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OF COUNSEL

A Magazine for Alumni and Friends

North Carolina Central University School of Law

Volume 5

Spring 2001



Inside:

- ~ The words of Governor Easley and Justice Butterfield
- ~ A tribute to Dean Daniel Sampson
- ~ A Conversation with Civil Rights Lawyer Fred David Gray
- ~ Much, much more!

NCCU Law:
A Central Force in State Government

OF COUNSEL

A MAGAZINE FOR ALUMNI and FRIENDS

NORTH CAROLINA CENTRAL UNIVERSITY
SCHOOL OF LAW
VOLUME 5 ~ SPRING 2001

Editor's Note:

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Please see the inside back cover to submit ideas for future articles or to send news or articles for inclusion in *Of Counsel*.

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On the cover: Governor Mike Easley with NCCU Law alumni who work for the Attorney General's Office and other state offices (l to r: Dahr J. Tanoury '00, Wanda G. Bryant '82, Barry S. McNeill '79, Brenda Eaddy '93, Brenda D. Gibson '95, Lillie Z. Peebles '98, Richard L. Harrison '99, Mike Easley '76, Ruffin Poole '98, LaShawn L. Strange '98, William M. Polk '99, Claude Whitener '76, Stacey A. Phipps '99, Jay J. Chaudhuri '99, Sonja M. James '99, Belinda A. Smith '95).

Photo by Robert Lawson, NCCU Photographer

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Message from the Dean

Greetings Alumni and Friends!

I am pleased to report that the year 2001 has begun on a strong and positive note here at the Law School. Many of us attended the inaugural festivities for Governor Michael Francis Easley '76, our first alumnus to serve as governor of the State of North Carolina. A month later, we witnessed another historic occasion: G.K. Butterfield '74 was sworn in as the ninety-third Associate Justice of the North Carolina Supreme Court. Justice Butterfield is our first alumnus to serve on the state supreme court and is its only African-American member. As we went to press, we learned that Wanda G. Bryant '82 was appointed to the North Carolina Court of Appeals. She is our first female alumna to serve in this capacity. We have welcomed prominent civil rights attorney Fred David Gray to campus to serve as our Charles Hamilton Houston Chair in Civil Rights and Constitutional Law. Attorney Gray is featured in this volume of *Of Counsel*. Recently, we celebrated the 20th Anniversary of the Evening Program. In conjunction with that celebration, we held two informative continuing legal education seminars. The first, "A Tax Seminar for the General Practitioner," has been held annually each February here at the Law School. The second, "Intellectual Property for the General Practitioner," was offered for the first time. Secretary of State Elaine Marshall was our luncheon speaker at that event. Professors Hyman '92, Nunnallee, Smith and Assistant Dean Meddock '91 presented at these seminars.



Mills

We continue to incorporate innovative programs into our curriculum. The Alternative Dispute Resolution Clinic is in high demand. Two teams of students from that clinic placed first and third among more than twenty-five teams in the American Bar Association Law Student Division 2000-01 Negotiation Championships. Based on these rankings, both teams will advance to represent the Law School in the national finals in San Diego, California. The Law School also recently formed a partnership with the North Carolina Small Business and Technology Development Center (SBTDC). Through an externship program, students will work with the SBTDC Small Business Legal Services Program to serve small business clients in the Research Triangle Park region and surrounding areas.

In this issue we recognize our alumni who are or were members of the judiciary. We honored these individuals at our Third Annual Alumni Reunion, which was held in November, 2000. You will note that our cover features alumni who served in the Attorney General's office and in other capacities in state government. The accomplishments of other alumni are also showcased in the pages that follow. We also pay tribute to former Dean and Professor Emeritus Daniel George Sampson, who died in August, 2000.

We look forward to visiting with you soon as we travel to various regions to augment our outreach to alumni and friends. As always, feel free to visit us at the Law School when you are in the area.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Janice L. Mills".

Dean Janice L. Mills

Governor Mike Easley '76

Inaugural Address

We honor Michael F. Easley '76, our first alumnus to serve as Governor of the State of North Carolina, by re-printing his Inaugural Address given on January 6, 2001:

Today we celebrate *one* North Carolina. *One* North Carolina where every community matters, where every family can contribute and where every individual counts. History will record that this day marks the first inauguration of the new century—and the first administration of a governor born after World War II. But history will hold its kindest words for those who have brought us so far and will record our admiration and affection for them. For just as today is notable for this new generation of leaders taking office, it must also serve as a tribute to those who are laying aside the mantle of leadership they have worn so long and so well. For a quarter century our public purse has been safeguarded by our treasurer, Harlan Boyles.

For nearly thirty years as legislator, judge and chief justice, Henry Frye has brought integrity to committee rooms and courtrooms. For thirty-six years as commissioner of agriculture, the family farmer's best friend has been Jim Graham. And history must save its fairest pages and finest prose for Jim Hunt, who served with distinction for twenty years as lieutenant governor and governor. Historians will be hard pressed to find words that convey the feelings of warmth and gratitude we hold for Jim and Carolyn Hunt. So today one administration ends and a new one begins. One century passes and a new century is born. And with humility, we accept our responsibility.

But let me assure all here today that the same values that brought us this far will continue to guide us as we go forward to face new challenges. And we will be challenged, as a new generation, to achieve as much and as well as we have received; to be aware of our inheritance and be worthy of our opportunities; and to use the talents and resources we have been given. I speak for all North Carolinians as I say this: when we are faced with responsibility, no matter how serious or difficult, we will not flinch. We will be restless—and dissatisfied with the status quo—just as those before us rejected the ease and pleasures of traveling the old, familiar path and embraced the uncertainty of change. Let us be bold as we work to improve the lot of those who follow us, and of generations yet unborn. We must remember that North Carolina is more than a collection of regions and people. We are one State, one people, one family, bound by a common concern for each other. Our economic and educational development must reflect this common spirit of purpose as we build our future. Just as we take pride in our diversity of culture, heritage and personality, let us be proud of our united commitment to this moral promise:

- ~ That every child—whether born in the mountains of the west, the beaches of the east, or the sand hills and foothills between—will have a fair opportunity to reach his or her full potential.*
- ~ That every child will have full opportunity to learn in every classroom in every community.*
- ~ That every child will have a genuine opportunity to be in the winner's circle of our New Economy.*

And let every citizen know that the doors of educational opportunity will remain open to them throughout their lives. For we here in North Carolina—not more than sixty days ago by popular referendum—reaffirmed our commitment to our outstanding public university system and to our community college system, which is already the envy of the nation, open to every family, every community, and every person of every age. It is a commitment that began over two hundred years ago with the first state-supported university in America. And now, we have established the national model for early childhood development. We are now in reach of establishing an educational system insuring:

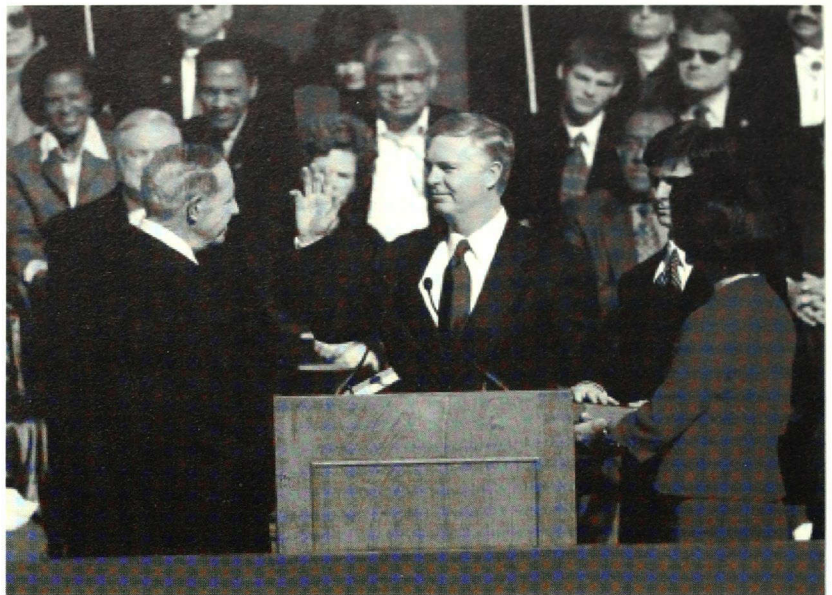
- ~ That every child enters school ready to learn;*
- ~ That every student graduates ready to work;*
- ~ And that all citizens have the opportunity to learn as much as they can for as long as they want—
from the high chair to the rocking chair.*

Certainly we still have a distance to travel on the achievement of our public schools. Our commitment started early—our Public School Law of 1839 was far-reaching in its day. But we must do more. We cannot be content to be a leader in the nation in *most* categories of education; we must be a leader in *all* categories of education. Our progress in education has been steady. But the demands of this New Economy have outpaced our efforts to keep the work force prepared—*both* here and across the nation.

Today let us recognize that the New Economy demands the Best Education. As the New Economy thrives on technology, so must the Best Education teach it. As the New Economy requires life-long learning, so must the Best Education provide it. As the New Economy requires more from workers, so must the Best Education raise the standards for students.

Over the past century, our State has prospered. But our prosperity, unfortunately, has been selective. Many communities have strong and robust economies, while others languish. North Carolina values require that we all work together to spread our success—not by taking wealth from any region, but by creating opportunity and expertise in every region until we include every family in every county in North Carolina.

For in *one* North Carolina, we are each other's individual and economic security. Neither our faith, our values, nor economic interests will allow us to stand idle in the face of poverty or diminished opportunity. Our economy and commerce require—and our compassion demands—that we improve the human condition of all citizens. That is the most basic and, at the same time, the most significant value North Carolinians share. Just as the past generation had the courage to reach across the racial divide to bring all people together for morality and progress, this generation must reach across the digital divide to join together all communities in a stronger statewide economy.



*Chief Justice Lake swearing in Governor Easley
(son Michael and wife Mary on right)*

Let it be clear that our New Economy will not replace the old. Technology will be used to enhance and revitalize not replace our agriculture or textile industry. Those enterprises and industries that served as the foundation for our past successes will not fall by the wayside due to advances in biotechnology. Rather they will form new alliances that will benefit us all. But such progress can be achieved only through a knowledge-based economy.

Thus we must be committed to the goal that the most knowledgeable population in the nation will be found within the borders of this State. This is indeed a lofty goal, but a worthy and attainable one. This is an endeavor, which continues and expands that vision we have held for over two centuries. I am aware that we face adversities. But it is the darkest hours that draw out the brightest stars. So now is the time to let our talents shine bright as we call on all citizens to do their part. It is our people, more than our institutions, that will determine our success. We must ask every student to learn more and every teacher to teach more. But we must also ask every parent to love more, every family to care more, and every community to lead more.

Let us focus high above the horizon—on those things that matter most in our lives. Let us look into the distance so as not to be distracted by that which is close and petty. Let us, as the poet Robert Frost once wrote, “Choose something like a star to stay our minds on.” Let us stay our minds on *one* North Carolina—today and tomorrow. We have all the resources to be the best: bold and aggressive leadership in both parties, wonderful people of great spirit, and a State brimming with natural beauty that we are determined to protect. We have the resources to be the best. Now let us demonstrate that we have the resolve.

Today we willingly and eagerly accept our most daunting but exhilarating challenge. We must instill in all our people such knowledge, wisdom, and optimism that the spirit within them can at last be unleashed to build a higher quality of life—a life that breaks the bonds of poverty, builds economic prosperity, and lets the human spirit soar. Others may ask who are we to dare to be the best, but we ask ourselves who are we NOT to be the best? Children across this State learn the ancient motto on our State seal: *Esse Quam Videri*—To be rather than to seem.

And now we must dare TO BE the best! Today we celebrate *not* one North Carolinian, but ONE North Carolina. Let us build our State and serve our people in that progressive spirit.

Justice G.K. Butterfield '74

Swearing In Remarks

We honor G.K. Butterfield '74, our first alumnus to serve as an Associate Justice on the Supreme Court of North Carolina, by re-printing his swearing-in remarks given on February 8, 2001:

Chief Justice Lake, to the other members of the Court, Governor Easley, Mrs. Easley, Attorney General Cooper, Former Governor Hunt, to the distinguished members of the General Assembly, Council of State, Cabinet, Judges and Friends.

It is a high honor for me to accept this responsibility as Associate Justice for the Supreme Court of North Carolina. I thank Governor Mike Easley for his confidence and his willingness to give me this great privilege.

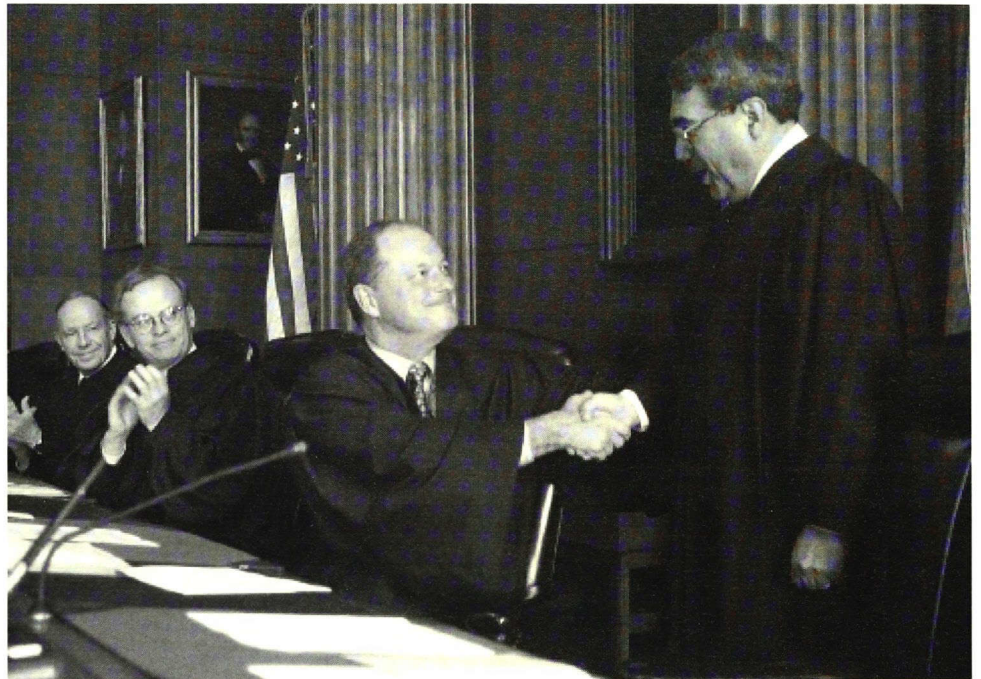
I want to thank my family, especially my two daughters, for standing with me today and helping their dad. They stood with me in 1989 when they were little girls and held the Bible and now they are grown women. I thank my other family for being here, I thank my Wilson family, my court family, my Church family, my North Carolina Central University family, and I especially thank all of you.

Some doubted that we could arrange a ceremony in three days but I told the Chief Justice and the Governor that I have traveled this state for thirty years and I know the people and they will be here. Just give them the time and place, and they will respond. Thank you for coming.

During his Inaugural Address, Governor Easley spoke of the need to be "One North Carolina." I had the experience of growing up during a time in our history when we were not One North Carolina. I know the damage that is inflicted upon a state when a single citizen is denied a fundamental right.

I have been asked time and again my judicial philosophy and I am prepared to briefly share it with you.

I have a passion for justice. I fully understand the judicial system of this great state and what it means in the lives of ordinary citizens. I have served on the Superior Bench for twelve years - over five hundred sessions of Superior Court in forty-six counties of our state. I have interacted with thousands of jurors



Chief Justice Lake and Justices Orr and Wainwright welcome Justice Butterfield to the Court

and court officials, victims and families of victims, and I know what our citizens expect of their judges.

