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EASTERN NORTH CAROLINA'S MINORITY VOICE-SINCE 1981

ISSUE WEEK MAY 20-MAY 25, 1998

## HOSPITAL... PRIVATE OR PUBLIC!?

### Acceptance of the PCMH Privatization Proposal Concerns Black Leaders

by Kitty J. Pope

County Commissioners have accepted a resolution of a counter proposal given to them by Pitt County Memorial Hospital officials to privatize the hospital. The board of commissioners voted 5-4 to approve the major terms of the

counter proposal with commissioners Jeff Savage, Eugene James, Farney Moore and Charles Gaskins opposing.

Commissioner Savage who has been against privatization from the beginning, had earlier made the

motion to take the PCMH discussion off the agenda so commissioners could get legal advice, but he never got the support with a second motion. Savage said that commissioners need to hear the concerns of the community before making a

decision.

It was commissioner Mark Owens, Jr. who made the motion to accept the resolution stating that reorganization is necessary to meeting the needs, to continue accomplishing good medical services. He said that he would push for a decision at the next meeting.

Black leaders are concerned about the implications of a private hospital in the community. Commissioner Savage vowed to continue to fight the reorganization of the hospital. "Someone has to stand up to be a voice for the citizens and their concerns, and I will continue to do it with every fiber in my body," said Savage.

Dr. Howard Parker of Sycamore Hill Baptist Church said that privatization may be good for the survival of the hospital because so many other hospitals are doing it. "It may be a way to keep the community from going to other hospitals for quality care; but I do have concerns about whether there is enough money appropriated for coverage for those who can't afford hospital care," said Parker.

Commissioner Farney Moore feels that the public hospital is doing a good job and that we should stay on that path. "Privatization implies being selective which means that the hospital would pick and choose patients. It is likely that the poor and those without coverage would be left out

and this would be very unfair," says Moore.

Bishop Randy Royal, founding President of the Coalition Against Racism and Pastor of Philippi Church of Christ, believes that it is premature to determine the effect of privatization on the community at large. He does have grave concerns about the care of the indigenous community residents. "We will have to monitor the situation closely to see that persons in need of hospital care are not turned away," explains Royal.

Royal said that it is unfortunate that citizens may lose control over the hospital that they purchased. "I'm hoping that the hospital will consider building a health care center in the black community. Blacks have been good 'partners' with the hospital in that blacks have traditionally needed hospital care more often and their stays are usually longer because of inadequate illness prevention practices," said Royal.

"It is very important that we focus more on programs to help minorities take better care of their health and programs that are educational in terms of the importance of regular visits and check-ups to health care facilities. Like so many other issues in the black community, the ball has been dropped in laying a good foundation for prevention programs. Prevention is a crucial issue," adds

Royal.

Journalist and civic activist Keith Cooper believes that the county commissioners should not have the major voice in making the decision on whether or not the hospital should go private. Cooper says that the decision to remain public or go private should be left up to the citizens of the community. He feels that matters as this should be a part of a referendum.

"There should be a six month period where people are educated on the pros and cons of both privatization and having the hospital as a public facility. The community must be aware of the ramifications of having the hospital going private," says Cooper. "When the public is educated about these issues, they will be able to make intelligent decisions. I believe that most people would want the hospital to remain public once they understand all of the factors.

Cooper believes that the hospital should remain public and other ways must be found to make the hospital more efficient. He believes privatization would make it very difficult for all people to receive the same proper care. "Poor people probably would get weeded out of getting adequate health care while priority would be given to those who can best afford it," explained Cooper. "Private hospitals are typically more concerned with money than providing health care.

### Little Willie Center Gets New Van!!



Folks beam as State Representative Henry Aldridge helps the Little Willie Center cut the ribbon on the new van that was given to them by the State Legislator.

### Pastor George Hawkins... An Instrument of Deliverance

by Kitty J. Pope

George A. Hawkins was called to the ministry over 20 years ago and for 17 years he worked as a traveling evangelist.

As a young evangelist, he traveled with renowned evangelist Jim Whittier. He also followed the ministries of Apostle Arthur Skinner and Morris Cervantes. After becoming acquainted with prophet Ray Solomon of Trinidad, Hawkins was able to travel with him to many countries including Holland, Trinidad, Jerusalem, and Israel preaching the Gospel and singing.



George Hawkins

Hawkins, a Williamson native who has been self-employed as a florist, caterer and wedding consultant for the past 25 years, attended Wake Forest University in Winston-Salem. A certified cosmetologist and beauty instructor, Hawkins worked as an instructor at Beaufort, Martin, Durham, and Dezasoro beauty colleges while he was still a traveling evangelist.

In April of 1991, Evangelist Hawkins founded the Tabernacle Center Church of Deliverance with only 7 people. Today the church has more than 400 people coming together in fellowship for a

stronger relationship with Christ. "We don't refer to our congregation as members of a church, because we are the church in that Christ lives on the inside of us. The body is the temple of God," says Hawkins. "We are all one in the body of Christ."

It was in 1992 that the Lord gave Hawkins a vision of the new sanctuary and how it should be constructed. The location of the new sanctuary was given to a ten year old boy named Keith Rodgers in a dream. Despite negative criticism and skepticism concerning the possibility of the new sanctuary, Hawkins vision for the sanctuary came into fruition in 1996. Since that date the church has experienced many, many miracles from God - miracles that have included mental and physical healings, prosperity blessings, destroying of demons and the opening of many doors.

Pastor Hawkins oversaw the construction of the new tabernacle from the time the foundation was laid to the finishing tasteful decoration of lavender carpet with matching accessories and chandelier lights throughout the church. Since the Tabernacle Center of Deliverance's opening, an adjacent building has been purchased that is used as an Educational, Counseling, and Cultural Arts Center (T.E.C.C.). The church has also purchased a couple of other houses that is used toward the up building of God's kingdom.

"Our church is about helping the community. We have helped former drug addicts, drug pushers, welfare victims, homosexuals, alcoholics, depressed and homeless people in finding Christ," says Hawkins. "We take people who the world has labeled 'nobodies' and help them to clean up their lives. That's what Jesus Christ was and still is all about," he adds. Pastor Hawkins who is thankful to God for being delivered from some of his

HAWKINS Continues Page 3

### Bro. Clark Celebrates 15 Years in Radio

WOOW's own William H. Clark recently celebrated 15 years in radio with a week long church service and a banquet on the last day at the Dubois Center. All seven days were well attended by family, friends and the Miracle Deliverance church family. Gifts of love and appreciation were presented to Clark for his years of dedicated service.



Teresa & William Clark

Clark worked for Hampton Industries for 17 years before he started working as a Gospel Music announcer 23 years ago. He got his radio training from the late Sam Sutton and later, went to work for Jim Rouse when he launched WOOW Radio. He has continued to work as an announcer, promoter and sales manager at the station for the past 15 years.

In Winterville, where Clark lived for 45 years before moving to Ayden, he served on the planning board, the board of adjustments and the board of alderman. His name is engraved on a plaque in the Winterville Town Hall in honor of his work toward getting the new building constructed.

Clark is a member of Miracle Deliverance Holiness Church in Greenville where he serves as deacon. His pastor is Ella Grimes.

### Privatizing Pitt County Memorial Hospital The PROS AND CONS...!



Dr. Gene Transbarger, ECU  
"for privatization"

Dr. Gene Transbarger, director of the Dept. of Community Nursing at East Carolina Medical School was the recent guest on the Jim Rouse Minority Voice television program.

Dr. Transbarger is in favor of the privatization of Pitt Memorial Hospital. Having worked as a chief nurse executive for a private, not for profit hospital in Greensboro for 14 years, Dr. Transbarger feels that there is value and many advantages to having Pitt Memorial as a private hospital. Dr. Transbarger says that he understands the concerns of the poor, but strongly feels that the community and the hospital staff would not exclude the health care needs of those who cannot afford hospital costs.



Bennie Rountree, President/SCLC  
"against privatization"

Bennie Rountree, president of the Pitt County Southern Christian Leadership Conference says that the black community has fallen asleep on this issue. "We are going to wake up and find that many of us will be unable to enter the hospital for treatment. We need to come together to stop the privatization of the hospital," exclaims Rountree. "I am calling on every black person to come together and get an injunction to the federal court to keep the hospital public. We cannot and must not let this happen. We must not let our future remain in the hands of a select few who care nothing about us as a people." Rountree is urging that all people who interested in thwarting the drive to privatize Pitt County Memorial Hospital to call the SCLC.

### Boy Bleeds to Death Outside Chicago Hospital

On Tuesday (May 19) a young 15 year-old boy bleeding from a gunshot wound just steps away from a Chicago hospital could not be resued by emergency room personnel because rules required that ambulances bring in patients, a ravenwood Hospital spokesman said.

Frustrated police officers finally carried Christopher Sercye into the hospital after waiting more than 20 minutes Saturday night, but Sercye died a short time later. Witnesses said hospital emergency workers refuse to come to Sercye's aid despite pleas, quoting hospital rules. John Blair said policy was followed, but that "we are determined to review Ravenwood's policies to make sure that something like this never happens again." A police official called the policy "ridiculous". Three suspected gang members were charged with the shooting.

**Have a Safe and Happy Holiday!**



# OPINIONS

# COMMENTS

## Editorials

### Credo of the Black Press

*The Black Press believes that America can best lead the world away from racial and natural antagonisms when it accords to every person, regardless of race, color or creed, full human rights. Hating no person, fearing no person in the firm belief that all are hurt as long as anyone is held back.*

## Decent Incomes for Low Wage Workers

by Hugh B. Price  
President, National Urban League

With all the hurrah over the astounding current performance of the American economy--the so-called Long Boom--it's easy to forget that portion of the nation's work force which has hardly shared in the general prosperity--the 12 million Americans whose wages range from the current minimum wage of \$5.15 an hour up to \$6.14 an hour.

That sum, earned by people who work in such low-skill positions as fast-food worker and teacher's aide, adds up to paltry annual income indeed. The average American worker's hourly wage is \$12.64 an hour. But an individual working at the minimum wage for 40 hours a week, 52 weeks a year, earns only \$10,712 annually--an income that is \$2,600 below the federal government's poverty line for a family of three.

That fact, coupled with recent cuts in welfare and Food Stamps programs, has driven increasing numbers of the working poor to emergency food banks and pantries. A 1996 U.S. Conference of Mayors survey found that 38 percent of those seeking emergency food aid hold jobs, up from 23 percent in 1994; and more and more private charities are saying they can't meet the greater demand on their resources.

We must help Americans who work but often endure great privation move closer to a decent, livable wage. We can do that by supporting legislation in Congress by raising the minimum wage to a threshold of \$6.15 an hour. Senator Ted Kennedy (D.-Mass.) will try to bring the measure, which has President Clinton's backing, before the Senate after the Memorial May 13, 1998 Day Congressional recess. Representative David Bonior (D.-Mich.) will lead the effort for it in the House. The proposed law would raise the minimum wage by 50 cents each year for 1999 and 2000.

We should raise the minimum wage because it's only fair: hard work deserves just compensation at the bottom as well as the top of the salary ladder. We know from the experience of the 90-cents minimum-wage hike President Clinton signed into law in 1996 that minimum-wage increases benefit the people who need it most--hardworking adults in low-income families. Based on federal labor department statistics, the Economic Policy Institute, a Washington think tank, found that nearly 60 percent of the gains from that minimum wage hike has gone to workers in the bottom 40 percent of the income ladder. Raising the minimum wage by \$1 will help insure that parents who work hard and play by the rules, and who utilize the Earned Income Tax Credit, can bring up their children out of poverty.

Contrary to a widespread view, federal statistics show that most workers earning the minimum wage are adults, not teenagers. Half of them work full time, and another third work at least 20 hours a week. Sixty percent of those earning the minimum wage are women; 15 percent are African-American, and 14 percent are Hispanic.

Our recent experience has shown that raising the minimum wage in an era of strong and balanced economic expansion won't undermine job growth. The hike President Clinton signed into law in August 1996 increased the wages of 10 million workers. Since then, the economy has created new jobs at the very rapid pace of 250,000 per month, inflation has declined from 2.9 percent to 1.6 percent, and the unemployment rate has fallen to 4.6 percent--its lowest level in nearly 25 years.

Some have expressed concern that raising the minimum wage will make it even harder than it routinely is for young black males to find work. Of course, the unemployment rate for black males 16 to 19 years of age remains dangerously high: for 1997 it was 36.5 percent. But the minimum wage itself is hardly a significant cause for this decades-old problem, as we've noted before. Keeping the wages of all low-income workers at subsistence levels will likely only exacerbate the employment problems of young black males--and the communities they live in.

Increasing the minimum wage now would restore its real value to the level it last held in 1981, before the inflation of the 1980s drove it down. We further recommend that Congress index the minimum wage to inflation starting in the year 2001 to prevent a further erosion of its value. Low-wage workers should be treated no differently than other, higher-income workers who annually receive at least a cost-of-living increase in their salaries. With our economy in such glowing health, there could be no better time to raise the minimum wage. As President Clinton urged in his State of the Union Address: "In an economy that honors opportunity, all Americans must be able to reap the rewards of prosperity. Because these times are good, we can afford to take one simple, sensible step to help millions of workers struggling to provide for their families: "We should raise the minimum wage."

## Is President Clinton Exorcizing Black Males In The American Psych?

By Sherman N. Miller

In a 1954 ruling, the U.S. Supreme Court struck down the "Separate but Equal" doctrine, hence desegregating the nation's public school system. That action had an unintended consequence of vilifying Black males because the Black civil rights groups had an upward mobility strategy that was too skewed toward civil rights whilst ignoring the true goal of Mainstream American socioeconomic parity. Some unscrupulous groups exploited the pervasive white fears commonplace at the time to vilified black males as plotting sinister deeds against whites.

This Black male demonetizing reached a dangerous stage in the mid-1990s where it now jeopardizes the long-term strategic health of the United States of America. One need only recognize how rogue foreign nations pay homage to Rev. Louis Farrakhan, the current prophetic black American leader, to see that an outcast black community is a beachhead for foreign powers to gain a foothold in the United States. Furthermore, black America views its males' vilification as socioeconomic genocide.

The assassination of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., destroyed the black male prophetic leadership that is acceptable in mainstream America. This assassination left black America trapped the last thirty years in the chasm between civil rights and equal rights. The black "Talented Tenth" bailed out of the civil rights struggle once they saw the doors to mainstream opportunity starting to open. But these educated blacks underwent a cultural metamorphosis evolving into white clothes suggesting that they had disdain for the beliefs of the masses of black America.

The Talented Tenth's aloofness underpins the present class chasm that pervades the black community. What is foolhardy here is that the U.S. black community needs the skills of the Talented Tenth to foster their upward mobility just as the black leadership in South Africa and Zimbabwe recognized that they needed the skills of their white minority populations to prosper. It doesn't take a rocket scientist to recognize that black America can ill afford to maintain the present shunning of the Talented Tenth if equality in mainstream America is to be a realistic goal.

Hence the issue becomes, "What can be done to reposition the black male in a positive light in mainstream America?"

The obvious answer to this question is a public exorcism rite performed on black males presided over by the president of the United States. It requires three key psyche changes to demonstrate a paradigm shift in the perception of black males:

- 1) Black Americans' link to an African homeland needs Mainstream American legitimation.
- 2) Future relationships with black African nations must be on a strategic importance basis where trade is the focal point.
- 3) Past ill-treatment of black Americans must be acknowledged but there has to be a course set for true black equality in America's financial sector.

President Bill Clinton understands the need of these psyche changes and he is now the exorcist for black American males in the economic mainstream. His town meetings are forcing the debate on race in a non-threatening atmosphere.

President Clinton's long stay in Africa carried a few symbolic messages that he legitimated the link between American blacks and their homeland by removing the stigma of blacks being relegated to the status of chattel because they had no human lineage. President Clinton passed through the same door and dungeons that were a path of tears for the enslaved America's black fore-parents. He acknowledged slavery was wrong but he offered hope of a brighter tomorrow.

Yet the real symbolism that touched black America's males was President Clinton paying homage to the President of South Africa, Nelson Mandela, even though Mandela has ties to some rogue nations. Mandela symbolizes the black male strength caricature that is prized in the U.S. black community. Also, South Africa showed a strong black-run nation where you don't see a bunch of starving blacks on the television begging for American aid.

President Clinton's Africa trip set the U.S. business leadership's thinking in motion to find ways to work with Black African nations using the adage, "Let us have trade and not aid." In adopting a trade relationship, President Clinton is destroying the pervasive caricature of downtrodden blacks only being able to beg for crumbs falling off the world marketplace's table. At home he is elevating blacks' personage by pointing out that they do have a heritage and they can run our corporations and the nation.

### WATERS IN LEADS FIGHT TOO QUASH RIGGS ADMENDMENT

## Riggs' Anti-Affirmative Admendment Now Poses Threat on Capital Hill

A Commentary from Congresswoman Maxine Waters (Dem-CA)

Here we go again. Rep Riggs and his extreme right-wing friends are attempting to polarize and divide this nation by pitting citizens of this country one against another.

Not satisfied with the recent plummeting minority enrollment numbers in the University of California system, Rep. Riggs wants to duplicate dramatic drops in minority admissions at public colleges and universities nationwide. Under the guise of ending discrimination, Rep. Riggs' admendment would eliminate federal funding for colleges or universities that support affirmative action. The effect of this admendment would be devastating. It will close the door to opportunities and hope for minority students across this nation.

Since the University of California System eliminated affirmative action, admission for Black and Latino students have plummeted. Black undergraduate admissions dropped 66 percent at UC Berkeley, 43 percent at UCLA, 46 percent at UC San Diego, and 36 percent at UC Davis. Latino undergraduate admission dropped 40 percent at UC Berkeley, 33 percent at UCLA, 20 percent at UC San Diego, and 31 percent at UC Davis. Rep. Riggs and his supporters mischaracterize the admission process and its reliance on race. Colleges and universities always have looked at a variety of factors - test scores, race, out of classroom experience, personal achievement and life challenges - to determine who to admit to their institutions. Neither race nor SAT test scores have ever been the sole criteria to determine who would be admitted to a university. However, all students, regardless of race, must meet threshold requirements that demonstrate that they are qualified to handle the workload of college.

Affirmative action is a tool that gives qualified applicants an equal opportunity to compete. It is a means, not an end. Let us not resegregate our education institutions. Oppose the mean-spirited Riggs admendment.

## The Way For Black Empowerment

by Dr. Lenora Fulani

*Why I Am A "DP" (Developmental Psychologist) But Am Not In The "DP" (Democratic Party).*

Many people who run for office are interested in winning. If that's what you're interested in and you're black you run as a Democrat. That's why Rev. Al Sharpton became a Democrat, for example. The Democratic Party is focused on getting its people elect and once elected in holding on to their elected position and their power.

The Democratic Party is not a place to be if you're concerned with solutions to the problems we face--as a city, as a state or as a country. That concern doesn't ultimately fit with the Democratic--or the Republican--agenda, because you're too caught up in getting elected and staying elected.

I'm a developmental psychologist. I became a developmental psychologist because I wanted to find solutions to poverty, to substandard education, violence, despair, and drug abuse among young people. I became a political activist because there are pressing policy issues--from campaign finance reform to charter schools to finding a trade approach that benefits all Americans--issues that are simply going unresolved by the Democrats and Republicans.

Democrats and Republicans say to us, "elect me" and we'll solve the problems. But the problems we face are not reducible to who is or might be in office. We have lousy schools. We have too few opportunities for our young people. We have to generate national reconsideration of our entire educational approach. That's not going to be easy process, and it will be a futile process if it is constantly overshadowed by the obsession on the part of policy makers with getting and staying elected. The agenda becomes determined by polls, focus groups and protecting yourself from attack.

I don't want to end up in that position. So, when I run for office, when I involve myself in electoral campaign or in party-building for the Independence Party

## Were You Counted?

By Oscar Smith

Primary elections are over, and we will discuss outcomes next week, but the question I would like to ask now is: "Did you stand up and allow yourself to be counted?"... in other words, did you take just a few minutes out of your television watching time, or some other worthless thing, to go to the polls and cast your vote?

Well, if you did not, don't let me hear you complain. And I don't want to hear that age-old excuse. "It doesn't matter, they are going to do what they want to any way." or "What difference will my little old one vote make?" Neither question is a viable argument.

In Wake County, for example, black Americans were once able to determine the outcome of most races because of turnout. Today, that same group of voters, or non-voters, if you will, couldn't elect the dog-catcher, that is if he or she were elected.

Of course there is disillusionment over a lot of things that you may feel are right or fair. But guess what. You know how you change that.... YOU get up off your rusty-dusty and go to the polls and vote your choice... after carefully weighing all of the choices.

Recently Ella Scarborough, the only female -- who happened to be black -- in the US Senate race in the primary voiced concerns over what she said she had been told was what amounts to vote buying by other candidates. Personally I can't understand why any black voter worth his or her salt would vote for anything other than a black, if that candidate was equally qualified for the office. You see., that attitude is what elects candidates. Not the "Oh he or she can not win so why should I vote for them?" or the so-called money for votes that Scarborough talked about.

That is the way you get the candidate of your choice elected for anything. Until you get out and exercise the right that so many fought and died for for so many years, your voting strength will continue to get divided and split so that you will continue to be totally ineffective.

If you are angry about what I've said, maybe you'll take that anger and channel it into a positive change mode and make me out a liar during the runoffs, if any, or the general elections in November and begin to turn this thing around. Only you, each and every one of you can do it.

## The Twentieth & The Twenty-First Century KLU KLUX KLAN

By Elder Walter Sadler

The question that plaques today's minds of every African American and other ethnic groups who were victims and victimized by the KKK -- the most dehumanized hate group in this nation's history, other than Adolph Hitler and his German troops, is "Where" and "Who" were they yesterday and "Who" are they today?

According to human histories recorded in 1915, a white gentleman by the name of William J. Simmons -- a self-styled colonel from Alabama -- created the second KKK in this nation. He single-handedly inspired "The Birth of A Nation" of (496,955) member hiding behind this nation's oldest institutional technique Bureaucracy with the idea of promoting his organized idea of selling robes and memberships, building his empire under this deceptive illusion.

In the 1920's, his organized idea spread throughout the South and beyond. The face of this nation was claiming 2 million members... males and female... of the white race. However, his idea appealed to white clergymen of the Protestant denomination. How appalling. In the southern region with a scheme to oppose Roman Catholics, Blacks, and Jews, by subjecting and inflicting brutality upon them, racial, political, and economic injustices.

This immoral and unethical organization was anti-black and anti-Asian for the following reason to promote white supremacy and to inject institutionalized racism upon African American and other ethnic groups. Somehow it seems African Americans are continually experiencing this unendingly evil today on a national scale through economics and politics. Justice has pleaded their case.

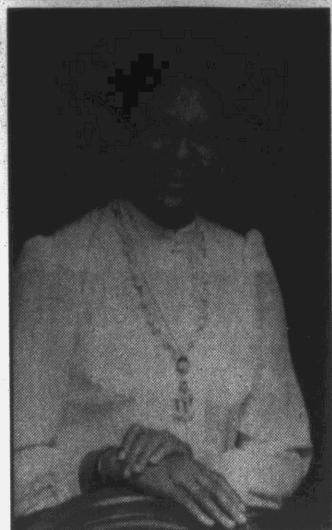
The KKK's own corruption, violence, internal conflict, tax troubles and negative publicity in southern newspapers brought them down, but this did not bring the organization to a close. Until the 1960's an obstetrician or medical doctor reorganized the KKK and changed their name to the "United American KKK" who viciously fought against integration and the civil rights movement, establishing small independent Klan groups, wearing their traditional attire--white robes. As recorded, thee men behind the robe were doctors, lawyers, senators, and governors of states, congressmen, law enforcement officers who dominated the political and economic arena with white justice and displayed injustice toward blacks.

Today, at the dawning of the twentieth century and on the horizon of the twenty-first century, few are sill in business, invoking much of the same crime in the same areas on an institutional level moving the white supremacy fringe on a less picturesque, organized view. They have put away the white robes and robed themselves in blue and gray suit, with starched shirts, wearing ties.

Today, I ask African Americans not to discard this nation's history that have dealt with us deceptively through injustice, hoodwinking us psychologically by using our white counterparts on a subtle and intellectual level. Since integration and the 1960's civil rights bill this evil has seeped through the cracks of another generation displaying how it can engraft itself through people and time.



## From The Desk of Mrs. Beatrice Maye



Beatrice Maye

### Thank you ...and Please??

You need more than just two little words these days...

its 1998 Department of Sociology Teaching Excellence Award to Dr. Jasper Register, citing his commitment to high standards in teaching and his devotion to his students, making him a standout among his peers.

For his outstanding contributions as a teacher in the department, "the students are far better trained and the quality of the degree programs visibly enhanced because we have you as a member in the department."

#### WORDS OF WISDOM

You are rich according to what you are, not according to what you have.

When looking for faults use a mirror, not a telescope. Failing to prepare, we prepare to fail.

Success comes in cans. Failure comes in can'ts.

People don't fail. They give up. Success comes to those who make it happen. Not those who let it happen.

#### BOYS TOWN SOCIAL SKILLS

##### How To Follow Directions

1. Look at the person
2. Say okay.
3. Do task immediately.
4. Check back.

##### How To Accept "No" For An Answer

1. Look at the person.
2. Say okay.
3. No arguing, whining or pouting.
4. If you don't understand why, ask calmly for a reason.
5. If you disagree or have a complaint, bring it up later.

##### How To Greet Someone

1. Look at the person.
2. Smile
3. Use a pleasant tone voice
4. Make a verbal greeting.

##### How to Disagree Appropriately

1. Look at the person.
2. Use a pleasant voice tone
3. Make an empathic/concerned statement.
4. State disagreement specifically.
5. Give a rationale.

6. Say thank you.

##### How To Accept Criticism

1. Look at the person.
2. Say okay.
3. No arguing.

##### How To Make A Request

1. Look at the person.
2. Use a pleasant voice tone.
3. State request specifically.
4. Say "please".
5. Say "thank-you" after request is granted.

##### How to Give Negative Feedback

1. Look at person.
2. Use a calm voice tone.
3. Make a positive statement for praise.
4. State the problem specifically.
5. Give a rationale to why it's a problem.
6. Offer a solution.
7. Thank the person for listening.

#### SOME POINTERS

1. Let your speech be better than silence or be silent.
2. "Soft soap" will not take away the stain of sin.
3. Before you jump on the bank wagon make sure it is going in the right direction.
4. When there is irregular behavior, there usually is something irregular going on.
5. A woman may wear a long dress and have long hair, but if she has a long tongue, she is a long way from being with the Lord.
6. Are you a part of the problem, or are you a solution to the problem?
7. If we do not assemble with God's people down here, it is a foregone conclusion that we are not going to be assembling with them up there in the hereafter.
8. You cannot backslide without it working havoc and devastation in the lives of your children, too.
9. Parents, if you compromise and give in to your wayward children, they will not have anything to come back to when they see the error of their way.
10. Much of television feeds the carnal mind about like putting gasoline on a fire.
11. The high-mindedness of some ministers of religion can easily be detected in their showy display of degrees from institutions of higher learning.

#### HAWKINS Continues From Page 1

own personal demons says that many so called "high society Christians" don't come here openly probably because of some of his past indiscretions. "They do, however, sometimes slip in for prayer or healings. I still try to help them. Since I've been delivered I am about helping others to get delivered through the power of the Holy Ghost. My ministry is about delivering and not judging," explains Pastor Hawkins. He adds that if he had listened to all of the negative comments and not sought the Lord for directions, the church would not have the type of ministry that has delivered so many people.

"Our goal is to give to the community what God has given us. God has given us wisdom to succeed in life, knowledge to be the head and not the tail and an understanding of how to walk in the newness of life," says Hawkins. Most of all God has given us much love to share at home and to spread into the community."

12. To live only in the past is to make all accomplishments in your life past tense.

13. People who are not with "one accord" in the church are loose stones (not in the structure of the Lord's house) that are stumbling blocks to others.

14. An idle person with time on his hands will end up in the devil's hands if he is not careful.

15. We may throw out the baby with the bath water when we are more concerned about the dirt than we are the baby.

16. When your children have memories and mental pictures of their data, do they see a flashy dude dressed like a California playboy, or a God-fearing man whose very countenance and demeanor emanate godliness?

17. OBNOXIOUS SINS: Sodomy, drunkenness, partiality, conceit, selfishness, greed, self-righteousness, and the list goes on. Actually, all sin is an abomination and obnoxious to God.

## Clinton Appointed FCC Chairman Bill Kennard Addresses NAACP Board Trustees...

Federal Communications Commission Chairman, William Kennard, addressed the NAACP National Board of Directors (Board) and the Special Contributions Fund Trustees (Trustees) at a NAACP Board luncheon last week where he announced that the FCC will seek reconsideration of the affirmative action decision in *Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod v. FCC*. The FCC Board and Trustees were in Baltimore for a three-day series of meetings.

"I was so disappointed when the Circuit Court last month held the FCC rules on equal employment opportunity unconstitutional," said Kennard in announcing the decision. He pledged to take whatever legal action is necessary to reverse the *Lutheran Church* decision.

In Kennard's remarks, he praised the NAACP Economic Reciprocity Initiative that is currently reviewing the diversity record of the telecommunications industry. "I publicly supported that initiative as soon as it was announced," Kennard stated.

One thrust of Kennard's remarks focused on the disparity in access to technology between low-income communities and affluent communities. "How do we make sure that this revolution in communications helps people not just in Montgomery County but in downtown Baltimore?" asked Kennard. He pointed out that 78% of schools in affluent communities have Internet access - but only half the schools in low-income areas have access. He stated that the percentage of white children with home computers is triple the percentage of black and Latino kids.


Kennard asked the NAACP for its continuing help in eliminating the disparities that currently exist.

Prior to Chairman Kennard's address, Baltimore City Mayor Kurt Schmoke drew biblical parallels to the commitment of the NAACP to addressing the issues facing urban America. He commended NAACP leadership for being a "strong partner" and expressed delight at starting the next millennium with the NAACP convention in Baltimore in the year 2000.

NAACP Chairman Julian Bond extended the invitation to Chairman Kennard and Mayor Schmoke to address the Board and Trustees at the luncheon so that the Board's time could be spent "being enriched with information from those leaders who can help the Board carry out its NAACP mission."

President & CEO Kweisi Mfume expressed strong support for FCC Chairman William Kennard and his effort to halt the assault on EEO and affirmative action guidelines in the broadcasting industry. "I pledge to re-energize NAACP membership around the issues of access and deployment of advanced technology into our community, making it a priority of the NAACP economic empowerment agenda," said Mfume.

President Mfume joined Kennard in calling for the elimination of the "digital divide."

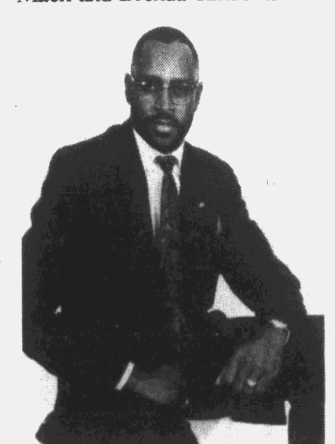


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## STEWART RECEIVES "SIGNATURE AWARD"

Dr. Thomas L. Stewart was a recipient of the prestigious SIGNATURE AWARD which was presented on March 30 by the North Carolina Divinity and Music Arts Academy in Raleigh, North Carolina.

THE SIGNATURE AWARDS honored persons across North Carolina for their untiring and dedicated services to the citizenry of North Carolina in the area of Christendom. The nine times Grammy Award winner, Evangelist Shirley Caesar along with Stella Award winner, Pastor Danny Graham, were the presenters. The Grand marshals for this glitzy affair were television Pastors Mack and Brenda Timberlake.



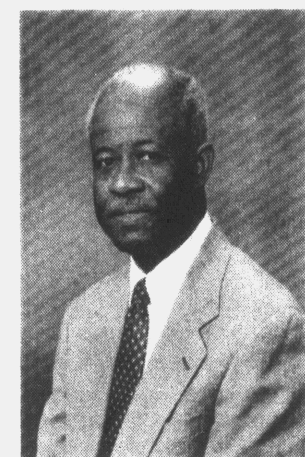
Dr. Thomas L. Stewart

Greetings were delivered from the office of President Bill Clinton and Governor James B. Hunt. More than eighty persons were selected for this distinguished honor and more than twenty-five persons were in attendance.

Dr. Stewart was honored as a result of years of dedication, service, lifetime achievement and his worldwide humanitarian efforts as the CEO of the Caravan of Deliverance Worldwide Ministries. He is an ordained Elder and associate minister at Faith Tabernacle Holy Church and actively involved in civic, political and religious organizations.

Dr. Stewart has served the citizenry of this state as an educator for more than twenty years.

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Tuesday, June 2nd @ 7:00PM

**Bishop Ralph B. Love - Greenville, NC**  
Holy Trinity Unity Church - Greenville, NC

Wednesday, June 3rd @ 7:00PM

**Dr. Sidney A. Locks - Pastor**  
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Thursday, June 4th @ 7:00PM

**Dr. Elmer Jackson - Pastor**  
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A Two-County Narcotics Task Force in Northeast North Carolina is seeking applicants for undercover agents. Applicants must possess the highest degree of integrity, be certified in NC as law enforcement officials. Experience in narcotics enforcement and/or financial investigations is preferred. Applicant must be willing to undergo background investigations including psychological, financial and polygraph testing. Positions include random drug testing. Agent will be responsible for the enforcement of the NC Controlled Substance Act and the Criminal General Criminal Statutes of North Carolina. Salary depends on qualifications. A complete Sheriff's Education and Training Standards Commission form F-3 is to be received by Kieth Roach, PO Box 308, Williamston, NC 27892 no later than 5:00pm, Tuesday, May 26, 1998. The Narcotics Task Force is an equal opportunity employer. Minority applicants are especially encouraged.







## RECREATION & PARKS PROGRAMS CHILDREN'S ACTING FOR FILM WORKSHOP

Instructor Steve Myett will be sponsoring this workshop for ages 7 to 9 on Saturday, May 23, 9:30 AM to 12:00 noon and ages 10-14 will meet 1:30-4:00 PM. Call Carol Powers at 830-4542. Registration is limited.

A new yoga class will begin May 5 from 7:30-9:00 PM on Thursday, May 7, 9:15-10:45 AM. Class is held at Jaycee Park Administrative Building. For more information call 830-4567.

**THE TEEN CENTER -**  
Located at 1703 E. 14th Street in Greenville is open Friday nights, 8:00-11:00 PM for Grades 6-8,

Saturday nights, 8:00-midnight for Grades 9-12. Teen activities include dances, billiards, study sessions (every Tuesday 3-6 PM), volunteering, community projects, etc.

**Youth Advisory Council** meets the first Wednesday of each month 6:30-7:30 PM grades 6-8 and 7:30-8:30 PM grades 9-12. All interested people are invited to attend. Call Kevin Yarrell at (919) 830-4567 for more information.

**BABY SITTING -**  
American Red Cross baby sitting class for ages 11-14 is held at the Red Cross Office. To register, you need to go

the American Red Cross Office, 601-E Country Club Drive.  
**SWIMMING LESSONS -** a variety of swimming lessons are held at the Greenville Aquatics and Fitness Center. Please call (919) 758-6892 for more information.  
**SUMMER ROGRAM REGISTRATION** for city residents will be April 28 and 29, 6:00 PM to 8:00 PM at Jaycee Park Administrative Building. Registration will continue for residents, as well as non-residents, daily beginning April 30 from 9:00 AM to 4:00 PM. For more information, call 830-4567.

## White Writer Makes Amends for Ancestor's Slaves Part Two (Continues from previous issue)

(CHARLESTON) "The saga of slavery cannot be discussed by slave master and slave, even over a mint julep and a sincere, 'I'm sorry'..." wrote an editor in a February 1994 edition of the City Sun a former Black newspaper in New York. "Be aware, Mr. Ball, this is an impossible dream."

Even supporters question what Ball has accomplished. And at what cost.

"I wish my family had been Quakers in the Underground Railroad instead of slave owners in the Low Country," says his cousin Catherine Tupper. "I wish we had been more."

Ball acknowledges his family's discomfort and offers them an apology too. He's not trying to embarrass them, he says. By sharing their history with the other owners of that history, he hopes, paradoxically, to bring them honor.

Some feel he already has. Charlotte Vogelsang threw a party for her cousin, praising his bravery for "taking us to the scary, hard place, for making us think about the truth."

But she can't persuade her father, a minister, to agree.

On the Black side of the family too, not all Ball's newfound cousins are thrilled to learn about their heritage.

"Ed Ball was born with a silver spoon in his mouth and I was born into poverty. All of a sudden he is going to come forward and understand my situation and say, 'sorry'" says Leon Smalls of Philadelphia, whose great-great-grandfather was a Ball. "A blank apology to 100,000 slaves. That is not enough." Smalls' parents are more forgiving of the stranger

who disrupted their lives. They live about 30 miles from Charleston, near a beautifully restored Ball plantation where their ancestors once worked.

They used to visit Dorothy Dame Gibbs occasionally and considered her a friend. Now they are not sure if they will see her again. Even age, they say, cannot excuse her comments in interviews with Ball. Nothing had prepared them for the hurt of hearing her describe "negroes" as "tomcats" whom White people could never understand.

