for teeth cleaning, but is also an opportunity for dentists to screen for oral cancer, check denture fittings and help with many critical issues.

Dental care tips offered by the American Dental Association are essentially the same across all age groups:

- Brush teeth and gums at least twice a day with a fluoride-containing toothpaste
- Floss at least once a day; preferably twice a day to remove food particles in tough-to-reach places
- Visit the dentist every six months for a routine cleaning and oral exam
- Use an antibacterial mouth rinse to reduce bacteria buildup.

According to leading dentists, however, there are issues specific to treating the elderly that should be addressed and closely monitored.

Dr. Scott Dickinson has treated many elderly patients and notes that the aging process can make oral care more challenging, particularly as older adults lose some dexterity. Dickinson offers these tips to avoid a decline in wellness due to poor oral health care:

- Certain prescriptions can affect the healing process of dental procedures. Older adults who are prescribed medicine to keep their bones strong might run the risk of a slower healing process after an extraction or cavity procedure. As a preventative measure, dentists need to consult with the patient's doctor about their medicines and check that it's safe to go ahead with dental work.

- A dry mouth can increase cavities. Some medications cause dry mouth, which is often seen among elderly patients. If the mouth doesn't produce enough saliva, plaque and food do not get naturally washed away, leading to a higher incidence of cavities.

- Ill-fitting dentures can lead to poor nutrition. Dickinson often sees patients who haven't maintained their dentures, leading to a painful chewing experience. A quick denture fitting can alleviate the pain and ensure that the patient can enjoy his meals and once again get proper nutrition.

Colorectal cancer screenings save lives

NORTH AMERICAN PRECIS SYNDICATE

For years, Al Prado ignored his doctors' recommendations to get a colorectal cancer screening. Finally, during a routine physical, Kaiser Permanente's Sue Williams, M.D., convinced Prado to take a simple at-home fecal immunochemical test. She probably saved his life.

When Prado's FIT results came back positive, Williams scheduled him for a colonoscopy. The results revealed that he had Stage 1 colon cancer.

"I am so glad that Dr. Williams talked me into sending that little sample," said Prado, a Kaiser Permanente Colorado member. Because his cancer was discovered early, doctors were able to treat it before it progressed and spread to other parts of his body.

Colorectal cancer means cells that aren't normal are growing in your colon or rectum. These cells grow together and form polyps. Over time, some polyps can turn into cancer.

This cancer is also called colon cancer or rectal cancer, depending on where the cancer is. It is the third most common cancer in the United States. And it occurs most often in people older than 50. Regular screening, beginning at age 50, is the key to detecting polyps before they become cancerous.

Many people with early colon cancer do not feel unwell or show any symptoms, so it's important to get regular screenings. "We know that colon cancer screening saves lives, and this test is an easy way to get screened," Williams said.

FOCUS



From left to right: Michael Jones, Eugene Weeks, graduate Alec Barner, graduate Antonio Wilson, Octavia Rainey, graduate George Lawrence, Gail Eluwa and graduate Joseph Boykins.

Teen Center honors graduating seniors

Celebration honors students with another round of 'Pomp and Circumstance'

By Latisha Catchatoorian
latisha.catch@triangletribune.com

RALEIGH - Though the crowd was modest, the pride that filled the Saint Monica Teen Center was mighty.

The center in Southeast Raleigh held a mini-graduation ceremony for its 2014 graduating seniors who have attended the center over the years. Family members watched their graduates walk to "pomp and circumstance" for an extra time.

"I feel like I am at home when I look at the graduates," City Councilman Eugene Weeks said. "Your work is just beginning."

Enloe High graduate George Lawrence gave the teen remarks and said they have come a long way. Instead of being on the streets, they could come to the center and be part of its programs and positive recreation.

"It provided us a safe place to come over four years so we could be here and walk across the stage," he said.

Center volunteer Octavia Rainey has seen street violence firsthand. She told, through welled-up eyes, how one 15-year-old boy died in her arms from a gunshot wound not far from the center.

"I'm so proud of you," Rainey said. Not all the graduating seniors were able to attend. One notable absence was Jaquan Bennett, whose mother passed away from cancer. A single parent and the sole breadwinner for her son, Bennett's mother was his only caregiver. Rainey said without the center, Bennett "would have fallen apart" and would not have graduated.

Gail Eluwa of the N.C. Black Leadership Caucus told the graduates to remember that they have a great responsibility as they go off into the world.

Michael Jones, representing Senator Kay Hagan's office, said to lay the foundation for what they have within them.

"None of us can anticipate the challenges that will arise along the way, but if we keep our priorities in order, if we stay focused, if we work hard, if we invest in the people around us, then we will be prepared to meet and exceed those challenges," he said.

As the program stated to the graduates: "Keep on learning, though your graduation is done, your life is still full of learning, a journey that has just begun. Your diploma is the first step and continuing knowledge is key to winning what you want in life and becoming who you want to be."

Phi Lamda dedicates new center

By Jim Wiggins
SPECIAL TO THE TRIBUNE

RALEIGH - The Phi Lamda Educational Foundation has realized a long-held vision to secure its own piece of real estate to expand its decades-long efforts to advance educational opportunities for families in Wake County.

The foundation held a visit and tour of its new 2,100 square-foot resource center, which has been fully furnished by a generous donation from Rooms To Go, at 3956 Durham Drive in Southeast Raleigh. The Phi Lamda Educational Foundation Resource Center will serve as a centralized home for the foundation's educational programs and meetings. It eventually will offer community programs.

"This is a resource center to focus on helping young people in their academic and social skills," Foundation President Joe Springer said. "It's still our intention to expand this to a larger facility, not just for the foundation and our expansion of our local and national youth programs, but also for community programs."

Established in 1997, the Phi Lamda Educational Foundation is an educational arm of the local chapter of Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity. Its holistic academic and life skills programs promote the success of socioeconomically disadvantaged and underserved youth. A \$1 million capital campaign is under way to support further expansion.

On June 25, the foundation celebrated the 22nd anniversary of its flagship program, African American Leaders of Tomorrow (AALOT) designed to improve middle and high school students' performance in math, science and English by providing weekly mentoring and tutorial services. The program also aims to boost self-esteem, and inspire self-awareness and overall confidence. Charter members of the group work as engineers, accountants, lawyers and educators, among other professions. Many also return to serve as AALOT tutors and mentors.

This week's celebration culminates renovations and improvements, from A/C repairs to new carpet and paint. Since the purchase of the former insurance office Dec. 31, 2013, the foundation has transformed the center into several meeting and gathering spaces.

"Pictures tell a story of the human aspect of our training and mentoring of students," Foundation Vice President Orrin Haywood said. "We can expand programs right now. We have a great future."

Fruitful container gardens

By Melinda Myers
SPECIAL TO THE TRIBUNE

Picture yourself harvesting a few fresh strawberries for your cereal in the morning or perhaps picking a few apples from your own backyard tree to cook up into a pie. It is possible, even if you garden on a balcony or small lot. And even if you have plenty of space, you will still appreciate the fun and convenience of reaching out the backdoor and harvesting some homegrown fruit.

Strawberries are excellent container plants. Grow everbearing or day neutral varieties, so you will be harvesting strawberries throughout the growing season. Reduce your workload and increase success with a self-watering hanging basket (gardeners.com). Or dress things up a bit more with a decorative container. The haystack hanging baskets have the beauty of the coco fiber-lined planters, but require half the watering. The AquaSav liner is a combination of coir and recycled plastic designed to conserve moisture. This means better results with less watering.

But don't stop there. Add some dwarf fruit trees to your patio plantings. A dwarf apple, peach or pear will provide beautiful spring flowers, nice foliage for the summer and fruit for you to enjoy. Select self-fertile varieties, those that only require one plant to produce fruit, if space is limited. Grow your dwarf trees in large weatherproof pots with drainage. Those in cold climates will need to provide some winter protection, but the first harvest will make that extra bit of work well worth the effort.

