

# THE EBONY HERALD

The Minority Publication of East Carolina University  
Page 1 FEBRUARY 1984

## BLACK HISTORY MONTH

By NEGRO ALMANAC  
Contributing Source

Few would quarrel with Langston Hughes' unofficial designation as the "Negro poet laureate" of our day. An established poet and critic, Hughes belongs in the ranks of the major American writers of the twentieth century.

Born in Joplin, Missouri on February 1, 1902, Hughes moved to Cleveland at the age of 14. Having graduated from Central High School, he spent a year in Mexico before studying at Columbia University. After roaming the world as a seaman and writing some poetry as well, Hughes returned to the United States, winning the Witter Bynner Prize for undergraduate poetry while attending Lincoln University, later his alma mater (1928). Two years later, he received the Harmon Award and, in 1935, with the help of a Guggenheim Fellowship, traveled to Russia and Spain. The long and distinguished list of Hughes' prose works includes: Not Without

Laughter (1930), a collection of short stories, and The Big Sea (1940), his autobiography. To this must be added such collections of poetry as The Weary Blues (1926); The Dream Keeper (1932); Shakespeare in Harlem (1942); Fields of Wonder (1947), and One Way Ticket (1947).

Hughes was also an accomplished song lyricist, librettist, and newspaper columnist. Through his newspaper columns, he created Jesse B. Simple, a Harlem character who saw life on the musical stage in Simply Heavenly.

Throughout the 1960's Hughes edited several anthologies in an attempt to popularize and expose black authors and their works. Some of these are: An African Treasury (1960) and Poems from Black Africa (1963).

In tone and spirit, Hughes remained a poet with a twist of gray humor. Sadness, rather than anger, seemed his primary emotion.

By RUBEN INGRAM  
Features Editor

"Behind every good man is a good woman." Corretta Scott King, Civil Rights Activist, is black history in the making. After her husband's assassination, Mrs. King made a swift transition from the seclusion of the domestic front to a dynamic civil rights and peace crusader in her own right. Mrs. King now carries the ideals of Dr. King actively and publicly.

Born April 27, 1927, Mrs. King is a native of Heiberger, Ala. It was during the depression that she resolved to overcome adversity, seek treatment as an equal, struggle to achieve a sound education.

In 1945 she entered Antioch College in Yellow Springs, Ohio, majoring in music education. She also studied at the New England Conservatory of Music in Boston, and was the first black to teach in the public school of Ohio.

Her meeting and marriage to Martin Luther King brought her a measure of rare self-realization, intense conviction and concern for all of humanity.

Completing her studies in 1945, Mrs. King moved back south with her husband, who became pastor of Drexel Avenue Baptist Church in Montgomery. Mrs. King was present during the Montgomery bus boycott, which gave birth to a new era of civil rights agitation.

By 1964 Mrs. King was the mother of four children: Yolanda (born 1955); Martin Luther, III (born 1957); Dexter Scott (born 1961); and Bernice Alberta (born 1963).

By 1964 Ms. King became accustomed to the limelight. It was more than such exposure, however, that gave her the strength, the courage, and the determination to deal with the assassination, and later, to deliver the speeches he had drafted in rough form.

Her speech on Solidarity Day, June 19, 1968 is often identified as an example of her emergence from the shadow of her husband's memory.



In 1984, 16 years after her husband's death, Mrs. King remains an eloquent and well-respected symbol of black history and is a token of all that King and others fought for many years ago.

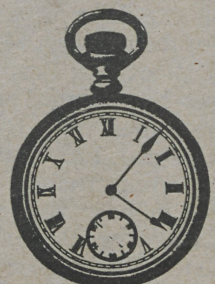
### Top of the news

*Control of the 1984 Senate can be ours. the time to prepare is now. Every black student of legal voting age should register in his or her hometown as soon as possible. Your Vote does make a difference!*

Jesse Jackson, a few months after his coup in Damascus, Syria made a request to speak to the body of the General Assembly in Greenville, S.C.

The resolution needs senate approval before Jackson can speak for 15 minutes before a joint session. Every measure is being taken to allow Jackson a chance to speak.

IT'S  
TIME  
TO  
HELP!





# BLACKS WILL NOT SUFFER

By RUBEN INGRAM  
Features Editor

Many black families today are different from families of the past. However, the black family of today attributes its achievements to the black family of the past. There are undeniable differences between past and present black families. As black awareness of equal rights and freedom from discrimination proliferate, the black family will continue to progress in all areas of life.

Many of the ideas people have of the black family are changing. The former rural pattern and the large extended family with close ties to

relatives of other households has been modified in recent years.

The exodus of the black-american family from a rural way of life in the south into a city-oriented environment is due to less concern with agricultural pursuits and service work. Unlike black families during the years of slavery, oppression and rash discrimination of the 1960's, the black family today closely resembles other american families. Today many black families are fulfilling the goals that were represented in the songs of former slaves and civil rights marchers. Black families today enjoy many of

the luxuries denied the black families before the 1960's.

Over thirty years ago, approximately three-fourths of the black population lived in southern rural areas. Today three out of four live in the city (as compared to 67 percent of whites) and only 52 percent of the black-american families remain in the south.