Our citizens expect an independent judiciary. A crucial element of a democratic society is judicial independence. The public demands that all citizens have full access to the courts and that justice be administered fairly and swiftly, without favor, reward, or hope of reward, regardless of the person's station in life.

Our citizens want us to become more efficient in our work. The General Court of Justice has been valiant in withstanding the challenges we have confronted in the past ten years. I thank Chief Justice Lake, and Chief Justices Frye, Mitchell, and Exum for their advocacy on behalf of our judicial system. Those who serve at the local level appreciate your leadership.

Finally, I say to you that I am a spiritual person with a great heritage. I am the great-grandson of a slave who worked the fields of Edgecombe County, the grandson of a powerful Baptist minister who served the people of Wilson County, and the son of two wonderful parents who labored so hard and dreamed big dreams for their boy.

I accept this responsibility with great humility. I pledge to my fellow justices and to the people of North Carolina that I will work very hard to fairly interpret the rule of law and to do the work that the law requires of all of us.

Thank you for this privilege.

Eleanor Kinnaird '92

A Life of Public Service

by Natalie C. Watson, 3L at the Law School

Although the 2000 presidential election will go down in history as the nation's most exciting on one hand, and unbearably drawn out on the other, law school alumni enjoyed great successes at the polls on November 7, 2000.

No, I am not talking about Michael Easley, North Carolina's governor and a proud alumnus of the school of law. A little lesser known alum, but of equal importance, is Senator Eleanor Kinnaird. A 1992 graduate of the law school, Senator Kinnaird has represented the 16th District in the North Carolina General Assembly since 1997. The 16th district represents Chatham, Lee, Moore, Orange and Randolph counties.

In keeping with the mission of the law school to train students to represent the underserved of society, Senator Kinnaird has dedicated her life to serving the public. As a legislator she chairs the State and Local Government Committee, and sits on five other committees in the Senate. She also serves on four commissions, including the Joint Legislative Correction and Crime Control Commission and the Governors Advocacy Council for Youth and Children.

In addition to her service in the legislature, she currently is a staff attorney for North Carolina Prisoner Legal Services. Serving in this capacity, she specializes in family law for prisoners in addition to tort and civil rights claims. Senator Kinnaird also served as the Mayor of Carrboro from 1987-1995.

With law firms now offering in the upwards of triple digit salaries to graduating students, their first year out of law school, what advice would Senator Kinnaird offer to students considering the public interest law sector, but apprehensive about the pay?

In a recent interview, Senator Kinnaird urged students to remember what serving the public is all about. "The satisfaction of helping others is far greater than money. If you are comfortable, one doesn't need more than the realization that serving others is a life worth living." Senator Kinnaird also commented that her concern for social justice and the environment was what brought her to the legislature. "A legislator makes public policy based on the work of advocates.

I am privileged to be able to serve our citizens. ...I was asked to carry my philosophy that I worked on as Mayor of Carrboro to the Legislature, particularly my concern for social justice and the environment." Senator Kinnaird holds a B.A. degree from Carleton College and a M.M. from UNC at Chapel Hill. Before joining North Carolina Prisoner Legal Services, Senator Kinnaird served as a partner in the law firm of Kinnaird and Newman.

In 1997, Senator Kinnaird received the *Clifton E. Johnson Award* at the annual law week banquet. The *Clifton E. Johnson Award* is given to a graduate who has used his or her legal training to make a difference and to protect the rights assured to all persons by the state and federal constitutions.



Kinnaird

In a column entitled "Morality and Politics" in the *Daily Tar Heel* newspaper, Senator Kinnaird

discussed her role as advocate and politician. "On a personal level, I have taken strong stands on environmental and social justice issues. Most are easy to support and advocate. But sometimes compromising on less important issues is easier than taking a stand, although the little nick on the soul is still there. And sometimes the futility of tilting against windmills thus developing a credibility deficit risks losing votes for important bills when you need another's help."

She explained further, "When I attended the protest of an execution, I even hoped I could avoid the news media because I knew that would cost me votes in many of the counties that I represent." Although the roles of advocate and politician are obviously difficult to balance, Senator Kinnaird is a shining example of how to attain this balance. She serves as an inspiration to all students, but especially those of us interested in the growing field of public interest. In a world where money and material objects rule, it is refreshing to hear of an attorney who is just happy helping others, serving the public and advancing social reform.

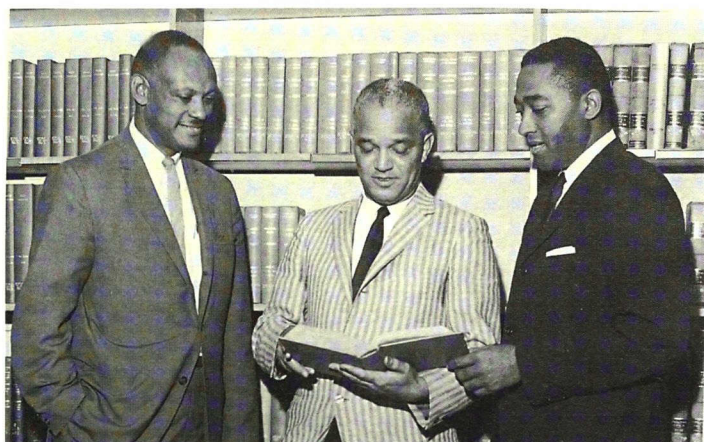
We will continue to nurture the seeds of public service that have been sown already in so many of our students, and provoke them to make the world a better place. Most important, however, we will continue to prepare lawyers to navigate confidently through our legal system, to promote fairness and justice, to serve their clients and communities well, and to foster change when legal systems and processes interfere with the search for the truth. We will, because we must. Too much is hanging in the balance.

This quote was taken from the *So Far* magazine, which was published in March, 2000 as part of the Law School's 60th Anniversary Celebration. This quote exemplifies the impact that alumni such as Senator Kinnaird have on the rich history and success of the North Carolina Central University School of Law.

Daniel G. Sampson

Scholar, Professor and Dean

by Brenda D. Gibson '95



Dean Sampson, center, shown with Brown M. Payne (left) and Henry E. Frye (right), new professors at the Law School in 1965

On August 19, 2000, one of this institution's greatest champions passed away to a well-deserved rest. Dean Daniel George Sampson was born to Daniel Gatewood Sampson and Hattie Jefferson Sampson on April 17, 1918 in Sumter, South Carolina. It was from his parents that Dean Sampson learned the value of education and service to others. Educated in the public school system of Sumter, Dean Sampson graduated second in his high school class, before going on to Morehouse College in Atlanta, Georgia. Dean Sampson graduated cum laude with a Bachelor of Science Degree in Economic in 1939, and subsequently earned a Master's degree in Economics from Atlanta University in 1941. Thereafter, Dean Sampson served his country in the United States Army during World War II, attaining the rank of Staff Sergeant. After the war, Dean Sampson attended Boston University School of Law, receiving the Bachelor of Laws degree in 1948 and the Master of Laws degree in 1950.

Dean Sampson met his life's mate, the late Claretta Jeanette Scott, while at Morehouse. She was a student at Spelman College, Morehouse College's sister institute. They were married on July 7 1943 in Seneca, South Carolina. Of this union, four children-- Claretta Jane, Thomas Gatewood, Gretchen Danise, and George Scott-- were born.

The Sampsons moved to Durham, North Carolina in 1950, where Dean Sampson began an illustrious career, spanning more than four decades, at the School of Law. Dean Sampson served as professor of law, Dean, and Legal Assistant to the Chancellor during his celebrated tenure. Perhaps he is most remembered for saving the Law

School from being closed by the State of North Carolina during his tenure as Dean. After receiving word of the State's intention, Dean Sampson composed a body of research known as "The Sampson Report," which documented the detrimental effect that closing the Law School would have on the black community. After a long and hard-fought battle, the efforts of Dean Sampson and others paid dividends and the Law School survived. Many do not know that Dean Sampson was also responsible for integrating the Law School student body--admitting Caucasian and Native American students. Finally, the Law Review, the Barrister's Club, the Legal Fraternity, and the first CLEO program in the state were established during Dean Sampson's administration.

Although Dean Sampson formally retired from the law school in 1984, he maintained a special relationship with the Law School by serving in the capacity of adjunct professor until the mid-nineties. In that capacity, Dean Sampson taught Debtor/Creditor and Advanced Torts. When Dean Sampson finally retired, it was believed he had the distinction of having taught more African-American lawyers than any other professor of law in the eastern United States. Based upon his outstanding service, Dean Sampson was designated a Professor Emeritus by the University.

I met Dean Daniel George Sampson in 1993, prior to his retirement and after age had humbled his frame, but not his proud spirit and sharp mind. I saw him first seated in the lobby of the North Carolina Central University School of Law, after his Advanced Torts Class. Immediately, I was struck by the quiet dignity of the man. It was not long before I saw other students pass by and greet him or hold him in conversation. Sadly, I had made a decision not to take Dean Sampson's early

morning Advanced Tort Class, but must confess that I regretted that decision many a day, especially when I found out that we both began life in Sumter, South Carolina. So often I would hear my classmates speak about Dean Sampson's sharp mind, and his keen understanding of the law. In addition, like those more memorable instructors of law and life, his students always talked about how much he genuinely cared about the students of

the Law School.

The reflections of Ms. Anne Duncan during an earlier tribute to Dean Sampson bears out this impression. She stated, "[Dean Sampson's] understanding of students' problems

After receiving word of the State's intention, Dean Sampson composed a body of research known as "The Sampson Report," which documented the detrimental effect that closing the Law School would have on the black community.

forge[d] a strong link which is inseverable. Students [were] never made to feel uncomfortable in his presence. His concerned awareness of their needs contribute[d] immeasurably to the rapport he enjoy[ed] with them.”

Professor Thomas M. Ringer sat down to share a few lasting impressions of Dean Sampson. First, Professor Ringer lauded Dean Sampson as a person of great compassion, particularly in regard to his students at the Law School. Oftentimes, Ringer noted, Dean Sampson would tell stories, going back for years, about students he had taught, and what they had done after leaving law school. Dean Sampson was extremely proud of his former students and the Law School. Dean Sampson is remembered by Professor Ringer as an advocate for the students. In numerous faculty meetings, Professor Ringer remembered that Dean Sampson was always guided by the best interests of the students of the Law School. He would often ask, “If it is not in the interests of the students, why are we doing it?”

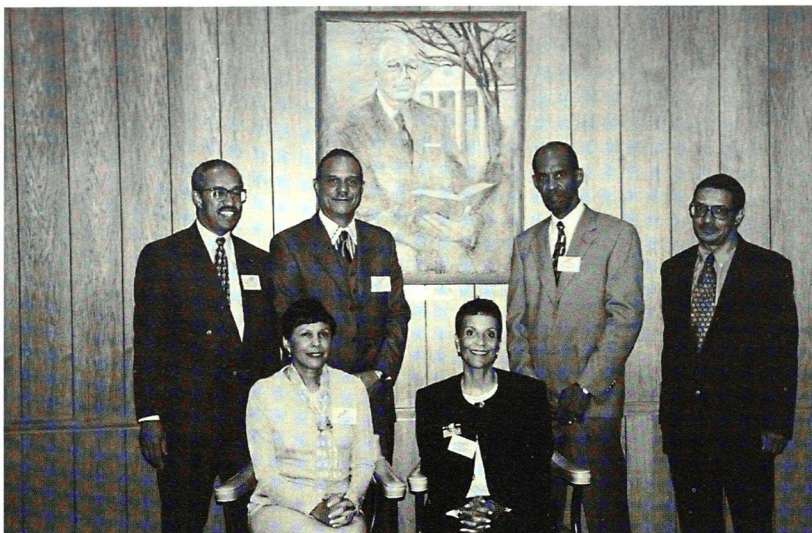
Professor Ringer also noted that Dean Sampson was “an extremely brilliant legal scholar,” affectionately known as “Mr. Torts” because of his expertise in that area of law. Significantly however, Dean Sampson once shared with Professor Ringer that he had taught virtually every course that had been offered at the Law School--with the exception of taxation. Professor Ringer praised Dean Sampson for his “wealth of knowledge” and his willingness to share that knowledge with those just starting their career in the teaching profession, without making them feel embarrassed or self-conscious. Professor Ringer, who has often been hailed himself as the guru of Civil Procedure and Evidence, stated that “even though Dean Sampson had not taught in those areas for several years, he was always very knowledgeable and ready with hypotheticals in that regard.”

Finally, Professor Ringer remembered Dean Sampson, the “strong, family man.” Ringer recounted the manner in which Dean Sampson met his late wife, Claretta. It seems that Dean Sampson’s roommate at Morehouse, who was on the tennis team, had been dating Claretta. However, the tennis team was away for a week or two, playing in some tournaments, and he taught at NCCU for a number of years, and since their home

was only a block away from the campus, their family life revolved around the activities of the University. As an asked Dean Sampson to keep an eye on his girlfriend. Dean

Sampson did such a good job keeping an eye on her, that he married her! Professor Ringer noted that Mrs. Sampson illustration of his strength as a family man, Professor Ringer points to the successes of Dean Sampson and his wife in raising three attorneys and one medical doctor.

The following quote is found in Dean Sampson’s obituary. They are the words of his mentor and friend, Dr. Benjamin E. Mays, President Emeritus, Morehouse College:



Sampson relatives with a portrait of Dean Sampson at the Law School (seated l to r: daughter in law Jacqueline S. Sampson, daughter Claretta J. Varner standing l to r: nephew Edwin M Barrett, son Thomas G. Sampson, Sr., son-in-law Lee Varner and nephew Terry W. Barrett)

It must be borne in mind that the tragedy in life doesn't lie in not reaching your goal. The tragedy lies in having no goal to reach. It isn't a calamity to die with dreams unfulfilled, but it is a calamity not to dream. It is not a disaster to be unable to capture your ideal, but it is a disaster to have no ideal to capture. It is not a disgrace not to reach the stars, but it is a disgrace to have no stars to reach for. Not failure, but low aim is sin.

To anyone who ever met Dean Daniel George Sampson, it is readily apparent that he did not fall prey to the tragedy of having no goal, the calamity of having no dream, the disaster of having no ideal, the disgrace of not having reached for the stars, or the sin of low aim. As the School of Law enters this millennium, celebrating our history, let these words inspire us to aim high, and remember this quintessential man--professor, scholar, and dean.

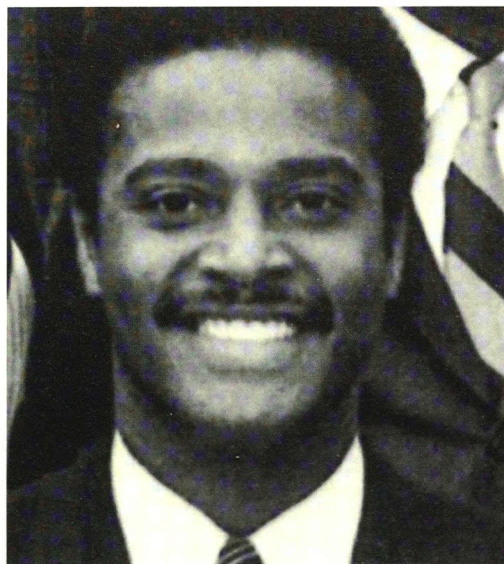
Brenda D. Gibson '95 is a staff attorney at the North Carolina Court of Appeals.

Honor the memory of Dean Sampson by making a contribution to the Daniel Sampson Scholarship Fund. Contact T.V. Green in the Development Office (919-530-7450 or tgreen@wpo.nccu.edu) for more information.