Or try your green thumb at growing lemons, limes and other citrus in a container. The fragrant flowers and glossy green leaves are a beautiful prelude to the tasty fruit. Even cold weather gardeners can put their green thumb to the test by growing a Meyer lemon, Kaffir lime or other citrus in a container. Just move the potted plant indoors for the winter and back outdoors next season once the danger of frost has passed.

And don't forget the blueberries that are

high in antioxidants and flavor. These nutritious beauties require moist well-drained acidic soil, something most gardeners do not have. This makes growing them in containers, where you control the soil, a good option. Blueberries provide seasonal interest with their nodding white bell-shaped flowers in spring, colorful fruit in summer and yellow, orange or red color in fall. Though only one plant is needed to bear fruit, keep in mind that your harvest will more than double if you grow two.

So survey your patio, deck, balcony or garden for space to add a container or two of fruiting plants that are sure to add beauty and flavor to your garden and meals this season.

Melinda Myers is a gardening expert, TV/radio host, author and columnist with more than 30 years of horticulture.



SCHOOL NEWS

Healthy Start offers free meals for '14-15

DURHAM COUNTY

Healthy Start Academy will provide free breakfast and lunch to all enrolled students beginning with the 2014-15 school year via the Community Eligibility Provision, a new school nutrition initiative by the USDA's Food and Nutrition Service. The charter school has participated as a school sponsor of the USDA National School Breakfast and Lunch programs since 1998.

"Our child nutrition department works diligently to remain in compliance with federal standards, including implementing 100 percent whole grain breakfast and lunch menu items. Over the years, the department has developed a respected local wellness policy, which includes a no-fast-food policy," said Aronda M. Hill, assistant to the principal and director of student services and human relations. "The academy's board of directors has embraced this initiative in order to ensure that every student receives a nutritious breakfast and lunch each school day. Research shows that students who eat well learn well."

Healthy Start Academy is located at 807 Chapel Hill St.

Smith's Banks heads to NFL



Banks

By Bonitta Best
editor@triangletribune.com

Johnson C. Smith assistant football coach Marshall Banks has been selected for the Bill Walsh NFL Minority Coaching Fellowship. Banks will join the Carolina Panthers coaching staff July 24 to Aug. 12 in Charlotte. The Walsh Fellowship was created to help increase the number of full-time minority coaches.

"I am looking forward to learning and growing more as an instructor and coach," Banks said. "I want to thank the Carolina Panthers' organization, the entire coaching staff, and specifically defensive line coaches Eric Washington and Sam Mills Jr. for introducing the fellowship to me."

N.C. Central

Junior transfer Quinn Billerman has been named the Sporting News MEAC Newcomer of the



Year. The Raleigh native is Ravenscroft's all-time leading passer with 6,152 yards and 62 touchdowns.

At New Mexico Military Institute, Billerman threw for 1,928 yards and 14 TDs as a freshman before his record-setting sophomore year. He set single-season records in passing yards (2,962) and touchdowns (34).

"Quinn is the type of quarterback that can dissect the defense, make all the throws and is intelligent," said first-year NCCU football head coach Jerry Mack when announcing Billerman's signing in December. "He ran a similar style of offense at NMMI, so the transition should be an easy one for Quinn as he comes into our system."

The Sporting News picked Bethune-Cookman to finish first. The Eagles are picked eighth.

NCCU's season-opener against East Carolina will be broadcast on ESPNews Aug. 30 at 8 p.m. It is the first matchup between the two schools.

Sports



The Cary Invasion won their first-round game in the Tobacco Road Basketball League playoffs with a 118-103 victory against Bull City Legacy.

Invasion back in familiar territory

By Bonitta Best
editor@triangletribune.com

DURHAM - The Cary Invasion are headed to the championship game for the fourth straight season.

The Invasion won their fourth victory over the Bull City Legacy last weekend in the first round of the Tobacco Road Basketball League playoffs. Bull City, advancing to the playoffs in their first season in the league, lost 118-103. The team also dropped three regular-season games to Cary.

"We hadn't practiced in two weeks and were a little rusty, but that's no excuse," Legacy coach Fred Whitaker said. "It's gotten to be a mental thing. We can't seem to match their intensity. They have played together longer and are more structured."

How heated has the series become? Whitaker already knows the date of next season's first matchup: Nov. 1.

Cary (12-2), which won the TRBL East Division over the second-place Bull City (7-6), hadn't played in a month. But after a subpar first quarter, the Invasion shook off the cobwebs and will travel to defending champion PrimeTime Players this weekend in the title game.

Cary has become a dominant force since joining the TRBL in 2011. Players' Charles Ward (St. Augustine's), Anton Currie, Raheem

Oshodi (N.C. Central) and Paul Wright have been together since the beginning.

"We play tough together," Oshodi said. "We have the same group of guys since the beginning. We're also friends off the court, we hang out together."

As in their last meeting, the Legacy had no answer for Cary guard Paul Wright who torched them for 36 points - 25 in the first half. Wright led four players in double figures.

Despite Wright's 12 first-quarter points, the game was tied at 23. The Legacy took a three-point in the second period, but the Invasion rallied to take a 51-46 halftime lead.

Cary began to exert its dominance in the third, building a double-digit lead behind balanced scoring from players not named Wright.

But the Legacy had a few weapons of their own, including Corey Evans who is averaging 30 points per game. Evans scored 11 of his 33 points in the third to help pull Bull City to within five, but that's as close as the team would get.

"Their (Cary) toughness is what I want for us," Whitaker said. "We can't let other teams do whatever they want. They own us right now."

League changes

After three seasons, league owners have made some adjustments to hopefully increase attendance and

sponsorships.

Instead of being labeled a "summer league," the TRBL will begin next season in November instead of January. All teams that play 10 sanctioned games will qualify for the playoffs in May. Playoff squads will be seeded based on points they earn during the regular season.

"What we have learned over the course of our first three seasons is that you have to give teams the ability to host and schedule games when it makes sense for them," league founder Mark Janas said. "Being forced to play too many games in a short period or to take too many dates that coincide with spring or summer holidays discourages attendance and does little to impress sponsors. We already have the basketball talent in the league, but now we want to put more emphasis on game time productions, attendance and sponsorships."

Janas said several new teams and sponsors have signed up for next season. Legacy General Manager Umar Muhammed supports the changes.

"We don't want to be perceived any longer simply as a summer league that starts after the conclusion of other leagues," he said. "We want to be a destination league that has much more to offer to regional sponsors."



Bull City Legacy coach Fred Whitaker (center) is 0-4 against the Cary Invasion.

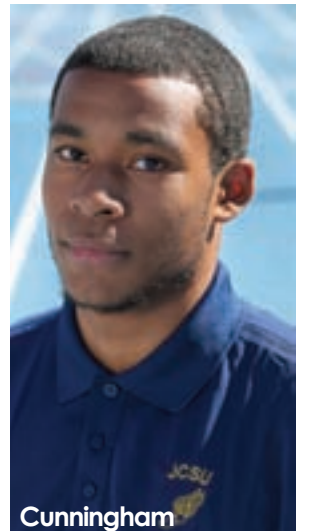
COLLEGE CORNER

Another honor for St. Aug's Williams

In the What Took So Long department, Virginia Union will honor former men's basketball coach Dave Robbins with the Lifetime Achievement Coaching Award July 17 in the Henderson Center on campus. Gee, Robbins has only been retired how long? Six years. Wonder if longtime assistant Willard Coker will show up?

And speaking of the Panthers, women's basketball coach Barvenia Wooten-Cherry has signed four recruits for the upcoming season: Taylor White, a College of Southern Maryland transfer; Kerrigan Awkward (bet there's been some jokes here), a triple-threat high school star in basketball, track and volleyball; and freshmen Alexis McKay and Alexis Anderson, who also play basketball and volleyball and runs track.