As black families evolved both in rural and urban america old behavioral patterns and old associations were left behind, and a new way of doing things resulted. Many black families today have relatively elevated incomes, higher

levels of education, and economic security and find it easier to maintain their family integrity and pride.

The Black family today reside in great numbers in areas such as New York, Washington, Philadelphia and Boston, along with other successful blacks in well-established communities. The black family now travels abroad, enjoys vacations and hobbies, and send their children to prestigious colleges. In fact, members of young black families are closing the gap between blacks and whites in educational experience.

By RUBEN INGRAM  
Features Editor

American history characterized her as being as strong as a man, brave as a lion and cunning like a fox; a woman who could command an audience of people and start a revolution that would change the course of history.

Often called "A Pilgrim of Freedom," Sojourner of Truth (1797-1885) began her life as Isabel, although unable to read and write, she traveled the south on her

"Pilgrimage for God" in order to free people from slavery.

Sojourner Truth began her mission in the spring of 1843. At a time when oratory was a fine art, Sojourner Truth through her strong character and acid intelligence was one of the most outspoken anti-slavery advocates of her time. She was once received by Abraham Lincoln at the White House.

Throughout the unbelieving south the sincerity of her speeches could be heard. In her own words she

declared, "I felt so tall within -I felt as if the power of the nation was in me."

Frequent efforts were made to silence her. She Along with other slaves of the time were beaten and punished but nothing could stop her. Sojourner wore across her chest a satin banner bearing the words, "Proclaim Liberty throughout the land unto all the inhabitants thereof." Because of her daring masculine strength, many doubted her. the mother of five children, to

be a woman. Her convictions for right were strong. Once while speaking to an audience of black and white slaves, a heckler dared her to prove that she was really a woman, Sojourner ripped her blouse to the waist and declared that it was to his shame, not hers, that such a question should be raised. Deeply compelled by her dream for freedom and equality, Sojourner lived up to her name, staying in one place only long enough to proclaim the truth and move on.

## ALTHEA GIBSON: BLACK WOMEN TENNIS PLAYER

By DAVID THEROITH  
Sports Editor

The list of black American women who have contributed strongly to the causes for the advancement of black people is endless. However, one woman who stands head and shoulders above the crowd is Mary McLeod Bethune.

She was born on July 10, 1875 and grew up on a farm in Mayesville, South

Carolina. She had a special insight to the problems of the black youth, stemming from the experiences of the early childhood. She studied to be a missionary seven years at Scotia Seminary in North Carolina and also at the Moody Bible Institute in Chicago. However once her study was over she decided to turn to teaching.

Herbert Hoover used

Mrs. Bethune's talents in 1930 when he brought her to the White House Conference on Child Health and Protection. She also served on the Advisory Committee of the National Youth Administration under Franklin Roosevelt. In 1935 Roosevelt asked her to set up an office of Minority Affairs, with her as administrator, because her work was so good. It

was the first post of its kind ever to be held by an American black woman.

With more Congressional money for NYA pouring in, Mrs. Bethune's title changed to Director of the Division of Negro Affairs. She granted funds to students who couldn't otherwise continue graduate study.

She was one of the top figures in the undeclared "Black Cabinet". She also

helped establish Bethune-Cookman College, which is a merge with the Daytona Educational and Industrial School and the Cookman Institute.

Mrs. Bethune died in 1955 at age 80. Her best achievement was not the awards she received but in the human interest and dedication she showed to the youth of our nation.

## MILITARY HERO: BENJAMIN O. DAVIS, JR.

By DAVID THEROITH  
Sports Editor

It is the dawn of a new day for the military. Maybe it is because President Reagan has dimmed many opportunities for today's black person. For whatever reason, minorities are joining the military at a rapid rate and for those who aspire to achieve more than "the basic three and get out" then retired Lieute-

nant General Benjamin O. Davis, Jr. can be an inspiration.

General Davis was the highest ranking black ever in the history of the U.S. military. The great black king Hannibal would have been proud.

Davis was born in Washington in 1912 and went to school in Alabama. His father was Army connected, teaching military

science at the prestigious Tuskegee Institute. Davis graduated in Cleveland as president of his class and with one of the highest academic averages in his class. Good things were bound to happen.

Davis went to Western Reserve University and then to the University of Chicago before his big break came, appointment to the U.S. Military

Academy in 1932. Though he received the silent treatment, he still graduated 35th in a class of 276.

He served in the infantry for five years, then went to Advanced Army Flying School, where he graduated in 1942.

Davis distinguished himself with 60 missions in 224 combat hours as commander of the 99th Fighter Squadron and also the

332nd Fighter Group (all black). The silver star was among the medals he won.

Davis made lieutenant general in 1965 and retired after becoming deputy commander of the U.S. Strike Command at McDill Air Force Base in Tampa, Florida.



By SHIRLEY WILLIAMS  
Arts Editor

February is the month to remember our forefathers--those Blacks who worked assiduously to excell in their particular fields of study and those who struggled constantly to help improve the lives of others. The following Blacks did reach a level of excellence in their work and should, therefore, be respected and remembered for their jobs well done.



Madame Sul-te-wan

MADAME SU-TE-WAN was born on September 12, 1873, in Louisville, Kentucky. Being the first Black character actress, she signed her first movie contract in 1913. An outstanding actress, Madame Su-te-wan appeared in motion pictures for over 40 years. Even though she portrayed numerous characters during her career, she is remembered for her performance in her last major film, "Carmen Jones".