"I was surprised for what she seemed to think about us," said Smalls' mother, shaking her head. "I never thought she would say something like that about the Black people."

Ball seems genuinely saddened by the pain he has caused. But he is sure he is doing the right thing.

On the beach at Sullivan's Island, he knows for certain. As a child he collected shells here, oblivious to the fact that this is where slaves ships dumped their dead overboard. The sick were herded into "pest houses" and held for several weeks, then taken to the mainland to be sold.

"Sullivan's Island was like an Ellis Island for slaves," Ball says standing on the sandbar at the mouth of the Charleston harbor.

"About 40 percent of American slaves arrived at this spot. And there is nothing here to remember them, not a single marker. It's just too painful."

As part of his own journey of remembrance, Ball plans to move back to Charleston permanently. He wants to live with the people he has written about, his family - White and Black. He has spent five years raising the dead. Now he will live with the ghosts.

Ball

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## Lillie Robbins to Head National Alumni Organization

Lillie Robbins has been elected as the head of the National NC A&T State University Alumni Association. She is a Pitt County Native. She is currently employed as a team leader for the Compliance Division One in the Office of Civil Rights for the US Dept. of Education in Atlanta.

Robbins is the 3rd Pitt County President of the National NC A&T Alumni Association. The other two were the late Howard C. Barnhill of Charlotte and John Maye, Jr. of Ridgeland, SC. John Maye is employed as assistant superintendent of Jasper County Schools and is the son of the "M" Voice Award Winning Columnist, Beatrice Maye.

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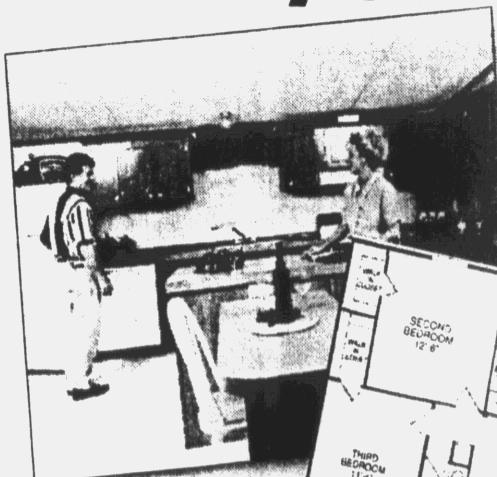
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# Biologic Terrorism — Responding to the Threat....

by J.K. Russell

The growing awareness of the possibility that a terrorist organization might use a biologic agent in an attack on a civilian target in the United States raises important questions about our capability as a nation to respond effectively to the threat and to deal with the consequences of an attack. The article by Kaufmann et al. in this issue of Emerging Infectious Diseases describes three possible biologic attack scenarios and uses an economic analysis to describe the benefits of a rapid medical response and early intervention. The authors conclude that major reductions in morbidity and mortality and consequent cost savings can be achieved by early intervention. The effectiveness of post attack intervention depends on a rapid response which requires prior planning, preparation, and training.

Achieving the level of preparedness implied by the assumptions stated in the article will require a major national effort. This discussion of possible bioterrorist attack scenarios adds to a growing concern about our willingness as a nation to commit the effort and resources necessary to protect our citizens.

Biologic warfare and use of biologic weapons by terrorists have only recently been discussed openly and realistically. The fall of the Soviet Union and the defeat of Iraq uncovered extensive biologic weapons programs of surprising sophistication and diversity. The threat to the nation from biologic weapons is no longer a debate issue. Now the questions are how immediate and serious is the threat and how do we respond effectively?

Protecting the armed forces against biologic weapons, although complex and difficult, is less challenging than protecting the civilian population. The armed forces are relatively small populations that can be vaccinated against the major threat agents. Aerosols containing biologic materials can be detected at a distance, and protective masks and suits are effective. Military medical personnel are trained to recognize and treat casualties, and antibiotics, antiviral drugs, and antitoxins can be stockpiled for military contingencies. The preponderance of scientific expertise for many of the threat agents is within the military

medical research laboratories, although this capability is now being seriously compromised by budget cut and personnel reductions.

The civilian population cannot be protected in the same manner as the armed forces. We must rely heavily on our intelligence and criminal investigation agencies and on international efforts to identify specific threats and deter terrorists. We must also recognize the possibility that a determined terrorist organization may not be deterred, may evade detection, and may succeed in releasing an aerosol of a virulent bacterium, virus, or toxin in a susceptible target area such as an airport or stadium. Our current capability to effectively respond to such a scenario and minimize the impact is far less than needed.

The U.S. Armed Forces and the Department of Defense have the greatest capability in biologic defense, but the responsibility for dealing with the threat of biologic weapon use by a terrorist falls on multiple federal, state, and municipal agencies and the civilian health care community. Most of the organizations are inadequately prepared to deal effectively with the problem.


The organizational aspects of dealing with an attack on our civilian population are daunting. Responsibility for recognizing an unusual outbreak of illness that may be the result of the deliberate release of a biologic warfare agent will fall on the health care community. Early recognition will be an important factor in determining the overall outcome and will depend on the level of suspicion and knowledge of the health care providers that see the initial cases. Rapid, precise, and reliable diagnosis will be the responsibility of the federal and state public health laboratory system with help from their military colleagues. Organizing and managing the care of patients and mounting the appropriate public health response will involve local health care and municipal agencies and authorities and state public health authorities. The effectiveness of coordination, support, and leadership at the federal level may make huge differences in reducing death rates and containing the possible secondary spread of a

communicable disease. The Federal Emergency Management Agency has the major responsibility for planning and coordinating the consequences phase of a federal response, but the level of preparedness at all levels will ultimately determine the outcome.

If we take the biologic warfare threat seriously, a major effort will be needed to develop contingency plans and initiate coordinated and mutually supportive programs in all involved agencies. Training and education of the health care community will require a major effort involving several major professional organizations. Developing and improving diagnostic and identification capability is essential for medical care, public health, intelligence, and law enforcement agencies and should be a national priority.

The science base needed to deal with the broad spectrum of agents on the threat list, bacteria, viruses, toxins, and parasites, is widely distributed among several federal laboratories in the Department of Health and Human Services, the Department of Defense, and the Department of Energy, as well as in universities and state public health laboratories. In addition, since many of the biologic agents are not normally large public health problems or popular subjects of scientific research, critical areas have inadequate research capability and limited expert personnel. Deficiencies in our scientific knowledge and a paucity of experts will ultimately limit our capability to rapidly and precisely identify agents and respond effectively in a crisis. For example, the global molecular epidemiology of the agents at the top of the threat list is critically important for identifying the organisms accurately and differentiating local from exotic strains. Current databases are inadequate, and no organized effort is being made to fill in the gaps.

The current public discussion of the threat of biologic terrorism is an opportunity to evaluate our collective capabilities and to assess weaknesses and vulnerabilities. Raising the level of national preparedness will require leadership and action by responsible federal agencies. A thoughtful analysis of the consequences of unpreparedness provides a mandate for action.