Milton Moore '70

His Nest of Eagles

by Miltonia Moore, 3L at the Law School



Moore while in Law School

His class picture hangs in the hall in front of the Dean's Office at the NCCU School of Law. Each day that I attend class, I can't help but stop and stare proudly at the picture of my Dad.

His name is Milton Earl Moore. A native of Robersonville, North Carolina, he is the son of the late Elsie E. Moore and was the first in his family to attend college. After graduating from East End High School in Robersonville, my Dad attended North Carolina College from 1960 through 1964. He was drafted into the U.S. Army in 1965 and served our country until 1967. In 1967, he returned to NCCU to attend Law School and it is there where he met my mother, Regina Gardner, who was a freshman in undergraduate school. After their marriage in 1969, they both would graduate from the NCCU School of Law, Dad in 1970 and Mom in 1972. As practicing attorneys in Williamston, they became the first black husband and wife couple to set up a law practice in Eastern North Carolina.

While attending North Carolina College, my father was influenced by history professors - Colbert A. Jones, Helen Edmonds, and Early Thorpe. Even though he was initially encouraged to pursue advanced degrees in history, their influence ultimately guided him into the field of law. After graduating from the Law School, Dad practiced alongside his mentor, "Buddy" Malone, an outstanding criminal attorney, in the firm of Person, Malone, Johnson, and DeJarmon in Durham, North Carolina.

Like many proud Eagles, Dad joined the Alumni Association and has been a longtime supporter of Central. He believes he has given Central something special and precious - his family. On many occasions I heard my Dad say,

"It was my children's destiny to go to Central just like it was my wife's and mine. I knew my children were going to NCCU from the day they were born. I told them that they could go anywhere they wanted to go, but my money was going to NCCU and if they went elsewhere, they'd have to pay. So far all of my kids have pursued a degree at NCCU. So, I think I got through to them."

Dad's nest of eagles consists of four children. My oldest sister, Kimberly Moore, completed her undergraduate study at NCCU and was the first to follow in my parents' footsteps to become a Legal Eagle in 1994. My brother, Milton Moore Jr., and I both completed our undergraduate degrees at NCCU and are currently attending the NCCU School of Law. Gina Moore will be receiving an undergraduate degree in Biology in 2001. Gina's daughter, Jaime, is my parents' only grandchild. Even at the age of three, you can probably guess what her future plans will be. She wants to be an Eagle like her *Pa-pa*.

"This is exactly how I envisioned my family. I wanted to create an empire of lawyers, and that is becoming a reality!"

My mother also shares my father's vision: "I encouraged my children to attend NCCU and to aspire for and achieve an education. This school is responsible for me being in one of the highest professions in this land. I knew my children would get as good an education at NCCU as they would anywhere else. I particularly wanted them to go to an HBCU to see a difference. I enjoyed everything from going to Central's football games, to seeing my kids in the band, singing in the choir and running on the track team. They could not be expressive like that in their high school band and chorus. NCCU allowed them to express themselves and appreciate their heritage. Each child was encouraged to participate and use his or her talents to benefit the school and it is my belief that there is a duty to give back to the school that has done so much for this family."

Dad and Mom have been "Central Gurus" from day one. At an early age, we were encouraged to go to Central's games, visit the campus and meet with faculty members. We were

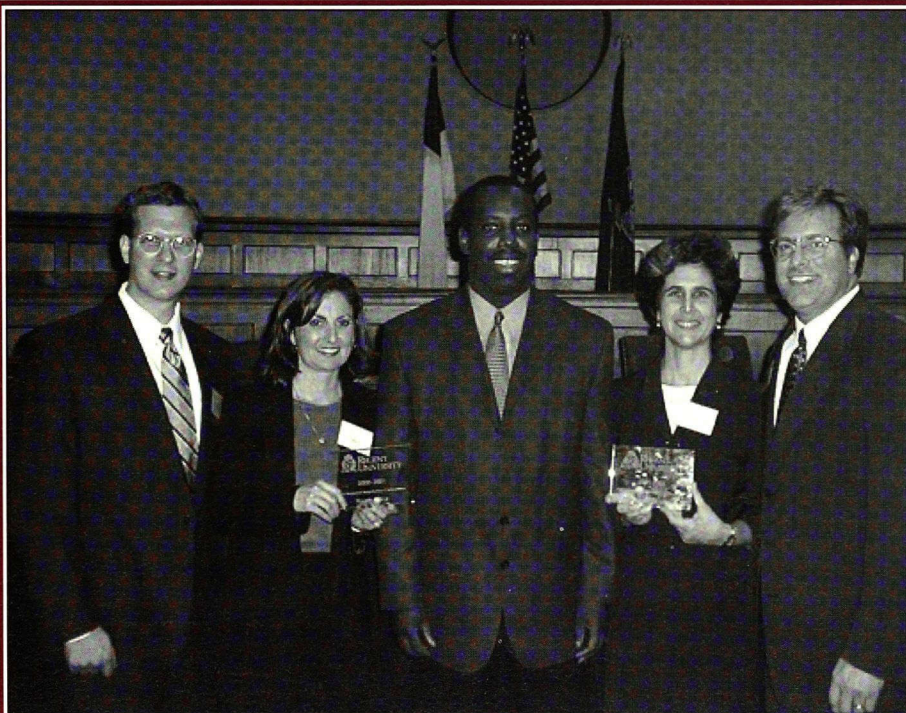
even told that we had “Eagle blood” in our veins. But my parents’ Eagle Pride goes beyond our family. They have NCCU brochures and admissions packets in their office to give to their young clients and the general public. They have even loaded up their cars and taken prospective students to the NCCU campus. Their influence has reached numerous children in our community. They were instrumental in starting a scholarship program in Eastern North Carolina for the study of law at NCCU. They both participate in the local high school mentoring program. Dad is currently serving as a member of the NCCU School of Law Capital Campaign which is raising \$6 million to enhance scholarship aid and educational programs, and to make needed renovations and repairs to the law building.

Dad is extremely proud of his nest of eagles. Kimberly was the first black Assistant District Attorney in the Second Judicial District. After working at my parents’ law firm, she became a Federal Prosecutor in Raleigh, North Carolina. Gina, currently working on her undergraduate degree, is considering law school (my parents could not be happier). Milton Jr. is currently a first-year student and I am completing my final year at the Law School.

“I challenge other Eagles to do the same thing I’m doing. If you and your wife went to Central, send your kids there too. If Central has gotten you where you are today, then give back to the school. Let it be your children’s school and their children’s school. I think this is what Dr. James Shepard would have wanted.”



Moore’s class picture while in Law School



l to r: Sherrill, Arnold, Green Dunathan and Snell

Negotiations Champs!

A team from the North Carolina Central University School of Law placed first in the American Bar Association Law Student Division 2000-01 Negotiation Championships in Virginia Beach, VA held in November 2000.

Tom Snell, a second-year evening student from Sanford, and Susan Dunathan, a fourth-year evening student from Rolesville, emerged as the best team after three rounds of competition.

A second team from NCCU, which included third-year day program students Lisa Arnold from Cary and David Sherrill from Kannapoli, MD, finished third. No other school had two teams place so high in the competition.

Central’s team is coached by professor Mark Morris ‘82 with assistance from professor David Green.

Robert C. Vowels, Jr. '88

"Playing for Keeps"

by Lydia E. Lavelle '93

Robert C. Vowels, Jr. '88 is perhaps North Carolina Central University Law School's best kept secret. This graduate of the Law School, at age forty-one, has made a name for himself nationally in the field of intercollegiate athletic administration. He most recently was hired as Commissioner of the Southern Intercollegiate Athletic Conference (SIAC), headquartered in Atlanta, Georgia. With this latest career choice, Vowels has returned to his roots.

Born in Washington, D.C., Vowels completed high school in Atlanta. Each of Vowels' parents are college graduates, and each worked at HBCUs, his father having served for some time as dean of the Atlanta (University) School of Business; he recently retired from Tennessee State University, where he was an economics professor.

Upon graduation from high school, Vowels received a full athletic scholarship in the sport of football from Duke University, where he lettered three years as an outside linebacker on the Blue Devils football team. When asked if he had aspirations to play pro football, Vowels responds, "When a person is 18-19 years old, I, like many kids, aspired to play in the NFL, but you need to develop other options because only a select few make it to the next level." The other option Vowels developed was the attainment of a law degree from NCCU.

Vowels says that he went to law school because he believed a law degree was respected and the profession was versatile enough that he could pursue many opportunities inside and outside of the legal field. Vowels appreciates his legal education more "as the years pass on in time." Vowels comments that he has very good memories about NCCU, and "like most law students, I had hurdles and challenges to address on a daily basis." A few Law School faculty he remembers are Dean Louis Westerfield (now deceased), and Professors Irving Joyner, Janice Mills (currently Dean), Mark Morris, Allyson Duncan, Monica Kalo, Charles Smith and Thomas Ringer.

After graduation, Vowels entered into the field of intercollegiate athletic administration by chance in 1989. He was working in the legal department for the Department of Mental Health and Mental Retardation in Nashville, Tennessee



Vowels

when he wrote the Director of Athletics at Vanderbilt University to inquire about opportunities. The inquiry turned into an interview and Vowels was hired as the first full-time compliance coordinator.

He worked in Vanderbilt's athletic department from 1989-1994. As part of his duties, Vowels oversaw and was responsible for educating coaches, student-athletes, employees, fans and alumni about the Southeastern Conference (SEC) and NCAA bylaws, policies and regulations. He notes that "Vanderbilt University was a good experience because I had an opportunity to enter into a profession where there was a need for minority administrators. There still is a need for minority administrators in intercollegiate athletics."

Vowels left Vanderbilt in 1994 to go to the Big Ten Conference as an Assistant Commissioner and was promoted to Associate Commissioner in 1997. He had a diverse set of responsibilities at the Big Ten. His responsibilities grew and evolved during his tenure from 1994-2000, and included marketing and promotions, compliance and enforcement, licensing and merchandising, trademark issues, drug education and life skills, game/event management, and issues involving sports medicine.

The current member institutions of the Big Ten are Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Michigan, Michigan State, Minnesota, Northwestern, Ohio State, Penn State, Purdue, and Wisconsin. Today, the Big Ten sponsors twenty-five championships, twelve for men and thirteen for women.

Of his time with the Big Ten, Vowels recalls that he "enjoyed the opportunity to develop a set of skills and really learn the intercollegiate athletics business. I do not have an area of responsibilities that I did not enjoy because it was a learning process that prepared me for the next challenge. I miss the co-workers in the office and friendships I developed at the institutions."

In July of 2000, Vowels was hired as Commissioner of the SIAC. One key that lured him to the SIAC was the challenge and opportunity to provide new direction.

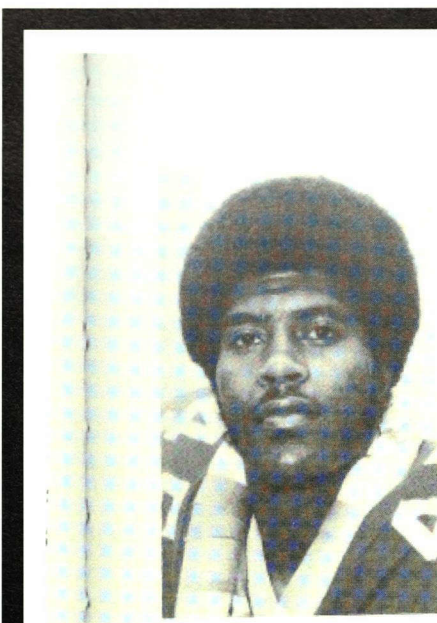
"The leadership role was key," he said.

"During my conversations with the presidents, they talked about bringing a new perspective, fresh ideas. I think I can do that. (Former commissioner) Wallace Jackson did an outstanding job and I don't want to take away from that. I hope I can add to what he's done and bring some new ideas."

The SIAC was founded in 1913, when representatives of various institutions gathered at Morehouse College to consider the regulation of intercollegiate athletics among the Black colleges in the southeast. The current membership of the SIAC is composed of twelve member institutions located in four different states (Alabama, Georgia, Tennessee and Kentucky). The members are Albany State College, Clark Atlanta University, Fort Valley State College, Kentucky State University, Lane College, LeMoyne Owen College, Miles College, Morehouse College, Morris Brown College, Paine College, Savannah State College and Tuskegee University.

The SIAC is a member of the National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA) and participates at the Division II level. The conference sponsors six men's championships (cross country, football, basketball, tennis, track & field and baseball) and five women's championships (cross country, volleyball, basketball, tennis and track & field). The transition of working for the Big Ten to working for the SIAC, Vowels remarks, "has been challenging and worthwhile. The visibility and size of the Conferences are different but I knew that before I accepted the appointment. Working with HBCUs and our ten member institutions is rewarding because I believe we have a chance to improve how we conduct business and approach intercollegiate athletics. We are in the process of developing several models that will set the stage for the Conference to remain a viable entity in the 21st Century."

He further states, "The biggest challenge for the SIAC is developing a consistent stream of revenue so that the Conference office can provide good services to the member institutions and provide student-athletes with a good experience. Improving the image and perception of the Conference is important because the SIAC is eighty-seven years old and has a tremendous legacy and rich tradition."



45 Robert Vowels DE

6'1" ... 195 ... JV ... Jr. ... Atlanta, Ga. ... Political Science ... played junior varsity football last season but will be given a chance on the varsity this year ... lined up as second team defensive end following spring practice ... captained the football team his senior year at North Fulton HS ... was named all-Metro and all-City ... father Robert is Dean of Atlanta University School of Business.

Vowels during his football-playing days at Duke

Finally, building a brand and heightening awareness are key components to making the SIAC attractive to potential corporate partners."

When asked what advice Vowels would give to a current NCCU law student who wants to eventually land a position similar to his, Vowels says, "Get some experience during the summer with a sports organization. Volunteer time with an athletic department or conference office. Read the NCAA News on a regular basis to understand the issues and keep up with employment opportunities. Go to the Internet and look at various athletic sites (conferences and athletic departments). I would talk with as many people as possible to determine what opportunities are available."

Vowels has been married for eleven years to Cheryl L. Vowels. She is a graduate of Spelman College and has an M.B.A. from Vanderbilt University. She is currently a Senior Vice President for Business Development at Nortel Networks. They have one child, Robert III, born in early 1999.

As he reflects on the new professional challenge in his life, Vowels muses, "It is important to continue to support NCCU School of Law after graduation. Students should not take the challenges of law school personally because it really does prepare you for life after NCCU. The challenges after law school are much greater and you play for keeps." Spoken like a true athletic administrator!

Lydia E. Lavelle '93 is Assistant Dean of Students and Alumni Relations at the NCCU School of Law.

Gus Gusler '84

*Little Rascals, Hootie & the Blowfish, and Handcuffed in Court:
One Lawyer's Fascinating Journey in the Law*

by Adrienne L. Meddock '91

Indulge me a moment. When I was a new wave fanatic in the early eighties, Gus Gusler '84 was probably most responsible for my college days being happy ones, but I didn't know it then. Let me explain.