Bowie State Associate Athletics Director Donna Polk has been named interim AD effective July 12. Polk is temporarily replacing former AD Anton Goff. Polk was the Bulldogs women's basketball coach from 2008-11.



Cunningham

Johnson C. Smith freshman sprinter Joshua Cunningham will compete in the 400 meters July 4 weekend at the Canadian Junior Track & Field Championships in Quebec. The event is for 18- and 19-year-olds. PUH-lease! CC has bunions older than that.

WOMEN

N.C. Central

New volleyball coach Nicki Holmes released his first schedule as head coach. The Eagles will play 28 regular-season matches, including Arizona State and Colorado.

"This year's schedule represents our journey in becoming better student-athletes and overcoming adversity," Holmes said. "It's always important to test our mettle against proven opponents, especially opponents that have made strides in the NCAA championship."

Please see **ST. AUG'S/2B**

St. Aug's mourns loss of Heartley Sr.

By Kristene Kelly
SPECIAL TO THE TRIBUNE

RALEIGH - The Saint Augustine's University family mourns the loss of all-time great Harvey Heartley Sr., who died Monday.

The funeral is Friday at noon at First Baptist Church,

101 South Wilmington St. Barnes Funeral Home in Clayton is in charge.

"My deepest sympathies go out to the Heartley family," Director of Athletics George Williams said. "We lost a great Falcon today."

Coach Heartley was a staple of our program for many

years, and not only will our university miss him, but our whole community will too. He will be remembered as one of the greatest Falcons' coaches who ever lived.

Heartley, 79, was a legendary figure at St. Aug's

Please see **LONGTIME/2B**

NCAA chief: 'Paying athletes could destroy college sports'

By Tim Dahlberg
ASSOCIATED PRESS

OAKLAND, Calif. - NCAA President Mark Emmert stuck to his contention that amateurism is the core of college athletics, saying any effort to pay players would destroy a framework that has been in place for more than a century and cause many schools to either abandon

sports or refuse to play other schools that do pay.

Emmert said college athletes themselves wouldn't want to play against other athletes who were getting paid. "They want to know everyone is playing by the same rules," he said. "They want to know the other teams consist of student-athletes just like them."

Please see **NCAA/2B**

St. Aug's honors coach with leadership academy



George Williams gets a leadership academy named in his honor.



It was a sold-out affair at NCCU's inaugural women's football clinic.

Continued from 1B

St. Augustine's

Well, well, well, George "Pup" Williams is certainly getting his due now that you-know-who is gone. The university announced this week that the George Williams Leadership Academy has been established. Duke Energy will sponsor it.

The academy will help young men ages 15 to 17 (yes, ladies, we know) "gain confidence and leadership skills in a collegiate environment."

Applicants must have at least a 2.5 GPA; provide a letter recommendation from a teacher, minister, organizational leader, etc.; and answer three essay questions.

"It's no secret that I like to win. Instilling leadership skills in young men that will help them win on and off the field has always been a passion of mine," Williams said.

Contact Reginald Towns at

516-4542 or rltowns@st-aug.edu for more information. The program begins July 7.

MEAC N.C. Central

Several members of the baseball team are working overtime this summer to hone their skills. Andrew Vernon, Erick Kimber and Jordan Quinn are playing for the SeaCoast Mavericks of the Futures Collegiate Baseball League; Jared Kehagias, Sag Harbor Whalers; Jamar Hinton and Grant Cain, Petersburg Generals; James Dey and Jake Cagle, Carolina Vipers; Christian Triplett, Sherrill Silversmiths; Carlos Ortiz, Lorain County Ironmen; and Conrad Kovalcik, East Cobb Patriots.

"These summer leagues give our players the opportunity to continue developing their skills in a competitive baseball environment," head coach Jim

Koerner said. "This not only benefits them personally but also has them prepared for fall baseball."

Are there any more rabid fans than marching band's? NCCU's band booster club held an open forum Wednesday night to air grievances over recent changes in the Sound Machine marching band.

As we all know, band director Jorim Reid and two of his staff were released, and former St. Aug's band director Thurman D. Hollins is now interim. Folks are not happy.

"It's about the lack of support by the administration for the students and the program itself," booster club chairman Dennis W. Ellis said.

Read CC's blog later this week - we have to watch the NBA Draft - about the forum.

St. Augustine's

Alright, Falcons, what's up with that basketball search?

Longtime St. Augustine's men's basketball coach Heartley remembered



Harvey Heartley Sr. (right) has his jersey number retired at N.C. Central in 2005

Continued from 1B

and in the CIASS as an athletic director and head men's basketball coach. As AD, he was instrumental in the growth of the ultra-popular CIAA Basketball Tournament and the university's athletic department.

Heartley played a huge role in changing the bylaw to allow every team to qualify for the CIAA Tournament instead of eight teams. Under his leadership, the SAU athletic department grew from three to 13 sports.

His illustrious credentials as an athletic director are only matched by his accomplishments as a basketball coach. Heartley is the university's all-time winningest men's basketball coach with

371 victories from 1971 to 1994.

Under his guidance, the Falcons reached the 1984 NCAA Division II men's basketball national finals, making them one of three current CIAA schools in conference history to advance to the men's national championship game. Heartley coached NAIA District 26 Tournament championship teams at SAU, which qualified for the 1977 and '80 NAIA National Tournaments. He led the Falcons to the CIAA Tournament championship game four times.

Heartley began his career as an administrator in athletics at then-Saint Augustine's College in 1971. In addition to serving as the athletic director and head men's bas-

ketball coach, Heartley also coached several other sports and taught classes. He was the school's athletic director from 1971 to 1996.

His achievements landed him in numerous hall of fames, including the CIAA Hall of Fame, the Saint Augustine's University Hall of Fame and the N.C. Central University Hall of Fame.

An outstanding basketball player, Heartley played at N.C. Central (then known as North Carolina College) from 1951-55 and was co-captain his final two seasons. A star in his own right, Heartley played alongside future NBA Hall of Famer Sam Jones in the backcourt. A native of Clayton, Heartley played under legendary coach John B. McLendon.

MEAC MINUTES

MEAC's King, Parros, Buja earn NCAA nominations



Hampton volleyball player Petro Parros.

By Bonitta Best

editor@triangletribune.com

N.C. A&T's Tracy King, Hampton's Petro Parros and Maryland Eastern Shore's Megan Buja are three of 450 student-athletes nominated for the NCAA's Woman of the Year Award.

The award honors graduating female student-athletes who have distinguished themselves throughout their collegiate careers in academics, athletics, service and leadership.

King finished her career as the 14th player in program history to score 1,000 points. She scored 1,172 and is ninth on the all-time list in rebounds (561) and steals (223).

King graduated in May with a 3.95 GPA in graphic communications. She accepted an internship with Nike in the sports marketing department which will result into a full-time position in August.

Parros hit .241 in volleyball this past season and helped the Pirates win 19 matches and their first MEAC championship.

She graduated Cum Laude in May with a degree in business administration and is completing her fifth year in the MBA program.

Buja graduated with a perfect 4.0 GPA. She is a three-time NCAA Elite 89 winner, a two-time academic All-America honoree and an All-American in bowling.

In its 24th year, the NCAA Woman of the Year award acknowledges a nominee from each member institution. From the top 30 candidates, the selection committee determines the top three in each division and announces the top nine finalists in September. The NCAA Committee on Women's Athletics will vote from the finalist pool to determine the 2014 NCAA Woman of the Year.

The top 30 honorees will be recognized with the announcement Oct. 19 at the annual ceremony in Indianapolis.



N.C. A&T's Tracy King

NCAA chief defends amateurism as best model for college sports

Continued from 1B

Emmert took the witness stand Thursday in a landmark antitrust trial against the NCAA to say college sports would be fatally flawed if players were allowed to receive a portion of the billions of dollars in basketball and football television revenues now flowing into big conferences and colleges.

Emmert said one of the biggest reasons fans like college sports is that they believe the athletes are really students who play for a love of the sport and for their school and community. He said fans understand college players aren't as good as professionals, but that doesn't stop some programs from being more popular than professional teams.

