

Panel: Fire of march still burning

By Kelli Bamsey
Staff Reporter

Eric Shanks is still on a mental high from the Million Man March that took place October 16.

"Once we were there it was like out of body," Shanks said. "I was like watching it from up in a cloud somewhere, and I haven't come down, yet."

Shanks was one of a six-man panel that spoke Thursday night about the Million Man March, its significance, and how the march will change people and their communities.

The Rev. Andrew Rollins, pastor of the Quinn Chapel AME Church, did not attend the march, but said he understood the feelings Shanks is experiencing.

"After watching the march on C-Span, I left the house that evening and my soul was set on fire," he said.

The panel stressed that the official attendance count was not the point of the march.

"Numbers are really insignificant. People saw on TV what they wanted to see, and that was people together," said Rick Wallace, president of the Lincoln Chapter of the NAACP.

"Two brothers are stronger than one," he said. "It's very simple."

When asked if a similar march by black females would be appropriate, senior economics major Asante Moody said black women did not need a march.

"Black women have been the backbone of every achievement," Moody said. "The Million Man March was



Travis Heying/DN

The Reverend Andrew Rollins of the Quinn Chapter AME Church answers questions during a discussion on last month's Million Man March in Washington D.C. Rollins was one of six panelists who fielded questions about the march and the effects it will have.

pretty much our day to give to our sisters."

Panelists also discussed what the march meant to people of other races in the United States.

"I think what this march is saying to everyone in the United States is that

Black Americans, men, are tired of being second-class citizens," Wallace said. "We're here, we're not going away."

The march gave a sense of hope to all people that they can make a difference, Moody said.

Others agreed.

"We need to work at working together in harmony," Rollins said.

"The march was a spark," Wallace said, "and now I think that the fire is burning."

"We need to come together as a people."

Police search for gunman in shooting

By Jeff Zeleny
Senior Reporter

At least seven shots were fired from a 9mm semi-automatic handgun in a central-Lincoln neighborhood Thursday night, police said.

The shots, believed to be intended for a Lincoln man, were reported to police about 8 p.m., said police Sgt. Erin Sims. Residents near the corner of 29th and Starr streets said they heard rapid gunfire and saw a red Chevrolet Cavalier speed away from the intersection.

The apparent target of the shooting told police that he knew the gunman. The man, whom police declined to identify, was not hit by the shots.

Neighbors gathered in the street as police officers searched the area for bullet casings. Officers found seven spent casings from the handgun in a thicket between Starr and Dudley streets, Sims said.

Police radio broadcasts indicated officers were searching for the red car that was believed to be driven by a young female. Witnesses told police a young male was riding in the car.

Sims said police located the car, but no arrests were made by 10:30 p.m. Thursday. A man with a shotgun also was seen in the area at the time of the shooting, Sims said, but shots were not fired from that weapon.

A witness who lives near the intersection said the seven shots were fired rapidly. The man, who declined to give his name, said he could see a man holding a gun.

"I just grabbed the kids and told them to get back inside. It's crazy out here," the man said. "It didn't come from no six-shot pistol."

Neighbors, who said the area is infested with gangs, said Thursday's shooting was no exception. However, police at the scene said until the gunman is identified, they have no reason to believe the shooting is gang related.

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