

Have A Happy And
Safe Thanksgiving

November is Diabetes
Awareness Month

Have A Happy And
Safe Thanksgiving

The Minority Voice

Serving Eastern North Carolina Since 1981

November 10 - November 24, 2000

What You See Is What You Get, What You Read Is What You Know And Save.

Jesse Jackson And Al Sharpton Feud Over Direction Of Nationwide Boycott Of Burger King

BY: LARRY REEVES

Is it really true that Jesse Jackson and Al Sharpton, two of the nation's most powerful civil rights leaders, are at war over the direction of a potential nationwide boycott of Burger King, and possibly the leadership of the protest movement.

According to a story that was recently published in the Village Voice, a leading alternative newspaper based in New York, and substantiated by some Sharpton aides, a firestorm erupted when Jackson allegedly tried to undermine the Harlem-based activist's role in a franchise dispute. According to the aides, the incident may have severely damaged their once formidable alliance.

Late Monday, the Voice reported, Sharpton dropped a bomb that may further shatter relations with the top Black Democratic vote pusher: Green Party presidential candidate Ralph Nadar did speak at Sharpton's House of Justice in Harlem, just one day before the presidential elections. Democrats like Jackson feared that Nadar, given the chance to appeal directly to African Americans, could have siphoned votes from Al Gore, thus tilting victory to George W. Bush. Of course that didn't happen through speculators viewed it as an affront to Jackson.

Contacted in Chicago, an aide said Jackson was traveling and could not be reached for comment. There is a perception among some activists in New York, Chicago, and elsewhere that Jackson's influence on the civil rights movement is waning, although aides close to Jackson shrug-off the notion.

A fretful letter from Burger King CEO Colin A Storm on

Oct.05 infuriated Sharpton, exacerbating simmering tensions between Jackson and Sharpton. It was not Storm's declaration that he was "extremely surprised and disappointed" by Sharpton's decision to call for boycott of the fast-food giant that kicked off the activist, but reference to a secret meeting between the executive and Sharpton mentor Jackson, which Sharpton publicly has argued "can only be interpreted as an attempt to divide the Black community."

What Storm and most observers don't know is that for several months Jackson and Sharpton has been making on the national scene to burnish his burgeoning political profile. Tempers flared after Jackson's sudden intervention in the Burger King fiasco.

"It is interesting that the chairman of the board would write me a letter telling me of a meeting with Jackson that no one had told me about," Sharpton told the Tri-State Defender.

"Why would Jackson have such a meeting and not call me?" Sharpton would neither confirm nor deny that he has expressed his sentiments about tensions with Jackson to aides say Sharpton felt that Jackson "deliberately avoided" associating himself with the Aug. 26 "Redeem the Dream" rally in Washington, DC, which Sharpton and members of the family of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. had organized to protest racial profiling.

The night before the rally, Jackson and President Clinton left for a scheduled trip to Africa. "He did not even send a representative," says one side. "Everyone, from Khalid Muhammad's New Black Panther Party to Louis Farrakhan's Nations of Islam, had a stand-in."

The aide speculates that Jackson resents the sudden shift by "corporate types" to Sharpton, who executives now turn to for help to settle minority boycotts against their companies. Sharpton, the aide adds, has shown these corporate moguls he has nothing to lose. In the aftermath of the Redeem the Dream rally, which kept Sharpton in the national spotlight, Jackson, another Sharpton ally points out, cannot afford to allow the activist to meddle in big boycotts like to one shaping up against Burger King.

"He can't allow the CEOs of White corporations to run around saying that Al Sharpton is the guy to go to in order to get Black businessmen off your backs," the aide says. Sharpton said he launched the boycott to protest Burger King's dispute with Detroit franchise owner La-Van Hawkins and the Miami-based company's treatment of Blacks. He initially threatened a nationwide boycott, but later relented and said it would begin on a city-by-city basis.

Sharpton said he chose New York City as a starting point because, although it has a large Black population, there is only one Black franchise owner in the city. Nationwide, Burger King said it has 75 Black franchisees who won 1,173 restaurants and employ over 58,000 people. The chain has about 11,150 restaurants, and employs some 300,000 workers. Sharpton met with Storm in September to complain about the lack of an African American role in advertising contracts and investment banking for burger King's planned initial public offering.



Rally Rally Rally....
pictured above are members of the Democratic Party while at a Democratic Rally at Rose High School. Congratulations to all the Democrats who retain their seats, we look forward to prosperous 4 years and wish you all much success!



Dr. Sonja Haywood

The Agape Community Health Center is pleased to announce its association with Sonja Haywood, MD who has joined the community based primary care practice as the Medical Director.



Reflections Of Moments To Remember

For the very astute and articulate former English, Drama, Linguistics teacher of fifteen years (from 1944-1959), and principal for the decade 1959- 1968/69 of the H.B. Sugg school; where he witnessed the graduation of some one thousand students from high school, Mr. Francis Howard Mebane, II, Saturday, November 11, 2000 was a most joyful day as he reflected on some precious and memorable experiences that catapulted him to heights that most educators never get to enjoy.

Mr. Mebane was honored by many persons whom he had taught and who had worked under his supervision. Educators came from near and far and included those who testified of how their lives and careers had been impacted by Professor Mebane's tutelage.

The luncheon was held at The Bachelor's Benedict Club in Greenville, North Carolina, and had all the ambience of a rendezvous with success. It was clearly a time of rejoicing as several of the guests boasted of how Mr. Mebane's unselfish and generous gifts of sharing had made their tenure at the workplace and their own exploits with youth so much the better.

Among the ones to gather and to spend a brief harmonious nostalgic moment to drink in the essence of beauty and bonding were: Mr. Mebane's wife of more than fifty years, Mrs.

Beulah Louise Whitfield Mebane; his daughter, Mrs. Gracie Mebane Vines, her husband Thomas, and their son, Justin. Former students of Mr. Mebane who attended were: Charles Maye of Burlington, North Carolina, Edith Gay Barnes, Barbara Gay Campbell, Wyvonia Barnes Dancy, Alonza Willoughby, Jr., and Laura Hopkins Willoughby of Farmville, North Carolina. Former faculty members, staff members and friends who shared in this occasion were: Mrs. Pauline Anderson, Mrs. Delores Brown, Ms. Myriam Carraway, Mr. Ed Carter, Mrs. Nora Cobb, Mrs. Bettie V. Dickens, Mrs. Doris Dixon, Ms. Janet Evans, Ms. Tierney Evans, Mrs. Charlotte H. Maye, Mr. and Mrs. Marcus Johnson (Marjorie Scott), Ms. Catherine Moss, Mrs. Mary Home Parker, and Mr. W.C. Vick.

A candlelight memorial was facilitated by Mr. W.C. Vick and Mrs. Laura Willoughby. The names and services of those individuals who had departed this life were commemorated in a quiet and solemn manner that restored the memory of the traditional qualities and values that have been such an integral part of historical African - American education.

The culmination of the event and its significance was summarized by Mrs. Barbara Campbell. Mrs. Campbell expounded upon the successes, careers, and ideals related to education and life that Mr. Mebane imparted to all who had the esteemed privilege to have been under his tutelage and administration.

Mr. Francis Howard Mebane, II ended his celebration with a sincere thank you to all who had come to bestow on him the ingratiating accolades with the simple declaration, "Let's Do It Again!"

Closest Race In 40 Years Result Still Uncertain

By Robert Farrell

William Daley, the chairman of the Al Gore campaign said early Wednesday the election would not be conceded to Republican George W. Bush because the election was "simply too close to call."

Daley told a huge cheering crowd in Nashville, Tenn., that the earlier TV networks' projections that Bush has won the 25 electoral votes of Florida--giving him enough to clinch the presidency--were "premature."

George W. Bush had projected as the winner of Tuesday's presidential election, and Al Gore called Bush to congratulate him. However, when the Democrats learned that the result of the pivotal state of Florida had narrowed to a few hundred votes, Gore made another call to Bush to say he was not yet ready to concede.

With 99.9 percent of the votes counted, Bush had 2,898,508 in Florida and Gore had 2,897,939--a margin of 569 votes and that margin narrowed to less than 300 as the count continued. With a margin as slim as that, Florida law requires a mandatory recount. In addition, an estimated 2,300 overseas absentee ballots could not be counted for 10 days.

So, as of Sentinel press time, the presidential election had not been decided.

If the victory of Gov. George W. Bush and Dick Cheney holds up, it will have a profound impact on the future of our

communities and the interests that contribute to their growth and development.

We can expect the general framework of Clinton-Gore administration policies and programs, based on knowledge and experience of us, to change.

There were changes in campaign style and technologies noted on South Los Angeles during this campaign: neither the Republican nor the Democratic Parties made a significant investment in high profile street level voter education and get-out-the-vote activities in our communities.

The usual visual signs, bumper stickers, local headquarters and street level activity were not really there. More was done through direct mail to high propensity voters, and phone banks that directed their calls to similar votes.

On the Democrat side, Rep. Maxine Waters devoted her considerable energies, resources and talents to generate the late establishment of a combined Gore-Lieberman and California Democratic Party campaign committee presence here.

She and her colleagues in the Congress, the Legislature, an local officials supported interdenominational clergy mobilizations, voter registration and education outreach with the collaboration of community performing artists. They did motorcades and facilitated get-out-the-vote efforts.

Unions affiliated with the County Federation of Labor, primarily the Service Employees

International Union and American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees, focused on advising and turning out their member based organizations to help with voters in general.

Among such coalitions were African American 2000 and the L.A. Metropolitan Alliance, with their labor-community church coalition work in several sections of the county, including South Los Angeles.

President Bill Clinton made historic visits to the community, at the rally at Baldwin Hills Plaza and in the chicken-to-go order he placed at Frank's Place Restaurant during a fund-raising foray in the city.

Media buys in black media were made by the national parties, the NAACP and others to address the importance of voting on election day.

Gov. Bush toured an area elementary school during a teacher training session, and his wife, Laura, visited the private Marcus Garvey Schools.

The Bush convention theme of inclusion was followed at our community level by visits from other Republican dignitaries--a campaign season first.

Colorado's Lt. Gov. Joe Rogers campaigned in the community twice, and Republican national committeeman Tim Morgan, Senate minority leader Jim Brulte, Secretary of State Bill Jones and party chair candidate Brooks Firestone have included stops through south Los Angeles on their itineraries.

Election 2000 Points to Need for Black Party

By RON DANIELS



W.E.B. DuBois correctly prophesied that the "color line" or the issue of race/racism would be the "problem of the 20th Century." Throughout the 20th Century, Africans in America

white supremacy in American society. One commentary I read on the Internet suggested that all the presidential candidates seem to be suffering from "Afro-phobia."

The reality is that Africans in America need a mass based, progressive, independent, black-led political party which would embrace the anti-corporate and anti-establishment politics being articulated by Nader, while simultaneously addressing the manifold issues arising from the color line in this society and the world. Indeed, what this presidential election reveals is that people of color and poor and working people of all ethnicities need a progressive alternative to the increasingly centrist, look alike establishment parties, the Democrats and the Republicans.

The National Rainbow Coalition, under the leadership of the Rev. Jesse L. Jackson, certainly had the potential for being a multi-racial, progressive third force or new political party of the oppressed in American politics. In one of the great failures of black political leadership in the 20th Century, however, the Rev. Jackson refused to organize NRC as a third force outside the Democratic Party and thereby squandered an opportunity to build on the incredible momentum generated by his electrifying campaigns in 1984 and 1988.

In the wake of the demise of NRC, a vibrant third party movement has emerged around the country, mostly spearheaded by white progressives eager to shatter the hold of the establishment parties over political life in the United States. In recent years, rank and file union members and some labor leaders have created a Labor Party based on the assumption that a progressive third party must be rooted in and represent the interests of working people. The New Party,

which has won a number of local elections across the country, is committed to opening up the electoral political process by winning the right for candidates to run on more than one ballot line in every state in the union. This process is called fusion. And, the Greens, an ecological, environmental and social justice oriented political party has achieved ballot status in several states and has gained enormous name recognition and credibility through its presidential ticket of Ralph Nader and Winona LaDuke.

While I am familiar with and support these progressive third party efforts, they all suffer from the same problem, they are overwhelmingly white in composition and the agendas and leadership of black people and people of color is not central to their creed or practice. As is reflected in the Nader campaign, the struggle against racism and white supremacy is not a consistent priority for any of the predominantly white third party formations. The Campaign for a New Tomorrow, a black and people of color led multi-racial independent political organization which grew out of my presidential campaign in 1992, was the only national third party initiative which focused on the centrality of the agendas and leadership of black people and people of color. Unfortunately, my all-absorbing work as executive director of the Center for Constitutional Rights made it impossible for me to devote the time required to make CNT the formidable force it was intended to be.

The failure of CNT to materialize into a full-blown black-led third party does not diminish the need for or feasibility of building such an endeavor. With this in mind, the New York Chapter of CNT joined with a number of progressive leaders and constituencies in this city to form the Unity Party—a black-led political party. Nothing more than the current presidential election season and the dearth of discussion about the color line in American society and the world persuades me of the urgent need for the Unity Party to succeed as a model which can be emulated by black people all across the country.

Accordingly, building a black-led party in the United States will be a major item on the agenda at the forthcoming State of the Black Work Conference in Atlanta in October of 2001. It's time!

Slave Labor Built Our National Monuments

By AKILAH MONIFA

We built this country.

That's a common refrain you hear from African Americans. In a general knowing way, African Americans are saying with that phrase that slave labor and underpaid black workers made this country possible. They not only picked the cotton, but also laid the railroads, worked in the factories and erected the buildings.

Recently discovered public records confirm the use of African American slave labor in the construction of the two most important structures in the country—the U.S. Capitol and the White House. Slave labor was also used in the making of two significant statues in Washington, D.C., one of which, the Statue of Freedom, was hoisted atop the dome of the Capitol in 1863.

Ed Hotaling, a Washington-based television producer, is the one who made the discovery. While he was doing research for a program on the buildings, Hotaling unearthed U.S. Treasury promissory notes to slave owners. These documents confirmed that slaves were used in the construction of the Capitol and the White House. The slave owners were promised \$5 a month for each of their slaves used in the construction.

In fact, Treasury Department pay slips show that more than two-thirds of the laborers who worked on the buildings (450 out of 650) were of African descent—400 slaves and 50 free men. Twelve slaves were used to cast the Statue of Freedom.

The revelations are not surprising to many African Americans and shouldn't be to people with a knowledge of history. Construction on these structures began in 1792, and slavery wasn't banned by law until 1865. In a strange political coupling, conservative legislator and ex-football star, Rep. J.C. Watts, R-Okla., and former civil-rights activist Rep. John Lewis D-Ga., have jointly

submitted a resolution to the House of Representatives to establish "a special task force to recommend an appropriate recognition for the slave laborers who worked on the construction."

Watts says he hopes the bill will result in a monument on the Capitol grounds honoring the slave labor used. "We have hundreds of thousands of Americans coming to the Capitol every year," Watts said. "I think it's good for the American people to see something that denotes the contribution that slaves made to this building."

"I think this is a very important revelation to know that African American slaves did help build the greatest and most visible symbol of our democracy: the Capitol," Lewis adds. "It's important for not just this generation, but for future generations to know that these men had a role in building the Capitol and the White House."

We have to find a way to recognize their contribution and find some fitting way to pay tribute to them." A similar resolution is being introduced in the Senate by Sens. Spencer Abraham, R-Mich., and Blanche Lincoln, D-Ark. The obvious irony here is that the Capitol and the White House, which stand for liberty, were mainly built by people who were excluded from such liberty.

Watts does not rule out reparations for the descendants of the slaves who worked on these specific projects. Any descendants would be difficult to trace, however, since the promissory notes list only the first name of the slave preceded by the word Negro, although the full names of the slave owners is given.

Many folks have a hard time with the notion of reparations for slavery. But what's there to argue with?



BETWEEN THE LINES

Lessons Learned in the 2000 Elections: Where do we go From Here?

Now that the 2000 Election has selected the first president of the next (true) millennium, and the black community's role in that, be it celebrated or marginalized, is up for critical review, is it time to also review how we, as a community, will play in the larger policy arena and ascertain our truest interests. Do we really understand, irrespective of who won or lost, where we go from this point in history, a truly vulnerable people with a relatively shallow agenda and an even more shallow resource capacity to affect our interests? How do we regain the sincere (beyond election time) respect of the Democrats, or even the attention of the Republicans? How do we separate our interests from our politics like most races and communities have done? Their interests are only tied coincidentally to their politics, not tied dependently on their politics. Irrespective of who wins, other communities never lose because their interests don't depend on who gets

elected. We hold our collective breath every four years because our interests very much depend on who gets elected. It's a lesson we (the black community) fail to learn election after election. Now the question is, what did we learn from this election, and where do we go from here? It's a question we've been struggling with for 33 years since Martin Luther King Jr. first posed the question in his last book, *Where Do We Go From Here: Chaos or Community?*

Written before his death in 1967 when the civil rights movement began to break apart, and published after his death in 1968, Dr. King also speaks from the grave about critical inter-race and intra-race issues that stymie our community on the brink of 2001. For the last eight years (since the 1992 riots), toward the end of the year, I've re-read this book and its analysis of what will be necessary to achieve the next level of social change in America. I continue to be amazed of its prevailing relevance to the current state of black affairs in America. Social change policy was just a baby at that time, but it was

the last time true public policy actually evolved from criticisms of the social politic. Social activism, it was called a combination of the traditional civil rights (non-violence) movement, the black power (youth) movement and the overall society's passive resistance to the elimination of overt racism.

As progressive as the next two generations of social change activists think they are, both have failed to address the integrity of King's question, where do we go from here. The truest answer to the question, if the Negro were to be sincere, would be, "we don't know where we're going from here." The African American is basically back in the back seat of America's social bus—waiting for a stop that may never come because we've become too "diplomatic" to pull the driver's coat when he (or she) ignores our stop. So-called black leaders don't talk truth to power anymore. They're afraid they might make 'em mad.

Blacks and whites have reversed their roles in social passivism over the past 30 years. Whites are aggressive in their views of social

politics. Thus, attacks on lifestyles, immigrants and affirmative action have been successful, if not in rolling back the policy agenda—certainly shifting the social attitudes to the right. Blacks, on the other hand, have offered (and continue to offer) a passive resistance to covert racism.

The result has been the reinforcement of the same cultural politic that creates large disparities in society; ones that King once warned would take us from community to chaos. The disparities in knowledge, income and technology are only getting larger, which make it only more difficult to affect social and electoral politics, much less a real public policy agenda—increasingly focused on "direct democracy" activities (ballot initiatives). Those with money set policy by funding initiatives and candidates that drive policy by funding initiatives, and candidates that drive policy initiatives. A lesson we haven't learned yet.

For blacks, the elections weren't about who won or lost. It was about how (and when) either party determined our relevance to their suc-

cess or the other's defeat. In many cases, our communities were courted last or not at all. Like waiting for a date that is always late, the black community can always be counted on to be at home waiting, and we'll always take whatever is left. If that is a sign of things to come, we're certainly headed in a state of chaos in our community. Partially caused by those of us who don't take kindly to being the "date of last resort," and still be expected to "give it up" in the end.