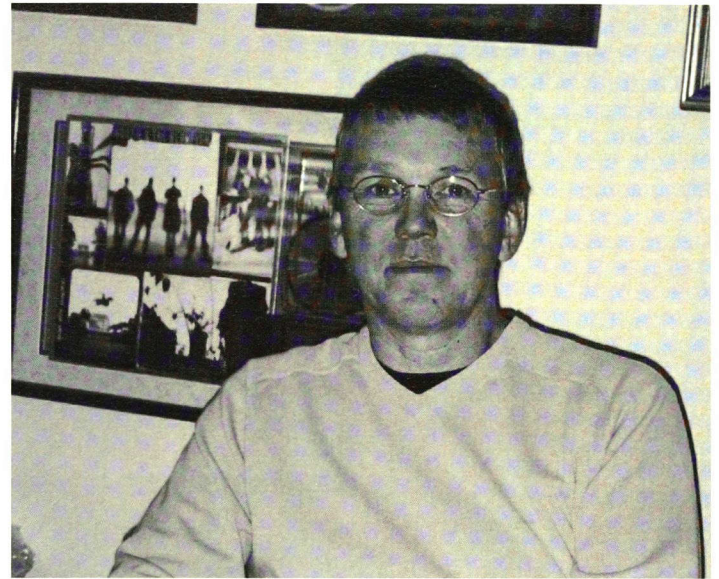
During those days, the best band in my college town, Chapel Hill, was the Pressure Boys, a six-piece ska band filled with Chapel Hill High students, and the very best shows were those sponsored by ProMotion Concerts. Turns out that Richard Noel "Gus" Gusler was the driving force behind each.

But while I was blissfully pogo dancing to the music, Gus was busy with an important dance of his own; in addition to running his successful band management and concert promotion businesses, he was earning a law degree part-time as a member of the first ever Evening Program class at Central. The quick-step needed to balance business, school, and other commitments has been the one dance that all successful Evening Program students have had to learn.

Gus had been a Political Science student at N.C. State in the late sixties, and had served as Student Body President in 1971-72. He went on to earn his Masters in Public Administration and was thinking about his next step. He was in the beginning weeks of class for a Ph.D. in Sociology, when he learned of the inauguration of a part-time Evening Law Program at N.C. Central. He left Sociology classes immediately, entering N.C. Central University School of Law's evening class in 1981. Gusler thought he'd give the program a year, then, if he really liked law school, he'd transfer to another full-time law school, since there were several which had committed to admitting him the following year, to complete his degree. But when he got to classes at NCCU, he knew that he was in the right place. He completed the Evening Program and graduated with the first class in the spring of 1984.

After school, he joined Joe Cheshire's law firm and worked in criminal defense. He was integral in the trial preparation for the infamous Little Rascals Day Care case, working especially closely with defendant Betsy Kelly, and became friendly with her whole family. "Betsy's dad built my house when I lived in Edenton," he told me recently.

But the call of his earlier work with bands became louder, and Gus went out to start his own practice. He continued to work with regional bands like the Pressure Boys (which, incidentally, featured another NCCU law alumnus, Greg Stafford '95, saxophonist), until he got the call from a



Gusler in his Raleigh office

management friend to come see a band. As a favor to his old friend, Gus agreed. Still, he made it clear that he was not expecting much. After all, Gus had been intimately involved with hundreds of bands for over a decade and one more bar band was unlikely to wow him.

But wow! The audience sang along with all the group's songs, which they had learned without the benefit of a record being released, but by simply seeing the band play live again and again. The lead singer's voice was unique and the band's sound was powerful. That was 1990 and Gus Gusler had just seen Hootie and the Blowfish.

The group began its collaboration with Gusler that night. He helped their manager shop their tape and assisting in obtaining a major label recording deal for them. That was twenty-five million albums ago, and the rest, well, you know the rest of the story. Massive radio and MTV play, Top Forty hits, gold albums, awards.

There have been other success stories too, notably his client Adina Howard, who sold a million and one-half copies of her 2000 hit "Freak Like Me," and the Chapel Hill group, Squirrel Nut Zippers, who have achieved international notoriety. He has also expanded his practice into films, where he has worked on music supervision for movie soundtracks. But it is his relationship with Hootie and the Blowfish for which Gus is best known. The group released a new album last year and Darius Rucker, the singer that so impressed Gusler years ago, has asked Gus to represent him on his solo album.

While Gus has been singularly successful as an entertainment lawyer, it is his criminal defense work that he considers to be the highest and most important work that a lawyer could do. Speaking at Law Week 2000 as the guest of the Sports and Entertainment Law Society of the Law School, he admonished students interested in entertainment law to begin their practices in other areas, like criminal defense, and not to be taken in by the “glamorous” aspects of entertainment law. “I’ve spoken at thirty-five or so law schools since I began representing Hootie and the Blowfish, but no one asked me to speak when I was working on the Little Rascals case. What I do now is nowhere nearly as important as that work.”

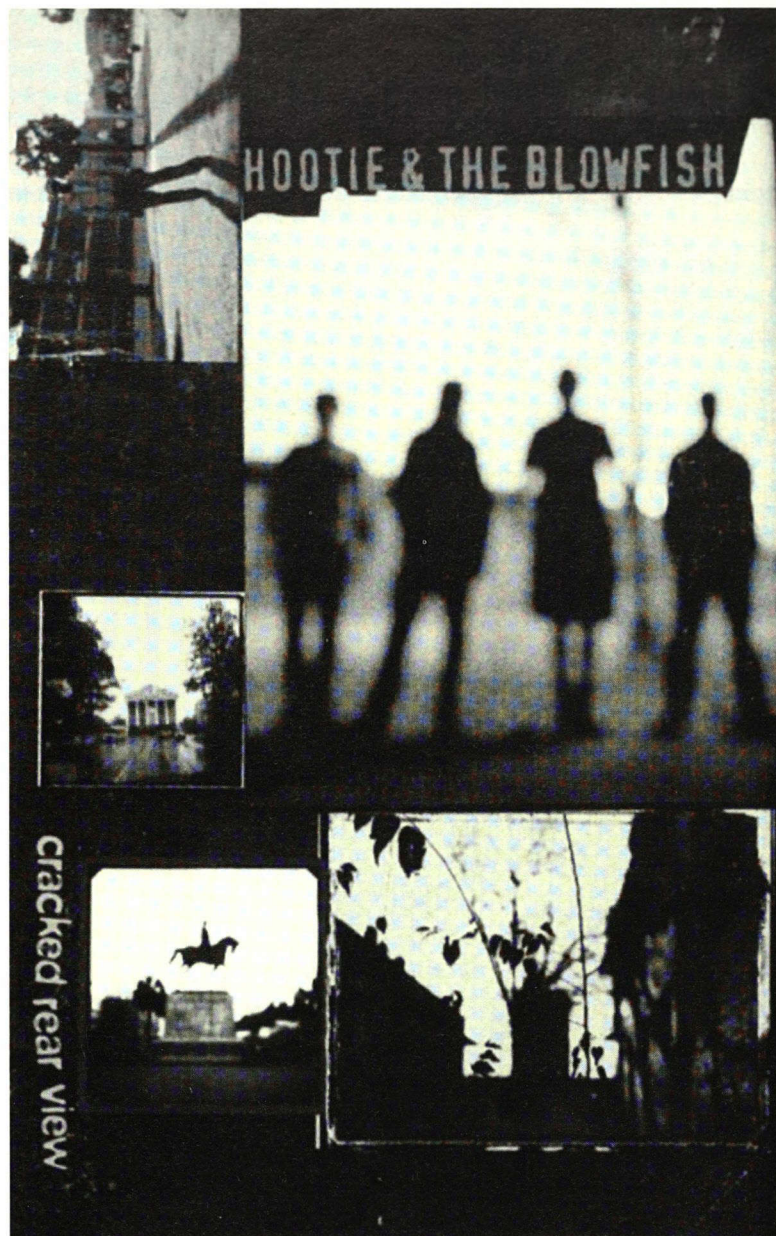
He exemplified the very best that criminal attorneys can offer in the 1991 case *In re Bullock*, 328 N.C. 712, 403 S.E.2d 264 (1991). This case is used by Adjunct Professor and N.C. State Bar Deputy Counsel A. Root Edmonson ‘76 as an example for his students in the Evening Program’s Professional Responsibility class.

According to Edmonson, “I definitely use the Gusler/Bullock story to illustrate the difficulty a lawyer faces when it becomes necessary for the lawyer to seek to withdraw, but revealing the true reason for withdrawing would be harmful to the client.”

Edmonson explains. “Gusler’s client wanted to get in the first offender’s program. That required the client to admit his guilt. Gusler’s client insisted he was not guilty. Gusler didn’t want to participate in his client’s lying about his guilt. Bullock allowed Gusler to withdraw, then asked Gusler if his client qualified for the first offender’s program. Gusler refused to answer. Bullock eventually had Gusler handcuffed to a chair since the courtroom didn’t have a lock-up. Bullock also threatened Gusler with never allowing his clients to plead to lesser charges if Gusler wouldn’t answer his question. Gusler did the right thing even at great personal expense.”

Gus also made the news not as an attorney, but as a plaintiff. In the early nineties, he put together a proposal for a massive outdoor music venue in rural Wake County. But when the final deal was drawn up, it conveniently excluded Gusler, the original proponent of the project. With the assistance of his attorney - (now U.S. Senator) John Edwards – Gusler received a substantial judgment for the lapse in business practices. That venue is now known as Walnut Creek Amphitheater.

It has been twenty years since those early eighties concerts, and Gus’s career has taken some interesting and unpredictable turns along the way. Whether representing musical superstars or criminal defendants, the North Carolina



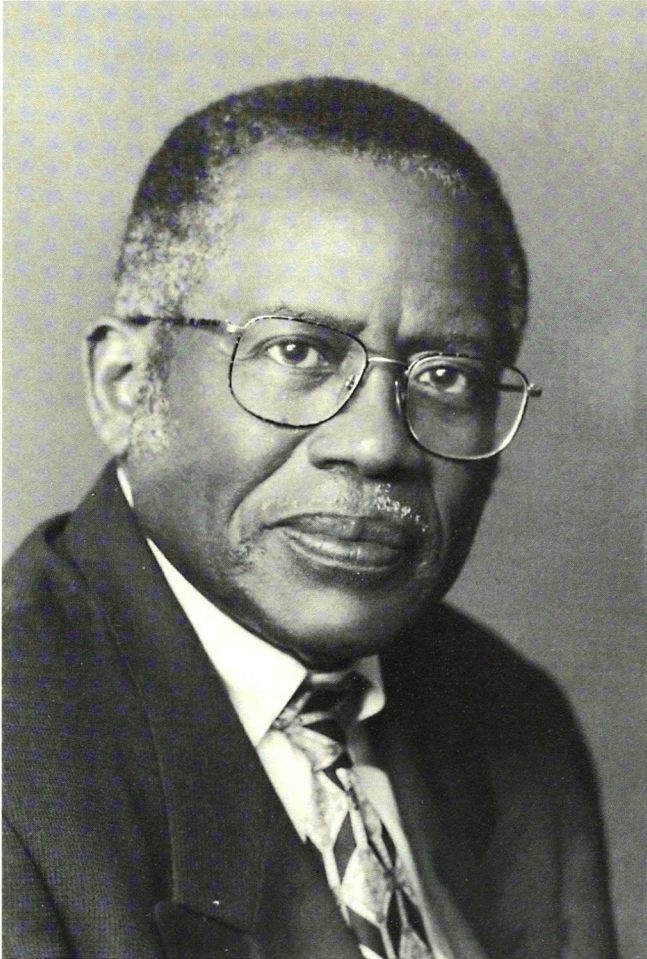
The cover of Hootie and the Blowfish’s smash, “Cracked Rear View Mirror”

[It is his criminal defense work that he considers to be the highest and most important work that a lawyer could do.]

Central University family is proud to call Gus Gusler one of our own.

Richard “Gus” Gusler ‘84 can be contacted through his website, www.gusler.com.

Adrienne L. Meddock ‘91 is the Assistant Dean for the Evening Program at the NCCU School of Law and teaches Environmental and Intellectual Property Law.



Gray

The legal career of Fred David Gray, a native of Montgomery Alabama and a noted civil rights attorney, spans a time period of over forty-five years. Enthusiastic, energetic and out of law school less than a year, Gray began a dynamic civil rights career when in 1955 he represented Ms. Rosa Parks who had been arrested because she refused to give up her seat on a bus to a white man. This act of defiance ignited the Montgomery Bus Boycott and acted as a catalyst to Gray's distinguished legal career. Mr. Gray went on to become Dr. Martin Luther King's first civil rights attorney and to represent others in pivotal civil rights litigation.

The list of the civil rights cases that Gray won can be found in most constitutional law textbooks. They include the following: *Browder v. Gayle*; *Gamillion v. Lightfoot*; *NAACP v. State of Alabama, ex. Rel. John Patterson, Attorney General*; *Dixon v. Alabama State Board of Education*; *Williams v. Wallace*, *Mitchell v. Johnson*; *Lee v. Macon*; *Pollard v. United States*; and *John F. Knight, Jr. v. State of Alabama*.

Gray's record of public service is outstanding. He was one of the first blacks to serve in the Alabama Legislature since reconstruction, serving from 1970-1974. He was the National Bar Association's 43rd president, serving from 1985-1986. He serves as a member of the Board of Trustees of Case Western Reserve University, former Chairman of the Board of Trustees of Southwestern Christian College, and a member of the Board of Trustees of Faulkner University.

He is the recipient of numerous awards and honors. He has received honorary Doctor of Law degrees from the University of Massachusetts at Amherst, Alabama State University, Southwestern Christian College, Case Western Reserve University, Pepperdine University, Abilene Christian University, and Faulkner University. In 1995 he was inducted into the National Bar Association Hall of Fame and was the recipient of the Charles Hamilton Houston Medallion of Merit from the Washington Bar Association. In 1996, the American Bar Association bestowed upon him its "Spirit of Excellence Award" which celebrates the achievements of lawyers of color and their contributions to the legal profession. In 1999, he became a Fellow of the American College of Trial Lawyers.

His list of publications include the books *Bus Ride to Justice*, released in 1995, and *The Tuskegee Syphilis Study*, released in 1998. He also wrote *The Sullivan Case: A Direct Product of Civil Rights Movement*, published in the Case Western Law Review.

Gray was educated at the Nashville Christian Institute, Alabama State University and Case Western Reserve University. He is currently the senior partner in the law firm of Gray, Langford, Sapp, McGown, Gray & Nathanson, with offices in Montgomery and Tuskegee, Alabama. The firm is nationally recognized and received extensive press coverage in such publications as The Washington Times, USA Today, Ebony Magazine and ABC's Prime Time Live.

I understand you were born in Montgomery, Alabama - how long did you live there, who all was in your family, and what institutions did you attend for your schooling?

I went to elementary school in Montgomery. My father died when I was two years old; my mother was a domestic worker. I have one sister. She is now retired from the public school system in Washington, D.C. and is currently working at Alabama State University. I moved to Nashville and attended high school at Nashville Christian Institute. I returned to Montgomery to attend college at Alabama State College, where I was a political science major. I had a minor in mathematics - I never did use that! I went to Western Reserve University for law school, and graduated in 1954 with an L.L.B.

When did you first know you wanted to be a lawyer?

My junior year at Alabama State. I had become very aware of the segregated system that existed in Montgomery. In fact, I could not attend law school at the University of Alabama. There were no black lawyers in Montgomery. I decided I wanted to get my law degree and go back to Montgomery to work in the field of civil rights.

You are well known for your civil rights work. Which of the cases in which you were involved stand out the most to you?

The ones surrounding the Montgomery Bus Boycott, and defending Rosa Parks, *City of Montgomery v Parks*. Also, defending Dr. Martin Luther King in *State of Alabama v. Martin Luther King*. And, the actual case that decided the unconstitutionality of the state statutes and city ordinances, *Browder v. Gayle*. Really, a whole series of cases arising out of the Bus Boycott, contributing to the start of the civil rights movement. The most precedent setting case was *Gamillion v. Lightfoot*.

Did you realize the importance of these cases at the time?

I realized early that the whole civil rights movement was a very important and significant event.

Tell us how you came to know and represent Ms. Rosa Parks. [Mr. Gray suggested here an excerpt from his book, *Bus Ride to Justice*.]

Rosa Parks was the secretary to the Montgomery Branch of the NAACP and also served as youth director. I worked with

the youth and with Rosa Parks. In her capacity as youth director, and through my interest in the activities of the NAACP, we developed a very close relationship. Mrs. Parks was very kind, quiet, gentle, loving and would never hurt anyone. She was and is one of the kindest and loveliest persons that one would want to meet. She still maintains these qualities almost forty years later.

During the early months of my law practice, I had few clients and little to do. At lunch time, Mrs. Parks often walked to my office, located one and a half blocks from the Montgomery Fair Department Store where she worked as a seamstress. We became very good friends. She would walk to my office and we would sit down and share our lunches.

For almost a year, we met, shared our lunches, and discussed the problems in Montgomery. ... Mrs. Parks shared my feelings that something had to be done to end segregation on the buses. There was a congruency in our thoughts and ideas that helped me understand her strong interest in me, a struggling young lawyer. ... [S]he wanted to help our people eradicate segregation and discrimination on the Montgomery buses.

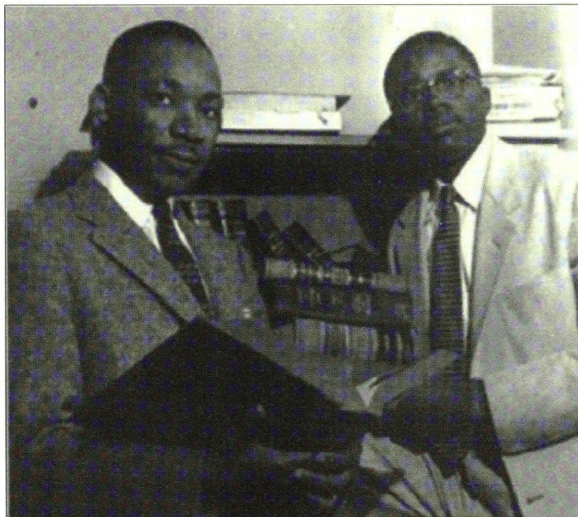
December 1st, 1955, was a typical day in Montgomery. It was late fall, but it had not begun to get cold. We had lunch together that day, just as we had done many times before. When 1 p.m. came and the lunch hour ended, Mrs. Parks went back to her

work as a seamstress. I continued my work and left the office in the early afternoon for an out-of-town engagement.

Upon my return to the city later that evening, I was shocked to learn that Mrs. Parks had been arrested in an incident involving the buses. I immediately began to return the numerous phone calls informing me of her arrest. Subsequently, I met with Rosa Parks, E. D. Nixon and Jo Ann Robinson [other Movement activists].

That day was, for me, the beginning point of all the monumental events

that soon began to unfold. My immediate little world began to change. And so did the larger world. I had pledged to myself that I would wage war on segregation. The opening shot had now been fired. With Mrs. Parks' arrest came the beginning of the Montgomery Bus Boycott. It changed the history of civil rights in Alabama, and the nation, and in the world. And it launched my legal career.



Dr. Martin Luther King and Gray

Tell us your impressions of Dr. Martin Luther King [again, Mr. Gray suggested here an excerpt from his book, *Bus Ride to Justice*.]

It is difficult for persons who did not know Dr. King to understand Martin as I knew him. When I met him, his primary concern was to do a good job as pastor of Dexter Avenue Baptist Church. I had returned to Montgomery with a desire “to destroy everything segregated I could find.” Martin was receptive to assisting me in that desire. We joined forces and worked against segregation in Alabama. We had a close friendship during the bus boycott. We were dealing with each other on a day-to-day basis. He was a very kind, compassionate, considerate, easy going, easy-talking Baptist preacher. He was an easy conversationalist who could talk about anything. Behind his church work and his work with the Movement, there was another side of Martin Luther King, Jr. In those quiet moments, you would never think of him as the articulate speaker that he was, with the persuasive power that was able to change people. You wouldn’t really think about him in terms of his being a future Nobel Peace Prize winner. He would sit down like you, me, or anyone else in a group and just have a good time and enjoy the fellowship. He never monopolized a conversation. He always listened. He had a tremendous sense of humor, and enjoyed telling jokes and listening to jokes. He never met a stranger. He was one of those rare individuals. Nothing you did would upset him. During all our trials, tribulations, setbacks, and victories I never saw him upset. I never saw him angry. I never saw him display hostility, nor hate toward anyone.



A young ...

Over the course of the bus protest, and other civil rights developments, I had my many disagreements with my clients Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., and Ralph Abernathy [another activist in the Movement], in my effort to keep them on a sound legal track. There were times when they would consult other attorneys because they did not agree with my advice. It seems as if each time they failed to heed my advice, either one of the two or some other person very important in the Movement would be arrested or end up in jail. Needless to say, they did not hesitate to call me to their rescue when arrested, not did I hesitate to assist. In spite of our differences of opinion, Dr. King, Ralph and the other leaders expressed great confidence in my legal abilities and they knew that I was always available, day or night. There were times when Dr. King said, “Fred, I understand what you say the law is, but our conscience says that the law is unjust and we cannot obey it. So, if we are

arrested we will be calling on you to defend us.” Dr. King frequently introduced me to others saying, “My attorney.” I liked that.

Why did you write *Bus Ride to Justice*?

Because I had been involved in so many precedent setting cases involving civil rights, I – and my late wife, who was a driving force behind this – wanted to set forth and record my participation in the Movement. We wanted it recorded the way we understood it to be, as distinguished from the way some historians want it to be.

I have read in your book entitled *The Tuskegee Syphilis Study* that there were many inaccuracies in the HBO movie, “Miss Evers Boys,” which was supposedly based on the Study. Talk a little about this.

When I first saw the movie, I was in New York, and was shocked at the inaccuracies in the movie and the liberties the writers had taken with the story. I returned to Tuskegee and met with the participants and had them see the movie, and they had the same reaction. They wanted me to do what I could to let the public know that the movie was inaccurate.

On April 18, 1997, we called a press conference for the purpose of doing this, and to join other groups in asking President Clinton to make a public apology to these men. We had about five participants from the Study there. The national media was out, and it was the lead story on the national news that evening. We received a call from the White House shortly thereafter stating that there would be a public apology. On May 16, 1997, at a nationally televised ceremony at the White House, President Clinton gave this public apology.



... Fred Gray

At the White House ceremony, Mr. Herman Shaw, a participant, said that in addition to the apology, the survivors wanted to construct in Tuskegee a permanent memorial, so that future generations would be able to see the contributions that the study participants, as well as others, made to this country.

One of the legacies of the Tuskegee Syphilis Study is the Tuskegee Human and Civil Rights Multicultural Center, a non-profit corporation. The Center is dedicated to recognizing the

human and civil rights contributions of Native Americans, Caucasian Americans and African Americans. The mission of the Center is to educate the public on early and contemporary history involving human rights issues and civil rights activities and to encourage social interaction in bringing together these groups to learn more about each other. When the center is fully developed, it will be a museum and a center. Currently, the Center is located in a building donated by the Alabama Exchange Bank, and we have an exhibit about the participants in the Tuskegee Study.

The Center is my major project now. When the Center was dedicated in May, 1998, I credited the Center to my late wife, Bernice Hill Gray [Mrs. Gray passed away in 1997]. She wanted the Center as much as I did.

You are teaching a "Civil Rights Seminar" as the Charles Hamilton Houston Chair this semester (Spring, 2001) at the NCCU School of Law. I know you have only met with your students a few times, this early in the semester, but nonetheless, have you enjoyed this new experience thus far?

It has been a very good experience, and is also my first experience teaching a law school seminar course. The students have been very receptive.

I want the students to review the law as it has developed in the civil rights field – to show why it was necessary that civil rights law be developed. I want them to see from beginning - with the Constitution, "We the People" - it didn't include people that looked like Fred Gray; it was talking about white Caucasians. In order to correct this, and the *Dred Scott* decision, we discuss how the 13th, 14th and 15th amendments have resulted in the development of the whole body of civil rights law. I want the students to see how each case builds on the other, and to see the role that lawyers played. I believe this is part of my role as the Charles Hamilton Houston Chair. Also,

we will be looking at where we are today in the field of civil rights, and what continues to need to be done in order to be sure all of our citizens do in fact have the rights to which they are entitled. The students will be preparing a research paper in which they will relate how these cases have developed, where we are today, and what this generation of lawyers can do to finish the task.

What advice would you give an aspiring law student today?

Somewhere along the line, students need to become not only interested in a particular area but committed to it. As I said earlier, I wanted to destroy everything I could find that was segregated. I still think there are fields where persons can make great contributions. It is just a matter of finding one's niche, so to speak, and working on it and developing it. It is

particularly gratifying to be able to look back and see that one has been able to help others - obtaining rights that persons are entitled to, and but for those efforts, they may not have received them.

Tell us about your family.

I have recently remarried; my wife's name is Carol A. Gray. I have four children. My oldest daughter, Deborah Gray, is the Director of the Tuskegee Human and Civil Rights Multicultural Center. My other daughter, Vanessa Taylor, is a paralegal with my law firm and my two sons, Fred Gray, Jr. and Stanley Gray are

attorneys with the firm, which has locations in Montgomery and Tuskegee, Alabama.

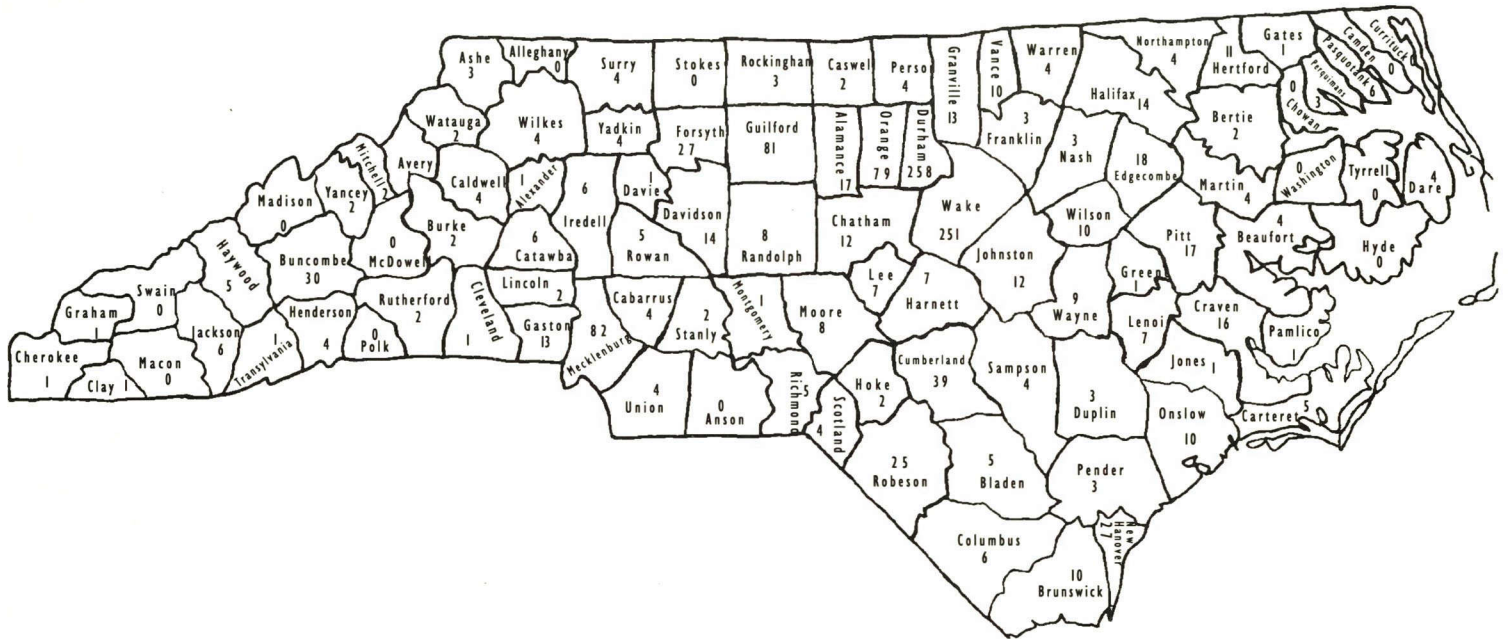


Gray and Ernest Hendon, a Tuskegee Syphilis Study survivor

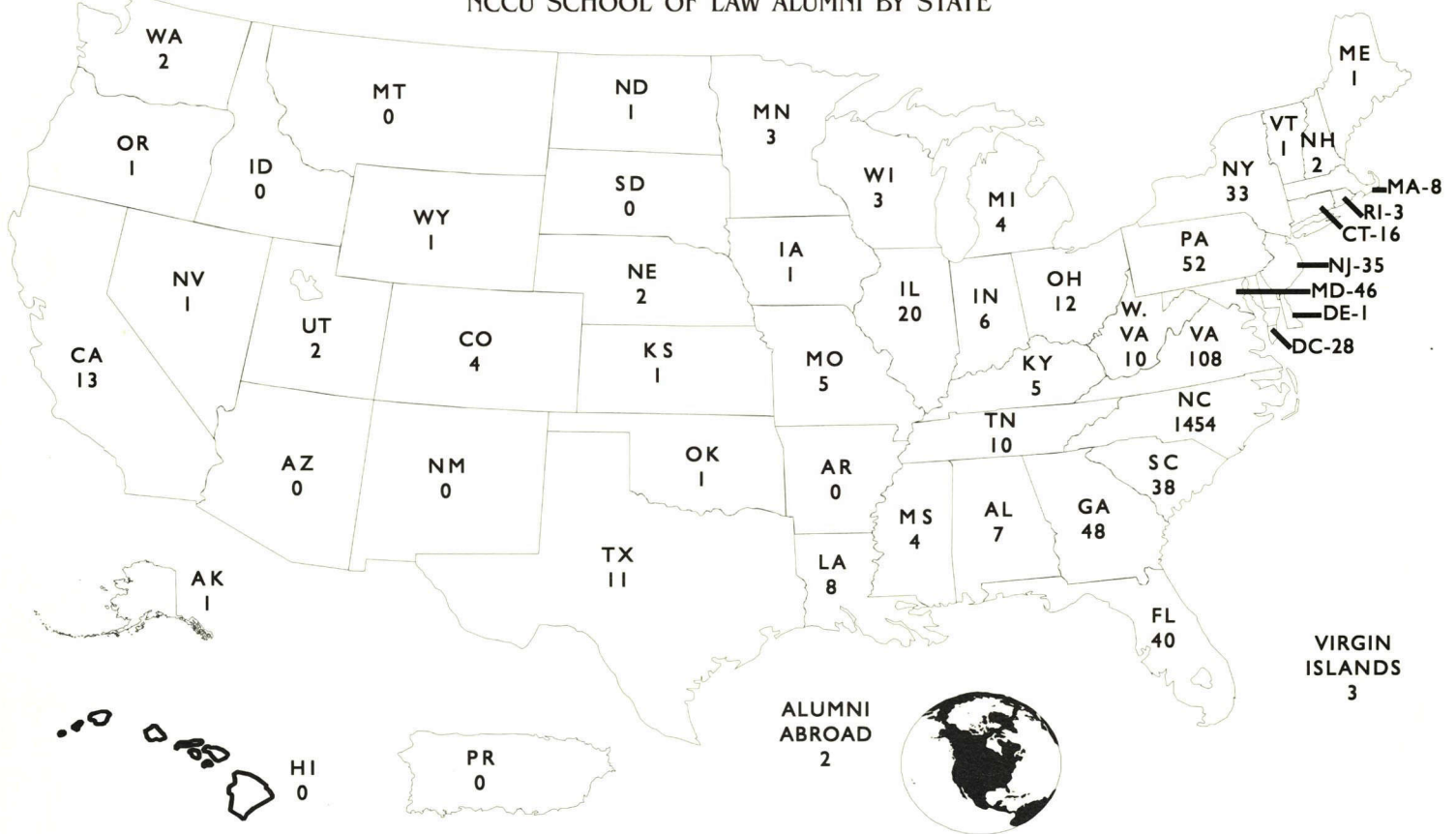
Alumni

Where Are We?