"To convert college sports into professional sports would be tantamount to converting it into minor league sports," Emmert said. "And we know that in the U.S. minor league sports aren't very successful either for fan support or for the fan experience."

Emmert's testimony came in a much-anticipated appearance as the NCAA tries to convince U.S. District Judge Claudia Wilken that its system of so-called amateurism is not anti-competitive and is the best model for regulating college sports.

Watching closely from the plaintiff's table was former UCLA basketball star Ed O'Bannon, who along with 19 other former players is seeking an injunction that would

allow players to band together and sell the rights to their names, images and likenesses (NILs) in broadcasts and video games. O'Bannon testified on the first day of the trial last week that he went to UCLA to play basketball and that he was a student grudgingly at best.

The lawsuit and other efforts targeting the NCAA have already had some effect, with the biggest five conferences moving quickly toward giving athletes more money and benefits. Emmert said he supported those moves, but said giving athletes more than the true cost of attendance would cause a free-for-all in recruiting and force many schools to give up smaller sports.

Many schools, he said, would simply leave Division I sports rather than pay their players.

Under friendly questioning by an NCAA attorney, Emmert defended the concept of amateurism, which he said has been a core principle from the time the NCAA was founded in 1905 to today.

"It's one of the most fundamental principles of the NCAA and intercollegiate athletics," Emmert said. "They have always seen and assumed that intercollegiate athletics is about the notion that these are members of the student body. They're not hired employees conducting games for entertainment. They're not a random group of folks that just come together to play sports."

Emmert's appearance drew an overflow crowd to

Wilken's courtroom as the NCAA sought to rebut earlier contentions by witnesses for the plaintiffs that the organization's rules on amateurism are anti-competitive and that almost everyone connected with college sports makes money except athletes.

Emmert acknowledged under sometimes contentious cross examination that many people are professionals because they make money in college sports, but said that is no different than other amateur sports. The NCAA president—who himself makes \$1.6 million a year—drew a distinction between coaches making millions of dollars a year and athletes who receive only tuition and room and board for their services.

"The pay to a professional coach is very different than the nature of the student-athlete's relationship to the university," Emmert said. "The coach has been a paid individual as long as there have been paid coaches and student-athletes are amateurs. The fact coaches are getting paid more doesn't change those relationships at all."

O'Bannon and others are asking for a ruling that would give basketball and football players the right to seek a share of revenues from their sports for use of their names, images and likenesses (NILs) in broadcasts and videogames. A broad outline of a plan sketched by the plaintiffs would give players equal shares for each year they play, with the money paid only after an athlete leaves college.

FOR THE WEEK OF JUNE 24 - 30, 2014

BLACK COLLEGE SPORTS PAGE



Tennessee State Sports Photo

ALL-AMERICAN: Star DB Daniel Fitzpatrick of Tennessee State on pre-season Sports Network all-star team.

DEFENSIVE STANDOUT

MAGAZINE MAKES 2014 TOP GRID PICKS;
SAINT AUGUSTINE'S HEARTLEY PASSES

UNDER THE BANNER

WHAT'S GOING ON IN AND AROUND BLACK COLLEGE SPORTS

BELOVED ST. AUG'S COACH PASSES:

Harvey Heartley, Sr., a two-time graduate of North



Heartley

Carolina Central University and former longtime Saint Augustine's head basketball coach passed on Monday, June 23 at the age of 79.

A native of Clayton, N.C., Heartley attended NCCU (then known as North Carolina College) from 1951-55, playing four seasons of basketball under legendary coaches **John B. McLendon** and **Floyd Brown** during his standout career.

He garnered All-CIAA and honorable mention All-America recognition during his junior and senior campaigns, both CIAA Visitation Championship seasons. He also served as co-captain on the team in 1955.

Heartley earned both his bachelor's and master's degrees in physical education and education administration from NCCU in 1955 and 1965, respectively, going on to a successful career as a coach and athletics administrator.

Much of that success was achieved at nearby Saint Augustine's in Raleigh, N.C. Following 16 years as a high school coach, Heartley joined St. Augustine's in May of 1971. As Director of Athletics, he built the program from three sports to 13 during his tenure. As men's basketball head coach for 23 seasons, he guided the Falcons to a school record 371 victories and a national runner-up finish in the 1984 NCAA Division II tournament.

Among his honors are numerous high school and CIAA Coach of the Year awards, along with multiple CIAA Athletic Director of the Year citations. Heartley was inducted into the NCCU Athletic Hall of Fame in 1986, and has been inducted into a host of other Halls of Fame, including at Saint Augustine's and the Central Intercollegiate Athletic Association.

The funeral will be Friday, June 27, at First Baptist Church (101 South Wilmington Street in Raleigh, N.C.) at noon. The viewing will be at 11 a.m.

Sporting News makes its picks

Football predictions anyone??

With Heisman Trophy winner Jameis Winston of Florida State gracing its cover, the 2014 *Sporting News College Football Annual* is out with its predictions for the upcoming football season.

BCSP Editor **Lut Williams** pens the previews for the **Mid-Eastern Athletic Conference (MEAC)** and the **Southwestern Athletic Conference (SWAC)** (See **STAT CORNER**).



In the MEAC, two-time champion **Bethune-Cookman** is pegged for a three-peat followed by 2013 co-champ **South Carolina State**. Surprising third-place finisher **Delaware State** was again picked to finish third.

Reigning conference Player of the Year, **Howard** quarterback **Greg McGhee**, is again picked to be the top offensive performer while **Norfolk State** linebacker **Lynden Trail** is named the top defender.

Junior college transfer quarterback **Quinn Billerman** of **North Carolina Central** is pegged the top newcomer.

Four new coaches, one returning to his post, will grace the MEAC sidelines this season.

Gary Harrell returns as head coach at **Howard** after taking a one-year leave of absence for personal reasons. **Ray Petty**, last year's head coach returns to his defensive coordinator duties. **Morgan State** replaced longtime head coach **Donald Hill-Eley** with former Maryland and Oregon State assistant **Lee Hull**.

North Carolina Central hired 33-year old **Jerry Mack**, a veteran offensive assistant and the third youngest coach in Div. I, as its new head man replacing interim head coach **Dwayne Foster**. **Hampton** lured **Connell Maynor** away from three-time defending CIAA champion **Winston-Salem State** to replace **Donovan Rose**.

After the magazine was published, **Florida A&M** received a postseason ban from the NCAA for low Academic Progress Rate (APR) scores.



In the SWAC, Williams picks **Alcorn State** in the East and **Prairie View A&M** in the West to come out on top of the two divisions. The top players are prolific **Prairie View** quarterback **Jerry Lovelocke** (offense), **Texas Southern** defensive end **Amir Bloom** (defense) and **Jackson State** freshman running back **Jarius Moore** (newcomer).

The magazine went to press however before the NCAA in May banned **Prairie View** along



Prairie View QB Jerry Lovelocke



Texas Southern DE Amir Bloom



Howard QB Greg McGhee



NC Central QB Quinn Billerman

with **Mississippi Valley State**, **Arkansas-Pine Bluff** and **Alabama State** from NCAA postseason play because of not meeting the necessary threshold on APR. After an appeal, the ban was lifted on Alabama State.

In addition this year, **Texas Southern** football is serving the final year of a three-year postseason ban for low APR scores, and **Southern**, whose entire athletic program is barred from postseason play because of inadequate APR data, had a hearing scheduled before the NCAA on the matter this week (June 25).

As of press time this week, **Grambling** is the only team from the West not facing a postseason ban.

Whether the NCAA ban will apply to the SWAC Championship Football Game remains to be seen. The SWAC voted in March to allow four conference basketball teams (Southern, Arkansas-Pine Bluff, Mississippi Valley State and Grambling) facing NCAA mandated postseason bans, to compete in its conference tournament but not advance to NCAA postseason play.

