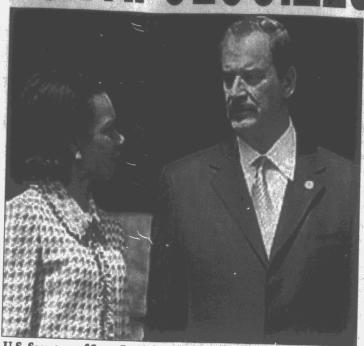
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VOL XVIII NO. VI May 1 - 31,



U.S. Secretary of State Condoleczza Rice talks with Mexico's President Vicente Fox during her arrival at the Los Pinos presidential residence in Mexico City, Mexico, in March.

Photo/Dario Lopez-Mills

MEXICO CITY - The meeting between Fox and Jackson at the presidential residence was a sharp contrast from a few days ago, when

president to issue a public apology. President Vicente Fox apologized last Monday for saying that Mexicans in the United States do

U.S. crackdown on illegal immigrants said that Fox was just stating a fact. During a meeting the previous Friday at TexasMexico Frozen Food Council in the western city of Puerto Vallarta Fox said, "there's no doubt that the Mexican men and women full of dignity, willpower and a capacity for work are doing the work that not even blacks want to do in the United States." Fox made the controversial comment to a group of Texas businessmen during the meeting. He criticized recent steps the United States has taken that the Bush administration said were aimed at curbing illegal immigra-

As Fox; who's paternal grandfather was an Irish-American born in Cincinnati tried to smooth relations with the U.S. Black community that following Wednesday after saying Mexican immigrants take jobs that "not even" blacks want he promised to work with Jackson to improve labor rights for minorities in the United States.

than an hour but didn't participate California border, and were not

had to leave for a trip to northern Mexico. Fox has made no public reference to his comment that previous Friday and continued to issue inconsistent statements through his aides.

Jackson, whose Rainbow/ PUSH Coalition is based in Chicago, said Fox was scheduled to appear on the civil rights leader's radio program Sunday. Fox also was invited to several U.S. labor forums, although it wasn't clear whether he planned to attend.

Luis Ernesto Derbez, President Fox's Foreign Secretary, who appeared at the news conference on Fox's behalf, said the meeting was an opportunity for Mexico to pursue better treatment for Mexican and other Latino migrants in the United States. About 25 million people of Mexican heritage live in the United States.

Fox's spokesman, Rubén Aguilar, said Fox's comments were in defense of Mexican migrants as they come under attack by new U.S. immigration measures that Fox and Jackson met for more include a wall along the Mexico-

gal takes what they pay him.'

been able to improve the conditions of life not just for themselves but also for the communities in which they settle and, by the same token, the president made the comment in this context to say that large quantity of the jobs taken by Mexicans are jobs that in the U.S. society aren't being filled," and further went on to say that, "I think that what we have to be very clear about is that the statement made by the president was in no way motivated by racism."

Previously State Department spokesman Richard Boucher said the U.S. Embassy in Mexico City had raised the issue with the Mexican government indicating that it was, "a very insensitive and inappropriate way to phrase this and we would hope that (the Mexicans) would clarify the remarks."

Only Jobs Blacks Don't Want...?

One Mexican citizen Celedonio González, a 35-year-old carpenter who worked illegally in Dallas for six months in 2001 said the President Fox was just telling the truth, "Mexicans go to the United States because they have to. Blacks want to earn better wages, and the Mexican because he is ille-

However Lisa Catanzarite, a sociologist at Washington State University, disputed Fox's assertion, saying that there is intense



Reverend Jesse Jackson

competition for lucrative working class jobs like construction and employers usually prefer to hire immigrants who don't know their

What Vicente Fox called a willingness to work ... translates into extreme exploitability," she

Workable immigration poli-

In a CNN telephone interview following the Fox's controversial statement, Reverend Jesse Jackson said that Fox "should not confuse the need for sound legal immigration policy between the two coun-

See JACKSON Page 5

Jackson called on the Mexican the work that blacks won't, but in a news conference that immedimeant to offend anybody. "They've Edwards challenges NCCU Grads, you ready to change the world



Senator John Edwards recieves the Chancellor's Award from NCCU Chancellor James H. Ammons

DURHAM, NC - Former Senator bright light on the issue" as part of John Edwards asked the assembled graduates at North Carolina Central University's 105th Commencement ter on Poverty, Work, and Opportunity at the University of North Caroceremonies held Saturday, May 7, 2005, whether they were ready to change the world. As keynote speaker, Edwards was enlisting their energy and support to eradicate the disgrace of poverty in this, the richest, most

powerful nation in the world.

his new role as director for the Cenlina - Chapel Hill. In his speech, he made reference to the 36 million poor and the 25 million Americans on the brink of poverty. The total represents a staggering 20 percent of the population.

He acknowledged that the Bible Edwards intends "to shine a tells us the poor will always be with

us, but "Some people use this as an excuse to do nothing." He exhorted the crowd, "Don't look away from the poverty surrounding us.

Edwards declared the necessity to raise the minimum wage to seven dollars. The current wage of \$5.15 per hour was set eight years ago and places every full time, minimum wage worker supporting a family of

three below the poverry line.

Edwards asked, "Is it right to work two jobs and still have your child go to bed hungry?" He added, "When people do right by America, we should do right by them."

Edwards reminded the crowd that job loss, illness or injury could happen to anyone and often serves as the prelude to a fall from the middle class into poverty. Unlike other developed nations around the world, there is no real safety net for.

Edwards said that income allows you to "get along" but assets ensure that you "get ahead." In this regard, he was speaking pointedly to the African Americans and Latinos in his audience whose average net worth stands at \$6,000 and \$8,000, respectively, while the average for white Americans is pegged at \$80,000.

To right this injustice, Edwards proposes offering baby bonds with the government providing additional funds matching the savings invested

told Ed Gordon, "These are all un-

proven and unsubstantiated accu-

sations. That's the interesting thing

about all of this, and why some-

one would take that information

to the Washington Post in the

by parents over the course of their child's lifetime until graduation by which time, they could have accumulated \$20,000 to \$40,000 in the

Other measures Edwards suggested included strengthening the earned income tax credit and fair wage legislation, eliminating the marriage penalty and tax cuts to the

wealthy, and expanding Medicaid. Nearing the end of his speech, Edwards told his audience of graduates, "You can do something to end poverty in America. It's you that can ensure that you never have to work hard and send your children to bed

For his speech Saturday, NCCU Chancellor James H. Ammons presented Edwards with the Chancellor's

Ammons presented several other awards during the ceremony, including: an honorary doctorate degree to Dr. Linda Clayton, physician, research scientist and author at Harvard University who began her illustrious career with a bachelor's degree in chemistry from NCCU; an honorary doctorate degree to George Wein, founder of the Newport Jazz Festival who quipped that NCCU's O'Kelly-Riddick Stadium "would be a nice place to hold a jazz festival"; the Chancellor's Merit Award to Dr.

Walter Brown, first dean of NCCU's School of Education; honorable mention to Professor Isabel Chicquor for having been selected to receive the Board of Governor's Award for Teaching Excellence; NCCU Awards for Teaching Excellence to Ms. Minnie Forte, Dr. James Guseh, Dr. Veronica Nwosu and Dr. Esther Okieyi; and Student Leadership Awards to Miss NCCU Sharonda Arnold and Student Government Association president D'Weston Haywood. The Chancellor's Award to the Parents with Three or More Graduates was presented to Mr. and Mrs. Jim and Doris Harper and Mr. and

The atmosphere became decidedly less reserved when the undergraduates were asked to line up in order to cross the stage and receive acknowledgement of their degrees.

There were waves to and from the

packed seating in the stands and lots of whooping and hollering.
Some of the graduates had written messages in glitter paint on the

tops of their mortarboards like, "I love you mommy!" or inside jokes like "Where's Regina?"

Graduates like Shrree Alexander loved the program but said, "The best part was when I walked across the stage." With her bachelor's in chemistry, Alexander will be looking for work as a lab technician.

Other graduates like Brandon Winford and Nicosia Davis will pursue graduate studies, Winford at NCCU and Davis at Central Michigan University. All agree that Mrs. Milton and Geraldine this is the close of a very important chapter in their lives and the beginning of a new adventure.
-30- Cutlines: Edwards a.jpg

Former Senator John Edwards receives the Chancellor's Award from NCCU Chancellor James H. Ammons

MFUME ADMITS HAVING A PERSONAL Still Plans To Run For Maryland's Senate Seat

by Makebra Anderson WASHINGTON (NNPA) -When the NAACP's Board of Directors declined to renew the contract of President and CEO Kweisi Mfume last fall, some speculated



Kweisi Mfume addressed a wide range of issues during a meeting with reporters Photo: Jed Kirschbaum

that it was because of the internal conflicts between Mfume and Board Chairman Julian Bond. However, published reports have now disclosed that there were also concerns over Mfume's personal relationship with one female staff member, possibly more.

'I don't think this has anything to do with personality conflicts. What people have been talking about is why Mfume left and in that context they were talking about the problems with Bond, but as it turns out, that might not have

been the issue at all. This may have been the issue," said University of Maryland professor Ron Walters.

It was recently disclosed that last summer, a female employee of the NAACP, Michele Speaks, accused Mfume of unfair treatment. The NAACP's executive committee requested that an outside lawyer review her allegations and assess the organization's liability.

One month after the lawyer presented the memo to the com-mittee, Mfume resigned.

Mfume states that his resignation had nothing to do with Speaks' charges.

"My contract was up there [at the NAACP] on October 24. It was really time for me to move on and do something else," he said on the National Public Radio program, "News & Notes with Ed Gordon." He explained, "What that something else was, as I said at my press conference, could have been business it could have involved policy. ness, it could have involved politics, it could involve writing or it could have involved spending more time with my youngest son, but it was time for me to move on. I'm the kind of person that is motivated by challenge and I needed a new challenge.

According to the Washington Post, which broke the story, the memo stated, "The impression [was] created that a woman must provide sexual favors to Mr. Mfume or his associates in order to receive favorable treatment in the workplace.'

RELATION WITH In the NPR interview, Mfume

middle of the night and leave it in the very early stages of this campaign is very interesting and I can't really react to that. I believe however that it's clearly an effort to kill the campaign, to discredit me, to

See Mfume Page 4



Happy 85th Birthday... Spry, active Francis Mebane standing at the top left with his friends celebrate his 85th birthday. Members of the part from left to right are Reverend and Mrs. Moore, Mr. Charlie Long and

Mr. Mebane is the former Principal of G.W. Whitfield Elementary chool. And interesting point to note is that school was named after his father-in-law. PHOTO: Jim Rouse



Michael Dixon, the guest speaker, The Honorable Dudley Flood, Hostess, Dr. Janet Bullock, Ph.D.., President of the Pitt County NAACP. Calvin Henderson, Heritage Chairwoman. Evelyn Little and York Memorial Pastor, Rev. William Johnson were among the many guests who attended this year's banquet. Photo: Jim Rouse

NC Legislative Black Caucus Foundation Sets 20th Annual Conference

RALEIGH, NC - The North Carolina Legislative Black Caucus Foundation announces its 20th Anniversary of their Annual Legislative Education and Scholarship Weekend Conference. The conference will be held June 10-11, 2005. The Legislative Black Caucus Foundation, Inc. is extremely pleased to be in association with the Old North State Medical Society for the 20th Anniversary. The conference theme is 'The 20th Anniversary/Reflections: Standing on our History, Building for the Future.

A special Black Tie Gala/Concert is planned for the evening of June 10th at the Raleigh Civic & Convention Center. The Award Winning Manhattans featuring Gerald Alston and Blue Lovett will be in concert immediately following the Gala. Full conference schedule follows.

The conference begins Friday, June 10, 2005, with the Town Hall

Forum followed by the Chairman's Reception and Black Tie Gala/Concert. Highlights include remembering former caucus members and recipients of the Henry E. Frye/Annie Brown Kennedy Trailblazer Award and Community Leader Awards. Join us on Saturday morning for an uplifting mes-sage from our Prayer Breakfast Speaker, followed by informative workshops on Minority Health Disparities, Education, Crime and Elections. Also, on Saturday an exciting youth forum will be held for ages 7-18.

The chair of the North Carolina

Legislative Black Caucus Foundation, Representative Beverly Earle, hopes all North Carolinians will come and support the North Carolina Legislative Black Caucus Foundation Scholarship Weekend.

You can visit their website at http://www.nclegblackcaucus.org/ or call 919-715-2530.

Voice OP

Questionable Protocol Used On Underclass Children In Aids Testing: Tuskegee A



Susie Clemons

In the presence of the lingering Catholic priest sexual abuse scandal, pharmaceutical deaths caused by the FDA's uneven hand in rushing drugs to approval, and the government covering up the real issues behind United States action on Iraq, one would think that each institution would be careful not to add insult to their already damaged iconic im-

All that changed in late 2004 when the NY Post Daily News headlined: HIV- Foster kids in New York used as Guinea Pigs. These sweeping allegations indicated that the Catholic Church had been holding hands with several well known drug conglomerates and the federally funded National Institutes of Health (NIH) for one of the most horrific

cover-ups on inhumane drug testing not since the 1932 Tuskegee Syphilis Experiments of Mobile Alabama.

According to a recent Associated Press News release the National linstitutes of Health has tested Aids drugs on hundreds of poor Black and Hispanic foster kids over the past two decades. Testing often in the absence of the basic protection afforded by the federal law of the Food and Drug Administration Institutional Review Board (IRB) Standards for clinical drug trials, and often against the wishes of court appointed foster care providers. Worse older children who defended themselves against the continually ingestion of these highly toxic experimental drugs were held down and force feed and infants as young as three months retrofitted with stomach feeding tubes. As for non-compliant guardians refusing to administer the powerful drugs to children, they were defenseless and without laws of protection as New York's Administration for Children's Services (ACS) removed the children to clinical testing facilities- in what they say was following directions within the scope of their powers.

No fewer than seven states including North Carolina, Illinois, Maryland, New York, Louisiana, Colorado and Texas have been exposed as allowing HIV clinical trials testing on foster children. What is going on in New York stands apart from what the other states are doing. Enter the Catholic Church who has been providing housing at a New

York City dwelling called none other than the Incarnation Children's Center or (ICC).

Drugs administered in Aids testing contain a toxicity that are known

protection as New York's Administration for Children's Services (ACS) came in and transported children to ICC and similar locations.3

In a chilling transition into past to cause a multitude of problems governmental standards regarding



Photos of an infant with Stevens-Johnson Syndrome, a blistering, peeling, potentially fatal skin rash. It is one of the known side-effects of the AIDS drug Nevirapine. Nevirapine is one of the primary drugs being readied for distribution in Africa. Some medical authorities feel that "HIV Positive" babies can be successfully treated without the use of certain Aids Drugs

ranging from strokes body deformations, fatal skin disorders, brain damage, and bone marrow deaths. Furthermore, in yet another story Liam Scheff, The House that Aids Built, 2004 denotes "treatment of patients at New York's ICC currently violates every one of the ethical standards for medical experiments set by interna-tional courts after World War II. Those such as children enrolled in clinical trials without their knowledge of consent or that of their parents or guardians; the experiments are neither safe nor are they proven to be medically necessary; toxin level found in drugs is known to cause disability and death.; guardians refusing to administer the powerful drugs to children, were left defenseless and without laws of

clinical testing and the ethicality of treatments to minorities, one need only revisit the horrors of the 1932 Tuskegee Syphilis Experiment upon poor unsuspecting Black men in the delta of Macon County Alabama, who were injected with syphilis, however, no medical cure was offered until 1942, penicillin. Greater these men were told they were being treated for the "bad blood disease", a colloquial term of the day that spoke to tired blood and anemia as well as Syphilis. It is widely disclosed that the then Public Health Service was most interested in the disease pathology. A cure would mean the end of a public menace, so one was introduced, but 10 years later.

The Tuskegee study is alleged to

have ended when it was discovered in 1972, some 40 years later, and with a even later apology by President William Bill Clinton. In a surprising turn of events the office supervising this study, Public Health pervices, is now called the Center for Disease Control, which the unit now in charge of the AIDS program. It like its siblings, the Federal Drug Administration, the Administration for Children's Services, the National Institutes of Health and the Center for Faith Based and Community Initiatives, are all children of the US Department of Health and Human Ser-Combined series of similar

happens to Black America first....

clinical testing raises a perplexing question ot two. For instance when the Syphilis study was shut down in 1972, was HIV perhaps introduced to take its place? Not an unreasonable question when, in fact, the study is focused at the same group of individuals; Blacks- albeit Hispanic have been added to the list- who share the same economic resource of powerlessness and poverty. If perhaps the pathology of HIV has been perfected, and it probably has by now having arrived on the scene only moments after the curtain closed on Syphilis in the early seventies, is it because the research of communicable disease had 40 plus years of trial and error to perfect the second strain of the most menacing disease known to the Western man, HIV the virus that causes Aids.

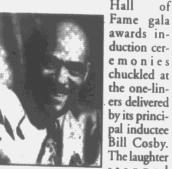
It is no less interesting to note

Syphilis and HIV clinical trials, including free meals, free medical attention and in many instances free burial insurance, that for each positively Syphilis infected participate his wife and then children were also infected with the disease (NPR: Tuskegee 40 Years later). Plausibly ten years of Syphilis wildly mutating while introducing itself into an ethnic DNA strand might have happened in ways that would only interest a communicable disease scientist. Moreover, whatever transpired between 1932 and 1942- when penicilin was made available as a cure- could have genetically predisposed a good many people to later strains of other sexualy transmitteed

So, who will rise from the collective Hispanic and Black community to defend a generation of innocent children, men and women against the further enslavement and torment of HIV? The pathology of whom surprisingly reads: from green tree monkey to white homosexuals, to NIH to Black Bi-sexuals, to Black and Hispanic women to all of Africa, finally resting at the the Catholic Church's Incarnation Center for Children- and incarnation as we all know stands for the embodiment of God in the human form of Jesus. Questions & Comments m

Opinionsandtalk@yahoo.com Suggested Reading: www.altheal.org/toxicity/house.htm

By Earl Ofari Hutchinson In 1992, a star-studded crowd



Fame gala awards induction ceremonies chuckled at the one-liners delivered by its principal inductee

at the Academy of Arts and Sciences

s t o p p e d when Cosby turned serious and accused the mostly white film and TV writers of "massacring" the black image on screen. Cosby's skewered indictment of the TV and film studio executives seemed ironic. For a decade they had enshrined him as America's most treasured TV Dad. They made

Cosby, a black man, the quintessential symbol of all that was good and wholesome in family values conscious America.

More than a decade after Cosby knocked the execs for butchering the black image, the even more tragic irony is that he has done much to massacre his own image. At last count, thirteen women in court documents have virtually branded Cosby a serial sexual victimizer. They claim that he drugged and/or sexually assaulted them. In interviews, an angry Cosby screamed foul, and claimed that the charges are nothing but a shakedown of a rich, and famous celebrity. Though no criminal charges have been filed against him, Cosby will be tied up in endless civil litigation for years to come to untangle the he said, she said

Cosby inadvertently made him-

self a sitting duck for the finger pointing, when in a well meaning, but ill-tempered tirade last May, he lambasted poor black teens and their parents, for being lousy parents, educational slackers, for butchering the English language, and for their alleged thuggish behavior. He made the same charges against them a couple of months later. The indictment was way too broad, too sweeping, and it inched dangerously close to reinforcing the same vile racial stereotypes that Cosby has spent most of his professional career fighting against. They were the type of stereotypes that he had accused the TV and film executives more than a decade earlier of fanning.

Now Cosby was on the bad behavior hot seat. If America's number one Dad can ride high up in the moral saddle and lecture other blacks on their alleged bad behavior, than

he should be held to the same lofty standard. The hint of sexual misconduct left him wide open to the accusation that he was a hypocrite and a

There were warning signs that Cosby might eventually be ripe for a tumble. In 1997 he made a bombshell confession that in the 1970s he had an extra marital affair, and was accused of fathering an illegitimate daughter. There were allegations of shakedowns, under the table hush money payoffs, an extortion trial and conviction of the woman who claimed to be his illicit daughter, and an avalanche of embarrassing kiss and tell tabloid gossip stories on Cosby.

He dodged the bullet on that one. In sex scandal driven America, it's a virtual rite of passage for the celebrity, rich and famous to be embroiled in peep show scandals. The public delights in that kind of titillation. It was hard to ban in Boston a guy that had shelled out millions to minority student scholarship funds, black colleges and had worked tire-

lessly for civil rights causes over the years. Cosby also continued to rail against the clown, coon, and buck dance image that blacks propagated of themselves in TV sitcoms. He pushed and prodded the film and TV industry to do more to promote more positive black images on screen.

But the glue on Cosby's still largely intact good guy image loosened in January when Andrea Constand was the first in the door to accuse him of drugging and sexually assaulting her. Cosby initially vehemently denied the charge, but swiftly shifted into damage control mode and, as he delicately put it, had "sexual encounter" with her, but said it was consensual. That still fit the jaded public belief that the rich and famous routinely have their little sexual trysts, and who makes a big deal out of that? Cosby defenders cited the fact that Constand waited years to come forth to make her charge as proof that it was a put up job by unnamed conspirators to character assassinate yet another high

profile, outspoken black man and thereby sully all blacks as moral degenerates. There's not a shred of evidence to back that up. Moreover, Cosby did not pillory President Bush, "the white man," or the "white establishment."

That's the bare prerequisite for blacks to rally around a black under fire, shout racism and spin racial conspiracy theories. Cosby had attacked other blacks. The horde of conservative commentators stumbled over themselves to hail Cosby as the ultimate truth-giver and laud him for having the courage to air dirty racial laundry.

America's favorite dad got some things right and some things terribly wrong in his bash of black America. And he may be right that his parade of sexual accusers is out to gouge a star. But if he's wrong, he'll have more than an image problem.

Earl Ofari Hutchinson is a columnist for BlackNews.com, and can be reached at 323-296-6331 or hutchinsonreport@aol.com

BET Nightly News Cancelled - No Big Loss

By Michael K. Fauntroy NNPA

BET announced that it is shutting down its nightly newscast in lieu of hourly updates of the day's events. The 11 p.m. thirty- minute program, was meant to bring black Americans news stories they could .pot see on the other 'rtetWdrks. The loss' of BET Nightly News, while Wbrtunate, is not a big deal in the larger scheme of things. The reason why it won't be such a loss is that the newscast was a failure, unable to enlighten those who watched its unimaginative, poorly produced program. It wasn't appointment television and it was unlikely to ever be.

BET president and chief operating officer Debra Lee said in a press release, "With 24-hour news networks and everyone getting news off the Internet, our audience doesn't want to wait until 11 p.m. to find out what the news is. "She's wrong. If news at 11 p.m. was not a demand of the community, then thousands of stations all over the country would not invest dollars and manpower into these broadcasts. Ms. Lee fails to understand that the BET Nightly News was bland and amateurish. Ocassionally, there would be a ground breaking interview. But since Ed Gordon left the anchor desk, no real journalist has filled the seat. Tavis Smiley is a commentator and Jacquie Reed

Twenty years ago, BET News started with twominute news briefs that ran in the middle of Video Soul with Donnie Simpson. I had high hopes that in 20 years, the network would be able to muster up some real competition cable news arena. I was really excited

Dear Editor

South Central High Needs It's Culinary

Cooking Course I am a student attending South Central High School. As a student, it concerns me that our Culinary Arts progam will not be funded next year due to "not enough students" registering for the class. For a fact, 1 know this is not true. For example, Rose High School has 8 students in their culinary arts program, while we had 11 students who wanted to enroll for next year. It seems to me that this is an issue of money and not enough interest in the program. Other students at South Central who have enrolled in this class feel the same way as I do about this situation. Students should not have to go without classes that are being offered at other high schools in the county just because we are a new school. The commercial kitchen a South Central is state-of-the-art and it's sad that this program is not being developed because Pitt County Schools doesn't want to spend money buying basic equipment such as baking sheets and knives so our program can be built. My meent in writing this letter is to inform the public that ar least \$50,000 was spent m kitchen equipment, but now county office is refusing to fund what s needed to start the program. The students at South Central should not suffer because we are a state-of-me art

when Viacom—which owns CBS News bought the music network from Bob Johnson. I had visions that BET producers would join forces with seasoned CBS producers and create unique and stimulating news broadcasts that would tap into the black audience worldwide. Oops...my bad. No such thing happened. BET's news management—despite the fact that their business cards say CBS News-let a prime opportunity slip away.

BET'S newscast was a bad fit, existing in a sea of booty shaking and low-brow television. Who believes that black Americans interested in the public policy or serious issues would sit through the latest Snoop Dogg soft porn to see the news? How often was the newscast advertised during the day on the network and in other formats?'

Was the news there to break ground or just satisfy critics who believe a black television network should be more than a place to watch black men sexually abuse

BET Nightly News is an example of promise lost. It could have been so significant to such a large underserved segment of television viewers. Now, we are

I call out to Cathy Hughes and TV One. Help. Come to our collective rescue and bring us the news. We mourn not for BET Nightly News. No big loss. The tragedy will be if no media outlet-black or whitefills the void.

Michael K. Fauntroy is an assistant professor of public policy at George Mason University, where he teaches courses in urban policy, policy evaluation.

school who lack basic necessities to get programs up and running.

Thank you for your time

Quirmita Jemigan, Junior, South Central High School

Remember, Responsibility Matters

This Memorial Day, as we kick off the beginning of summer fun, let's also remember to celebrate the holiday responsibly by using a designated driver.

More than 122 million American adults have been a designated driver or been driven home by one. We salute them for helping to reduce the number of drunk-driving fatalities by 38 percent since 1982, according to the U.S. Department of Transportation.

Let's all do our part to help drive down Memorial Day holiday drunk-driving fatalities by making safety and personal responsibility our first and foremost concern this weekend. We can all make a difference in the fight against drunk driving. Remember, Responsibility Matters! Sincerely,

Leigh Jeffreys Vice President R.A. Jeffreys Distributing Co., LLC Greenville, NC

iversary To Draw Record Participation

nches campaign to document progress of African Americans since 1865.

New Orleans, (BlackNews.com) - June 19th, 2005 marks the 140th year anniversary of the celebration of Juneteenth - the oldest nationally celebrated commemoration of the ending of slavery in the United States. JUNETEENTH.com reports an ncrease in first-time celebrations, and announces the launch of the 140th Juneteenth Anniver-

sary Campaign. To participate, organizations and supporters are encouraged to log on and register their event and organization in the National Juneteenth Registry.

The 140th Juneteenth Anniversary Campaign is a 10-year

initiative which will focus on assessment, education and acknowledgement of African American progress since 1865 culminating with the 150th

Juneteenth Anniversary. Often cited as the African American Independence Day, Juneteenth has been the subject of city, state and federal legislation in recent years, establishing it as a special day of recognition, and as one of the fastest growing events in the country. The celebration of Juneteenth originates from Galveston, Texas, whereas on June 19th, 1865, the word of the Emancipation Proclamation reached the enslaved. Today, Juneteenth is embraced and celebrated by all races and ethnicities in honor, and in commemoration of African American culture and achievement.

JUNETEENTH.COM developed and maintains the National Juneteenth Registry - the largest database of Juneteenth celebrations, organizations and supporters in existence. JUNETEENTH.com launched in 1996 as a Web portal to communicate and support the efforts of Juneteenth organizations and to raise awareness and self-esteem in the African American community.

Bennett College for Women in fiscal crisis

by Wilbert A. Tatum

One of the two historically Black women's colleges in the United States is in fiscal crisis. It is Bennett College for Women, ocated in Greensboro, North Carolina. It has been for several years on the brink of closing because enough money could not be raised to do the things that had to be done in order for it to

Three years ago, the famed educator Dr. Johnetta B. Cole agreed to come out of retirement in order to structure a plan and program to save the college. She said that she could only serve for five years. Nearing the end of her commitment to the college, some progress has been made. Yet, Bennett College for Women at Greensboro, North Carolina, is still in dire straits. Without the infusion of the much-needed monies within a short period of time, Bennett will

have to close its doors. That would be a tragedy for Black America and its higher education goals for its children.

Many graduates of historically Black colleges in the United States have begun a campaign to raise money for Bennett on a short-term basis, so that the college can survive during these times when its long term financial plan is being put

We urge those who know the college, the work it has done and Dr. Čole to please send a generous contribution to the college. The

Bennett College for Women 900 East Washington Street, 104 Greensboro, North Carolina 27401.

Wilbert A. Tatum is the Publisher Emeritus & Chairman of the Board Amsterdam News, New York City

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Voice OP

Because whatever happens to America happens to Black America first....

The Human Cost of Corruptio

by Rev. Jesse L. Jackson, Sr. The cascading scandals of House Majority Leader Rep. Tom "the Ham-



mer" DeLay are starting to get the full court press treatment. He's Doonesbury, lampooned on Jon Stewart's Daily Show, and now pro-

vides grist for reporters and bloggers. Rebuked three times by a bipartisan House Ethics Committee that he then proceeded to gut, DeLay is fair game.

But too much of the coverage focuses on who paid for lavish junkets to golf courses in Scotland, or quirky votes where DeLay, rabid right-wing moralist, protected the casino interests represented by "Casino Jack" Abramoff, his personal friend and junket buddy.

But the problem with congressional corruption isn't that legislators take a trip or two to vacation spots. Or even that they talk one way and vote another. The real problem with congressional corruption is that its victims tend to be the most vulnerable, those who can't afford to hire a high-priced lobbyist or contribute to a Tom DeLay political committee or defense fund

Consider the young women working in sweat shop conditions in the U.S. Commonwealth of the Northern Marianas Islands (CNMI).

Keith Cooper

to get a piece of the action.

When President George W. Bush referred to Iran, Iraq,

dits construed the phrase as

provocative. Though Bush unleashed the "bulldogs"

(American soldiers) to devour

innocent Iraqi women, chil-dren, and soldiers, he has yet

to deal with the rest of the

axis. Moreover, North Korea

has announced that it has a

has served as a breeding

ground for terrorists willing

to sacrifice their lives for the

freedom of the Iraqi people.

Bush, like Lyndon Johnson in

The unjust war in Iraq

nuclear weapons program.

and North Korea as the "Axis of Evil," international pun-

Vietnam, has "bitten off more than he can chew." Count-

less terrorists from countries like Syria are easing into Iraq

Picking a fight with North Korea is ill-advised. Not

The islands, part of the U.S. but exempt from U.S. labor standards, built an economy on exploitation. Its government helped garment manufacturers import tens of thousands of impoverished foreign workers mostly young women - from Asia. They were housed in barracks-like buildings, often surrounded by barbed wire. They were indentured to employers, having borrowed money to get to the CNMI. They were forced to labor 12 hours a day at sub-minimum wages, often under conditions perilous to their health.

Many young women arrived at CNMI with the promise of a job only to find that the promise a lie. They were coerced into the islands' thriving sex trade. Others were simply abandoned in the slums of Saipan, in debt, ashamed and unable to return to their home countries.

All this took place on islands that were part of America, and flew the American flag. The conditions were investigated, documented, litigated. There is no doubt that tens of thousands of young women were brutally exploited so that the owners of the islands' garment industries - often absentee Chinese owners seeking to avoid Chinese quotas - could profit.

Rep. George Miller led the effort to curb these human rights violations. He pushed hard for immigration and labor reforms, including raising the minimum wage in the islands. His bills often passed the Senate and then were killed in the House, where the system of exploitation was defended by one Tom DeLay, who hailed the CNMI economy as a paragon of free enter-

get a better price for drugs. That turned the bill from a benefit to se-Whether DeLay believed that tripe we don't know. What we do niors to a multi-billion subsidy to the drug companies. Not surprisingly, those same drug companies contributed lavishly to DeLay's political

know is that his travel buddy, "Casino Jack" Abramoff pocketed some \$8-10 million lobbying to fend off labor law and immigration reforms that might protect those young women, but limit the profits pocketed by the CNMI garment industry owners. Abramoff raised tens of thousands for Bush and DeLay and other Republicans. He paid for DeLay and other legislators to junket to the CNMI, to play golf and to herald the blessings of the islands' free enterprise system. And DeLay led the effort in the congress to block any

Abramoff pocketed millions. DeLay got tens of thousands for his various political action committees. And the poor, young, anonymous women, strangers in a strange land, paid the price.

And so will America's seniors, every day, when they buy prescription drugs. One of the rebukes DeLay earned form the Ethics Committee concerned his attempt to bribe Rep. Nick Smith to vote for the prescription drug bill. DeLay locked Democrats out of the conference committee that produced the bill. He trampled House precedents by keeping the vote open for hours while he dragooned reluctant Republicans to vote for it. At the same time, the administration purposefully suppressed the real price of the legislation from its own party's legislators. That legislation amazingly prohibits Medicare from using its borrowing power to

BUSH SHOULD TALK DIRECTLY

TO NORTH KOREA

North Koreans in vigorously challenging American im-

perialists on the battlefield, but the North Koreans

would fight harder than they did during the stalemated

Korean War in the early 1950s. Thanks to techno-

logical advancements and decades of pursuing a nuclear

weapons program, Americans could suffer a humiliat-

According to a recent piece by Murray Hiebert in The Wall Street Journal, "Pyongyang began pestering

the Soviet Union and its Eastern European allies for

assistance in developing a nuclear-research program at least as early as 1963." The North Korean leader even

North Korea in 1956 and later, North Korea believed

that a nuclear weapons program would deter military at-

tacks. It also learned lessons from Americans bombing

their country during the Korean War. Bush should ac-

cept North Korea's offer of bilateral talks and not cower

by insisting on multilateral negotiations. President John

F. Kennedy was right in 1961 when, during his Inaugu-

ral Address, he elucidated the following: "We should never

Because China and Moscow sought to destabilize

asked Moscow for a nuclear-power plant in 1967.

ing defeat, as was the case in Vietnam.

committees, as well as to the president's campaign fund and Republican coffers generally. They invested millions in contributions and lobbying and got billions in return. America's seniors, struggling with the soaring cost of drugs, will get hit with the tab.

So when you hear about DeLay

junketing in Scotland, playing on private golf courses, with the bill picked up directly or indirectly by a lobbyist, check your wallet. Directly or indirectly, that corruption is going to cost you - or others without the resources to hire a DeLay crony as a lobbyist - a lot more than a round of golf.



The Man Shortage for Sisters is All Too Real - And It's Killing Our Communities

By David Person,

All these years, sisters have been right. There really is a man shortage.



judging by the shortage of brothers in the pews at church. But \ I thought it had more to do with our preferences for sleeping

I knew some-

thing was up, just

in or watching the game. Based on the 2000 Census, though, we brothers really are outnumbered by black women, inside and outside of church. And it has

nothing to do with games. Overall, the census indicates that there are more than 18.1 million black females in the U.S., compared to nearly 16.5 million black males. Specifically among those who are 18 and over, the sisters outnumber us about 12.7 million to 10.9 million.

Some brothers undoubtedly will assume this is their chance to add more names and numbers to their Palm Pilots for late-night booty calls. Truth is, all of us - the players included - should probably be a bit more somber and cautious about the population imbalance between black men and black women. Experts are suggesting that the reasons why the sisters outnumber us aren't anything to cheer about.

According to an article written by Jonathan Tilove and published recently in many of the Newhouse papers, violence, crime and disease are some of the key factors stripping black communities of men. Worse

still, the article concluded that the by 26 percent, white women only shortage of black men is hitting major cities with high concentrations of black folk particularly hard.

In Philadelphia, for example, black men are outnumbered by black women by 37 percent. That means that for every 100,000 black men in the City of Brotherly Love, there are 137,000 black women. In New York, for every 100,000 black men, there are 136,000 black women.

In Chicago, my hometown, for every 100,000 brothers, there are 132,000 sisters. In Chocolate City -Washington, D.C. for those of you uninitiated to the funk - for every 100,000 brothers, there are 129,000.

Yes, brothers, that means there are a whole lot of black women without dates. But before salivating, let's remember that also means there are probably a lot of black boys without men in their lives to show them how real men behave. That's a lot of black girls without daddies to teach them what real love is and how a woman is supposed to be treated by her man.

Looking at it like that, merely entering new names and numbers in those BlackBerrys for future hookups seems almost trivial.

Brothers, I'm not suggesting that we black men who are single and eligible can't enjoy the dating life. I'm just saying that we also must do something more: We must see what these numbers tell us about the challenges facing our communities and make some decisions about what we can do to bring a bit more balance to

Tilove's article quotes 2002 Census figures which indicate that while black women outnumber black men outnumber white men by 8 percent. If we were looking at those kinds of numbers, I'd be one of the first ones telling the players to just play on.

But we're looking at a crisis that points to serious problems. If we're not being shot and killed, we're being locked up. If we're not being locked up, we're dying prematurely due to stress or HIV/AIDS or diabetes or heart disease or prostate cancer.

I agree with the experts who argue that it is inherently more stressful being black in the U.S. than it is to be white. But brothers, there are ways to offset the pressures.

Slow down on the super-sized meals with all that red meat and fat and excess sugar. Exercise several times a week. Get enough sleep. Lay off the smokes, and cut back on the brews and shots.

Take time to just go and chill. Cue up some jazz, funk, classical or gospel music in the mp3 player, and take long walks in the evenings or early mornings. Or pop some Miles, Victor Wooten or Jill Scott in the CD player and take a leisurely drive.

Let's try to live healthy, functional lives. Avoid violence and people who are prone to it. Step away from shady activities that keep us out in the streets and in harm's way. And by all means, brothers, no high-risk, indiscriminate sex with multiple partners.

For the sake of our communities, our women, our children and our futures, we've got to defy these statistics. We must begin surviving and thriving.

David Person writes for BlackAmericaWeb.com

Greetings from the GIHS-C.M.EPPES HIGH SCHOOL ALUMNI HERITAGE SOCIETY. INC.

only would China (near Super Power status) join the negotiate out of fear; but let us never fear to negotiate.'

On behalf of our Board, I extend our appreciation to all of you for your continued support in fulfilling the preservation and the cultural legacy of our beloved alma mater. The Eppes Heritage Society, Inc. was organized in 2000 as a separate organization to honor the following functions: to enhance and manage the annual scholarship program, archive the school's artifacts and history, enhance the appearance of the C. M. Eppes Cultural Center; strengthen and procure fund development strategies through grants, scholarship memorials fund raising events for scholarships and planned giving (wills and estate planning of alumni and friends); manage the building funds and establish linkages and mentor youth at the current C. M. Eppes Middle School. In 2003, the Eppes Heritage Society, Inc. became a federal 501 (c) 3 tax-exempt organization.

MEMBERSHIP: Any GIHS-C.M. Eppes High School graduate, attendee, family member or friend of Eppes can be a member of the Eppes Heritage Society. Inc. The membership fee is \$10. which can be paid to the Eppes Heritage Society or the Eppes Alumni Association. This validates your membership annually. Your assistance in fulfilling any of the Eppes Heritage Society. Inc. functions listed above will add greatly to our

EPPES HERITAGE SOCIETY BOARD: Commendations to the Board members of the Eppes Heritage Society, Inc. for their dedication and hard work. Board members have worked this year to strategically set priorities, revise the constitution and by-laws, enhance board development, and to project major fundraising strategies. Board members are as follows: Lillian Savage Best, Leslie Cox, Julia Davis, Imogene Dupree, Jimmye Jones. Betty E. Nurse, Esther Best Smith, Sallye Streeter. Ruby Williams. William T. Atkinson and Bernadette

Dr. Bernadette Gregory Watts, President Heritage Society, Inc. GIHS-C.M. Eppes High School Alumni

C.M. Eppes Weekend Schedule

FRIDAY MAY 27, 2005

8:00 AM First Annual Eppes Golf Tournament - SHOTGUN START PLACE: Bradford Creek 6:00 PM National Board Meeting PLACE: City Hotel & Bistro

7:30 PM Registration SipNChat, Heavy Hors d'oeuvres Cash Bar 8:00 PM - 9:00 PM Cash Bar

9:00 PM - Midnight SATURDAY MAY 28, 2005

PLACE, City Hotel &

Open Bar

Bistro 9::30-11:30 AM Business Meeting/Mayor's Welcome/Proclamation & Response Scholarship /Necrology/Honorees

12:00 NOON Motorcade to Cultural Center

8:30 - 9:15 AM Breakfast Buffet

Traditional Route: Albermarle Ave to Tom Foreman Park 1:00 Parade

Cultural Tours/Honored classes Booths/ Vending/Class functIONS Crafts/Meet & Greet fellow alumnus

PLEASE USE OUR VENDORS.

6:30 - 7:30 PM Social lHour City Hotel & Bistro

8:00 PM Banquet, Dinner Buffet w/2 Complimentary Cocktails 9:00 - Until Soirce

11:00 AM: Lilly M. Shiver Memorial Money Hat Drawing to benefit Scholarship fund SUNDAY MAY 29, 2005

11:00 AM Worship

3:00 PM Cookout

PLACE: City Hotel & Worship PLACE: 6 Vance St.

White Privilege, The Original Race Card

By Jimi Izreal

Whites come to people of color with a laundry list of presumptions and conjecture they have gathered from years of watching BET, 'Good Times' reruns and the evening news. But I can't be mad. I don't feel oppressed by them, but I think sometimes white people can be so ignorant as to be harmful to everyone they encounter, and that is the thing I am most afraid of: the things they do simply because they don't know better.

Dealing with people with that level of ignorance tells you a lot about them, because postintegration, there is no reason to be ignorant about people of different races anymore, unless by choice. We learn about each other from our necessity of interaction and black people have to know every nuance of whiteness just to survive, but whites can live their lives oblivious to people of color. They can demand absolution by pleading ig-norance to everything, which makes whiteness the original race card. At the core of white privilege is the ability to live a life unfettered by consciousness of any kind, beyond an inherent sense of entitlement. It's a freedom whites take for granted that people of color will never know.

Part of the "unbearable whiteness of being" is that white people are the only people privileged enough to be viewed as individuals. Sometimes, I get in

conversations about sex, race or politics and I'm amused when the white people involved insist that I use qualifying remarks — like "some" whites do this, "some" whites do that. I always try to get into conversations with people smart enough to know that whenever we talk about race, gender or politics, we have to start generally and evolve to more specific arguments. Funny though, when whites discuss minorities, any vague generality will do. I used to add some qualification - just to be polite but lately I find that I'm just as inclined to use broad generalities about white folks. Let 'em squirm. Because that uncomfortable feeling they feel whenever they hear me say something like "whites always do this" or "whites always do that" is about as close as they will get to the everyday discomfort of being black. Like having to field dumb questions about being black - it doesn't get any worse than that. In the name of "diversity,"

black questions have become all too fashionable to ask - especially in the workplace. Personally, I can't be anyone's Negro tour guide of all things dark and mysterious. The problem about answering questions about your blackness is that once you start, you will never stop. People will ask you one question and then go to the back of the line to ask you another. And the questions will get progressively dumber. And so

will you, sitting there answering

For me, it isn't important for you to understand the cultural significance of why we are different, whites and blacks. It is only important that you know that we are different, and that you respect that difference by resisting the need to dissect me. The other piece of this is that, honestly, there is very little about white folks I want to know that I don't know already. Not because I'm clairvoyant, but because my survival depends on navigating race politics, and has from a very young age. Besides, I've broken bread with my white friends - had them at my dinner table to share a meal. And that's the only real measure of friendship: If you're white and have not been to your best black friend's home for dinner and they have not been to yours, something is wrong. Anyone who has not been to your home to share a meal is not your friend.

Whites know just enough about black folks to give the "brutha handshake" but not enough to invite you to dinner. This is the problem with being black in America; to be black is to involuntarily bear the sin and nary a virtue of every dark face on the planet. That's your life every waking second, whether you like it or not, while whites downplay the role of race in the everyday lives of black people. It must be nice to have that

dry up donations and to put questions in the mind of potential voters here in Maryland and that's unfortunate.

Mfume, who is unmarried, served as president and CEO of the NAACP for nine years. He acknowledges that he dated one female employee of the NAACP. He says he adopted that woman's

young son.
"I did date someone there for about three months back in 1997, although nothing came of that. It was a very short series of lunches and dinners. I fell in love with her son who

was fatherless, very withdrawn, four years of age and just the kind of child that for me, as a member of Big Brothers/Big Sisters for the last 25 years, it was the right thing to do," he said on the broadcast.

This is not the first time an NAACP executive has come under fire for having personal relationships with female employees. Former Executive Director, Ben Chavis, who was replaced by Mfume, left the organization tarnished and several million dollars in debt after the NAACP made a secret \$350,000 settlement with a female staffer. Chavis; who was married, was sued by the woman and that led to the out-of-court successful.

the organization did not lay down some rules of etiquette after the Ben Chavis affair," says Walters, the political science professor. "From my understanding, once something like that happens, it is the board's responsibility to delegate a set of rules or procedures that establishes the way the office ought to be managed. They didn't do that apparently. The person coming in should know what the boards expectations are in terms of dating personnel. Some of this really is on the NAACP.

Attempts to reach Board Chairman, Julian Bond were un-

Mfume says he is confident "I am a little bit surprised that that this will not hurt his run for

the U.S. Senate. "People here in Maryland will make decisions based on facts and what they believe and you can look someone in the eye and tell when they're lying to you and when they're telling the truth and it will be interesting to see what happens as we go through this campaign," he said.

Walters isn't convinced the matter will go away.

'If these charges are credible, I think it's going to damage his campaign because we're in an environment where the whole question of morality is linked to politics and I wouldn't for example, put it past Republicans to comment on this from that standpoint to try to damage whoever the Democratic

nominee is going to be.

"[Mfume] is going to have to put this to rest in order to satisfy the public. He's gong to have to do more than just say it didn't' happen. He's gong to have to prove it to somebody. Again, you talk about credibility of the document/charges. He's gong to have to dismiss these charges in some credible way.'

Mfume says there are limitations on how he can react.

"I can't stop people from making unproven allegations, but I can state the facts. The fact is, I really believe in and have all my life worked for the hiring and promotion of qualified women as a goal organizations and business should take serious and my record reflects

that. I believe that too many women in this society are prejudged everyday by the assumption that they only got where they were because of their body and not their brain. And that kind of thinking is an insult to all women, but as a man, I can tell you that it's despicable," he told Gordon.

He added, "As I've said all along, that's not the kind of ship I run and most people that know me, know that's not the case. If I was doing all this after 10 years at the NAACP, 10 years in Congress and seven years in the city council, it's interesting that this would only come about now as an accusation while I'm running for the United States Senate in Maryland."

By Steve Brennan, Reuters

Can a glitzy soap opera change how one nation perceives another? It's true that much of the world once had an image of Texas - indeed the entire U.S. — that it gleaned through the miscreant antics of J.R. Ewing in "Dallas."



Andrew Young Board Chairman, Africa One

Now a group of international television professionals is hoping that their upcoming Africa Channel's soaps and other TV shows in the U.S. will dramatically change our thinking about that troubled continent, not with a "Dallas"-like portrayal but rather with a real vision Africa of today, the network's founders say.

We are looking to provide a showcase for Africa that people are not used to getting in the U.S.," says James Makawa, CEO and cofounder of the Africa Channel. A native of Zimbabwe, Makawa worries that Africa is too often presented to the rest of the world as a blighted land of starvation, war

But he stresses that the channel will not be full of dull educational fare. Rather, it will carry the best of African television, from movies to soaps, travel shows, dramas, talk shows and news. "But all the programming will be coming

to you through an African perspective, and the question is, how does it translate to American audiences? Well the fact is that the majority of the people who are producing these shows in Africa now are television professionals who trained in Western Europe or in the United States. This is top-class program-

ming."
Makawa and his partners Jacob Arback and Richard Hammer hope that by bringing over the best of contemporary African programming —
most of it produced in South Africa
— they will change viewers' perception of Africa as a whole.

They don't deny that there are some horrendous problems there; they just want to get the point across that it's not all misery and devastation, as most newscasts and programming would suggest. The Africa Channel will address issues across the whole continent and present the beauty and rich culture of Africa, without ignoring the uglier realities there, they say.

For instance, says Hammer, a television marketing veteran, "We have the soap opera 'Generations' that is set in a predominantly black, upper-middle-class group of people who work in the advertising industry. This is a society that is representative of post-apartheid life in South Africa.

But that's just a fraction of the more than 1,200 hours of programming that the partners have acquired over the past three years of preparation for the channel's launch this summer. Makawa, a former NBC News correspondent based in the U.S., returned to South Africa a number of years ago to co-found the African Barter Co. in partnership with Grey Advertising Worldwide. He launched hundreds of hours of programming across Africa through the company and went on to co-found the African Broadcast Network. Arback is a former vp at DirecTV International, and Hammer is a former

executive with Sony International Television.

Their combined contacts smoothed the way for them to pick up the upcoming channel's programming library from such entities as the South African Broadcast-

ing Corp. and international reality producer Endemol. One of the programs that will air in the U.S. is Endemol's "Big Brother Africa." It features contestants from 12 African countries.

Does he believe that American

Nickelodeon slavery claim outrages Alamo keepers

SAN ANTONIO (Reuters) - The latest shots in the Battle of the Alamo are being aimed at an unlikely target the children's cable TV network Nick-

Keepers of the Texas independence shrine in downtown San Antonio are outraged by a Nickelodeon short that said the 1836 battle there was fought so "white farmers could keep their slaves.

"I think it's a shame that anybody would take that approach," said David Stewart, director of the Alamo. "I think it's an insult to the Mexicans, the

Tejanos, who fought for freedom and liberty in the Alamo as part of the defenders. It kind of slaps them in the face to claim that was the reason the battle took place.

The 50-second-long piece, part of a running series of Nickelodeon shorts called "My Back Yard," says the dispute over slavery between white settlers and the Mexican government "led up" to the battle.

Despite being warned by respected historian R. Bruce Winders that the description was simplistic and inaccurate, the network ran the piece.

viewers will relate to programming like that? "American audiences see only the African tragedy, but they have never been exposed to the positive aspects of Africa, its music, its culture. We are saying, how about flipping the switch and

showing Africa alive and well?" The partners say they are close

to signing agreements with carriers to make space for their programs and are aiming for a debut in July.

Andrew Young, former ambassador to the United Nations and former mayor of Atlanta, is chairman of the channel's board.

Reuters/Hollywood Reporter

We recognize that there were several key issues in the Battle of the Alamo and one of them was slavery," said Mark Lyons, a senior producer for Nick News at Lucky Duck Productions in New York, which contracts for the Viacom Inc.-owned network.

Texas declared independence in 1836 when Mexico's leader, Gen. Antonio Lopez de Santa Anna, revoked the existing constitution that allowed white settlement of the nation's northernmost province.

The slavery issue was a factor but not the main one," Winders wrote Nickelodeon prior to the piece airing. "The revolt in Texas started as an efunder the (Mexican) constitution of 1824, but quickly evolved into a separatist movement.

About 200 Texan fighters held off thousands of Mexico troops for 13 days until Santa Anna finally crushed them on March 6, 1836. However, the siege gave other Texas units a chance to move east and gather for an ultimately pivotal battle near Houston in April 1836 that secured Texas indepen-

Now the Alamo is Texas' top tourist attraction and one of the most recognizable U.S. landmarks.

The piece ran for about two weeks on Nickelodeon and is not expected fort to restore the Federal Republic to be aired again, Lyons said.

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Congressional hearing probes 1921 Tulsa 'massacre'

WASHINGTON, DC - The Congressional Black Caucus held a May 10 hearing on the 1921 race riots that took place in Tulsa, Okla. The purpose of the hearing was to determine what happened and what legal remedies are available to the survivors. With Rep. Bennie Thompso.n (D-Miss.) presiding, witnesses included legal experts and some of the survi-

Chicago Alderwoman Dorothy Tillman set the tone for the hearing by saying, "What happened in Tulsa was not a riot, but a massacre."

CBC Chairman Melvin Watt (D-N.C.) said: "By allowing the survivors to tell their stories, we can know what really happened. It is then that the Congressional Black Caucus can explore legal and congressional action.

On May 31, 1921, White law

enforcement officers and their citizen-deputies rampaged through the Greenwood, the Black section of Tulsa, leaving at least 300 Blacks dead, \$8 million in damages and 8,000 without homes. The massacre was in response to a rumor that a Black man, Dick Rowland, had attempted to rape a White woman in an elevator. The African-American community rallied to defend Rowland, who had been placed in jail, from a lynch mob. The Tulsa police department, the state militia and the National Guard were called in to put down the massacre; but by many accounts, they were culpable as well for the destruction the Black community suffered.

Greenwood was known throughout the country as the "Black Wall Street." The section had two newspapers, movie theaters, restaurants, hotels, schools, libraries and passed the White community in doing well. Archie Street separated Blacks and Whites in Tulsa. Greencommunity's prosperity bothered many Whites, and racial tensions were high before the massacre.

The riots were downplayed or forgotten by the state of Oklahoma and the federal government for years. Even Tulsa's textbooks omitted any mention of the massacre.

But the matter came up in the 1990s as the survivors were getting older and scholars began to explore Oklahoma history. Black state legislators in Oklahoma demanded hearings and action from the state's leaders, and they responded.

Otis Clark, 103, told an attentive audience of his experiences on the day that massacre began, and of the events that immediately followed. "I was 18 years old when it happened, and I remember it like it was yesterday," Clark said. "My grandparents other amenities that matched or sur- owned a lot of property and we were

wood Street was near Archie. For the Black community, Greenwood was our main business street. We had everything the Whites had, and more," he recalled.

On that day, I saw my house was burned down and so was the rest of the neighborhood. There was

smoke everywhere." Clark said.
After the massacre, Clark said Tulsa officials would not let African Americans bury their dead and "took our people to places where we could not find them." He said, in some cases, it was three to four years after the incident that funerals took place.

Clark said that neither he nor his family was ever compensated by the city of Tulsa or the state of Oklahoma for their losses. "Those officials took advantage of colored folks, and that was not right," he said.

Olivia Hooker, who was six years

old at the time of the riots, said her father lost his prosperous department store to looters and larcenists. She said it took her father most of his life to pay back creditors owed for the stolen goods. "When the store was destroyed, daddy did not worry because he said that we had insurance," Hooker said. "Well, that was right, but the insurance turned daddy down. We almost had to file bankruptcy, but somehow we made it through." Hooker said that she has not received a dime from her family's

lost property. Former University of District of Columbia Trustees Board Chairman Charles Ogletree, as well as Washington, D.C., attorneys Michele Roberts and Dennis Sweet, are leading the legal effort to get reparations for the surviving victims. Their request for reparations has been denied at the U.S. District Court and U.S. Court of Appeals levels.

Their next venue is the U.S. Su-

"What we want is justice," Ogletree said. "We will not be satisfied until we get it for the survivors, even if it takes another 84 years.

Rep. John Conyers (D-Mich.), a leader in the reparations movement, said he would work with the CBC and others in Congress for a hearing on the 1921 Tulsa Riots in the constitutional subcommittee of the House Judiciary Committee.

This was really a bad thing," he said. "Blacks in this country live in a sea of unrelenting hostility. We will soon take action on this.

Rep. Elijah Cummings (D-Md.) made a vow: "We need to make sure

that this never happens again." These hearings open up a sepa-rate front in the Tulsa survivors' efforts to claim reparations. The Supreme Court is expected to issue a decision soon on whether the statute of limitations has expired, as two lower courts have ruled.

JACKSON

tries, which is important, and the border disputes between the two countries, with a spurious com-

As the controversy continued to grow, Jackson said he has worked "for the citizenship rights of immigrants and Mexican Americans" and wants steps taken to avoid making the United States "hostile toward immigration

immigration policy between the

"blacks" seemed to be about a stereotype. "Most poor Americans are not black, they're white," he added.

Not only did Jackson called for an apology, Rev. Al Sharpton, former presidential candidate called the remark "disturbing" and that it had the impact of being inciting and divisive." Jackson who said he has never met Fox, made plans to telephone the Mexican president.

Presidential apology follows refusal

Initially, Fox had refused to apologize for the comment he made saying his remark had been misinterpreted. But later, after conversing with Rev. Jesse Jackson and the Rev. Al Sharpton, the president

said he "regretted" his statement and any hurt it may have caused and in a statement issued by the Foreign Relations Department, expressed the great respect he and his administration has for the African-American community in the United States," and after conversations with Jackson had agreed to set up a visit to Mexico by Reverends Jackson, Sharpton and a group of American black leaders.

Jackson said Fox's comment "at best, insensitive," but that the Mexican president had expressed regret for any offense he had caused. "He now realizes the harmful effects of it," Jackson said. "He seeks to correct it by acting and by reaching out."

As Mexico's President, Fox has championed the rights of minorities and the disabled and he led a successful campaign to amend the constitution to make discrimina-

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However George Grayson, a Mexican expert with the College of William & Mary in Virginia, said the dispute will hurt Fox's campaign to liberalize immigration aws, adding that it shows "once again how tone deaf Mexico's president is with respect to the United States.'

Remarks offend Mexicans of African Descent

Ana María Salazar, a former White House and Pentagon official who now works as a news analyst and radio host in Mexico City, said the comment was "indefensible."

'It's very offensive in Spanish, and it's offensive in a country where there is a relatively small population of Mexicans of African descent," Salazar said. "But it's extremely offensive in a country like the United States that has a much larger black population. It was a dumb, stupid comment, and I'm sure right now he regrets making

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At a moment where Mexico is rightly making claims that there is discrimination against the Mexicans in the United States, these comments sure don't help your case," she added.

While Mexico has a few, isolated black communities, the population is dominated by descendants of Mexico's Spanish colonizers and its native Indians.

According to Steve Sailer who writes for the American Conservative, 'most Americans, and even many Mexicans, don't realize that a significant fraction of the Mexican population once looked markedly African. At least 200,000 black slaves were imported into Mexico from Africa. By 1810, Mexicans considered at least part-African members numbered around a half million, or more than 10 percent of the population.'

Spain abolished slavery in 1829. Not all Africans enslaved on North American plantations went North to escape slavery, many went southward into Mexico.

Sailer noted in his article: Where Did Mexico's Black Go, that 'Emiliano Zapata was perhaps the noblest figure in 20th century Mexican politics, a peasant revolutionary still beloved as a martyred man of the people. Although Marlon Brando played him in the 1952 movie "Viva Zapata!" the best-known photograph of the illiterate idealist shows him with clearly African hair. His village had long been home to many descendents of freed slaves.

Comments that would generally be considered openly racist in the United States generate little attention here

Meanwhile, Foreign Relations Secretary Luis Ernesto Derbez who denied Fox's statement were racist. Interviewed after a meeting in Guadalajara, Derbez said Fox made the remark in the context of Mexican migrants' contributions to the U.S. economy. A Mexican official defended Fox later in the day, saying his description was not meant as an insult.

Mexico's presidential spokesman Rubén Águilar said Jackson was also noted that Mexico's President meant no racist intent, and suggested the two meet to discuss joint strategies between blacks and immigrant groups in the United States, Aguilar

The president didn't make a declaration in the racist sense; of course there are those who interpret it in that way," Foreign Relations Secretary Luis Derbez told a reporter in the Mexican state of Jalisco.

According to Derbez, Fox was making the point that "Mexican migrants are making great contributions in the United States and that

their role is a positive role."

"They've been able to improve the conditions of life not just for themselves but also for the communities in which they settle and, by the same token, the president made the comment in this context to say that a large quantity of the jobs taken by Mexicans are jobs that in the U.S. society aren't being filled."

I think that what we have to be very clear about is that the statement made by the president was in no way motivated by racism."

'Most poor Americans are ...

But the damage was already

done Meanwhile, the ruling com-mittee for the Party of the Demo-

cratic Revolution (PRD) said the "unfortunate declaration" was "racist and ignorant."

The statement released said Fox's remark "showed a superficial and prejudiced view of the labor situation in the United States."

While racial epithets related to Indian heritage are taboo in Mexico, friends and strangers alike can be heard addressing each other by nicknames based on physical appearance, to include skin color.

AP reporter Morgan Lee, The Herald Mexico reporter Jonathan Roeder and EL UNIVERSAL reporter José Carreño along with excerpts from Steve Sailer's, Where Did Mexico's Blacks Go? (www.iSteve.com) who is a columnist for VDARE.com, and film critic who writes for the American Conservative Magazine and other news wire reportage contribute to this story.

The cure for boredom is curiosity. There is no cure for curiosity. -Dorothy Parker



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From Page 1

policy."
"The comparison is diversion-

U.S. and Mexico, "Jackson said. He said Fox's comment about



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He saids to him again the second time. Simon, son of Johns, lovest thou me? He saith unto him, Yea, Lord: thou knowest that I love thee. He saith unto him. Feed my sheeps John 21:16



But watch thou to all things, endore afflictions, do the work of an evangelist, make full proof of your ministry". If Yim. 4:5 DR WILLIEH.JOYNER

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Community Doices Lori Robinson, A Rape Survivor Takes Back her Life Reflections, Expressions & Reviews



"Reflections" How Popular Are Malla?

Americans spend more time in malls than anywhere but home and work. More than mere locations for consumption, the malls have become the signature structures of the age. The first fully enclosed, shopping mall opened its doors almost 50 years ago. Americans, at the time, shopped by strolling the streets of their downtowns or cruising the strip plazas of their sprawling suburbs. But a famous architect had a great idea. Instead of having stores facing out, why not turn them inward, toward each other-and place them under one roof, so shoppers wouldn't have to brave the elements? His vision was put to the test when the Southdale Center, located in a well-to-do Minneapolis suburb, held its grand opening on October 8,1956. With 72 shops and restaurants, Southdale was modest by today's standards. But the world had never seen anything like it. People came in and looked, and their mouths opened. The impact was phenomenal. Soon, America was dotted with malls, many sprouting on the outskirts of towns and cities, where land was cheap and taxes low.

sickle cell disease.

fecting African Americans.

more than 1,000 children with the

disease," said Dr. Peter Lane, Director

of the center's Hematology Program. "Our center has performed 18 sibling-

matched marrow transplants, more

than any other facility in the nation.

Fortunately, all have been successful."

motherapy to eliminate the bone mar-

row that produces the sickle cells and

replacing it with healthy bone marrow

from a sibling. Because the procedure

is associated with some risk of poten-

tially life-threatening complications, it

is usually considered only for children

tients can be prevented by treatment

with the drug hydroxyurea or with

blood transfusions, but only trans-

plants offer hope for cure. Unfortu-

nately, transplants are not an option for those with complications, because they don't have a matched-sibling do-nor. That's why research at the Aflac

Cancer Center is exploring new approaches to transplants that may make the procedure available to more chil-

For children, a crucial element of coping with sickle cell disease and re-

covering from bone marrow transplant

is the family. The cancer center recently received \$3 million from the Colum-

bus, Ga., based insurance giant Aflac to create an endowment for a family

support team. The team of experts

Many complications in such pa-

with severe disease.

dren in the future.

The process works by giving che-

and we treat

gram in the natio

By the 1970's, a new mall was opening every three or four days. The appeal of malls was primarily their convenience. But as malls have replaced Main Street, they're no longer just an efficient way to shop. The mall has become the public square—the place where you go to see and mix with other people. In many commu-nities, malls are where the kids perform with the school orchestra, where seniors go for their morning strolls, and where teenagers hang out and go on dates. Some megamalls have ice-skating rinks. Others have roller coasters. Some have community health centers. The Oaks Mall in Fairfax, Virginia, houses a public All malls are not particularly

thriving. The huge and newer regional mails are flourishing, but many smaller, older mails—most of them in urban areas are not. One recent study found that 7 percent of these older malls-most of them in urban areas-were abandoned, while another 12 percent were strug-gling for survival. In many areas malls have come to reflect the economic and racial divisions of the larger society. "There's two kinds of mall," comedian Chris Rock has said, "the one where the white people shop and the one where the white people used to shop." Over the past few years, even many regional malls have seen customer traffic start to erode. What is the problem? Thanks to technology, the contemporary middle-class American has many new ways to spend his or her money and time: cell phones. Internet shopping, hundreds of cable channels, video games. That all adds up to about \$300 collars a month that will never be spent inside a mall. And some surveys suggest that Americans may be growing weary of some of the fea-tures that drew us to malls in the first place. We got exactly what we want, and we discover we don't want it af-Condensed from "Shoppers Para-

Robinson turned to her spiritual faith for healing. From the very be-ginning, I remember thinking, 'I by Hazel Trice Edney NNPA Washington Correspondent WASHINGTON (NNPA) - Lori

Robinson was relieved to find a parking space right across the street from her apartment building in Northeast

on't know how I can feel better, but I believe God can make it happen."

Gradually, with counseling, her healing deepened and the sadness be-



Lori Robinson speaks about her experiences and her book to a crowd of 250 in the Miller-Morgan Auditorium at NCCU (Photo Joseph Coleman, The Campus Echo)

Washington, D.C., near the Catho-

lic University of America. She walked towards the building near mid-night, thinking of the dishes in the sink and a work out video. A little startled when she saw two men, she reminded herself there is no need to fear just because they were Black. She dismissed the thought of them until suddenly she heard a threatening voice behind her and turned to face the barrel of a gun.

"You better not look at me," said the gunman.

She was weak with fear as they ordered her to open the door of her apartment. She struggled with the key until the door finally opened. After answering their questions about whether she lived alone, whether anyone else had a key, and whether she was supposed to call anyone when she got home, they led her to her bedroom, still asking questions and demanding that she speaks

Then I was ordered to lie facedown on my full-size bed. They tied my feet to the bottom corners of the bed, and my right arm to the upper right corner," she wrote in Emerge magazine. "When one asked me for something else to use to tie my left hand, I told him where my belts were. Then they wrapped thick duct tape around my head, covering my

"'Are they doing this so they can shoot me? Maybe they just want to make sure they have plenty of getaway time.' My thoughts raced. What was about to happen hadn't occurred to me. Then, with a knife of my Black stretch pants. Then it

They both raped her. After that, they stole all of her electronic equipment from her one-bedroom apartment. An hour later, they were gone, never seen again by her, never arrested for the crime.

ago is still vivid in the memory of Lori Robinson.

"I really do feel like I'm a walking miracle. I'm so deeply healed. I feel very detached from that incident," Robinson says in an interview. She quickly clarifies, "That's not to say that I don't ever think about it. If I were to meditate about it, it would make me sad."

. An associate editor at Emerge

gan to recede.

Sadness is the same emotion that she has tried to help eliminate from the lives of other Black women who are victims of sexual assault. Robinson, now a freelance journalist, has used her writings to help with her own healing and the healing of others. Her life has taken a new turn since she wrote the Emerge story in 1997, two years after her assault.

Now, her book, "I Will Survive, The African-American Guide to Healing from Sexual Assault," published three years ago, has led to nearly 100 book-signings and speaking engagements in 20 states.

The positive side is that it's been very fulfilling for me to feel that I am helping people. And just based on things that people have said to me after my talks, that this is really helpful to have a survivor to be able to share this kind of information," she says. "A lot of what I talk about is the intersection of racism and sexism."

By this, she means racist, gender-based stereotypes associated with African-Americans.

The 357-page book covers how African-American women and men suffer from sexual stereotypes dating as far back as slavery, such as Black women being loose and oversexed Black men.

The book also offers safety tips for rape prevention, other stories of healing after sexual assaults, and reasons that Black women are believed to be sexually assaulted more often than Whites, but are not as likely to

One in six women is sexually asfrom my kitchen, one of them saulted during their lifetimes, acspliced up the back of the right leg cording to a 2004 survey of the National Violence Against Women.

The U. S. Department of Justice estimates that only 37 percent of all rapes are reported. Black women make up only 18 percent of

those reporting the attacks.
"For a lot of these Black women, it's just in our culture that idea that we're supposed to take care of everybody else first, the stigma in the Black community about getting professional help, just not having enough time, not having enough money," Robinson explains. "As difficult as it is, it has been completely fulfilling to feel that in this unique situation, as a rape survivor who is a journalist. I don't know if I've taken myself too seriously, but it feels very

fulfilling," she says.

As the 10th anniversary of the rape approaches on May 19, Robinson is beginning to think it's time for her to take a new approach to her life. Her post-rape life has been fulfilling and physically draining.

"It's changing now. I'm speaking less," she says. "It's kind of been emotionally overwhelming. The hardest part for me, I think, was generally when I speak, people want to tell me their stories ... I think that because they see a healing in me, they want to be able to talk with me and share with me...I have taken in too much of other people's stuff, I guess. That's been the hardest part.

She speaks two to three times a week and as any frequent traveler can testify, even 5-star hotels are no substitute for your bed back home. And it can be even more taxing when someone is home waiting, as is the case with Robinson.

She is happy to return to her husband, Ollie Johnson, who was her boyfriend at the time of the as-

"Right after I was raped, I don't know what I thought they would possibly do, but just the idea that these people knew what I looked like and I didn't know what they looked like and I couldn't see them, well that just petrified me," she recalls. "In the years after the rape, I was scared a lot. I would park my car, look around me a lot and sprint to the

Ollie Johnson helped anchor Robinson then and now

"I remember I couldn't wait 'til the weekend would come so I could go and just spend the weekend with him. I remember I just couldn't wait to get in the door for just the comfort of him hugging me," she says.

Johnson is an Africana Studies professor at Wayne State University

"I got angry. I'm still angry and definitely have to try to balance that anger out while thinking about working with healing and recovery and being stronger and better," he says. "But, I was outraged then. And I'm outraged now that this type of thing happens, that it happened to my loved one. But, I agree with Lori and that's why I love and respect Lori so much, because she took this tragedy and turned it into a positive, healthy, healing experience for herself and our people. Even in her pain, she helped with his healing.

"I think, in part, I got the strength from her and how she handled the whole situation," he recalls. "She was unbelievable in terms of her refusal to let this defeat her or even sidetrack her, so I definitely got a lot of inspiration from her from

the very beginning.' Her former Emerge colleagues are equally impressed.

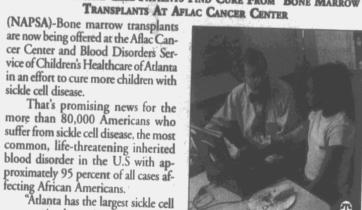
I think in order to do what she's done, one has to have a tremendous fighting spirit," says Marcia Davis, a former senior editor at Emerge and now an assignment editor at the Washington Post. "Anyone who reads her story has to find inspiration in her example," she says. "This is a chosen path. She has said, 'I want to share my story.' Not to say, 'Look at this horrible thing that happened to me.' But, 'I want to share my story because in it, there might be some

Meanwhile, Robinson, now 36, is still finding her way to complete healing. She says she still feels challenged and not as free and healed in her intimacy as she would like to be.

Looking ahead, she is thinking of writing another book unrelated to the rape. "I don't want it to be the primary or the single subject matter that I focus on anymore," she says. She has a strong interest in people of African decent in Latin America.

But she is pleased with the contribution that her book will continue to make to the healing of others.

When I started the book there were no books that I knew of that I could find that were about Black women and rape," she says. Now, her book - as well as her life - will continue to inspire Black women with what she considers the most crucial advice besides getting professional help: "Repeating over and over again that it's not your fault and believing that healing is possible.



Young Sickle Cell Patients Find Cure From Bone Marrow

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Currently, 8,000 members of the Aflac sales force donate about \$200,000 a month to the center. The center treats more than 250 new cancer patients each year and follows more

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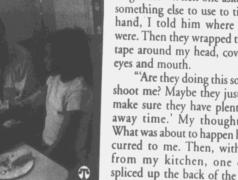
than 1,000 sickle cell patients.

the company's core philanthropic effort.



To date, Aflac has pledged over

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became clear. I'm about to be raped.'

That horrific evening 10 years

magazine at the time of her assault,



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Community Poices

From the Desk of Mrs. Beatrice Maye



Mrs. Beatrice Maye

THE GOOD GRANDPA

What are the traits of a good grandpa? Three character traits should prevail. Grandfathers, take

SOBER. It is the word from which we get nephalism, "abstinence from intoxicants." This is important, not alone for health but for counsel

A FAITHFUL FEW

The Book of Numbers continues

the history of the Israelites where

the Book of Exodus left off. Just

(Exodus 40:17) and the command

(Numbers 1:1-2). During that time, the instructions in the Book

of Leviticus were given. The first

ensus of all men 20 years old and

older records that 603,550 men

of Israel (1:1-46).

were qualified to serve in the army

And it came to pass on the twenti-

completion of the Tabernacle

of God to number the people

By Faith May

and example to those who are church or grandpas at home! Does younger. REVERENT. That is, "Venerated for character, worthy of respect." