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"I don't know the key to success, but the key to failure is trying to please everybody" --Bill Cosby

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Camille Cosby: America Taught My Son's Killers To Hate Blacks

From our institutions to our media, racism and prejudice are omnipresent

by Camille O. Cosby

LOS ANGELES I believe America taught our son's killer to hate African-Americans. After Mikail Markhasev killed Ennis William Cosby on Jan. 16, 1997, he said to his friends, "I shot a nigger. It's all over the news."

This was not the first time



Markhasev had attacked a black person. In 1995, he served time in a juvenile center for stabbing a black man who was standing at a gas station.

Presumably, Markhasev did not learn to hate black people in his native country, the Ukraine, where the black population was near zero. Nor was he likely to see America's intolerable, stereotypical movies and television programs about blacks, which were not shown in the Soviet Union before the killer and his family moved to America in the late 1980s.

James Baldwin wrote in his book 'THE PRICE OF THE TICKET', "The will of the people, or the State, is revealed by the State's institutions. There was not, then, nor is there, now, a single American institution which is not a racist institution."

Yes, racism and prejudice are omnipresent and eternalized in America's institutions, media and myriad entities. Here are a few examples:

- * The Voting Rights Act signed by President Lyndon B. Johnson in 1965 will expire in 2007. Congress once again will decide whether African Americans will be "allowed" to vote. No other Americans are subjected to this oppressive nonsense.

- * African-Americans, as well as all Americans, are brainwashed every day to respect and revere slave-

owners and people who clearly waffled about race. In truly, the enslavement of millions of Africans immeasurably enriched the treasures of America's government and individuals. Interestingly, several slave-owners' images are on America's paper currencies: George Washington (\$1), Thomas Jefferson (\$2), Alexander Hamilton (\$10), Andrew Jackson (\$20), Ulysses Grant (\$50) and Benjamin Franklin (\$100).

Grant was the last U.S. president to own slaves. Even Abraham Lincoln (\$5) said, "I do not stand pledged to the prohibition of slave trade between the states... I, as much as any man, am in favor of having the superior position assigned to the White race."

- * God and most Christian holy people artistically have been recreated in images of whiteness. This shrewd propaganda undeniably lessens the worthiness of most of the Earth's people. Because of those visual constructs, the churches have a deep problem with race.

- * America's educational institutions' dictionaries define "black" as "harmful; hostile; disgrace; unpleasant aspects of life." "White" is described as "decent; honorable; auspicious; without malice."

- * A medical school at the University of Texas in Galveston conducted a controversial study primarily on black babies from 1956 to 1962. The researchers withheld an essential fatty acid from the babies' formulas that humans need for the growth of the whole body and nervous system. Those black babies were used as laboratory animals, and several of the infants died during the course of the study. Previously, this research had been done on dogs. This is just one of several unethical medical studies on African-Americans that has been documented.

Also, racism negatively has impacted African-Americans' health. Dr. Alvin F. Poussaint, a Harvard psychiatrist says, "Some research suggests that the high prevalence of hypertension among African-Americans, compared to whites, is related directly to the stresses associated with being a black person, living in a racist society."

- * D. W. Griffith's 'THE BIRTH OF A NATION', an undisguised racist film, was recently rated by the American Film Institute as No. 44 of America's top 100 films. This movie depicted black people as subhuman creatures.

- * Gangs, such as the Ku Klux Klan, unite because of racial hatred. A gang will convince themselves that they are racially superior to "outside" groups, which must be harmed or eliminated.

Violence is prevalent in America. According to Gavin de Becker's research in his book 'THE GIFT OF FEAR', "The energy of violence moves through our culture... Our country's murderers rob us of almost a million years of human life every year... In the past two years alone, more Americans died from gunshot wounds than were killed during the entire Vietnam War."

USA TODAY recently published a report from Pride, a nonprofit drug-prevention program. Pride's survey shows that nearly one million school kids (grades six through 12) carried guns to school during the 1997-98

school year. Fifty-nine percent were white; 18% were black. More than half also used an illegal drug on a monthly basis.

Ennis William Cosby was shot and killed in a middle-to-upper income, predominately white community. The misperception immortalized daily by the media and other entities is that crimes are committed in poor neighborhoods inhabited by dark people.

All African-Americans, regardless of their educational and economic accomplishments, have been and are at risk in America simply because of their skin colors. Sadly, my family and I experienced that to be one of America's racial truths.

Most people know that facing the truth brings about healing and growth. When is America going to face its historic and current racial realities so it can be what it says it is?

♦♦♦♦♦

New Black Panther Party Emerges after Byrd Slaying

by Kitty J. Pope

"We have come to say very simply, by the power of our God that the black man and black woman must stand up and defend themselves at all costs."

Those were the words of Khalid Abdul Muhammad, representing the New Black Panther Party at the funeral of James Byrd, Jr. The New Panthers came in response to the brutal killing of Byrd who was dragged to his death by three white men who have been accused of the crime.

The same organization calling themselves the New Black Panthers showed up for the Ku Klux Klan march weeks later to denounce the group. The Klan said that they were marching to declare that the three men charged with the murder was not a part of their group. One Klan member shouted this is Klan country.

Another New Panther leader Malik Z. Shabazz who is reportedly the attorney for the group, came with at least 50 other members carrying guns and shouting black power. The New Panthers were also joined by members of the Black Muslim group and its leader Quanell X of Houston. The New Panthers held a counter-Klan demonstration.

"These men are here to freely exercise their divine and constitutional rights to defend ourselves and carry arms and loaded weapons to defend the Black community against this murderous and hypocritical outfit known as the Ku Klux Klan," said Shabazz.

(Cont'd on Page #)

CONGO INVESTIGATION CONCLUDES AS GOVERNMENT HOPES TO MOVE ON TO RECONSTRUCTION AND ELECTIONS

On June 25 the Secretary General of the United Nations released a report on human rights violations in the Democratic Republic of Congo (ex-Zaire). The report was compiled by a special investigative team sent to the Congo in the summer of 1997, shortly after a liberation movement headed by now-president Laurent Desire Kabila ended the 32 year old dictatorship of Mobutu Sese Seko. The team was to investigate allegations that Kabila's Alliance of Democratic Forces for the Liberation of Zaire (ADFL) committed massacres against the Rwandan Hutu refugee populations who were fleeing ahead of the ADFL troops.

Sending this human rights mission to the Democratic Republic of Congo was viewed by many in the region, as well as by some international observers, as a cynical attempt by the international community to deflect blame away from its own role in the region's tragedy. For it was the Western powers' complicity with the criminal regimes of Zaire's Mobutu and Rwanda's genocidal Hutu Power movement that help set up conditions in which war, death, disease, revenge killings and refugees crises could be the only possible outcome.

During his trip to Africa this past spring, President Clinton acknowledged this burden of guilt. Speaking to genocide survivors in

Kigali, Rwanda, he said that the international community must bear its share of responsibility for this tragedy... We did not act quickly enough after the killings began. We should not have allowed the refugee camps to become safe haven for the killers. We did not immediately call these crimes by their rightful name: genocide. Indeed, the United Nations not only failed in its obligations to intervene and prevent the 1994 genocide in Rwanda, but took other steps which had the effect of spreading Rwanda's murderous ethnic conflict of Zaire, and guaranteeing that Zaire's transition to democracy would not be a peaceful one.

For instance, when the genocidal Hutu Power regime was on the brink of defeat by the Rwandan Patriotic Front, a UN-sanctioned intervention force headed by France and code-named Operation Turquoise stepped in and allowed the regime's soldiers, militias and government leaders to escape, with all their weapons, across the border to Zaire. Along with them came more than one million civilian Hutu refugees, frightened into fleeing by radio broadcasts falsely announcing that all Hutus would be killed in revenge by the new Rwandan government.

The arrival of these refugees in Zaire provoked a humanitarian operation which, despite the good intentions of many heroic aid workers, was a disaster in itself. The United Nations failed to disarm the refugees, or to separate civilians from combatants. They allowed the camps to be set up close to the border with Rwanda, and the soldiers sheltered there used the camps as staging grounds for attacks on the new Rwandan government. The extremist Hutu Power government-in-exile re-established itself in the camps. Incredibly, the aid agencies related

to this regime as a legitimate authority over the refugees, entrusting these criminals with the distribution of food and other survival needs. The leaders sold the donated food on the black market and purchased weapons. The Rwandan Hutu Power regime had been allied with the Zairian dictator Mobutu, and when the ADFL's offensive against Mobutu began, the Hutu troops garrisoned in the refugee camps were the only soldiers in the country willing to fight. (The rank and file of Mobutu's own army mostly deserted.)

This situation placed innocent Hutu refugees in mortal danger. Kept from returning home by their own soldiers, who used them as human shields or as bait to attract supplies from aid agencies, some 200,000 embarked on a forced march across Zaire. Perhaps tens of thousands of them died. Their fate was the subject of the Secretary General's investigation.