The SWAC also has four new coaches with one going from one conference team to another.

Despite back-to-back East Division titles, **Rick Comegy** was let go at **Jackson State** and picked up as Mississippi Valley State's new coach. JSU receiving legend **Harold Jackson**

steps in to lead his alma mater.

Alabama A&M replaced successful 12-year veteran head coach **Anthony Jones** with longtime assistant **James Spady** while Grambling turned to former G-Man **Broderick Fobbs** to renew its sagging fortunes.

Ohio Valley Conference member **Tennessee State**, coming off a 2013 runner-up OVC finish and FCS playoff appearance, is picked to finish behind Jacksonville State in the conference and is ranked 13th in the FCS Preseason Top 25. Bethune-Cookman is 21st.

Tennessee State defensive back **Daniel Fitzpatrick**, Norfolk State linebacker **Lynden Trail** and Hampton placekicker **Anthony Provost** were named to the FCS Preseason All-America Team.

The magazine does not preview conferences in NCAA Div. II football but does list a Preseason Top 25 and All-America Team.

Three-time CIAA champion and Div. II playoff participant **Winston-Salem State** is ranked 12th in the Top 25. **Tuskegee**, coming off its first D2 playoff appearance, is ranked 21st.

Cheyney linebacker **Isaiah Fleming**, who led the Wolves and the PSAC with 144 tackles, is the only black college player on the preseason all-America team.

THE STAT CORNER

WHO ARE THE BEST PERFORMERS IN BLACK COLLEGE SPORTS

2014 THE SPORTING NEWS PREDICTED ORDER OF FINISH IN BLACK COLLEGE FOOTBALL

SWAC EAST

- 1) Alcorn State
- 2) Alabama State
- 3) Jackson State
- 4) Alabama A&M
- 5) Mississippi Valley State *

SWAC WEST

- 1) Prairie View A&M *
- 2) Southern *
- 3) Arkansas-Pine Bluff *
- 4) Texas Southern *
- 5) Grambling State

MEAC

- 1) Bethune-Cookman
- 2) South Carolina State
- 3) Delaware State
- 4) Howard
- 5) North Carolina A&T
- 6) Morgan State
- 7) Hampton
- 8) North Carolina Central
- 9) Norfolk State
- 10) Florida A&M *
- 11) Savannah State

* Faces NCAA APR Postseason Ban

BCSP Notes

Polk appointed interim AD at Bowie State

Bowie State University President **Dr. Mickey L. Burnim** has announced the appointment of **Ms. Donna Polk**, associate athletics director and senior woman administrator, as the interim director of intercollegiate athletics following the departure of AD **Anton Goff**. She will assume that role effective July 12.



Polk

Ms. Polk is well qualified to lead the Athletics Department until a permanent director is named, having demonstrated effective leadership and a commitment to the university's intercollegiate athletics programs.

She has served as associate athletics director and senior woman administrator since 2011, assisting with the department's day-to-day business operations. In that role, she has provided oversight for compliance, student services, sports medicine, sports information, women's volleyball, softball and the men's and women's track and field programs.

Before taking over as full-time associate athletics director, Ms. Polk served as head women's basketball coach and associate athletics director from 2008-2011. As head coach, she compiled a 55-29 record and led the Lady Bulldogs to **Central Intercollegiate Athletic Conference (CIAA)** finals appearances in 2009 and 2010. She joined Bowie State University in 2005 as associate athletics director for operations.

Ms. Polk currently serves as chair of the CIAA's Senior Woman Administrators Association. She is also a member of the NCAA Division II Women's Basketball Committee, Women's Basketball Coaches Association, National Association of Athletics Compliance, and Minority Opportunities Athletic Association.

Five MEAC institutions honored by NCAA

NORFOLK, Va. - Five (5) **Mid-Eastern Athletic Conference (MEAC)** member institutions were honored by the NCAA for earning top scores in the classroom by receiving the NCAA Public Recognition Award.

The award is presented to teams that have posted multi-year Academic Progress Rate (APR) scores in the top 10 percent of their sport.

"I would like to congratulate the five member institutions for receiving the highest level of academic recognition by the NCAA in their respec-

tive sports," MEAC Commissioner **Dennis Thomas** said. "This award is shared with the institutions' student-athletes, coaches, administrators, academic staffs and parents, who all work together to reach the ultimate collegiate goal of earning a degree."

A total of five teams were included in this year's list including **Bethune-Cookman University** (women's golf); **Howard University** (women's cross country); **North Carolina A&T State University** (women's bowling); **South Carolina State University** (women's golf); and **University of Maryland Eastern Shore** (men's tennis).

A total of 275 Division I schools placed at least one team on the top APR list, up 19 from last year. Four of this year's MEAC recipients were honored last year including Bethune-Cookman, Howard, Maryland Eastern Shore and South Carolina State.

The APR provides a real-time look at the team's academic success each semester by tracking the academic progress of each student-athlete on scholarship. The APR accounts for eligibility, retention and graduation and provides a measure of each team's academic performance.

CIAA administrator gets grant from NACWAA

CIAA Senior Associate Commissioner **Keshia Campbell** is the recipient of a leadership and education grant from the National Association of Collegiate Women Athletics Administrators (NACWAA) in conjunction with the Minority Opportunities Athletic Association, Inc. (MOAA). NACWAA and MOAA have partnered to send one (1) minority woman to the MOAA Symposium and Division II Governance Academy.



Campbell

Campbell travelled to Orlando earlier this month to attend the National Association of Collegiate Directors of Athletics (NACDA) & Affiliates Convention. While there, she attended the Symposium/Governance Academy. In addition, she will receive a registration fee waiver to the NACWAA National Convention.

NACWAA is an organization dedicated to empowering and advancing the success of women in the profession. MOAA promotes equitable employment opportunities for minorities in the athletics industry through the exchange of ideas, the creation of networking opportunities and the advocacy of an increase in employment for minorities in athletics administration positions at all levels of the sports industry.



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RPC Contracting is requesting bids from any interested NCDOT Certified DBE firms for **Contract DA00197 in Currituck County** bidding on 7/16/14. There will be a pre-bid conference at 3:00 pm on Monday 7/7/14 at the office of RPC Contracting, 934 W Kitty Hawk Road, Kitty Hawk, NC. Plans and specifications are available for review at the same location or may be downloaded from NCDOT's Project Letting Website at https://connect.ncdot.gov/letting/Pages/Letting-List.aspx?let_type=1. For more information, please call 252-261-3336, ask for Jay. RPC Contracting is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

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CAREER CORNER

How to change careers in 5 simple steps

Brandpoint

A teacher transitioning to a job in the corporate world. A stay-at-home mom rejoining the workforce. A baby boomer choosing a new career over retirement. There are countless individuals every day that carefully weigh the pros and cons of making a major career change. Are you one of them?

Driven by passion and the desire to have more satisfying work, eager individuals are taking the leap of faith and switching to an entirely new career this year. If you're contemplating a career change, there are some important things to consider so you can plan and position yourself for success. These five tips will help you gain confidence in your decision to transform your work.

1. Define your passion

What do you truly love to do? It could be cooking, working with children, gardening, number-crunching, etc. Start by defining what you're passionate about and realistically look at how that passion can be tapped so you can make money doing what you love. It's also wise to analyze the reasons why you want to make a career change. Long-term dissatisfaction with your work might be a good reason to consider a new career, but isolated issues that have taken place recently might not necessarily be the best reason to make such a big life change.

2. Think outside the box

You may already know what you love to do, but finding a way to make it a career might be a more complex task. Think creatively and don't be afraid to go outside the typical 9-to-5 job options. If you have an entrepreneurial spirit, starting a franchise can be a rewarding opportunity. For example, if you enjoy helping children learn and want to play a role in shaping the future of growing minds, consider being an owner/operator of a Kumon Math and Reading Franchise. By building a career with the world's largest after-school math and reading academic enrichment program, you'll be a business owner who is also a driving force for social good by having a profound impact on the lives of children in your community. Visit kumonfranchise.com to learn more.

