

# The Minority Voice

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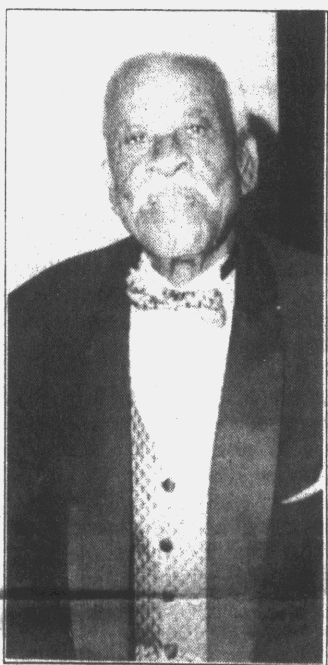
What You See Is What You Get What You Read Is What You Know And Save !

## Black Girl Painted White

BLACKS: "Whites are Rejecting Reconciliation"

JOHANNESBURG.....In late August, a 14-year old Black girl went into a store in the South African, Northern Province town of Louis Trichardt. The white manager of the store accused her of shoplifting. Protesting but terrified, she was dragged to a back room in the store, stripped naked to the waist, painted white from the top of her head down to her belly button and thrown out into the street.

In the neighboring North-West Province, where the smaller



Millard Filmore Bell  
1919 -2000

Millard Filmore Bell was born in 1919 to Grant Sr. and Rosa Bell in Greenville, NC. He went home to be with the Lord on Tuesday, August 29, 2000 at approximately 12:00 pm. Filmore was educated in Pitt County at Greenville Industrial High School and was trained by his parents to be a successful businessman. After serving in the US Army from 1940-1945, he returned to Greenville to live out the remainder of his life. He was united in holy matrimony to Rosa Mackey and to this blessed union a son, Andre, was born. Andre preceded his father in death by a few years.

Filmore was a successful businessman operating several family businesses over the last half of the twentieth century. He was a life-long member of Cornerstone Missionary Baptist Church where he served in a number of capacities. He was faithful in worship and his joy was visiting the sick and shut in. He was affiliated with the Elks, and He was a mason in Mt. Herman Lodge # 35 of Greenville, NC. He was proud member and avid supporter of the Twentieth Century Social Club which he co founded and was the longest surviving member.

A willing advisor and encourager to young people, brother Bell often offered advice to others out of his wealth of personal experiences. To know Millard Filmore Bell was to love him.

He leaves to mourn his departure, his loving wife, Rosa Mackey Bell, one sister, Irdel Battle of Greenville, NC; two brothers-in-law, James A. Mackey, Sr. of Linglehard, NC and Jessie Mackey of Swan Quarter, NC; three sisters-in-law, Vivian Crump of Durham, NC, Ima Fillman of Amityville, Long Island, NY; Anna D. Bell of Greenville, NC and a host of loving nieces, nephews, other relatives and friends.

towns are also controlled by whites, a white farmer is facing charges of seriously assaulting his Black laborer.

In the Mpumalanga (meaning: Where the sun rises) Province a young Black farmworker strolled onto a white-owned farm. He was accosted by the farmer and his cohorts, accused of trespassing, stripped naked, painted silver and put up for display. The list of cases like these in South Africa is infinite. Life, especially on the farms, is reminiscent of the days of slavery.

It is against this background that the South African government, under the leadership of President Thabo Mbeki, has launched an historic initiative to cut to the bone of racism and deal with it up front. It is an exercise unparalleled in any part of the modern world.

The aim of the South African Human Rights Commission in hosting "The National Conference on Racism," August 30 - Sept. 02, is to prevent what has happened in countries like Germany, Australia, Ireland and it need to noted, the mighty United States of America, say its supporters. Instead of dealing with racism after periods of harsh oppression of Black and indigenous peoples, all of these countries stepped into a comfort zone of collective amnesia, observers argue.

South Africa, now emerging out of a white racist society, is one of the freshest examples of confronting this problem and has chosen

to deal with the issue now---- rather than let it unjustly recede into obscurity, say supporters of Mr. Mbeki and his government. President Mbeki has been accused, in white-controlled newspapers, of being obsessed with racism. He has also been engaged in a running war-of-the words with the head of the newly constituted Democratic Alliance, a formation of two political parties, the notorious National Party of the apartheid past and the slightly liberal Democratic Party. The alliance is headed by Tony Leon, a conservative Jewish politician, who has accused Mr. Mbeki of using the "race-card" whenever he gets into a tight spot. At the launch of the race summit, Mr. Mbeki pulled no punches. He lambasted whites collectively for not embracing the widely touted concept of reconciliation.

Since, the historic 1994 first democratic elections, what has become evident is the hand of reconciliation has been extended only by the one side: the Black side. Whites remain smug in their control of industry, happily send

their children to privileged private and predominantly white public schools and are still at the helm in the main sporting organizations in the country, Blacks say.

"Our process of national reconciliation has been somewhat of a charade. In this regard, only the victims of racism have responded to the call to forgive and to let bygones be bygones.

Those who have been the perpetrators and beneficiaries of oppression and exploitation "have acted merely to defend their interests, refusing to extend their own hand towards the victims, in a true spirit of reconciliation," Mr. Mbeki intoned. South Africa has a population of 41 million people. Of these 89.1 % are Black while whites make up 10.9 % of the population. One of the most significant mechanisms set in place to deal with the past, another historic and unique South African initiative----the Truth and Reconciliation Commission (TRC)----has also been a glaring example of the lack of white goodwill in the "new" South Africa, Mr. Mbeki continued.

"The response of our society to the request to make submissions to the TRC helped to reinforce the view that the beneficiaries of white minority rule were unwilling to contribute to the process of national reconciliation," he argued.

Mr. Mbeki, looking back at bloody anti-apartheid struggles, was also relentless in reminding whites that they did precious little to "break ranks" and join those

who strove to rid the country of a system so universally damned. One cynic at the race summit made a remark, one uttered over and over again in South Africa, that while whites stand on the sideline and whine about the supposed mess South Africa is now in, it is impossible to find a single white person honest enough to admit they supported apartheid, or even voted for the previous white-only government.

The meeting in Johannesburg is providing a platform for 21 groups to later sit and discuss a variety of issues like defining racism, how it impacts South African society and what is to be done about it.

Again, while all of this happens, the predominantly white Democratic Alliance----whose leaders boycotted the groundbreaking event----watches from the wings.

The chairperson of the Human Rights Commission, Dr. Barney Pitso, told conference goers, it was up to all South Africans not to remain silent about "the brutality of racism in our midst."



Christopher Taylor Concedes to Randy Royal

The Republican candidate for the Pitt County Board of Commissioners has dropped out. At a press conference held at WOOW studios Mr. Taylor announced he will not run against Randy Royal in November's election. Pictured is Christopher Taylor (center), City Council Woman Rose Glover, Randy Royal and the new minister of the Final Call Ministry in Greenville.

Photo by Jim Rouse



18th Anniversary Celebration,

Pastor James Corbett Along with 3 Elders from Community Christian Church were in attendance at the Hilton Sunday September 10, 2000. To express the joy of God's Blessing at the 18th Anniversary Celebration for Community Christian Church, through the learning, teachings and spiritual guidance from the word of God, may the church continue to grow with their schools, day care, facilities and teaching ministries. Hats off to pastors James & Delores Corbett and the Community Christian Church family !



Redeem The Dream

State SCLC president Bennie Roundtree is shown with sister Ester at the march on Washington, Redeem The Dream. The March focused attention on racial profiling and police brutality. Brother Roundtree arrived with a bus load of other concerned African American citizens ready to make a difference.

Photo by Jim Rouse

## O.J. Simpson Sues Defense Attorneys Over "Tell All" TV Miniseries Script

O.J. Simpson sued one of his former defense attorneys and a writer Tuesday for allegedly publishing privileged and confidential information in a tell-all book now being turned into a miniseries.

In his lawsuit, Simpson contends Robert Kardashian and Lawrence Schiller, "value the fame and fortune to be derived from publishing information about a sensational trial more than adhering to their ethical obligations and contractual agreements." Simpson lost a bid Tuesday morning for a temporary restraining order to block the broadcast of the miniseries, said Kardashian's attorney, Erica Tabachnick.

Kardashian and Schiller were named in the TRO request, which asked that the men be kept from transferring any rights to the series, participating in its production and disclosing any confidential information.

Tabachnick said Kardashian "has absolutely nothing to do with the filming of the miniseries....I have advised Simpson's attorneys of this and they elected to proceed against him anyway."

A personal assistant for Schiller said he was on location filming the miniseries based on his book and was unavailable for comment. Schiller's "American Tragedy: The Uncensored Story of the Simpson Defense," about Simpson's "Dream Team" of lawyers and his double murder trial, was published in 1996 by Random House.

Simpson's lawsuit alleges

Schiller and Kardashain informed him they were planning to write a book about the trial and agreed to show him the manuscript--and delete any privileged information--before it was published.

He claims Schiller, used the agreement that Simpson would be able to review the book before it was published to get interviews with his defense lawyers, including F. Lee Bailey, Alan Dershowitz, Robert Blasier, and Barry Scheck.

But the book's publisher claimed Simpson's review "would harm the sales prospects of the book," according to the lawsuit. The men subsequently refused to allow Simpson to review the book Schiller removed Kardashain's name as co-author and published it, the complaint states.

Tabachnick said Simpson has no basis for his allegations and that the statute of limitations for him to file suit have run out.

"American Tragedy" came out in 1996--that was four years ago," she said. "He was told that and he continued to proceed." The ex-football great, who was acquitted of the June 12, 1994 murders of his ex-wife Nicole and her friend, Ron Goldman, claims in court papers he did not have the money at the time the book was published to sue because he was involved in the civil wrongful death trial in Santa Monica.

According to the lawsuit, he learned in May that Schiller had agreed to produce and direct a

miniseries based on his book for CBS. "Now defendants are in the process of further exploiting their breaches of fiduciary duty and of agreements of confidentiality, by beginning production of a television miniseries based on this same material," the lawsuit states. The defendants "have again refused to submit the screenplay to Simpson for review to ensure no privileged and confidential material is disseminated," according to the complaint.

Simpson claims the book and miniseries contain attorney-client information provided to Schiller by Kardashain, whose longtime friendship with the plaintiff ended around the time of his criminal trial.

He also claims Kardashain, who gained instant notoriety when he read a rambling statement from Simpson after his arrest, "provided to Schiller all of the surreptitious tape recordings and notes he had taken during his representation of Simpson."

Schiller assisted Simpson in writing the book "I Want to Tell You" and helped the defense team with information, including getting "clean audio copies of the tape recordings of interviews" with former Los Angeles police officer Mark Fuhrman.

Upon learning that Schiller and Kardashain were going to write a book, Simpson claims he sent a letter to all his attorneys, saying they were not allowed to divulge any privileged information unless they received written authorization from him.



# Commemorating the 1965 Voting Rights Act

'Do Not Let The Progress Have Been Made In Vain'

By Rep. JOHN LEWIS

This nation was founded on the bedrock principles of self-determination and a democratic form of government.

However, from the time the first colonists landed on our shores, this most basic, fundamental right has been denied to people of color, women and the poor. During almost every period in American history, arbitrary obstacles like land ownership, gender or race, have been constructed in an attempt to deny access and opportunity.

For example, notorious South Carolina Sen. "Pitchfork" Ben Tillman, who once led an extraordinarily aggressive campaign to prevent African Americans from voting and holding public office said: "We have done our level best. We have scratched our heads to find out how we could eliminate every last one of them. We stuffed ballot boxes. We shot them. We are not ashamed of it."

America has, from time to time, found the strength and the courage to unshackle itself from the tyrannical forces of oppression and bigotry. One such victory occurred 35 years ago, when President Lyndon B. Johnson signed into law the Voting Rights Act of 1965, which he heralded as "one of the most monumental laws in the entire history of American freedom."

The Voting Rights Act is the Magna Carta of American democracy. This legislation gave a voice to the millions of minority Americans who were being institutionally shut out of the electoral process. This bold, precedent-setting legislation established an enforceable network of laws

through which poll taxes, grandfather clauses, literacy tests and other nefarious schemes used to disenfranchise African Americans were outlawed.

In many Southern states, for the first time since Reconstruction, African Americans were allowed to exercise their constitutionally guaranteed right to vote, and only because that fundamental right was finally being protected by the full weight and authority of the federal government. In the four years following the passage of the Voting Rights Act, 800,000 previously disenfranchised African Americans had registered to vote, and the number of black elected officials went from 1,469 in 1970 to 8,015 in 1993. In 1970, 10 blacks were elected to Congress; in 1994 there were 39. On the county and municipal level, the numbers increased from 92 in 1970 to 4,816 in 1993.

By removing the manufactured restrictions to democratic participation, the Voting Rights Act gave African Americans a representational voice in local, state and federal legislative bodies. There is an enormous difference between being part of a community where your needs are unilaterally and unapologetically ignored and having those needs effectively championed, by your duly elected member of Congress, on the floor of the House of Representatives; the difference is the Voting Rights Act.

The 35th anniversary (Aug. 6) was especially significant because it will be the last anniversary before the next round of redistricting—the first of the new millennium.

In a few months, the Census Bureau will begin releasing the most current population statistics on the American electorate, and in early 2001, the process of redrawing

the lines of every electoral district as the federal, state and local level will begin. These figures will determine the number of Congressional districts lost by states like Mississippi and New York, and how many will be gained by other states like California, Texas and Georgia.

Our nation's democratic institutions are more inclusive than ever before, as a direct result of the Voting Rights Act.

After the 1990 census, enforcement of the Voting Rights Act led to the creation of many districts in which African Americans were a majority of the electorate. Yet, there is still an enormous amount of work that must be done to protect gains made in the ability of minority voters to elect the representatives of their choice, many of which came only during the 1990s. Despite setbacks in the Supreme Court, the Voting Rights Act continues to have a powerfully egalitarian impact by creating legitimate opportunities for minority voters to have equal access to the electoral process.

Poor Americans, African Americans, Latinos and Asian Pacific Americans may not have been included in the founders' original interpretation of "democracy," but great strides have been made to correct that egregious oversight. Unfortunately, as our nation commemorates the enactment of the Voting Rights Act and heads into the next round of redistricting, one question lingers conspicuously on our collective national conscience: Is America finally ready to acknowledge the right of all Americans to having unilateral, unfettered access to the electoral process?

(Rep. John Lewis represents Georgia's 5th Congressional District, a minority opportunity district which was created after the 1990 Census. Georgia stands to pick up a Congressional seat after the 2000 Census count.)



**Guess Who ?**  
Play the "M" Voice Guess Who Contest and win two free CDs ! All you have to do is name the three people pictured above by calling WOOW Joy 1340 AM (252) 757-0365. Can You Guess Who?

Photo by Jim Rouse

## MONEY.....ALL KINDS OF MONEY.....MAKES THE POLITICAL WORLD GO ROUND

by: Dr. Lenora B. Fulani



Joseph Lieberman's selection as Al Gore's running mate sparked —among other things— another controversy over anti-Semitic attitudes in the Black community. The Amsterdam News, New York's oldest Black weekly, ran an editorial by its publisher emeritus Wilbert Tatum, which commented on the Lieberman selection. "Gore and his minions did it for the money," wrote Tatum, who has consistently made himself a thorn in the side of the Jewish establishment.

He broke down the Democrats' strategy thusly: "The reasoning in the Gore camp went out all over the world to Jews of means: You've got to show me the money. When you do, one of yours will be given the second spot on the ticket. The word went out all over the world to Jews in every pocket of civilization and near-civilization, that the major protector of Jews in this world, the American government, is now available. But in order to get it, you've got to buy it."

Tatum's remarks have predictably been rebuked by the New York Times and by Abraham Foxman of the Anti-Defamation League, who called the editorial "insidious, and an anti-Semitic canard..." Rev. Jesse Jackson disagreed with the Amsterdam News' analysis though supported Tatum's right to free speech.

Yet, the Tatum remarks, in my opinion, require a close look that goes beyond knee-jerk condemnation or a reconciliatory invocation of the First Amendment.

Mr. Tatum, of course, does have a right to say what he said. Moreover, there's a truth to it. Lieberman selection was about money and —here's the rub—so is everything else that goes on in the Democratic Party. Tatum leaves himself open to the charge of anti-Semitism because he will say it only about Jews. He never excoriates the Democratic Party for its relentless subservience to a multitude of special interests and their money. Tatum is no anti-Semite, but it soft on the Democratic Party. He never seriously criticizes Black America's blank check to the Democratic Party or encourages it to diversify its political connections. In spite of his predictions of "sea changes" in Black politics, where independent parties and candidates will become a more viable option, he rarely challenges the Black community to develop its political independence.

The Democratic Party is pure and simple, captive to big labor and corporate interests. In his speech to the convention, Al Gore drew a line in the sand on school vouchers. In a Gore administration he says, there will be no consideration of vouchers, no diversion of funding away from the public school system. This, in spite of the fact that poll after poll shows that 75 - 85 % of minority parents want the option of school vouchers. Why won't Gore accede to this ? Because the public teachers unions had 457 delegates at the Democratic National Convention, the largest bloc of any organization. The American Federation of Teachers is among the top twenty contributors to the national party.

At the same time, telecommunications giants—vigorous contributors to the Republican National Convention—were out in force at the Democratic National Convention, too. AT & T, Bell South, Vreizon, SBC Communications and Sprint Telecommunications all sponsored lavish receptions for leading Democratic Party elected officials last week. AT & T gave a million dollars in goods and services to both major parties for their conventions.

The overriding influence of money in politics goes on and on. Corporate money. Union money. Soft money. Liberal money. And yes. Jewish money too. Mr. Tatum's nod to anti-Semitism lies neither in his assumption that Jewish Americans are financial contributors—in some cases, significant contributors—to the political process. Nor in his claim that the Democrats were motivated by the increased access the Lieberman selection would give them. His misstep lies in his failure to paint the whole picture. Money, all kinds of money, makes the Democrats go round.

# The Clinton-Gore Dilemma for Black America

By EARL OFARI HUTCHINSON, PhD

The contrast in the reception that Republican presidential candidate George W. Bush and President Clinton got when they spoke at the NAACP's annual convention in July couldn't have

been more glaring. The delegates listened to Bush's worked-over platitudes about racial tolerance with polite skepticism. With Clinton they had a love fest and treated him as a conquering hero. Clinton reminded the delegates that he and Al Gore were joined at the hip for eight years and that if they adored him, they must adore Gore too, and do everything they can to help elect him president. But his demand that blacks reflexively back Gore underscores several enduring political dilemmas for black voters.

In every presidential election the past four decades, blacks have given the Democratic presidential nominee more than 80 percent of their vote. Clinton included. It mattered little that Clinton's eight-year record on social justice and civil rights issues has been marked by a blurry mix of achievement, cautious rhetoric, neglect and political opportunism. And that Clinton spent two elections trying to out-Reagan Reagan in a chase to nab defecting white middle-class, ethnic and blue collar voters for the Democrats and distance himself from "special interests" (i.e. women and minorities).

Clinton also played two major trump cards to maintain unbending black support. The first was Republican indifference—even flat out hostility—to blacks. It will take far more than Bush's much ballyhooed talk of diversity and inclusion and the show-

piece parade of black, Latino and Asian faces and Colin Powell that they rolled out at the Republican National Convention to overcome that bitter legacy of neglect and rejection.

His other ace in the hole is that blacks have no other political choice beyond the Republicans. The talk of forming an independent black political party to challenge the Democrats and Republicans is the stuff of pipe dreams and delusion. Every effort to form such a party has crashed on the hard bedrock of political division, fear and traditionalism.

Some black activists claim that Green Party presidential candidate Ralph Nader's credentials as a crusader for the environment and against corporate rapaciousness merits a hard look. But Nader has a badly exposed Achilles heel. He has publicly said next to nothing about racial profiling, police abuse, failing inner-city public schools, the obscene racial disparities in the prison and criminal justice system, the surge of murder violence in poor communities, the dreary economic plight of many young blacks and corporate racism. His failure to speak out loudly on these problems will not help him shed his cloak of invisibility with black voters.

Yet despite these racial pluses for the Democrats a significant number of blacks now call themselves independents. This means that potentially large numbers of black votes could be up for grabs for the Democrats and Republicans this election. History has amply shown that ethnic bloc voting can make or break a candidate, campaign and agenda.

In 1960 Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. threatened to boycott both the Republican AND Democratic conventions to force a stronger civil rights platform. In 1965 Harlem Congressman Adam Clayton

Powell issued a "Black Position Paper" to the Democrats demanding that they share greater political power with blacks.

In 1972, the Black Political Convention forced President Richard Nixon to increase minority business funding, propose non-punitive welfare reform, and strengthen affirmative action programs in the trades, and pushed the Democrats to adopt one of the most liberal activist platforms ever. In 1984 and 1988, Jesse Jackson's Rainbow Coalition pushed the Democratic Party to support District of Columbia statehood, national health insurance, full employment, political redistricting and affirmative action. In 1996, the National African-American Leadership Summit demanded that Republicans and Democrats endorse an independent black agenda.

The social and economic devastation of many poor and working-class blacks has raised the political stakes even higher this election. Gore should not have a free hand to say and do as he pleases with black voters as his boss did for eight years under the presumption that their votes are in the bag. And Bush should not get away with spouting photo-op campaign stump slogans about making the Republican party inclusive and then doing nothing to make it a reality.

Black voters can and should lobby, challenge and pressure Bush and Gore to support increased funding for jobs, health, and education programs, scrap the Clinton administration's failed drug policy, and a total overhaul of the racially-warped prison and criminal justice system. This is the price that Bush, and especially Gore, should have to pay for black votes. Blacks should have no dilemma about challenging them to pay that price.

(Earl Ofari Hutchinson is the author of *The Disappearance of Black Leadership*. He can be heard on KPFK Radio, 90.7FM, Tuesdays, 7-8 p.m.)

# Commentary: Surprising Support for Kemba Smith

By GEORGE E. CURRY  
Sentinel Wire Services

(NNPA)—Of all the stories we ran during the seven years I was editor of *Emerge*, we probably received the most mail in response to our cover story on Kemba Smith [May 1996], the former Hampton University student who, at the age of 24, was sentenced to 24—years in prison for her minor role in a drug ring. Even now, as I travel around the country giving speeches, someone invariably asks me about Kemba Smith.

The NAACP Legal Defense and Educational Fund, which is representing Kemba, summarizes her case succinctly: "Kemba Smith is a 28-year-old first-time offender. For nearly six years, she has been incarcerated on a 24—year sentence for conspiracy to distribute cocaine. This sentence was imposed even though Kemba never handled, used, sold or distributed cocaine, played at most a minimal role in the overall conspiracy, and committed minor criminal acts wholly at the direction of, and in fear of a violent and abusive boyfriend who, she knew, had murdered at

least one disloyal associate."

Now, support for Kemba has come from two unlikely sources. One of them, the person primarily responsible for helping interpret the federal mandatory sentencing guidelines under which Kemba was sentenced, says the judge in the case misinterpreted the rules that should have applied to Kemba.

That startling admission was made by Sharon O. Henegan, director of the United States Sentencing Commission's Office of Education and Sentencing Practice. Her six-page legal analysis of Kemba's case was included in the documents the LDF, sent recently to the White House and the Justice Department seeking presidential clemency for the Richmond, Va. native.

Henegan notes that the trial judge essentially treated Kemba as a drug kingpin, holding her responsible for 255 kilograms of crack cocaine distributed by her boyfriend's \$4 million drug ring from 1989 to 1993. Kemba acknowledged transporting \$10,000 to \$15,000 from Charlotte, N.C. to New York approximately four times at the direction

of her boyfriend, Peter Hall. If that money were converted to cocaine,



KEMBA SMITH

Kemba might be responsible for roughly two kilos, not 255.

U.S. District Judge Richard B. Kellam was wrong to treat Kemba as though she had masterminded the drug ring.

"Since the defendant did not distribute any drugs or profit from the offense as did others, she appears to be less culpable when compared to most other codefendants in this drug distribution conspiracy," Henegan wrote. "Additionally, since she did not 'manufacture, distribute, or dispense' any drugs, her acts when compared to these elements of the offense seem less culpable."

The third mistake was assuming that the money Kemba had helped transport to New York was converted to crack cocaine rather than powder cocaine. That unsupported presumption alone meant that Kemba would receive a penalty 100 times greater than had she been convicted on a powder cocaine charge.

Even if one feels Kemba deserves time in jail, there is the question of how much. The average inmate sentenced on a federal murder charge received 20.6 years—four years less than Kemba. Even Michael

Fortier, an associate of Oklahoma Federal Building bombers Timothy McVeigh and Terry Nichols, received a sentence of only 12 years. And Kemba wasn't accused of killing anyone.

Another surprising supporter of Kemba is Clinton's drug czar. Yes, Gen. Barry McCaffrey, the person assigned to coordinate the nation's war on drugs, believes that Kemba should be released from the Federal Corrections Institution for Women in Danbury, Conn. A story in *The San Francisco Chronicle* last April said McCaffrey "called for presidential pardons for convicts such as Kemba Smith."

Now is the time for a third person to in government to step forward—Bill Clinton. As we move closer to the November presidential election, it is not enough to simply ask for the black vote. It's time to do something to earn it. Granting clemency to a young lady who should not have been in jail in the first place would be an important step in that direction.

(George Curry is the former editor-in-chief of *Emerge* magazine. His Website is [www.georgecurry.com](http://www.georgecurry.com))





**Hurricane Floyd One Year Later,**  
Pictured is WOOV's transmitter at Greenville's Town Commons, after the Tar River over flowed taking WOOV off the air for several weeks. One Year later we are still on the air, stronger than ever and providing Greenville with the Best In Gospel Music and the information you need to get through your day. We would like to thank everyone for your support and patronage and we look forward to serving you for many years to come.

Photo By Jim Rouse

# Hurricane Floyd One Year Later

**CAROLINA NORTH  
..THE FLOOD ZONE...**

North Carolina has received her fair share of hurricanes and tornadoes within the last five years.

Meteorologists, Climatologists, Seismologists, Geologists, Doppler Radars, satellites, televisions, and radios kept us informed, which was a good thing. Some took heed and some didn't.

September 1999, a frantic ferocious torrential terrifying hurricane named Floyd with extreme wind and rain came through eastern North Carolina and scared the tidewaters, coastal plains, and piedmont sections of the state for years to come. Carolinians knew a hurricane was approaching, and were prepared as usual, but the vigorous amount of water was unexpected, leaving catastrophic results. Virtually all roads and many bridges in eastern North Carolina were inaccessible. Parts of Interstate 40 and 95 were closed. Amtrak stopped running. If this were an earthquake, it probably would have been a 7.4 or more on the Richter Scale. The areas were as if chemical gases were released intentionally. Carolina North was in trouble and needed help.

People were without jobs, homes, schools, businesses, some churches, electricity, water, and separated from family members. They were disconnected from (towns, cities, counties and) parts of the State because of impassable bridges, highways, and sinkholes.

People realized they were in the same boat, on the same level, equal, and couldn't run. Public officials, Ham radios, and telephones were the only way for communication. This was a serious situation, and for some, reality had yet to soak in. Vehicles, animal carcasses, caskets, chemicals, and garbage floated in and on the water. O what a smell! Snakes and mosquitoes were everywhere. A health hazard to any community.

The River Tar over-flowed her banks without warning and caused the first black township in America named Princeville to be temporarily erased from the map. The water came quick and was very dangerous. It also, without permission, flooded some of the historical city of Tarboro, which is across the bridge. The President of the United States, Governor of North Carolina, FEMA representatives, and other public officials were in Tarboro, and of course, local, state, national, and international media arrived. The President, Governor, FEMA, and others flew over eastern North Carolina to evaluate the damage and destruction.

The River Tar continued eastward towards the city of Greenville. The results were the same, if not worse, which prompted authorities to put Purpletown under a curfew. One of the utility buildings had up to six feet of water, and most, if not all of their vehicles had to be replaced. The airport and planes were submerged. Utility power was limited, at times, cut off. Food, drinking water, ice, clothes and other necessities were in great demand. The water treatment plant was in jeopardy which resolution was intentionally cut off to prevent a potentially dangerous hazard from occurring to the citizens of Greenville and

surrounding areas. East Carolina University and Pitt Community College were closed for two weeks. Help from the military was there to access people across the River Tar, which had widened over a mile. Numerous Blackhaws clouded the sky carrying citizens from water-soak communities to dry shelters. East Care received assistance with another medical chopper from Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania.

The authorities were relieved when other officers, public officials, and volunteers within the state and country arrived, including the military police. North Carolina State Highway Patrol brought food cards and other important items from Raleigh by chopper for specific purposes. Henderson County Sheriff used horses to go where vehicles couldn't. Crime halted and illegal drugs hiding in the woods were totally destroyed, which was good. As days proceeded and the water settled, more public officials and many tractor-trailers arrived for distribution. University Medical Center or PCMH never closed, as usual, but certainly was on high alert. The Red Cross, Salvation Army, and non-profit organizations were challenge, yet limited at times in the crises, but prevailed. All donated items as food, water, and clothes were a welcome sight because many people were in need. Tetanus shots were available to the public without cost, and hepatitis shots were given as a precaution. Fema trailer parks were in Rocky Mount, Tarboro,

Greenville, Kinston, Grifton and many parts of eastern North Carolina for those who needed a place to stay.

The "original" Washington, North Carolina received her fill share of the storm and aftermath. The water in the River Tar-Pamlico and Sound Pamlico were not clean. It was a dirty brown color that continued eastward toward the blue green Atlantic Ocean. Lack of oxygen prohibited sea creatures from living. They wouldn't have been good to eat anyway.

The River Roanoke had her fair share in Williamston, Martin County, which prolonged fishing and other activities for a while.

The historical city of Windsor was as Tarboro. It received unwanted, saturated, contaminated water from the River Cashie, area creeks and waterways. Over six feet of water visited the town for days. Like other cities and towns, all she could do was wait.

Another historical city named Edenton near the River Chowan and Sound Albemarle were above normal bringing salt water into fresh. Many cities, towns, and communities in the northeastern part of Carolina North as Ahoskie and Elizabeth City had flooded areas.

The "shad" town of Grifton, located in two counties was flooded because of the Contentnea Creek. The police, fire department, and the grocery store were less than a half-mile from the creek, and ruin.

Water released flowing down the River Neuse from Raleigh south-southeast flooded parts of Goldsboro, Kinston, and New Bern. The small town of Seven Springs in Wayne County was as Princeville.

Duplin County received a tremendous amount of damage.

The River Cape

Fear destroyed farmlands, animals, and flooded the small town of Chinquapin. Highways became waterways. Cattle pushed down the highway on a porch to safety is not the way it's usually done. Many carcasses needed to be moved and buried or burned, but couldn't because the water had yet to recede.

The River Cape Fear was above normal many miles north of Wilmington. Actually, all major rivers, waterways, and lakes were overflowed and contaminated for weeks.

NC highway 12 was one of many that was relocated and paved. As time passed, the Outer Banks was relieved to see visitors. So far, Cape Hatteras and the other lighthouses are still standing. Yes, a lot of water flowed under and over bridges into living-rooms and class-rooms for quite a while, which shook Carolinians mind and held them at a standstill-attention to watch, wait, think, and be grateful because it could have been worse.

It's been said, "this was the 500 year flood, then changed to the 100 year flood" which has been called, "The Flood Of The Century;" nevertheless, the majority of eastern Carolinians didn't have flood insurance. For some, it wasn't required, others didn't have the slightest idea they'd need it, and many couldn't pay because of their budget. I believe policies have been changed since then. We've been taught a valuable priceless lesson.

Without a doubt, North Carolina

has had her fair share of hurricanes. They are H Bertha (96), H Fran (96), TD Arthur, TD Danny, TS Josephine (96), H Bonnie (98), H Dennis, which skidded by the coast, then return as TS Dennis (99), of course, H Floyd (99), and H Irene (99), along with a few blistering angry uncanny tornadoes. Carolina North has witness history and produced tapes for generations to study.

Epilogue:

We call this a flood, but if you want to know the truth, it really was a speckle on the land compared to what had happened when Noah was in the ark. Therefore, God left the sign of a rainbow as a promise to mankind that it would not happen, again of such magnitude. If only we would take heed to disasters, wake up, and pray before the sun goes down.

The Lord allows situations to occur for His glory and our benefit. History repeats herself repeatedly. He sends warnings to let us know as long as we are on this earth, we will need Him because without Him, we are and can do nothing. It is better to obey Him and treat our neighbors right because the next time will not be water, but fire! Has anyone learned from this experience?

Conclusion:

I submit to you, "thoughts to ponder." Through this experience, has it made you value life and appreciate others more? Have you learned anything...

**CAROLINA NORTH  
From  
...THE FLOOD ZONE?..**

Willie James Brown Jr.  
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\*\*\*AWBP\*\*\*

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# From the Desk of Mrs. Beatrice Maye



## Parenting Tips for Youth Sports

1. Your child should get a pre-participation physical from a doctor who specializes in sports medicine.
2. Find a coach who shares your value system. Learn his or her expectations and coaching philosophy before the season begins.
3. Reach out to the other parents at the start of the season to develop a sense of community.
4. Make sure your child have the proper instruction and equipment for their sport.
5. Accentuate the training at home with a proper diet.
6. Limit the teams your children join to keep schoolwork and family relationships from suffering.
7. Set aside time for schoolwork. Remind your children that education is the top priority.

8. BE fair about attending games, and don't let one child's activities dominate. Each child should get comparable time.
9. Pain is a real flag, an indication that something is wrong. If your children complain about pain, beyond the typical bumps and bruises, have them examined by a physician immediately.

## Thank You -

To anyone who remembered me during the bereavement of my brother, Gilbert C. Jones in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, I am grateful. Beatrice Maye

## In Sympathy

To: the families of Mr. Julius B. Clemmons and Mr. Millard Filmore Bell

## Congratulations

Mrs. Reba L. Wilkes, President, North Carolina Retired School Personnel (NCRSP) and secretary of District 15 of the same unit.

also Ms. Faye Adams, Vice president Mrs. Pauline Anderson, Membership Chairperson Mrs. Juanita Johnson, Treasurer

## What Lessons Have You Learned

Twelve lessons for a lifetime:

1. No one can make you feel inferior unless you allow them to do it. You are responsible for your own happiness.
2. People won't stay angry at you

long if you can say, "I was wrong, and I am truly sorry. I hope you will forgive me".

3. Tell somebody you trust instead of trying to cover it up when something is troubling you. You will be surprised to learn that the other person has been through something similar.

4. Don't pass up an opportunity to tell people you care about them. You may never get another chance.

5. Reserve judgment until you know all the facts. Even then, keep your mouth shut if no useful purpose is served by adding your two cents worth.

6. Be grateful for your good health and the health of those you love. Be aware that without good health, money and success mean little.

7. If you enjoy your work and your life, you are rich. If you aren't happy with either, how can money help?

8. If you are having a rotten day, don't take it out on those around you. Simply say to yourself, "Today is a rotten day. Tomorrow will be better". That attitude will improve your disposition as well as your digestive system.

9. Spend time with your children. It's the best investment you will ever make.

10. Don't be afraid to try something you think you can't do. Nothing ventured, nothing gained.

11. There's no such thing as the perfect man or woman. Look for

the best overall package of kindness, consideration, ambition and intelligence. Otherwise, you will spend your life alone.

12. You can respect and learn from people, even if you don't like them. Be aware that you can learn something from everybody, because every person in the world knows something you don't know.

## Look for these in a date or marriage:

- Kindness
- Consideration
- Ambition
- Intelligence

## Mental Exercise

The brain is like a muscle. Use it or lose it. Research shows fogged memory and slowed wit are not inevitable consequences of getting old, and there are steps people can take to protect their brains.

Dr. Amir Soas of Case Western Reserve University Medical School in Cleveland suggests the following:

Most important: "Read, read, read". Others: Do crossword puzzles, pull out the chessboard of Scrabble. Let me suggest the bingo game: "Anything that stimulates the brain to think", says Dr. Soas. Cut back on TV, Soas insists. When you watch television, your brain goes into neutral, he says. So much so that Case Western plans to study whether people who contract Alzheimer's watched more TV throughout life than healthy seniors.

Numerous studies show people with less education have higher risks of Alzheimer's than the better-educated.

But physical health is important, too. A healthy brain needs lots of oxygen pumped through healthy arteries. Exercise and eat right - the very things that prevent heart disease and diabetes - helps the brain, too. So, mental exercises can slow brain's deterioration, scientists say.

## Put Yourself First

1. Have at least one passion. Balance your obligation with what you love to do most: gardening, painting, writing, woodworking, reading books by a favorite author or participating in your favorite sport.

2. Variety is the spice of work. Routine can rob you of spontaneity and fresh ideas.

3. Reach outside yourself Talk with people with or E-mail, join a volunteer group, a fundraiser, a walkathon, help out at your child's school or hospital, coach a sports team or join one.

4. Get a good night's sleep. Deal with worries or stress before bedtime.

5. Above all, remember: Be flexible, creative, and look for ways to make essential time for you.

## Young husbands:

15 little words to make your wives happy:

1. I love you.
2. You look great
3. Let's eat out.
4. Can I help?
5. It's my fault.

**Young wives:**  
15 Little words to make your husbands happy:

1. You're so sexy.
2. Dinner is ready.
3. I hate shopping.
4. You're a genius.
5. Here's the remote.

## Quotes

"Maybe kids would do better keeping on the straight and narrow path if they were getting directions from someone who had traveled the road."

"One may never visit your home but one is judged by his or her surroundings".

"To question a wise man is the beginning of wisdom".

"Troubles hurt the most when they prove self-inflicted.. Sophocles

A Fact: When people drop out of school, they have a lot of time on their hands, and they gravitate to the guys in the neighborhood because everyone else is in school. Rev, Ernie Mills, Director, Durham Rescue Mission

# One Voice, One Vote November 7th Get Out And Make A Difference



**On The Campaign Trail,**  
Sister Eva Clayton is shown entering the Willis Building, where she lead a Get Out The Vote Rally. Sister Clayton has done a lot for her community, with education and agriculture top on her list of priorities. The "M" Voice newspaper and Congresswoman Clayton encourages everyone to register to vote and exercise your right to vote, your voice makes the difference. (Pictured below) are strong supporters of Congresswoman Clayton also encouraging every one to Get Out And Vote!

Photo by Jim Rouse



**Send A Teacher To Washington,**  
Hot on the campaign trail Lee McNairy takes a moment to pose for our "M" Voice camera's, she is shown pictured with Jim Antinore (who is running for Superior Court Judge) and Rev Gray. All three are strong advocates for encouraging people to register to vote. Pictured below is Mayor Pro-Tem Mildred Atkinson Council along with future ballerina's and voters. Remember, even the children say Get out and Vote Mom and Dad!

Photo by Jim Rouse



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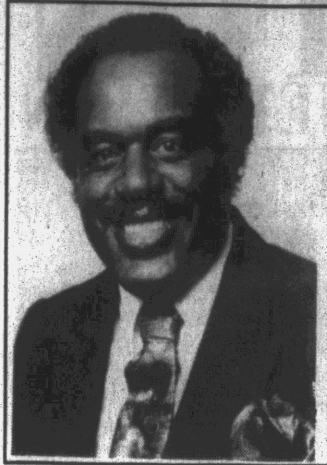
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# Spiritual Thoughts



Dr. George Hawkins

## Receiving Power of the Holy Spirit

Greetings in the name of Jesus Christ:

Acts 2:1 Now when the Day of Pentecost had fully come, they were all with one accord in one place. And suddenly there came a sound from heaven, as of a rushing mighty wind, and it filled the whole house where they were sitting. Then there appeared to them divided tongues, as of fire, and one sat upon each of them. And they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak with other tongues, as the Spirit gave them utterance.

Acts 2:15-1 For these are not drunk, as you suppose, since it is only the third hour of the day. But

this is what was spoken by the prophet Joel... There has been teaching that this

was a one-time event. However, after the Holy Spirit came on believers in the upper room, after the lame man was healed at the gate called Beautiful, after Ananias and Sapphira died, after the deacons were chosen, after Stephen was stoned and the persecution became more pronounced, there is another recording of believers being baptized with the Holy Spirit. Philip went to the Samaritans and revival broke out. Samaria received the word of God and then Peter and John came. Acts 8:14-17.

So that we will not think the Holy Spirit came on the Jews as a one-time event, and then on the Gentiles as a one-time event, we are given the account of the believers in Caesarea. Acts 10:44-46a-While Peter was still speaking these words, the Holy Spirit fell upon all those who heard the word. And those of the circumcision who believed were astonished, as many as came with Peter, because the gift of the Holy Spirit had been poured out on the Gentiles also. For they heard them speak with tongues and magnify God.

Acts 11:1 5-And as I began to speak, the Holy Spirit fell upon them, as upon us at the beginning. The first baptism in the Holy Spirit took place about 33 A.D. Toward the end of the book of Acts, about 54 A.D., Paul came to Ephesus. In Acts 19:2a Paul said to them, "Did you receive the Holy Spirit when you believed?" This was the first question Paul asked the believers when they arrived in Ephesus. He knew that every believer needed the power

of the Holy Spirit to be an effective witness. Their reply was typical of many Christians today.

Acts 19:2b,6 "We have not so much as heard whether there is a Holy Spirit." And when Paul had laid hands on them, the Holy Spirit came upon them, and they spoke with tongues and prophesied. This was the beginning of the greatest evangelistic outreach in all the history of the province of Asia! The result of believers having the power of the baptism of the Holy Spirit in their lives was the beginning of a great wave of miracle evangelism. Acts 19:10-And this continued for two years, so that all who dwelt in Asia heard the word of the Lord Jesus, both Jews and Greeks. Receiving Power of the Holy Spirit

Receiving of the Holy Spirit is for every believer. Jesus said we would receive power when the Holy Spirit came. Acts 1:8a "But you shall receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you...." Peter said that everyone would receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. Acts 2:38-Then Peter said to them, "Repent, and let every one of you be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins; and you shall receive the gift of the Holy Spirit." We should desire every good gift that the Father has for us Luke 11:1 1-13-If a son asks for bread from any father among you, will he give him a stone? Or if he asks for a fish, will he give him a serpent instead of a fish? Or if he asks for an egg, will he offer him a scorpion? If you then, being evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will your heavenly Father give the

Holy Spirit to those who ask Him! To receive the gift of the Holy Spirit we are to simply ask for it, and then receive it by faith.

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## Public Notice

### North Carolina Department of Transportation Participation By Disadvantaged Business Enterprises In The Department's Federal-Aid Program

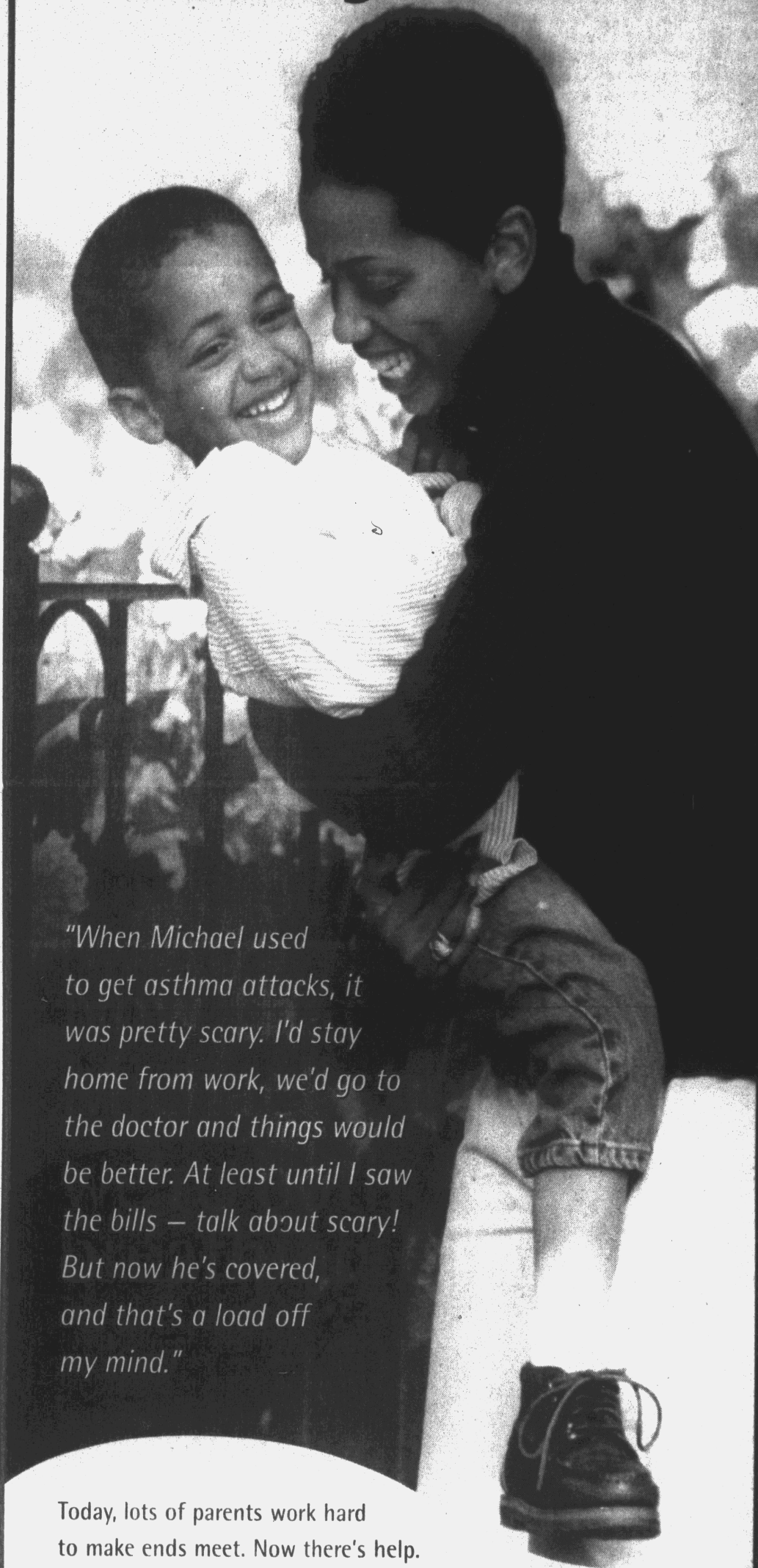
The North Carolina Department of Transportation has established an overall Departmental Goal for Disadvantaged Business Enterprises in conformance with 49 CFR 26 for Federal Fiscal Year 2001. The overall goal will be 14.09%.

The Department has set an Interim goal for the Public Transportation and Aviation Divisions at 14.09%.

Your Comments on these goals and the methodology used in establishing this goal is welcomed. All Comments should be submitted within 45 days (beginning August 11th through September 25th) to Mr. Delano R. Rackard, Director, Civil Rights and Business Development Section, North Carolina Department of Transportation, 1511 Mall Service Center, Raleigh, NC 27699-1511 and for further information at 1-800-522-0453 or (919)733-2300 between 8:00am and 5:00pm.



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Thousands of North Carolina kids are now eligible for low-cost or free health insurance. Your child could be one of them — even if you work. In fact, many families earning \$30,000 a year or more may now qualify. Your children can get a health card that covers doctor visits, prescriptions and more.

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Family of 2	Family of 3	Family of 4
\$22,500	\$28,300	\$34,100

This is income before payroll deductions. Add \$484 for each additional family member. Valid through March 2001.

A message from The Robert Wood Johnson Foundation



# MARCH ON WASHINGTON

## CIVIL RIGHTS LEADERS PASS TORCH TO THE NEXT GENERATION

The "Redeem the Dream" March was a resounding success according to organizers, who calculated the overall attendance at well over 100,000. But according to myriad observers, it wasn't the overall numbers, but the abundance of African-American men and women ages 30 and under who supported the March, which made it a success. The importance of involvement by young Blacks was never understated. The opening festivities included Boyz II Men's singing of the National and Negro National Anthems, after which Kelly Price, sang "Precious Lord", followed by comedian Chris Tucker introducing Mayor Anthony Williams. The influence and necessity of young Blacks was exemplified in the words and deeds of Rev. Lemell McMorris, National Director of the March. "At 27 years old, I am not much younger than Dr. King was when throngs of people gathered here...to force the nation to change," said McMorris in his exhilarating speech. McMorris, a graduate of Morehouse College, who received his Masters in Theology from the Princeton Theological Seminary, is adamant about the role of young people in the movement. "No movement for justice of any weight has ever been successful without the involvement of young adults to energize the protest," said McMorris; who added, "Society has labeled my generation, Generation X, as one with complete apathy, but I see from this crowd that we do care."

"Today we have a new generation of people, and I am so happy that they are willing to take the torch and run with it," said Civil Rights Activist Coretta Scott King. Rev. Al Sharpton in an interview explained that it was imperative in his view to have a representative from the Hip-Hop Community present at the march. "It occurred to me that in many ways the rap community has been a major protester against Racial Profiling and Police Brutality, by way of their music, and yet their voice has been heard in our protests," said Sharpton. Audience members like Kirk Taylor, a 25-year old Black male, concluded that it should have been mandatory for young Black males to be present. "We need to understand that as young Black men we are the primary targets of racial profiling and police brutality," said Taylor. "Just look at the victims," urged Mike Tucker, who then rilled off the names of Abner Louima, Amadou Diallo, Patrick Dorismond, Archie Elliott, III, all unarmed black males who were killed or beaten by police officers. Bobby Jones, 25, stated, "There should be more members of the rap community present; I think their involvement would bring more awareness to the minds of young Black men."

Despite the pride and elated moods that came out of the march there were some that were displeased that certain members of the community were not present. "I am appalled that the entire city council and Chief Ramsey are not present, because police brutality and racial profiling are serious issues in our city," said District of Columbia resident Gladys Jones. In truth Council member Sandy Allen (D-Ward-8) and Mayor Anthony Williams were the only D.C. elected Officials who made it a point to show their support for the march.





# Career Opportunities

**Temporary Leaf Collectors**  
 The City of Greenville is accepting applications for temporary Leaf Collectors. Must be available to work 8 hours per day and 40 hours per week

Pay is \$6.00 per hour

Apply by 5:00 p.m., Friday, September 29, 2000, to the Human Resources Department, City of Greenville, City Hall, 201 Martin Luther King Jr. Drive, Greenville, NC 27834

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Leave the site until the GUC representative arrives.

Chances are you'll never experience a gas leak, but it's good to know what to do just in case. If you don't know what natural gas smells like, you are welcome to stop by our office and pick up a scratch and sniff brochure.

**EMERGENCY NUMBERS**  
**551-1567 • 752-5627**



Hello!

My name is LaDena Renwick, and I reside in Greenville, North Carolina. I am a 31 year-old lady who would like to share my testimony with you.

In August 1999, I was diagnosed with a skin disease called Pustular Psoriasis. It began as a rash on the back of my neck that literally spread and covered my entire body. I was broken out in sores from head to toe. My body was so inflamed with these sores and lesions that it took three physicians to study my case.

Eventually, I was rushed to Chapel Hill, NC to see another physician. My physical predicament at that time was running a fever of 102.0 F, severe sharp joint pains (very similar to that of arthritis) throughout my entire body inside and out. Due to the irritated skin, I was unable to bathe for two months. I was

unable to wear clothing, and my walking was like a baby taking its first steps. It was very time consuming for me to even walk to the bathroom, for the pain was so severe and my skin would literally peel off my body.

The only time I put anything on my body was when I underwent a "bodywrap" treatment. A home health nurse would visit me three times a day to administer this treatment, which consisted of:

- Applying a cream called Triamcinolone (which is a steroid cream) all over my body
- Applying thermal underwear that was submersed in hot water then placed on my body
- Having me sit up wrapped in a

blanket for two hours.

This process had to be done three times a day. The pain was so severe! My body was very hideous in appearance. I was unable to sleep at nights. My sister moved in with me to extend care for me. I would just lay in the bed and cry so profusely from the pain! It was the most difficult thing that I ever had to endure. Oh, God how severe the pain was that I suffered! I told my sister and God that I didn't want to live because the pain was just so bad that I couldn't see myself going on. My other treatment was taking a pill called Methotrexate (a chemotherapy pill). This medication made me very sick, and I suffered the side effect of losing my hair from it.

One day when I was sitting up during my treatment, I called out to God to have mercy on me.

I just started to confess my healing, and I would say, "God, I thank you for healing my body." I said this over and over. Each time that I did my treatment, I thanked God for healing my body. Eventually, the sores started to leave my body.

"Glory Be To God." My sister noticed it first. God has given me brand new skin from the top of my head to the bottom of my feet. I have new skin all over! You see, there is indeed life and death in the tongue. God healed my entire body.

I had gotten over the psoriasis in November. I returned to work on November 15, 1999. After four days of being back at work, I pulled a muscle in my left groin area, trying to help my co-worker



with her patient that was fainting. I went to the doctor and she took me out of work. I said, "Lord, why am I out of work again?" I had been out of work since August 1999 and returned in November 1999 for only four days. I really needed to work.

Well, as I thought to myself, "What else can happen to me," more sad news followed. On November 22, 1999, I was diagnosed with breast cancer at age 30. I couldn't believe it! I didn't understand how this happened to me. It was more common to hear of older women having breast cancer. I cried the day that I found out I went for a walk and had a talk with God. He spoke to my heart and asked me, "Where is your faith? Don't you see where I have brought you from?" I finally gave this situation to God. I realized what I experienced with the psoriasis and how God healed my body, so there was no doubt

that he would do the same with this breast cancer.

It was because of my faith. God was preparing me for my next test. I was taking the Methotrexate (the chemotherapy pill) for the psoriasis and because I already had a form of chemo in my body, I feel that's why the cancer didn't spread. It was only in one spot and I only had to have a lumpectomy instead of a mastectomy. God was ordering my steps. Because I had previously taken chemo, I knew what it was like to lose my hair and I knew what it was like to be sick from chemo.

I had a lumpectomy on November 30, 1999 and all of the cancer was removed. I had to

take four chemotherapy treatments and am presently undergoing radiation. I am cancer free today... Glory to God! Since I started chemotherapy in January, I have been experiencing such severe headaches that the doctors thought I had an aneurysm on my brain or the cancer had resurfaced. Once again, I gave the situation to God. I'll have you know that on March 24, 2000,

I was given an MRI treatment and it was **NEGATIVE!** Thank you God!

So I say to you no matter what you're going through, don't give up. Give it to God. I am indeed one of God's miracles. God is a healer and a way maker. I encourage you to not just pray, but seek God! Have faith, put your trust in Him. God will work it out... just trust and believe in His word. The same God that healed me will heal you. I say be encouraged! I pray that my testi-

mony will help someone. God is the ultimate physician who heals all scars that life inflicts. I am enclosing photographs of how my body was and how it is now. God has done a miraculous thing in my life and I just want to share it. I give Him all the praise. I'm so honored that He chose me to go through. Keep your eye on God and He will see you through.

I now dedicate my life to doing God's work and telling people of His goodness. Thank you for reading my testimony, and may God bless you richly!

**Through God All Things are Possible!**

## It's time to celebrate



**Join us for the Grand Opening of the new ViQuest Center**  
**Saturday, September 9**  
**10 am - 6 pm**  
**ViQuest Center**  
**2610 Stantonsburg Road**

We've got a great reason to have a party. Our new wellness center is open and lots of people are already making the change to a healthier lifestyle. You can too. Come to our grand opening and see what we're all about. We'll have healthy snacks, face painting, a giant slide and a moonwalk. Enjoy some refreshments. Have some fun. And let us tell you about all our wonderful programs and new facilities - like our indoor track, pools, exercise equipment and aerobics studio.

Our Grand Opening celebration will include

### Kids Health Rally

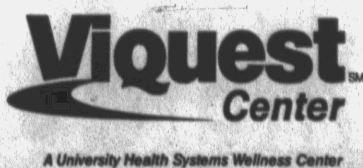
Bring the kids and learn how to keep them safe and well. We'll have lots of fun and prizes! We'll have free eye and dental screenings, and we'll make ID cards for the kids.

### Celebration of Foods Cook Off

Bring your taste buds along for this celebration of healthy eating. Activities will include free food demonstrations and samples, diabetes screenings, blood pressure screenings and lots of other information.

### For more information

- about Center membership, call 816-6501
- about the Kids Rally, call 816-7931
- about Celebration of Foods Cook Off, call Jamie Thorsby, 816-5459 or e-mail jamiethorsby@hotmail.com





# The Source Hip Hop Awards Turn Into Free For All

BY KAIA N. SHIVERS  
Sentinel Staff Writer

The exact accounts of the brawl situation at the major hip hop recognition ceremony of the year, The Source Awards 2000, still aren't clear, but there are some definite untruths in which white mainstream media reported that can be disbanded.

Initial reports of the Source Awards fiasco claimed that only one fight occurred at the Pasadena Civic Auditorium and there weren't any injuries. Yet according to eyewitnesses, there were a flurry of fights starting inside the auditorium, that spilled out into the streets, eventually pushing into the nearby Sheraton Hotel where gunshots were heard. Also, there were people who were injured in the mass melee.

Isaiah Williams, reporter for the black Florida newspaper, *The Jacksonville Advocate*, said, "There were quite a few people that walked out of there with swollen eyes and busted lips."

Ronda Penrice, another reporter claimed that the event's security wasn't quick to respond. "It was a poorly organized event," said Penrice, who also made a note that event planners should have considered hiring the Nation of Islam's security force, the Fruit of Islam.

A great amount of physical damage will translate to damage to the pockets of the promoters, especially those of *The Source's* founder and publisher David Mays. It has been

estimated that the event lost anywhere from \$3 million to \$7 million dollars. At the time of the incident, Williams said that several rappers from the New Orleans-based Cash Money Millionaires were extremely heated due to the fact that hundreds of thousands of dollars in equipment and jewelry were missing.

Miami-based rapper Trick Daddy and his lovely, trash-talking sidekick Trina were also irate because tour dates were rearranged for his appearance on the show that never happened. In addition to the financial losses of *The Source* and the entertainers, the audience members who paid anywhere from \$300 to \$2500 for a ticket, as well as countless dollars for clothes, rent-a-nice-car-so-I-can-look-like-I-got-some-money fees, and beauty salon costs lost out too.

Nevertheless, the 45 minutes that were taped, out of a planned 2-hour show, was still shown on UPN this past Tuesday, along with several remote performances and awards segments that completed the incomplete event.

This year's winners were: "Artist of the Year, Solo" Dr. Dre; "Artist of the Year, Group" Hot Boys; "Album of the Year," Dr. Dre, "Dr. Dre 2001"; "Single of the Year," "Whoa!," Black Rob; "New Artist of the Year," Eve; "New Artist of the Year, Group" Tha Eastsidaz; "Lyricist of the Year" Eminem; "Live Performer of the Year," Method Man & Redman; "Producer of the Year," Dr. Dre & Mel-

Man; "Music Video of the Year," "Guilty Conscience," Eminem featuring Dr. Dre; "R&B Artist of the Year," Sisqo; "Lifetime Achievement

lence of any kind and, over the years, has worked hard to dispel negative images associated with hip-hop."

The question that comes to mind



**WHAT HAPPENED?**—Many agree that the first incidents of violence started in the Pasadena Civic Center's auditorium. Unsure of what happened, two noticeable brawls took place. One involved a group of suspected Death Row record label supporters, veteran "gangster" rapper/producer Dr. Dre, and possibly Long Beach gang affiliated rap artist, Snoop Doggy Dogg. Eyewitnesses say a group of about 10 to 15 black men wearing Death Row t-shirts rushed from the backstage into the audience heading toward Dr. Dre to lay hands on him.

Award, "Dr. Dre and Ice Cube," "Pioneer Award," Grand Wizard Theodore; "The Source Sports Athlete of the Year," Allen Iverson; "Movie of the Year" "Next Friday."

In commenting on what The Source Entertainment calls a "scuffle" and "an altercation," Mays said, "It is regrettable that the actions of a few individuals disrupted an evening which seeks to celebrate the music and unity of the hip-hop community. The Source does not condone vio-

lence of any kind and, over the years, has worked hard to dispel negative images associated with hip-hop."

For instance, the night the Source Awards fiasco took place, the televi-

sion news showed footage of Compton rapper DJ Quik being carted off by Pasadena law enforcement looking battered, bruised and disheveled. This image gave the impression that he was with the main party that was responsible for the succession of fights that broke out. However, according to eyewitness reports, Quik did not even get into the event, or throw a punch. Evidently, he was running to help some of his entourage that were involved in a fist-fight, and police quickly grabbed the six foot something, slim rapper and placed him in a choke hold which police claim to be illegal.

Many people agree that the first incidents of violence actually started inside the Pasadena Civic Center's auditorium. Not sure of what happened, there were two noticeable brawls that took place. One involved a group of suspected Death Row record label supporters and/or employees, veteran "gangster" rapper/producer Dr. Dre, and possibly Long Beach gang affiliated rap artist, Snoop Doggy Dogg.

Eyewitnesses say a group of about 10 to 15 seemingly young African American men wearing Death Row t-shirts reportedly rushed the backstage or rushed from the backstage into the audience heading toward Dr. Dre to lay hands on him.

Other press agencies claim that Snoop Doggy Dogg was also a target of the wolf pack's anger, but that hasn't been confirmed. Reports of physical damage to either rapper wasn't known at press time.

But, one press member who was lounging in the green room backstage claims to have seen the group of African American men that attacked Dr. Dre before Dr. Dre accepted his "Lifetime Achievement" award. *Sentinel* sources claim that they were dressed in regular clothes and seemed as if they were part of the talent. But shortly after greeting people, they went into the bathroom and changed into their Death Row paraphernalia.

"We saw a group of men running towards Dr. Dre and we didn't know what was going on. Everything happened so fast," said Williams.

Another main event broke out between the entourage of Vallejo, Calif., rapper E-40, and another Northern California rapper by the name of Minister. According to hip hop specialist Davey d's website, www.daveyd.com, E-40 was confronted by Minister and then provoked when the disgruntled rapper pushed the multi-millionaire, E-40. Sadly, Minister apparently got the beat down of a lifetime and is now planning to sue his arch-rival.

Other fights were also reported, but because of the mass confusion, the accuracy of who and why are still in question. Many have vocalized that the happenings at the Source Awards not only puts a damper on hip hop, but it also puts a mirror to its face and forces everyone to examine the state of hip hop and the direction that it will go.

As for *The Source*, many are also wondering if the so-called "Hip Hop Authority" will make it through this perfect storm.

## Reflections Expressions & Reviews



Suejette A. Jones

THE LEDONIA WRIGHT  
CULTURAL CENTER  
AT EAST CAROLINA  
UNIVERSITY  
(The Profile of a Legacy  
Continues)



Neil Lewis

In the fall of 1995, East Carolina University opened the Ledonia

Wright Cultural Center as a tribute to Ledonia Wright who founded and advised the first African-American student organization. The Cultural Center is located in the Bloxton House across from the Mendenhall Student Center at East Carolina University. The Center's mission is to increase awareness, understanding, and the appreciation of cultural history through the development and implementation of culture-specific programming.

Nell Lewis, Director of the Center, beams with enthusiasm as she states: "The academic year 2000-01 for the Ledonia Wright Cultural Center promises to be an exciting one! The events and special projects that the Staff has planned in collaboration with other departments and divisions on campus clearly demonstrate the intent to involve more of the

total campus community in the day-to-day life of the Center. Many classes on campus representing various programs and curricula will be intimately involved in planning and providing resources to help make this possible." Nell is asking everyone to make an effort to attend the activities and programs provided. Some of the programs offered are:

Minority Student Weekend

Round Table Discussions

Parents' Weekend - Open House

Pre-Kwanzaa Celebration

Multicultural Holiday Celebrations

MLK Jr. Commemorative Celebration

Student Leadership Retreat

Tutoring in Math and Science  
Peer Mentoring  
Art Shows  
Heritage Fest  
Fall Convocation

These programs, along with special projects and featured events, promote a culturally sensitive environment and provide a forum for healthy and informed cross-cultural exchanges between diverse populations on campus and in the community.

Since Nell has been director, she has initiated the following new projects:

Z. Smith Reynolds Grant  
(Race Will Not Divide Us)

Fourteen Student Computer Stations

Internet Diversity Experience

Cultural Center Video  
Permanent Art Exhibit Video  
Rotating Art Exhibitions  
"Communitivity" Experiences  
Evening at "Our House"  
Expanding Reading Room  
Resources  
Culturally-Specific Interior Design

For more information about dates for events and activities at the Center, call 252-328-1680 or stop by the office to pick up a fall/spring programming brochure.

The Divine Nine: History of African American Fraternities

and Sororities in America  
By: Lawrence C. Ross

Never before has information about African American fraternities and sororities been published for the general public, until now. A meticulously researched history. The Divine Nine tells the story of how these organizations has played a major role in shaping generations of black leaders.

America's black fraternities and sororities are a unique and vital part of 20th century African American history. Since the creation of the first fraternity in 1906 at Cornell University, they have provided young black achievers with opportunities to support each other, while serving their communities and the nation. From pioneering work in the suffragette movement to extraordinary strides during the Civil Rights era to life-changing inner city mentoring programs in the 1990's, members of these organizations share a proud and vital history of brotherhood, sisterhood, and service.

Today, America's nine black fraternities and sororities are two-and-one-half million members strong and among the most powerful and influential groups in African American society-with chapters at major universities and colleges across the country, including Stanford University, Howard University, and the University of Chicago. Many of America's most prominent business leaders, scientists, politicians, entertainers, and athletes took their first steps toward making a difference in the world in the fraternity or sorority. This extensive yet very accessible book celebrates the spirit of excellence

shared by these and other renowned African Americans in brief, inspiring profiles.

Fully illustrated with photographs, *The Divine Nine* chronicles an important yet previously neglected subject in African American history, making it the first book of its kind, and one to be treasured for generations to come.

Note: Mr. Lawrence Ross will lecture at the Ledonia Wright Center in October call for details.

Mr. Lawrence Ross will also appear at Mendenhall Center, room 244, East Carolina University on October 12 at 7:00 pm. He will discuss his book and will open for questions and/or comments. The public is invited to attend. There is no charge.

## Black Expo 2000

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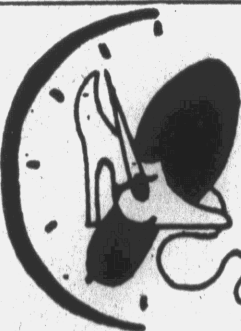
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November: 2, 9, 14, 16,

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### November 4th & 5th



# ENTERTAINMENT

## THE ORIGINAL KINGS OF COMEDY

The Interview with  
Kam Williams

**KW:** Was there competition among the four of you on the Kings of Comedy tour?

**Cedric:** "No, there's so much mutual admiration that we actually had a good time. Plus, DL and I had already done a nice theater tour together after being the hosts of *Comic View*. We love being on the road with each other."

**KW:** The 100 city tour made \$40 million. Why make a movie?

**DL:** "Sometimes people just don't like being out among folks they don't know."

**Steve:** "What you're really saying DL is..."

**Bernie:** (cuts him off) "White folks can't wait to see this movie. I talked to a bunch of White folks the other day."

**DL:** "How many?"

**Bernie:** "Seventy-five. I declare all of them asked me the same thing: 'When's this movie gonna come out?'"

**KW:** What's it like to do stand-up live in front of huge audiences of 10,000 to 25,000 people every week for two years?

**DL:** "Some people jump out of planes, some ride roller coasters, some go to scary movies. We tell jokes, but it's a similar type of euphoria we experience."

**Cedric:** "A lot of people will never experience sitting in the center of the stage of a joint filled to the rafters with 25,000 people stomping and kicking and laughing. And to share the stage with these three guys is a phenomenal feeling. And I couldn't even tell you how to prepare for that. For me, every night I did it was the same: scary. The first 2 or 3 minutes was just unbelievable, because you didn't know if they were going to accept you or not."

**KW:** What was Spike Lee's influence once you decided to film the show. Did you have to tone down or change your acts?

**Cedric:** "We didn't have to change material, for the most part, because it's a concert film based on the success of the tour. We edit ourselves, anyway, after we get on stage and feel what direction the crowd wants us to go. We took the energy of performing live and trusted the cameras to catch it. Spike had enough cameras there — he had us covered so we could go out and do our thing. They recorded the true essence. There were 16,000 people in the theater so we had to perform for the live crowd. We couldn't really think about playing to the cameras."

**KW:** Which of you is the leader of this group? Who's the headliner?

**Steve:** "We've never had, in the two years we've been together, even one incident of ego. Never had foul words or disputes. We sit in the dressing room together and everything. When we started this we understood one thing: that if we stuck together, we could win. But if we acted like rappers or some damn singers with tremendous egos, we'd lose this opportunity."

**KW:** So, no star trips, even though you were on the road so long?

**Steve:** "You do not read about us in tabloids because we have families we respect. You don't see the IRS coming after us, because we understand that we have to pay our taxes. We have the best financial people in the game with us. All of us are very smart businessmen. When we talk turkey backstage, it ain't about babes and all that b-s, we're talking about stocks and mutual funds. We keep our noses clean, we do our business and we go home."

**KW:** Did you expect the tour to

go so well?

**Steve:** "We really had no idea we'd sell this many tickets. We're very professional. And after we saw the ball rolling, we want to keep this thing nice and smooth. So we'd have exchanges like: 'What do you need to be successful tonight?' 'Well, Steve, if you could bring me on like this.' 'OK, cool, what you need?' 'A little more time on the back end 'cause I'm closing the show.' 'Alright, I'll cut some of this down.' 'Mac, tonight I'm gonna do a tight five and then I'm gonna bring you because the crowd looks a little tired.'"

**KW:** So, you really worked at supporting each other.

**Steve:** "That was collaboration among veterans who've been doing it a long time. We're smart enough to know not to screw this up. We make, to be honest with you, millions of dollars."

**Cedric:** "But we paid our dues. Humble beginnings... Smoke filled rooms... not getting paid. But we're at a whole other level now. There was a time when we could give a damn about life insurance. We have to consider more than ourselves. We have people to take care of."

**Steve:** "Like the brother said, we've got kids, parents and families, man. We've been fighting too hard to get here. So, we just stay unified. We don't have no leader. There's none of that, period."

**DL:** "This has been a long struggle — I'm just glad somebody went through it with me. Even three years ago, we couldn't get booked into mainstream comedy clubs. So, when we played Madison Square [Garden], that was a humbling experience. I remember whispering to Steve, 'We can't blow this.'"

**Cedric:** "With a tour of this magnitude, you can't afford to lose an audience of 20,000 people. So, if you're the one on stage at any time, you're the headliner. It's your job to keep the ball rolling once that crowd is up and laughing. We knew we had the right combination and we trusted each other. That's why this tour worked for us. We knew that no matter what position you were asked to hold, we each knew we could hold it. We switched up to do whatever was necessary to make that night's show work. That allowed for a lot of good times, we sat up, laughed, made money and had fun."

**KW:** So, what did Spike Lee

bring to the table?

**Cedric:** "Spike, as an advocate of the African-American community understood this tour. And he proved he understood comedy."

**DL:** "They forced him on us. We don't even like Spike. He was just a voyeur. Spike had the amazing talent to stay out of the way and not really influence anything. No, he brought a creative vision to the show. He didn't want it to look like straight stand-up"

**Cedric:** "Rudy Ray Moore was my choice for director of the movie."

**Bernie:** "Spike's last five projects failed. And he saw an opportunity. He called me 10 times before I returned his call. I'm telling you the God's honest truth."

**DL:** "He wanted to call it 'Crooklyn 2.'"

**Steve:** "Bernie said he wanted Mario Van Peebles to direct."

**Bernie:** (Getting worked up) "This was the easiest shoot for Spike. All he had to do was turn the light on. He didn't have no script. He didn't have to write nothing. We wrote our own script and did all the hard work. And he's taking all the credit. The more I think about it the angrier I get. That little cricket came up and got on a train. He got on a good ride. And if this thing does well, I'm gonna speak up about it. He didn't have to do nothing. All he had to do was point all night, saying, 'Get that, get that, get that.'"

**Cedric:** (Cuts him off) "Don't say it, Bernie."

**Bernie:** "I already did his film 'Get on the Bus.' He didn't give me nothing for that. I can't let Spike just go on pimping me like that. If things don't go right, I'll tell you, I'm kicking Spike's ass."

**Cedric:** "Let it go, man."

**Bernie:** "You can quote me on that."

**Steve:** "I'm starting to feel like Bernie towards Spike, now. I haven't seen the movie yet. I don't even know how it looks. But I know he went into the editing room with his little short ass. And Spike made an ignorant decision to leave my improv with the guy with the jacket in but cut my Elian Gonzalez bit out. That Cuban bit was classic, but he took that out."

**KW:** What projects do you have coming up?

**Bernie:** "I have a heavyweight fight with Spike Lee. Just watch. You've been briefed."



Bad Boys of Summer: (l to r) Bernie Mac, Cedric The Entertainer, D.L. Hughley, and Steve Harvey live up to the name in 'The Original Kings of Comedy,' a Spike Lee-directed film of their two-year concert tour.

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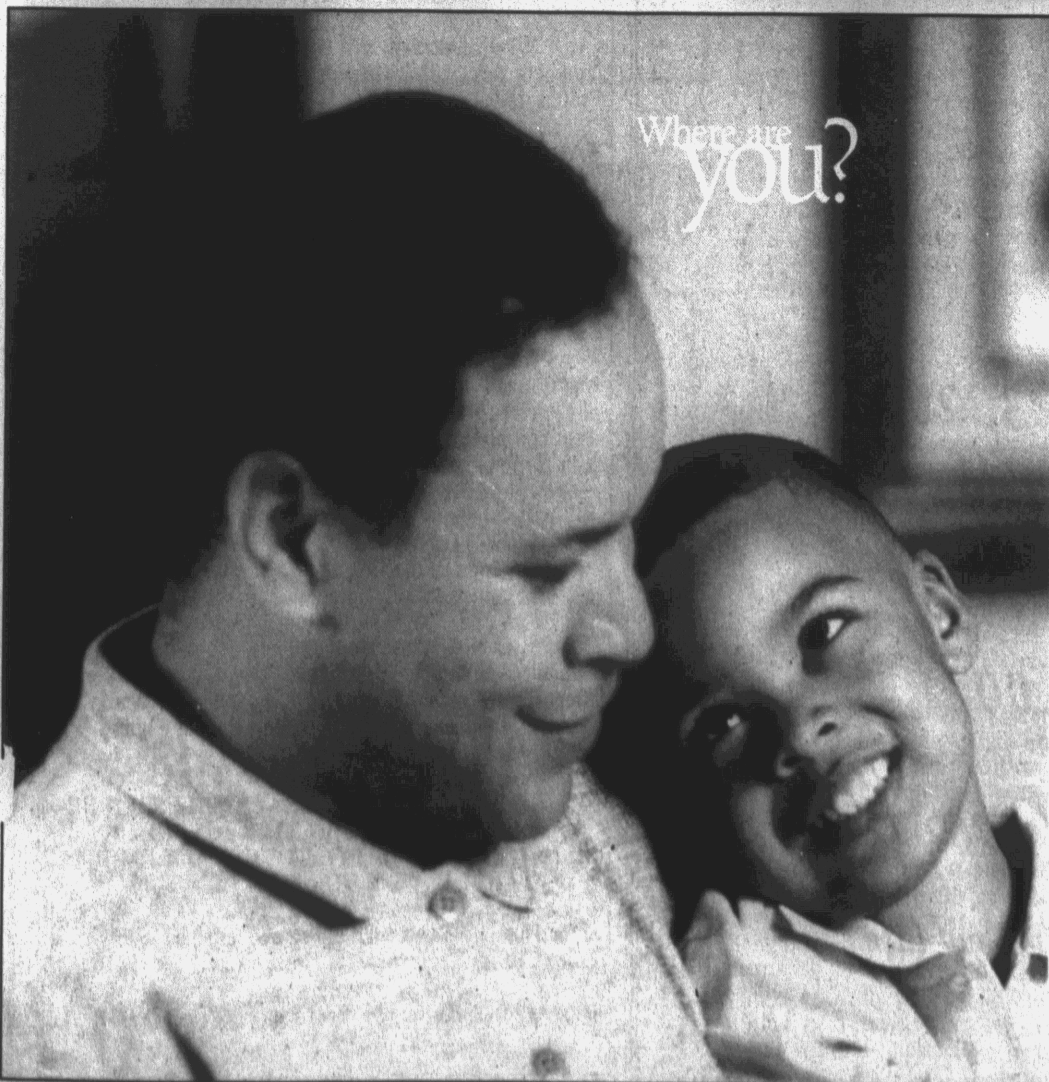
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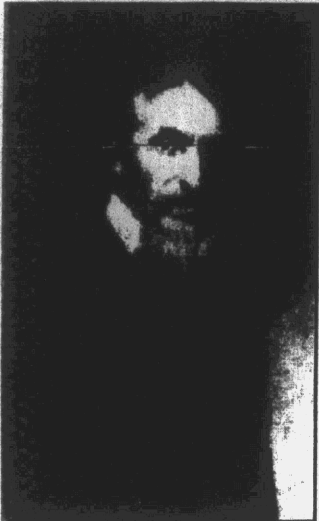


# Who Can Pass the John Brown Test?

Dr. LEROY VAUGHN  
Sentinel Contributing Writer

Dr. Leonard Jeffries recommends that before you call a white person a "true friend," that person should pass the "John Brown Test." Since history records numerous John Browns, the question is, exactly which John Brown does Dr. Jeffries consider a good role model for white friendship? Rhode Island College changed its name to Brown University in 1804 to honor one person named John Brown. However, this John Brown made his fortune exchanging rum for slaves, so he couldn't possibly be the white friend role model.

John Robert Brown (1909-1993) was chief justice for the Fifth Circuit Court of Appeals and played a pivotal role in championing and enforcing civil rights legislation in the South. He is most noted for ordering in 1962 that African American James Meredith be enrolled in the all-white University of Mississippi. Most black people would be happy to have a white friend like John Robert Brown, but



The "Real" JOHN BROWN

Leonard Jeffries says, "real" John Brown died at Harper's Ferry, West Virginia in 1859.

The "real" John Brown had an entire book written about him in 1909 by W.E. Burghardt Dubois which was most recently reprinted in 1996 by International Publishers. One of the greatest women in African American history, Harriet Tubman, regarded this John Brown and not President Abraham Lincoln, as the true emancipator of her people. The real John Brown was born in Torrington, Connecticut on May 9, 1800 about four months before the attempted insurrection of slaves under Gabriel in Virginia in September of the same year.

He was raised in Hudson, Ohio where his family migrated in 1805. By the age of 16, he had already joined the church and soon became such an experienced bible student that "when any person was reading he would correct the least mistake." His love for religion was exceeded only by his love for family where he fathered 20 well-disciplined, hard-working children. After seven of his children died before adulthood, he concluded that in some way his own sin and shortcoming were bringing upon him "the vengeful punishment of God." He felt his greatest sin was not doing enough "to increase the amount of human happiness."

In 1839, a turning point occurred in Brown's life when he was visited by a black preacher named Fayette. Fayette described slavery as "the foulest and filthiest blot on 19th century civilization. He added: 'As a school of brutality and human suffering, of female prostitution and male debauchery; as a mockery of marriage and defilement of family life; as a darkening of reason, and spiritual death, slavery has no parallel.'" John Brown fell to his knees and "Implored God's blessing on his purpose to make active war on slavery, and he bound his family in solemn and secret compact to labor for emancipation."

John Brown was convinced that the first step toward emancipation was education. He noted that all pro-slavery states were vehemently opposed to educating slaves and made this a capital offense. John was also aware that slaveholders actively pursued African American schools and churches and burned them to the ground after Nat Turner's slave revolt on Aug. 21, 1831.

Brown felt that once the master-slave relationship was broken, black people deserved their own state and educated blacks would be needed for self-government. He actively campaigned for the establishment of African American schools and even tried to establish a school himself in Hudson, Ohio. When Oberlin College opened its doors to "Negroes" in 1839 and appointed his father as a trustee, John Brown was

overjoyed.

On Aug. 1, 1846, Gerrit Smith, a wealthy New York abolition leader, offered free blacks 100,000 acres of his land in North Elba, New York for farms. Because of the bleak climate and harsh soil, black farmers found it very difficult to succeed until John Brown volunteered to help. He went to Gerrit Smith at Petersboro, New York in April 1848 and said: "I am something of a pioneer... I will take one of your farms myself, clean it up and plant it, and show my colored neighbors how such work should be done. I will

look after them in all needful ways and be a kind of father to them."

In 1854, the government announced that Kansas would become a slave-free state open for settlement. Consequently, five of Brown's sons moved to Kansas in October 1854 but were appalled at what they discovered. Large pro-slavery gangs were traveling throughout Kansas killing anti-slavery farmers and burning their properties.

When John Brown's sons informed him what was happening, he loaded a wagon full of weapons

and headed for Kansas. In May 1856, shortly after John Brown's arrival in Kansas, two thousand pro-slavery Missourians surrounded Lawrence, Kansas, the capital city, and brutally killed many of the anti-slavery settlers and sacked and burned half the town. On the same day, Senator Brooks killed Senator Charles Sumner by a crushing blow to the head in the U.S. Senate Chamber for telling the truth about Kansas. John Brown was angry and "indignant that there had been no resistance; that Lawrence was not defended; and denounced the men

as trembling cowards, or worse."

In retaliation, Brown and his sons entered Missouri at night and dragged five of the pro-slavery ring-leaders out of their cabins and hacked them to death with swords. This blow, called the Pottawatomie murders, is said to have freed Kansas by plunging it into civil war, and compelling men to fight for freedom which they had vainly hoped to gain by political diplomacy. Kansas' anti-slavery settlers repelled Missouri's pro-slavery settlers' last invasion on Sept. 15, 1856, and Kansas was finally declared a slave-free state. John Brown was now free to return to the East to resume his plan to free Southern

slaves by force.

Between 1857 and 1859, John Brown visited the homes of Frederick Douglass, Harriet Tubman, Henry Highland Garnet, Martin Delaney and many other leading African American abolitionists to gain their support for his plan to free all Southern slaves by force. All of the abolitionists were extremely impressed by John Brown's intense desire to end slavery. Although they believed in John Brown, most did not believe his plan was humanly possible. Nevertheless, only sickness prevented Harriet Tubman from joining John Brown on his Southern

invasion after she had actively recruited soldiers for his cause.

When told that he might die executing his plan, Brown exclaimed: "Did not my Master Jesus Christ come down from heaven and sacrifice Himself upon the altar for the salvation of the race, and should I, a worm, not worthy to crawl under his feet, refuse to sacrifice myself?"

On Oct. 16, 1859, John Brown with an armed band of 16 whites (including two of his sons) and five blacks attacked the federal armory at Harper's Ferry, W. Va. He had hoped that by capturing the armory arsenal, escaped slaves would join his rebellion, forming an "army of emancipation" with which to liberate their fellow slaves. Unfortunately, he was surrounded by U.S. Marines and overpowered.

He was tried and convicted of slave insurrection and hanged on Dec. 2, 1859. Many believe that Brown's attack helped immortalize him and hasten the Civil War, which did bring emancipation.

If Leonard Jeffries could find a single friend black or white who even come close to passing the "John Brown Test," he should consider himself truly blessed. The truth is, only one person in this country's history, either black or white, has ever passed the "John Brown Test," and he was the "Real" John Brown.



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# The First Annual Bishop's Cup



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The Minority Voice



**Guess Who? From The "M" Voice Archives**

If you can name the three gentlemen pictured, you can win a free CD compliments of Joy 1340 AM. Will even give a hint (\*Gatlin\*). Now all you have to do is call (252) 757-0365 with the correct names and win a free CD. Good Luck!

Photo by Jim Rouse

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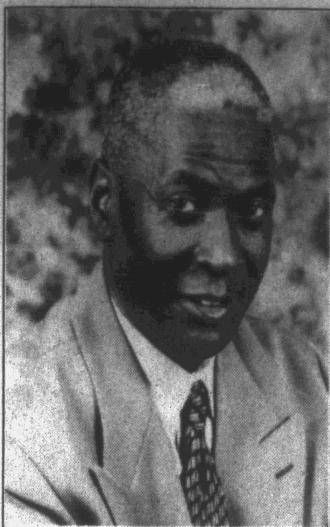
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**YOU ARE INVITED, to join us in RE-ENTERING OUR SANCTUARY for WORSHIP for the first time since the Flood of the Century, on Sunday Sept. 10, 2000, at 10:45 am, with a Congregational Procession from the outside of the Sanctuary. This is our early scheduled Quarterly Meeting and Homecoming as usual due to The Annual Conference in October. Dinner will be served after the Morning Worship. Dr. Matthew Ward and Haddock United American Free Will Baptist Church will be our 3:00 pm Guest Church Family.**

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### Not Without SCARS

by: Mark C. Olds

In August 1989, Mark Olds entered a Fayetteville, NC, thrift store to purchase some clothes.

Olds, who had just been released from prison after serving 10 years for armed bank robbery, remembers hearing the devil telling him

he was above wearing second-hand clothes and had the ability to get money to purchase the finest duds. However, he decided to stay in the store and look for suitable outfits.

"It was so intense that I was literally crying as I searched through those used clothes," Olds said.

He ended up purchasing three outfits that day. One of those outfits, a beige V-necked sweater with yellow trimming and a pair of brown pants, still hangs in the closet of his University Heights home.

"Every now and then I take it out of the closet," Olds said. "Not to wear it, but to look at it and remind myself of how far I've come."

"Not without Scars: The Inspiring Life Journey of Mark C. Olds" tells an intense and miraculous story in a way that makes it impossible for the reader to put it down... Mark Olds opens

his life to us and lets us see him in all of his rebellion... Thank you Mark for making your life's story available to us. It can only encourage all of us to never give up on anyone. If change can occur in the life of one so completely rebellious and out of control, surely it can happen for all of God's people."

-Pastor Harold A. Carter, Sr., New Shiloh Baptist Church, Baltimore, MD

"A very strong book about an era where so many black men got buried under troubles, but in this instance where an heroic young man burrowed out. This book can serve as an inspiration to young and old, teaching them that redemption is always possible, that it is never too late to resolve to turn your life around and be constructive."

-Ernest Holsendolph, business columnist for The Atlanta Journal Constitution and monthly columnist for Emerge Magazine.

## The Monk Family Reunion

The 21 st annual Monk Family Reunion was held September 2-4, 2000. This reunion, as in the past, was attended by relatives from all over the east coast and as far away as Kansas City, MI. The Monk Family Reunion was founded twenty one years ago by Gaston Monk of Bell Arthur and Carlene Monk Wilson of Hamden, CT. Sadly to say, Carlene passed from this life on April 27, 1999. Carlene possessed a strong love for her family, both immediate and extended. Recognizing such, her immediate family has a desire that such a legacy of love lives on. To this cause, they established a memorial fund to be used yearly to offer funds to the youth within this family. At the 21 st reunion youths were asked to put their thoughts in writing about what the family reunion means to them. Youths were divided into two groups and papers were judged relative to each. The top three in each group were awarded US Savings Bonds in the amounts of \$50.00, \$75.00, and \$100.00. Receiving honorable mention were: Cleveland Burtney, Jalia Montgomery, Shakir Stanley, Micah Hemby, Kelvin Jones, Byron Williams, Latia Montgomery, Alfonso Stevenson, Ashlee Stokes

1st Place Award  
Age 13-18  
\$100.00

### What Family Reunion Means To Me

First and foremost I would like to thank God for allowing me to be able to come and participate in this family reunion. The Lord blessed me enough to be born unto this family. so the least I can do is write an essay telling what a family reunion means to me.

I come from Dudley, NC and my great grandfather was Eartha Lee which is Gaston's cousin (1st). Before they started having the Monk Family Reunion up here in Greenville, it used to be held in Mount Olive at my great-great grandfather Eartha Lee's house. To this day I still remember hearing my late Aunt Alarce, my great grandma Renes and my grandma Edna talk about the good times they had at these family reunions and how family is everything. You can always count on family and God to have your back no matter what you've done. Someone is always praying for you no matter what.

So I'm writing you this essay to tell you what this family reunion means to me. This family has shown me so much and have taught me so much. Not only has this family taught me about what family, really is but what family means. family is your backbone and moral support. Family is who you turn to when your friends have turned their back on you. And no matter what has happened with your family they might not always act like you want them to, but they're going to always love you. Knowing

It also brings sadness because every year it seems like one person does not make it. Although people have gotten sick and died, we the Monks, have always stuck by each other through our trials and tribulations. That is what makes me proud to be a part of this family. This is a time to come together and celebrate this family's accomplishments and to appreciate each and every body's presence here. The love we share and show can not beat anything in this world. if more people showed their love to one another, this world would be a much better place. The family reunion lets the old see the new and let the new learn from the old.

The history of this family is remarkable and through generation after generation it keeps getting better. We should continue to love and care for each other. Like Cousin. Pam was saying in church today, the memories are unforgettable and we will cherish them and pass them to our children 5 children when we get older like she did, The family reunion is one way to express our feelings. I have only one more thing to say and that is... I love this family.

Marquita Graves  
Greenville, NC  
Age 16

3rd Place Award  
13-18 Age Group  
\$50.00

### What The Monk Family Reunion Means To Me

The monk Family reunion mean

a lot to me because I have learned many things for example I have learned that family comes first when one person is down just like a set of falling dominos. The family reunion means so much to me because I learn how much our family means to me, and how our family is successful in living for Christ. The Monk Family Reunion shows me that I can have a family that has morals, smarts, and knowledge.

I will always appreciate the love and kindness that my family and friends have shown to people who are not even a part of the family. I am proud to participate in such a social and spiritual opportunity I am gladly appreciative that I have this time to reunite with family and friends.

When I am down the reunion gives me enjoyment and happiness. It makes me want to love God more. The family reunion is a special time to me. I hope that God continues to bless everyone to participate in this joyous event.

Marcus Hemby  
Baltimore, MD  
Age 14

1 st place Award  
6-12 Age Group  
\$100.00

### What A Family Reunion Means To Me

A family reunion means to me, a family fellowship. I think that it is wonderful to be able to get together with your family and fellowship about the good and bad, the happy and sad. If you have a burden on your back you can be bale to tell your family all about it and they will help you through it and you will feel better. plus, you have fun staying in a hotel / motel. Actually, I really think that a family reunion is a treasure. Why? Because of all the above.

Kristy Hemby  
Baltimore MD  
Age 12

2nd Place Award  
6-12 Age Group  
\$75.00

### What Family Reunion Means To Me

To me a family reunion means a loving family comes together to celebrate love and history. Also, to me a family reunion is where a family can be free and able to share. To me a reunion is like clouds joining in. That is what family reunion is to me.

Brandon Bain  
Halethorpe, MD  
Age 11

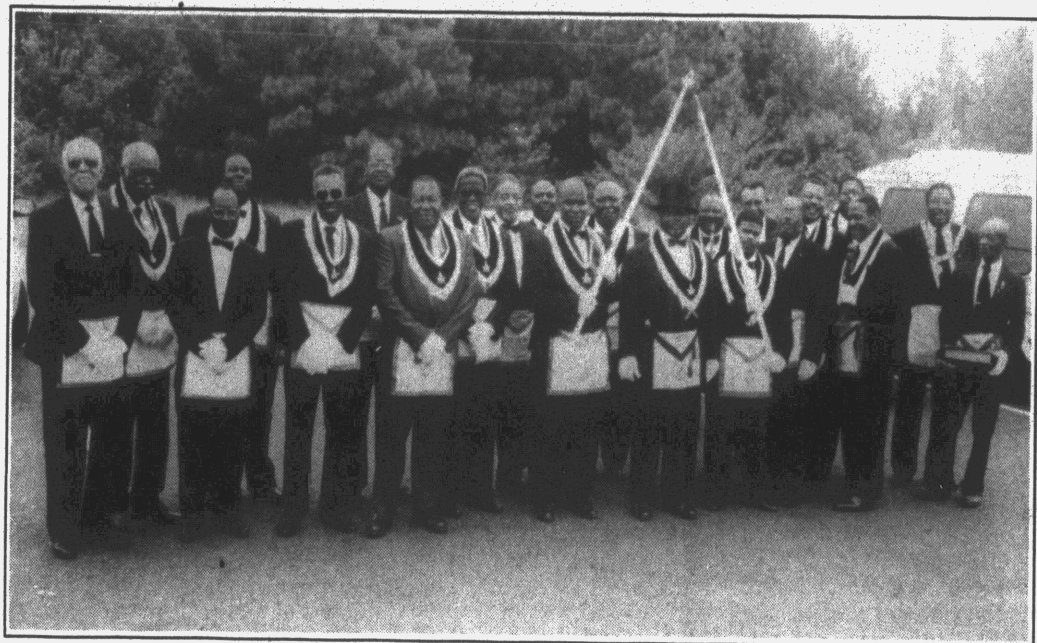
3rd place Award  
6 - 12 Age Group  
\$50.00

### What The Family Reunion Means To Me

The family reunion means having a good time with my family. It also means telling jokes to my uncle, laughing and playing at the cookout with my cousins. It means getting dirty and my mother saying girl where have you been. It is about eating so much junk food until I burst and waking up and doing it again. It mostly means its about me loving my family and them loving me.

Ashia Dorsey  
Baltimore, MD  
Age 7

## The "M" Voice Is Your Voice



### Honoring The Legacy,

Shown above are the members of Mt. Hermon Lodge #35, saluting a passing member, Mr. Filmore Bell. Mr. Bell was a successful businessman and long time resident of Greenville, he was a strong leader in the community as well as a beloved husband and father. He will be greatly missed.

Photo by Jim Rouse



### Elton "John" Harper Floor Manager

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Congratulations are in order for Lillie M. Robbins on her election as the 2000-2001 Secretary-Treasurer of the Georgia District of Kiwanis International, Inc. She was elected on August 12, 2000, at their 81st annual convention in Savannah, Georgia. Lillie is the first female, and the first African-American ever elected to this office in the history of the Georgia District, which is comprised of approximately 10,000 members in 200 clubs throughout the State. Her election positions her to assume the office of Governor-elect in 2001-2002, then Governor (the highest office) in 2002-2003, which will also represent "firsts" in the organization's history. Kiwanis is a worldwide community service organization with clubs throughout the U.S. and in 78 foreign countries.

Lillie is a native of Pitt County, having graduated Valedictorian of the Senior Class at NV. H. Robinson High School in Winterville, NC. She is an honor graduate of North Carolina's Agricultural and Technical State University, Greensboro NC and Atlanta University, Atlanta, Georgia, where she now resides.

Lillie joined the Metro Atlanta Kiwanis Club in 1989, later serving as its first female president. She was subsequently elected as the first African-American female Lt. Governor (Division 16) in the Georgia District, followed by other "firsts" as Georgia District Committee Chairperson for: Youth Services; International Understanding; Song Leader; Tomorrow's Leaders and Bring A Book-Read To Kids. She is excitedly looking forward to the next three years as she works with this outstanding service organization.

someone is always going to be there to love you, or just someone to talk to, is a lot of assurance that we young people need more oft these days.

Family in general to me means everything. Without family and God I truly don't know where I would be. A family that prays together stays together and our family is living proof that God is real.

Debony Jones  
Dudley, NC  
Age 14, 9th grade

2nd Place Award  
13-18 Age Group  
\$75.00

### Family Reunion

The first of September is one of the most remarkable times of the year to me. The family reunion brings back memories and happiness when I think of the past years I have come.

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# Community Christian Church Celebrates 18th Anniversary