LUCIUS MILLINDER, born August 8, 1900 in Anniston, Alabama, played an important role in jazz. In 1934, he became leader of the Mills' Blue Rhythm Band, the house band at the Savoy Ballroom in Harlem. In 1937, he organized his own jazz group. His biggest hit was "Ride, Red Ride". Lucius Millinder became known as one of the greatest jazz leaders in history.

February 5, 1947-John L. Howard became the first Black in almost a hundred years to graduate from Princeton University. Howard entered the Navy thru the V-12 program while taking a pre-medical course at Columbia University. He was transferred to Princeton under the program he received a full scholarship at Princeton until graduation. Dr. Howard then entered Cornell University Medical School and intered at Great Lakes Naval Hospital, Great Lakes, Illinois.



Shirley Graham

November 11, 1907-Shirley Graham, author and composer, best known for her giographies of famous Blacks which were written for young people, was born in Evansville, Ind. Her greatgrandfather was freed from slavery by his owner bvefore the Civil War. An industrious blacksmith, he earned money to buy a farm nbear Evansville, Ind., where his farmhouse was used as a station in the Underground Railroad. In 1929 Shirley's father, who was a Methodist minister, was made head of a mission shcool in Liberia. She accompanied him across the Atlantic but remained in Paris, where for a year she studied music composition at the Sorbonne. After her return to the U.S. in 1930, she taught music at what is now Morgan State University in Baltimore. After two years, she entered Oberlin College and while there wrote and composed a musical play, Tom-Tom. The play was later built into a 16-scene opera dramatizing Black immigration from African jungle and closed with a s cene in Harlem. All of its music was developed from centuries-old African themes and rhythams. In 1951, Shirley Graham married the late Dr. W.E.B. DuBois. They spent most of their years together in Ghana where Dr. DuBois died in 1963.



Alain Locke

DONALD REDMOND was born on July 29, 1900 in Piedmont, West Virginia. He became famous for his role as an outstanding musician. Mr. Redmond was one of the first jazz composers in the United States. He was, also, a band leader and a saxaphonists. Donald Redmond became the first Black orchestra leader to have a sponsored radio series.

ALAIN LOCKE was born in Philadelphia on September 13, 1886. In 1907, he became the first Black Rhodes Scholar. He attended Harvard University where he was elected to Phi Beta Kappa, a honorary fraternity. He, later, established Phi Beta Kappa at Howard University. As one of America's foremost Black scholars, Dr. Locke taught at Howard University for 41 years. Dr. Locke is remembered for his lasting contribution to the develepment of a critical literature of Blacks in art, music, drama, and literature.



Donald Redmond

## FREEDOM EQUALITY AND J O B S

By Ruben Ingram  
FEATURES EDITOR

The state of the black community is a reproach to the U.S. and its economic stability. The problem in the black community has its beginning in the past; everybody blames Ronald Reagan for accentuating the problems that have existed among blacks for years.

For instance, blacks living below the government's official poverty level is the highest since the 1960's and Black unemployment reached 20.6 in the first two quarters of 1983.

To often the status of black-

america is based on the achievements of a few blacks. Our Government calls this "black progress". It is impossible to judge the whole on the achievements of a few who manage to "overcome."

Take a good look around you. Blacks are dealing in prostitution, illegal drugs, are on welfare, and out number whites in many prison systems, because they have very little hope for jobs and money. In my research, a median black family income in 1982 was \$13,000 or 55 percent of the \$24,000 median for white families. Now, do you understand why tution, food cost, health cost

and other cost are so high for blacks? Can you begin to see why the cost of life for the average white family is no problem? Surely, you can see who has all the money.

The problem is this: black unemployment. The unemployment rate for black teen-agers, who have the capacity to maintain a job was 42.7 percent last year; for white teen-agers it was 18.3 percent.

The point is this is, to show that if something is not done the economy of the U.S. will go to support blacks, who want to be productive but can't without jobs. If no action is taken to get blacks into the

work force crime, child mortality, and welfare will increase.

Solutions: We thought Jimmy Carter would do it, and we hoped Ronald Reagan would do it, since he managed to get the presidency -Reagan is the problem. The real solution: presidential candidacy of Jesse Jackson. This should increase black-voter registration. Blacks should become inspired by places like Chicago, Washington, Atlanta, Philadelphia and Boston, where the black vote has already made an impact. The 1984 senate could very well be ours.



# FRAT-TALK



By **ALMA GILMORE**  
Staff Writer

Omega Psi Phi Fraternity was founded November 17, 1911 at Howard University in Washington D. C. The fraternity was funded by three underclassmen. Oscar J. Cooper, Frank Coleman, Edgar A. Love and Professor Ernest E Just. These young men had a special friendship and they wanted a special organization to share this friendship and thus produced Omega Psi Phi Fraternity. This also produced the motto of the fraternity, "Friendship Is Essential to the Soul."

The young men then established Four Cardinal Principles that would guide every member of Omega to come: Manhood, Scholarship, Perseverance and Uplift.

The Omega Psi Fraternity, like most fraternities, was conceived to enrich the

social and intellectual aspect of college life. The constitution provided that the fraternity was to be composed of men of like attainment and of the same ideals of fellowship, scholarship, and manhood.