Because the investigative team was perceived as politicized, the new Congolese government did not fully cooperate with it, and little actual forensic work was accomplished. Although the investigative team assembled ample evidence that many, many people met violent deaths during the Congo's civil war, it did not prove that the ADFL forces deliberately committed violations of humanitarian law or crimes against humanity. This finding, together with the Congolese government's announced intention to initiate its own investigation, will hopefully put and end to the international community's largely gratuitous exercise. Perhaps at long last, the new Congolese government will be permitted to turn its full attention to the needs of the surviving victims of this tragedy, and to the rebuilding of a democratic Congo. ♦♦♦

The world's most widely eaten fruit is not the apple or banana, but the marvelous mango. Dried

mangoes and other fruits can be ordered by mail from Sonoma Dried Fruits, 4791 Dry Creek Road, Healdsburg, CA 95448.

Recently Home From Duties at the U.S. Senate...



Like many many families throughout North Carolina, each year the Mills family comes together during July 4th Weekend to celebrate their family heritage and their religious beliefs. Shown above is Sister Marther Mills with her sister Debbie on the right. Marther who grew up in Pitt County has worked in the U.S. Senate for the last twenty-five years. (Photo: Jim Rouse)

Prince Hall Mason Honors It's 80 Plus Year Old Members



A Mason Foto Flashback -

foto by Jim Rouse

The appreciation ceremony was a magnificent ideal designed to show appreciation to all members of Lodge #35, and recognize members eighty-plus years of age, and to encourage members to be more active in Masonic projects and in the community.

Recognized for their years of diligence and dedication to Lodge #35 were: D. D. Garrett, Earnest H. Eaton, James Ebron, Sr., W. H. Jones, and Thaddeus J. Wooten. George Davies received special recognition for his support to Worshipful Master Frizzell.

Greetings were given by District Deputy Grandmaster, District #10 P.G.M., Howard Pearce, and also by District Matron O.E.S., District #10 P.H. Affiliate, Yvonne Pearce.

After the welcome and greeting, presentations were given to some of the members and leaders of the Greenville community. Benjamin Braswell, James Rodgers and Anthony Foreman recognized dignitaries present and James Dixon introduced the speaker. Monty Frizzell gave background information on the honorees. The Reverend Dr. West Shields, Jr., had inspiring remarks in his message. Melvin McLawhorn's presentation was centered around what a mason is or should be.

Two of the honorees--Earnest Eaton and W. H. Jones (pm) worked on the repair and beautification projects... roof work, painting, and ceiling.

Brother W. H. Jones (Chaplain) and Ernest Eaton (Treasurer) are both eighty plus years of age. They are retired carpenters who worked on the building with brothers James Dixon, James Rodgers, Ronnie Cannon and Monty Frizzell. Community activities include: scholarship workshop, youth valentine social, meeting place monthly for youth organizations.

The highlight of our masonic year was the Grand Lodge which was attended by James Dixon, secretary; Earnest Eaton, treasurer; and Monty Frizzell, worshipful master. Pearl Frizzell and Joan Eaton, both members of the Ladies Delight, Chapter #10, O.E.S., also attended the P.H. Mason, Grand Lodge of the state of North Carolina. A special thanks to James "Pete" Hagans for all of his support.

Top Dissident Dies Suddenly In Nigeria...

Former Political Prisoner Abiola Stricken During Meeting with U.S. Officials

Nigeria's most famous political prisoner, Moshood Abiola, died Tuesday after getting sick at a meeting with visiting American officials lobbying for his freedom.

Abiola, 60, began coughing and wheezing soon after the meeting began in the Nigerian capital, Abuja. He had been meeting with a delegation led by U.S. Undersecretary of State Thomas Pickering.

"We all helped to put him in a car," said Pickering, a former ambassador to Nigeria, in an interview with CNN. "There was no ambulance immediately available."

President Clinton said in Washington that U.S. officials then

watched Nigerian doctors at a government clinic try to save Abiola's life.

Abiola had been in jail since June 1994. He had proclaimed himself Nigerian president after elections in 1993 were annulled just as he was about to win.

Nigeria's government said the cause of death was a heart attack. The State Department said there was no reason not to believe Abiola died of natural causes.

Abiola's family had been warning that his health was deteriorating after four years in detention under harsh conditions. Opposition politicians said Abiola's sudden death would spark suspicions of foul play. They predicted

that unrest would erupt in Nigeria, Africa's most populous country at 103 million people.

"He may have died in front of Pickering, but what happened to make him die in front of Pickering is another question," said Nigeria expert Richard Joseph of Atlanta's Emory University. "The government will have a hard time convincing Nigerians that he didn't die because of the harsh conditions he suffered in prison."

One of Abiola's daughters, Hafsat Abiola, said in an interview with CNN that the timing of her father's death was suspicious. "It was too convenient," said Hafsat Abiola, who lives in Bowie, Md. "All of a sudden at the even of his

release, he dies."

Rioting erupted in parts of Lagos, Nigeria's biggest city. Gangs of young people, shouting that Abiola had been murdered, attacked cars and shops in parts of the city. There were demonstrations in other cities as well.

Abiola's death came just as the end of his imprisonment appeared imminent. Nigerian military ruler Abdulsalam Abubakar had made some moves toward democratic rule since he replaced dictator Sani Abacha, who died suddenly of a heart attack June 8.

Abubakar had ordered the release of at least 30 political prisoners and had opened talks with Abiola. (Cont'd on Page 4)

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.

History: Five Black U.S. Presidents..!?

by Leroy Vaughn, MD

Joel A. Rogers and Dr. Auset Bakhufu have both written books documenting at least five former presidents of the United States had black people among their ancestors. If one considers the fact that European men far outnumbered European women during the founding of this country and that the rape and impregnation of an African female slave was not considered a crime, it is even more surprising that these two authors could not document black ancestors among an even larger number of former presidents. The presidents they name include Thomas Jefferson, Andrew Jackson, Abraham Lincoln, Warren Harding and Calvin Coolidge.

The best case for black ancestry is for Warren G. Harding, our 29th president from 1921 until 1923. Harding himself never denied his ancestry. When republican leaders called on Harding to deny the "Negro" history, he said, "How should I know whether or not one of my ancestors might have jumped the fence." William Chancellor, a white professor of economics and politics at Wooster College in Ohio, wrote a book on the Harding family genealogy and identified black ancestors among both parents of President Harding. Justice Department agents allegedly bought and destroyed all copies of this book. Chancellor also said that Harding's only academic credentials included education at Liberia College which was founded in order to educate fugitive slaves.

Andrew Jackson was our seventh president from 1829 to 1837. The Virginia Magazine of History Volume 29 says that Jackson was the son of a white woman from Ireland who had intermarried with a Negro. The magazine also said that his eldest brother had been sold as a slave in Carolina. Joel Rogers says that Andrew Jackson, Sr. died long before President Andrew Jackson, Jr. was born. He says the president's mother then went to live on the Crawford farm where there were Negro slaves and that one of these men was Andrew Junior's father. Another account of the "brother sold into slavery story" can be found in David Coyle's book entitled "Ordeal of the Presidency" (1960).

Thomas Jefferson was our third president from 1801 to 1809. The chief attack on Jefferson was in a book written by Thomas Hazard in 1867 called "The Johnny Cake Papers." Hazard interviewed Paris Gardiner who said he was present during the 1796 presidential campaign when one speaker stated Thomas Jefferson was a mean-spirited son of a half-breed Indian squaw sired by a Virginia mulatto father. In his book entitled "The Slave Children of Thomas Jefferson," Samuel Sloan wrote that Jefferson destroyed all of the papers, portraits, and personal effects of his mother Jane Randolph Jefferson when she died on March 31, 1776. He even wrote letters to every person who had ever received a letter from his mother asking them to return that letter. Sloan says, "There is something strange and even psychopathic about the lengths to which Thomas Jefferson went to destroy all remembrances of his mother, while saving over 18,000 copies of his own letters and other documents for posterity."

One must ask, "What is it he was trying to hide?"

Abraham Lincoln was our 16th president from 1861 to 1865. J.A. Rogers quotes Lincoln's mother, Nancy Hanks, as saying that Abraham Lincoln was the illegitimate son of an African man. William Herndon, Lincoln's law partner, said that Lincoln had very dark skin and coarse hair and that his mother was from an Ethiopian tribe. In Herndon's book entitled "The Hidden Lincoln", he says that Thomas Lincoln could not have been Abraham Lincoln's father because he was sterile from childhood mumps and was later castrated. Lincoln's presidential opponents made cartoon drawings depicting him as a Negro and nicknamed him "Abraham Africanus the First." Coolidge was our 30th president and he succeeded William Harding. He proudly admitted that his mother was dark because of mixed Indian ancestry. However, Dr. Bakhufu says that by 1800 the New England Indian was hardly any longer pure Indian because they had mixed so often with blacks. Calvin Coolidge's mother's maiden name was Moor. In Europe the name Moor was given to all black people just as the name Negro was used in America.