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Pictured: Frank Muir, Manager of Business Development, Strategic Resource Solutions and Dr. Isaac Horton, Founder, Remote Source Lighting International

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Sam Solomon, President  
Bull Creek Corporation

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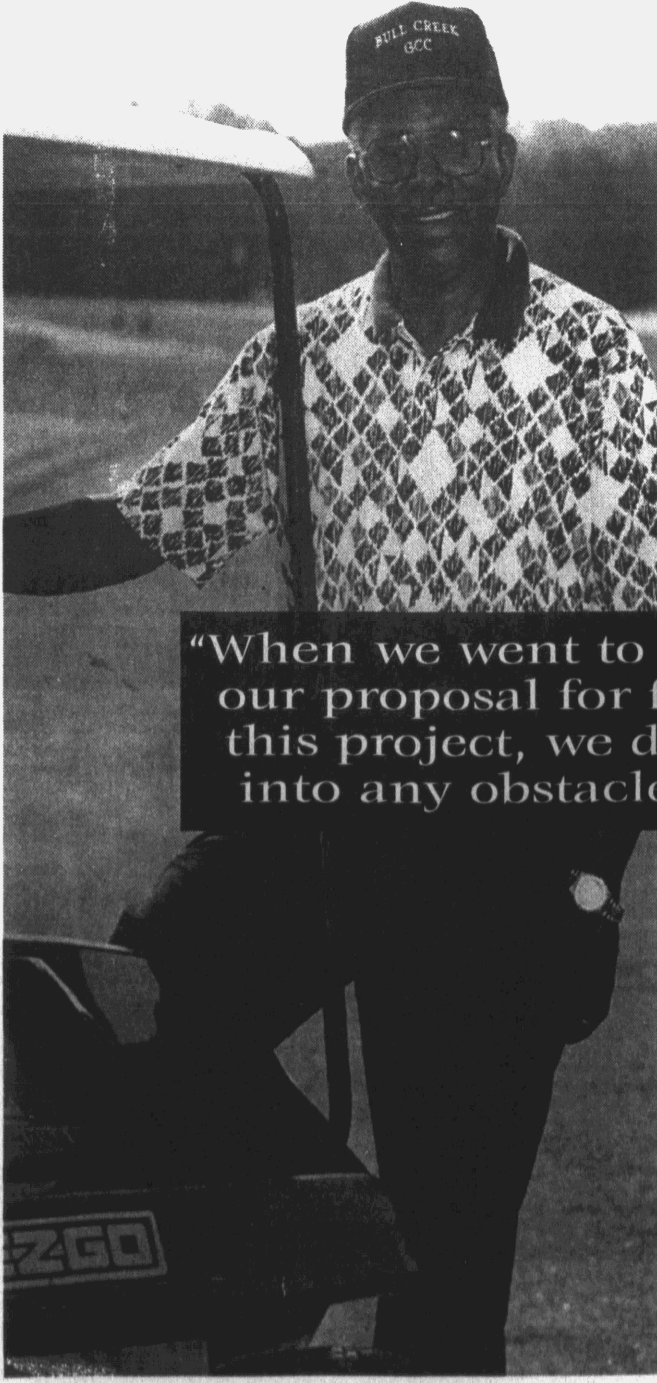
When loan officers from First Citizens saw first hand the sweat equity the families had put into their vision, they were impressed. "First Citizens was very receptive to us when we went to them," says Solomon.

"When we went to them with our proposal for financing this project, we didn't run into any obstacles at all."

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# Will Black voters support John Edwards in November

By CASH MICHAELS

Staff Writer

Thanks to a torrent of television commercials and enough personal wealth to drop \$3.2 million into his own Democratic primary campaign coiffures without blinking, John Edwards, a highly successful Raleigh personal injury attorney, is now the nominee Democrats across the state hope can unseat conservative Republican incumbent U.S. Senator Lauch Faircloth in November.

But will African-American voters, whose numbers at the polls have been steadily dwindling in recent years, support Edwards to the extent needed to offset the high amount of white moderate to conservative votes Faircloth is likely to get?



John Edwards

That's what Edwards and his supporters will have to work on in the months before the general

## News Analysis

election. The young, handsome, well spoken, telegenic campaigner has a good head start, having corralled key support from virtually all of the state's elected and civic black leadership, including top endorsements from the Raleigh-Wake Citizens' Association, and the Durham Committee on the Affairs of Black People.

How long will that support hold? Can it translate into excitement, enough to get African-Americans back to the polls in significant numbers? Indeed, what's in it for blacks to put Edwards, a political novice whose bank book, law

degree, and court victories against insurance companies for "the little man," are the only things that have distinguished him in the U.S. Senate race, so far?

And is Faircloth, albeit a conservative who follows closely in the steps of his colleague and GOP mentor, N.C. senior Sen. Jesse Helms, seen as being as much of a threat to African-American interests as Helms reportedly is?

Those are the questions, observers say, the Edwards camp will, have to successfully answer if they plan to have a Democrat from North Carolina elected to the Senate for the first time since the late Terry Sanford did it in 1986.

"I think Edwards' key weaknesses are lack of political experience and his background as a trial lawyer," John Hood, president

of the John Locke Foundation, a Raleigh conservative think tank, told **The Wilmington Journal**. "Faircloth will portray Edwards as lacking the experience and maturity to be an effective senator. He will also say that Edwards will represent the interests of the trial lawyer lobby rather than those of business, hospitals, schools and ordinary folks."

Faircloth, a former Democrat, defeated Sanford in 1992 after switching parties.

"I would assume that Edwards would run strongly among North Carolina blacks, as do most Democratic candidates," Hood continued. "But I doubt he'll generate as much interest as Harvey Gantt did. Furthermore, I don't expect a large turnout (this fall), because of general contentment

with Congress. That means fewer black voters at the polls to offset the activist base of the GOP."

"I'd have to say that Faircloth may be the most vulnerable Republican senator this year," Hood concluded, "and that's not saying much for the democrats' chances."

Part of the baggage Edwards will carry, however, is the bad taste some in the African-American community have at the way former Charlotte City Councillor Ella Scarborough, an African-American and Democratic primary opponent, was treated.

With no money and significant problems developing a statewide campaign organization, Scarborough, the only person with

elective experience out of the seven-candidate Democratic primary field, received little support from black community leadership statewide, thus garnering only 10 percent to Edwards' 51 percent of the May 5 primary vote.

D.G. Martin, a respected Democratic party stalwart, came in second to Edwards with just 29 percent. If Edwards had been kept below 40 percent, Martin could have forced a runoff.

In years past, most observers confirm, when a credible black candidate, like a Rev. Jesse Jackson, Rep. Shirley Chisholm, or even former Charlotte Mayor Harvey Gantt, announced that they were running for a top office, several grassroots efforts were formed within the African-American community to ensure that if they didn't at least win, there'd be enough of the black vote to ensure

that African-American interests weren't ignored.

Only then would the primary winner get black voter support in the fall. This way, the Democratic party was kept on notice not to take the African-American for granted, though many in the community feel they already have. If blacks ever lost that leverage, they warn, their issues would eventually be cast aside.

"In the past the African-American community has had more leverage by supporting a candidate in the primary who would then throw his or her support to the (winner)," Chris Fitzsimmons, executive director of Common Sense Foundation Inc., a nonprofit progressive issues advocacy group in Raleigh, confirmed to **The Wilmington Journal**.

That didn't happen for Scarborough, however, because Edwards was able to get early commitments from a good majority of the state's black leadership, and some have questioned, and even

alleged, how he did it.

A week before the primary, Scarborough confirmed that she was hearing what many insiders had been reporting to **The Wilmington Journal** and **The Carolinian** since the tide of black political action committee endorsements were going Edwards' way.

"I am hearing that (black) leaders across the state are being bought by certain candidates," she told **The Carolinian** in Raleigh on April 28. "I'm hearing that, I couldn't vouch for that, I cannot confirm that. But I get calls all the time about people being purchased."

Community leaders who stayed neutral in the race, like James Hankins, first vice-president of the New Hanover NAACP, said they had hoped that that alleged practice, which was once commonplace years ago, had now ceased, warning that if blacks lose their leverage now, their issues will eventually be cast aside.