NCCU SCHOOL OF LAW ALUMNI BY NORTH CAROLINA COUNTIES



NCCU SCHOOL OF LAW ALUMNI BY STATE

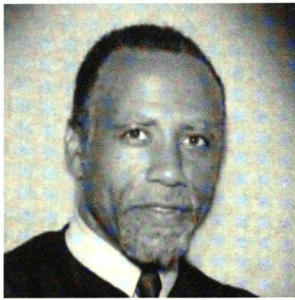


Data Compiled By Sharon D. Alston March 2001

Our Members of the Judiciary

Past and Present

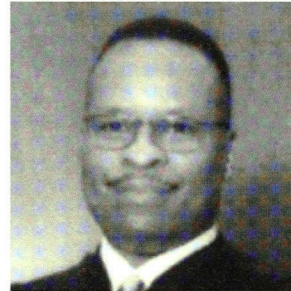
At the Law School's Third Annual Alumni Reunion held on Saturday, November 4, 2000, North Carolina Central University School of Law recognized those alumni who were formerly or are currently judges. We would like to take this opportunity to recognize these judges again as well as alumni who have joined the bench since that date.



James R. Adams '82
FL County Court



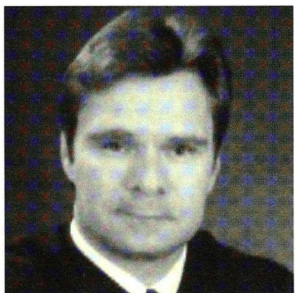
J. Henry Banks '73
NC District Court
District 9



Rufus A. Banks Jr. '92
VA District Court



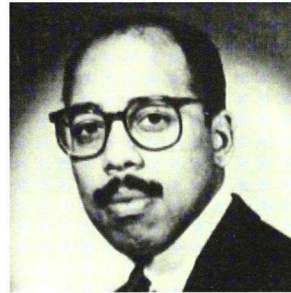
Ronald Barbee '70
NC Superior Court
1975 ~ 1979



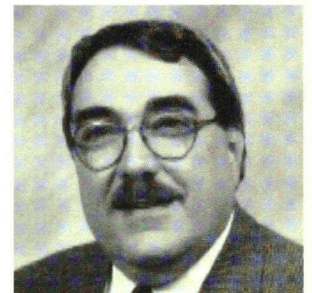
Edgar L. Barnes '86
NC District Court
District 1



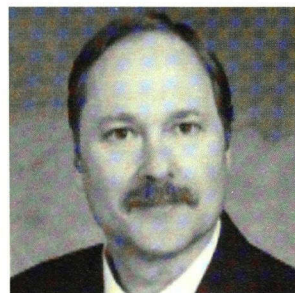
Wanda G. Bryant '82
NC Court of Appeals



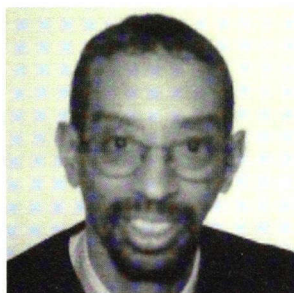
L. Todd Burke '86
NC Superior Court
District 21



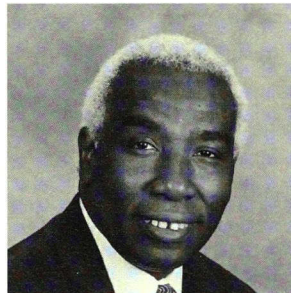
G. K. Butterfield Jr., '74
NC Supreme Court



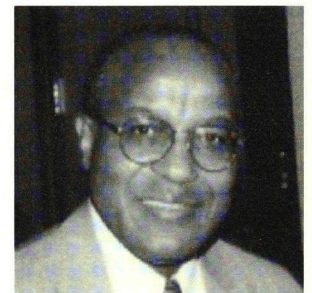
Lonnie W. Carraway '83
NC District Court
District 8



John B. Carter, Jr. '79
NC District Court
District 16B



Miles C. Cary '75
WV Administrative Law



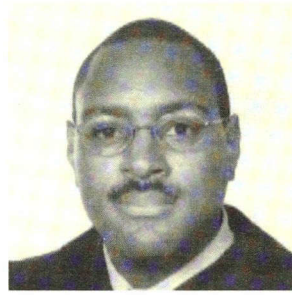
Sammie Chess, Jr. '58
NC Administrative Law



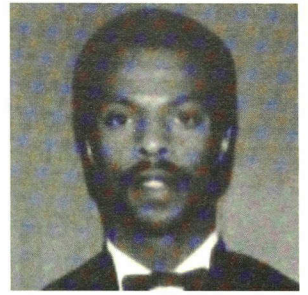
William Allen Cobb Jr. '78
NC Superior Court
District 5



James Carlton Cole '87
NC District Court
District 1



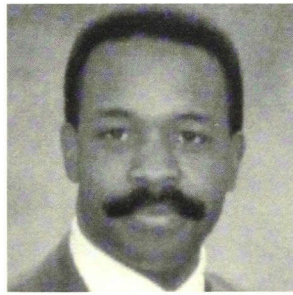
Craig Croom '94
NC District Court
District 10



Kenneth L. Edwards '76
SC Summary Court



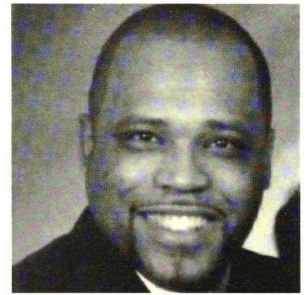
Archie Elliott, Jr. '71
VA District Court



Rev. James H. Faison, III '87
NC District Court
District 5



Carlton E. Fellers '70
NC Superior Court
1987 ~ 1988



Henry E. Frye, Jr. '87
NC Superior Court
District 18



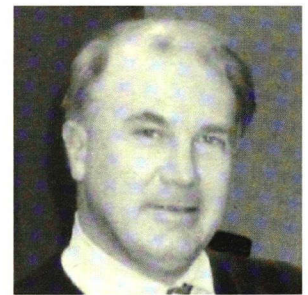
Ernest B. Fullwood '72
NC Superior Court
District 5



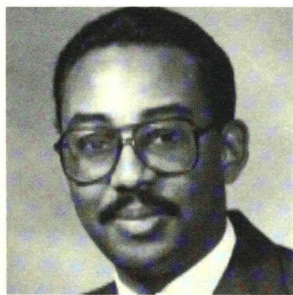
Beryl Sansom Gilmore '70
U.S. Department of Energy



Robert D. Glass '51
CT Supreme Court
Retired



William C. Gore, Jr. '77
NC Superior Court
District 13



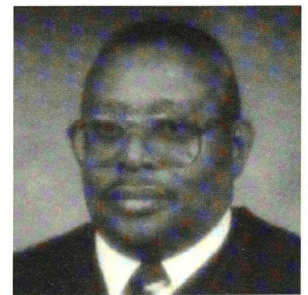
Cy A. Grant, Sr. '81
NC Superior Court
District 6B



Nathan Hunt Gwyn, III '87
NC District Court
District 20



Paul A. Hardison '84
NC District Court
District 4



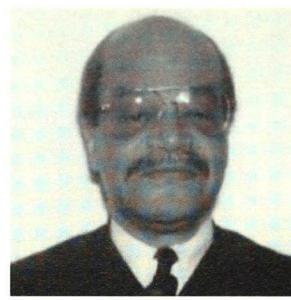
Robert L. Harrell '58
NC District Court
District 28



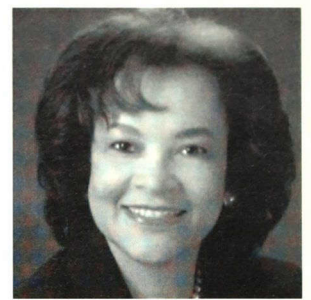
George W. Harris, Jr. '67
VA District Court
District 23



Pattie S. Harrison '83
NC District Court
District 9A



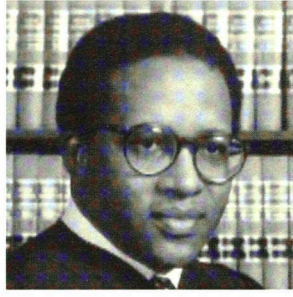
Roland H. Hayes '71
NC District Court
District 21



Patrice A. Hinnant '78
NC District Court
District 18



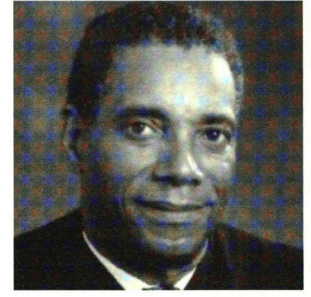
Alma Hinton '90
NC District Court
District 6A



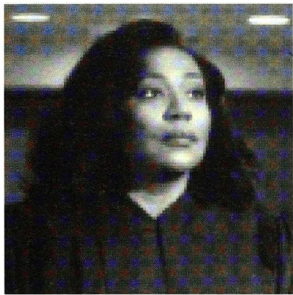
William K. (Pete) Hunter '76
NC District Court
District 18
1981 ~ 1986



Carolyn Johnson '73
NC District Court
District 14
Retired



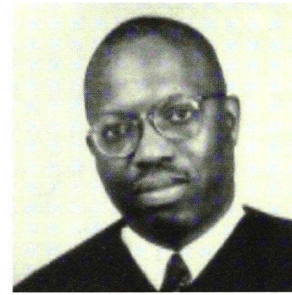
Clifton E. Johnson '67
NC Court of Appeals
Retired



Bonnie L. Jones '82
VA District Court



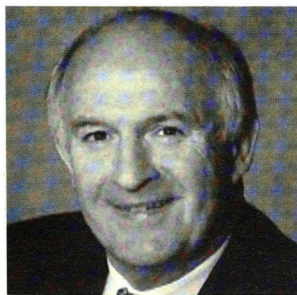
Carol Jones '94
NC District Court
District 4



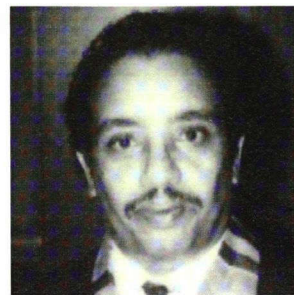
Paul L. Jones '74
NC Superior Court
District 8



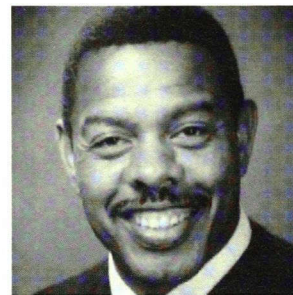
Ola M. Lewis '90
NC Superior Court
District 13



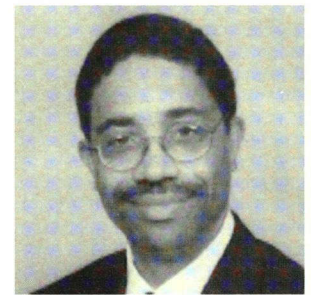
James E. (Jim) Martin '75
NC District Court
District 3A



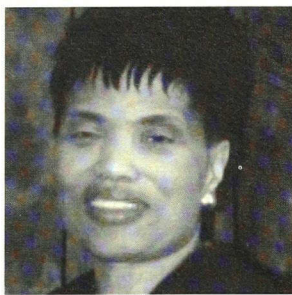
Winston D. McIver '75
SC Municipal Court
Former



Lawrence C. McSwain '79
NC District Court
District 18



Michael R. Morgan '79
NC District Court
District 10



Jacqueline Morris-Goodson '76
NC District Court
District 5
1992 ~ 1996



Elaine M. O'Neal '91
NC District Court
District 14



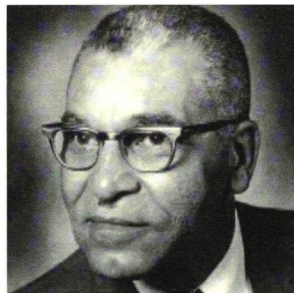
Regina Rodgers Parker '92
NC District Court
District 2



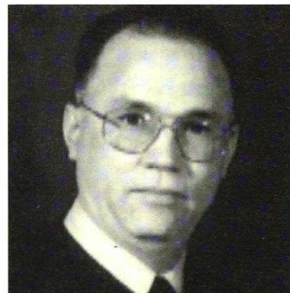
Wendy Phillips '90
NY Administrative Law



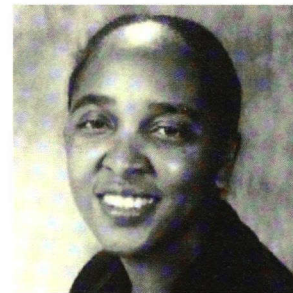
Paul M. Quinn '90
NC District Court
District 3B



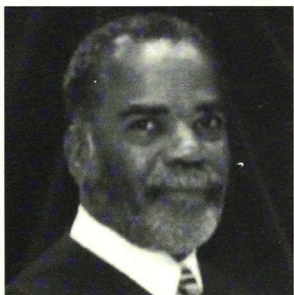
Donald E. Ramseur, Sr. '54
NC District Court
District 27A
1975 ~ 1985



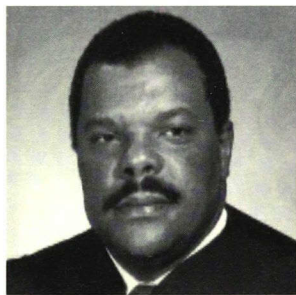
Herbert L. Richardson '76
NC District Court
District 16B



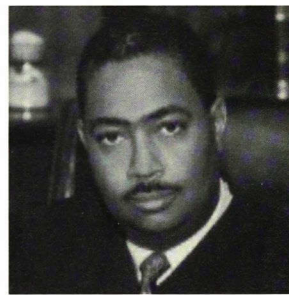
Mary Rudd Robinson '80
FL District Court
District 17



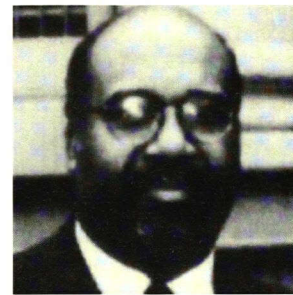
Peter F. Rogers '76
PA District Court of Appeals
District 1



A. Leon Stanback '68
NC Superior Court
District 14



Quentin T. Sumner '75
NC Superior Court
District 7A



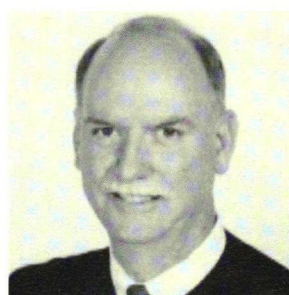
Milton A. Tingling '82
NY State Supreme Court



Teresa Vincent '93
NC District Court
District 18



Acie L. Ward '75
NC District Court
Former



James M. (Jim) Webb '77
NC Superior Court
District 19B



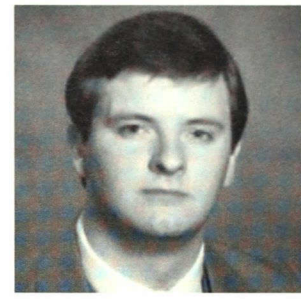
J. Seth Whipper '84
SC Summary Court
1986 ~ 1994



Deborah Armstrong Whitfield '84
TX Municipal Court



Joseph A. Williams '75
NC District Court
Former



Joseph J. Williams '88
NC District Court
District 20

The following North Carolina Central University School of Law alumni are believed to hold or have held a seat on the judiciary; however, we were unable to confirm or complete information on them.

Benjamin G. Alford '78
Rossie David Alston, Jr. '82
Maxine L. Archer '76

Marilyn R. Bissell '80
Harry C. Brown, Sr. '76
Stewart L. Cloer '82
John T. Kilby '75

Ulysses B. Leverett '80
Rayford A. Means '79
Irvin D. Sugg '53

~ In Memoriam ~

Floyd McKissick, Sr. '51 William G. Pearson, II '54
Eugene H. Gadsden '53 Cornelius E. Toole '60
Freddie Polhill '69

Julian T. Pierce '76 announced his candidacy for a newly created Superior Court judgeship in Robeson County in 1988 but was murdered before the Democratic primary was held. Pierce still won the popular vote and would have been the first Native American and Lumbee Indian to sit on North Carolina's Superior Court bench.



Our alumni judges gathered at our Third Annual Alumni Reunion on November 4, 2000.

back row standing, l to r: Archie Elliott, Jr. '71, Michael R. Morgan '79, Peter F. Rogers '76, James M. Webb '77, Craig Croom '94, Cy A. Grant, Sr. '81, James H. Faison, III '87, Paul L. Jones '74, L. Todd Burke '86, Roland H. Hayes '71, Jim Martin '75
middle row standing, l to r: Winston D. McIver '75, Beryl Sansom Gilmore '70, Edgar L. Barnes '86, Henry Frye, Jr. '87, Ola M. Lewis '90, Patrice A. Hinnant '78, A. Leon Stanback '68
front row sitting, l to r: John B. Carter, Jr. '79, Acie L. Ward '75, Ronald Barbee '70, Bonnie L. Jones '82, Robert L. Harrell '58, Deborah A. Whitfield '84, G.K. Butterfield, Jr. '74, Wendy G. Phillips '90

Kären Frasier Alston '94

Welcome to our New Recruiter!

by Lydia E. Lavelle '93



Alston

On November 13, 2001, Kären Frasier Alston '94 joined our law school family as the Interim Director of Recruitment for law school students. Kären is a graduate of NCCU's evening program. After graduation, she clerked with Justice Robert Orr on the North Carolina Court of Appeals and the North Carolina Supreme Court until 1996. After completing her clerkship, she joined the Law Office of James D. Williams, Jr., P.A. as an associate. While at the firm, she practiced primarily in the areas of immigration, personal injury, state and federal appellate practice, and family law.

"I thoroughly enjoyed practicing with "Butch" Williams '81, Deria Phillips Hayes '96, and my brother, Ralph Frasier, Jr. '94, but I have always felt that the academic environment was where I should ultimately be. NCCU School of Law has been a part of my life literally since the day I was born." She laughs, "I was born while my father, Ralph K. Frasier '65, was taking his first-year contracts exam. I guess going to law school at NCCU and working here was my destiny."

She continued, "It is an honor to be in a position that is charged with influencing the choice of law schools of prospective law school students towards NCCU School of Law. The education that my father, brother and I

received at NCCU School of Law has served us all very well. That legacy when shared with law school prospects will surely catch their attention, because it provides a real NCCU Law School success story."

When I asked what she would focus on during her first year, she stated, "I believe that history demonstrates that the recruitment efforts of the faculty, staff, students and alumni have captured many talented people who have attended our law school. Our recruitment program is a strong one. My initial goals are to analyze the current recruitment program in an effort to streamline the internal workflow so as to eliminate duplication of effort and to determine how our efforts correlate to our enrollment."

It is an honor to be in a position that is charged with influencing the choice of law schools of prospective law school students towards NCCU School of Law.

Alston questioned, "From where are the majority of our enrolled students? What state, what colleges and universities? What majors? We have always held open houses and attended the major recruitment forums in Chicago, Atlanta, D.C. and Philadelphia, and certain university career fairs but I would like to examine the possibilities for new students in some new and untapped markets. With the recent purchase of a very comprehensive admissions software program, our ability to analyze our program has become much more feasible and manageable."

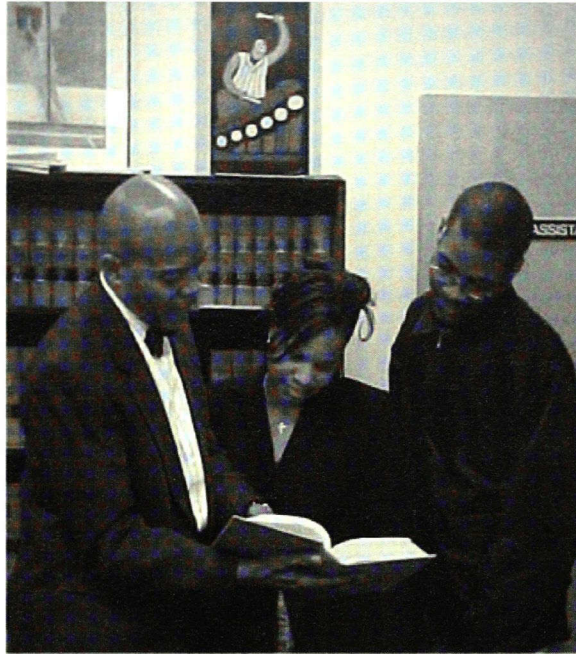
How does she enjoy her job so far? "The Dean, faculty, and staff, many with whom I bonded as a law student, have been very receptive and helpful. It is a very exciting time to be involved with NCCU School of Law and I am elated to be here during this time. I will be calling on many people, especially alumni, to help us find some more great future NCCU graduates!" You can call Kären Frasier Alston at 919-530-7173 or e-mail her at kalston@wpo.nccu.edu.

by Lisa G. Morgan, Director

Over the past several years, many of our students have begun to consider a career path which, heretofore, has been traversed by our students in limited numbers. Judicial clerkships are extremely prestigious positions and NCCU Law Alumni are laying claim to their share. Since 1995, approximately 7% of our students have served as clerks to judges and justices sitting in both state and federal court. This compares to a national average of 12%. Clerkships are generally one to two years in length and increase the marketability of the clerk tremendously. Many clerks often go on to join large and medium sized law firms at the end of their clerkship term. As a testament to just how impressive a clerkship is on a resume, law firms will ordinarily hold their offers open for a year to allow the student to clerk before joining the firm.

Realizing that selection for these positions has become increasingly competitive, the Law School has implemented a new program which will allow students to clerk for a judge during the summer. The benefits of participation in this program are two-fold. The student is exposed to the duties and responsibilities of the clerk and the judge has an opportunity to evaluate the student's abilities and make a determination based on actual knowledge of those abilities. Statistics show that many judges make offers to students who have either clerked for them as an intern at some point during their law school career or who have come highly recommended by another judge for whom that student has clerked.

The NCCU Summer Judicial Clerkship Program was initiated during the summer of 2000. With a grant of \$9,000, the Law School was able to award a clerkship and stipend to six first and second year students. Students applied for the summer positions by submitting a resume, transcript and letter of interest. All six students were placed with judges sitting on the District of Columbia Superior Court. Judge Arthur Burnette, Senior Judge on the D.C. Superior Court, and Assistant Dean Ronald Steven Douglas '82 worked together to coordinate housing for the students. For six weeks, our students were



Dean Douglas with students Cartwright and Harris

given a bird's eye view of the inner workings of the judicial process. William Brian Harris, a current 2L, stated, "Having never been in a court room before, the experience was very enlightening." He took note of the gravity of his chosen profession and realized that judges are faced with some difficult decisions when ruling.

Mr. Harris feels that having been given the opportunity to witness the process from the perspective of the judge will give him an edge in the courtroom because he knows what factors judges consider when making rulings.

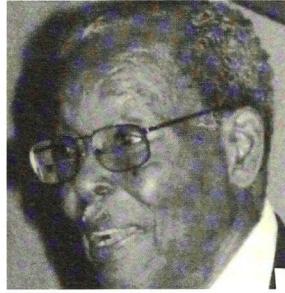
Jose' Coker, a second year student from Norfolk, Va. commented that having the clerkship on his resume has proven to be beneficial as he searches for employment. Mr. Coker stated that many of the employers with whom he has interviewed this year mentioned that they had also served as a clerk and were quite impressed that he had had an opportunity to do so so early in his law school career. In addition to his increased marketability, Mr. Coker also found that having the opportunity to observe attorneys in court and discuss their representation with the judge has allowed him to begin to determine what courtroom style would work for him.

Rashida Cartwright, a current third year student, stated that her clerkship gave her confidence when in the courtroom. Ms. Cartwright also worked in the Office of the Brooklyn District Attorney this past summer, and stated that her familiarity with and comfort in the courtroom made a big difference as she second-chaired on two cases. Her outstanding performance in Brooklyn resulted in an offer of a staff attorney position upon graduation. She credits her exposure while clerking with giving her an edge in Brooklyn.

This year, our grant was increased to \$12,000, and will be used to provide stipends to eight students. In addition to positions in Washington, DC, clerkships will also be made available in North Carolina. We are very excited about this program and feel certain that it will help to give our students an edge as they pursue a judicial clerkship.

Class Notes

Sterling W. Walker '58 was honored by the South Hampton Roads Bar Association with its Distinguished Barrister Award at its Annual Scholarship Banquet in June, 2000. Walker, now eighty-eight years old, practiced litigation in Norfolk, Virginia for thirty-five years before retiring in 1993.



Walker

C.C. "Buddy" Malone '59 died February 10, 2001. He had retired a year earlier after forty years of practicing law. He was honored at a retirement dinner by hundreds of lawyers and judges. His Durham, North Carolina practice included civil rights litigation throughout the state. Malone said to a reporter from *The Herald-Sun* (Durham, North Carolina), "The trespass cases in Greensboro and Fayetteville and all over the state really became the big weapon throughout the South and in the earlier fights for desegregation. The cases took on such a variety of forms and yet were one in the same. The different tactics that both sides took was amazing to me, and I became the point man in many of the efforts to break up these trespassing cases." The reporter noted that "[v]ictory in these cases cleared the way for massive sit-ins across the country and helped bring an end to racial segregation."

H.M. "Mickey" Michaux '64, who represents the 23rd district as a representative in the North Carolina General Assembly, was recognized at the Durham Human Relations Commission's February, 2000 Annual Banquet and Awards Ceremony as the winner of the government award.

Ralph Frasier, Sr. '65 was featured in an article in *The Herald-Sun* (Durham, North Carolina) in December, 1999 about the integration of the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. The article, published as part of the newspaper's "Double Ought" series commemorating North Carolina's past, described how Frasier, his brother, Leroy Frasier, and another Durham student, John Brandon, were the first black students to integrate the undergraduate level of a major university when they began attending UNC-CH in the fall of 1955. Frasier is currently on the Board of Trustees at North Carolina Central University and is an attorney in Columbus, Ohio.

Ronald Barbee '70 of Greensboro, North Carolina was appointed to serve on the North Carolina Judicial Standards Commission in Fall, 1999.

Bert Collins '70, president and chief executive officer of North Carolina Mutual Life Insurance Company, was chairman of the Greater Durham Chamber of Commerce during the year 2000.

G.K. Butterfield '74 was named as an Associate Justice on the North Carolina Supreme Court and was sworn in on February 8, 2001. He was previously Resident Superior Court Judge for District 7B in North Carolina.

Willie E. Gary '74 is Chairman and CEO of the new MCB Cable Network. The network's launch makes it America's first-ever, 24-hour cable network devoted to African-American family programming. Gary, a partner with the law firm of Gary, Williams, Parenti, Finney, Lewis, McManus, Watson & Sperando in Stuart, Florida, also was one of eleven individuals to receive the 1999 Horatio Alger Award. The Horatio Alger Association of Distinguished Americans, a non-profit educational association, is committed to providing role models for contemporary American youth, and assisting young people with scholarships, grants and mentoring support to encourage them toward successful futures. At the nationally televised awards ceremony, the newly named winners joined over 500 distinguished members as well as the 105 winners of the Horatio Alger National Scholarships. Past recipients of the Horatio Alger Award have included Colin Powell, Oprah Winfrey, Sam Walton, Billy Graham, Wayne Huizenga, Bob Dole, Mary Higgins Clark, Clarence Thomas, Hank Aaron, Bob Hope, Maya Angelou, Carol Burnett and James Earl Jones.

Paul Jones '74 was appointed Resident Superior Court Judge in Judicial District 8A in North Carolina by Governor Jim Hunt in December, 1999. Prior to his appointment, Jones was a District Court Judge in District 8.

Frances Dyer '76 was elected to the Board of Directors of First Citizens Bank in Durham, North Carolina in Fall, 1999. Dyer is also the Chair of the NCCU Law School's Capital Campaign.

Michael F. Easley '76 was elected as Governor of the State of North Carolina in November, 2000. Easley was previously Attorney General for the State of North Carolina.

Herbert L. Richardson, Sr. '76 was a guest speaker at a program for the Critical Foundations in Arts & Sciences Classes at North Carolina Central University held in August, 1999. He is the Chief District Judge of Robeson County in Lumberton, North Carolina.

Guy W. Crabtree '78 joined the Durham, North Carolina law firm of Pulley, Watson, King & Lischer, P.A. as a partner in the fall of 19-. He was formerly with King, Walker, Lambe & Crabtree, P.L.L.C. of Durham. At that time, he also was elected chair of the Automobile Torts Section of the North Carolina Academy of Trial Lawyers. He continues to practice in the areas of wrongful death, catastrophic injuries, malpractice, insurance law, environmental law and complex litigation.

Willie R. Brooks, Jr. '80 has the law firm of Brooks Professional Corporation in Monroe, North Carolina.

Rossie David Alston, Jr. '82 was elected to the Juvenile & Domestic Relations Court for Prince William County, Virginia in February, 1999. He writes that he was in the same judge class as Judge Rufus Banks '94 of the Chesapeake JDR Court.

Milton A. Tingling '82 was elected to the New York State Supreme Court in November, 2000. He was previously a Civil Court judge.

Class Notes

Eugene Ellison '83 was featured in the November, 1999 issue of *Business North Carolina* as one of twenty-one young business people who will have an impact in the 21st century. Ellison practices in Asheville, North Carolina.

Pattie Harrison '83, formerly a North Carolina District Court Judge, was named as an Emergency District Court Judge by Governor James Hunt.

Marvin Sparrow '83 and Kathryn L. VandenBerg announced the formation of their law firm under the name of Sparrow & VandenBerg in April, 2000. Areas of practice for the firm include general practice, criminal defense, medical negligence, personal injury, and civil rights.

Lawrence Wittenberg '84 of Durham, North Carolina was elected to the Board of Directors of the National Organization of Social Security Claimants' Representatives for the year 2000. He is a member and past committee chairman of the Disability Advocates Section of the N.C. Academy of Trial Lawyers, and past president of the NCCU School of Law Alumni Association Board of Directors.

Kevin Duckworth '85 merged his Chicago, Illinois practice with Hinshaw & Culbertson, a four hundred member laws firm, in the winter of 1999-2000. He is a partner in the litigation section, where his practice continues in the area of defense of product liability, medical malpractice, and other tort-related matter

Ricky N. McCurry '85 began a new position as the Vice Chancellor of Institutional Advancement for Southern Illinois University in July, 2000. He previously served as Associate Vice Chancellor for Development and Alumni Affairs at the University of Tennessee in Knoxville.

Grady Jessup '86 was elected to the Board of Governors of the N.C. Commission on Indigent Representation by the North Carolina Association of Black Lawyers in August, 2000. Jessup is an Associate Professor of Law and Director of Clinical Programs at the NCCU School of Law.

Blan V. Minton '86 is working as a Violence Against Women Act (VAWA) funded attorney with Appalachian Legal Services in Asheville, NC. Prior to this, he retired from the University of North Carolina Schools of Medicine and Social Work in 1988, and spent a year in the British Isles where among other things he did research on the influence of Celtic philosophy and culture on the development of British common law.

Ross Oglesbee '86 is working with Faison & Gillespie (formed in January, 2000 with the merger of Faison & Gillespie and The Law Offices of Grover C. McCain, Jr.)

Ira L. Foster '88 received the State Bar of Georgia's "Chief Justice Robert Benham Award for Community Service" at the State Bar's Annual Meeting on June 18, 1999. Foster, a senior supervising attorney with the Georgia Legal Services Program in Macon, Georgia, received the award in part because of his improvement of educational

opportunities for youth. He was founder of the Saxon Heights Elementary School Role Model/Drug Prevention Program and founder and President of the Young Professionalism Network. He also chaired the Board of Directors of Rhythm Nation Center for the Arts, Inc., which provides training in dance, voice, music, and martial arts to young people; served on the Board of Directors of Dublin-Laurens County Boys and Girls Club and Wabash Street Church of God After School Tutorial Program; served as a volunteer coach for the City of Dublin Recreation Department; and was active in some ten to fifteen other organizations.

Alma Hinton '90 was named to a District Court judgeship for Judicial District 6A in November, 2000.

Ola Lewis '90 was appointed as a special North Carolina Superior Court judge by Governor Jim Hunt and sworn in on July 27, 2000. At the time of her swearing-in, she was the youngest Superior Court judge in the state and was the only female Superior Court judge east of Greensboro, North Carolina. Prior to this appointment, Lewis had served as a North Carolina District Court judge.

Robin T. Morris '90 was re-appointed in Fall, 1999 to the North Carolina Board of Law Examiners.

Marshall B. Pitts, Jr. '90 was elected to the Fayetteville City Council on November 2, 1999, becoming the first African-American elected to an at-large seat in Fayetteville, North Carolina in nearly twenty years.



Former Chief Justice
Henry E. Frye and Lewis

J. Edward Naylor '91 joined the law firm of Knox, Kornegay, Bennett & Naylor in Rocky Mount, North Carolina as a partner in the spring of 2000. Prior to this, he was an assistant district attorney.

National Taxpayer Advocate Named

Nina E. Olson '91, an attorney who heads the Community Tax Law Project (CTLP) in Richmond, Va., was named the National Taxpayer Advocate according to IRS sources. Olson is also a member of the Board of Directors of Tax Analysts, which publishes *Tax Notes*, *Tax Notes Today*, and *Highlights & Documents*. A nonprofit organization founded in 1992, the CTLP provides low-income taxpayers with pro bono representation in tax disputes, educates low income individuals about their rights and responsibilities as taxpayers, and tries to increase public awareness and encourage informed debate about policy and practice issues that affect low-income taxpayers. The CTLP also operates the Low-Income Taxpayer Clinic Resource Center, which provides technical assistance, start-up operational support, training, and practice advice to low-income taxpayer clinics nationwide. Olson has a Master's in Taxation from Georgetown University Law Center. She has taught a number of tax law courses, including federal tax practice and legal ethics at the College of William & Mary Law School.

Class Notes

William R. Pittman '91 has been hired as a lobbyist by the Raleigh, North Carolina office of Kilpatrick Stockton. Pittman previously served on the North Carolina Utilities Commission.



Pittman

Julia Boseman '92 was elected as a New Hanover (North Carolina) County Commissioner in November, 2000.



Boseman

She also was recently appointed to the Board of Directors of the Cape Fear Coast Convention & Visitors Bureau. Boseman has practiced law in Wilmington since graduating from NCCU School of Law.

Regina Rodgers Parker '92 was named to a District Court judgeship for Judicial District Two in January, 2001.

Steven Phillips '93 started working "Of Counsel" with Moore & Van Allen, PLLC in their Durham, North Carolina office in October, 1999. He previously worked at Northern Telecom.

Teresa Vincent '93 was elected as a Guilford County (North Carolina) District Court Judge in November, 2000.

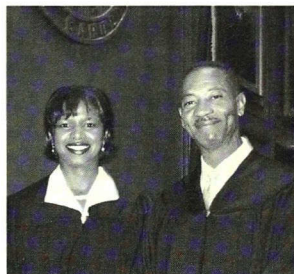
Kären Frasier Alston '94 has been hired as the new Recruitment Director at the NCCU School of Law. She also has a private practice in Durham, North Carolina concentrating in immigration law.

Kevin C. Foy '94 and **Lydia E. Lavelle '93** have relocated their law office (Foy & Lavelle, PLLC) to 891 Willow Drive, Suite 8, Chapel Hill, NC 27514.

Pauline Hankins '94 opened the first black law firm in Brunswick County, North Carolina in late 1999.

William A. Hatch '94 has been working at Hutson Hughes & Powell, P.A., in Durham, North Carolina, since mid-1999.

Carol Jones '94 was elected as District Court Judge in the 4th Judicial District (which includes North Carolina counties Sampson, Onslow, Duplin and Jones) in November, 2000. Prior to her election as judge, she was an assistant district attorney in Onslow County. She was the first elected female District Court judge in her district.



Jones and Judge Paul Hardison '84

Freddie Lane, Jr. '95 was a presenter at a Lorman Education Series full-day program entitled "North Carolina Partnerships, LLCs and LLPs: Organization and Operation." Lane gave an overview of various entity choices, a comparative analysis of general partnerships, limited liability partnerships and limited liability companies, and discussed ethical considerations. Lane is a partner with The Lane Law Firm, P.A. of Raleigh, North Carolina. His areas of practice include corporate law, business law, appellate practice, entertainment law, and nonprofit and charitable organizations.

Tony Dessausure '96 announces the opening of The Dessausure Law Firm located at 4511 North Main Street, Columbia, SC 29203.

Marka Fleming '96 joined the law firm of Parker, Poe, Adams & Bernstein L.L.P. as an associate. She is a member of the Antitrust and Business Torts practice group.

Tiffany Peguise Powers '96 became Robeson County's first black partner in an integrated law firm, according to *North Carolina Lawyer's Weekly*, when she was made a member of the Lumberton firm now named Bowen, Berry & Powers. She was hired to work at Bowen & Berry after graduating from law school in 1996, and was one of the few black female lawyers in the county.

Margaret Richardson '96 co-presented a MCLE on "Research Partnerships and Commercialization" at the State Bar of California's Intellectual Property Section's 1999 Spring Program in Los Angeles, California. Richardson is Director, Corporate Relations and Technology Transfer, at Children's Hospital in Los Angeles. In her current position, she successfully launched a groundbreaking co-marketing campaign for an internationally distributed medical food and established a product pipeline project with BioSource International.

Kathy Dempsey '97 was appointed Compliance Officer of WellPath Select, Inc. on June 19, 2000. At WellPath since graduation in 1997, she also oversees the Corporate Compliance Committee (criminal fraud and abuse).

Amir D. Gibbs '97 was appointed as an assistant state's attorney for Baltimore City, Maryland in late 1999. He began his legal career at Jones, Day, Reavis & Pogue, the second largest law firm in the country, located in Washington, D.C.

Michael A. Springs '97 is working as Assistant General Counsel for Bank of America in Charlotte, N.C.



Springs

Victoria Taylor '97 was hired as Assistant Dean for Admissions at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill Law School in July, 2000, the first African-American to hold this position. She was formerly the Recruitment Director at NCCU School of Law.

Class Notes

Andru Wall '97 is now teaching International Law at the United States Naval War College in Newport, Rhode Island.

Ester Blair '98 graduated from the University of Pennsylvania with an LLM concentrating on International Law, Human Rights and Immigration in May, 1999. Also in May, 1999, she began working as an associate at the law firm of Baumann, DeSeve and Landau in Center City, Philadelphia. She and the firm specialize in immigration and naturalization law.

Robin Ellerbe '98 received his LLM in Taxation from the University of Houston in December, 1999. He now works with Smith Anderson in Raleigh, North Carolina, in their medical malpractice, commercial litigation and product liability divisions.

Sheryl Friedrichs '98 is a sole practitioner in Youngsville, North Carolina. She does quite a bit of consumer protection work.

Jack Harper '98 is working with Price Waterhouse in Raleigh, North Carolina. He formerly worked with the North Carolina Department of Revenue.

Lindsay McCoy '98 opened her own law practice in downtown Raleigh, North Carolina in July, 2000. She does mostly criminal and domestic work.

Deborah Sandlin '98 and **Edward V. Williams '98** have formed Sandlin and Williams, PLLC, located in Raleigh, North Carolina.

Linda K. Ward '98 is practicing family law in Cary, North Carolina.

Gayle C. Elledge '99 passed the Virginia State Bar in 1999. She is working as a staff attorney with Legal Services of Northern Virginia.

Charles Hutson '99 is working for the Durham District Attorney's Office. Hutson, an ex-marine and Vietnam veteran, was featured in an April, 2000 article in the *Herald Sun* (Durham, NC) which described his life's journey from Vietnam to the D.A.'s office. Injuries he received while serving in Vietnam resulted in his right arm nearly being shot off, and a liver transplant years later which was traceable to earlier transfusions related to his arm injury.

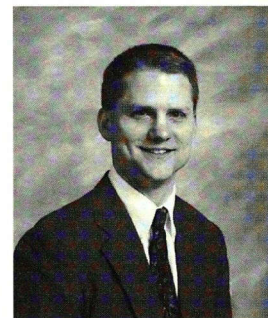
Nicole Leonard '99 is working for the National Heart, Lung and Blood Institute on the main National Institutes of Health Campus as a Technology Development Manager. The position is with NHLBI's Office of Technology Transfer Development.

Jodi Squires '99 is working with Goldstein, Buckley, Cechman, Rice & Purtz in Fort Myers, Florida.

Carleton Atkinson '00 was hired as Lieutenant Governor Beverly Perdue's advisor on health care, women and families, agriculture and the environment. Perdue was elected as North Carolina's first female Lieutenant Governor in November, 2001.

Steve Fowler '00, the democratic chairman of the 7th Congressional District committee in North Carolina, attended the Democratic National Convention in Los Angeles, California August, 2000 as a delegate for Vice President Al Gore. He was quoted by the *Raleigh News & Observer* as saying that he was drawn to "the combination of drama, the energy of people on the floor, the importance of nominating the president of the United States and the leader of the free world for the next eight years."

Joe Knight '00 has been hired as an associate by the Law Office of **Eugene W. Ellison '83** in Asheville, North Carolina. He will have a general practice emphasizing family and criminal law.



Knight

Duane Mac Entee '00 is the Director of Risk Management, Insurance and Safety for SpectraSite Communications, Inc. in Cary, North Carolina.

Jason R. Tuttle '00 has become associated with the firm of Stratas & Weathers, L.L.P. in with offices in Raleigh and Wilmington, North Carolina. He practices in the litigation section focusing on serious personal injury and wrongful death matters, and risk and litigation management for professionals.



Lee

Randy Lee '99, M.D. is working with Faison & Gillespie (formed in January, 2000 with the merger of Faison & Gillespie and The Law Offices of Grover C. McCain, Jr.)

In Memoriam

Mitchell Gadsen '52
Eugene H. Gadsen '54
C.C. "Buddy" Malone '59
Josef K. Myers '75
David W. Sapp '78
Artis Plummer, Jr. '79
Steven R. Speller '79

Alice C. Bynum '82
Sharon H. Davenport '86
Sandor Freeman '87
Frank C. Creft, Jr. '88
Richard A. Black '89
Gregory A. Davis '89
Loretta S. Burney '99

Eagle Gatherings



Holiday Reception in Asheville, NC, December 2000

l to r: Carol L. Goins '89, James C. Hill '94, Howard C. McGlohn '76, Johanna Finkelstein '94, Stanley D. Young '84, Mary Anne F. Nixon '84, Robert L. Harrell '58, Joseph E. Seagle '96, Eugene W. Ellison '83, Carol B. Andres '90, William H. Christy '89, Patrick B. Ochsenreiter '86



Carol Jones '94 at her Swearing-In Ceremony, Kenansville, NC, December 2000

l to r: Craig Croom '94, Claudia C. Croom '96, Sharon D. Alston (NCCU Alumni Relations Office), Carol A. Jones '94, Katie Q. Harrell '94, Shannon M. Carraway '94, Sonya Stocks Davis '94, Michael A. Jones '97



Academy of Trial Lawyers Breakfast, Sunset Beach, NC, June 2000

l to r: Randolph L. Lee '99, A. Root Edmonson '76, E. Yvonne Pugh '73, Guy W. Crabtree '78, William M. Farris 3L, Lydia E. Lavelle '93



Event honoring Sterling Walker '58, Norfolk, VA, June, 2000

l to r: Lydia E. Lavelle '93, Kim M. Crump '85, Shavaughn N. Banks '94, Leonard L. Brown, Jr. '77, Dean Janice L. Mills, Rufus A. Banks, Jr. '92, Sterling W. Walker, '58, Michael L. Hockaday '86, Curtis T. Brown '90, David Redden '89



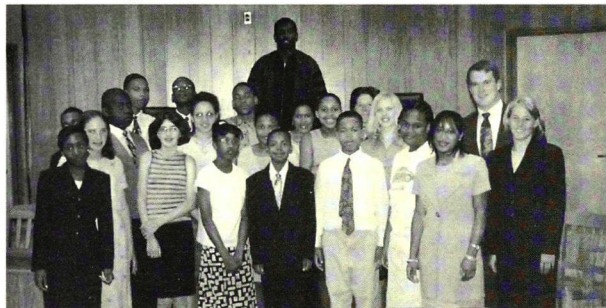
National Bar Association Convention Breakfast, Washington DC, August 2000

seated l to r: Tonja Roberts '93, Julia Hardy Cofield '76, Kaye Webb (NCCU Legal Counsel), Patrice Hinnant '78. *standing l to r:* J. Leon Peace, Jr. '78, Donna Johnson '82, George W. Harris '67, Regina Budd (NCCU Undergraduate Alum), Monte Watkins '84, Robyn Thorpe '00, Tia Brown 3L



Alumni at Swearing-In Ceremony for Ola Lewis '90, Elizabethtown, NC, July 2000

l to r: Ronald M. Foxworth '91, Mario M. White '92, Marshall B. Pitts '90, Willie D. Gilbert '90, Alma L. Hinton '90, James E. Hairston '90, Vercelia M. Young '90



Future Legal Eagles with Counselors at the North Carolina Central University Law Camp June 2000



NCCU School of Law

Alumni Association Board of Directors Meeting Greensboro, NC, Summer 2000, *l to r:* Suzanne J. Wasiolek '89, Lydia E. Lavelle '93, Dean Janice L. Mills, Charles K. Blackmon '88, John F. Nieman, Jr. '92, Brenda D. Gibson '95, Ronda Davis-Ward '89, Ralph K. Frasier, Jr. '94, Donald L. Murphy '76

NCCU School of Law Capital Campaign

*It is a crucial and exciting time for the Law School as it embarks on its first Capital Campaign. The Campaign, launched in July 1999, was designed to maintain and improve existing educational programs and support renovations/innovations required to meet the emerging needs and opportunities of a rapidly changing society. The following list acknowledges donors who have given their financial support between July 1999 and January 2001.**

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OF COUNSEL

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SCHOOL OF LAW
VOLUME 5 ~ SPRING 2001

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