All of the presidents mentioned were able to pass for white and never acknowledged their black ancestry. Millions of other children who were descendants of former slaves have also been able to pass for white. American society has had so much interracial mixing that books such as "The Bell Curve" discussing IQ evaluations based solely on race are totally unrealistic.

Why Are So Few White Males Behind Bars?

By Earl Ofari Hutchinson

For the last few years the Sentencing Project, Washington, D.C.-based public advocacy group, has issued a report on crime and punishment in America. It's findings are well-known and predictable. Nearly one out of three young Black males are in prison, on parole or on probation. And they make up nearly half of those incarcerated in America's prisons. The response to the report is just as predictable. Many Blacks and liberal critics of the criminal justice system say Blacks are jailed in huge numbers because of racially biased judges, juries, and prosecutors, discrimination in the enforcement of drug laws, poverty, lack of education, and the prison construction boom.

Many conservatives, and law enforcement officials say it's because young Blacks commit more crime than Whites: their crimes are more violent and that much of the public, including many Blacks, demand that they be locked up. While both sides debate the issue of why so many Black males are behind bars they don't ask why so many White males who commit crimes aren't. The recent shoot-out between the LAPD and two young White bank robbers in North Hollywood makes this more of a crucial question than ever.

Few would argue that the two would-be hold up men were dangerous criminals. One of the bandits had three arrests and two felony convictions. One of the convictions was for a weapons violation in L.A. The other was a felony conviction for real estate fraud in Denver. After pleading guilty to the charge in Denver he fled the state to avoid sentencing. The other bandit had a felony conviction for the weapons charge. Yet the fact that the pair were on the streets of North Hollywood and not behind bars raises the following questions about the workings of the criminal justice system.

*When they were stopped in Los Angeles in 1993 with what one expert called a "bank robbers kit" of legal and illegal weapons and military equipment in their car and arrested, did authorities thoroughly check to determine if they were wanted for crimes in other states? Did they discover that one was a wanted felon? If so, why wasn't he extradited to Colorado for sentencing? Did the Denver police send notices about his flight to the FBI and local police agencies nationally?

*When they were released from jail why were some of their weapons returned? The police said they were ordered by the court to return them. But the presiding judge in the case disputed that. He indicated that he authorized release of their weapons only after the district attorney "agreed" to the release and the police had "no objection" to their release. So who did what? And why?

*When other White males are arrested on weapons charges and police confiscate their banned firearms, what charges are filed against them? How vigorously are they prosecuted? If the charges are subsequently dropped, are their guns returned to them?

*When young White males who are repeat offenders are arrested and again convicted of serious crimes, how many actually receive and serve their prison sentences? How many are allowed to plea bargain lesser sentences, receive probation, community service, are fined and make restitution, are referred to diversion or rehabilitation programs, or are placed under house monitoring?

The North Hollywood bandits are probably not the exception. In 1990, 32,000 more young White juveniles were arrested for murder, forcible rape, robbery and assault than young Blacks. Yet more Blacks than Whites were imprisoned and more Blacks than Whites were tried as adults.

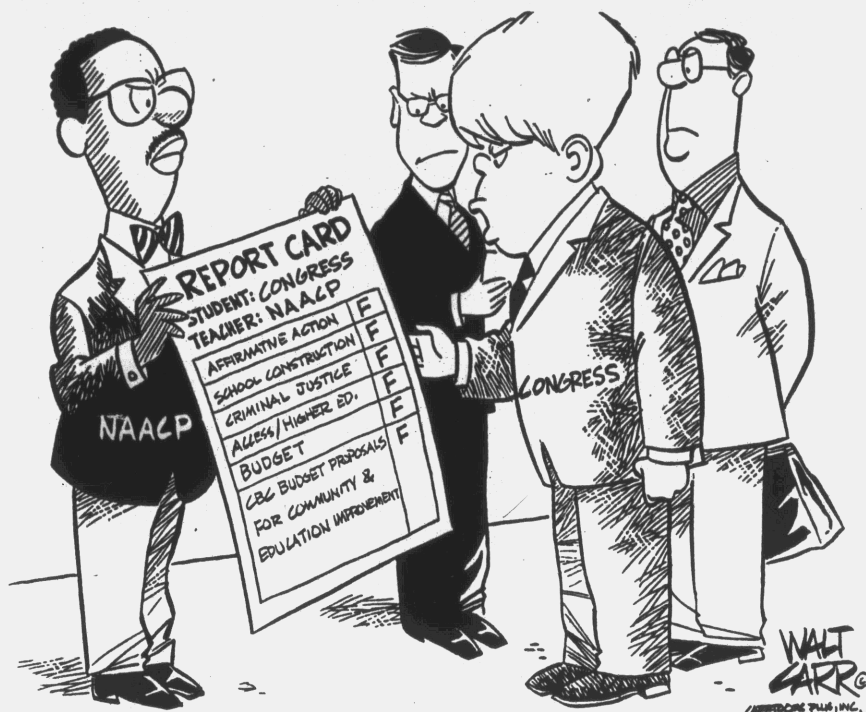
In 1991, more than 70 percent of males arrested were White, and 25 percent were Black. But between arrest, trial and prison many seemed to disappear from the system. Only 35 percent of Whites were held in custody while 44 percent of the Blacks were held.

According to annual FBI Uniform Crime Reports since 1991, more Whites are arrested for murder, rape, robbery, assault and drug related crimes than Blacks, but they are less likely to be imprisoned than Blacks. The gaping disparity between arrest and imprisonment is greatest in California. Although Blacks are seven percent of the population, they account for 20 percent of felony arrests, and 31 percent of those imprisoned. By contrast Whites are 53 percent of the population and account for 33 percent of felony arrests, but only 29.5 percent of those are imprisoned. Blacks are 4.7 times likelier to be arrested than Whites and 7.8 times more likely to be incarcerated.

Even if we accept the argument that Blacks disproportionately commit more crimes than Whites, and avoid muddying the issue by claiming a racial taint to the enforcement of California's three strikes law, it still does not explain why so many fewer Whites that are convicted of felony crimes are imprisoned than Blacks who commit similar crimes.

If the answer is legal incompetence, official indifference or racism, we should say so. As the tragic events in North Hollywood proved, when violent offenders no matter what their color are allowed to slide through the legal cracks, we all pay a heavy and deadly price.

Dr. Earl Ofari Hutchinson is the author of *The Assassination of the Black Male Image and Beyond O.J.: Race, Sex and Class: Lessons for America.*



Minority Business: America's Competitive Advantage..

By William Reed, Business Exchange

Like so many of her fellow African-Americans in the workplace, Joan Parrott-Fonseca is in a job that is here today but could be gone tomorrow. Parrott-Fonseca is director of the Minority Business Development Agency (MBDA) at the U.S. Department of Commerce, and like many other programs in Washington, D.C. designed to help minorities get a leg up in American society, the MBDA is in constant danger of elimination by a Congress that's had enough of such assistance programs.

But that threat did not stop Ms. Parrott-Fonseca from convening the 14th annual observance of Minority Enterprise Development (MED) Week this past September. "MED Week is a time to celebrate the many achievements of America's minority business community. This year's theme, "Minority Business: America's Competitive Advantage," is most appropriate as we prepare to enter the global economy of the 1st Century," says Parrott-Fonseca, whose job is to direct MBDA's minority business development initiatives through the agency's funded network of community-based technical assistance centers throughout the U.S.

MED Week is a yearly conference held in Washington and is co-sponsored by the MBDA and the Small Business Administration (SBA). It is the culmination of many federal, state and local MED Week events held throughout the previous month. The conference provides opportunities to learn how minority firms contribute to the economic prosperity of the U.S. by capitalizing on diversity and innovation in marketplaces. The conference activities included an awards banquet which honored government agencies, corporations and advocates dedicated to the cause of minority business development and successful minority business enterprises. It incorporated two different trade fairs, one for corporations and government to display their opportunities for minority contracting and suppliers, and one for minority vendors to display their wares to potential buyers. Discussions included updates on legislative items, national issues and government programs and regulations. Attendees got an opportunity to meet and talk with members of both houses of Congress, while seminars featured experts in vital business areas of: information technology, domestic and international market development, government regulations, capital access, bonding, procurement, contracting and insurance.

To bring corporations and minority businesspeople to the table, Joan Parrott-Fonseca got two top-flight African-Americans to co-chair the MED Week Public-Private Sector Committee. Joy Crichlow director of New York-based ConEdison's minority business program and James McGhee an Auburn, Washington minority entrepreneur. "They bring many years of successful experience in minority business ownership and corporate management of minority programs," says Parrott-Fonseca. Corporate executive Crichlow said, "It is significant that I am co-chairing this event with a minority entrepreneur. As we move towards the year 2000, it is important that more events and efforts are typified by such unions. Joint ventures, second tiering and team projects will become the wave of the future in the minority/small business arena. In addition, it encourages the utilization of these valuable businesses and their services. "Teaming" helps us to overcome obstacles aimed at hindering the progress of minority businesses."