"It's all about money, and it's all about winning," Hankins told **The Wilmington Journal**, adding how distressed he was with the likelihood of big money leaving little room for key African-American issues to be placed on the table.

"We need to at least make them recognize that we're out there, reach out, and try to get some of the (issues) that (we) want (addressed). If we can't do that, then we're really just wasting our time."

"TV and money can pretty much

make or break whatever they want," Hankins continued. "We don't need to fall into this trap. We need to put some of our issues out there, and use our vote to bargain and get some of the things we're trying to get."

Chris Fitzsimmons warns that just because Edwards has black leadership support, doesn't automatically translate into significant black community votes.

"I would probably make the argument to Mr. Edwards that just because you have prominent black

leaders signed onto your campaign, and you've gotten the endorsements of the black political committees from around the state, you're not going to win this election unless you speak about the issues that affect the black community, and excite them to go to the polls," Fitzsimmons said.

"I think there's a huge difference between endorsements and excitement, energy and a strong turnout. That's what (Edwards) absolutely has to have to beat Sen. Faircloth."

## Media insulting of black people is alive and well



### Minority Report

By James E. Allsbrook, PhD

The ugly and notorious N-word, which exploded into the news spotlight so conspicuously during the O.J. Simpson trial, has reclaimed the spotlight in three separate incidents.

First, the NAACP has won its battle with the Merriam-Webster Collegiate Dictionary publishers who have agreed to change the definition of the word, "nigger".

Second, the Urban League of Eastern Massachusetts has led a heavy attack on Boston Magazine which used the term, "Head Negro in Charge", to describe Dr. Henry Lewis Gates, a prominent professor at Harvard U. This term is a takeoff on the old, belittling and contemptuous term, "Head Nigger in Charge", which reeks of sarcasm and disrespect.

Third, U.S. Sen. Wendell Ford, old-line Democrat from Kentucky, said, "I am not nigger-rich", in answer to a call-in question on a radio talk show. This 30-month-old insult was not reported in most newspapers at the time, but it is stored in computer data.

The NAACP campaign against Merriam-Webster's objectionable definition was led by Kwame Mfume, that organization's talented, thoughtful and well-spoken leader. The objections came when the dictionary defined a "nigger" simply as a black person and failed to state that the term is very objectionable. The publishers received thousands of complaints and replied that they are reviewing the definitions of "nigger" and other possibly objectionable terms and will make revisions in subsequent publications.

An extended definition indicating that "nigger" is offensive does appear in the much larger, Unabridged Merriam-Webster dictionary, but this inclusive and scholarly volume usually is held only in research-oriented libraries found generally at large educational institutions.

An article in Essence magazine by Delphine Abraham reported that she had collected ten thousand signatures on a petition to change the offensive definition in the Collegiate Edition of this top-rated Webster's.

The use of "Head Negro in Charge" as the title of Boston magazine's April feature article on Prof. Henry Gates offended readers of both races. Boston newspapers said reaction was varied, probably depending on the sophistication of the reader. "Skip" Gates, as nicknamed by his mother, is highly esteemed in academic circles and his professional credentials are first-rate.

The long article on him discusses his humble origin in West Virginia, his brilliant scholarship at Ivy League universities, his marriage to a white woman, his various publications and his assembling a very talented group of black scholars now teaching at Harvard, where he is chairman of African America Studies. The article quotes Gates as using profanity on various occasions and measures his career success by his publications and his extracurricular work that have brought him an expensive home and estimated income of about a million dollars per year.

The article states that Gates, 47, could become the most influential black man in America because he and his talented black recruits at Harvard can produce ideas and intellectual leadership that can change greatly the situation of black people in America.

However, within recent years, African Americans' demand for normal human dignity has intensified through insistent condemnation of objectionable stereotypes and other methods of racial ridicule projected by radio, newspapers, magazines, television, movies, stage and other media. The NAACP presents its annual televised awards nationwide. Its Spingarn Medal is a treasured, historic recognition of race-betterment work of very high quality. Ebony magazine presents

awards in various categories to outstanding high school and college students. Essence magazine, among other things, presents its "Living Legend" award to established blacks of outstanding accomplishment.

Various black fraternities and

sororities, the Links and other organizations have helped with scholarships and awards for excellence. But more needs to be done. We are accentuating the positive, but we must eliminate the negative by opposing negative productions like the Jerry Springer show, the profanity and vulgarity that appear too often on BET television, and the stereotype-reinforcing damages that come from negative and injurious productions like "Porgy and Bess", "Amos 'n' Andy", "The Green Pastures" and other presentations that identify black people as simpletons, dope addicts and prostitutes as in "Porgy," and in old-time blackface vaudeville.

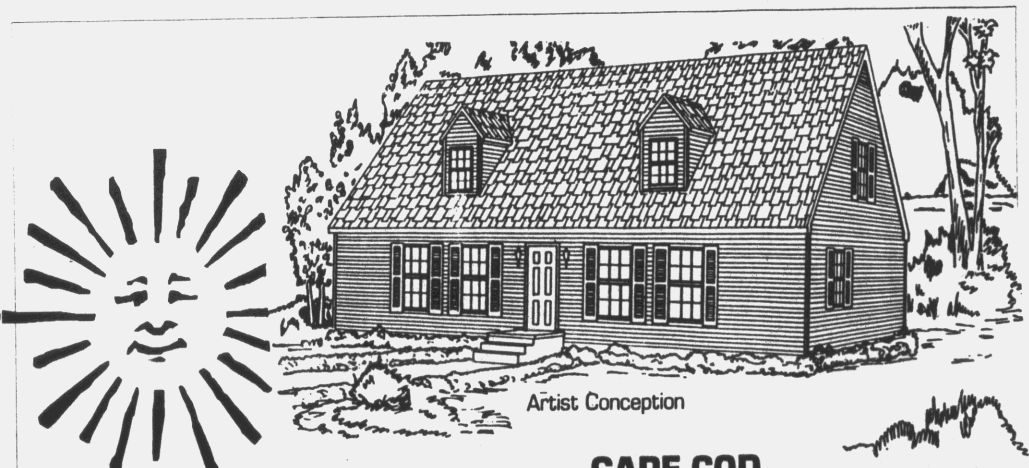
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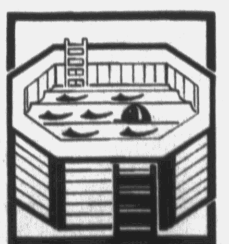
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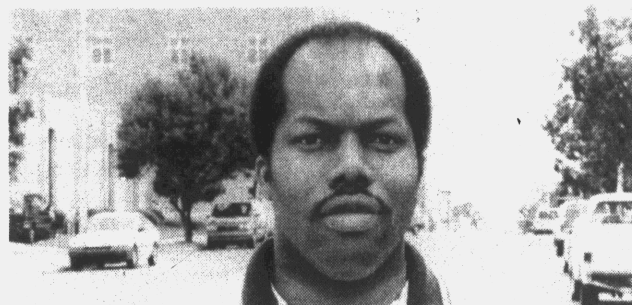
### Public Understanding of Stroke Warning Signals

43% of surveyed Americans didn't know even one stroke warning sign.

- Sudden weakness or numbness of the face, arm or leg on one side of the body.
- Sudden dimness or loss of vision, particularly in one eye.
- Loss of speech or trouble understanding speech.
- Unexplained dizziness, unsteadiness or sudden falls, especially with any of the previous symptoms.
- Sudden severe headaches with no apparent cause.

SOURCE: American Heart Association, 1995

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photo by Jim Rouse

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