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THE 'M' VOICE

EASTERN NORTH CAROLINA'S MINORITY VOICE - SINCE 1987

MAY 30, 1991

Superior-rated high school bands to perform during 1991 NC Summer Special Olympics games opening ceremony



CHUBB ROCK IN GREENVILLE . . . Last Saturday night at the National Guard Armory, Rap Star Chubb Rock did his thing to a standing room only crowd. Local Promoter Dena S., stated she loves it when young people come together and that is just what she has been doing in presenting and bringing top name talent to Greenville. Chubb Rock was sensational. Look for more concerts to come this summer.

Two of North Carolina's top award-winning bands will merge their musical talent and performance skills during the 1991 North Carolina Summer Special Olympics Games Opening Ceremony in Greenville on Friday, May 31, 1991.

"Each band will provide an outstanding performance on the field of Ficklen Stadium at East Carolina University," said Connie Sappenfield, 1991 Summer Games Director. Together, the bands will begin playing at 6:30 p.m. including separate performances periodically until 8:30 p.m. Free to the public, the two bands will open for the last entertainer of the evening, Chubby checker and the Wildcats.

According to Sappenfield, the Farmville Central High School Marching Band, located in Farmville, N.C. is a superior award-winning performer in North Carolina. "Not only do they compete in all of North Carolina, but also in other states including several competitions in Virginia Beach, Va., and Walt Disney World in Orlando, Fla.," said Sappenfield.

In January 1991, the band participated in a competition consisting of 28 bands. Each band represented an NFL Football team for the Super Bowl XXV Kickoff Parade and Festivities in Tampa, Fla. Performing another spectacular musical presentation, the Farmville Central High School Marching Band received the reputation as Grand Champions



of the competition.

According to Craig Everett, band director of Farmville Central High School, 125 student band members will participate in the 1991 North Carolina Special Olympics Games Opening Ceremony. Hosted in Pitt County, the entire band is honored to have the exposure and experience of performing for another competitive team, NCSO, he said.

The West Carteret High School Marching Patriots, of Morehead

City, N.C., consisting of 151 students and their band director, Matt Bottoms, have also gained national attention for their outstanding abilities in the last five years, according to Sappenfield. They have performed in several states as well as the 1987 Peach Bowl Parade, the 1990 Gator Bowl Parade and they were honored to have been invited to the 1989 Texas Cotton Bowl Parade.

Awarded with another top honor, the Marching Patriots were fea-

ture on the cover of Pepsi Cola's "Pepsi World" publication which is distributed internationally.

North Carolina Special Olympics offers year-round athletic training and sports competition for 20,000 athletes with mental retardation. Through a statewide network of thousands of coaches, sports officials, local program committee members and event organizers, NCSO offers competition in 17 sports in Olympic-style games on the local and state levels.



TOP PROFESSIONAL . . . Beaufort Deputy Sheriff Jerry Langley, who has been on the force for 9 years, is Beaufort County's top investigator. Our cameras caught Brother Langley enjoying a beautiful day in downtown Washington, N.C.

Staff photo by Jim Rouse

National conference to focus on crisis facing black males

Washington, D.C. - An extraordinary three-day conference focusing on the plight and problems of American Black males will be held in Washington, D.C. on May 22-24 at the Omni Shoreham Hotel.

This action-oriented conference is being hosted in a recently established 21st Century Commission on African-American Males, co-chaired by Virginia Governor L. Douglas Wilder and U.S. Senator Terry Sanford (D-N.C.).

The stated goal of the bipartisan 21st Century commission on African-American Males is to gener-

ate national action strategies and policy initiatives in five key areas: economics, workforce preparation, education, health care, and social problems.

Members of the Commission serving as co-hosts for the National Conference are: Dr. Dorothy Height, president, National Council of Negro Women; Arthur a. Fletcher, chairman, U.S. Commission on Civil Rights; John Jacob, president and CEO, National Urban League; Cong. Edolphus Towns, chairman, Congressional Black Caucus, New York Mayor David N. Dinkins, and NAACP Executive Director Rev.

Benjamin Hooks.

Gov. Wilder said, "The conference will have a national focus in which leaders from academia, the private sector and government gather under one roof, not merely to exchange ideas, but to forge a viable plan of action."

According to Sen. Sanford, "Legislation alone cannot eliminate the problems of Black males, but we

can, perhaps, shape public policy and private attitudes for the first time in America's history, to help young Black males see clearly that the lifetime obstacle course is tough, but that it is not stacked against them."

The conference, entitled, "Exploding Myths, Analyzing Strategies: An Agenda for African-American Males," will feature 13 panels, covering subjects ranging from programs targeted to Black males to alternatives to a the

criminal justice system.

Among the conference speakers are: U.S. Senator Bill Bradley, U.S. Senator Donald Riegle, Jr., Dr. Louis Sullivan, Secretary of Health and Human Services, Congressmembers John Conyers, Louis Stokes, Major Owens, and John Lewis.

Other participants include: Dr. Franklyn Jenifer, president, Howard University; Dr. Leroy Keith, president, Morehouse University; Dr. Niara Sudarkasa,

president, Lincoln University; Paul Hill, executive director, East End Neighborhood House, Cleveland, Ohio; Dr. Morris Jeff, Commissioner of Health, New Orleans, Louisiana; Dr. Spencer Holland, Center for Educating African American Males, Morgan State University; Dr. Walter Allen, UCLA; Dr. Antoine Garibaldi, Xavier University; Dr. Margaret Beale Spencer, Emory University, and Dr. Jewelle Taylor Gibbs, university of California-Berkeley.



LA CHIC . . . "The M Voice" newspaper caught these lovely young sisters after school, and they pose for our camera. They are the future. Keep working hard young sisters. Your beauty tells it all. La Chic is what you are.

Staff photo by Jim Rouse

Raymond Carney named new fire chief

Assistant Chief Raymond Carney, a 21 year veteran of the Greenville Fire Department, will assume the duties of fire chief on July 1 according to an announcement made by the City of Greenville.

Carney said he's looking forward to the challenge of his new position. He would like to upgrade the equipment and decrease response time and maximize service at a minimum cost.

He would like to see the city build additional stations. There are now three stations, downtown, Memorial Drive and the intersection of Charles Boulevard and Red Banks Road. There are two more stations that are to be built.

Carney would also like to see a training center developed that can meet the needs of the airport, the city of Greenville and Pitt County Volunteers.

He is a native of Greenville and has served as assistant chief since 1985. He graduated from N.C. Fire College and the N.C. Fire Prevention School, with an associate's degree in applied science from Pitt Community College.



BLACK AND BROWN . . . Shown posing with Police Officer Sharpe outside of Greenville Police Department is Brownie Troop #466. Left to right are Betty Hopkins, Jeanette Swindell, Tameka Daniels, Janet Evans Troop Leader, Tierney Evans, Donicka Harris, Chesna Hopkins, Latoya Canady, Shamika Grimes, Cynthia Shapre, Alicia Williams. The future is now keeping up the good work, ladies.

Staff photo by Jim Rouse

Creating a common ground for Blacks from the Caribbean and the USA

By Nandel Palmer

In the 1920's, '30's and '40's, they sailed from Jamaica, Trinidad, Barbados, Antigua and other Caribbean islands and flocked to Harlem where they met with their American siblings, who had earlier come from Alabama, Georgia, South Carolina and other places throughout the South.

They worked as laborers, cooks, boatswains, seamstresses, maids, etc., so as to afford their progeny a better way of life. And even though their relationships were not always amicable during that era, their cross-cultures have formed a bridge and paved the way to a more wholesome coexistence today.

Harlem can no longer boast a preponderance of islanders today,

as in every nook and cranny of New York City there's bound to be someone from the Caribbean.

Not intent on being separated, a group of 20 people came together last August in Huntington, Long Island, to form an organization that would create a common ground for Caribbean and African-Americans. The Caribbean, African-American Olive Branch Inc.

"Many of us realize that we're

Africans first," said Dr. Christine Guthman, treasurer of the group, "and we have to come together to form a common bond."

The group's purpose is to inform the public about the need to institute affirmative action programs to overcome the effects of the history of discrimination against minorities. "There's always going to be some sort of dichotomy among any large group of people," said Mr. Victor Jordan, president of the Live Branch Inc, "but we're trying to make a difference."

Since the group's inception, it has organized festivals and other community outreaches, like programs "geared towards raising the community's consciousness" commemorating Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. and Marcus Garvey's birthdays, among other Black pioneers. They are also planning on having a conference at the Touro Law School in Huntington, Long Island on Sunday, June 2, where Dr. Basir Mohawi, founder of the Ujamaa Institute Concept, will be the keynote speaker.

The group meets monthly and strives to keep it going. Jordan stated that he's hoping to expand The Olive Branch throughout the area, and if possible, throughout the country, but that it will need paid personnel and much resources to take care of pertinent matters.

In the meantime, Dr. Guthman is optimistic that the coming together of Caribbeans and African-Americans will bring about positive changes. "We want to improve our situation in respect to business, education, and self-realiza-

tion," she said.

For more information, write to The Caribbean, African-American

Olive Branch Inc., 10 Juanita Avenue, Huntington, New York 11743, or call (516) 673-7953.

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PROUD BLACK MAN... Shown posing for our camera is Brother Roger Johnson, banquet manager at the Holiday Inn and account executive for WOOW and "The M Voice" newspaper and talk show host, invites you to give him a call for all banquet needs and advertising needs.

Signature Pictures

BY GARRY P.
GARRY E. PEARSALL
FREELANCE PHOTOGRAPHER

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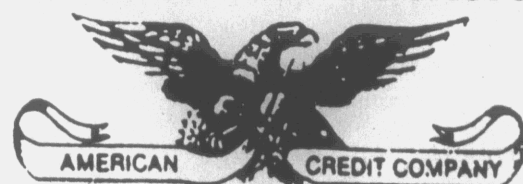
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Faces and Places

MAY 30, 1991 - THE M'VOICE - 3



The Justice Spectrum - Mark C. Olds

Understanding Justice:

A. Understanding justice so few do! Most choose to preserve status quo symbolism; disregarding the Word of God which says, "There is no wisdom and no understanding - And no counsel against the Lord. The horse is prepared for the day of battle, But victory belongs to the Lord." [Proverbs 21:30,31 NASB]

B. Understanding justice the majority most often misunderstand the strength derived from the humble administration of justice. The ruling minority be it South Africa or a county in South Carolina - fear the strength of equity in the empowerment of the disenfranchised through justice. "The execution of justice is joy for the righteous, But is terror to the workers of iniquity." [Proverbs 21:15 NASB] The one - who practices injustice is terrified by the one voice in the wilderness, shouting to clear the way for the Lord God: the Living God Who loves justice!

Justice begets freedom. Free-

dom matured is equality. Equality matured is total liberation. True liberation can only come to an individual or a nation through Christ Jesus and His shed Blood. Praise Him!

C. Understanding justice revelation knowledge shines light on injustices. In order for true liberation (God's order in all phases of life, creation) to flow, injustices must be exposed and dealt with at the core. King Solomon penned, "A wise man scales the city of the mighty, And brings down the stronghold in which they trust." [Proverbs 21:22 NASB]

The Word of God equips us to defeat the strongholds and seats of power. The transformation power of Christ, the Living Word, enables the weak to become strong, the disenfranchised to rise to power. "...God has chosen the foolish things of the world to shame the wise, and God has chosen the weak things of the world to shame the things which are strong, and the base things

of the world and the despised, God has chosen, the things that are not, that He might nullify the things that are." [1 Corinthians 1:27,28 NASB]

D. Understanding justice individuals are empowered to tear down the strongholds which blind the multitudes. The spirit of justice breathes boldness to fight against seemingly insurmountable odds. "For though we walk in the flesh, we do not war according to the flesh, for the weapons of our warfare are not of the flesh, but divinely powerful for the destruction of fortresses. We are destroying speculations and every lofty thing raised up against the knowledge of God, and we are taking every thought captive to the obedience of Christ." [2 Corinthians 10:3-5 NASB]

E. Understanding justice - the real enemy is identified. "For we are not wrestling with flesh and blood - contending only with physical opponents - but against the despotisms, against the pow-

ers, against [the master spirits who are] the rulers of this present darkness, against the spirit forces of wickedness in the heavenly (supernatural) sphere." [Ephesians 6:12 Amplified]

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The Mrs. Beatrice Maye Column



Mrs. Lillian M. Elks, a distinguished, polished, well-mannered and cultured lady, was crowned Mother of the Year for 1991 by the former Mother of the Year, Mrs. Sally Streeter, Sunday, May 12 (Mother's Day), at Sycamore Hill Baptist Church, sponsored by the Senior Ladies Auxiliary, under the presidency of Mrs. Imogene Dupree and the Reverend Howard W. Parker, pastor.

Special music by Danny Dupree, Olga Mike and Elizabeth Pritchard, Choir #2 pianist.

Members of this auxiliary are Mesdames Imogene Dupree, Esther Rick, Ella Blackwell, Ruby Davis, Annie Foust, Launa Brewington, Rose Bradley, Julia Davis, Richardine Faison, Jessie Kennedy, Carrie Nobles, Martha Pinks, Sadie Rooks, Francine Taft, and Lillian Elks.

Other members contesting were Debra Leathers Early, Shirley Ebron, Luretha Hilliday and Thelma Moore.

Whether she nags because he drinks or he drinks because she

nags is not the issue. Nagging irritates only the giver. Drinking irritates the liver.

The four sweetest words in the English language are heaven, home, love, and mother.

Effective leadership includes discipline, vision, decision, wisdom, courage, honesty, integrity, sincerity, and humor.

The best model for leadership is Jesus who taught in the language that people can understand. He provided avenues for practice. He delegated authority. God desires that we embodied with the spirit and ministry of Jesus Christ as leaders.

Be safe and buckle up before you drive, but be sure your seat belt fits comfortably.

Some excerpts from Oprah Winfrey - women are naturally romantic; whatever you don't use, you lose; a woman needs emotional fulfillment to respond to a man sexually and men need sex to respond to a woman emotionally; romance and commitment are so important in a marriage; create memories in your marriage, tell him or her you love him or her often; I can't get him away from the TV; thus my fire is gone; when is the last time you have had a good, long kiss couples; ten seconds of kissing, hugging, love your mate for who they are; tell him or her "I'm glad we're together, I'm glad you are my wife/husband."; so something for your mate that makes him or her special; and turn off the TV and talk; she wants to see him dressed sexy for bed as she is, some boxy, sexy short, not a jogging suit; you are so entrenched with mom and dad; you let husband and wife to, you mate is always first' feed each other sometimes with your hands; comb his hair; play his tune he sang in your ear the night of the wedding reception; keep romance in your marriage, regardless of how many years you've been married.

"We make our habits, but before long, our habits make us". The Daily Simple Habits of our Heavenly Father:

- Go to church regularly.
- Read the Bible every day to memorize at least one verse. Say aloud your favorite verse. Make a scrapbook of Bible verses on love, faith, forgiveness, honesty and sin.
- Pray. Prayer is a genuine, active partnership with God. The whole world looks to religion to guide the way in the solution of its problems. There's a meditation or prayer room for members of Congress, the words "under God" were officially inserted in the pledge of allegiance to the American flag. Football games and bathing beauty contests have recently been opened with prayer. Six out of ten people living in the country are members of churches.
- Go about doing good, for the Christian of Christ-like virtues or standards of right living are love, joy, peace, gentleness, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, and self-control. Whereas their opposites of the Devil's standards are hatred, hostility, strife, conflict, fussing and fighting, jealousy, anger, selfishness and envy. These will destroy you, the Sunday school, the Daily Vacation Bible School or even your home.

Shall we make our motto the testimony of Joshua - the follower of Moses, the lawgiver - "as for me and my house, we will serve the Lord".

When the plain truth is told, any teenager today would admit he or she is curious about sex. There is an urgency, as pressure, that tells us we can't wait. A guy's ego tells him he is not a man unless he has sex. A girl may be labeled as "inexperienced" until she has sex.

Sex is portrayed on television as a magical, mysterious and romantic experience in a way that makes us want that intimacy for ourselves. Songs stir up our emotions.

We're warned time and time again about the consequences of premarital sex. We hear about the

messed up lives and emotions, abortions and unwanted pregnancies. Still, the illusion of sex dazzles and tempts us.

The world is full of people who believe the familiar saying, "If it feels good, do it". In many cases, premarital sex has nothing to do with true love. These teenagers only want to fulfill a desire they have at the moment, a physical desire. The idea of commitment never occurs to them. Yet there are couples in love, who allow the physical feelings and emotions to take control. Feelings of love are very normal and also very real. Love is real. The problem lies in how these couples show their love to each other.

These teenagers are at a point in life where emotions are constantly spinning like a whirlwind. They are afraid they'll miss out on something.

There are plenty ways to tell someone you love him or her besides touching. Of all the millions of Snoopy cards, Garfield cards, and all the others, there has to be one that says just what you want to say. Flowers and balloons can express your appreciation. Even letters or just talking makes a relationship between two people stronger and keeps it fresh.

And although we still face temptations as Christians, the victory can be ours. "No temptation has seized you except what is common to man". And God is faithful; he will not let you be tempted beyond what you can bear. But when you are tempted, he will also provide a way out so that you can stand up under it" (I Cor. 10:13).

The 5 C's: The basis of every happy and successful marriage are communication, cooperation, consideration, compromise and caring.

David Thompson, the incredibly gifted leader of North Carolina State's 1974 NCAA championship team or as at a two-time collegiate player of the years, now age 36 and youth program coordinator for the Charlotte Hornets, told Junior Hornet Club members, "Drugs and alcohol took me from the top all the way to the bottom. It's all about choices and learning to make the right ones".

Thompson recounted how his social drinking led to alcohol dependence. The situation is tensified when he told a teammate he was exhausted from the NBA grind and the teammate offered him cocaine.

As a result of his drug problems, Thompson lost income in excess of \$1 million a year. The IRS seized most of his material wealth, including a mansion in Denver and several luxury cars. He was separated from his family and was imprisoned for five months in Seattle.

He tells his story in hopes of influencing kids to stay in school, stay off drugs and strive for positive goals.

The enemy in the Black community is the legions of despair, poverty, racial discrimination, illiteracy, family breakdown, unemployment, welfare, dependency, crime, drug abuse, teenage pregnancy, and disturbing health picture for many who are dying young because of diet.

In commemoration of Older American Month (MAY), the Board of Christian Education of Sycamore Hill Baptist Church, entertained the Seniors, along with other parishioners and friends, at Western Sizzlin' on Teenth Street with a dinner. Approximately 75 people were in attendance. The pastor, Reverend Howard Parker videoed this event. Mrs. Mildred Williams spearheaded this lovely activity.

Committee of Blacks, Jews launched to aid starving Africans

With the Ethiopian government apparently near collapse and some six million people facing starvation, a committee of prominent American Blacks and Jews today announced an emergency "seed grant" for general relief there and for Ethiopian Jews in Israel.

The Committee of Blacks and Jews to Aid Ethiopia, based in Washington, had quietly made available \$45,000 for these purposes last year. It said today the money was immediately being more than doubled, to \$100,000.

Funding for the committee has been allocated by the Marjorie Kovler Fund of Chicago and Washington. It is believed to be the first direct grant for Ethiopian famine relief by an American family foundation.

The Jewish-Black Committee - one of a dwindling number of cooperative efforts between the two ethnic groups since a philosophic split in the 1960s - consists of about 25 well-known figures, including several members of Congress.

The honorary co-chairmen are two very disparate political leaders, Anglican Archbishop Desmond Tutu of South Africa and Israeli Knesset (parliament) member Michael Kleiner, a leader of the rightist Likud Party.

Earlier this week, at a meeting preceding the grant announcement at a news conference on Capitol Hill, the committee discussed ways in which the acknowledgedly modest grant might encourage other families and individuals to follow suit, said its co-chairman, Rep. Mike Espy (D-MS) and Peter B.

Kovler. "It's a start, a small seed of concern for what we hope will be a grassroots campaign of compassion by Americans of all colors and faiths for the victims of the potentially worst famine of this century," said Espy, who is black. He added: "Our hope is that other individuals and families, in the best tradition of America, will sow their own personal seeds of compassion and not just leave the relief to governments or big organizations."

Kovler, who is Jewish, said the prospect of six million deaths in Ethiopia ought to hold particular resonance for Jews because of the destruction of a like number - about a third of the world's Jewish population - in the Nazi Holocaust of World War II.

"While there is no comparing deliberate genocide with death by famine, we Jews should have a special sensitivity to the enormity of what is confronting the Ethiopians," Kovler said.

Moreover, he said, Jews have an "historic kinship" with Ethiopians. The Bible says Moses made an Ethiopian (Cushite) woman his second wife and recounts the love between the Israelite prophet Solomon and the Cushite Queen of Sheba.

Jews have lived in Ethiopia for thousands of years. In recent years, because of the political turmoil and deteriorating economy in Ethiopia, most of the Jews there have migrated to Israel. But several thousand remain, caught in the crossfire of the Ethiopian civil war.

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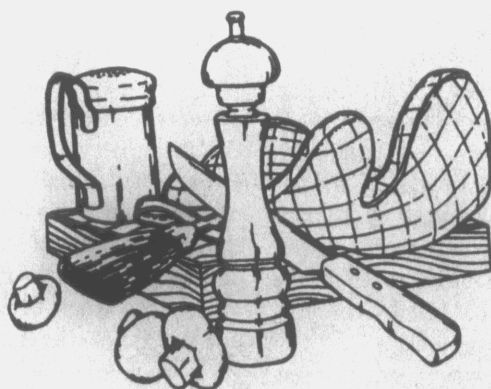
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Loan Program Makes Homeownership A Reality Instead of Just A Dream



LOAN PROGRAM. ...Homeowner Larry Lunsford and his 4-year-old daughter, Sherry, stand outside the home he purchased with a Neighborhood Revitalization Program loan. Lunsford said, "Wachovia's loan program made buying this house easier than buying a used truck. The house is an investment that will increase in value as time goes on, and one day I hope to pass it on to my daughter."

Photo by Mike Cunningham

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Homeownership is an essential ingredient for a thriving neighborhood. It instills a sense of community pride because the responsibility for the condition of the homes and the neighborhood rests with those who live there.

Wachovia's bank Neighborhood Revitalization Program, which was introduced in 1989 and expanded statewide in 1990, is designed to encourage homeownership and housing renovation in communities across the state.

In Greenville, five home loans totaling more than \$220,000 have been made under the Neighborhood revitalization Program. Statewide, more than 370 such home loans have been provided totaling \$15.5 million, with an additional 90 loans totaling \$3.7 million either approved or in the approval process.

By offering favorable interest rates, low down payment requirements, reduced closing costs and flexible credit guidelines, the Neighborhood Revitalization program hopes to attract individuals and families of low to moderate income, some of whom might think that homeownership is beyond their reach. Each component of the program is intended to make it easier for people to buy a new or existing home, or renovate their current residence. The loans are available for the purchase or renovation of owner-occupied, single-family primary residences, including townhouses and condominiums.

How does the program make it easier to own or renovate a home?

Low Down Payment: The minimum down payment is 3 percent of the selling price. Under traditional mortgage programs, the required down payment could be 5 percent, 10 percent or 20 percent.

Favorable Interest Rate: Loan will be available for up to 30-year terms at lower rates than are traditionally available. Also, higher down payments result in additional rate reductions.

Reduced Closing Costs: Closing costs should not exceed \$2,000. No discount points will be charged. This is a potential savings of thousands of dollars that otherwise would have to be paid at the time the loan is made. Also, the bank will not charge for a credit report it must compile for each loan.

Eased Qualifying Debt Ratios: In traditional mortgage financing, lenders generally require that a family's house payment not exceed 28 percent of its gross monthly income, and the total monthly payment debt (house payment, or payments, credit card and other loan payments) not exceed 36 percent of total monthly income.

Under the Neighborhood Revitalization Program, Wachovia makes it possible for more people to qualify for a home loan by allowing a higher percentage of monthly income to be devoted to the house payment (up to 35 percent) and a higher percentage of monthly income to be allocated to all monthly payments (up to 50 percent).

For example, if a family's gross income is \$2,000, the Wachovia program would enable the family to finance a home and have a monthly house payment (principal, interest, taxes and insurance) of up to \$700. With traditional financing, the family might be able to qualify for a loan only if the house payment were \$560 a month or less. The Wachovia program also would permit total monthly payment obligations of this family to reach \$1,000. Traditional financing would require that the family's total debt obligations not exceed \$720.

Credit History Review: Wachovia will look at borrowers'

credit history individually and discuss with them any problems they might have had making timely payments on previous loans. Unusual circumstances that might have affected the payment record will be taken into consideration. If the borrowers have not established

a loan payment track record, the bank will want to see how recent and utility payments have been handled.

These are the highlights of Wachovia's loan program. If you are considering buying a home or renovating the one you live in, a

Neighborhood Revitalization Program loan could help make it possible.

Neighborhood Revitalization Program loans are available at the Main Office of Wachovia Bank in Greenville. Ask for Bob Milam.

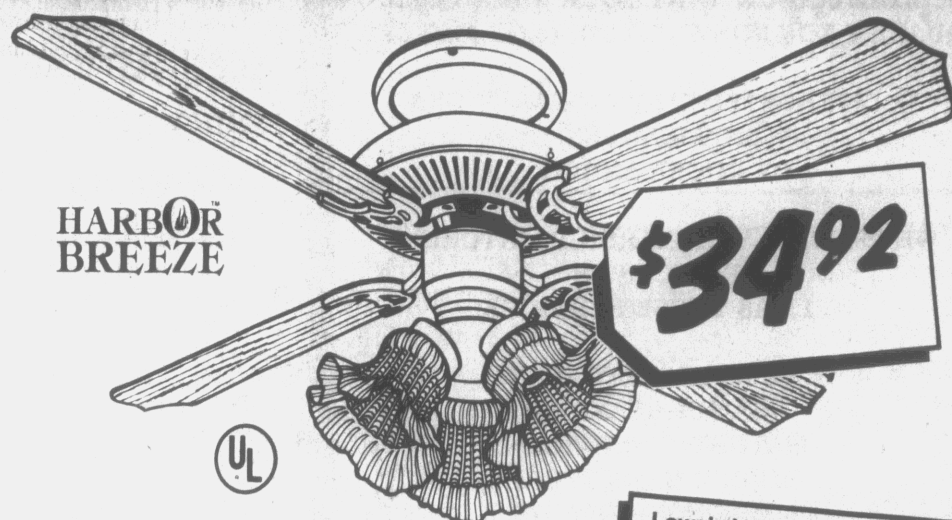
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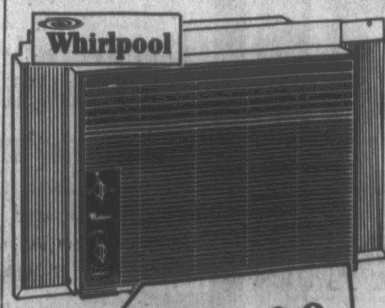
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Elbert Sumrell, Bus Driver, Ran Trolley Cars Earlier

by Michele Salcedo

For 23 years Elbert Thomas Sumrell of Hempstead helped keep New Yorkers on the move, first as a trolley car operator for the New York City Transit Department and later as a bus driver.

It took recurring bouts of pneumonia over the past two years to slow and finally stop Mr. Sumrell. He died in Syosset Community Hospital at the age of 68.

Even after his retirement in 1972, Mr. Sumrell bought a bus to take children who had no other means of transportation to Sunday

school at the Antioch Baptist Church in Hempstead. He and his wife had seen buses owned by a Baptist church in Tennessee.

Within a year it grew into a commercial venture, the Sumrell Bus Service, with a fleet of five buses.

"He was a people person," said Ennis Sumrell, his wife of 22 years. "In the 23 years he worked with the transit Authority, he met some very loving and understanding people. He just wanted to carry on that contact and it (the bus service) gave him an opportunity to keep meeting people on the same basis."

Mr. Sumrell was president of

the Hempstead Heights Civic Association from 1968 to 1972.

"His work was the civic association, but his love was the church," his wife said.

For 25 years, Mr. Sumrell devoted his energies to the Antioch Baptist Church, serving as superintendent of the Sunday school for more than a decade, singing with the male chorus and serving as a member of the Missionary Society of Antioch.

Mr. Sumrell is also survived by two sons, Vincent of Raleigh, N.C., and George Smerthee of Waterbury, Conn.; four daughters, Carol Wilkins of Los Altos Hills, Calif.; Alice Harrison of Hamden, Conn.; Mamie Short of Wallingford, Conn., and Michele Saavedra of Waterbury, Conn.; two sister, Olivia Streeter of Greenville, N.C., and Lucy May Charles of Irvington, N.J.; nine grandchildren, and nine great-grandchildren.

Burial followed in the Greenfield Cemetery, Hempstead.

South African mineworkers want their voices heard

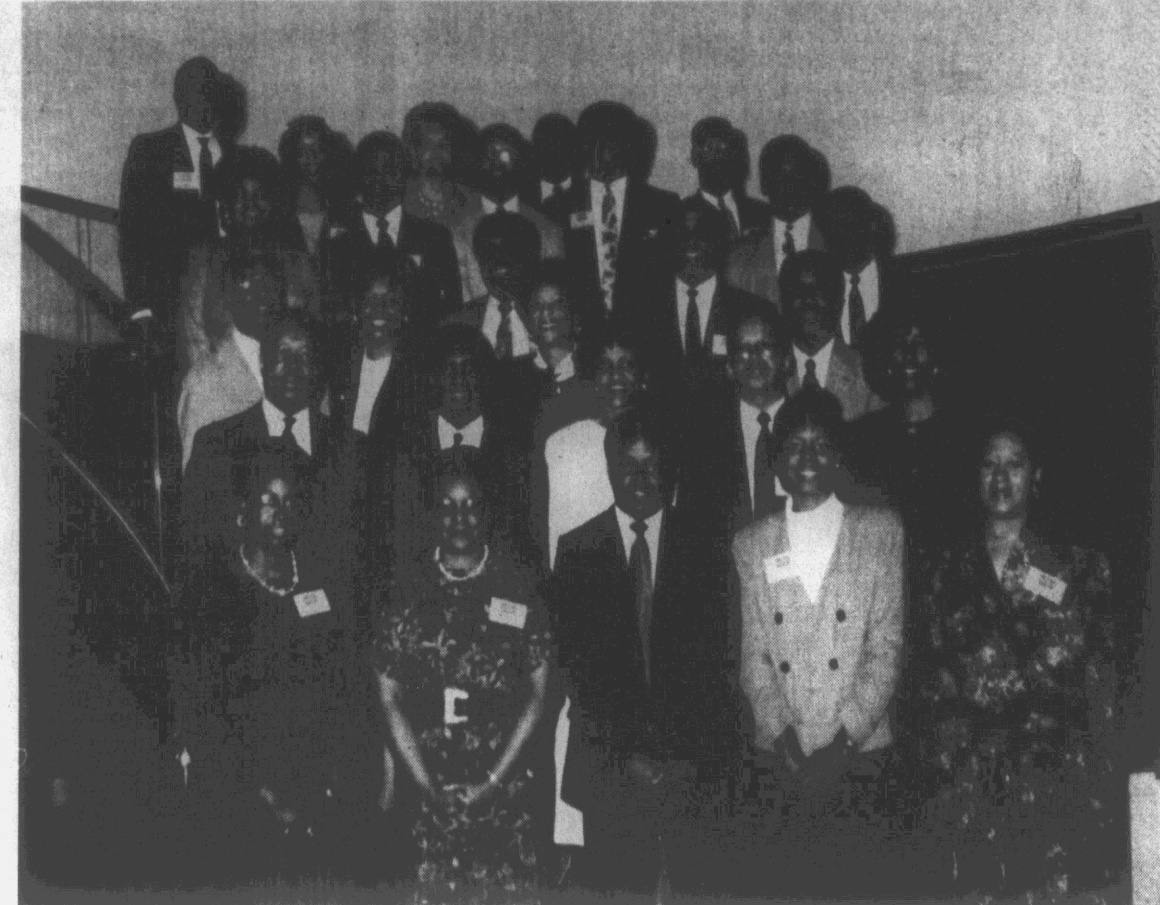
South Africa's powerful trade union movement has launched a campaign to ensure that organized workers have a say when it comes to recognizing stricken sectors of the country's economy.

The strong National Union of Mineworkers, the biggest Black union in the country, has agreed with mine owners to organize a tripartite conference in which employers, organized labor and the government will discuss the future of the stricken mining industry.

That meeting could set a precedent for worker participation in decisions about how to restructure key sectors of South Africa's economy.

A number of other COASTU unions have indicated they will fight to ensure that workers, generally considered to be unskilled, will have the right to participate in decisions about how a post-apartheid economy can be reorganized.

For example, the National Union



Bankers Educational Society, Inc. (BESI), a non-profit organization composed of bankers across the state of North Carolina, celebrated its fifteenth Annual Convention on April 25 through 28, at the Virginia Beach Resort Hotel.

The organization was formed in 1976 by a small group of African American bankers who began coming together regularly as a means of sharing information, encouragement, support, and awareness with others within their profession. Its primary objective is to educate its membership to the challenging facets of the banking industry, as well as develop community projects which are designed to expose the general public to various areas of banking. The Eastern Region's most recent program was a Career Preparation and Enhancement Seminar for high school students in Whiteville, North Carolina. At the convention, A. Ray Rodgers, Vice President, New East Bank of Greenville, was elected State President for a two year term and Michael Dixon, Banking Officer, Wachovia Bank and Trust, was elected to the Board of Directors. The convention theme was "Creating Strategies For Change". The banquet's feature speaker was the Honorable Charles B. Whitehurst, Sr., City Treasurer, Portsmouth, Virginia. Dr. Jimmy R. Jenkins, Chancellor, Elizabeth City State University, was also on the program.

Anyone interest in BESI making a presentation to their club or organization is encouraged to contact Rodgers or Dixon.

of Metalworkers of South Africa, among the country's largest and most militant unions for Black workers, is currently engaged in annual pay talks with the federation of employer groups in the industry.

It has indicated that workers no longer want a bigger slice of the pie: they believe they have the skills to bake it as well.

The union represents an

emerging trend in the labor movement, which argues for a shift from the politics of resistance to the politics of reconstruction.

Included in demands raised by the union during its wage talks is a statement that business and government have conclusively shown themselves to be incompetent in directing the economy. It said this attitude has resulted in the present economic crisis. Workers and their unions should therefore have a say in economic and industrial strategy at all levels.

The union envisages an economic compact with a future government in which independent trade unions will have pivotal roles in negotiating state-initiated policies on economic development, planning

and the direction of investment.

All eyes are now on the mining industry to see if these ideas can reach some kind of fruition.

This week, in response to repeated union calls for an industry conference, a heavyweight team from the employers' body, the Chamber of Mines, met the union and indicated it favored the idea.

Agreement has been reached in principle within the industry to support a meeting of parties that will explore the long-term viability of the mining industry, a chamber representative told IPS on today.

"We are currently engaged in discussions with various parties who are interested in such a gathering," he said.

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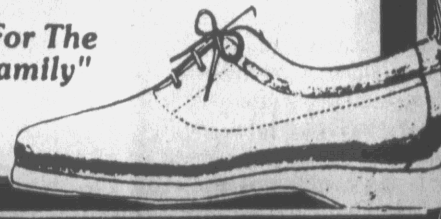
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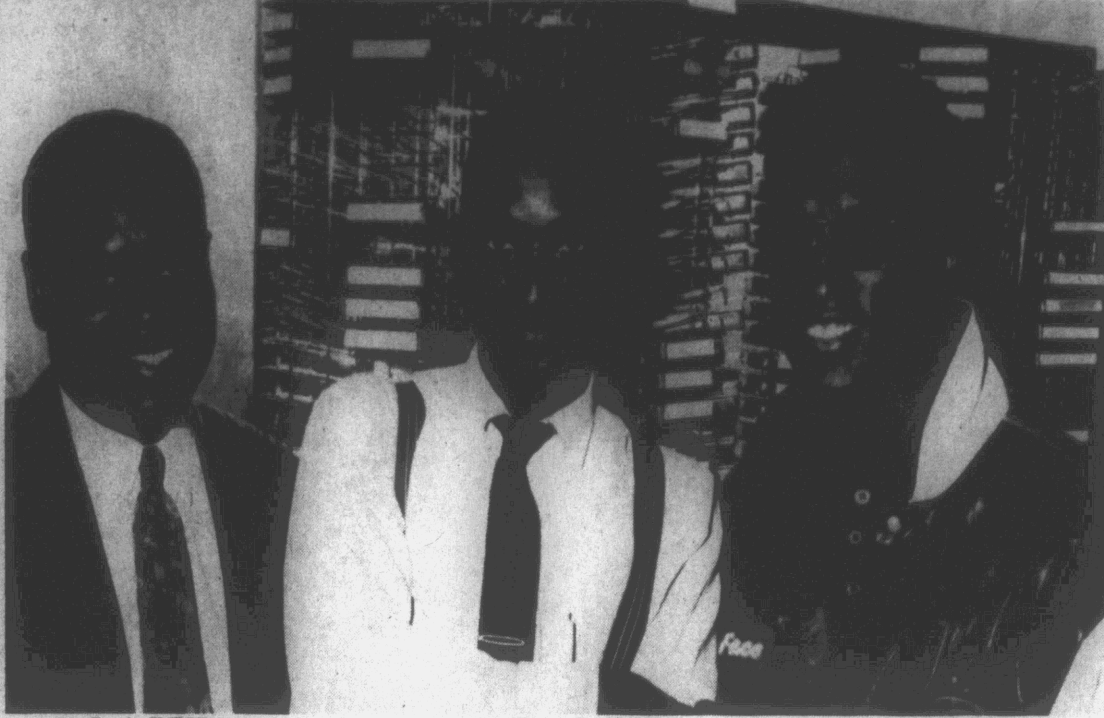
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BABY FACE

Thinking of Malcolm, '91

We pause this week to celebrate the 66th birthday of one of the great figures. Black leaders, and progressive activists of the century, known the world over as Malcolm X. I recall first hearing of Malcolm when I was 10 years old, as a boy preacher attending elementary school in a Black middle class neighborhood in Queens, New York. It was scrawled all across the front pages, and was the subject of our current events conversation that Malcolm X had been killed at the Audubon Ballroom in Harlem.

He was described variously throughout the mainstream media as a hate teacher, as a Black militant. And the implication was that he got what he deserved. Yet something of the mystique of him intrigued me even at that young age, and several months later the first book that I seriously studied ended up being the Autobiography of Malcolm X as told through Alex Haley.

Malcolm's autobiography tremendously affected me and led me into my boyhood adulation of Adam Clayton Powell and Marcus Garvey, Powell being one of the few Christian clergymen whom Malcolm admired and Malcolm's father being a follower of the honorable Marcus Aurelius Garvey.

As I've grown in the movement I've never lost my affection and respect and admiration for Malcolm. I have met with and shared conversations both with those critical of him and those who praised him, those who knew him very well and have talked to his apparent strengths and alleged weaknesses. Still, knowing that no man is perfect and knowing that no man should be required to represent perfection, I maintained a

deep-seated respect and admiration for our Shining Black Prince.

The historical Malcolm is important in several areas, and as we gather this weekend in Harlem for official observances, concluding with a mass parade led by his widow, I must deal with what the historical Malcolm will mean, more importantly than the particular pros and cons of the personal Malcolm to whom people will always try to reduce great debates.

One, Malcolm was the chief proponent of the Nation of Islam and the Honorable Elijah Muhammad. He became a central figure in what became and remains a growing theo-philosophical thrust in which Elijah Muhammad helped uplift the Black man's thinking and lifestyle from urban decadence back to its original form of cleanliness, productively and aspiring to nothing short of freedom, justice and equality.

Unlike his contemporaries, i.e., Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., James Farmer, A. Philip Randolph and others, Malcolm came the way of the northern ghetto/street life/prison life rather than the Southern church/mainstream college/seeking to be accredited by society background of the aforementioned leaders of his day. Therefore, Malcolm's orientation, projection and ability to communicate were far different from those who competed with him for the minds of his people. Malcolm in many ways was the first to legitimize the street Black's rise to an accredited, respected world figure. In reality Malcolm did for the smart, creative Black who became trapped in street life what Dr. King did for the academic institutions: he freed them and gave them a credible option

and respect from the community at large.

Secondly, Malcolm was a pioneer in internationalizing the struggle of his people and lifting to a worldwide human rights debate. It was Malcolm in his last years who tirelessly went through Asia, Africa and Europe, hooking the battle of Africans all over the world, and identifying with the battle of African Americans with the struggle of Africans all over the world, and identifying with the battle against colonialism on the mother continent and the progressive struggles in Europe. So in many ways Malcolm was the visionary who continued the Pan Africanist thrust of Garvey and others, contemporizing and making it live and breathe in his own times, which has led with direct impact to the transcontinental vision that his now shared by many of African descent.

Thirdly, Malcolm preached the philosophy of self-sufficiency, independence and self-empowerment. It has become the theme of his people, while in his own time he was castigated, criticized and ostracized for not joining the integration movement. History will prove that in the long run it was this self-empowerment — communities having their own integrity and having their own power to develop as separate entities and develop agendas from power bases that were separate and self-sufficient — which ended up being the rule of the day rather than the extreme, isolated position that it was projected to be in the early 60s.

As we say "Happy Birthday" to Malcolm, he has already been vindicated by history, because no adjective attached to him reduced his stature. Children walk around 26 years after his assassination with his picture on their lapels and on their medallions and on their t-shirts, showing that he has outlived all of his critics, and all of their "effectiveness." Major motion picture studios prepare to tell his life story; bookstores are jammed with books of his speeches and life stories and interpretations. So though he suffered in life, he was vindicated in history because he had the courage to say something that lived longer than his longings, longer than his heart, longer than his physical being. He stood for the rights of human beings that will be relevant as long as there are human beings.

Why was Malcolm important? It was important for someone to step out of the choir of subjugation, of assimilation, of being co-opted, and to speak independently of behalf of the rights of human beings to rise up and live to their fullest degree creative and self-empowered lives. Malcolm had the nerve to be attacked by the moderates as an extremist and to be attacked by the extremists as a moderate, and still keep his eye on the prize of human rights and human dignity.

I wish in retrospect we could clam some of those anxious nights that he spent leading up to his death. I wish that we could give him back some of those minutes spent in utter despair, but we can not roll back time. We can make use of the time which we have and that is why during the time we have this weekend we will remember a man who gave up his life for the enhancement of ours.

Malcolm gave us pride. Malcolm gave us a world view. Malcolm said to the lowest street guy that you can use your mental acumen to be somebody and not be trapped by circumstances that forced you down. You can rise with the determination that will force them to let you up. Yes, Malcolm — as Ossie Davis said, eulogizing him 26 years ago — was "our Shining Black Prince." He always will be. Happy birthday, Malcolm. Your life was the beginning of life for all of us. We will never forget your contribution. Your strength has helped to build a new world mentality. Your weaknesses died with you.

LaFace, the new Atlanta-based record label distributed by Arista, is the latest major move by owners and founders L.A. Reid and Babyface. The mega writer/producer team, responsible for much of the best music of platinum plus artists like Johnny Gill, Bobby Brown, Whitney Houston, Karyn White and Pebbles has launched LaFace with Damian Dame, a dynamic male/female duo whose debut single, "Exclusivity" is already a bonafide hit.

Recently Damian Dame, respectively Damian and Deah, were in New York promoting their self-titled album. He, Damian, tall, confident and quite personable, seemed genuinely pleased with the way things were going with the act. She, Deah, a pretty, petite sister, quite articulate, focused and blessed with a limitless vocal range, was also in harmony with the turn their collective career has taken. "It took a while doing this project," she commented, "we went through a lot of music, wrote a lot of songs and recorded quite a few, too. But working with L.A. and Babyface, who gave us a lot of creative license in the studio, we were able

to find the best music to reflect who we are."

The Damian Dame sound, a hybrid of R&B/Funk, finessed hip-hop with punctuated pop edges has a refreshing feel to it. With monogamy in the '90s as its wise theme, "Exclusivity" has caught the record buying public's attention. The industry's buzzing, too. It garnered the most radio adds the week it debuted on the charts. The album's future will probably be no exception.

"The album captures both the essence of who we are musically; it is also musically accessible to a wide audience," Damian asserts.

There are also some impressive ballads on the LP, most notably, "Love Come Near Me," and the passionate "Right Down To It."

"I love singing ballads because

the emotional impact both to singer and audience is so strong when they are sung right," Deah, born in Houston and raised in Northern California, says.

Damian, a native of Battle Creek, Mich., first heard Deah's distinctive voice on a friend's demo tape. "I lost it when I heard her sing," he recalls. "Right then I knew together we would be perfect together musically."

In the middle of a national promotional tour, Damian and Deah come back to the Big Apple this week for a posh buffet dinner and listening party in their honor at one of Manhattan's best eateries. Truly the group is on it's way to the big time. No surprise though. With L.A. and Babyface in your corner, there's no other way to LaFace the music.

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PUBLIC NOTICE SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT CHANGES PITT COUNTY, NC

Pitt County Board of Commissioners, meeting in regular session on May 20, 1991, made several decisions which changes solid waste management policies in Pitt county. These changes should increase the remaining useage time for the existing landfill. Changes are as follows:

YARD WASTE

Yard waste (leaves, limbs, clippings, unpainted and untreated wood) shall be separated from other wastes by the generator effective October 1, 1991.

COMMERCIAL CARDBOARD

Commercial cardboard is banned from the landfill effective October 1, 1991.

LAND CLEARING DEBRIS

Land clearing debris (trees, roots, stumps, etc.) is banned from the landfill effective October 1, 1991.

RECYCLING PLANS AND IMPLEMENTATION

Municipalities, industries, institutions, and private collectors are required to prepare a recycling plan, by January 1, 1992, for the approval by the county. Implementation of the plan is required by January 1, 1993.

LANDFILL USER FEES

A landfill user fee of \$20 per household per year will be assessed effective January 1, 1992. A landfill user fee of \$20 per ton for haulers of commercial trash will be assessed effective January 1, 1992. This fee will apply to businesses, industries, institutions and other non-residential users.

If you need further information or if you wish to have a speaker address a group on Solid Waste Management matters, please feel free to contact the county engineer's office at 830-6354.

Pitt County Board of Commissioners
May 20, 1991

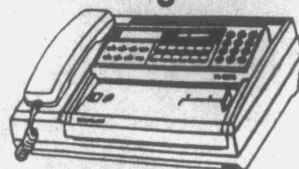
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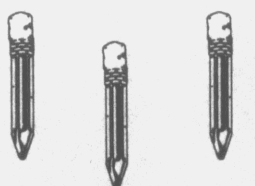
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SECRETARY II

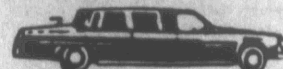
Salary Range \$16,016 - \$24,024

Position available for responsible person to perform difficult to complex secretarial and general office management duties as related to the Finance Department. Considerable secretarial experience involving the use of a personal computer, using WordPerfect and Lotus 1-2-3, is required. Applicant must possess the abilities to perform routine mathematical computations and be proficient in the use of an electronic calculator. Prior experience in an accounting or finance environment is highly desired. Applications accepted through May 31, 1991.

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Greenville Utilities is an AAEO employer and encourages applications from qualified women and minorities. Federal law requires proper identification and proof of employment.

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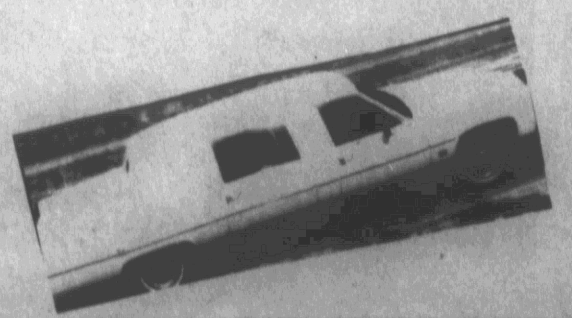
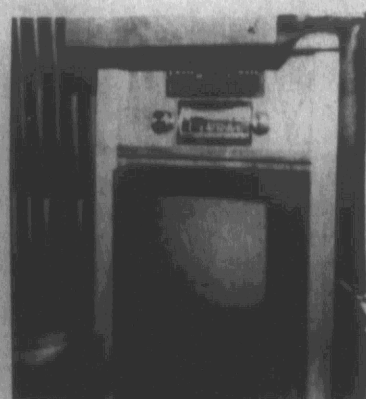


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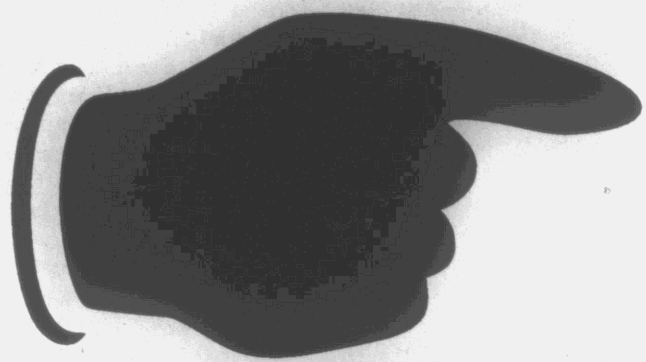
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Walter J. Featherston
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200 W. 4th Street
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The Eye of The "M" Voice



Editorial Bias In Economy

Because of strong anti-black attitudes in America and because of the capitalistic structure of economics in the society, African-American women (and African-American men) have been the economic base upon which many other groups develop sound economies for themselves. This has especially been the case for immigrant groups that have come to America, initially opened businesses in the black community, and then moved beyond the black community to be integrated, as a group, into the mainline American economy.

Many Jewish, Italian, and Irish immigrant groups followed this pattern of economic development in the United States. Because black people, since slavery, were identified as the economic foundation upon which others in the society

were to build, black people as a group have lagged behind in economic development. A few individual African-American women and men have managed to amass the financial resources to provide a positive and productive quality of life for themselves and their families—to get jobs or obtain the financial backing from banks or businesses that are denied to the masses of black people.

It is no overstatement to claim that the most segregated and racially discriminatory area of American life is the economic sector—including in that sector the unemployment, business, and financial veins controlling the flow of society's wealth. True enough, a few black women and men have been integrated into this flow. But every, very few are in the high-level decision-making areas that determine the route of the flow of wealth.

Black people, as a whole, are still largely confined to the employment area at very low levels. That is, they mostly work for someone else and are paid the lowest wage possible for some hardest, most "back-breaking" work. Inasmuch as technology has eaten up so many menial jobs, large numbers of black men and women are without employment.

So, it is more than ludicrous to use the term "integration" when referring to black women's and black men's relation to economic life and resources in America. It is just as absurd to suggest that great differences exist between black women's and black men's experiences in the employment, business, and financial sectors of American life, even though black women's advancement in all areas is affected by sexism.

Cornerstone Christian Child Care Center

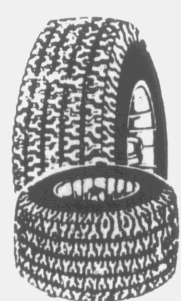
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