

THE MINORITY VOICE

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

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THE DELTA:

A Place Time Left Behind

by Larry Reeves
Tri-State Defender

There was time not long ago, when Blacks flocked to the fields to pick cotton. Today, Blacks no longer pick cotton, but their lives are no better than the days of segregation, and their children struggle to understand that poverty and despair aren't their only options in life.

Deep within the Mississippi Delta are the intertwined lives of a group of Blacks who struggle to hold their world together in the face of dire poverty and acute despair.

But one man, Reggie Barnes, superintendent of the embattled West Tallahatchie school system refuses to allow their cured conditions which have not improved over 200 years despite the absence of segregation. To rattle his aspirations of improving the educational opportunities for their children.

HBO this month aired a special report on Sept. 18 entitled *Late July*, an Oscar nominated documentary examining the lives of one desperate and impoverished family. It was this report that prompted this writer to travel to rural Tallahatchie County and examine for himself an area that time passed by.

Lisa Ann stepped into a white bucket of warm water to bathe. At age 10, Lisa knows nothing about modern conveniences such as bathtubs, sinks, toilets, showers or bathrooms.

All she knows is this white bucket is where she washes the dirt from play off every day. And soap is often a novelty.

The bucket is too small for her to sit in so she's forced to stand. Her think naked body gleams as she squeezes water from a towel over it. She rubs the towel over her body and the water in the bucket turns brown.

Her mother, Alicia, by now has placed another bucket full of fresh water next to her. Lisa Ann steps into the second bucket rinsing herself off. Alicia hands her a fresh towel and Lisa Ann starts drying herself off.

This activity is repeated only twice a week. Next it's Lisa Ann's baby sister, Viola, 7. They bathe only twice a week because fresh water is not always available. The county provides Lisa Ann's family and other families in the area with fresh water.

They petition for it twice a week, and it's delivered by a truck in buckets the same size as those Lisa Ann and her sister bathe in. There is no plumbing and limited electricity in Lisa Ann's home. The oven is wood burning and there is an outhouse just outside the back door.

Lisa Ann has never seen a television program, although she has seen a television set. She has experienced radio and music in the projects, but she doesn't understand how it works, or where the music comes from.

And the things most young people take for granted, like buying new shoes and new clothing, going to movies, etc. are as foreign to Lisa Ann as the Russian language is to most Americans. But Lisa Ann is an American, a pretty African American youngster who lives and only knows what her immediate environment dictates, a condition that dates back 200 years.

The only change in her environment has been slavery, a condition she believes, she did not escape, but only changed its disguise.

There are only two places that Lisa Ann looks forward to going...school five days a week, and church on Sunday. And school and church are the extent of her travels...both nearly two miles from her home.

Roads by Lisa Ann's home are gravel, and in some places, dirt,

which gets muddy during rains. The closet paved road is near Lisa Ann's school, but it runs only a mile in length. Then it turns into gravel again.

During the days of slavery, which ended some 40 years ago, Tallahatchie County's main source of income was cotton farming. Today, cotton is still its primary industry. But things have changed, but surely not to the benefit of the county's Black residents.

Blacks no longer pick the cotton. They have been replaced by technology...machinery that is faster and cheaper, and more efficient. The local mill does provide some employment for the areas few hundred Black residents, but it is only seasonal, and the pay "is good while it lasts," says Alicia.

Welfare here is not only necessary, but it has become a way of life for many. Most of the 30 homes around Lisa Ann's home are wooded and makeshift, and resembles many of the early pictures of Black huddles in the early rural south. In Tallahatchie County, time has just stood still. There are plenty of children,

some 65 in all under the age of 17. Mothers and grandmothers live in the same homes with children, some as many as 12. But there are few men.

There is no employment in the area except seasonal, and most husbands are forced to abandon their families. Some return with money, many more don't.

Alicia's husband, Ronnie, left work in Memphis eight years ago. He never returned and for the past six years, she has not heard from him.

The only visible sign of contemporary times is the school and its committed and determined principal, Reggie Barnes, a well spoken, well educated self-exiled educator who ventured into the Delta to improve its lot. "I could have taught almost anywhere," the Tennessee State University graduate told this writer. "But I felt an obligation to come here to Tallahatchie County to do my work," he said. "It's here I was most needed, and it's here I will accomplish what I set out to accomplish."

For the past two years, Barnes has been entrenched in a fight to lift the school's rating. It has been on suspension due to poor and national exam results. If the school has scored poorly a third time, the state would have waved financial support.

"We were in a desperate situation," Barnes explained. "We needed to improve our scores by at least one percentage point to keep our funding in tact. Well, with God's help, we did it. Our students (some 120 of them) rose to the occasion and we had believers of the state educational officials."

What Barnes made state officials believe is that poor Black Mississippi children could learn. And while the school improved only that one percentage point to a Grade 2.0, it's still progress, progress that has been missing for the past 30-odd years.

For this first time in three decades, Tallahatchie County School has moved its students one step higher in the learning curb.

"It's a slow process," said Barnes. "We aren't afforded the things other schools get...computers, learning tools and new books. But perhaps now we will be able to access some new things."

The school is elementary and secondary all in one, and ends with a 12th grade diploma.

However, over the years, the dropout rate has been staggering, nearly 60 percent, but it has dropped significantly since Barnes took over in 1998.

"There's still a great deal of apathy among parents," he said, "and with good reason." They don't understand that an education is a way out of poverty. But there are few role models to show them, few examples they can relate to. Most parents suffer from a very poor perspective of life for Blacks who are still referred to themselves as "Colored" or "Negro."

Barnes continued; "It's almost like stepping back in time. Victory from the Civil Rights Movement has no here, had no impact at all. And while folk here have the right to vote, the vast majority of them don't because they fear their lifestyle will worsen in they do." Lisa Ann is a "good student," says Barnes. Her grades have improved significantly. Once a child who failed in the first grad, list now maintains a "B" average.

"But Lisa Ann is only one success story. We need more, many more," said Barnes. "It's a day-to-day process and a student-by-student situation."

Barnes has had some success by holding the parents accountable, working with them and making better understanding their role in the educational process. And it's working although Barnes confesses, "The road ahead is still filled with many holes." Barnes is aggressive and enthusiastic. He's a strong leader to a small professional staff, "too small," he insists. "We need more help down here and we need a new sense of commitment from Black educators in here in Mississippi and surrounding states." But that may be a goal Barnes may never achieve. Far too many African Americans educators have either lost their nationalistic spirit or never had it in the first place.

Indeed, the Civil Rights Movement was conducted by a "we generation" because most Blacks had experience segregation in one form or another. But Jim Crow today is cloaked in various hidden forms that go unnoticed and unchallenged.

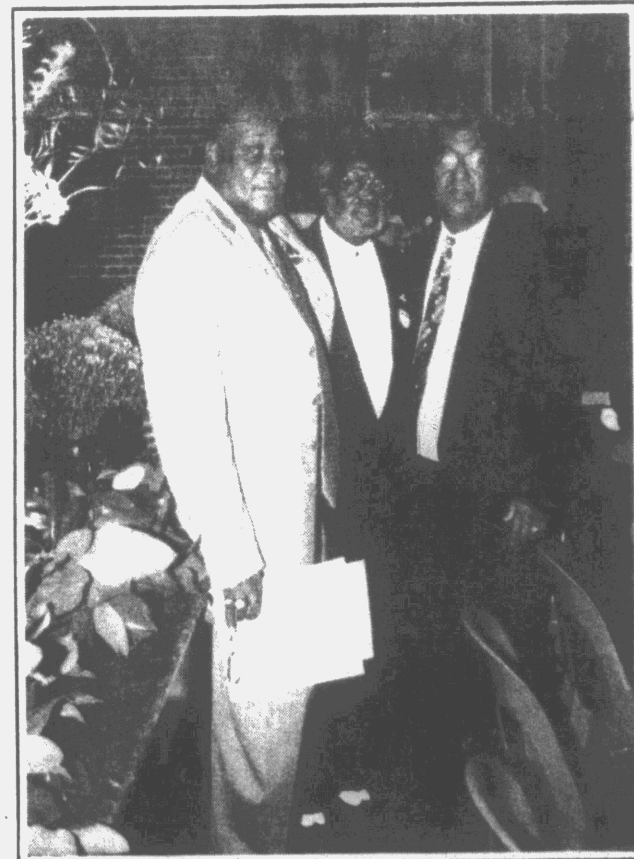
That's because African Americans have been afforded new opportunities that they are afraid of losing," Barnes said. "Too many have put themselves into a Catch-22 position, and have readily accepted it."

"The battle of the 1960s is gone," he added, "but the war is far from over. All one has to do is come here to see what basics are needed. Perhaps they will then understand just how far we must still go. But in the meantime, if we have to soldier it alone, we will."



JUDGE GETS SUPPORT The November election is not far off and NC Court of Appeal Candidate for re-election Judge Biggs is shown at WOOW Studios with Greenville City Councilwoman Rose Glover who stands to endorse our dear sister as she travels across NC for your vote on Nov. 5 2002.

photo by Jim Rouse



SCLC Bringing People Together The Beaufort County Branch of the SCLC joins forces with the Pitt County Branch at there Annual Banquet held at the Washington Civic Center. Shown is Beaufort Cty. Pres. Joe Boston, guest speaker, Senator Charles Steele, and State Pres. Bennie Rountree posing for our camera.

photo by Jim Rouse



ARCHIVES HISTORY PHOTOS

From right to left these Black Folks have made an impact on the Black Community in Greenville & Eastern NC. Champ Brewington, Wiley Hines, & other family members, middle photo, President of NC Mutual Insurance, Mr Spaulding, former Mayor of Greenville NC Ed Carter, the late Willie Hampton. 3rd photo York Memorial AME Church wife, Mrs Brown with picture of her late husband in naming the York Memorial Fellowship Hall in his name. D.D. Garrett, Bro Ward, and the late Mr Garrett, all of these African Americans have made an impact on our lives and we salute them.

photo by Jim Rouse

OPINION

THE MINORITY VOICE NEWSPAPER

Jim Rouse Publisher

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

William Clark General Mgr.

Michael Adams Editor

EDITORIALS

Kudos to a retrofitted Shelby County Commission

In this past week's vote by the Shelby County Commission that rejected a subdivision proposal for an area just outside Millington, we are pleased to see there just might be some sheriffs in town.

For too long it has appeared the Commission has been little more than a rubber stamp for real estate developers who have essentially "raped" the county treasury with undisciplined subdivision development. The Commission has been guilty of abetting a total disregard for the well-being of Shelby County's financial solvency.

Thanks to what appears to be a return of sanity, the Commission (with its new members) have realized the need to control suburban growth and not let the developers have their way with us and our tax dollars.

Perhaps we, in our electoral wisdom, "kicked the rascals out" this past office or at least enough of them to insure integrity in the management of the financial affairs of Shelby County government.

Undisciplined growth in our unincorporated areas has, without question, been the primary culprit in our county's shameful budget deficit. Hopefully this latest vote by the Commission is only the beginning of representation we can maintain confidence in.

Hats off to all our commissioners but particularly to the new ones who have displayed their realization of the fact that they work for us and not the developers. It's heartening to know that we just might be able to have our confidence in the legislative branch of Shelby County Government restored.

Cellular phones only under special circumstances

It appears some parents will stop at nothing to get their "10 minutes of fame." As if public school students don't have enough distractions that retard the learning process, a group of parents appeared before the Memphis School Board at its most recent meeting insisting that students "needed" to be allowed to bring their cellular phones to school with them.

One parent referenced "the technology revolution" as a justification. Another said students needed the phones in the event of a family emergency. We are very much aware that emergencies do occur that require information to be relayed to students from their families but that is one of the responsibilities of school office personnel. If a student must leave the school campus, let her must do so by having a responsible adult come to the school to "check the student out."

We do understand, however, that students whose extracurricular activity participation requires that they remain on campus beyond normal school hours may periodically contact their parents, these occasions are rare and will be minimized if parents and students communicate their schedules regularly with one another.

Any of us who have school age children are aware of their obsession with telephone communication with their friends. They spend hours (if permitted) on the telephone in the evenings and many would duplicate this behavior during school hours if the opportunity was present.

We hope the school board exercises caution regarding their deliberations on this issue and if it is determined the parents have a case that cellular phone possession by students on campus only be permitted on a case-by-case basis and then only in the most unusual of circumstances.

In appreciation of a pioneer journalist — Ethel Payne

In Washington, D.C. in the 1950s, '60s and much of the '70s, one name held sway amongst the influential and powerful of the nation's print journalists of the era —

Ethel Payne — a distinguished graduate of Northwestern University in Evanston, Ill. who was born in Chicago on August 14, 1911. She died, in her "second home," Washington, D.C. on May 28, 1991, following a brief illness.

In between those dates, Mrs. Payne became — and still is — one of the indelible legends not just to Black journalism, but of journalism and recorded word, period.

She was White House correspondent for her parent newspaper, the much-venerated and internationally known and respected

Chicago Defender, from 1953 to 1973.

Last week, the former *Chicago Defender* editor and columnist was righteously honored by the U.S. Post Office with a special commemorative stamp by Chicago Post Office and District Manager Akinyinka Akinyele, who irreproachably hailed Mrs. Payne as a "trailblazer" for her pioneering efforts in the Civil Rights Movement and other areas of Black concerns.

Mrs. Payne, only the second Black woman to be accredited to the White House Press Corps, was just that — a trailblazer — and a true original whose professionalism will forever shine as a beacon of inspiration to all of us who follow her lofty footsteps.

Good news from the IRS if you're middle-class, bad news if you're not

Tax cheats beware. If you have a propensity to propitiate abusive tax schemes to avoid paying your just due to Uncle Sam and you make over \$100,000 a year, the Internal Revenue Service, I.R.S., will be coming for you. But far fewer wage earners whose incomes are reported by their employers, especially if they make less than \$100,000 annually, will be.

It's all part of the new kinder gentler IRS which has vowed to focus its attention on the very rich rather than the average run-of-the-mill taxpayer.

Studies have shown that the working poor are audited far more often than high-income taxpayers, but that will end soon.

Now the agency is looking for tax cheaters whose income comes from their own businesses and investments, which provide much more opportunity to cheat.

For those working poor who claimed the Earned Income Tax Credit, IRS Commissioner Charles O. Rossotti said a strategy is being developed to reduce audits of those claiming the resources. One of 47 of those taking the claim were audited last year, compared to one in 127 of those persons making over \$100,000 annually. That was blatantly unfair and inequitable.

But not all tax cheats will be aggressively pursued, even if they are identified. The agency's auditing staff has shrunk by 29 percent since 1995, while the number of tax returns has grown by 13 percent. "People who make more than \$100,000 pay more than 60 percent of the taxes and we need to focus there," Rossotti stated.

Those who represent the biggest threats to the tax system will in the future be pressed more to pay up or go to prison, as well they should.

THE MINORITY VOICE NEWSPAPER

Here, we believe that the future of Blacks will depend upon their awareness of the world around them. The 'M' Voice newspaper is designed to inform, educate, and entertain. Additionally, each issue features local photographs, stories, and advertisements that mirror this region. We endeavor to market those products that are of concern to the minority community. Since 1981, The Minority Voice newspaper has been the best print medium to deliver your message into the homes of the minority communities that rely on us for news and information from a different perspective.

COMMEMORATIVE STAMP FOR ETHEL PAYNE



THE LATE ETHEL PAYNE IS HONORED BY THE U.S. POST OFFICE WITH A COMMEMORATIVE STAMP. THE FORMER ASSOCIATE EDITOR AND COLUMNIST FOR THE CHICAGO DEFENDER WAS A "TRAILBLAZER" AS DR. AKINYINKA AKINYELE, THE CHICAGO POST OFFICE DISTRICT MANAGER AND LEAD EXECUTIVE, DESCRIBED HER.

ETHEL PAYNE WAS THE SECOND BLACK WOMAN TO BE ACCREDITED TO THE WHITE HOUSE PRESS CORPS IN 1953. SHE WAS THE DEFENDER'S WASHINGTON CORRESPONDENT FROM 1953 TO 1974. PAYNE WAS A GRADUATE OF NORTHWESTERN UNIVERSITY. AFTER A BRIEF ILLNESS IN HER WASHINGTON, D.C., APARTMENT, ETHEL PAYNE DIED MAY 28, 1991.

COMMENTS

Bureaucratic bunglers hamper anti-terrorism plans

by George E. Curry

George W. Bush, reacting to terrorist events of a year ago, has sought sweeping powers from Congress. He and Attorney General John Ashcroft have petitioned for executive power that would curtail civil liberties, a move that has been strongly opposed by both progressives and conservatives.

Now, in preparation for an attack on Iraq, the administration is seeking authorization from Congress to bypass that branch of government and decide how best to cripple Iraq without further action from Congress.

Judging from recent congressional hearings, the Bush administration should be placing a greater emphasis on serious gaffes by his administration, especially the failure of law enforcement bureaucrats to listen to the men and women in the field offices.

Anyone slightly familiar with the FBI or the CIA knows that administrators in Washington have a headquarters-knows-best attitude. The recent congressional hearings on blunders made before Sept. 11 proved the opposite—investigators in the field often know best. And bureaucrats in the central office of law enforcement agencies need to listen to them.

This was made clear last week when it was disclosed that two weeks prior to the Sept. 11 attacks, an FBI agent in New York begged officials at headquarters to let him pursue Khalid Almhidhar, later identified as one of the people who commandeered the airplane that crashed into the Pentagon. When his request was denied, the agent took the unusual step of firing off an e-mail warning of the consequences of the denial.

"Someday someone will die..." the FBI agent warned. "...the public will not understand why we were not more effective and throwing every resource we had at certain 'problems.'" He added, "Let's hope the National Security Law Unit will stand behind their decisions then, especially since the biggest threat to us now, UBL [Osama bin Laden], is getting the most 'protection.'"

Rather than standing behind their decision, as the FBI agent had requested, the bureaucrats at the FBI's National Security Law Unit claimed that the information that had been obtained through U.S. intelligence sources could not be legally used to launch a criminal

investigation. The cautious lawyers were taking the safe way out.

The FBI agent, who was identified by name, is not the only field agent to request—and be denied—permission to act on what turned out to be crucial leads.

It was disclosed earlier that another agent, Coleen M. Rowley in Minneapolis, had complained that she was not allowed to pursue an investigation of accused Sept. 11 conspirator Zacarias Moussaoui.

Among other things, Moussaoui, 34, of France, has since been charged with six terrorism-related counts of conspiracy and aircraft piracy. Although he said he wanted to plead no contest in a federal court in Alexandria, Va., the judge overruled him and entered a plea of not guilty for Moussaoui, who is serving as his own attorney.

Rowley's blistering 13-page letter to FBI director Robert Mueller III noted, "Numerous high-ranking FBI officials who have made decisions or have taken actions which, in hindsight, turned out to be mistaken or just turned out badly (i.e., Ruby Ridge, Wasco, etc.) have seen their careers plummet and end. This has in turn resulted in a climate of fear which has chilled aggressive FBI law enforcement action/decisions."

Kenneth Williams, an FBI agent assigned to the Phoenix field office, wrote a memo to headquarters two months before the attacks, urging a canvass of U.S. flight schools for suspected terrorists. That request was rejected because of a lack of manpower, FBI officials say.

In her letter, Rowley summed up the problem this way: "FBI Headquarters is staffed with a number of short term careerists who...must serve only an 18-month-just-time-to-get-your-ticket-punched minimum. It's no wonder why very little expertise can be acquired by a Headquarters unit! (And no wonder why FBIHQ is mired in mediocrity!)"

The sharing of intelligence information by the top officials of the FBI and CIA can't even be called mediocre, if congressional investigators are to be believed. They cited numerous cases where the agencies failed to share critical information.

The Bush administration should focus on those internal failures rather than trying to march us off to an undeclared war.

(Curry is editor-in-chief of the NNPA News Service and BlackPressUSA.com.)

The new negativism of 'Black leadership'

by Ron Walters

Some Black leaders are now running from being called "Black leaders." Why? One of the results of the defeat of Black incumbent members of the House of Representatives, Earl Hilliard of Alabama and Cynthia McKinney of Georgia, is the emergence of the view that Blacks are rejecting the "old" confrontational Black leaders for "new" moderate ones.

This myth is being spun by people such as Cynthia Tucker, a conservative Black woman who heads the editorial section of the *Atlanta Journal and Constitution* newspaper, but it has gone far beyond that. During the recent Congressional Black Caucus annual legislative weekend, Rep. Harold Ford Jr. of Tennessee sponsored a panel called "The Emerging Black Leadership." Then, recently National Public Radio picked it up and I participated in an hour-long show asking the question, "Is there a new Black leadership?"

To go back to the McKinney election, the myth that a major reason she lost was that Blacks rejected her is being challenged by information coming out of her district. A new analysis of voting in the precincts reveals that she actually won the Democratic vote in her district. But because Republicans can vote in the Democratic primary, her opponent, Denise Majette, received nearly 50,000 votes from the largely White, Republican voting area of North Dekalb County. So, it was the combination of big money from the American Israel Public Affairs Committee that made Majette's cam-

paign viable, and a massive crossover vote from White Republicans that put her over.

Congressman Ford's panel during CBC weekend featured Artur Davis, who defeated Earl Hilliard in Alabama; Kendrick Meek, a Florida state legislator who who will succeed his mother, Carrie Meek, when she retires from Congress; Corey Booker, a Newark, N.J., city councilman who ran against Mayor Sharp James; Karen Carter, member of the Louisiana State Legislature; and Michael Hooks, head of the Memphis School Board. This young group was supposed to discuss what it meant to "move beyond" the civil rights legacy, but they ended up affirming it. Nevertheless, it was clear that Davis will be loyal to Israel when he comes to Congress and that Booker and Ford have few objections to school vouchers. Otherwise, the group sounded like their older colleagues.

There has been a consistent attempt by the establishment to create a Black leadership that would be absent on major public policy issues, that would be non-threatening on the racist treatment of Blacks and that would not march and raise hell in the "old" civil rights style to challenge the system.

The tragedy is that too many Blacks have bought into this.

(Walters is the Distinguished Leadership Scholar, director of the African-American Leadership Institute and professor of government and politics at the University of Maryland. His latest book is *African American Leadership*.)

LETTERS

LETTERS POLICY: We welcome letters to the editor. Letters may be edited for length or clarity and should refer to issues vital to the Minority Voice's readership or subject matter published in the Minority Voice Newspaper. Please include your address and complete name. Mail letters to: Minority Voice Newspaper, 405 Evans Street, Greenville, NC 27835. Fax (252) 757-1793.

Dr. King and Rosa Parks — no joking matter

Dear Editor;

In Ice Cube's latest release, *Barber Shop*, there are some disparaging remarks made in reference to Dr. King, Rosa Parks and Jesse Jackson. In his attempt to find humor in Dr. King's alleged infidelity, Ice Cube has done what John Edgar Hoover could not do. He has desecrated the image of this man of great substance. It was totally inappropriate in an attempt for humor to have the ignorant Cedric "the so-called entertainer" call Dr. King a whore. It was irresponsible and cruel for him to suggest that we celebrate Dr. King's birthday by seeking pleasure in fortification.

It was irresponsible and ignorant of him to say Rosa Parks has done nothing special. To undermine her courageous efforts by saying she was just tired is silly and childish. Rosa Parks may not have been the first not to move to the back of the bus but she was chosen as was Jackie Robinson. She was chosen because of her courage under fire, perseverance, and faith.

It's dangerous of us to tell this new generation that Jesse Jackson, Dr. King and Rosa Parks are nothing special. We who have studied or are of an age to know might not be affected by this poor attempt at humor because of the balance of positive information we have about these leaders. Our youth of today do not have this balance of information. This movie will be their history lesson. When we mention Dr. King or Rosa Parks to the ignorant who get their first knowledge of them from this poor attempt at humor these people will first remember what was said in the movie. First impressions are lasting impressions.

Ice Cube and Cedric "the so-called entertainer" should apologize to the Black community. They should apologize to the four little girls who died in Birmingham. They should apologize to Medgar Evers and Emmett Till. They should apologize to all those unknown victims of hangings, beatings, and rapes who dared take a stance doing the Civil Rights Movement.

When we desecrate the image of Dr. King and Rosa Parks we desecrate not only them but the movement itself. We do what John Edgar Hoover could not do. We stop the movement. This we must not do. Not at this time when our civil liberties are being eroded each day.

Mike Rogers

The King thing

Dear Editor;

On the matter about dreaming about a monument honoring Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. costing \$100 million and placing his image on the dollar bill, please wake up.

Black Americans are growing tired of marches and feel-good gestures that fail to improve the quality of life or bring relief to their suffering. We would be better served if the press took an unbiased look at the man that we have elevated to God-like status.

Forty years have gone by since Dr. King entered the struggle for equality. Who has not been touched by the so-called gains of civil rights? We do know that the Black upper class did not support Dr. King and his push for integration. Their fears were realized when the Blacks left their businesses to trade with others.

Dr. King's dream was not a vision that extended beyond the opening of the gates. He died before he had a chance to lead and direct us through uncharted territory.

So like the Jews of the past, we too find ourselves wandering in the wilderness of lost morality, false Gods and loss of respect for education, parents the law and each other.

Hold the memorials and additional feel-good gestures until we find our way out of the suffering.

Willis Chester

- The National Newspaper Publisher's Association's study revealed that people would consistently pay more for and go out of their way to find a local newspaper aimed specifically at their ethnic group.
- What's even more attractive to our readers is that each biweekly edition of the Minority Voice contains news and commentary of nationally respected journalists.
- There are numerous popular locations throughout the area where consumers regularly pick up their copy at no charge.
- Annual events & celebrations sponsored by THE JIM ROUSE COMMUNICATIONS GROUP and THE MINORITY VOICE NEWSPAPER:
- Call the Minority Voice Advertising and Sales Department and experience how successful and cost effective your ad campaign will be when you advertise with us!
- Make us a part of your organization today! You're going to love what advertising with us will do for you!

A challenge to British gov't:

South Africa wants proof of Africa-Iraq nuclear connection

JOHANNESBURG (IPS)—The government of President Thabo Mbeki has raised strong objections to a British intelligence dossier that suggests that an African country may have discussed selling uranium to Iraq for use in its efforts to develop nuclear weapons.

British Prime Minister Tony Blair recently released an intelligence dossier on Iraq's alleged attempts to develop nuclear weapons.

The report says: "There is intelligence that Iraq has sought the supply of significant quantities of uranium from Africa."

But South African Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs, Aziz Pahad, dismissed the dossier's claims, calling the British allegations regarding African countries vague and lacking in substance. Gabon, Niger, Namibia and South Africa produce uranium although only South Africa produces weapons-grade uranium.

According to the British prime minister, if Iraq gets its hands on the necessary components, it could produce a nuclear weapon in one to two years.

A *Financial Times* of London report suggested the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) was the most likely African source of smuggled uranium. The Congo has been embroiled in conflict for the past three years and control of the country's mineral reserves has been in the hands of rebel groups and warlords.

A number of other African countries also have deposits of the ore, but the British report does not mention from which African countries Iraq may have tried to secure the uranium.

Mr. Pahad was adamant South Africa had never contemplated selling uranium to Iraq. "Our information is that we have not been requested to sell uranium to Iraq. I can state categorically we have not," he said.

He added that South Africa has strict legislation controlling the sale of nuclear material and it would be difficult for anyone from South Africa—even private companies—to sell uranium.

Mr. Pahad pointed out that the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) has already indicated that the British report has



Graphic: MGN Online

no substance. The IAEA insists that it is keeping an eye on stores of uranium that could be used for nuclear weapons in Africa—and they would know if any went missing.

Mr. Pahad has called on the British government to come forward with any information they may have on alleged Iraqi efforts to secure uranium in Africa.

In early September, South Africa signed the "Protocol Additional to the Safeguard Agreement" with the IAEA. South Africa is a member state of the IAEA, the international governmental forum for scientific and technical cooperation in the peaceful use of nuclear technology.

As part of the global effort to prevent the proliferation of nuclear weapons, the IAEA verifies that nuclear materials are not diverted away from legitimate peaceful use for military purposes. Once a member state becomes a party to a Safeguard Agreement, the agency's inspectors monitor all declared nuclear material through on-site inspections, remote surveillance and record verification.

The predominant focus of the Additional Protocol is to strengthen the IAEA's capability to detect undeclared nuclear material and activities.

In June, the South African Department of Minerals and Energy co-hosted a seminar for African States on International Safeguard Agreements and the Additional Protocol.

The purpose of the seminar was to encourage all African states party to the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty to sign the protocols with the IAEA. The treaty makes it mandatory for all non-nuclear weapon states parties to conclude comprehensive safeguard agreements with the IAEA and put all of their nuclear material under safeguards.

South Africa is also the only country to have developed nuclear weapons and then destroyed them before signing up for the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty. Since then, the country insists it has not been involved in the manufacture of nuclear weapons or the production of the necessary components.

TELL SOMEBODY

The Beatitudes - Blessed are the pure in heart



BY
SYLVIA
B.
HOOPER

Blessed are the pure in heart for they shall see God. Matthew 5:8

Pure—free from dirt/defilement; free from impurities.

Jesus wants His disciples (followers) to be blessed. This is why He took the time to teach them how to receive, retain and live as "the blessed of the Lord." He emphasized the essence of a pure heart as one of the requirements for being in His service. He made them fully aware of the responsibilities of being Disciples of Christ. He also made them aware of the rewards that they would obtain because of their obedience.

I Samuel 16:7B says, "For the Lord seeth not as man seeth; for man looketh on the outward appearance, but the Lord looketh on the heart. I Even though man cannot see a heart, God has allowed man to hear words spoken from the heart, and to see deeds done from the heart." For the most part, people say what's in their hearts and do the things that came out of their hearts. Proverbs 15:26 describe the words (speech) of the pure in heart...as pleasant. Proverbs 21:8 describe

the works of the pure in heart as (right). Matthew 12:34B says, "For out of the abundance of the heart the mouth speaketh."

How does one's heart get defiled? Matthew 13:11 says, "Not that which goeth into the mouth defileth a man; but that which cometh out of the mouth, this defileth a man." Matthew 15:18-20C further confirms... "But those things which proceed out of the mouth come forth from the heart; and they defile the man. For out of the heart proceed evil thoughts, murders, adulteries, fornications, thefts, false witness, blasphemies. These are things which defile a man. REMEMBER, Disciple of Christ...Blessed are the pure in heart!

If you realize that your heart has been defiled by the life you have lived; which includes the things you have said as well as the deeds you have done, and you are Godly sorry for it, you are a candidate for a new heart and a new start! If you want a pure heart and you want to see God in peace... Jesus can help you on both accounts. He, and He alone has the power to change any heart that will invite Him in. Revelations 3:20 says, "Behold, I stand at the door, and knock; If any man hear my voice, and open the door, I will come in to Him, and will sup with Him, and he with me."

TELL SOMEBODY ... Blessed are the pure in heart!!!

Heel/Sew

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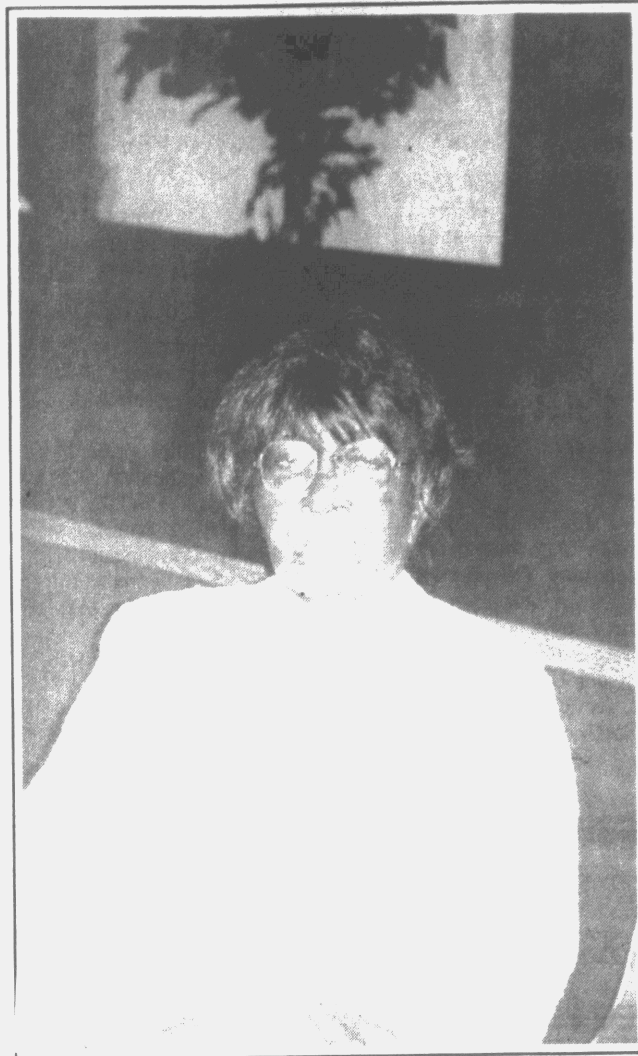
Jim Rouse Publisher

Michael Adams Editor

Cynthia Griffin Asst. Editor

PIONEER

Ms Della Mae Williams is a 90 year old pioneer who has loved and inspired her entire family. Ms Williams was born in Wilson



County. She spent the last 40 years in Greenville. She is a member of Phillippi Church and is the oldest member of the Joyner-Forbes Annual Family Reunion. She is the widow of Isaiah Williams. She resides at the home of James and Emma McIntyre here in Greenville.

She loves to sing. She has three nieces Emma Mae, Olivia Streeter, and Lucy Charles, one nephew, Julius Joyner.



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From The Desk Of Mrs Beatrice Maye



Ms. Beatrice Maye

THE GREATER GREENVILLE FOUNDATION

August 5, 2002

The Board of Directors of *The Greater Greenville Foundation* is especially honored to introduce to you a community enhancement project that we are certainly proud to be a part of and we believe you will be also. This project which is currently being titled as *The Beatrice Maye Floral Park Project* is the direct result of a vision and passion for the Greenville community by Dr. Earl Trevathan, retired Physician and long time friend of this community. The purpose of this letter is to inform you of the wonderful opportunity that you may have to be a part of this exciting project. Under the direction of Dr. Trevathan along with Melissa Spain of *The Greater Greenville Foundation*, we have

formed an advisory committee in which we are encouraging various citizens and business leaders to join us in this endeavor. This project includes the purchase of property which is presently undeveloped and forms a triangle between Davenport Street, Tyson Street, and Farmville Blvd, in the West Greenville area. Currently, while we as a committee are working to secure funding for the completion of this project, the property is secured with an option to purchase. The owners had placed the site on the market for development. As visioned by Dr. Trevathan, this left room for a wonderful opportunity for the creation of a garden or floral park in honor of an outstanding community citizen, Mrs. Beatrice Maye. Because of your interest as a community leader and citizen of the greater Greenville area, we hope you will be a part of making this project become a reality. We would like for you to please consider pledging your support for this project by contributing a financial gift to go towards the \$11,000 price of purchase. The foundation will recognize gifts of \$500.00 or greater by placing names of contributors on a memorial which will be permanently placed on the floral garden park property. The Beatrice Maye Floral Park Project, once purchased, will be gifted to the City of Greenville and maintained by The Recreation and Parks

Department. Our option on this property expires on August 20, 2002, therefore we will need your commitments as quickly as possible.

Sincerely,
Melissa Spain, Executive Director
The Greater Greenville Foundation

**Sunday, October 20, 2002,
2o'clock pm the
Ceremony,unveiling the
sign,"The Beatrice Maye
Garden. PLEASE ATTEND
Ms. Maye**

The Touch of the Master's Hand

There were qualities in the touch of the Master, which set Him apart from all other healers in His time.

1. Jesus had a curative touch (Matthew 8:14)
 2. Jesus had a compassionate touch (Matthew 20:30,34)
 3. Jesus had a cleansing touch (Luke 5:12, 13)
 4. Jesus had a conquering touch (Luke 7:12,13)
- The touch of Jesus is not only curative, compassionate, conquering, and cleansing, but it has changing power in the bodies, hearts, and lives of men. The only limitation to His power is the limitation of faith and willingness on the part of people to be used as His channels of Power in touching those who would be made whole. Jesus has no feet on which to run errands of mercy but our

feet; He has no hands to reach forth in compassionate concern toward the suffering but our hands; He has no minds with which to think thoughts after him but our minds; and He has no heart through which to love with a giving love, a forgiving love, an everlasting, living love but our hearts.

Subject: Daily Survival Kit

<< Items Needed: * Toothpick
* Rubber Band * Band Aid *
Pencil Eraser
Chewing Gum Mint
Candy Kiss Tea Bag

Why?

- 1) TOOTHPICK - to remind you to pick out the good qualities in others. Matt. 7:1
- 2) RUBBER BAND - to remind you to be flexible; things might not always go the way you want, but it will work out. Romans 8:28
- 3) BAND AID - to remind you to heal hurt feelings, yours or someone else's. Col. 3:12-14
- 4) PENCIL - to remind you to list your blessings everyday. Eph. 1: 3
- 5) ERASER - To remind you that everyone makes mistakes, and it's OK. Gen.50:15-21
- 6) CHEWING GUM - to re-

mind you to stick with it and you can accomplish anything. Phil 4:13

- 7) MINT - to remind you that you are worth a mint! John 3:16-17
- 8) CANDY KISS - to remind you that everyone needs a kiss or a hug everyday. 1 John 4:7
- 9) TEA BAG - to remind you to relax daily and go over that list of blessings. 1 Thess 5:18

Friends are a very rare jewel, indeed. They make you smile and encourage you to succeed. They lend an ear, share a word of praise and they always open their hearts to us. Show your friends how much you care. Send this to everyone you consider a friend.