3. Make time to plan

Changing careers is a huge step that can be challenging. It is not something that should be done impulsively, and you must give yourself time to plan. You'll want to be sure you are mentally and financially prepared for what's next. Setbacks are bound to occur along with the successes, and with thorough planning you'll position yourself for even more positive outcomes.

4. Be practical and research

Changing careers is a journey, not a race. Being practical about decisions and making changes in stages can be helpful. Explore opportunities that are attractive to you and talk with others who work in that industry. They can provide the best insight into what the day-to-day responsibilities would be, including the pluses and drawbacks of the job. Remember to research the outlook for different industries and career paths as well. The Bureau of Labor Statistics' Occupational Outlook Handbook is a great resource.

5. Build a support network

Having supportive friends and family can be a key factor in successfully making a major career change. Make sure you have a network of supportive individuals who will be there for you through it all. Professional support can make a big difference, too. Franchise owners at Kumon join more than 2,000 individually owned and operated centers across North America, meaning they have the support of many other people who know the industry and what it takes to succeed. Additionally, having a mentor, no matter what career path you pursue, can provide you with expertise and counsel to help position you for a bright future.

**Veterans
festival
in July**

**KNIGHTDALE
FESTIVAL**

Shine4Veterans Glitz Day Festival is July 5, 11 a.m. to 11 p.m. at Midtown Commons Shopping Center. Eat. Shop. Play. Dance. Call (919) 450-8000.

**RALEIGH
PUBLIC HEARING**

A public hearing on the widening of Sandy Forks Road is July 1, 7 p.m. at City Council chambers, 222 W. Hargett St.

**DURHAM
COLLEGE**

Durham is seeking applicants for its Durham Neighborhood College. Classes begin in September but deadline to apply is June 30. Call 560-4123.

LAUNCH PARTY

Museum of Durham History will host a launch party of its latest exhibit "C is for Credit Union" July 1, 6 p.m. at 500 W. Main St. Call 246-9993.

FOOD FESTIVAL

Duke Homestead hosts Pork, Pickles and Peanuts: Tastes of North Carolina July 14, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. at Duke Homestead State Historic Site. Call 477-5498 or visit DukeHomestead.org.

SUMMIT

A School Readiness Summit is July 21, 8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. at the Durham Convention Center, 301 W. Morgan St. Call (919) 403-6960.

TOUR

The Durham MLK Steering Committee is hosting a one-day trip to the Nation's Capitol Aug. 9. Proceeds benefit MLK scholarships. Deadline for tickets: July 24. Visit www.durhammlkcommittee.org/.

VOLUNTEERS

The Retired and Senior Volunteer Program I seeking volunteers 55 years and older. Call 536-7247, ext. 5301 or 5303. Volunteers needed to help elementary school students develop and fulfill their academic potential.

**CHAPEL HILL
JULY FOURTH**

July 4 celebration is 7-10 p.m. at Kenan Memorial Stadium, 104 Stadium Dr. Contact: Amanda at (919) 968-2823.

FUNDRAISER

Martha's Day, a fundraiser to support Compass Center for Women and Families, is July 8, 6 to 9 p.m. at Vimala's Curryblossom Café, 431 W. Franklin St., Suite 16. Visit www.compassctr.org/marthasday.

MUSICAL

PlayMakers' Summer Youth Conservatory will perform Hairspray July 16-20, 7:30 p.m. in the Paul Green Theatre inside the Center for Dramatic Art on Country Club Road. Call 962-7529.

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BOOK

**Beauty in the eye
of the beholder**

*Pageants, Parlors & Pretty Women:
Race and Beauty in the 20th Century South*
By Blain Roberts

By Kam Williams
AFRO-AMERICAN NEWSPAPERS

America has a long, ugly legacy of promoting diametrically opposed images of black and white females. This can be traced all the way back to Founding Fathers like Thomas Jefferson, an adulterer who had a white wife, but fathered a half-dozen children with Sally Hemmings, one of his hundreds of slaves.

Yet, in his only book, "Notes on the State of Virginia," the hypocritical third President of the U.S. frowned upon race mixing while denouncing black women as unattractive on account of their hair texture and skin color. He actually went so far as to pronounce sisters so promiscuous that they would just as soon mate with an ape as a human.

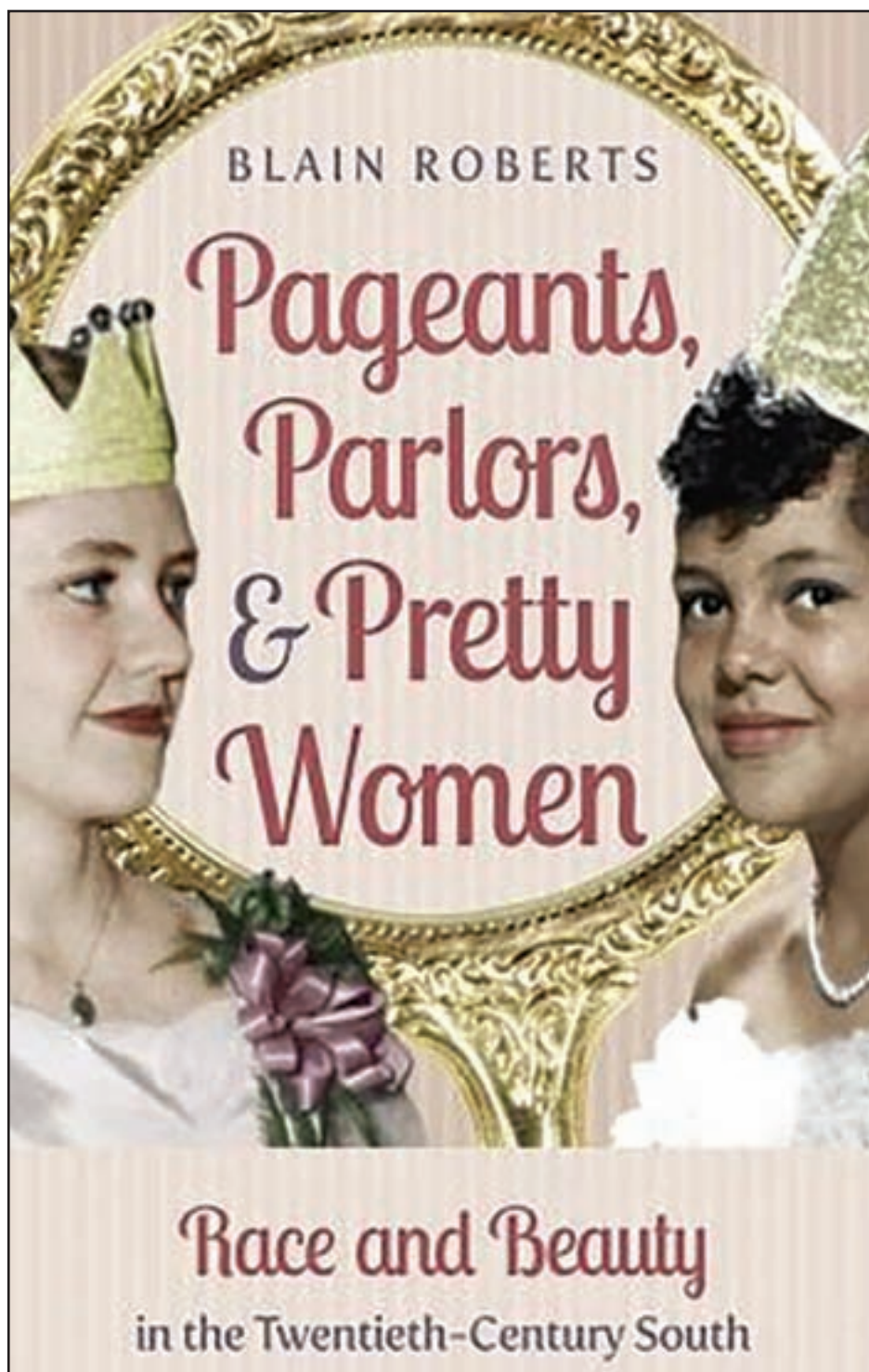
Sadly, such racist notions continued to shape popular attitudes about African-American femininity after Emancipation, especially in the South with its strictly enforced color line. In the wake of the Civil War, Caucasian women "were transformed into symbols of white supremacy and, eventually, massive resistance," to integration and equal rights.

That is the proposition put forth by Blain Roberts in *Pageants, Parlors & Pretty Women...*, a history professor at California State University, who discusses at great length the role which beauty played in maintaining the racial divide.

The enduring plantation myth still propagated post-slavery of placing white women on pedestals as paragons of virtue in need of protection proved to be the ideal tool for justifying the persistence of white supremacy ad infinitum. And Jim Crow era bigots found affirmation in the Miss America beauty pageant, which would for many decades be not only lily-white but dominated by entrants from former Confederate states.

The opus also delineates the black female struggle to escape the stranglehold of their stereotype as "sexually licentious" and "innately depraved and dirty." They fought back by turning to skin lighteners and straightening combs until finally being freed by the 1960s' "Black is beautiful!" movement to embrace their natural hair and skin tones.

A far more sophisticated examination of black and white pulchritude than *Gone with the Wind's* long unquestioned suggestion that it's as simple as Mummy vs. Scarlett O'Hara.



'I knew something wasn't right'

Charlotte woman shares painful experience with chronic Lyme Disease and taking control

By Michaela L. Duckett
michaela.duckett@thecharlottepost.com

Night sweats, shortness of breath, pelvic pain, heart problems, impaired vision, depression and muscle aches - those are just a few of the more than 200 symptoms Patrice Johnson has suffered over the last 20 years. She had no clue why. In January 2013, things took a turn for the worse. Johnson said she had gone for a routine workout at the gym. The next day she could hardly get out of bed. "I knew something wasn't right," she said.

Her heart was beating irregularly. She felt tingling and numbness. She went to the hospital worried she might be having a stroke, but tests determined that was not the case. Johnson had more tests and blood work done, but

doctors could not figure out what was wrong. She lost nearly 30 pounds in less than three months.

Doctors thought she might be suffering from an autoimmune disease, but tests ruled out multiple sclerosis, lupus, Crohn's Disease and other conditions. With each batch of tests, Johnson returned home with more questions than answers.

"They couldn't figure out what was wrong with me," she said.

She believes it got to a point where doctors suspected she was just making things up when she walked into their office with a three-page list of complaints.

"Honest to goodness, I think they had in my charts somewhere that I was a hypochondriac," she said. "I would get dismissed before they would really even look into what I had to say."

Her illness baffled friends and family as well.

"No one really believed that I was experiencing all the symptoms I was having," Johnson said. "It does seem unrealistic to tell someone that at any given point you are having about 30-40 symptoms a day."

Johnson said many of her friends stopped visiting. Some didn't like to see her sick and in pain. Others simply didn't believe she was as sick or in as much pain as she claimed.

"I went through a real depression," she said. "It was a really hard time for me."

Over the course of the next 10 months, Johnson said she spent countless hours at the doctor's office to no avail.

Don't ignore the bull's eye
In October, Johnson was diagnosed with Lyme

Disease, a tickborne illness caused by the bacterium *Borrelia burgdorferi*. It affects about 20,000 people each year.

Johnson said that in all the trips she had taken to the doctor, she had never been asked about a tick bite. Even though she had been bitten, she never thought to mention it. She didn't think it mattered because it happened such a long time ago.

Then, one day the subject of Lyme Disease came up casually during a consultation, and Johnson said she was surprised to learn that it could be the culprit of all her ailments.

"I didn't know that 20 years later that [tick bite] could still be relevant," she said.

About 70 to 80 percent of people infected with Lyme disease develop a red, circular "bull's-eye" rash at the

site of the tick bite.

"This occurs somewhere from three to 32 days after the tick bite," said Novant Health infectious disease specialist William B. Harley II, M.D.. "It starts as a small red lesion. As the lesion expands the center clears, creating the bull's eye appearance."

Harley said patients could also experience multiple smaller skin lesions elsewhere on the body along with fever, fatigue and generalized achiness.

"Patients may have neurological symptoms including meningitis or Bell's palsy (paralysis of the facial muscles on one side)," he said. "Five percent of patients develop cardiac problems within several weeks. Late infection may be manifested by intermittent attacks of joint swelling and pain (particularly involving the knees) or symptoms of neuropathy (pain and tingling of the extremities)."

Johnson recalls having a bull's eye rash, but she dismissed it after it cleared.

Because her bacterial infection remained undiagnosed and untreated for so long, Johnson said her condition became chronic and debilitating. She's constantly fatigued and experiences severe musculoskeletal pain.

A different approach
Harley said one of the biggest misconceptions about Lyme Disease is that patients may benefit from long courses of antibiotics.

"Clinical trials have shown no benefit to long-term antibiotics," he said.

As in the case of Johnson, they can potentially do more harm than good.

For years (before diagnosis), Johnson treated her symptoms with prescribed antibiotics. She has since been medically advised to discontinue antibiotics as they have weakened her immune system and damaged her liver. She now opts for a more holistic approach to health and wellness.

"I take between 40-70 [natural] supplements a day," she said. "One day of not taking those supplements could possibly mean not getting out of the bed."



Patrice Johnson, daughter of Charlotte Post Publisher Gerald Johnson, takes 40 to 70 natural supplements daily to cope with complications and symptoms of chronic Lyme Disease.

Fight for your marriage

By Mike and Trisha Fox
PHILADELPHIA MARRIAGE EXAMINER

These days it seems like so many things are coming against marriage. So many, from the top down, are vying to destroy the very fabric and foundation of marriage and its original institution.

A lot of people are so busy doing so many things they don't even have time to spend with their spouse. They are getting pulled in so many separate directions by friends, family, work, church, that they might not even realize it until it is too late.

It is important if you are married that you continue to work vigorously to stay close and avoid the temptation of separate lives in your relationship. Make sure that you spend quality and quantity time together. While it is easy to fall into the trap of simply "counting the time" to put into your relationship, you must ensure that the time is actually considered "quality time."

Choose your friends wisely. Don't have close relationships with people who are constantly talking negatively about their spouse or downing marriage in general. You can even let these people know in a positive way that you are happy with your spouse and you really do not appreciate negative chatter about your spouse, your marriage, etc. If you do not laugh at their jokes, they won't keep telling them to you. If so-called friends are any friends at all, and they behave that way, they will respect you and your marriage.

Don't let anyone or anything come between you and your spouse. This includes friends, family, hobbies, goals, lifestyle, dreams and ambitions, co-workers, etc. Remember that your spouse is the only one that you made a vow to love and to cherish as long as you both shall live.

Also be careful how you speak to others about your spouse. Don't joke about them or put them down in front of other people. This will hurt your spouse even if they are not there. Your words really do have power - both to kill or to give life.

How you talk to and about your spouse and your marriage will generally dictate the direction of your marriage. If you talk trash or negative all the time about your relationship, well you get what you want. One book said that your tongue is like the rudder on a ship and a bit in the horse's mouth. Your words will literally "steer" your direction. So, if that's truly the case, speak "life!"

When you have a misunderstanding, try to focus on just dealing with the issue. Do not resort to personal attacks, name calling and other negative ways of communicating. This will make them feel like they are not important to you and that you don't care what they have to say. When they are talking, try really listening to what they are trying to say, even more than the actual words in many cases.

We really do need to fight for our marriages. There was an article recently that said the institution of marriage is dying. We need to have more happily married couples; not just "married" but "happily" married couples. We desperately need couples who will stand and fight for marriage, both their marriage and marriage in general.

If you are happily married, let everyone know it. If you are not happily married, talk to your spouse and work on resolving the issues and recreating the romance in your marriage so that you can be happily married.

If you feel that the two of you cannot work it out on your own, it may help to see a marriage counselor or a marriage coach. Do whatever it takes to get your marriage on track and where you want it to be, so that you can proudly say that you are not just married but happily married!"

Religion

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SUNDAY, JUNE 29, 2014 PAGE 6B

Annie's church transforms to reach Baltimore's inner-city community



Seventh Metro Church Pastor Ryan Palmer carries his wife, Leslie, up the front steps of the Baltimore church.

By Diana Chandler
BAPTIST PRESS

BALTIMORE — Ryan Palmer admitted he was skeptical when he was called to pastor a dying church in Baltimore's inner city, where storied missionary Annie Armstrong was once a member.

A theater major and attorney, Palmer had made other plans with wife Leslie, the two of them members of the Seventh Baptist Church that had then dwindled from a high of 2,000 to only 17 members.

"And in 2003 I was actually called and asked to pastor the remnant. The previous pastor was burned out. He said, 'Brother, this is where God wants you. He sent you and I believe you are the next pastor,'" Palmer told Baptist Press. "And like Sarah, Abraham's wife, I laughed. My idea was to be bicoastal. I was going to have a home on the East Coast and two aircraft, a home in L.A. and work in the entertainment industry."

Palmer's idyllic picture differed from the Baltimore he ministers to today, where openly homosexual and transsexual pastors lead churches a stone's throw away from his. It's also where heroin addicts, the homeless, prostitutes, alcoholics, committed blue-collar workers, affluent profes-

sionals, artists and college students all live within a two-mile radius of the architecturally rich church founded in 1845 and rebuilt after a 1919 fire.

On June 8, the Sunday prior to the Southern Baptist Convention 2014 annual meeting, Palmer relaunched the congregation as Seventh Metro Church. Fred Luter, who had mentored Palmer in ministry, preached the service as one of the last sermons of his term as Southern Baptist Convention president.

Palmer baptized a young woman during the service. She had accepted Jesus a day earlier during the Crossover Baltimore evangelism initiative preceding the SBC annual meeting. The church membership had risen to as high as 70 one month after Palmer began his pastorate 10 years ago, but with no leaders or staff to help, membership declined once again. Palmer was overworked, leading the church as a staff of one bolstered by his wife Leslie, who was diagnosed with multiple sclerosis just two years into their 1998 marriage and is now legally blind.

"The problem that I ran into, I have no deacons, I have no trustees, I have no Sunday School teachers, no associate ministers, and these were all first-time believers" who needed discipling, Palmer said. "They were mul-

tiethnic and going in 70 different directions. I began to pull back a little bit."

At his lowest point, Palmer said, he felt defeated and powerless to continue.

"The reality is I fell on my face in the pastor's office and I cried out. And my honest response was 'God, I can't do this.' I said, 'God I've never seen so many needy people in my life, and I'm so ill-equipped to do anything about it,'" Palmer said.

Limited financially, Seventh Metro is still fully engaged in the community through several ministries and initiatives. Sunday School is known as the Fulfillment Hour. R.E.A.L. Men is an open Bible study to equip men as leaders. Ethos is a Friday night ministry to teenagers, offering workshops and an open mic, and reinforcing good moral behavior through acting, writing, the spoken word, dance and visual arts.

The Point is Seventh Metro's outreach on Morgan State University's campus and includes worship, fellowship and Christian instruction. Palmer also serves as the advisor to Morgan State's Baptist Student Ministry.

The Edge is a weekly Bible study and fellowship opportunity for young professionals who live in the

Greater Baltimore area. The I.C.E. team is composed of key congregational leaders who work to "improve church excellence" by regularly meeting with Palmer and evaluating church activities.

Among discipleship ministries, Palmer leads the 13-week Life Institute life application Bible study, the 13-week congregational Evangelism Institute, and the quarterly two-day Leadership Institute focusing on leadership development, ministry team formation, effective communication, and personality profile and spiritual gift assessments.

Palmer uses the term "third place," envisioning a church that people readily want to attend after caring for their families and working on their jobs.

"I believe your first place should be home. I'd be a better pastor if I'm taking care of my wife, so that's first place. Second place, by virtue of culture, we spend 40 or more hours a week at work. And so, when you realistically look at it, that has to be second place," Palmer said. "Third place for us is when I'm not at home and I'm not at work, this is where I want to be. This is where I want to hang out. This is where I want to grow and connect and move and laugh and cry."

Sudanese Christian detained again

BAPTIST PRESS

NASHVILLE, Tenn. — The Sudanese Christian woman who was freed from prison earlier this week has been detained while trying to leave Sudan with her family.

Meriam Yahia Ibrahim, 27, was confronted by a team of approximately 50 security personnel and taken into custody at the Khartoum airport Tuesday, NBC News reported. Ibrahim's lawyer, Elshareef Ali Mohammed, told NBC that Sudanese security forces did not state a reason for their actions and took Ibrahim to a detention center with her husband Daniel Wani, who is an American citizen, and two young children: Maya,

born May 27, and Martin, 20 months.

U.S. State Department spokeswoman Marie Harf said the Sudanese government told American officials that Ibrahim and her family were "temporarily detained" over issues relating to their travel documents, the Associated Press reported. The family is safe and not under arrest, and American officials are attempting to get them out of the country, Harf said.

The British Foreign Office said Sudan's National Intelligence and Security Service was responsible for the detention.

Tina Ramirez, executive director of Hardwired Inc., an organization that

works to alleviate religious oppression globally, told Baptist Press in an email that Ibrahim and her family were attempting to travel to South Sudan and then to the U.S. once paperwork was completed. Ibrahim "reportedly is only detained but may have been taken by the national security outside the airport, which raises questions about their intent," Ramirez told BP.

A member of Ibrahim's defense team told International Christian Concern there is no legal means of intervening on Ibrahim's behalf at this point, and her attorneys have been threatened with arrest. Russell D. Moore, the Southern Baptist Con-

vention's lead religious freedom advocate, said the situation is "extremely concerning."

"The persecution of this brave Christian woman has been a shocking violation of human rights," Moore, president of the Ethics & Religious Liberty Commission, said. "The church should mobilize to pray for Mariam's safety, and for any hindrances to her being allowed to leave the country to be removed."

Rep. Trent Franks, R-Ariz., co-chairman of the International Religious Freedom Caucus, said he is "appalled by the continued threats against Meriam, her husband, their two young children and her lawyers."

Worship Briefs

DURHAM
COVENANT PRESBYTERIAN
2620 E. Weaver Street
Men's Day is June 29 at 11 a.m. The Honorable James A. Joseph, former U.S. ambassador to the Republic of South Africa, is the guest speaker. The public is invited.

churches will provide music under the direction of Ramon Holloway. The public is invited.

Send your church news to: The Triangle Tribune, 115 Market Street, Suite 360H, Durham, NC 27701; e-mail info@triangletribune.com;

or fax 688-2740. Deadline: Tuesday by noon.

LAURINBURG
JOSEPH TEMPLE AME
1134 S. Caledonia Road
The church will celebrate its 113th anniversary expo July 13 at 4 p.m. The Rev. Walter Shaw (Walt Baby Love) is the guest preacher.

MT. VERNON BAPTIST
1007 S. Roxboro Street
The ACT Test Prep Closing Program is June 30, 1:30 p.m. in the church sanctuary. The Rev. Jerome Washington will speak at the ceremony.

RALEIGH
COMPASSIONATE BAPTIST
2310 Compassionate Drive
Girls' camp registration is now open. The camp runs July 28 to Aug. 1. Deadline is July 13. Volunteers are also needed. Call 828-4253.

ST. TITUS
400 Moline Street
The life and legacy of the late Rev. Pauli Murray will be celebrated July 1 at 7 p.m. The Rev. Stuart Hoke will preach. A choir composed of members from Raleigh and Durham