The MBDA and MED Week were initiated during the Richard Nixon presidency, whom many Blacks say was the best presidential sponsor of Black enterprise. Currently, Black-owned enterprises have grown to over 700,000 with business receipts totaling \$34 billion a year. The majority of Black-owned firms, 54 percent, are concentrated in service industries and account for 34 percent of business receipts. The retail trade industry accounts for the next largest concentration of Black-owned firms at 14 percent of the firms and 22 percent of the receipts. But, minority enterprise programs and legislation are under fire. The Small Business Administration's 8A Program, a \$6 billion set-aside program, is set to be abolished by Rep. Jan Meyers, chairwoman of the House Committee on Small Business. Concern about the 8A program is based on figures that say the noncompetitive contracts awarded to 8A companies are 20 to 25 percent above actual market value and costing American taxpayers up to \$1.2 billion above market value for 8A contracts. And critics say 8A program contracts go to a handful of well-positioned companies, more than \$1 billion to 25 companies in the Washington, D.C. area while more than half of all 8A-registered firms receive no contracts.

A strong minority business community is essential to the nation's ability to maintain its competitive posture in the global market, and it's essential that people like Parrott-Fonseca be in place to assure that minority businesses are incorporated into the American enterprise mainstream. But, African-Americans have to support people like Parrott-Fonseca while also taking more personal action toward their own economic development. Until we renew the fervor and vision that sustained us in our fight for political equality, we will not achieve our rightful place in the economic mainstream of this great nation.

For information on MBDA programs contact them at: U.S. Dept. of Commerce, 14th & Constitution Avenue, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20230, (202) 482-4547 or (202) 482-4045.

William Reed is publisher of Who's Who in Black Corporate America, 2054 National Press Bldg., Washington, D.C. 20045, (202) 547-4125.

The Problem with Schoolboards...

Janet Leigh, Special Correspondent

"First God made idiots," observed Mark Twain. "That was for practice. Then HE made school boards." From what I have read in the papers, learned from frustrated students, apprehensive teachers, inundated in school administrators and angry parents, it appears we are in for another great experiment in education. These experiments usually occur just before the public is so fed up that they are ready "to throw the bums out."

May I remind you that most of these experiments have happened before and failed. But just before this once crashes and burns, the superintendent will appear before the county commissioners, again, and explain, again, that what he needs to fix the problem, again, is 25-50 million more dollars.

The state and federal programs are equally as bad. When the state funded the basic education program about ten years ago, the public believed that at long last our students would have help with the three "R's."

Sorry folks, not a penny out of being.

Does anyone remember the old "McGuffey Reader?" It taught phonics and children learned to read. Does anyone really believe that, "Look Dick. Look Jane. See Spot Run" will hold any five or six years old attention for longer than three seconds. The "whole language" doesn't work but is still the practice. Never mind that Polly Williams, a politician, Marva Collins, Marcus Garbey, and the Ivy Leaf School and hundreds more have proved that inner city poor kids can learn. Proof, we have the most successful criminal class since prohibition.

Look folks, we can't blame GOD for this. We elected these people and put them in charge of our children's future. Probably the most important vote we cast every election is for the school board.

The hospital board of trustees is appointed by our county commissioners and the UNC board of Governors. But, no, fellow citizens, we cannot shirk our responsibilities. We elected the county commissioners who appoint them. We were inundated for 16 months by the monotonous chant "We will be in charge." Sorry folks, we "ain't" and they "ain't." There were two "no" votes in raising prices at the hospital and the county only appointed one of these trustees. Where were the other ten? I distinctly remember a commissioner saying that if the hospital made \$30 million last year, they were charging too much. Sorry, Mr. Commissioner, they did. But you still gave them the hospital on June 1 and the trustees raised the prices on June 16. So much for "we will still be in charge."

There are many boards which I shall cover later.

I hope you will not consider this sacrilegious, but the Bible says "Vengeance is mine, sayeth the Lord," but will HE vote these people out or leave it to us, regular, ordinary, tax paying citizens, to practice good sense.



The power of a Grandma.

Children have a very special relationship with Grandma and Grandpa. That's why grandparents can be such powerful allies in helping keep a kid off drugs.

Grandparents are cool. Relaxed. They're not on the firing line every day. Some days a kid hates his folks. He never hates his grandparents. Grandparents ask direct, point-blank, embarrassing questions you're too nervous to ask:

"Who's the girl?"

"How come you're doing poorly in history?"

"Why are your eyes always red?"

"Did you go to the doctor? What did he say?"

The same kid who cons his parents is ashamed to lie to Grandma. Without betraying their trust, a loving, understanding grandparent can discuss the danger of drugs openly with the child she adores. And should.

- The average age of first-time drug use among teens is 13. Some kids start at 9.
- 1 out of 5 American kids between 9 and 12 is offered illegal drugs. 30% of these kids receive the offer from a friend. And 12% named a family member as their source.
- Illegal drugs are a direct link to increased violence, to AIDS, to birth defects, drug-related crime, and homelessness.

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Panthers-Cont'd from Pg. 1

In an interview, Shabazz said that the party has been evolving for the past year, but matured as a group following Byrd's brutal murder. He reported that the group is actively recruiting all across the state of Texas and will begin to open branches in other cities by the end of the year.

The New Black Panther Party dressed in black tee shirts, black pants and wearing the old traditional Black baretts (symbolic of the original Panthers) appeared to be ready for defense in the event of trouble. Although there were no reported incidents of violence, the

birth of the New Black Panther Party was made known around the country.

The original Black Panther Party, which was founded in 1966 by Bobby Seale and Huey P. Newton in Oakland, Ca., had at least 5,000 members nationwide. There were chapters in more than half of American and an international branch in Algeria. The original Black Panther Party fed the hungry, helped to protect some of the citizens from racist police and presented a new paradigm of Black political and social activism.

The white power structure and most white people still saw the original Panthers as militant and

against the government even though they sponsored food drives, free health clinics, and free breakfast programs for children. This view of the Panthers led to the murder and imprisonment of several panther members by the law enforcement agencies.

Those killed included 20 year old Fred Hampton who was gunned down with fellow Panther Mark Clarke in an early morning raid of the Panthers headquarters in 1969. The attack was masterminded by the city's police force and an FBI program. The original Panther Party died when its leaders Huey Newton was killed and Bobby Seale was imprisoned. Other Panther chapters and leaders across the country was targeted by police agencies and the FBI and many died in raids or were imprisoned.

Before the original Panther Party systematically died out in the mid - 70's, it had attracted some of the most vibrant and revolutionary minds including H. Rap Brown, Stokely Carmichael, Angela Davis and Mumia Abu-Jamal. The legacy of the original Panthers and its leaders as well as the young revolutionaries have remained in the minds of many people as more than a militant organization. They are often remembered as examples of men and women who were unafraid of taking power in their own hands to defend the rights of their people and to fight oppression at whatever cost to themselves.

The new Black Panther Party like the original is being tossed into the limelight by the media who is depicting them as a quasi-military group or Black militia. While all of the objectives and platforms of the New Panther Party are not fully known, it is conceivable that many bold and daring black youth will be attracted to this new organization. Whether this New Black Panther Party will be able to play as a significant role in social reform as the original is yet to be seen.

Congressional Black Congress Mourns the Tragic Death of M.K.O Abiola
Statement from Rep. Maxine Waters, CBC Chair

The Members of the Congressional Black Caucus are deeply saddened and share a profound sense of loss by the untimely death of Nigerian President-elect Moshood K.O. Abiola. We send our deepest regrets to the family and friends of the late President in both the United States and Nigeria.

The shock of his death comes at a time when we were receiving reports which pointed to the release of President Abiola. Indeed, in recent days, we had witnessed the welcoming of our diplomats to Nigeria and were thrilled to hear of their plans to meet with President Abiola in prison. In addition, we were extremely encouraged by General Major-General Abdulsalam Abubakar's release of some twenty-six prominent political prisoners. We also were encouraged by U.N. Secretary General Kofi Annan's statement, following his meeting with General Abubakar,

that he believed all remaining political prisoners also would be released.

The CBC had spared no efforts in denouncing the imprisonment and treatment of President Abiola, who was elected to lead Nigeria in 1993, only to be imprisoned when he sought to claim his office by the recently deceased dictator General Sani Abacha. His death leaves us terribly disheartened.

At this moment, we can only mourn the loss of President M.K.O. Abiola. We will say a prayer for the family of President Abiola and for the Nigerian.

The Original Black Panther Party Platform*

1. We want freedom. We want power to determine the destiny of our Black and oppressed communities.
2. We want full employment for our people.
3. We want an end to the robbery by the capitalists of our black and oppressed communities.
4. We want decent housing, fit for the shelter of human beings.
5. We want decent education for our people that exposes the true nature of this decadent American society. We want education that teaches us our true history and our role in the present-day society.
6. We want completely free health care for all black and oppressed people.
7. We want an end to police brutality and murder of black people, other people of color, and all oppressed people inside the United States.
8. We want an immediate end to all wars of aggression.
9. We want freedom for all black and oppressed people now held in U.S. federal, state, county, city and military prisons and jails. We want trials by a jury of peers for all persons charged with so-called crimes under the Laws of this country.
10. We want land, bread, housing, education, clothing, justice, peace and people's community control of modern technology.

**The preceding represents an abbreviated outline of the Black Panther political platform and mandates. Contact the M-Voice for the complete manifesto of the Black Panther Party political platform and mandates.*

President Nelson Mandela 80th Birthday Celebration

South African Ambassador, NAACP & Howard University Host Tribute...

BALTIMORE The Honorable Franklin A. Sonn, Ambassador of South Africa, NAACP President and CEO Kweisi Mfume and Howard University President H. Patrick Swygert will host an 80th birthday celebration in honor of Nelson R. Mandela, the president of South Africa.

"I can think of no one more deserving of this great tribute than Nelson Rolihlahla Mandela, who emerged from almost 29 years of imprisonment without bitterness and worked tirelessly and without equal for reconciliation and nation-building in South Africa," said Ambassa' or Sonn.

"President Mandela is a beacon of light that shines around the world. His greatness is unparalleled in the struggle for freedom, human

kindness and self-determination. It is indeed an honor to salute Mr. Mandela on his 80th birthday," added Mr. Mfume.

The reception will be held in the Armour J. Blackburn Center ballroom on the main campus of Howard University in Washington, D.C., Friday, July 17, 1998 from 6:30 P.M. to 9:00 P.M.

Howard University President Swygert pointed out "during his historic 1994 tour, Nelson Mandela visited only one institution of higher learning: Howard University, where he received an honorary degree. Certainly, we are once again delighted to host this grand celebration in honor of this great man."

President Mandela's was born birth date on July 18, 1918.

Abiola Passes Suddenly
(Continues from Page 1)

Some experts said Abiola's untimely death would force Nigeria's military rulers to move quickly toward restoring civilian rule.

"Abiola's death will put more pressure on the government to open thing up more dramatically, more quickly and more completely," said Africa specialist James Zaffiero of Central College in Pella, Iowa.

Nigeria's most prominent opposition politician was a multi-millionaire businessman.

During his detention, the business interests that made him one of Africa's richest men crumbled. One of his wives was assassinated by unknown gunmen in Lagos in 1996.

A stocky man with a deep growling voice and a broad smile, Abiola was an accountant by training. He worked for a while for the U.S. International Telephone and Telegraph Corp. and rose to become vice president for Africa and the Middle East in 1971. But then he branched into business for himself.

Recipes

CLASSIC TUNA SANDWICH

INGREDIENTS:

- 1 (12 oz.) can StarKist Solid White Tuna in Spring Water, drained, chunked
- ½ cup chopped celery
- ¼ cup light mayonnaise or plain yogurt
- 2 tablespoons chopped black olives or sweet pickle relish
- 1 hard-cooked egg, chopped
- 2 teaspoons lemon pepper seasoning
- 2 teaspoons lemon juice
- 8 slices bread

DIRECTIONS:

In medium bowl, combine all ingredients except bread, mix well. Chill several hours. Divide tuna salad onto 4 slices of bread; top with remaining bread. Makes 4 sandwiches.



Bees are the only insects that produce food eaten by humans.

Flashback Fotos from the Archives of the M-Voice



The Carl Harris Story. Shown above are some young brothers who have trained and worked hard with one of the finest professional barbers in all of Greenville, Brother Carl Harris (Shown Center). Flanking him from left to right are Ricky, Al, Jerome and Bob. All of these then younger men who have worked with him then are now owners of their own barbershops (Photo: Jim Rouse)

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RACE BOARD CHIEF:
Slaying Nothing New

The chairman of President Clinton's advisory board on race relations said recently that the dragging death of a black man in Texas last month was "nothing new," just a flagrant example that racism still exist in America.

John Hope Franklin said the killing June 7th of James Byrd, Jr. was unusual only in it's level of cruelty. Byrd was chained to a pickup by his ankles and dragged for 2 1/2 miles in what authorities have said was a racially motivated killing. Three white men have been charged.

"I don't want to sound caloused, but that's nothing new."

Franklin said in Nashville, Tenn., last Tuesday, after delivering the keynote address at the 32nd race Relations Institute at Fisk University.

Franklin, a history professor at Duke University, said the killing lends no more urgency to the board's task "than the burning of black churches in previous years" and that subtle forms of racism, such as exclusion, can be just as devastating.

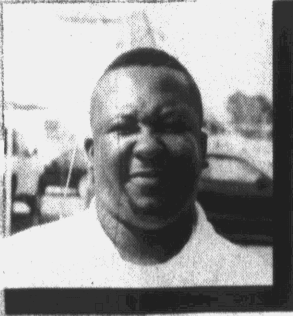
He said the president's advisory board on race expects to present Clinton with a final report in September.

Greenville Officially Welcomes C.M. Eppes Alumni



Pictured is Randy Dupree, CM Eppes National Alumni President with Mayor Nancy Jenkins. The City of Greenville layed out the red carpet during the July 4th weekend to celebrate the progress that has been made since segregation when the old C.M. Eppes High School produced some the best black professional talent of that day. Jenkins has been a staunch supporter of the reunion for the last 18 years, however we do need to have our parade next year. (Editorial Comment & Photo: Jim Rouse-Publisher)

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... Recognize good traits in other people.
... Take time for recreation.
... Deal with one problem at a time.
... Make overtures for friendship.
... Cooperate -- makes life easier.
... Keep in touch with God.
... Be cheerful. *SMILE! SMILE! SMILE!*

TEN MAXIMS FOR AGING

*** Live for today.
*** Keep busy.
*** Manage your time.
*** Love with all your heart, mind, and soul.
*** Strive to stay well and cheerful.
*** Develop a friendly, comfortable relationship with yourself.
*** Learn to be charitable, even indulgent, toward others' shortcomings.
*** Remain sympathetic and understanding toward young people.
*** Develop a genuine interest in others' problems.

*** Keep growing day by day.

THOUGHT QUESTION:
Why do you suppose suffering is so important in the Christian life? What are the five evil qualities in our lives that I PETER Chapter 2, Verse 1, say to thrust aside?

IF WHEN YOU'RE TROUBLED.
"Remember that people who hurt you often do so out of their own problems, not out of their perception of you."

"Remember that we often fail because we try for something bigger than ourselves; and that is what we should be doing."
"When defeat, sorrow, death, the loss of a loved one, you've been let go of a job that gave meaning to your existence, you've done something wrong, a beloved child is in trouble, someone you love has left you... find a compassionate person to whom you can talk to from the bottom of your heart; then reach out and help somebody."
"Link yourself to the great inexhaustible power that spins the universe."

"Live one day at a time, or better still, take one step at a time. Get the job done you've been putting off. Wash your own socks. Look around you in the love world of nature."
Finally, practice gratitude. Every day, look for reasons to be grateful. You may find yourself saying, "Just to have been born, just to have lived at all... how wonderful that is!"
It's hardly ever that we can get through even a day without some hurt, some trouble, some problem, but we can rise, walk again and be grateful for life.

ALARMING

Do you know that there may be as many as 60 million adults who cannot read the front page of a newspaper? Congress was told Thursday, July 30, 1985. The Census Bureau also showed that 835,620 adults in North Carolina lacked educational skills

equivalent to an 8th grade education and another 701,000 adults did not have a high school diploma

WHAT LEADS TO A SUPERBOSS?

Dr. Warren Bennis, Professor of Management at the School of Business Administration at the University of Southern California, says Five (5) traits his superleaders had in common:

**** VISION:** the capacity to create a compelling picture of the desired state of affairs that inspires people to performance.

**** COMMUNICATION:** the ability to portray the vision clearly and in a way that enlists the support of their constituencies

**** PERSISTENCE:** the ability to stay on course regardless of the obstacles encountered.

**** EMPOWERMENT:** the ability to create a structure that harnesses the energies of others to achieve the desired result.

**** ORGANIZATIONAL ABILITY:** the capacity to monitor the activities of the group, learn from the mistakes and use the resulting knowledge.

WORDS TO LIVE BY

**** If you don't know where you are going, you will probably not wind up there.**

**** Don't make excuses unless you have to.**

**** Always try to do the right thing unless your conscience tells you otherwise.**

**** If you've got to cry, do it by yourself... and be quiet about it.**

**** Most people don't look dumb... until they start talking.**

**** To save energy, do not go out lookin' for trouble; chances are, it will find you soon enough.**

**** Always be nice to your mama.**

**** Whatever you do, try to have a reason to do it.**

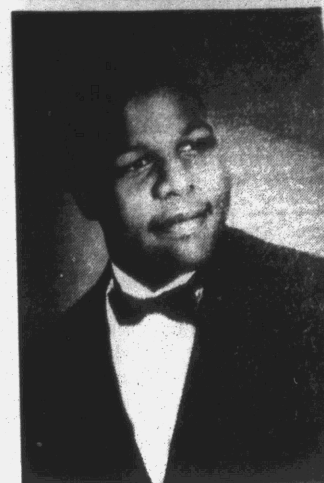
**** Nobody ever got into trouble by keeping his mouth shut.**

**** Always be ready to take a chance: Look what it did to Rocky.**

**** If you can't sing good... sing loud.**

**** People not to talk back to: -- Your teacher**

Wallace Receives Scholarship



Arthur N. Wallace

Arthur Napoleon Wallace recently received the Chancellor's Academic Scholarship and plans to attend NC Central University to pursue a degree in pre-medicine. Other scholarships were awarded by Professional Services of Greenville and Phi Beta Sigma Fraternity, Inc., of which his father is a member.

Napoleon is listed in *Who's Who Among American High School Students*. Other awards have included the D.H. Conley High school offensive player of the year in football, the Big East All-Conference Award and the Daily Reflector all team award. He is the first black to become a member of the D.H. Conley golf team.

Napoleon is the son of Arthur and Faye Wallace of Grimesland and the grandson of Catherine and Napoleon Minor of Edward.

\$12,000 Pilot Program Generates 300 Percent Increase in Sales To Small Farmers

RALEIGH—A \$12,000 pilot program which granted local school systems money to buy fresh produce from small North Carolina farmers resulted in about \$40,000 in sales to local growers, a 300 percent return on the grants.

Fifteen counties were selected to participate in the program including: Bertie, Craven, Durham, Granville, Hertford, Iredell, Statesville, Jones, Macon, Nash, Rocky Mount, Pitt, Rockingham, Stokes, Surry, Warren, and Wilson.

"Our goal was to increase small and minority farmers' exposure to buyers and help them create more business," said N.C. Ag Commissioner Jim Graham. "Many of the participating school systems found the quality and freshness of the produce so good, they bought more produce and spent considerably more money than they received in grants."

School systems purchased fresh strawberries, sweet potatoes, tomatoes and onions in April and May with the funds.

The program is a partnership between the N.C. Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services, the N.C. Department of Public Instruction, the U.S. Department of Agriculture and the Department of Defense.

"I am pleased with the success of this program," Graham added. "We have seen a steady decrease in the number of small farmers, particularly minority farmers, in the past few years. We'd like to see that trend reverse because small farms are important to the economy of this state."

Highway Marker Honors Journal & Guide Publisher

NNPA -- A North Carolina native and late publisher of the *Journal & Guide* (Norfolk, Va.) has been honored by his home state with a highway marker in his

name. P.B. Young Sr., who was born in the town of Littleton, in Halifax County, was the publisher and owner of the *Journal & Guide* for 52 years.

The marker was dedicated last June 28, after Halifax County Minister William Bennett submitted a request for the tribute to be placed on Highway 158, 150 yards from Young's birthplace.

The ceremony was attended by a host of dignitaries including: Littleton mayor, the Hon. Mason Hawfield, Mayor Kai Hardaway of nearby Enfield, N.C., state Representative L.W. Locke and Willie Gilchrist, superintendent of Halifax County public schools. Keynote speaker was Dr. Henry Lewis Suggs, professor of history at Clemson University.

The family was represented by Davis Young grandson of P.B. Young. Other attendees included current publisher of the *New Journal & Guide*, Brenda H. Andrews.

A national spokesman for Blacks, Young, Sr. had published the *Journal & Guide* for more than 50 years when he died in 1962.

He arrived in Norfolk in 1907, fresh out of college and was hired as a reporter for the then *Lodge Journal & Guide*. By 1910, after increasing the paper's circulation from 600 copies to 1,000, Young purchased the paper for just over \$3000. He was just 27 years old.

Over the next half a century, Young gained local, state and national stature as a community leader and astute businessman. The *Journal & Guide* also became increasingly recognized for its excellence in publishing and at one time was the largest employer of Blacks in the South.

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The Piedmont Minority Supplier Development Council likewise recognized CP&L as the Corporation of the Year. And singled out our own Jerry Fulmer as MBE Coordinator of the Year. The Raleigh-Durham Minority Development Agency also honored Jerry Fulmer

— as Minority Business Advocate of the Year. And CP&L was recognized by the North Carolina Institute for Minority Economic Development for its continued dedication and support of minority business in North Carolina. We're always scouting new talent.

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North Carolina Settles State And Federal Retiree Lawsuits...

RALEIGH— A Settlement Provides Full Tax Exemptions and \$799 Million in Refunds. Representatives of federal, state and local government retirees have reached a Settlement with the State of North Carolina. As a result, qualified retirees will no longer be taxed on their government retirement benefits. North Carolina will also pay \$799 million in partial tax refunds.

The Settlement successfully concludes nearly a decade of litigation between government retirees and the State of North Carolina. The Settlement benefits taxpayer who, before August 12, 1989, had five years of creditable service with federal, North Carolina state or local governments, or who were otherwise vested in certain government retire-

ment plans. The settling class actions started because of North Carolina's response to the U.S. Supreme Court decision in 'Davis v. Michigan.'

This decision held that federal and state retirees must be taxed the same. North Carolina then enacted legislation which eliminated long-standing full tax exemptions on state and local government retirement benefits.

In 'Bailey v. State of North Carolina,' state and local retirees challenged the legislation as an unconstitutional breach of promise by the State. The State claimed that increased retirement benefit formulas made up for the lost tax exemptions. Yet, state and local retirees proved at trial in 1995 that the increased benefits were not equivalent to tax exemptions and

did not even keep up with inflation. The North Carolina Supreme Court recently ruled in favor of the Bailey retirees. Federal retirees, in 'Patton v. State of North Carolina,' sought to eliminate the tax on their retirement benefits so that federal and state retirees are taxed the same.

The Settlement resolves all of these class actions. Class member retirees will receive full tax exemptions. State and local class members will also receive initial refunds of approximately 95% of the taxes paid on their government retirement benefits for the last nine years plus interest. Federal class members will receive approximately 70% of the tax refunds potentially recoverable through further litigation. Administration and litigation costs and attorneys fees will be

subtracted from these refund amounts. Initial payments to federal retirees are lower because some aspects of their claims are less certain and final resolution of the federal retiree lawsuit promised to take much longer.

The Settlement becomes final when the General Assembly enacts appropriate legislation and Superior Court Judge Jack Thompson gives final approval. A hearing on any objections, allocation of Settlement funds, and payment of costs and attorneys' fees will be held at the Wake County Courthouse in Raleigh, N.C., on July 22, 1998 at 10:00 a.m. The deadline for requesting exclusion from the combined Class Action and proposed Settlement ("Opting out") is July 15, 1998.

♦♦♦♦♦

Myrlie Evers-Williams Receives Spingarn Medal

ATLANTA — Coretta Scott King will present Myrlie Evers-Williams with the NAACP's 83rd Spingarn Award at its annual convention on July 16 in Atlanta. The Spingarn Medal is considered the highest award in the civil rights arena. The first medal was awarded in 1914.

The distinguished award recognizes the African American with the "highest or noblest achievement during the preceding year or years." The purpose of the award is to bring attention to distinguished merit and achievement and to serve as a reward for such achievement and as an inspiration to minority youth.

"I cannot think of anyone more deserving of this medal than Myrlie Evers-Williams," said NAACP President Kweisi Mfume. "Her dedication to the cause of equal opportunity is unparalleled in our community."

NAACP Chairman Julian Bond said he is proud of his predecessor's work to restore the association to greatness. "Myrlie Evers-Williams was the right person at the right time to bring integrity, accountability and stability back to this historic organization," Bond said.

In 1963, Ms. Evers-Williams accepted the Spingarn Award posthumously on behalf of her slain husband, Medgar Evers. With the award going to her this year, it marks the first time in the history of the medal that it has gone to two members of the same family.

Among the distinguished winners of the Spingarn Medal in the past: W.E.B. DuBois, A. Philip Randolph, Thurgood Marshall, Martin Luther King, Jr., Langston Hughes, Duke Ellington, Rosa Parks, Lena Horne, Bill Cosby, Jesse Jackson, Colin Powell, Barbara Jordan, and Maya Angelou.

Ms. Evers-Williams is the author of a book, 'FOR US, THE LIVING,' (Doubleday and Company, 1967), that depicts the life of her late husband Medgar and the civil rights struggle in Mississippi in the 50's-60's. The book has been recently re-released in paperback by the University of Mississippi Press. In March, 1983, PBS "American Playhouse" presented a ninety-minute treatment of the book. In a separate historical film detailing the events culminating in the death of Medgar Evers, Mrs. Evers-Williams also anchored a special HBO production, "Southern Justice, the Murder of Medgar Evers". Her fight for justice was also the subject of a Rob Reiner film, "Ghosts of Mississippi."

Her other literary achievements including contributing Editor, Ladies Home Journal. She was one of the magazines' editors who covered the Vietnam Peace Talks in Paris, France. Her many articles received wide acclaim.

Determined to continue as an active participant in her struggle for justice and equality, Ms. Evers-Williams lectures extensively before civil rights groups, women's organizations, social groups and at universities. Her attributes as a role model to young people have en-

Another Flashback Foto from the Archives of the M-Voice



Get Ready....Here they come. These Pitt-Greenville Alumni hailed from all over the world as they were caught enjoying at last years reunion (1997) when they then converged on Tom Foreman park for their annual pilgrimage. (Photo: Jim Rouse)

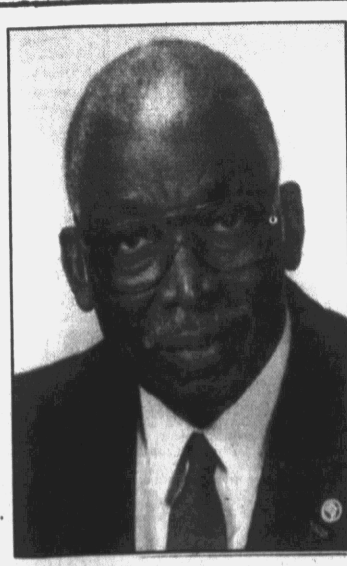
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Commentary By Keith W. Cooper: Serious Ways To Reduce Crime

Violent crime in Pitt County and the rest of the country is an issue about which all citizens should be concerned about. Pitt County (and especially in West Greenville) has seen a rash of violent crimes that could have been avoided or deterred with sound meaningful policies and plans. However, people like City Councilman Chuck Autry have been instrumental in organizing informal gatherings of some elected officials, clergymen, professionals, and others to come together and discuss the crime question and suggest solutions to

combating violent crimes that threatens security and peace in Pitt County. Unfortunately, many people who attended the meetings seemingly want to just grandstand while accomplishing absolutely nothing substantive. Seriousness about crime prevention in our community would call for more progressive programs and ideas that have already been successfully implemented in other cities around the country such as Community Policing, Curfew Laws and Ordinances, Cash and Gift Certificates in exchange for

handguns, around the clock toll free hotlines for counseling drug addicts, zero tolerance plans, and effective neighborhood watch programs.

For instance, take **Community Policing** for example. This concept would involve comprehensive and effective foot and mobile patrols on bikes and mopeds, etc. This could be done in conjunction with police substations strategically placed in areas around Greenville. More unmarked cars would enhance this effort. And if these programs are to be suc-

cessful, police chiefs and other law enforcement officials would need the support of comprehensive media campaigns, community agencies, more involved elected officials and the community at large. Community Policing is interfacing "face to face" with the communities they serve to protect.

Another concept would comprise of effectively enforced **Curfew Laws** that would comprise of "disk-to-dawn" programs to prevent and combat the rashness youth centered violence, and these rules should

apply to youth under the age of 17. There are already a number of curfew programs through out the country staffed with volunteers and social service workers that receive violators. Violators are then counseled and referred to recreation, job or anti-drug programs.

The **Cash for Handguns** program would involve the clergy, business community, and elected officials conducting periodical fund raisers to sustain such a program. Stolen and unregistered handguns should be exchanged at designated centers for cash or gift certificates and be destroyed. Too many handguns are in the wrong hands.

An **Around the Clock Hot Line** program would be accessible to counsel drug users and guarantee anonymity. Once again, the members of the clergy, social service professionals, and other qualified volunteers skilled in the art of counseling could staff the center.

A **Zero-Tolerance Plan** similar to that implemented in New York City which saw a dramatic drop in overall crime, is a massive anti-drug campaign; with drugs being the source of much crime that would include distributing flyers around Greenville. Additionally, County Commissioners could seek funds to support a broader approach to disseminating anti-drug information all over Pitt County. Literature and verbal forms of information (i.e., via radio, television, newspapers, etc.) could be implemented to educate residents on the dangers, pitfalls and the penalties for illegal drug use. Furthermore, each church could help to provide counseling and outreach seminars for people addicted to the scourge of drugs. Additionally, more community ministries should play more of an active role. They could spread a message of hope and informa-

tion particularly in these economically deprived communities which they serve. Such ministries would quantitatively restore hope and optimism in residents feeling a sense of powerlessness.

And in brief, a **Digital Display System** could coordinate crime-related information from the police department, City Council, commissioners and elements in the business community where data relating to violent crimes, drug statistics, etc. could be displayed and jointly evaluated. This would be another way in educating the public and heightening their level of sensitivity.

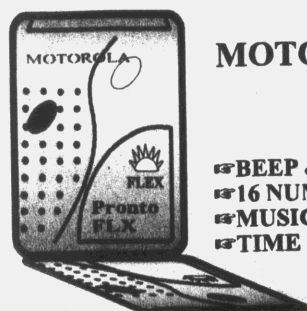
A finally, a **Neighborhood Watch Coordinator** should be empowered to organize and employ citizen patrol officers to drive through the neighborhoods periodically and report suspicious activities. This is a type of citizen patrol.

A Citizen Patrol Academy to implement this concept of crime prevention could be established and embellished on as the funds permit. Prospective students wanting to be involved in such a program could receive scholarship funds in exchange for their services while committing themselves to community service. Partial funding could come from the business and non-business community to stimulate participation.

Elected officials and others should welcome the aforementioned approaches to crime deterrence and prevention. Elected officials who play politics with public safety and the need for community peace should be denied reelection if they do not work actively to promote "domestic tranquility." [The Nation of Islam is noted for their proactive stance in discouraging the use and sale of drugs in numerous black communities around the country - Editor's Note.]

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Flashback Fotos from the Archives of the M-Voice



Moments from 1997 - the M-Voice Newspaper salute our friends and neighbors as they celebrate the annual GHS Reunion. Above: mothers who were classmates. (below) The tee shirt man Buddy Streeter & friends attend Eppes Alumni. (Photo: Jim Rouse)

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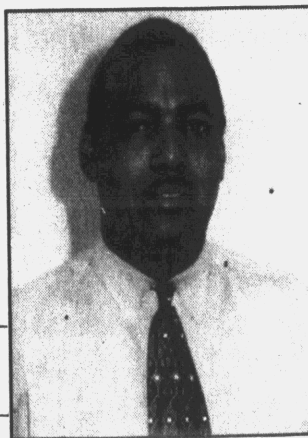
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New Charles Hamilton Houston Chair Named...

DURHAM--North Carolina Central University School of Law is pleased to announce the appointment of the second Charles Hamilton Houston Chair, Professor Jerome McCristal Culp, Jr. of Duke University School of Law. Professor Culp will serve as the Charles Hamilton Houston Professor of Law for the summers of 1998 and 1999, and Spring semester 1999.

Professor Culp will coordinate a seminar series each summer named for civil rights pioneer Charles Hamilton Houston and focusing on current issues in racial justice. Professor Culp's area of research and teaching expertise. The seminar will be open to members of the North Carolina Central University School of Law community and will meet several times in July and August. Each meeting will focus on a paper to be

presented by a visiting scholar. Additionally, a reading group will meet at Professor Culp's home to discuss several books on the seminar topic of racial justice.

In the Spring 1999 semester, Professor Culp will teach a course in employment discrimination and a seminar on critical race theory. He will also host the 1999 Charles Hamilton Houston Summer Seminar.

The School of Law is pleased to have this distinguished scholar visit. In addition to teaching law at Duke since 1984, Professor Culp has served as law clerk to federal Court of Appeals Judge Nathaniel Jones, also a former lecturer at NCCU School of Law, and been a Resident Fellow at the Rockefeller Foundation and a MacArthur Distinguished Scholar at the Joint Center for Political Studies. His subjects include Black Jurisprudence, Employment Discrimination, Labor Law, and Law and Economics.

The Charles Hamilton Houston Chair was endowed by a generous gift by Susie Powell and Franklin Anderson and was the first endowed chair on the NCCU campus. Professor Culp succeeds the first Houston Chair, Professor Robert Belton on the Vanderbilt Law School.

Native Son Returns

Reverend Charles "Eddie Boy" Gray a native of Greenville of C.M. Eppes High School will be at Bell's Chapel Holiness Church Sunday, July 19, 1998 along with his congregation from Mt. Olive Baptist Church of Winston-Salem, NC.

The Homecoming/Quarterly meeting service at Bell's Chapel will begin at 4:30 PM. Come and having a good time in the Lord!!

The Pastor of Bell's Chapel is Reverend Danny Lewis of Goldsboro, NC.

The Church is located on Bell's Chapel Road in Greenville, NC

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King Day Supporters Make Appeal to Holdouts in House

CONCORD, NH - For the 10th time in nearly 20 years, the Legislature is being asked to honor Martin Luther King Jr. with a state holiday.

"Folks, we have to do this," state Rep. Jackie Weatherspoon, one of two Blacks in the 400-member House, urged the Executive departments and Administration Committee.

Last month, the Senate passed the bill to add King's name to Civil Rights Day, and Gov. Jeanne Shaheen hopes to have the opportunity to sign it into law.

The House traditionally has been unfriendly to King day supporters, killing similar proposals in each of the last three years.

This is the 10th time since 1979 the Legislature has been asked to name a state holiday after King, assassinated in 1968. New Hampshire is the only state without a holiday honoring him.

The bill's supporters say New Hampshire's singular status is a national embarrassment. They say it hurts the state's economy because some people or groups take their business elsewhere when they realize the state doesn't have a King holiday.

For example, a national association of community loan funds wanted to hold its annual training session in the state - until it realized there was no King holiday, said Betsy Black, who works for the New Hampshire Community Loan Fund.

She estimated it cost the state about \$60,000.

One critic, David Tardif, said instead of feeling embarrassed, the state's residents ought to feel proud.

"Are you really ready to impose this kind of holiday on the citizens of New Hampshire just because everyone else (around the country) is doing it?" Tardif asked.

Turnout at the hearing was fairly sparse, possibly due to the snow.

Among those who spoke in favor of a King holiday was Anna McKenzie, 9, of Hampton.

"It seems like the people who make the decisions in New Hampshire are not listening to African-Americans because

they're so few of them here," she said. "I want to speak for them."

Rep. Mike Steere, a Swanzy Republican, wondered whether it would be fair to add just King's name to the holiday, considering how many other people fought for civil rights. He said his children recently asked him, "Were there any other people who worked for civil rights?"

Sen. Beverly Hollingworth, a Hampton Democrat and the prime sponsor of the Senate bill, said Civil Rights Day is not sufficient. She said former Atlanta mayor and civil rights leader Andrew Young told her, "If you fail to recognize

Dr. Martin Luther King, you fail to recognize all of us who fought for civil rights."

Former Gov. Steve Merrill declared Martin Luther King Jr. Civil Rights Day by proclamation three years in a row, beginning in 1993. Shaheen issued the same declaration this year, saying she hoped it would be the only time she had to do so.*

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Urban League President Calls For More Support of Public Schools

WASHINGTON, DC -- National Urban League President Hugh Price has praised the nation's lawmakers and President Clinton for making education a top priority and urged them to find solutions to preserve the nation's public education system, which he said is in danger of becoming extinct, particularly in urban areas. However, Price said voucher plans, which many in Congress support, could undermine a shared societal responsibility in educating all of the nation's children.

"Vouchered schools do not play by the same rules governing admissions, discipline and expulsion. What's most offensive, vouchers could subsidize the flight of White students. The persistence of unofficial segregation is problem enough in public education without underwriting it with taxpayer's money," said Price.

The Urban League president praised President Clinton for issuing a "call to action" to make America's education system the envy of the world. "Answering that call is the urgent domestic challenge facing the nation. And the stiffest -- and most compelling -- task is to lift inner-city and rural youngsters who chronically lag behind to globally-accepted standards.

Price was joined by some of the nation's leading educators who looked at realities and presented new solutions at the NUL forum, "A No Excuses Era in Public Education: Standards for the 21st Century" at the National Press Club today.

In addition to asking for support from political leaders, he called on parents to shoulder more responsibility for their children. "It's time for parents to get involved and ensure that their

youngsters come to school ready to learn. Time for community groups and employers to create a climate of support and opportunity that steers young people clear of destructive temptation -- and toward lifelong success."

Price's assertions were supported by forum participant Dr. Laurence Steinberg, professor at Temple University. "The problem isn't just the schools; it's disengagement of parents and a culture that demeans high academic performance," he noted.

In Steinberg's recent study of 20,000 high school students, 50 percent responded that they could bring home grades of C or worse without upsetting their parents; 40 percent said their parents never attended school programs, and only one in three students reported having daily conversations with their parents.

Student peer pressure plays a significant negative roll in undermining academic achievement according to Dr. Steinberg's findings,

with almost 20 percent of students responding that they did not try as hard as they could in school because of worries about what their friends might think. A high school English teacher whose students are predominantly from White middle-class homes observed that "when I check notebooks there are virtually no notes. They lose their books and they don't bring pens or notebooks to class. When I try to discipline, some of them just pick up and walk out."

But the forum heard about

some successes as well. "We have persuaded six urban school districts to agree that all of their middle school students will take algebra. None of the children will take 'dummy-down' math courses. Through this part of our Equity 2000 program, we have found that many more of our children are capable of mastering algebra, making them better prepared for college," reported Dr. Vincetta Jones, national director of Equity 2000, The College Board. ♦ ♦ ♦

Precious Precepts: A Real Woman

by Mrs. Melita M. Kendrick

AUGUSTA, GA -- In today's society we find women looking for the right man, and men looking for the right woman. When you look in the paper you see the singles ads describing what this particular man wants in a woman or what this particular woman wants in a man. Since I am a woman, I can not offer much council on a real man, but I can tell you about a real woman. A real woman possesses qualities like no other woman in the world. These qualities are not based on her height, weight (praise the Lord), age, complexion or length of hair. The qualities of a real woman were

set by the PERFECT MAN. That perfect man is God. In Proverbs 31:10-31, we find 23 qualities of A REAL WOMAN. These qualities are as follows:

- * a truly good wife
- * a woman that satisfies her husband's needs
- * a woman that is not a hindrance to her husband
- * a resourceful woman
- * a thrifty woman
- * an organized woman
- * one who gets up early and cooks for her family
- * one who effectively delegates responsibility

- * a business minded woman
- * an energetic woman
- * a hardworking woman
- * a generous woman
- * a woman that protects her home
- * one that adorns herself and her household well
- * one who makes her husband proud
- * a strong woman
- * a dignified woman
- * one who speaks wisely with words of wisdom
- * a woman that is kind
- * one that is not lazy
- * a good household manager
- * one that fears and reverences God

- * one that provides for, trains and care for her children.
- Sounds like a real tall order doesn't? Believe it or not, that is what the scripture says a REAL WOMAN is. I encourage you to study this scripture. If you are a woman, see how you measure up.

No matter how old a mother is, she watches her middle-aged children for signs of improvement.

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- Get your foot measured each time you buy new shoes—your foot size does change over time.
- Never buy shoes that you have to "break in."
- Limit the number of hours spent in high heels. Whenever possible, wear comfortable shoes with a heel lower than two-inches.
- Carry heels in a shoe bag and wear sensible shoes for walking.
- Visit a doctor to find out if orthotics are the answer to your foot, knee or back pain.



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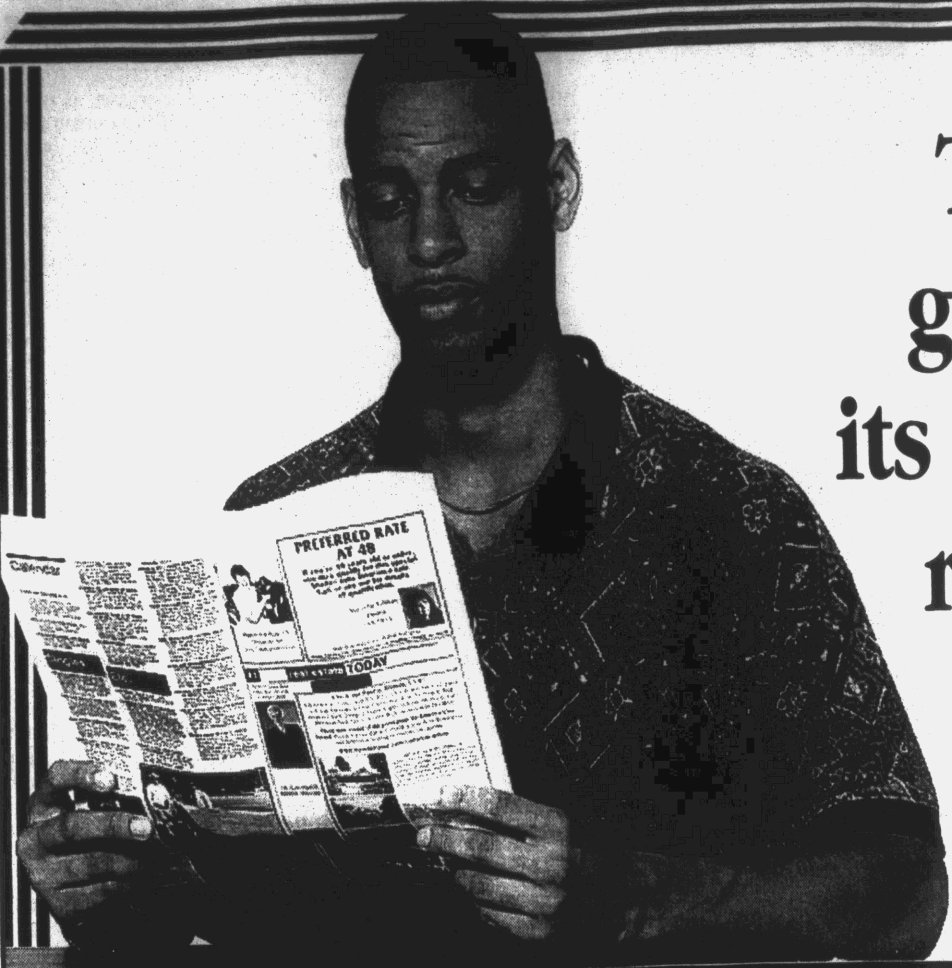
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