The name given to the first chapter of Omega Psi Phi was Alpha Chapter at Howard. Later came Beta Chapter at Lincoln Univ, Gamma Chapter at Boston Univ, and Delta Chapter at Meharry Medical College. Omega Psi Phi was well on its way.

Today Omega Psi Phi has widened its perspective through four national programs: Achievement Week, Talent Hunt, Scholarship Fund and Social Action. These programs have benefited many people young and old in so many ways. These programs encompass service to mankind a quality that has placed so many Omega men in Negro and national history.



By **S. L. CHERRY**  
Staff Writer

"The founder of our wondrous band in numbers, tho' were three, taught ideals high which soon became a part of every Phi." Brothers Taylor, Morse, and Brown chose to be pioneers of what is now well-noted as the Phi Beta Sigma Fraternity Inc. Since the beginning of 1914, there have been collegiate men who have been striving to uphold distinctive qualities that promote service towards all of mankind. The objectives that highlight this fraternity are well-defined in producing some of the best in helping society, and the individual who is a member of this brotherhood. Important to any functioning body is its philosophy or belief in what it stands for. The ideals of Phi Beta Sigma Inc. have been crystallized into three principles: Brotherhood,

Service, and Scholarship. Brotherhood as it applies here is real, with tested and abiding fellowship. Service is a cornerstone in all activities. A fruitful life is one that is spent for the blessings of others. The Xi Nu Chapter of PBS Inc. exemplify this in a wide spectrum. Finally, scholarship is highly esteemed in acquiring a superior mind as well as character. The chapter on this campus as it will and is being represented, will continue to hold fast to what this fraternity has been founded on. The chapter on this campus, Xi Nu, is proud to have fourteen select young men who pride themselves in being associated with this fraternity and its greatness. From place to place and until the victory has been won, the Brotherhood of Phi Beta Sigma will thunder along the line. "Our Cause speeds on its way."

Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc. was founded in 1913 at Howard University by 22 dedicated young women. Since this time Delta Sigma Theta Sorority has grown into the largest black Greek letter organization and the largest organization of black women in the United States with over 125,000 members. Delta Sigma Theta is a service oriented sorority whose major five point program thrusts are in the areas of: educational development, economic development, political awareness and involvement, physical and mental health and international awareness and involvement.

Delta has members who are active in both the political and entertainment scene such as: Lena Horne, Leontye Price, Natalie Cole, Leslie Uggams, Osceola McAdams, Nicki Giovanni, Betty Shabazz, Patricia Harris, Barbara Jordan, and Shirley Chisholm. While it's nice to have individuals who have achieved a level of fame in different areas, it is more important to instill in our members the will to succeed and to obtain their goals and aspirations. For success is not measured on fame service to the community but service to our members as well.

The Kappa Sigma Chapter was the first black sorority on ECU's campus. We have continuously strived to fulfill our commitment to the community by our service work. Some of our activities include: work with Sunshine Girl's Club, rest home visits, sponsoring of needy families, work with Cornerstone Missionary Baptist Church, establishment of a Scholarship Fund, an annual fashion show to benefit charity, Culture center dances to benefit charity, absentee ballot voting booths and participants in the Mother's March of Dimes. We believe that the quantity alone is not indicative of the results, but rather the quality of the work done. Our public image has generally remained the same over the years; friendly and willing to lend a helping hand.

On this occasion we would like to challenge all of the minorities to put aside their petty jealousies and prejudices and strive to fulfill the goals of those who've paved the way for us. The time is well past for unity. Why put it off, let's start today!



By **ALMA GILMORE**  
Staff Writer

The Zeta Phi Beta Sorority was founded January 16, 1920 on the campus of Howard University. The founding sisters, Arizona Cleaver, Viola Tyler, Myrtle Tyler, Pearl Neal, and Fannie Pettie stood for scholarship, finer womanhood, and sisterly love. These ideals have become a known tradition of Zetas.

On our campus there exist the Lambda Mu Chapter of Zeta Phi Beta Sorority. Its Members include Annette Kornegay, Martha Kornegay, Deborah Nunn, Camille Pighet, Deborah Spruill, and LaTonya Temple. Although the first Chartered members are few in number, their accomplishments prove that

there is strength in unity.

The organization is actively working on national, state and local projects. Some of the national projects include: the SNIP Project in conjunction with the March of Dimes; Voter Registration; and the Haitian Project. Locally, the sorority has worked with the Department of Social Services with youth programs within the churches. The Zetas are also working to raise money for their Regional Meeting at Hampton Institute.

The Zeta Phi Beta Sorority has been extremely successful in their endeavors. And they would like to thank everyone for their support. Zeta Phi Beta, we salute you. You have shown that quality goes a long way.



# STUDENT OPINION



Richard Pearce



Susan Moss

By RUBEN INGRAM  
Staff Interviewer

Students were asked, "What they thought of month of February being Black History Month," and what it meant to them?"

**RICHARD PEARCE** -Senior, Biochemistry "I think its a good idea that February is Black History month. Also, the celebration of black history should be intergrated as much as possible that way everybody gets to celebrate the occasion."

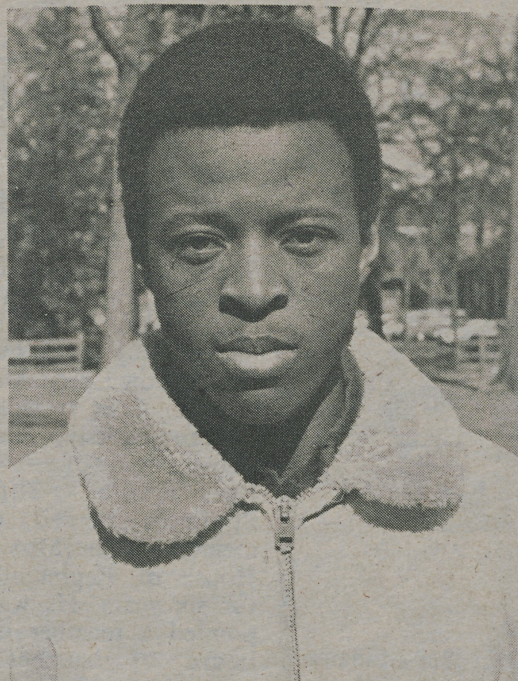
**DEVON MURPHY** -Junior, Computer Science "I think the celebration is a milestone in black history. This month should be a month for all poeple to come together to celebrate the achievements of all races."

**SUSAN MOSS** -Freshman, "I wasn't aware that February was Black History Month, but I think it should be recognized throughout campus that way more people like myself could be aware of it."

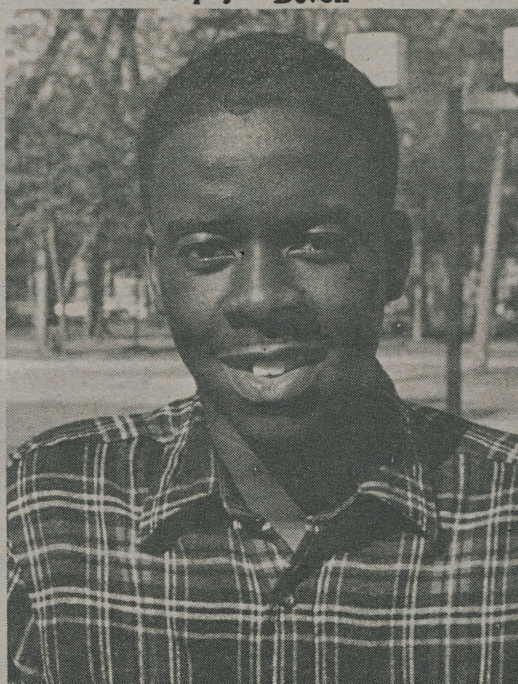
**CONYERS DEWAYNE**

-Freshman, Commerical Art "I think Black History month is special. Actually, I look foward to it and getting involved in the events that come with it. The celebration shouldn't be limited to this month alone."

Photo By Neil Johnson



Murphy Devon



Dwayne Conyers.

## THE BLACK VOTE IN 84'

One of the most crucial political elections of this era will occur for the selection of the president's chair in 1984. With it comes a huge white house that has the biggest back yard in world-The United States, which takes more than a handy man to keep the grass trim and the falling leaves from piling up to the point where they have to be burned. What makes this election much more distinct than the? In one of the selective parties that will run for the candidacy of the president, there exists both the best known black and the most gifted orator in American politics, who has

every possibility of becoming the first black to attain credibility and political impact as a genuine presidential calender. The Reverend Jesse Jackson is this man. Founder of Operation Push (People United in Service to Humanity), the Reverend Jesse Jackson began his service with a commitment he made to the Civil Rights Movement in the mid. 60's while in college of North Carolina A&T in Greensboro. It was then that he was drawn into the orbit of the Rev. Martin Luther King, Jr.. Their relationship-King as mentor

and, Jackson as star pupil. The Rev. Martin Luther King and the Southern Christian Leadership Conference had established a program called Operation Breadbasket to pressure Atlanta business to end discriminatory hiring practices. When Rev. King expanded the campaign to Chicago in 1966, he picked Jesse Jackson to run the local operation. It was a few years later that Jackson had difficulties with the Atlanta black establishment and transformed Operation Breadbasket into his own

independent organization, Operation Push. Jesse Jackson's candidacy for the presidency of the United States is singularly one of the most far reaching and significant events of this century. The covenant that he seeks with the Democratic Party is one that provides full parity for blacks and other elements of his rainbow coalition. If this sounds like Jackson, should run as an independent, he can't because this would almost guarantee Reagan's re-election. But can Jesse put together a Rainbow Coalition? If Jesse Jackson can register

millions of Blacks, Hispanics, Native Americans, women and poor Whites to vote, it would be a remarkable achievement that would change the face style and ground work of the Democratic Party.





# FEATURES

## HISTORY OF THE BLACK PEOPLE



Mme. C.J. Walker

Dec. 23, 1869-Madame C.J. Walker, one of the first American women of any race to become a millionaire, was born in Delta, La. In 1910, she went to Indianapolis to begin the manufacture of hair preparations, later adding a complete line of toiletries and cosmetics to her products. Before she died in 1919, Madame Walker was well-known for her philanthropic activities.



Crispus Attucks

March 5, 1770-Crispus Attucks, a fugitive slave who worked for 20 years as a merchant seaman, was the first man to be killed for America's freedom in what is known as the Boston Massacre. The event ignited the American Revolutionary War. Samuel Adams, prominent colonial leader of the struggle against British troops guarding the customs commissioners at the docks. Crispus Attucks was among those who responded to the plea. When the confrontation took place, Attucks was the first of five to be shot fatally by the British guards. Adams used the incident to incite the colonists to further rebellion. There now stands a Crispus Attucks Monument in the Boston Common, which was dedicated in 1888 to honor the five victims of the Boston Massacre.

January 18, 1841-James J. Spelman, Reconstruction politician, was born in Norwich, Conn. He was active in recruiting black men to fight for the Union Army in the Civil War. In 1868, he went to Mississippi to set up programs for the Freedmen's Bureau. Spelman served as a member of the Mississippi House of Representatives for six years. He was appointed a member of the board of trustees and elected secretary, for Alcorn University in 1871, when the school was established.



Martin Luther King Jr.

Dec. 10, 1964-Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., was awarded the Nobel Peace Prize, at ceremonies in Oslo, Norway, for leading the Black struggle for equality in the United States through non-violent means. Dr. King, the youngest recipient, donated his award money, \$54,000, to the civil rights movement.

March 6, 1857-The Dred Scott Decision of the U.S. Supreme Court was rendered. Dred Scott, a Black man Born of slave parents, sued for his freedom in 1848 on the grounds that he had been carried by his master from the slave state Missouri into the free states of Illinois and Minnesota. The U.S. Supreme Court held that he was not a citizen and not entitled to any standing in court. It further declared that the Missouri Compromise was unconstitutional, that Congress could not prohibit a citizen from carrying slaves or other property into any territory in the United States.

By S.W. BELL  
Associated Press

On May 1, 1975, Jean Nguyen, her mother, two brothers and three sisters sat facing her father. On his lap he held an armed Claymore mine. Miss Nguyen, who was 12 then, remembers crying.

But Miss Nguyen and her family did not die, either at her father's desperate hand or at the hand of the Communist forces that had just taken over Vietnam.

Perhaps the most stirring aspect of the family's death-defying story is that Miss Nguyen, daughter of a South Vietnamese army colonel and provincial leader, expects to graduate almost 10 years later to the day with the Class of 1985 as a second lieutenant from the United States Military Academy here.

It was with the help of a family friend, Maj. Herbert Lloyd, who met her father in Vietnam, that Miss Nguyen applied to West Point.

On Dec. 26, 1980, she received her appointment from former Congressman Allen Ertel, but needed some fast work for her father to become an American citizen-so she could meet the academy's citizenship requirement-which he did on March 2, 1981. On July 1, 1981, she entered West Point.

Her grades were top-notch, and she ran track, played field hockey and lifted weights. "All the guys stared at me," Miss Nguyen said. "What are you doing here? It's the wrong place for you," she quotes them as saying. "I could not do on pull-up."

Asked why she went to West Point, Miss Nguyen replied that when their ship arrived in the Philippines, the South Vietnamese flag was lowered for what her family knew would be the last time for them.

"When the flag went down on that ship I wanted to do something....I know a lot of Americans died for the Vietnamese in war. I wanted to do something for their families."



Bessie Smith

September 26, 1894-Bessie Smith, blues singer, was born in Chattanooga, Tenn. Raised in poverty, she was discovered at the age of 13 by Ma Rainey, the first nationally famous Black blues singer, who persuaded Ms. Smith to go on tour with her minstrel show. At age 17, she was singing in Selma, Ala., where Frank Walker, head of Columbia Records, heard her. Back in New York, Walker sent an associate to find Ms. Smith and convince her to record for Columbia. In February of 1923, she cut her first disc, Downhearted Blues, which sold over 2 million copies during its first year of release and skyrocketed Bessie Smith to fame. She became the highest-paid Black entertainer during her first year with Columbia earning as much as \$1,500 a week. She recorded her most famous song Nobody Knows You When You're Down and Out in 1929. She

bled to death outside a segregated Mississippi hospital that refused to treat injuries she sustained in an automobile accident in 1937.



Daniel Hale Williams

January 18, 1865-Dr. Daniel Hale Williams, first doctor to perform a successful heart operation, was born in Pennsylvania. Dr. Williams was the surgeon who helped found Provident Hospital in Chicago. He received his college education in Pennsylvania and Wisconsin, and entered the Chicago Medical School, where he earned his medical degree in 1883. Dr. Williams established the country's first interracial hospital in 1891. In 1893, he performed a heart operation formerly thought impossible, and his fame and skill as a surgeon became widely known. Williams was called to Washington to re-organize the Freedmen's Hospital of

Howard University in 1894. He assembled a staff of 20 specialists and organized the medical college into departments. The first nursing school was created at Freedmen's under his leadership.



Felton Clark

October 3, 1903-Felton G. Clark, educator, was born in Baton Rouge, La. Dr. Clark received his first college degree from Southern University in 1922, eight years after his father founded it with seven faculty members with an annual budget of \$10,000. After receiving his Ph.D. from Columbia University in 1925, he taught at Southern as dean of the college. He became president of Southern in 1938, at the age of 35, serving until his retirement in 1969.



# THE JOURNEY TO ADULTHOOD

By OTI BOSSAR  
Contributing Writer

From a flagellation by the hide to a flagellation by the conscience, an endless scourge--and that was Tom's dilemma.

With difficulty, Tom swerved his swollen eyes through 180 degrees in search of a glimpse of his back. It was not easy. But he had to. This would help him to measure in his mind the severity of the whipping and beating that had befallen his back and the extent of the damage to his body. The strips of protruded flesh beamed their bloodshot sparkles at his strained pupils. The long wound, inflicting hide had done its merciless duty once again. This was the third time this week alone. The story is the same every week.

Tom had shed too many tears over the tears that tears hardly came again as tears meant nothing. Screaming was useless because no person can rescue him from his abusive

father, not even the good neighbor. For Tom one thing was certain and that was one day he would grow to be like his dad. And that day, these beatings would cease, yes, forever. Tom summed up courage.

"One day, some day, my height will level his; my muscles will broaden out and I will no longer be treated that way." All the thought and feelings gave Tom hope for the future but the journey seems tough. Tom raised his eyes to the summer sky.

The purple rays of the setting sun smiled back at him. Looking round him, he suddenly realized that his only companion was solitude. The park had always been a refuge place for him. The only music in the park was that of little insects. The gentle lapping of the wavelets of the little stream in front of him added colour and friendliness to his solitary state. At this point only one thing worried him, the quiet environment, the setting sun.

"Tomorrow by this time, the sun will be setting again," Tom imagined. "Life continues! As the sun rises in the East and sets in the West. It rolls days into weeks into months and months into years." It gives Tom mouth confidence that his age would not be static.

Fifteen years ago when Tom was born his father had dreamed of a son. A healthy, handsome boy. He must train to work hard. Put him on the right track of life. Infantile excesses and child-like rascalities must not go unpunished. Tom was a victim of an abusive father. His mother has no say. If she talks Tom's father will always reply, "keep to yourself, woman, and don't dictate to me on how to bring up my own son."

For Tom this long-term tribulation with the resultant insensitivity to correcting and discipline was making him tougher every minute and his lust for adulthood and independence stronger every

moment.

Tom was sad again. The future looked distant again. He had suffered another terrible beating from the mother. But then, he recalled his experience at the park. That setting sun. He resolved to strive through the odds with the strong conviction that he would get there.

Tom had just finished his final grade when one day the father tried to beat him and he went out of the father's sight with tough resistance. The father rained abuse on him.

To Tom, things had taken a glorious turn. His journey into adulthood and freedom was nearing completion. As he stepped out of the house he called Jule, the girlfriend, to meet him at the near by shop. Within a minute Jule was there. From there to the park they talked until the night was long. The stars glittered silently in the heavens and the half-moon gave the darkness a gloomy and amorous touch. For the

first time, Tom could read in Jule's eyes messages he never read before in his life. He recalled the troubled period when solitude was his best friend. He remembered the gentleness of the setting sun. Today, it had gone home and the gentle darkness has fallen on him. Beside him is lovely Jule, to stimulate the rising waves of adulthood in him. "Don't let us go too far," cautioned Jule.

"Come on Jule, we're no longer kids. This is our time. Let's enjoy it to the fullest. After all, we have nothing to lose. If your really in love with my, why die in hypocrisy, deceit or in silence?"

The romantic and hypnotic look from his eyes melted her fear. She hugged him, giving him the needed passport for the flight. So the plane took off, and the entry into the garden gates was enjoyable and ecstatic. Tom was much alive, having a feeling he had never had before in life.

## MOVEMENT FOR CIVIL RIGHTS

CARMICHAEL By DEREK  
Staff Writer

The history of Black Americans is both varied and detailed with several high points throughout the years. 1619 marked the year that blacks were first brought to the English colonies as slaves. At the time there were only 20 but by the late 1600's slaves were being brought to the colonies each year. Slavery continued to grow with the invention of the cotton gin and more than ever labor was needed. Slavery also brought with it a share of grave consequences such as revolts by the slaves. Some of the leaders at this time included Sojourner Truth, a freed slave who made talks in New England and the West. Frederick Douglass, by publishing an aboli-

tionist newspaper called The North Star. Harriet Tubman, who had earlier escaped from slavery, returned to the south to free other slaves. During the time of slavery Harriet Tubman had helped about 300 blacks escape to freedom.

On January 1, 1863, President Lincoln issued an Emancipation Proclamation. It didn't actually free any slaves because at the time it only applied to the Confederate States. In 1865 the 13th amendment was adopted and all the slaves were freed.

During the time of reconstruction, two black men by the names of Hiram R. Revels and Blanch K. Bruce were elected to the U.S. Senate.

The period of reconstruction saw the continued fight

for equal rights which at the end of the 19th century and entering of a new century brought its share of important leaders.

Booker T. Washington became an outstanding leader and educator during the late 1800's and early 1900's. In 1881 he founded the Tuskegee Institute in Tuskegee, Alabama. W.E.B. DuBois, the first black to receive a Ph.D from Harvard, led in the struggle for civil rights and helped found the organization the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP).