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THE RATTLESNAKE AND THE HIPPOCRITE

IF I SHOULD MAKE A SELECTION TO CHOOSE BETWEEN THE TWO- THE RATTLER AND THE HIPPOCRITE I KNOW WHAT I WOULD DO. IT TAKES NO TIME OF THINKING WHAT CHOICE I WOULD MAKE. I WOULD ALWAYS TAKE THE

RATTLER FOR I KNOW HE IS A SNAKE HE WOULDN'T COME UP TO YOU GRINNING JUST TO MAKE THAT HE IS A FRIEND HE JUST CRAWLS ON HIS BELLY FOR THAT FOR THAT RATTLE DOESN'T PRETEND BUT HIPPOCRITE WILL TALK SO LOVELY AS THEY GIVE YOU A PAT ON THE BACK THEY HAVE SO MANY HIDDEN FACES UNDERNEATH THAT SAME OLD HAT THEY HAVE THE FRIENDLIEST CONVERSATION AND A VOICE WITH THE SWEETEST SOUND WHILE YOU ARE TALKING THEY ARE THINKING HOW TO SMEAR YOUR NAME AROUND A RATTLER'S BITE IS POISON BUT HE WARNS BEFORE HE BITES THE RATTLER IS A DANGEROUS REPTILE AND HASN'T ANY SENSE OF RIGHT BUT IN HIM YOU WILL FIND NO FALSE PRETENDING NO TWO FACES HE HAS TO MAKE FOR ONE THING CERTAIN YOU CAN REST ASSURE THAT RATTLER IS A SNAKE I HAVE ALREADY MADE MY SELECTION AND I WILL ALWAYS STICK TO IT I WOULD RATHER DEAL WITH A RATTLESNAKE THAN TO DEAL WITH A HIPPOCRITE GOD LOVES YOU AND I DO TO BRO CAL HACKETT, WUST CLASSIC GOSPEL RADIO

REMEMBER TO VOTE ELECTION DAY - NOVEMBER 5, 2002

Benin apologizes for slavery: 'We're sorry...come home'

Benin apologizes for slavery: 'We're sorry...come home'

In an unprecedented move, Cyrille Oguin, ambassador to the U.S. from the African Republic of Benin, recently admitted his country's part in trans-Atlantic slave trade that peddled millions of Africans over 300 years, and is seeking reconciliation and forgiveness. Oguin said the loss of millions of Africans from the continent has led to its lack of development and prosperity. "If a vital part of you was missing, would you not miss it?" asked Oguin at a press conference Aug. 29 at the embassy of the Republic of Benin in Washington, DC. The slave trade - or the "Middle Passage," the journey of Africans kidnapped from their homeland and put on European vessels to be transported to Europe and the Americas for enslavement - has been described as the most horrific and disgraceful crime against human beings in history. This peddling of human beings, and untold number of African men, women and children, between the 15th and 19th centuries cost hundreds of lives and robbed Africa of her most valuable natural resource, her people. What has always been clear is

move on his part," said A. Peter bailey, a lecturer and editor of *Vital Issues: A Journal of African American Speeches*. "There has been a tendency to blur over the pivotal role that some African chiefs played in the enslavement of African people. It is a good sign to hear someone acknowledge it and express regret over what happened." Originally called Dahomey, Benin changed its name after gaining independence from France in 1960. A country of about 6.5 million, it is between Togo, Burkina Faso, Niger and Nigeria in West Africa. It is about the size of the state of Pennsylvania and borders the Atlantic Ocean. That, said Oguin, allowed its country to be used as a major port for the slave trade. Slaves were marched down a path that cuts through its country, branded or otherwise marked, and held at holding camps in the port of Ouidah, now part of a toured slave route in Benin, said Oguin. From this port city, thousand of slaves were stripped, chained in pairs by the ankles and taken by canoes, at night, to slaving vessels anchored in the harbors. For this assistance and for sometimes even providing the cargo for the slave merchants, Oguin says they are sorry. The meeting shed light on rumors in innuendoes that have plagued relationships between

spearhead development in a country that has seen years of painfully slow growth. They feel that ignoring the damage inflicted by slavery would impede the peace and reconciliation they seek. "No amount of money can fix anything that has already happened," said Oguin. "This apology is from the heart. And that is much more valuable than money because of they psychological impact. Once we have that confidence that we have spiritually addressed those concerns, then the relationship in business, trade and culture will follow and become larger, stronger and long-lasting." "The apology is too late," said Charlene Crafton, a 30-something local government worker. She spoke for many in her Prince George's County community. "The damage has been done. The apology cannot compensate for everything we've been through." "I believe in retribution," said lecturer Bailey. "And I do believe that Africa, as a continent, has paid a severe price for what those chiefs did. Now both of us will only advance together. It is to the advance of Africans and African Americans that we develop a serious, mutually beneficial relationship." Oguin announced plans for the first annual international festival, "Gospel and Roots," from Oct. 27 to Nov. 3. The festival is



Final Call & Health Issues shown above is Minister Robert Muhammed (holding sign) & Pitt County Health Dept. representatives sharing a day in the Park to inform the community of the different health issues affecting the African American Community.

photo by Jim Rouse



WEED & SEED pictured above is Jackie Barnes, Ida Felder, and Teresa Belcheer residents of West Greenville who participated in the Introduction to Basic Skills Computer Class at West Greenville's Weed & Seed Safe Haven. Mrs. Rosa Sydney director, noted that they were the first to complete the class. Congratulations ladies.

photo by Michael Adams

that Europeans implemented, organized and fueled the slave trade for their own greed and prosperity. The part that has always been unclear is the involvement of African leaders in assisting in the capture, exportation and exploitation of millions of Africans. Oguin echoed the Republic of Benin President Mathieu Kerekou's sentiment expressed at a 1999 reconciliation conference: "We owe to ourselves never to forget these absent ones standing among us who did not die their own deaths. We must acknowledge and share responsibility in the humiliations." Oguin said that admitting guilt is the first step in reconciliation, to clean the blood of millions from the past from his country's hands. "I think that's a very important

Africans and African Americans, according to some observers. This basis for mistrust, according to Oguin, keeps African Americans from benefiting from an economic relationship with the continent. "There are many people who have negative ideas about Africa," said Oguin. "Nowadays, many people are rushing to the continent because of the enormous opportunities it presents. In this move, African Americans should not stay out while they have a special relationship - a historical connection - and blood links with Africa." For over a decade, Benin has been noted for its political stability and encourages a market economy that fuels its economic expansions. However, like Ghana, it courts the attention of African Americans to

expected to be a forum of cultural expression to pave the way for reconciliation. It will bring musicians from all over the world to Benin. Some world-renowned musicians will include King Sunny Ade of Nigeria, Ron Kenoly, Spiritual Jubilation Choir, Righteous Choir and Rodnie Bryant, all of the United States, Rebecca Malope from South Africa, Schekina from Cote d'Ivoire, Robert Laporal from Guadeloupe, and the Winneba Youth Choir from Ghana. Benin hopes that thousands of African Americans and "sisters and brothers in the Black Diaspora" will take advantage of this festival to come "home." Crafton was wistful. Bitterness aside, Crafton said, smiling, "I wouldn't mind visiting any part of Africa."

AMERICAN CREDIT



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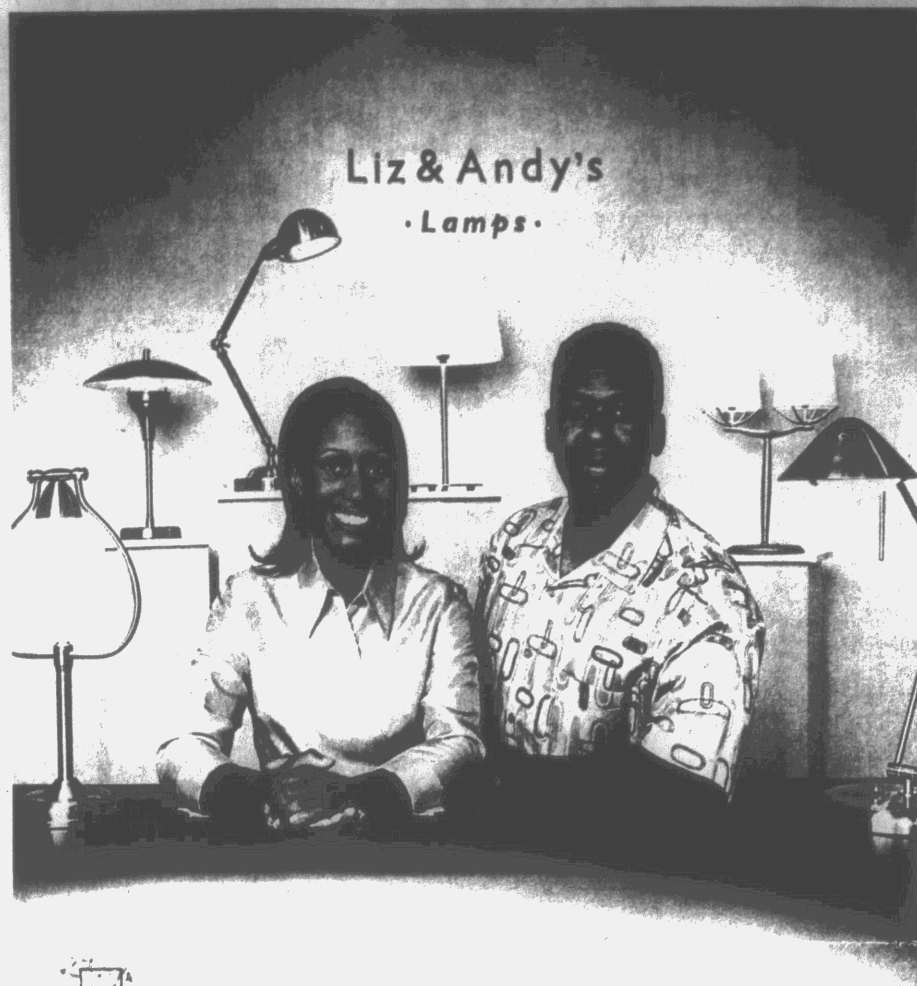
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Local Hero



From the Hillsborough community the in Williamston area we find the son of Mother Rosa Weaver. Mother Weaver raised her children to be God loving citizens. Her dahgthter sister Shirley Weaver raised her children in the same manner. Shown above is her son young bro. Weaver, who is iin a wheel chair. He saved a young person who was being attacked by a dog. Young bro Weaver rushed to the aid while in his wheel chair and got the dog off of his neihbor. Hat's off to this youn Weaver.

photo by Bro Jim Rouse



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Reflections, Expressions, and Reviews



Sujette Jones

**SHAKEDOWN:
EXPOSING THE REAL
JESSE JACKSON
BY KENNETH
TIMMERMAN**

Kenneth Timmerman has interviewed Jackson, his associates, and his victims to write a courageous and important book that at last provides a full, honest accounting of the life and lies of Jesse Jackson---from the streets of Chicago to his support of Yasser Arafat in the Middle East. Here is the real Jesse Jackson: the man who turned racial grievances into a breath-

taking money machine. With Shakedown, Jesse Jackson is finally exposed.

In Shakedown, you'll learn:

*****how Jackson exploited and lied about the assassination of Martin Luther King Jr. Back then he lied about cradling the dying King in his arms, and his dishonesty hasnt let up since.

*****about Jacksons previously unreported affiliation with one of Chicagos most notorious street gangs.

*****where Jackson learned politics from card-carrying Communists.

*****how Jackson make himself a Reverend (without credentials)

*****the truth behind the self-perpetuated myth of growing up poor and a victim of racism.

*****how Jackson raided corporate America in the name of the poor but really to enrich himself and his cronies.

*****the history of sexual shenanigans that made Jackson the perfect minister to President Bill Clinton.

*****about Jacksons corrupt mixture of official diplomacy and unofficial business with African dictators.

*****the inspiring story of a CEO who stood up to Jacksons bullying and won.

Today Jackson leads his racism witch-hunt through corporate America, bilking frightened CEOs of big money. Through it all Jackson has used the same basic techniques of intimidation, coercion, and protection-refined by his association with Chicagos most brutal street gang. Jacksons shakedown technique has enriched his family, steered billions of dollars of business to his friends, and launched a political dynasty. Shakedown is the explosive expose Jesse Jackson has long deserved.

**Excerpted from the book:
Shakedown which can be purchased from Barnes & Nobles.**

Note: Kenneth Timmerman, an investigative reporter with more than 20 years of experience, has written for many magazines and newspapers, including Time, Newsweek, Wall Street Journal, Readers Digest and the American Spectator. He has appeared on Nightline, 60 Minutes, and many other television programs.

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Senator speaks at Annual Banquet



Senator Charles Steele

Charles Steele, Jr. was born and reared in Tuscaloosa, Alabama and still resides in Tuscaloosa. Charles is the second born of four children. His parents are Mrs. Eleanor W. Steele and the late Charles Steele, Sr. He was a 1964 graduate of Druid High School and attended Mississippi Valley State College, Itta Bena, Mississippi and Oakland University Rochester, Michigan. Charles is the co-owner of Van Hoose & Steele Funeral Home Incorporated. He is a member of Bethel Baptist Church where he serves as a Deacon. Charles is married to Cathleen Annette Chambers Steele and the father of two children Lekeisha and Charia. In 1985 he was elected to the Tuscaloosa City Council where he served two terms. Mr. Steele's dedication to serving his constituents is evident through his many worthwhile and tangible

accomplishments in Tuscaloosa County and West Alabama. During his tenure as City Councilman, he organized the ITNity Day Scholarship Fund, The Tuscaloosa Police Athletic League, and secured funds for the purchase of Palmore Park and Barrs' Quarters (Charles Steele Estates). This was the first home ownership program in West Alabama. Charles Steele obtained the

funds to build the Bernice Hudson Washington Insight Center, a drug treatment center. He organized the Tuscaloosa Drug Task Force and after many years of relenting efforts, the Partners for a Drug Free Tuscaloosa County (formerly Tuscaloosa Drug Task Force). During that time the partnership was awarded one million dollars. These accomplishments reflect the proven and devoted commitments of Steele in his quest for a better Alabama. In 1994, Charles, Jr. was elected to the Alabama State Senate. The Senator serves District #24, which includes Tuscaloosa, Hale, Greene, Perry, Sumter, and Marengo Counties. As Senator, he promised his people in the Black Belt district, where jobs are solely needed for so many residents, that he would work tirelessly to change their dilemma. He was given the chance when voters in his district overwhelmingly elected him to office. Since then, Steele, a man of contagious energy and spirit, has been on a crusade to live up to that colossal pact. The Senator played a key role in recruiting not one, but several new plants in his district. He continues to serve the people of Alabama with his efforts in the counties that he serves. He was instrumental in locating Tire and Wheel Assembly (T&WA) in Greene County, H & H (truck beds) in Perry County and

Greenco Dimensions, Inc. (drum sticks) in Greene County. He also has plans for additional companies to locate in District 24. As Senator for District 24 he serves on the following committees: Chairperson Industrial Development and Recruitment, Finance and Taxation; Education, Business and Labor, Agriculture and Forestry, Children Youth Affairs and Human Resources, Judiciary, Tourism and

Marketing, Small Business and Economic Development. Senator Steele serves on many boards and organization locally, statewide and nationally. To name only a few of these organizations: Mercedes Minority Board, National Board Member of SCLC, President, State Chapter, SCLC; President, Tuscaloosa Chapter, SCLC. He serves on the committee for the Michael Figures Leadership Experience Initiative. He sponsored a non-tradition educational program with Robert Townsend of Hollywood, California for the youth of his district. Senator Steele recruited the Rosa Parks movie to Alabama, where he served as consultant to the production of the \$7 Million CBS movie project. He is responsible for the featured film entitled Roper & Goodie, the \$6.5 Million project was filmed in Tuscaloosa, his district, where he is also a consultant for the film. Senator Steele is the recipient of numerous honors and awards. State Senator Charles Steele, Jr. was honored with an Honorary Doctor of Humane Letters Degree from Stillman College on May 3, 1997 during its Saturday afternoon ceremony in Birthright Auditorium which is located on the campus of Stillman College, Tuscaloosa, Alabama. Senator Steele is an elected member of the Senate High Chamber (U S Parliamentary Group) of the International States Parliament for Safety and Peace. In order for Senator Steele to accomplish his mission, he spends countless hours serving the people of his district, city and state. He works on weekends, red eye flights are common for Senator Steele. He has pure faith in God and an understanding family. He is totally committed to the people he serves.

In My Spirit



Bro Adams

Greetings
First let me begin by saying, what follows are the things that bring questions to my mind about everyday life. You may have asked yourself questions and just didn't know where to find an answer. Hence the title 'In My Spirit'. You may not agree with what I say (We do have freedom of speech in America) and if by chance you think I am talking about you, 'I AM'. Moving On! In My Spirit?

**The Blind
Leading the Blind !!!**

I really wanted to be careful in hopes of not offending someone

but as we all know, the time is drawing nigh and the day is at hand. On one occasion the disciples came to Jesus and said, Knowest thou that the Pharisees were offended, after they heard this saying (Matt. 15: 7-9). Jesus answered, Let them alone; they be blind leaders of the blind. And if the blind lead the blind, both shall fall into the ditch. I happened to witness a modern day Pharisee in action. I just got to bring it home. One preacher was not satisfied with the service he received and picked up his telephone and called this company. Not even knowing who he was talking to he began to curse, that's right I said curse, the person out on the other end. Now, he is leading a church. The Blind Leading the Blind. This same preacher is the same one that don't pay his bills. This same preacher was known to have committed adultery. This same preacher gave himself a title as LEADER. This has been 'In My Spirit'. We have new converts who sit under these modern day Pharisees and are headed for the ditch. Saints! Pray for our new born. I could tell you more, but, Nuff Said. I

said before that we all make mistakes but these false teachers are going to have to be exposed. Are we ready for real Evangelist who will call them out? Not preach for fame and fortune! Yes be offended, but get it Right. In vain they do worship and teach doctrines. They speak with lips but their hearts are far from HIM. Nuff Said. When the Spirit of the Lord rests in you and you reach the time of leadership there are some things that will not come out of your mouth. Remember my children, read the Word for yourself. The Lord will send a true servant your way. We do have true leaders and they should be honored, but not praised. What's done in the dark, Will come to the light. (Luke 6:45) A good man will speak good things and an evil man will say that which is evil because its in the heart. Yes, the blind are leading the blind. Even the President, in my opinion, leading the nation toward war, without any physical confrontation from Sadaam. When will we take the blinders off. The Blind leading the Blind.

**Nuff Said !!!
Bro Michael Adams**

An AFRO page from the 20th Century

Each week the AFRO reprints a page from its archives reflecting events that helped shaped the destiny of African Americans across the nation

KOREA

28
Pages

THE AFRO AMERICAN

Page 12

The Afro-American, August 12, 1950 "There's Good News for You in Your AFRO"

Marines Sent Into Battle



SOLDIERS of the 24th Infantry moving toward the front in jeeps. These men took Yechon, July 21, and since that time have been holding the center of the MacArthur line. Left to right: Pfc. Vernon Craighead, Louisville, Ky.; Pfc. James Davis, Bluefield, W. Va.; Cpl. Alvin J. Jackson, Austin, Tex.; and Pfc. Henry Perry, Asheville, N.C.

Above
MEMBERS OF THE 24th Infantry of the 25th Division off to battle. Left to right: Cpl. Marvin Taft, Baltimore, Md.; Cpl. Elanton Hall, Oakdale, La.; and Pfc. James Mosby, New York.

Right
A NEW 3.5 BAZOOKA, a prime morale booster since its arrival in the front lines, is fired by an American soldier on the Korean battlefield. It is regarded as a top anti-tank weapon for its ability to penetrate 11 inches of armor plate.

Below
MEMBERS OF THE 24th Infantry bound for the battlefield. Left to right: Cpl. David Pryor, Staunton, Va.; Cpl. Doyle Howell, Oakland, Calif.; Billy Kees, Louisville, Ky.; Cpl. Elanton Hall, Oakdale, La.; and Cpl. Willie Mullins, Detroit, Mich.



Tan Marines Land in Korea

WITH THE FAR EASTERN COMMAND IN KOREA — Troops in integrated units landed in Korea with the first Marine Division to bolster the United Forces Thursday. Tan marines are reported to be

(Continued on page 9)



Soldiers of the 24th head toward the South Korean battlefield where grim fighting by their unit was in progress. The town of Chinju, less than 50 miles west of Pusan, fell to the Reds just as the 2nd Infantry Division landed in Korea to bolster U.S. power in the tight corner of the Peninsula.



FLASH NEWS!

Fight or Die Is Army's Decision

By the end of this week or the first of next week, we should know whether MacArthur's troops in Korea can maintain their beachhead or be driven into the sea. Since July 21, when the colored 24th Infantry Regiment of the 25th Division

(Continued on page 9)

Gloria's Very First Birthday Celebration

By: Mattie de Jesus

We invited all of our Family and Friends to join us in Celebrating Gloria Forbes Roach's Very First Birthday on October 05, 2002, at Annie Brown Community Center, 4316 Liberty Street, Ayden, NC. She turned 77 years of age.

Minister Joe Roach gave the opening paryer, Renee' Respass and the Great Grandchildren sung songs, Joyful Roach-Gardner did the greeting and recognitions, Dawn Roach recited a poem, Wendy Anderson gave the bibliography scan, Angela Roberson gave a special tribute, Allie Roach-Hardy gave words of thanks, William Roach gave the Blessing, Michael Roach ushered, Ezekiel Roach did the supervising, Alicia Hardy and Clinton Roberson did the videotaping, James Harris was the photographer, Mattie de Jesus was the coordinator and Genoro de Jesus did the decorating.

We have contacted prestigious persons including President Bush, Mayor of Ayden and the Governor of NC, we have a planned program, preparing a delicious dinner and working on our souvenir booklet to be distributed December 2002. We contacted the local newspapers and the local radio and television stations.

We asked Gloria if she ever had a birthday party before and she stated, "I ain't never had a birthday party in my life, one when I was a her if that meant the party for us. Gloria asked look. "I used to but I can't any-teasingly said, that you dance church." She ried look and ing about me can't even around, none the Gloria Victoria was born Oct. Claud and Esther arried Johnnie they had nine William Edward Jean Roach-Roach, Allie Hardy and Joe Four children to be with The Saviour Jesus Lee Roach, Jr., a Earl Roach and twins. She has



not even a small child." I asked she will dance at "Who me?", with a puzzled be a good dancer more." Allie "I've heard for God in gives us a wor-said, "Y'all talk-DANCING and I HARDLY get less DANCE." Forbes-Roach 10, 1925 to Mills-Forbes.M-Lee Roach, and children: Roach, Joyful Gardner, Ezekiel Merlene Roach-Claudie Roach. that were sent on Lord and Christ: Johnnie twin. William two unnamed 16 grandchildren

and 18 great-grandchildren whom she loves dearly. Ms. Gloria was a homemaker, a sharecropper's wife. Who attended Pitt County schools of Helen Cross Road area. Sister of Eva Ore of East Orange, NJ. and the late Joshua Daniels. Member of Mother's Board at Poplar FWB Church.

Gloria's loves to grow plants and vegetables, very crafty at making beautiful quilts by hand the old fashion way, cheerfully helping people in need and good at cheering people up. She is very talkative and can tell you detailed stories of way back. I became spellbound when she told Allie and me about my great-grandma, Easter Mu, who lived to be 110 years old. Easter Mu was Allie's great-great grandmother and Glen Edwards Jr., and Joshua

Edward's great, great, great, great, great grandmother. I want to share this story with you.

Now I would like to tell you the story as told by Gloria Victoria Forbes-Roach about our "Great Grandma Easter Mu".

Great Grandma Easter Mu would walk along beside of the woods. I was about 12 years old and would follow her because I loved her better than my mother. Easter Mu would suddenly disapper into the woods. I followed her to see what she was doing. I heard her on the other side of the log praying she wasn't sick. I heard her say, "Lord, I know you have notified me but please let me live another year." I followed her in the woods the next year too. Easter Mu prayed again, "Lord, please let me live another year." I got on the other side where she couldn't see me and prayed too. "Lord, Please don't let her die. Please let her live." God answered those prayers and each time she LIVED. Then she stopped going to the woods and was on her death bed. praying, "Lord let me know if I've made it." The next day she was still praying "Lord go ahead and give me a sign to let me know if I have made it. I've been praying night and day. Let me know before I go if I've made it." Soon Easter Mu excitedly yelled, "Lord, you all come and see this beautiful city! Come here y'all, look the streets are paved with Gold. It's beautiful."

Her daughter Ceila asked "Where Ma?" The Lord is showing it to me," said Easter Mu.

Who told me to move her pillow from under her head. I didn't want her to die. Easter Mu told us, "I've done seen everything I've asked for. My business is right. I'm ready to go now." And she left right after I moved her pillow."

I had a Great Aunt on my father's side who lived to be 103. She used to often cry out "Thank you lord for giving me one more day." Talking to the lord helps people to live 77 years old and beyond. I want to THANK YOU !! to Gloria's children, grandchildren, and great-grandchildren for sponsoring this worthwhile occassion and working in HARMONY to make it a success !!!

Gloria is so happy, excited and appreciative until it's contagious. She's got us all EXCITED and HAPPY too !! Cousin Gloria, I am wishing you 23 more Happy Birthdays. If you are still here longer than that I don't know what to say. So keep doing like Easter Mu, and keep talking to the LORD.

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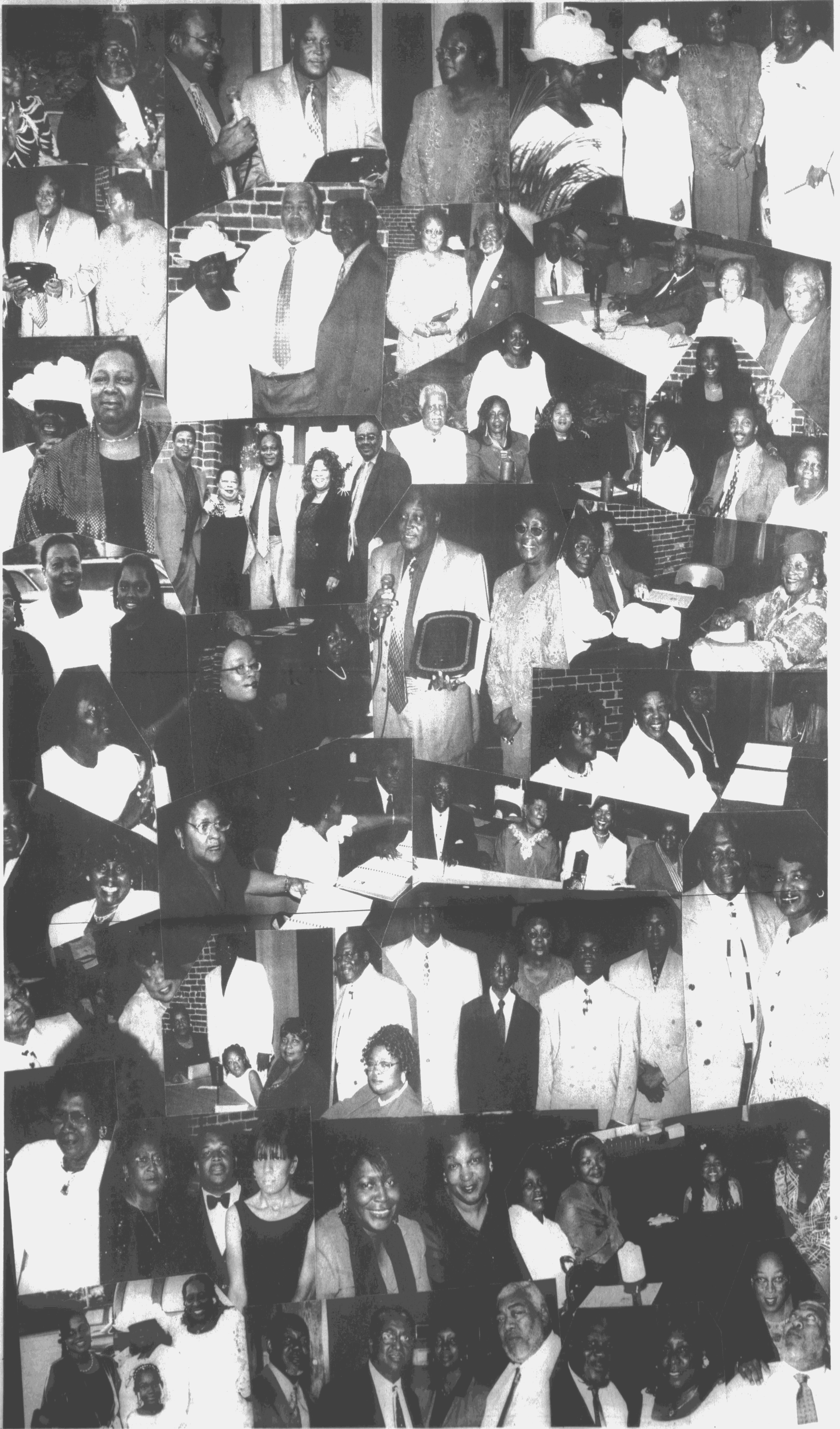
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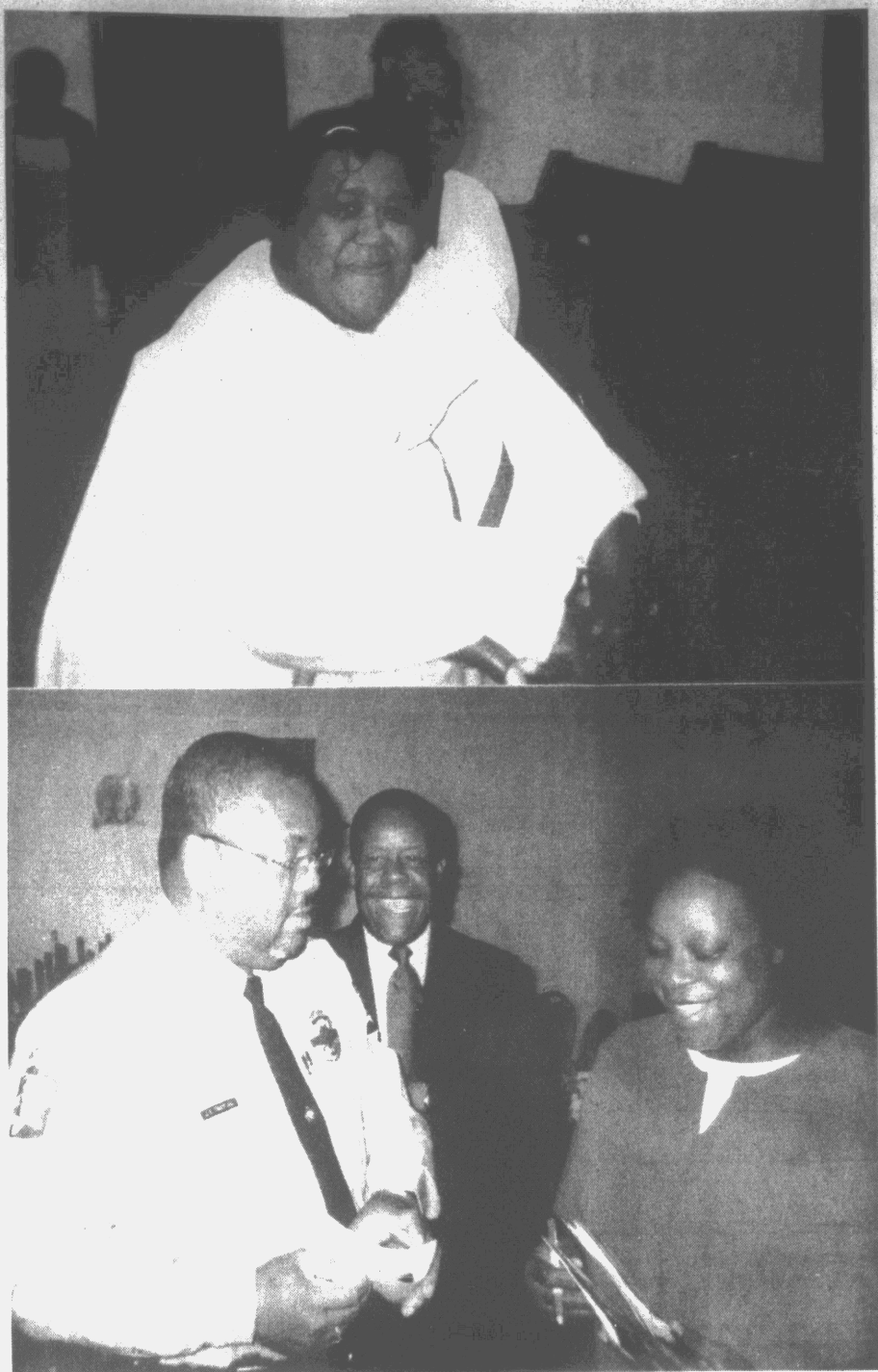
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Pastor Shirley Daniels (top photo) of Canaan Free Will Baptist Church, North of the River held a 911 Memoria Service September 11, 2002 at 7:00pm. The program opened with the song God Bless America. Pledges were made to The American Flag and The Christian Flag and to the Bible.

A prayer was said for the Firemen and Families. Eldress Linda Jordan led a song. Prayer for the Military and Families was made by Pastor Arthur King of St. Mary's. A prayer for law enforcement officers was made by Bishop James Tripp. Prayer for the World Leaders was made by Rev. Rex Flemings. The song "Let There Be Peace On Earth" was led by Zenobia Gardner. Then followed the benediction. Councilwomen Rose Glover and Mildred Council were on hand for the Memorial Service

photo by Faith May

Barbershop: Hilarious or Hurtful

'Barbershop'

Hilarious or Hurtful?

Many District residents contend that they types of conversations that go on in barbershops are reflected in the controversial movie, "Barbershop," and that barbershops has no sacred subjects.

The Rev. Douglas Moore, a former mayoral candidate and pastor of Elijah United States Methodist Church in Poolesville, Md., and college classmate of the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King at Boston College, said about the controversy, "I don't think it's that serious."

The Rev. Moore, a noted civil rights worker, was referring to the talk surrounding the movie, which isn't warm admiration for a brilliant film, but outrage. Many civil rights advocates - the Rev. Jess L. Jackson, the Rev. Al Sharpton and the Rev. Dr. Bernard King (Dr. King's daughter) - are outraged by some of controversial dialogue in the movie.

Since its release Sept. 13, "Barbershop" has been at the top of the box office for two weeks and has grossed about \$34 million. It stars rapper actor Ice Cube as the inheritor of a barbershop on Chicago's South Side. Cedric the Entertainer plays an old, cantankerous bar-

ber who jokes about Rosa Parks and Dr. King's alleged promiscuity.

His character, Eddie Bishop, is the voice of wisdom in the movie. However, some moviegoers are concerned by some of his contentious remarks, which have divided Black opinion about the integrity of "Barbershop." During one scene, Bishop tells the patrons, "All Rosa Parks did was sit on her ass." He also expresses, "Martin Luther King wasn't nothing but a ho. For the King holiday, we would take the day off and get our freak on."

Dr. Bernice King was livid. "The Bible says, we are accountable for every word we speak out of our mouth," she said in a recent interview with Ed Gordon, host of "BET Tonight." Kings, who saw the move at an Atlanta

theater, said she was absolutely shocked when she heard her father's image being degraded, and was further disturbed when the audience responded with laughter at Bishop's remarks.

"The remarks were very degrading, debasing and not necessary," she said.

"Somebody has to take a stand for right."

Sharpton, Jackson and King are calling for MGM to remove those disparaging insults from the movie. As a precedent to their demands, Jackson and Sharpton referred to Warner Bros. Removing scenes that included the World Trade Center in the movie, "Collateral Damage." It was stated that keeping the buildings in the move would be insensitive in lieu of the attacks on those buildings.

Jackson and Sharpton also referred to Sony agreeing to remove lyrics from Michael Jackson's songs, "Dangerous" after a Jewish group protested to language they claimed was offensive.

Dr. Leonard Smith, senior pastor of Mt. Zion church in Arlington, Va. agrees, "Whenever African Americans are given national and international platforms, we must be careful about what we say," Dr. Smith said. "The things said are heightened when cast into a national or international spotlight and for some people, some things just aren't funny."

When we jokingly attack our historical figures, it helps to increase others not honoring our leaders."

But while Jackson, Sharpton and King make a fight over this sensitive issue, other District residents question whether it's a big deal.

Rev. Moore, said that very explicit conversations occur in the barbershop. However, he explains, "the very nature of the barbershop is, what is said in a barbershop stays in the barbershop." Exposing those comments that go on in the men's club (the barbershop) may be where Bishop in the move, crossed the line suggested Moore.

Although the manner in which Bishop may have expressed his

feelings about Rosa Parks may have been abrasive, the information he delivered was historically accurate. Parks was not the first person to be arrested for refusing to give up a seat, according to historical archives. Many who had gone before her simply did not have an organization behind them as Parks did to bring national attention to their arrest. One of many boycotts, which took place before Park's historic even was, then Baton Rouge bus boycott in 1953, headed by the Rev. T.J. Jemison.

"All the information has not been written about the movement," said Rev. Moore.

MGM was not unavailable for an interview, but provided the following statement.

"In 'Barbershop,' a character makes comments about Rosa Parks and other leader of the civil rights movement. It's only that one character's opinion, though. No one else in the film agrees with him, and it's not an opinion shared by the film itself, the filmmakers, or MGM Pictures. That same character, Eddie, also says 'You can say anything: you want in a barbershop.' For the characters in the film and in that place, no subject is off limits, and the filmmakers were trying to be true to that. 'Barbershop' presents a realistic portrait of the kinds of discussions happening in barbershops and other gathering places across the country."

The producers of the film even went further earlier this week and apologized for the film's barbs about Parks and King. Rev. Jackson said, while he's please for the apology, he wants the jokes cut from future DVD and video editions of the hit movie.

Producers Bob Teitel and George Tillman told The Associated Press that they had apologized to Jackson on behalf of everyone involved with the film.

"I completely did not mean to offend anyone," Tillman said.

"The apology is a step in the right direction," Rev. Jackson told the AP, but added that he will "keep appealing to them" to do the right thing.



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WHERE DID TEENS COME FROM?

Did you know that 100 years ago, "TEENAGERS" did not exist? The term teenager didn't come into common use until about 1940. And there is a reason for that.

Kids worked. In 1900 only 6 percent of 17-years-olds in the U.S. graduated high school. Public education just wasn't a priority. Most youth spent the bulk of their time with family or in the adult world. There was no "youth culture." No movies, MTV or malls.

In the 20's, high schools revamped to attract more students, adapting their traditional, scholarly education to include practical classes like bookkeeping and home economics. It paid off: By 1930, almost half the teen population were high school students, and the trend continued upward. More than ever, teens were ripening in an environment composed almost entirely of their peers. High school was now a full-out teenage social experience.

Savvy businessmen were quick to pick up on this emerging demographic. In the '40s, advertisements aimed directly at the teen market began to appear for household furnishings, hope chests and fashions. The products were wholesome-an extension of, say, home economics in school-preparing youths for adulthood. But money was clearly bottom-line. The onset of the "teenager" had everything to do with their increase in buying power. As teen numbers and economic clout swelled, so did an onslaught of rock "n" roll culture and delinquency. Youth culture rocked the entire world: the entertainment industry, the universities, the government. The atmosphere of protest gave rise to gangs, beatniks, rockers and hippies, bent on casting off constraint, high on the heady fumes of hedonism.

Parents who turned in their Bibles to scriptures like Romans 1:30 and II Timothy 3:1-2, which describe disobedience as being a sign of the end of the world, had a pretty good case to make. While these youths spoke out against the mistakes of the previous generation (which had only succeeded in bringing the world to the brink of nuclear annihilation), the only alternative they seemed to offer was a self-destructive one.

Now, we are a full generation beyond the development of modern youth culture. The students who protested at colleges around the country were absorbed into the system and are now the professors and administrators. The teens who once declared WAR on parental control are the parents of today. Consider: The average parent of an adolescent in his mid to late teenage years is between 35 and 45 years old, which means they were born in the '50s or '60s; and that they went to high school roughly between 1971 and 1985. Pretty tumultuous-and influential-years in the history of American youth.

So, what do you do if you've grown up REBELLING against authority, against parents and everything they stood for, and suddenly realize one day that you're a parent?

The answer is very telling.

Free Poetry Contest Open to Greenville residents

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"Any poet, whether previously published or not, can be a winner," stated Christina Baylon, Contest Director. "When people learn about our free poetry contest, they suddenly realize that their own poetic works of art can win cash prizes, as well as gain national recognition," continued Baylon.

To enter, send ONE original poem, any subject and any style to: The International Library of Poetry, Suite 19915, 1 Poetry Plaza, Owings Mills, MD 21117. The poem should be 20 lines or less, and the poet's name and address should appear on the top of the page. Entries must be postmarked or sent via the Internet by December 31, 2002. You may also enter online at www.poetry.com

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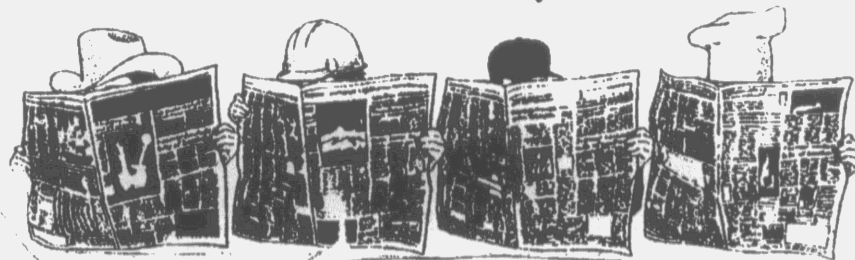
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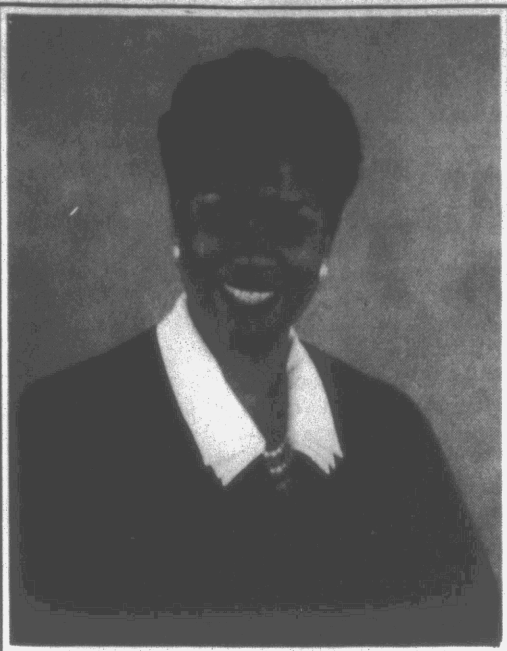
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Three African American Judges running for state's highest court

from the Chronicle
Ernest H. Pitt

Loretta Copeland Biggs Judge, North Carolina Court of Appeals

Judge Loretta C. Biggs, associate judge on the North Carolina Court of Appeals, has spent the last 20 months commuting from her home in Lewisville to Raleigh to serve on the second highest court in the state and now she must run statewide to retain her seat. Biggs was appointed by Governor James B. Hunt, Jr. in January 2001. She has no primary opposition and will face a republican challenger from Union County in the fall. If elected Biggs will serve an eight year term. Retired federal district court judge, Richard Erwin is the only African American from Forsyth County to serve on the Court of Appeals prior to Biggs' appointment. Biggs is one of three African American running to retain seats on our top appellate courts. The others are Justice GK Butterfield, the only black on the Supreme Court, and Judge Wanda Bryant, also on the Court of Appeals.

Since being on the Court, Biggs has authored over 100 opinions and participated in another 250. In a recent letter to attorneys throughout the state Annie Brown Kennedy wrote of Judge Biggs, "she has distinguished herself as a thoughtful and capable jurists. Not only is Judge Biggs highly qualified to serve on the Court of Appeals, but she has also demonstrated her commitment to maintaining access to the courts for all and integrity in the legal profession." This has been echoed by many. Judge Biggs has been endorsed by the North Carolina Association of Educators, The American Federation of Teachers, The NC AFL-CIO, the Academy of Trial Lawyers, The North Carolina Association of Women Attorneys, and the Professional Fire Fighters and Paramedics of NC.

Prior to her appointment to the Court of Appeals in January 2001, Loretta Biggs served from 1994 to 2001 as Executive Assistant United States Attorney for the Middle District of North Carolina. In that office Biggs, who coordinated all crime reduction strategies for the Middle District of North Carolina, became widely recognized for her work. There she received in 1999 the Attorney General's Award for Outstanding Contributions to Community Partnerships for Public Safety, one of three recipients nationwide to receive that honor. In 2000, Biggs received an international award, the Common Ground Community Award by the largest non-governmental conflict resolution organization in the world, Search for Common Ground, for "extraordinary work in sponsoring unprecedented dialogues that bring together community leaders, law enforcement authorities, and social services providers to build safer communities." Biggs has been the recipient of numerous other awards including the Chronicle's Woman of the Year Award in 1994. Finally, Biggs spearheaded the development of the Center for Community Safety housed at Winston-Salem State University, and was instrumental in securing a \$1.8 million grant to get the Center started.

President Bush visited the Center last year on his trip to the city and applauded its work.

Before joining the United States Attorney's Office, Biggs served from 1987 to 1994 as a District Court Judge for the 21st Judicial District of Forsyth County. Judge Biggs is best known for her work with juvenile offenders. Style Magazine once wrote of Judge Biggs that "she will turn every legal stone to keep a child from falling into a life of crime." From 1984 to 1987, Biggs was an Assistant District Attorney in Forsyth County, and served as an Adjunct Professor at Wake Forest University School of Law. Biggs served from 1979 to 1982 as staff counsel with The Coca-Cola Company in Atlanta, Georgia. Biggs is licensed to practice law in both North Carolina and Georgia.

Biggs' professional affiliations have included the North Carolina Association of women Attorneys, the North Carolina Association of Black Attorneys, the North Carolina Bar Association, the National Institute of Trial Advocacy, the Forsyth County Bar Association and the Winston-Salem Bar Association.

Biggs is very active in the community, and serves on a number of federal, state and local boards and commissions. She is a regular speaker at schools and other events involving youth. Biggs and her husband, Larry M. Biggs, have two children, Jahmela and Jelani, ages 19 and 16, and attend the Emmanue Baptist Church in Winston-Salem where she has served as the Asst. Superintendent of the Sunday School as well as a Sunday School teacher.

Biggs was born in Atlanta, Georgia, where she attended Harper High School, graduating second in her class, and Spelman College, graduating *Cum Laude* with a Bachelor of Arts degree in Political Science. Biggs graduated from Howard University School of Law, fifth in her class, and served as Deputy Articles Editor of the *Howard Law Journal*.

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News Roundup

Bosnian Serb official cuts war-crimes deal

THE HAGUE, Netherlands — Abruptly reversing course at the Yugoslav tribunal yesterday, a top Bosnian Serb wartime politician pleaded guilty to persecuting non-Serbs in the 1992-95 Bosnian war.

In exchange, prosecutors dropped genocide and all other war crimes charges against Biljana Plavsic, the only woman suspect at the court and the first Serb leader to admit responsibility for atrocities.

Plavsic, one of the highest-ranking officials to come before the U.N. tribunal for the former Yugoslavia, pleaded guilty to one count of crimes against humanity, an offense punishable by up to life imprisonment.

Homeland security bill is still mired in Senate

WASHINGTON — Senate moderates tried in vain yesterday to resolve the labor rights dispute that has stalled legislation creating a Homeland Security Department.

Democrats John Breaux of Louisiana and Ben Nelson of Nebraska, joined by Republican Lincoln Chafee of Rhode Island, could not win agreement on their latest attempt at compromise, which moved closer to the White House position. As a result, the largely partisan Senate logjam continues after almost five weeks.

A spokeswoman for Senate Majority Leader Tom Daschle (D-S.D.) repeated his pledge that the Senate would keep trying for a deal even as it moves on to other issues such as the Iraq use-of-force resolution.

President Bush has threatened to veto the homeland security legislation unless it permits him greater power to hire, fire and move around the proposed agency's 170,000 workers.

Arafat asks Bush to bar relocating U.S. embassy

JERUSALEM — Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat appealed yesterday to one of his toughest critics — President Bush — to block a U.S. law that calls for moving the American embassy in Israel from Tel Aviv to disputed Jerusalem. Bush signed the bill into law, but views it as advisory rather than mandatory, and says he has no plans to move the embassy to Jerusalem, where Palestinians seek to establish a capital in the eastern part of the city.

In another development, Arafat's Fatah movement has dropped the idea of prodding the Palestinian leader to relinquish some power by appointing a prime minister.

The Fatah campaign had been the most serious political challenge to Arafat in years, but the effort was sidetracked during Israel's 10-day siege of Arafat's compound, which ended earlier this week.

Retiring Sen. Helms hailed by colleagues

WASHINGTON — The Senate paid tribute yesterday to retiring Sen. Jesse Helms of North Carolina, an icon of conservatism and uncompromising foe of communism who, colleagues said, abided by the Southern courtliness of a bygone era.

Democratic Sen. Robert Byrd of West Virginia, the 84-year-old Senate president pro tempore, called the 80-year-old Helms "a true gentleman of the Old South" who stuck to his beliefs and demonstrated the power a single senator can wield.

Helms, who is serving the last of his five terms, was the second retiring senator from the Carolinas in as many weeks to be recognized for his long service. Senators last week turned their attention to 99-year-old Strom Thurmond (R-S.C.), who was first elected in 1954.

Bomb kills U.S. soldier, 2 more at Philippine bar

MANILA, Philippines — A nail-packed bomb killed an American soldier and two Filipinos yesterday outside a restaurant near a base in the troubled southern Philippines, where the U.S. military helped in the fight against al Qaeda-linked rebels this year.

The blast, from a bomb hidden on a motorcycle, wounded 25 people outside the restaurant, which is frequented by U.S. and Filipino soldiers, in the city of Zamboanga, officials said. Television footage showed a pool of blood and unconscious victims — some with their shirts bloodied — being loaded into ambulances.

No one claimed responsibility for the blast. Suspicion fell on Muslim extremists like the al Qaeda-linked Abu Sayyaf group and Communist rebels who had threatened earlier in the day to attack police and military installations.

FORUM

Collateral damage and the Iraq war

By RON WALTERS

As planning for the war against Iraq proceeds, one wonders whether the planners are considering what we know wars produce as "collateral damage" on a number of fronts.

First, they should consider the magnitude of the sacrifice by Americans who need such things as prescription drugs, a Social Security safety net, college loans, Medicaid and Medicare, election reform funded, sufficient affordable housing and strategic support for the budget of those states whose economies have gone into the tank. Funds needed for these priorities will be spent on a questionable war with a so-called "enemy" who does not even threaten the basic security of the United States. Meanwhile, the direct-not indirect-interests of Americans will be threatened by the funds that are squandered on this misadventure.

Then, they should consider the cost of war and at the same time consider the recent report from the U.S. Census Bureau, which said that 1.3 million more Americans have slipped into officially defined poverty, taking the poverty rate to 11.7 percent.

This is an indication that the state of the U.S. economy—not just the stock market—is in dire need of attention.

And what does George Bush want to do? He wants to slow down spending to save money for the war, instead of speeding up spending to bail out the economy.

Congressional Democrats estimate that the cost of an Iraq invasion and occupation will be at least \$200 billion, taken out of an economy that the Congressional Budget Office says is already running a river of debt. It estimates that the debt will amount to \$1.7 trillion in 10 years, partially as a result of the Republican tax cut, and this debt will be added to that which already exists and is growing by leaps and bounds. Where are all those folks on the Right who were calling for a balanced budget? When Bob Dole was the Majority leader in the Senate, in 1996 he also was the leader of the band trying to secure a balanced budget. But you haven't heard from him lately on this issue. So, the war economy is now embargoing funds that will be needed for domestic human needs far into the future.

"Collateral damage" will be done by killing thousands, perhaps

hundreds of thousands of the people of Iraq—a cost of war that no one talks about. Who will take responsibility for the human carnage that might take place, the bitter memories that this will generate against the United States, and how will we explain to the succeeding generations of Americans that Iraqis will grow up attempting to use violence to insure that they will be able to live in peace and security? Our planners act as if America is such a power in the world that there will be no cost for the aggressive actions against others.

The true cost of "regime change" is not simply in replacing Saddam Hussein, but insuring that another Saddam or someone worse does not rise to replace him. Therefore, it means destroying his infrastructure and the people who support it. This step turns the United States into an occupier in the region, joining Israel on the ground acting out the role of imperial agent of the West.

The real name for the action against Iraq would be "aggression," a term used to indicate that one nation, for its own reasons, initiates actions against another, just as Saddam Hussein did against Kuwait or

Yemen. Aggression, especially by a global power, is a violation of international law and even if done by wresting political sanction from the United Nation, it violates the spirit of international law and global civility. It strikes a dagger at the heart of creating an international system where nations respect law and civil procedures more than naked power. So, the "collateral damage" in this case will be the principles of conflict resolution for an evolving global system.

Finally, no one talks about the "collateral damage" of sending American soldiers to fight a war that has the stink of politics all over it, for oil or for the re-election of a president. For just as Vietnam soured a generation of Americans on such adventures, the potential of losing thousands of lives for nothing also may contribute to the adoption of an isolationist mood in the aftermath. With American interests exploding globally, none of us can afford that. But as we ignore the realities of this and other collateral damage this policy could cause, we all become complicit in the result.

— Ron Walters is Distinguished Leadership Scholar, director of the African American Leadership Institute and professor of government and politics at the University of Maryland College Park.

Black Caucus cautions against U.S. rush into use of military force

By ARIZONA LEWIS

WASHINGTON — The 38 members of the Congressional Black Caucus issued a joint statement Thursday cautioning against a rush into George Bush's use of military force.

Rep. John Lewis, D-Ga., accused Bush of ignoring the nation's imminent needs for health care, education and environmental protection to focus instead on a unilateral military campaign against Iraq.