There is an increasing number in the black community that, at least, want to make the Democrats "work for it," versus just laying down when (and if) they call and lettin' 'em take us anyway they feel like taking us. One day, the Democrats will knock on our door a minute too late, and find us in bed with another party. But it won't happen with the "easy" leadership we have now, whose self-esteem is so low, they'll take a date with an ambushing, non-caring party no matter how late they call. One day, we'll find the courage to leave. Until we do, it's last dibs ... and

wait until next year. But maybe, we learned a lesson.

Many of us now know that regardless of what happened in last week's election, as we witnessed with the governor's election in California, our communal interests aren't secure with either party. Certainly, individual benefit will be greater with one party versus the other, but blacks in every major city in America will still have the same concerns, regardless of who is in office: failing education with no reform timetable, low-wage (or no wage) jobs in inner cities, constant health care crises and little government resources to turn to.

The one-sided play of political dependency is about played out. For me, the whole election cycle was about maximizing options. Where do we go from here? Whenever future "options" best secure our future communal interests. That's the next lesson for America's social politics: not being able to predict ... the politics of black America. The next lesson for black America is escaping from the predictability of the Negro's compromised politics.

Blacks No Antidote To Police Violence

By EARL OFARI HUTCHINSON, PhD



Anthony Dwaine Lee told a friend that he feared that he would be killed by the police because he's a tall black man. The promising and popular, young film and TV actor's worst horror became a deadly reality when he was gunned down by an LAPD officer at a Halloween costume party in Los Angeles. The officer claimed that he fired on Lee through the window of the home when Lee pointed a gun at him. The gun was fake. Party goes instantly disrupted the police version and said that Lee could not have seen the officer through the window. The killing had an even more tragic twist that Lee probably could not imagine. The officer that shot him, Tarriel Hooper, was a black male.

A black cop killing an unarmed black under highly questionable circumstances is no longer an oddity. In the past two years black cops have gunned down unarmed blacks in Chicago, Cincinnati, Atlanta, Baltimore, Washington, D.C., and Los Angeles. The irony is that black leaders have long clamored for more black cops. They say that they would be less likely to brutalize other blacks than racist white cops. This is pure fiction.

A recent report by the Justice Department found that a majority of white cops did not think that police were more prone to treat blacks more harshly than whites. A sizeable number of black cops agreed. Despite massive public attention and outrage over the blue code of silence, the Justice Department survey found that 80 percent of police officers either believed the code of silence was necessary to do good police work or feared retaliation from other officers or even the brass if they squealed on bad cops. Black cops were no more anxious to come forth to report misconduct by other officers than white cops out of fear of not being seen as a team player or that protesting abuse will damage their career. Worse, many black cops are also infected with the "Us versus Them" police siege mentality and will commit and then attempt to cover-up their misconduct or brutal acts.

The problem of blacks using deadly force against other blacks will probably get worse. Since the 1970s the number of black officers has soared. There are now more blacks on big city police forces than ever before. Many of them are young, inexperienced, recent recruits. Hopper had only been on the LAPD three years. Many of them are often assigned to work in low income, black neighborhoods. Since it's a sad, but undeniable fact that black and Latino males commit more major and violent crimes than whites, many police are convinced that black communities are a dangerous and risky place where violent thugs abound and every encounter is potentially life threatening.

Criminal justice experts agree that no matter how much training officers get, how they react in a situation on the streets depends on their own apprehensions and prejudices and that police work tends to aggravate whatever prejudices they have. Many black officers have those same prejudices as whites. They do not live in or grew up in impoverished black neighborhoods and see them as hostile and alien places. Many of them are just as jittery as white cops at the prospects of an armed encounter with other blacks.

But it's not just black cops that kill other blacks that's a growing problem; it's also the blindspot many black police officials have toward the shooting of unarmed blacks. This was glaringly evident in the killing of Margaret Laverne Mitchell, a black, middle-aged, emotionally disturbed, homeless woman who was slain in an altercation over a shopping cart in May 1999 by an LAPD officer. After demonstrations, marches and angry protests, LAPD's black chief, Bernard Parks, ruled that the officer used "bad tactics." The L.A. Police Commission defied him and ruled the shooting "out of policy." Yet more than a year later there is still no indication that Parks has done anything to punish the officer who shot Mitchell.

There's no reason to expect much will be different with Lee. Parks would instantly discount Lee's horror that he was racially profiled by the police. While other big city police departments in California and throughout the nation have agreed to keep racial stats on stops, Parks resists. He lobbied hard in 1999 to get California Gov. Gray Davis to veto a bill that would mandate that law enforcement agencies collect racial data to determine if police do profile blacks and Latinos. The Los Angeles City Council fed-up with Parks' obstructionism on the issue of racial profiling, finally ordered him to come up with a plan to compile racial stats.

None of this is any consolation to Lee. He believed that he would be killed because he was black. He did not know that he would be killed by a black officer. But he was and that's a warning to blacks that black cops are no answer to the corrosive problem of police violence.

(Earl Ofari Hutchinson is president of the National Alliance for Positive Action. E-mail: ehutchinson@natalliance.org web site: www.natalliance.org.)

The Minority Voice Newspaper, Inc.

405 Evans Street
P.O. Box 8361
Greenville, NC 27834

Phone: (252) 757-0365
Fax: (252) 757-1793

Joy 1340AM
WOOW Radio Station
Greenville, NC 27834

Joy 1320 AM
WTOW Radio Station
Washington, NC 27889

The Minority Voice Newspaper assumes no responsibility for the return of unsolicited manuscripts or photographs. Photographs and manuscripts become the property of The 'M' Voice Newspaper. Address your complaints to: Mr. Jim Rouse, Publisher 405 Evans Street Greenville, NC 27834

WOOW 1340AM

If You Have Any Questions Or Comments
Please Call The "M" Voice (252) 757-0365



Sister Cheryl McCotter (pictured on the left) member of Community Christian Church, recently opened a new hair salon. "A Woman's Glory" located 201-A Winterville Drive, Winterville, North Carolina. She invites you to come in and allow her to make your "glory shine". (Nail Technician On-site)

Photo By Faith May

Open Monday
Friday: 9-5

SAAD RENTALS Since 1949

1-, 2-, and 3- bedroom housing units
REAL ESTATE

907 Dickinson Ave., Greenville, NC, (252) 757-3191

Section
8 Accepted

Have you seen the Site everyone
is talking about?

- ★ Local Coupons
- ★ Free classifieds
- ★ Current Local Events
- ★ Weekly Yard Sale posting
- ★ Local City & government Information
- ★ Complete Searchable Business Directory
- ★ Did you know your business is here
- ★ Let us link you up

www.greenville.net

Got Online?

Go to the **BEST Online Banking Source**
for Everything you need, Everyday...

News • Weather • Sports • Shopping • Stock Quotes • Stock Tracker
Personal Links • Business Info • Entertainment • Banking • Bill Paying



You're just a click away from...

Easy

Convenient

Banking

Get ECB Online!

www.ecbbancorp.com

1001 Red Banks Road, Greenville • 252-820-0000
1400 Stantonsburg Road, Greenville • 252-746-0000

Member FDIC

The Gift That Lasts A Lifetime




An Education.

There's one gift that's perfect for every child or grandchild –
a college education. North Carolina's College Vision Fund is an
affordable, tax-advantaged savings program that lets you set aside money
for college – and receive *real* tax breaks. When it's time to enroll, your
child or grandchild can use the fund to cover tuition and expenses at any
college, anywhere in the country.

Call us today for more information about College Vision Fund – and for
information about loans, grants, and scholarships from College Foundation
of North Carolina, your one-stop resource for college financing.

www.CFNC.org
800-600-3453

College 
Foundation
of North Carolina

Making College Affordable for Everyone

A Service of the State of North Carolina

Certain Drugs Work Better for Blacks With High Blood Pressure, Says NIH Study

ATLANTA—The International Society on Hypertension in Blacks (ISHIB) advises African Americans with high blood pressure and kidney disease to consult with their doctors about their high blood pressure medications. ISHIB's recommendation is based on evidence from the African American Study of Kidney Disease (AASK) study released by the National Institute of Health.

The AASK study found that the antihypertensive drugs known as the ACE inhibitor lisinopril (known as Altace), and the beta blocker metoprolol, (known as Toprol), significantly reduced the risks of kidney failure when compared to the calcium channel blocker amlodine

(Norvaso), in participants with proteinuria greater than 1 gram per day and the greatest impairment of kidney function at the time of entry into the study.

These observations are important as they provide the first evidence from an outcomes trial of the efficacy of ACE inhibitors in African Americans—a segment of the population that was generally thought to be refractory to this class of anti-hypertensive agents.

While these new findings indicate that high blood pressure among a small percentage of the hypertensive African American population might be better managed with other blood pressure medications, ISHIB urges all patients not to stop their

medication abruptly. Instead patients should discuss their medical situation with their physician," said Dr. Dallas Hall, ISHIB's past vice-president and professor emeritus from Emory University School of Medicine.

ISHIB recommends that patients ask their doctors two questions: 1) Do I fall into the high-risk group with impaired kidneys and increased protein in the urine? 2) Would my blood pressure be better managed using an ACE-inhibitor or beta blocker to prevent a further decrease in kidney function?

On the other hand, the AASK study found that the use of a calcium channel blocker, also known as a calcium antagonist or by the

generic name, amlodipine (Norvasc), increased protein in the urine of nondiabetic African Americans with kidney disease, making them at even higher risk for advancing kidney disease.

Slave Labor Built Our National Monuments

By AKILAH MONIFA

We built this country.

That's a common refrain you hear from African Americans. In a general knowing way, African Americans are saying with that phrase that slave labor and underpaid black workers made this country possible. They not only picked the cotton, but also laid the railroads, worked in the factories and erected the buildings.