Throughout the years Black Americans had achieved remarkable accomplishments. In 1928 Oscar DePriest became the first Northern black elected

to Congress. Writers such as Richard Wright and Langston Hughes were recognized. Entertainers Paul Robeson and Bill Robinson dazzled the nation with their talents. While in the area of sports Joe Lewis had become the first black heavyweight champion since Jack Johnson and Jackie Robinson became the first black to play major league baseball. The 1960's saw the development of the civil rights movement and such distinguished names as Roy Wilkins, Whitney Young and James Farmer emerged. The most influential leader of the civil rights movement was Dr. Martin Luther King.

The 1970's marked such political gains as Kenneth Gibson of Newark, New

Jersey and Thomas Bradley of Los Angeles were elected first black mayors of their cities. While in 1975 George L. Brown of Colorado and Melvyn Dymally of California the first black lieutenant governors of their states since reconstruction.

The 1980's will be recorded with such historical events as the decade that the first black man went up into space and Harold Washington becoming the first black mayor of Chicago. While on the lighter note the decade will be remembered for seeing the crowning of the first black Miss America, Vanessa Williams. As we move onward and current events become history, we see new accomplishments and advancement for our people. We can look back and be proud.

## SEND HELP!





# JENNIFER LEWIS

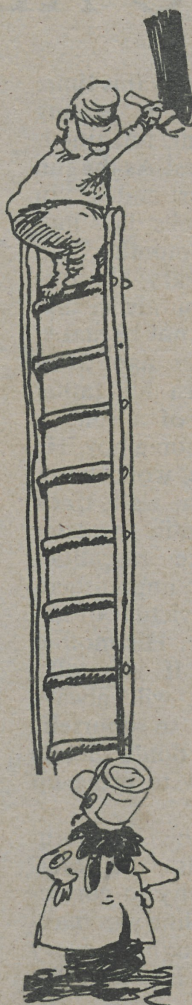
While it's was cold outside on February 1, it was surely "hot" in Hendrix Theatre. The East Carolina University Minority Arts Committee presented Jennifer Lewis in "From Billie to Lena with Jenny" for the 1984 Black Arts Festival.

Jennifer Lewis recently appeared in Bette Midler's "De Tour '83" and has returned to New York City and performed, "Hot!", her outstanding one-woman show. In a review of her nightclub act, the New York Times wrote that "She already has the aura, and the confidence and the projection of a star. She is the very essence of show business--a singer with a dazzling voice, a high-kicking dancer, a lusty comedienne, a coiled spring of energy."

Prior to working with Bette Midler, Miss Lewis appeared on Broadway as Diana Ross and Donna Sumner in "Rock n' Roll: The First 5,000 Years" and her other appearances in-

clude roles in "Eubie", "Comin' Uptown," and "Baggy Pants and Company." Off Broadway, she appeared in both "El Bravo" at the the Entermedia Theatre, and "Sister Aimee" on Theatre Row while last season she performed the title role in "Mahalia" (based on the life of Mahalia Jackson) to outstanding notice on its pre-Broadway tryout at the Hartman Theatre. For her performance as Nell in "Ain't Misbehavin'", produced by the Pennsylvania Stage Company, Miss Lewis again received critical acclaim for her stellar renditions of "Honeysuckle Rose" and "Cash for Your Trash."

Miss Lewis created roles in "Once in a Lifetime," and "A Midsummer Night's Dream" at the Loretto-Hilton Repertory Theatre. She is a graduate of Webster College, where she was the recipient of the Irene Ryan Award for excellence in performance.



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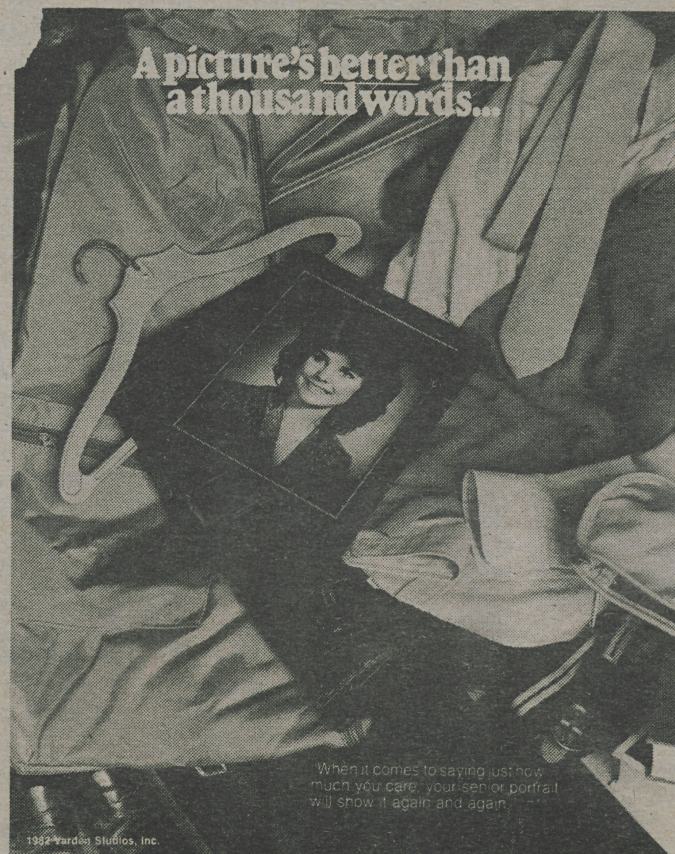
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