"We cannot look to our president to address these problems," Lewis said in a speech at Howard University, reported USA Today. "He is too busy pounding the drums of war."

"Bombing Baghdad may make us

forget about our nation's poor schools, but it will not educate our children," said Lewis, a proponent of non-violence who was a civil rights leader during the 1960s.

"There is concern that there are steps missing" in the White House's move toward war, said caucus Chairwoman Eddie Bernice Johnson, D-Texas.

One caucus member, Rep. Sheila Jackson Lee, D-Texas, said she could not vote for a resolution that would grant Bush authority to use "all means he determines to be appropriate" against Saddam. "The case has simply not been made to justify an unprecedented pre-emptive military strike," she told USA Today.

In a related matter, two white U.S. congressmen visiting Iraq urged the

United States Sunday to take Iraq at its word on allowing unfettered international weapons inspections and stop "provoking" a new Gulf war.

The congressmen — David Bonier, D-Mich., and Jim McDermott, D-Wash. — said Iraqi officials they have met in Baghdad had all promised that inspectors searching for weapons of mass destruction could enter any site they wanted at any time, but that Iraq also wanted to be treated with dignity at the same time.

"They say to the person they will allow unrestricted, unfettered inspections, any time you want, anywhere you want," Bonier said in a live television interview with ABC's "This Week with George

Stephanopoulos."

"They want their sovereignty respected ... they want to be treated with some dignity and respect, but basically they are suggesting that everything will be open for the inspections."

McDermott, who like Bonier voted against war with Iraq in 1991, added:

"They said they would allow us to go anywhere we wanted, and until they don't do that, no one needs to do this coercive stuff where you bring in helicopter and armed people and storm buildings."

"I think you have to take the Iraqis on their face value ... They should be given a chance, otherwise were trying to provoke them into war."

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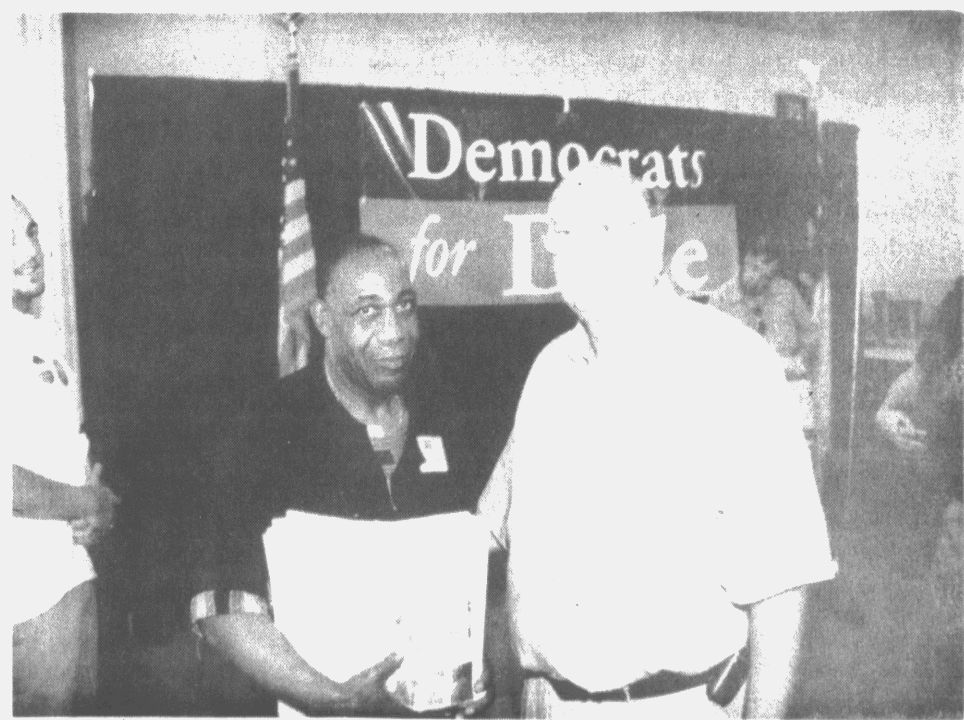
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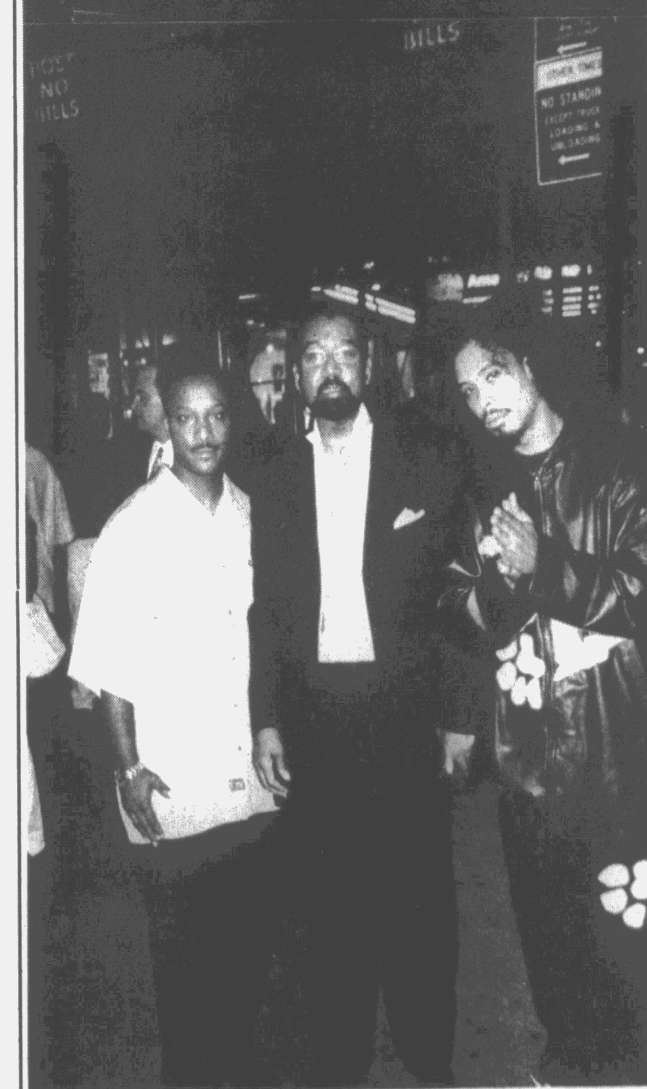
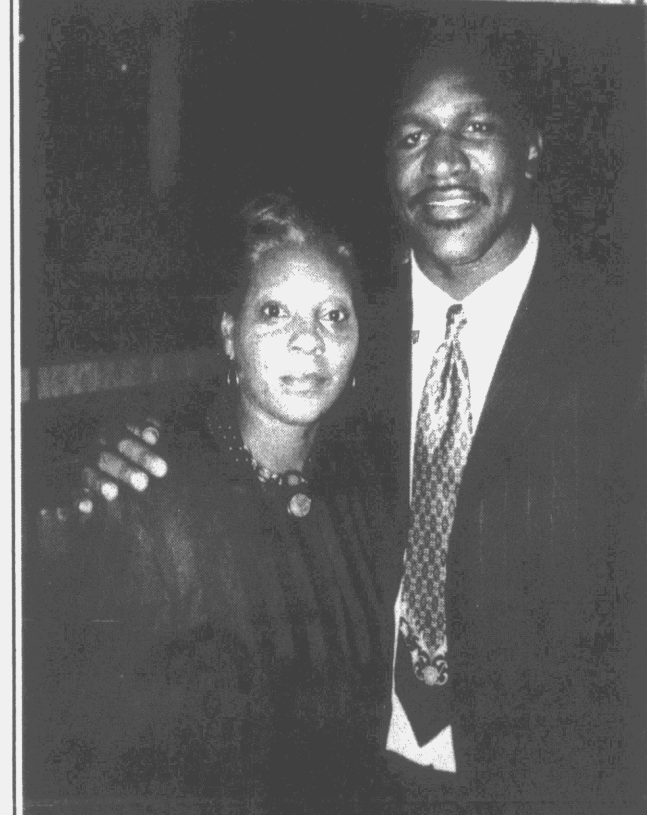
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- ★ **QUALITY EDUCATION:** I stand with equity in education. Our district needs more funding to catch up with the larger school districts. By cutting wasteful spending in Raleigh, this money can be allocated for teachers and computers in our classrooms
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CITY NEWS



"BRONX, NY...Clason Point Housing Project.."

Shown above (top photo) is sister Johannie Rouse Crawford, Sister Brenda Rouse, niece Brittany Crawford as they display a quilt in salute to 9/11 and NY children. The whole community got involved and won first place for this handmade quilt below.

" THE CHAMP..."

Shown (middle photo) is Sister Kay Rouse and boxing champ Evander Holyfield at B.B. Kings Restaurant in N.Y. CITY

"LOUDMOUTH ENTERTAINMENT...."

Shown (bottom photo) is President Andre Sanford of Loudmouth Entertainment out of NY, posing with two of his sons. Son on the right, just signed with DMX's new label Bloodline Records. Congrats young Brother !!!
photos by Bro Jim Rouse

POETRY CORNER

AS WE SIT

As we sit in pulpits, in pews, in choir stands waiting for GOD to move no one knows the whys, wheres or whens and somedays can barely figure out how. As we sit waiting on A WORD FROM Gob knowing OUR FATHER has more than a million WORDS for all of us but we sit, waiting on a word that is always around us but some remain to earthy to hear it. We don't hear the full conversation GOD has for Us that will bless the world. We sit, not knowing why, where, or how. And when are we gonna start moving now that we have gotten that WORD FROM GOD. That WORD was GO, but as we sat, nobody moved. As we sit in our fancy clothes, made up hair and Kool-Aid smiles, saying that we will never offend anyone except other church members, or who ever didn't give their monthly obligation to Pastor.

Can a broke bum make it to Throne IN Gods' KINGDOM. Can a gangbanger walk off the street and teach bible class. Can anyone who is not sitting boldly move on OUR FATHERS' BEHALF. Guess what, as we sit, they will soon move past those sitting. Sitting in fancy cars, barbershops, and courtrooms. Past all who have sat saying they were

TOO BLESSED to move. As we sit in the midst of wars, social breakdowns, economic failures, racial division, and fear filling talk-shows, Preachers ain't Preaching, Bishops stumbling on the chessboards, and Prophets can't even tell what day it is as we sit. Saying this, saying that, just saying, saying saying. And not doing. Taking a backseat to everything at the same time saying, "GOD is number one in my life" but not showing. So as we sit, JESUS CHRIST STOOD. So that we wouldn't have to sit all the time.

HOLY COMPUTER

JESUS and SATAN were having an ongoing argument about who was better at using the computer. They had been going at it for days and God was tired of hearing all the bickering. Finally, God said, "Cool it. I am going to set up a test which will take 2 hours and it will judge who does the better job".

So Satan and Jesus sat down at the keyboards and typed away. They moused. They did spreadsheet.

They wrote reports. They sent faxes. They sent e-mail. They sent out e-mail with attachments. They downloaded. They did some genealogy reports. They made cards.

They did every known job. But, 10 minutes before the time was up, lightning suddenly flashed across the sky, thunder rolled, the rain poured, and of course, the electricity went off.

Satan stared at his blank screen and screamed every curse word known in the underworld. Jesus just sighed. The electricity finally flickered back on, and each of them restarted their computers. Satan started searching frantically screaming, "It's gone! It's all gone! I lost everything when the power went out!"

Meanwhile Jesus, quietly started printing out all his files from the past 2 hours.

Satan observed this and became more irate.

"Wait! He Cheated! How did he do it?!!!" God just shrugged and said:

JESUS SAVES.



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AGREEMENT NUMBER: 1002-0001

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2	15,522	22,089	1,294	1,841	299	425
3	19,526	27,787	1,628	2,316	376	535
4	23,530	33,485	1,961	2,791	453	644
5	27,534	39,183	2,295	3,266	530	754
6	31,538	44,881	2,629	3,741	607	864
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8	39,546	56,277	3,296	4,690	761	1,083

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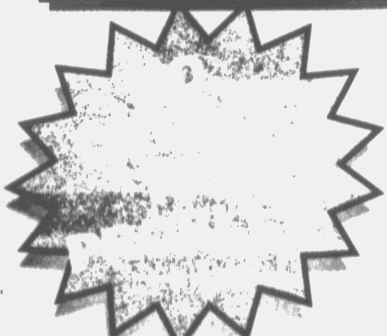
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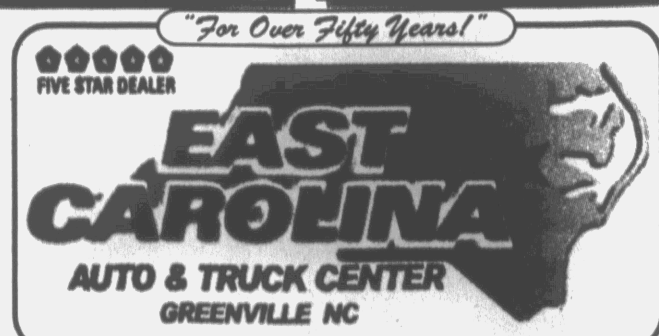
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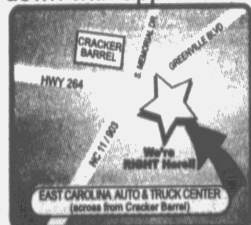
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