Recently discovered public records confirm the use of African American slave labor in the construction of the two most important structures in the country—the U.S. Capitol and the White House. Slave labor was also used in the making of two significant statues in Washington, D.C., one of which, the Statue of Freedom, was hoisted atop the dome of the Capitol in 1863.

Ed Hotaling, a Washington-based television producer, is the one who made the discovery. While he was doing research for a program on the buildings, Hotaling unearthed U.S. Treasury promissory notes to slave owners. These documents confirmed that slaves were used in the construction of the Capitol and the White House. The slave owners were promised \$5 a month for each of their slaves used in the construction.

In fact, Treasury Department pay slips show that more than two-thirds of the laborers who worked on the buildings (450 out of 650) were of African descent—400 slaves and 50 free men. Twelve slaves were used to cast the Statue of Freedom.

The revelations are not surprising to many African Americans and shouldn't be to people with a knowledge of history. Construction on these structures began in 1792, and slavery wasn't banned by law until 1865. In a strange political coupling, conservative legislator and ex-football star, Rep. J.C. Watts, R-Okla., and former civil-rights activist Rep. John Lewis D-Ga., have jointly

submitted a resolution to the House of Representatives to establish "a special task force to recommend an appropriate recognition for the slave laborers who worked on the construction."

Watts says he hopes the bill will result in a monument on the Capitol grounds honoring the slave labor used. "We have hundreds of thousands of Americans coming to the Capitol every year," Watts said. "I think it's good for the American people to see something that denotes the contribution that slaves made to this building."

"I think this is a very important revelation to know that African American slaves did help build the greatest and most visible symbol of our democracy: the Capitol," Lewis adds. "It's important for not just this generation, but for future generations to know that these men had a role in building the Capitol and the White House."

We have to find a way to recognize their contribution and find some fitting way to pay tribute to them." A similar resolution is being introduced in the Senate by Sens. Spencer Abraham, R-Mich., and Blanche Lincoln, D-Ark. The obvious irony here is that the Capitol and the White House, which stand for liberty, were mainly built by people who were excluded from such liberty.

Watts does not rule out reparations for the descendants of the slaves who worked on these specific projects. Any descendants would be difficult to trace, however, since the promissory notes list only the first name of the slave preceded by the word Negro, although the full names of the slave owners is given.

Many folks have a hard time with the notion of reparations for slavery. But what's there to argue with?

More Fruits, Vegetables Can Help Diabetes

By MARILYN J. KONDWANI
Sentinel Wire Services

STONE MOUNTAIN, Ga. (NNPA)—Type 1 (juvenile) diabetes affects nearly one child in every 600. A recent study suggests, eating more meat and dairy products have been linked to a higher rate of type 1 diabetes, also known as juvenile diabetes. Eating a diet where plant products—especially grains—were the main foods consumed resulted in less type 1 diabetes.

The study, which was reported in the June issue of The American Journal of Clinical Nutrition, indicated that food energy derived from meat and dairy products is associated with higher risk of type 1 diabetes. Conversely, food energy from vegetable sources, especially cereals, is associated with a lower risk. Total calorie intake did not predict diabetes risk. So, does this mean that serving oatmeal instead of cheeseburgers will prevent your child from getting diabetes?

No, it's not that simple, experts say. Type 1 diabetes begins in childhood and requires insulin for treatment. This type of diabetes probably arises from the complex interaction of environmental influences and heredity. The important role of dietary habits begins in infancy and even during pregnancy.

"It is very encouraging that there is a relationship between diet and diabetes, because these may be modifiable risk factors," says Robert P. Trevino. In his research as director of the Social and Health Research Center in San Antonio, Texas, he has found that nutrition and exercise may also play some role in development of type 2 diabetes. Type 2 diabetes is different from type 1 and may not require insulin treatment.

According to the Juvenile Diabetes Foundation, diabetes prevention is extremely important because every day, 35 more American children are found to have type 1 diabetes. Some of the symptoms of diabetes are: excessive thirst, constant hunger, frequent urination, sudden weight loss, sudden vision changes, rapid breathing, drowsiness or exhaustion and fruity odor on the breath.

Insulin injections must be given to these children several times each day to lower high blood sugar. This improves but does not cure the disease and doesn't entirely prevent serious complications such as blindness, heart attack, kidney failure, stroke, nerve damage, and amputations.

Type 1 diabetics must check their blood sugar several times daily by pricking their finger for a blood sample, to avoid excessively high or low blood sugar, both of which are life threatening. They must also pay close attention to healthy diet and exercise.

Instead of individual data, an Italian Diabetes study analyzed World Health Organization data to

compare findings from 40 countries. Although interpreting this type of data can be difficult, the results are consistent with earlier studies showing increased type 1 diabetes risk with increased intake of cow's milk and meat protein, as well as with food additives and nitrates in drinking water.

Earlier findings also suggest that vegetarian diets may protect against this and other chronic diseases. The Italian researchers recommend further study of diet during pregnancy and early infancy to help determine how diet may interact with inherited tendencies as described in type 1 diabetes. They also emphasized the importance of prevention through diet.

Researchers also found that residents of wealthier, better educated and colder countries less dependent on farming were at greater risk of type 1 diabetes—where they may tend to eat more meat and dairy products and less vegetables and grains.

(Send questions comments to P.O. Box 1261, Stone Mountain, Ga. 30088 Or email to: thesweetmellofsuccess@hotmail.com)

Be Safe This Holiday Season WOOW-WTOW

3 women sue Oprah Winfrey

WORCESTER, Mass. — Three women have sued Oprah Winfrey, alleging she misrepresented them as victims of domestic violence. Tracy Hoaglund, Margaret Mitchell and Gloria Toney are seeking more than \$75,000 in damages.

A spokeswoman for Winfrey and her production company, Harpo Entertainment Group, said Winfrey wasn't aware of the lawsuit and declined to comment.

The women agreed to appear in a taped segment to discuss a computer training workshop operated by a woman who also works with victims of abuse, the lawsuit said. For the interview, they were taken to a nearby shelter for battered women.

None of the three women has ever been a victim of domestic violence, and they did not discuss the subject in their interviews, the lawsuit said. But when the show was aired in April, the women were presented as "battered women."

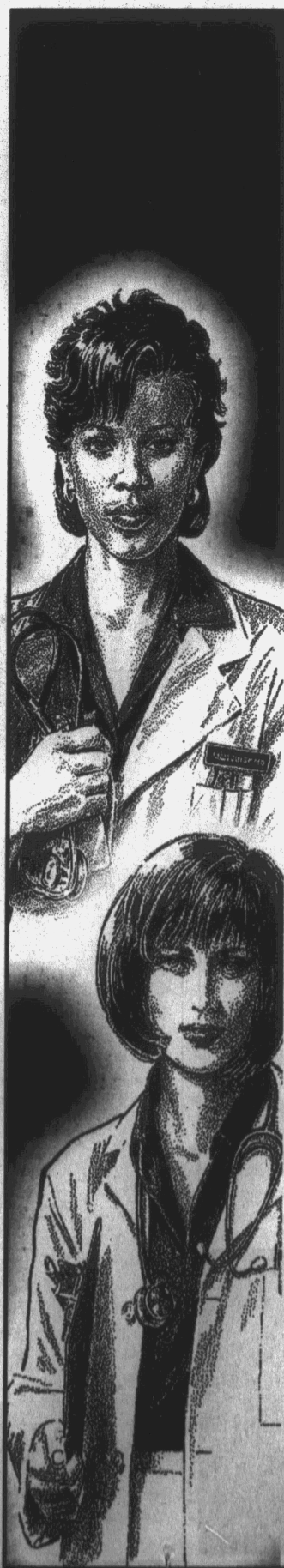
Since the show, they "have been approached by friends, co-workers, and even complete strangers wishing to discuss their alleged abusive pasts or demonstrating scorn, contempt or ridicule of their appearance on the program," the complaint said.

Bank is suing rapper Master P

NEW ORLEANS — A Louisiana bank is suing Master P, claiming the rap artist owes \$739,000 on a line of credit secured last year.

The lawsuit, filed late last month in East Baton Rouge Parish, claims Master P, whose real name is Percy Miller, has fallen behind repaying a promissory note made by the bank in May 1999.

Understanding Your Black History



AGAPE Community Health Center

118 Martin Luther King Jr. Dr.
Washington, NC

Sonja Haywood, M.D.
Carolina Hernandez, M.D.

Specializing in Family Health Care
Including:

- Family Planning
- Pediatrics/Adolescent Medicine
- Women's Health/Gynecology
- Adult Primary Care • Geriatrics • Internal Medicine

All major insurances including
Medicare and Medicaid Accepted.

We offer services to those with no insurance.

Bilingual Physician on Staff

Health Care Provided By
The Community For The Community

WALK-INS WELCOME

252-940-0602 or Toll Free 1-888-948-2448

Piano For Sale
Take On Low Monthly Payment
Beautiful Console Piano.
No Money Down
1-800-371-1220

Support The "M Voice Advertisers

Read The Minority Voice Newspaper



PITT COUNTY 4 H ALL STARS

Adopt a Grandparent Project A "Mess of Sweet Potatoes"

The Pitt Co. 4 H All-stars organized in March of 1997, have been very active in 4-H activities and in their community. They adopted 26 grandparents and or seniors at University Towers, by providing a "Mess of sweet potatoes for them for the holidays. They picked up nearly truck load in Lenoir County. This 4H Club also worked with the NAACP on Early Vote 2000 in Pitt County.

Mrs. Mildred A. Council is 4H leader. she is pictured with one of the seniors. Pictured from left to right Devontrey T. Horton, Marquivan Brown, (secretary) Jonathan fields, Kimberly Nevelle, Pirre Westmoreland, President, Mark Westmoreland, and Jennifer Fields, acting Vice-president. Other participants not shown in photo : Logan Council, Tina Nevelle, Jaron Jones

Advertise Your Business In The "M" Voice (252) 757-0365

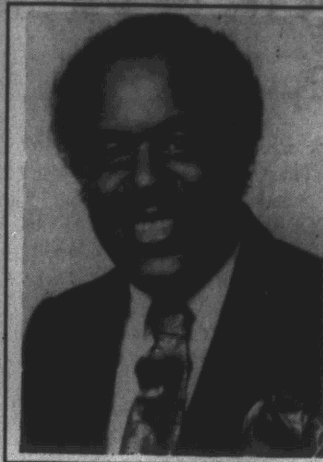
HAPPY HOLIDAYS FROM US TO YOU



TO BUY, RENT OR SELL
REAL ESTATE CALL
D.D. GARRETT
AGENCY
"SINCE 1946"

Call Us If You Need Someone To Collect Your Rent And
Manage Your Property!
Several Nice Building Lots. We Handle Conv., HUD,
VA & FMA, Financing.
606 ALBEMARLE
757-1692 OR 757-1162
FAX 757-0018

Spiritual Thoughts



Dr. George Hawkins

Focus on the Lord

Greetings,

When we are in the midst of the storm, problems and obstacles start igniting like bonfires across the landscape. Our human reaction is to try and put out each fire, but sometimes it seems like the more we try, new ones spring up. when we realize that we can't keep up with the growing problems, panic sets in, Which fires should we fight?

How will we fight them? What if we can't put them out? Frustration, discouragement, and despair begin to set in and it seems like we have begun to spiral downward.

Satan is not always the source of all our problems, but he can sure capitalize on them at times. A large portion occur problems come from us leaning on our own understanding and working in our own strength. After we begin to experience the Consequences of

our fleshly decisions, our enemy comes along and Suggests to our thoughts that it is God's fault for letting it happen, that it is someone else's fault or we are losers and misfits that don't deserve to have any victories in life. The enemy will urge us to move swiftly to fix the situation before things get worse and before we know it, we end up digging ourselves into a deeper hole than we were in before. The enemy may even show himself to some during this time in order to paralyze them with fear because he is involved and trying to

destroy them. Fear is of the devil. eternity.

If we really look at the whole picture, many of our problems originated because of a lack of focus on the Lord in the first place, (seeking His guidance) and then the problems grew even greater because focus on the Lord was not established during the time of crisis. Satan will go out of his way to keep a person's attention on the problems and circumstances, so that people will not turn to their real source of strength, the Lord.

Staying focused on the Lord after a number of problems have developed is not always easy. Thoughts are running through the mind, there is a great deal of anxiety, there is a lot of confusion and distractions, and really you don't feel very spiritual right at that moment in time. This is when we have to stop everything, step back to get a more objective view of what's going on and then begin to follow the principles that God has given us in His word. Paul's advice to the Philippians in Chapter 4 can be a great help at this time.

1. "Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice." (4:4). We should begin to celebrate the Lord, for He is greater than any problem that we could ever face. Even though you don't feel like it you must direct your faith to the character and attributes of God. He is loving and Compassionate, lie is all-knowing and all powerful, full of grace and mercy. "Begin to rejoice in Him."

2. "The Lord is near," (4; 5). He is near because His Spirit is in those who have received Jesus as Savior.. He is near because He has

promised to bear and answer those who trust Him and obey His commands, (Jn 15:7). He is near because He will not leave us to fend for ourselves, (Heb.. 13.5).

3. "Do not worry about anything.." (4:6). First of all, what will worrying accomplish? Secondly, worry shows that we are not trusting the Lord to help us. Choose to trust Him no matter what happens. Is not our faith in Him more important than possessions? How long will our possessions last us anyway? They are insignificant in comparison to

4. "... with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God." (4' 6).

◆ Thank God for who He is, for Jesus' sacrifice, for the victory we have in Jesus, for the Holy Spirit that has been given to us, for the promises that God has given us, for God's faithfulness to us in the past and for the future we have with Him forever. (Spend time praising God it may be difficult in the circumstances, but if you will persevere, the freedom to praise will come.) Praise will empower your prayer. it will increase your faith, It can renew your strength and help you see God's perspective, and praise can put Satan on the run!

◆ After you have praised and thanked God, make your requests known to God. Present your case to Him. Let Him know what you want, why you want it and how it will bring glory to Him.

5. "And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus." (4:7). Now, wait for God's peace to come. He has promised that He would guard your hearts and minds with it. Most people finish their time with the Lord before His peace comes. If you have to wait fifteen minutes, a half-hour or more than an hour, wait until it comes. It will be worth it!!! Many have missed this blessing because they were anxious to see something happen or to do something. But if His transforming peace does not come, you will not fully be prepared for what God wants to do with you from that point on.

It is this biblical process that our enemy wants to keep us from. He will press us to do something now so that we do not get a chance to "rest in the Lord."

"...let us throw off everything that hinders and the sin that so easily entangles, and let us run with perseverance the race marked out for us. Let us fix our eyes on Jesus, the author and perfecter of our faith, who for the Joy set before him endured the cross, scorning its shame, and sat down at the right hand of the throne of God." (Heb. 12:1-2).



Clark Ford - Mercury, Inc.

All Remaining 2000 Models Ford Mercury In Stock \$99.00 Under Factory Invoice

You Keep Rebates !

Rebates Up To \$3000.00 !

Rates As Low As 0.9%

A Little Drive Can Save You A lot of Money !!!!

Ph: (252) 943-2134

Fax: (252) 943-2085

28759 Hwy 264

Belhaven, NC 27810



Where are
you?

Have you realized the power of your money?

Are others depending on you to build the future? Are you confident that you've got the right tools? We are here. To show you how to make the most of your money today and to help you plan for tomorrow. As Frederick Douglass once said, "Men may not get all they pay for in this world, but they most certainly pay for all they get." The future is closer than you think and it's up to you. Call 1 800 WACHOVIA.

WACHOVIA

Let's get
started.

1 800 WACHOVIA
WWW.WACHOVIA.COM

From the Desk Of Mrs. Beatrice Maye



THE EDITOR:

Youth violence - why should young people resort to violence to resolve their problems, while others face life's trials peacefully?

Look at some of the societal problems in our communities, yes, in Greenville/Pitt County: deteriorating social and economic conditions, families stressed to the breaking point; easy access to guns, drugs, and alcohol; and continued exposure to television, video games, and music that seem obsessed with violent images. But a key cause reaches deeper and involves what children begin learning early in life.

Children learn first from parents and caretakers and the lessons they provide have tremendous impact. By not monitoring children's behavior, by not showing children how to replace

aggression with constructive behavior, parents observe an indirect, unintended message: It's OK to use aggressive behavior to get what you want. If parents regularly use extreme aggressive behavior, fighting or screaming, to get what they want, a child is likely to pick up that behavior. Children "copy what they see their parents do", says Arnold Goldstein, director of the Center for Research and Aggression at Syracuse University.

A large portion of young children are not learning skills to solve problems in appropriate ways. Efforts must be made to eradicate poverty, to alleviate family stress, to improve the job outlook for young people, to curb violence in the entertainment media and to control access to drugs and guns.

Janet Reno, Attorney General said, crime and violence are still one of the great challenges that we face." (News and Observer, Friday, October 27, 2000)

It takes courage, endurance and knowledge to reach out to kids.

Beatrice Maye
11/1/00

HOW TO TALK TO YOUR MAN

MAKE HIM FEEL LIKE A STRONGER, MORE WORTH WHILE PERSON BY

TELLING HIM:

I'M PROUD TO BE SEEM WITH YOU."

MY SELF-CONFIDENCE IS HIGHER WHEN I'M WITH YOU."

I TRULY BELIEVE YOU PUT MY HAPPINESS ABOVE YOUR OWN."

YOU MAKE ME FEEL MORE OF A WOMAN

YOU HAVE A WONDERFUL WAY OF MAKING ME LAUGH.."

YOU KEEP ME FROM MAKING FOOLISH MISTAKES

I'M SO GLAD YOU'RE BACK."

I LOVE IT WHEN YOU TOUCH ME.."

THANK YOU FOR BEING YOU

IN EVERY ONE OF THESE PHRASES, YOU SAY," I LOVE YOU.

YOU MAKE ME FEEL HAPPY, WARM, SECURE, WANTED, COMPLETE, FULFILLED, CONFIDENT, IMPORTANT

THINK OF YOUR MATE

BEFORE YOU THINK OF YOURSELF

SATISFY HIS NEEDS AND HE'LL SATISFY YOURS.

LOVE HIM AND HE'LL LOVE YOU BACK COMPLETELY

YOU SHOULD NEVER ASK ADVICE FROM;

1-People who don't really know you

2-People who know you but aren't truly supportive.

3-Colleagues at work even if you sense your restlessness is not specifically about you.

4-Relatives who have a preconceived notion of who you are and what you need.

5-Friends who have a stake in keeping you right where you are.

6-Anyone with an a' to grind.

7-Anyone who will condone your attempt to Stall, postpone, not try.

BEREAVEMENT

Reverent sympathy to the following families:

Myrtle Fleming, Rufus Spain, Eugene Faison, Jean Elaine Mills, Purvis Cohen, James Ebron, Jr., Emma Whitehurst's brother and to others whose

names are unfamiliar or unknown.

LOOKING AHEAD PLANNING

The 2001 Theme: African American (Black) History Month, (February): "Creating and Defining the African American Community: Family, Church, Politics, and Culture"

SPEEDY RECOVERY

To: Frank Norris, Jr., Leslie Spaulding, Queenie Smith and Lizzie Henderson and Pearl Gardner of Winterville, Hattie Thompson, Simpson, Daniel Bullock, Sr., George Davies, Bessie Simpson, Ed Carter as well as unknown others

Recognition

Ms. Annette Goldring, Vice President, Greenville Alumnae Chapter, Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, was Mistress of Ceremonies along with Bernard Bush at the Hazel B. Neal's 13th Annual Benefit Program in New Bern recently, the Sheraton Grand Hotel and Marina.

QUOTES TO REMEMBER

1. It is much easier to be critical than to be correct.

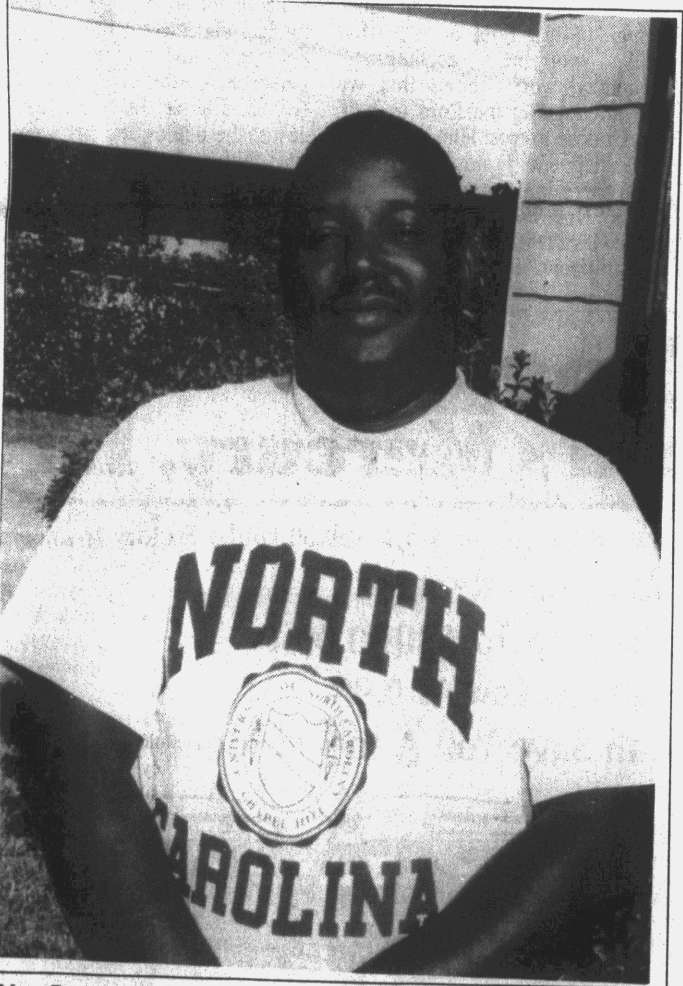
2. Before you question your husband's judgment, remember who he married.

3. There are two lasting gifts we can give our children, one is roots, the other is wings.
4. You can get by with good looks for about 15 minutes. After that, you'd better know something.
5. The major reasons for divorce are money, sex and other family members.
6. If you can go through life without experiencing pain you probably haven't been born yet.
7. Children want and need to be seen.
8. "Always" and "Never" are attack words.
9. Character and honesty represent a real man.
10. Live the values you want your child to develop.

Read The "M" Voice Newspaper

May Everyone Have A Blessed Holiday Season!

New County Commissioner!



New Beaufort County Commissioner! shown above is Deputy Jerry Langley who was elected County Commissioner on November 7, 2000. Brother Jerry Langley who will join Rev. Moore as the only two Black County Commissioners. Hats off to our Brother!

Photo by Jim Rouse

Black Cowboys



Black Cowboys Ride Again! Shown above is cowboy All and Richard Washington who are professional Black Cowboys. They're shown with a beautiful Thoroughbred who took time to pose for our "M" Voice camera's

Photo by Jim Rouse

Stay Warm For Less This Winter

During the winter months, many factors can affect whether you feel too warm or too cool in your home. Stay comfortable and save money by trying these energy saving tips from Greenville Utilities:

- Except for heat pumps, turn the thermostat down anytime you are leaving for more than two hours.
- Check your ductwork in the attic and under the house to be sure it is intact. Separated ductwork causes tremendous energy losses, comfort problems, and will seriously impair indoor air quality.
- Weather-seal window air conditioners for better efficiency. When possible, remove them in the winter, or at least cover to prevent cold air transfer.
- Check and clean or replace your central heating filters once each month. Keeping clean filters in the system can save as much as 10-15% of the operating costs.
- Use a small space heater for brief periods to warm small areas, such as bathrooms, instead of overheating the entire house.

For more energy saving tips, call Greenville Utilities' Energy Services Office at 551-1525.

Greenville Utilities
200 Martin Luther King, Jr. Dr., 752-7166, www.guc.com

WOOW, WTOW And The Minority Voice Newspaper Wishes Everyone A Blessed Thanksgiving From Our Family To Your Family

WIN
\$200
"Unbelievable Coupons!" ...and more

SAVE and WIN a lot of \$\$\$
you don't have to tell your parents or spouse... keep it for yourself!

FREE STUFF: classified, employment, YOUR VOICE, events, personals and more!

SOMETHING NEW EVERY DAY!!!



www:greenville**SAVE**.com

Lawyers Plan Slave Reparations Suit

By PAUL SHEPARD
Sentinel Wire Svices

WASHINGTON (AP)—A powerful group of civil rights and class-action lawyers who have won billions of dollars in court is preparing a lawsuit seeking reparations for American blacks descended from slaves.

The project, called the Reparations Assessment Group, was confirmed by Harvard law professor Charles J. Ogletree and appears to be the most serious effort yet to get American blacks compensated for 244 years of legalized slavery. Lawsuits and legislation dating back to the mid-1800s have gone nowhere.

"We will be seeking more than just monetary compensation," Ogletree said. "We want a change in America. We want full recognition and a remedy of how slavery stigmatized, raped, murdered and exploited millions of Africans through no fault of their own."

Ogletree said the group, which includes famed attorney Johnnie Cochran, first met in July and will hold its fourth meeting in Washington D.C. later this month.

"This country has never dealt with slavery. It is America's nightmare. A political solution would be the most sensible but I don't have a lot of faith that's going to happen. So we need to look aggressively at the legal alternative," Ogletree said.

For now, there are more questions than answers in the planned litigation. Left to be determined are when the suit will be filed, exactly who will be named as defendants and what damages will be sought.

Ogletree declined to discuss specifics but said the federal government, state governments and private entities such as corporations and institutions that benefited from slave labor could be targets of the legal action.

"Both public and private parties will be the subject of our efforts," he said.

Ogletree said the Reparation Assessment Group includes attorneys Cochran and Alexander J. Pires Jr., who won a \$1 billion settlement for black farmers who claimed discrimination by the U.S. Department of Agriculture; Richard Scruggs, who won the \$368.5 billion settlement for states against tobacco companies; Dennis C. Sweet III, who won a \$400 million settlement in the "phen-fen" diet drug case; and Willie E. Gary, who won a \$500 million judgment against the

Loewen Group Inc., the world's largest funeral home operators.

Also in the group is Randall Robinson, president of the TransAfrica Forum, a think tank specializing in African, Caribbean and African-American issues. Robinson recently wrote the book "The Debt: What America Owes to Blacks," which argues for reparations.

"This will be the most important case in the history of our country," Pires said Friday. "We all agree the suit has to tell the story of what slavery has done to blacks in



JOHNNIE L. COCHRAN JR.
... to join in reparations suit

America ...

"We are still suffering from slavery's impacts today," Pires said.

Ogletree said the assessment group will call on experts in education, politics, family development, health and economics to help trace how slavery's outgrowths such as segregated schooling and neighborhoods have affected society today.

Enslavement of Africans in America began in the 1600s. A slave sale was recorded in 1619 in Jamestown, Va. The "peculiar institution" helped to fuel the prosperity of the young nation, while also dividing it. Slavery was not officially abolished until 1863, during the Civil War.

Reparation supporters point to recent cases where groups have been compensated in cash for historic indignities and harm.

A letter of formal apology and \$20,000 were given by the U.S. government to each Japanese-American held in internment camps during World War II.

Austria last week established a

\$380 million fund to compensate tens of thousands of Nazi-era slave laborers who were born in six Eastern European countries.

Reparation opponents argue that victims in the Nazi and Japanese-American cases were directly harmed while many generations separate enslaved blacks and their modern-day descendants.

In addition, those opposed to reparations say it isn't fair for taxpayers and corporations who never owned slaves to be burdened with possible multibillion dollar settlements.

Neither Ogletree nor Pires mentioned any industry or company that could be a target of the suit.

But Pires said there were overlaps between the slavery of past centuries and today's corporations. He noted that Aetna Inc., the nation's largest health insurer, apologized earlier this year for sell-

ing policies in the 1850s that reimbursed slave owners for financial losses when their slaves died.

In July, Connecticut's *Hartford Courant* newspaper published a front-page apology for running ads for slave sales and the recapture of runaways in the 1700s and 1800s. Such advertisements were commonplace in many newspapers until the Civil War.

Pires was one of the lawyers in the assessment group who discussed reparations in the November issue of *Harper's* magazine.

Pires said he believes that any monetary settlement or damage figure should be among the last items discussed as the suit takes shape. He said it is more important to tell the story to all Americans of what slavery did to the country "and let people decide what should be done to repay."

"Most people," he said, "don't like having dirt on their hands."

Joy 1340
Joy 1320
The "M" Voice



The Family That Prays Together Stays Together..... Rev Tyrone Turnage, pictured above with family members, were on hand for the 7th Annual Minority Business Expo.

Staff photo Jim Rouse

Don't Drink And Drive!

Carruth Goes To Trial

Reparations Bill Signed

By ROBERT FARRELL

Jury selection began Monday in Charlotte, N.C., for the trial of Rae Carruth, former Carolina Panthers wide receiver, who is accused of contracting the murder of his baby son's mother, 24-year-old Cherica Adams, last November.

Adams was shot four times as she drove in a residential neighborhood in Charlotte, he confessed triggerman Van Brett Watkins, 40.

Watkins pleaded guilty to second-degree murder and has agreed to testify that Carruth paid him \$5,000 to kill Adams.

Carruth has maintained his innocence, claiming he was miles away from the shooting and had nothing to do with its planning.

However, a tape of the 911 call that Adams made from her car immediately after being shot, along with statements she made in the hours that followed, implicated Carruth.

"Somebody pulled up beside me and did this," she told the 911 operator, gasping in pain, "I think he did it, I don't know what to think."

In three pages of notes that she scribbled after coming out of surgery, Adams stated, "He (Carruth) was driving in front of me stopped in the road...He blocked the front."

Adams was seven months pregnant at the time and gave birth by emergency Caesarean section ghatg same night to Chancellor Lee Adams. She died from her injuries a month later, on Dec. 14.

Carruth is charged with masterminding the plot to kill Adams because he didn't want to pay support for the baby she was carrying. Facing a variety of charges, including first-degree murder, he is subject to the death penalty if convicted.

The case has attracted national attention because of Carruth's celebrity and a series of bizarre twists and turns.

According to a report in the Charlotte Observer, Carruth had paid Watkins \$2,000 to beat Adams and cause a miscarriage in the weeks before her fatal shooting. The newspaper said Watkins was hired Carruth to break into Adams' home and beat her. Watkins said he didn't take Carruth seriously but later feared Carruth might target him, too, because he had taken \$2,000 and done nothing.

Watkins reportedly described how Carruth plotted the attack on Adams and gave 25-year-old Michael Eugene Kennedy \$100 to buy a gun and ammunition hours before Adams was shot. After buying the gun, Kennedy, Stanley Drew "Boss" Abraham, 19, and Watkins and Carruth, and Adams left the theater. Kennedy, Watkins and Carruth drove a Ford Expedition in front of Adams, the Observer said, the back seat, the co-defendants told police. When Carruth stopped the Expedition, Adams was forced to stop too, and the men pulled alongside the BMW, stopped and opened fire, the newspaper reported.

After being released on \$3 million bond, Carruth was expected to turn himself in to police if Adams died. But when she died December 14th Carruth fled to Tennessee with his friend, Wendy Cole. FBI agents found him the next day hiding in the truck of Cole's Toyota Camry outside a motel. According to prosecutors, Carruth had \$3,900 in cash in the truck, as well as candy bars, a wireless phone and bottles to hold his urine, which they say, shows he was running from authorities. He was taken into custody and had been held without bond.

The latest twist came just days before jury selection began in the Mecklenburg County Courthouse, where Superior Court Judge Lamm will allow court TV the trial. Last week, Carruth attorneys filed a motion which they claim will exonerate their client. The motion claims Watkins, expected to be the prosecution's key witness, told a jail guard he shot Adams when she made an obscene gesture at him, not because Carruth paid to have her killed. "She looked over at the car and seen us, she flipped

me off... I lost it, I just started shooting," Watkins is quoted as saying in handwritten notes from a sheriff's deputy included in the filing.

The defense claims Adams was shot just hours after Carruth refused to finance a drug deal involving Watkins, Kennedy and Abraham.

"It was Rae's fault," the deputy recalled Watkins saying. "If he had just given us the money none of this would have happened."

Gov. Gray Davis has signed into law two bills introduced by Sen. Tom Hayden that begin the inquiry into reparations for slavery and related topics.

The bills received major support from statewide African American organizations, community activists, and academics in the University of California and California State University systems.

They and other actions will be discussed at the First International Conference on Reparations for African Americans, Africans and Indigenous People on Saturday, noon to 5 p.m. in the student lounge at Compton Community College.

For information, phone Neelam Sharma at (323) 290-6146.

The bills augment the thrust of current national reparations activities seeking to uncover and evaluate the economic profits from slavery, amassed by slave owners and their businesses as well as corporations, utilities and insurance companies and their predecessors.

SB 2199, the Slaveholder Insurance Policies Bill, asks the state insurance commissioner to seek archival records of insurance policies on slaves during the American slavery period from insurance companies doing business in California.

At least five insurance companies, including Aetna, are known to have issued policies insuring slave owners against the illness or death of their slaves.

SB 1737, the UC Slavery Colloquium Bill, asks that a research conference be held to explore and identify the economic legacy of slavery in America. The university would be aided by the California State Library, which would use its resources to research slavery, chattel slavery and indentured servitude in California.

"These bills begin research in a long-neglected field of study," said Sen. Hayden.

"I'm hopeful that they will buttress existing efforts to analyze and assess the economic value of slaves in building this country. Uncovering this information is uncovering everyone's history," he said.

Connie Brown, one of three co-chairs

of the Reparations Platform Committee that mounted an informational demonstration and rally during the Democratic National Convention on the issues of reparations, said the legislation was "extremely significant. It lays the groundwork for future activity, both legislative and grass-roots."

Brown noted that the rally in Exposition Park contributed to a change in the platform of the Democratic Party. Under the "Building One America" entry, the following language was added to reflect the concerns of the Congressional Black Caucus and national community concerns like those of the committee.

"To that end, Democrats support the creation of a commission of distinguished scholars and civic leaders to examine the history of slavery, discrimination and exclusion suffered by all minorities; to report on the continuing effects of those tragic chapters in our history; and to make appropriate recommendations on behalf of the American people."

Brown said the coalition plans to lobby and keep its momentum going through activities in the Los Angeles area in coming months.

"Reparations is an issue that needs to be pursued," she said.

Disney Exec Apologizes to Jesse Jackson for 'Black Hoes' Promo

By SAMUEL WILLIAMS JR.
Sentinel Staff Writer

Jesse Jackson has holstered his legal pistols aimed at the Walt Disney Co., at least for now.

Disney agreed to pay \$1.5 million to settle two racial discrimination suits filed two years ago for a promotion aired on KLOS-FM's "Mark & Brian" Show.

During that promotion, called "Black Hoes," black plastic gardening tools were given away as gag prizes to listeners and advertisers by the Disney owned station.

The discrimination suit was based on allegations Disney allowed the disc jockeys to use a double entendre involving a slang pronunciation of the word "whore."

Disney called the allegations "meritless" and said they would fight the lawsuits.

Jackson threatened to file a complaint with the Federal Communications Commission about the promotion. Jackson voiced concerns about newspaper articles stating Disney had paid out \$2 million to settle a similar lawsuit.

Early this week, Disney President Robert Iger called a meeting at the corporation's Burbank headquarters with two Rainbow/Push Coalition officials and apologized.

Iger promised to monitor programs for racially insensitive programming in the future as well as implement diversity training and sensitivity programs for employees and executives.

Jackson had called for the firing of the employees and producers who created the promotion, but that will

not happen. In fact, the two morning show talk hosts have received promotions because their show produced million of dollars in advertiser revenue for Disney.

Officials from Rainbow/PUSH Coalition said the organization was convinced that after meeting with Iger, any further action would be halted "for the time being."

Microsoft Hit With Race and Gender Bias Lawsuit

Microsoft Corp. is being sued for allegedly using a subjective job evaluation process that discriminates against black and female employees, the Bloomberg News reported this week.

Microsoft, the world's No. 1 software maker, "permits managers who are predominately white males, to rate employees based upon their own biases rather than based upon merit," Monique Donaldson, a former program manager at Microsoft, claims.

The twice-yearly evaluations are used to determine salaries, cash bonuses, stock option awards and promotions, according to the suit, which seeks class action status.

Microsoft spokes man Mark Murray declined comment on the suit's specifics, saying the company has not seen it.

Donaldson's suit, filed in a federal court in Washington state, asks for unspecified damages and a court order prohibiting the allegedly wrongful practices.

CULINARY CUISINE



Well, it's me again! Back at one of my eating establishments. You know the funny thing about rating restaurants and not being known is that you can rate the service, food and atmosphere and no one knows who you are. My friends, I remain your invisible rater. So, remember if your service is good, bad, or excellent, I may be the one telling everyone about it! Without further ado, let's get ready to rumble.

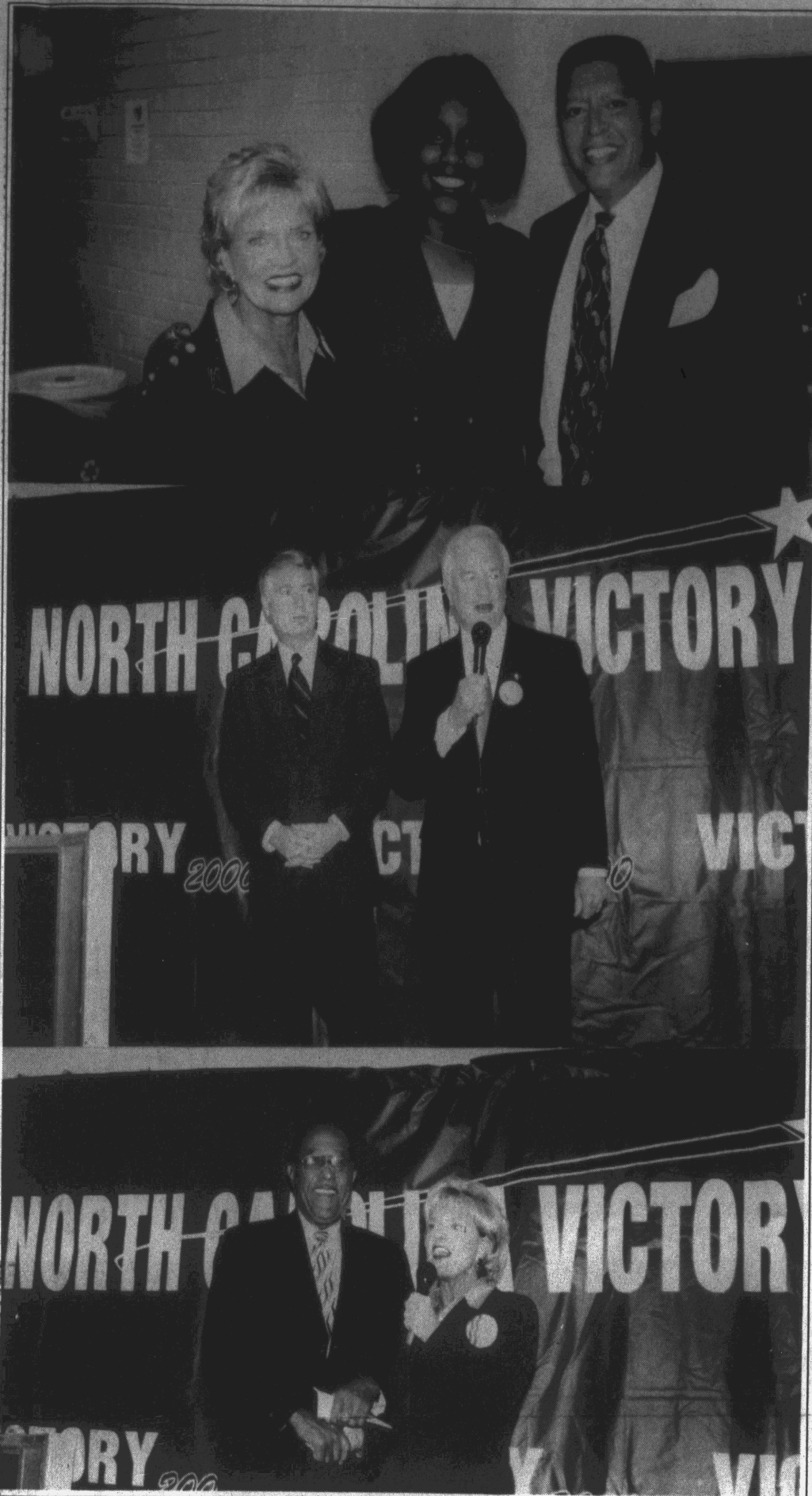
This writer feels that the food is good, however, a little too expensive for the budget. The side orders are in little containers that are too costly. Recently a breakfast buffet was started. I ventured in on a Saturday morning, and yes, readers, I must admit the buffet did serve tantalizing items such as sausage patties, link sausage, oatmeal, eggs, grits and waffles. But the price! It almost shocked me into the year 2010. I only want to say, that with Burger King, Peaden's and yes my favorite B & E so close by, you owners at Inland should rethink your prices for the budget-wise consumers. Don't get me wrong, I like the food, but after talking to co-workers, friends and family, rethink the cost please?

Overall, I rate this a 3 spoons. See Ya Next Week.
The Invisible Food Editor!

Drive Safely
This Holiday
Season!

Inland Restaurant

Only Through Education
And Knowledge, Will You Gain
Power And Understanding.



Ballot 2000.....pictured above is Lt. Gov. Elect, Bev Perdue, News Anchor Lynette Taylor and Judge James Wynn. Middle picture, Gov. elect Mike Easley and Gov Jim Hunt Bottom picture, former Chief Justice Henry Fyre, attending rally at Rose High School

photo Steve Johnson

LETTER TO THE EDITOR PLEASE HELP!

Dear Sir:

My name is Terrence Roberson and I feel that I have been discriminated against here in Dare County where I live. I worked at the Dare County Detention Center for 11 years. I was the only black sergeant at the detention center. I was threatened by a white inmate, after I tried to get the inmate to repeat his threat in front of another officer so that I could have had him charged with communicating a threat. When the inmate would not repeat the statement I then told him IF he came after me, I was going to hurt him bad. I was called into the Sheriff's office and told I had a choice to resign or to be fired. This is where the discrimination comes in.

A white male employee of the detention center threatened to walk into a pod, shoot a kill a black inmate. This employee was told not to go into that pod while that inmate was there, nothing else.

A white male officer took a black inmate to our lockdown pod, the inmate was scratched on both sides by this white officer, again was told not to go into that pool while the inmate was there.

A white seargeant told another that he was not going to give any of THEM their birthdat off because ther already have that NIGGER'S day off(in reference to Martin Luther King Jr.Birthday). A white Cpl. and two white officers pepper sprayed and drug a black handicapped inmate down a flight of stairs, and nothing happened to the officers. A white sergeant was brought up on assault charges twice (pending DA), and nothing happened to him. This same sergeant slammed a inmates head into a counter for asking," can someone else count my money?", again nothing happened to him. A white sergeant tried to date a white female officer on his shift and nothing happened him. A white male sergeant was brought up on charges of sexual harassment, the female was moved to another shift

and nothing happened to him. A white male sergeant was brought up on charges of sexual harassment, the female was moved to another shift and nothing happen to the sergeant. A white sergeant called an ex-officer a NIGGERLOVER in front of a black female officer. When she complained about it nothing happened to this officer. Two sergeants (white) was charged with misdemeanors and was not fired or anything. In this county there are 5 police dept. and only 1 black officer. In the sheriff's office there is no blacks, in the register of deeds office there is 2 blacks, In communication (which falls under the sheriffs officer) 2 divisions no blacks, Sheriff deputies about 50 no blacks. So as you can see I feel I have been discrimnates and have no where to turn. If you will PLEASE HELP. I am married with 3 kids and there is no way my career should be over like this. Eleven years with no write ups or disciplinary action. Do this like fair to you? Thanks for your time.

Sentence Teacher For Student Sex

A former Sheepshead Bay High School teacher who pleaded guilty to having sex with a 16-year-old student was sentenced to serve 33 months in prison.

THE DEFENDANT, Paul Kerner, 62, was sentenced in federal court in Brooklyn.

Kerner had committed a federal crime by crossing state lines, according to prosecutors, who said he took the 16-year-old girl to Atlantic City for the purpose of having sex with her.

Kerner and the girl had a relationship that started in the fall of 1998 and ended in the winter of 1999, said prosecutors.

Kerner was arrested several months ago after a probe by Edward Stancik, the special schools investigator.

KERNER COULD HAVE been sentenced to serve 41 months in prison.

Federal prosecutors stated afterward that they were satisfied with the sentence.

WTOW-WOOW



2000

Vernice Watson

Date: December 2nd, 2000

Time: 10:00 - 12:00 & 1:00 - 3:00

Place: Ramada Plaza Hotel

203 W. Greenville Blvd. (Hwy 264 ALT)

For Additional Information

252 - 215 - 9039 or 252 - 258 - 2392

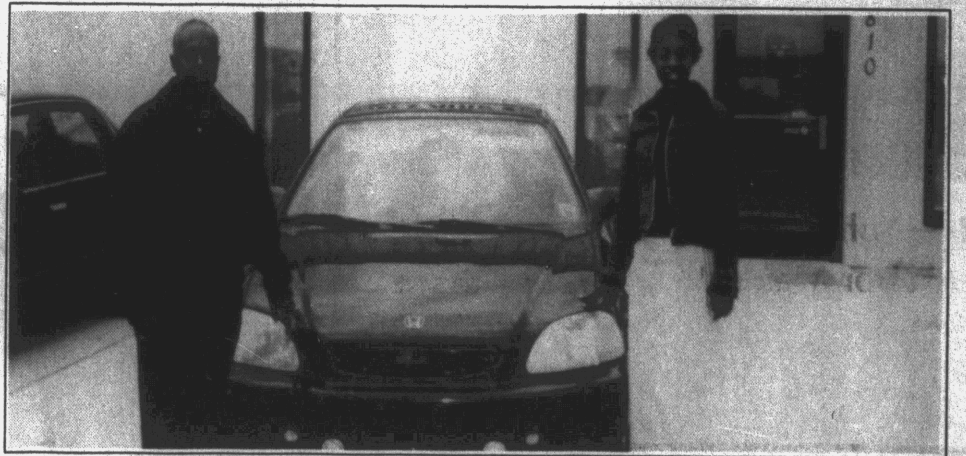
This Workshop is For Serious

Gospel Music Industry Lover's

Gospel Music Industry Workshop & Demo Clinic

"Season's Greetings" From The staff Of The "M" Voice Newspaper

WILDER'S AUTOMOTIVE



THANK-YOU

WILDER'S AUTO SALES OF GREENVILLE, WOULD LIKE TO SAY
"THANK-YOU"
TO YOU, ALL OF OUR IMPORTANT CUSTOMERS, PAST, PRESENT, AND
FUTURE, FOR ALL YOUR PATIENCE AS WILDER'S AUTO SALES
MOVED TO IT'S NEW LOCATION

YES, WE HAVE MOVED
A LITTLE BIGGER, AND MUCH BETTER
SO WE CAN BETTER SERVE YOU

WE NOT ONLY SELL USED VEHICLES, BUT WE ALSO SELL NEW
VEHICLES, FROM CARS TO TRUCKS TO UTILITY VEHICLES,
WHATEVER YOUR HEART DESIRES.
IF YOU DON'T SEE IT, DON'T WORRY, WE CAN GET IT, BECAUSE
WE WANT YOU TO BE HAPPY
CUSTOMER SATISFACTION GUARANTEED

SO COME BY AND SEE US TODAY, AND GET A GREAT VEHICLE
AT A GREAT AND AFFORDABLE PRICE

WE'RE ANXIOUS TO GET YOU RIDING, RIGHT AWAY,
BECAUSE HERE AT WILDER'S AUTO SALES
WE CARE

WILDER'S AUTO SALES
3810 S. CHARLES BLVD.
GREENVILLE, NC 27858
(252)355-3401

CLEE WILDER (OWNER)