

# 3 die in C-River LG campaign

By John Ighodaro

**C**ALABAR — PREPARATIONS for the August 28 local government elections in Cross River State have produced three casualties in Camero South Local Government Area.

The three persons met their death when a disagreement arose between supporters of the Chairman of the council, Mr. Andem Ekpo Bassey, and his Vice Chairman, Mrs. Majore Eyo.

Trouble erupted when the Peoples Democratic Party, PDP, sensitization campaign team, led by the state Chairman of the party, Ntufam Ekpo Okon, and his entourage, visited the palace of the Muri Effiong Mbukpa Ita Odionka Ebuka the VII.

The supporters of the chairman had reacted to

attempts by the supporters of the vice chairman to remove the posters of the chairman, having pasted the posters of the vice-chairman.

It led to a free for all and while attempting to escape

from the violence, two supporters of the vice chairman ran into a truck with registration number XA 137AJN Oyo and were crushed to death.

The two warring factions who wielded dangerous weapons ~~but that caused~~

as the supporters of the vice-chairman pounced on the driver of the truck and killed him too.

The Divisional Police Officer in charge of Mbukpa Police Station Mr. Emmanuel Aneji confirmed the incident ~~was conducted~~

## 2 convicted for exam malpractice

By Gabriel Enogholase

**B**ENIN—REGISTRAR of the National Business and Technical Examinations Board, NABTEB, Prof. David Awanbor, yesterday in Benin, disclosed that three persons that cheated in its examinations have been sentenced to prison terms, ranging from three months to nine years.

Prof. David Awanbor, who disclosed this while briefing newsmen, gave the names of the persons involved in the examination malpractice and sentenced to prison terms of nine years as Patrick Ogyokok 68, and James Abiola.

He explained that the duo, who were appointed by NABTEB as supervisors and invigilators for its examinations, were found guilty and sentenced to the prison terms by Justice I.N.Buba of the Federal High Court, Lafia, Nasarawa State.

According to him, the two accused persons, who are teachers at a Commercial and Technical institutions in Keffi, one of the Board's examination centers, were convicted on a three-count charge for three years each which were to run concurrently.

The Registrar told journalists that dedicated and vigilant NABTEB officials who promptly alerted the authorities of the Board and reported the matter to the police detected the crime.

According to him, the trial judge, having listened to the pleas of counsel to the accused, which centered on the fact that they were first offenders, gave them an option of fine.

Identifying examination malpractice as one of the most devastating problems militating against the nation's education, Prof Awanbor observed that in spite of the laws/decrees enacted to curb the menace, the magnitude of examination malpractice has continued to be on the increase.

Prof. Awanbor explained that with the conviction of the suspects, NABTEB has not only broken the jinx of unresolved examination malpractice court cases, but also set the pace in the quest for diligent prosecution of offenders, adding that the examination body was the first to diligently pursue the case of examination cheats from the point of arrest to prison sentence.

He said the Board would not relent in its bid to sustain its zero tolerance for examination malpractice.

## Group gets new exco

**T**HE Inspired Group, a political group in the Niger Delta, has inaugurated a new National Executive with Mr. Jemine C. Omagbemi as President. The election and swearing-in ceremony were performed by its pioneer President, Comrade Michael Ejueyitsi. Tidi.

Other members of the executive are: Comrade Micheal E. Tidi (National Coordinator), Miss Racheal Odele (Vice President), Ofeoritse Anomuogharan (Secretary), Ejowoke Inhoba

(Asst. Secretary), Collins O. Edah (PRO), Collins Gold (Director, Media and Publicity), Mabiaku Tuoyo (Deputy Director, Media and Publicity), Destiny Ikonomi (Member Media and Publicity), and Ejiro Amurum (Member, Media and Publicity).

Others include Austin Edon (Financial Secretary), Ukalami Ekpoko (Treasurer), Christopher Agbajoh (Provost I), Johnson Dawin (Provost II), and Ejiro OfoyeEsq (Legal Adviser).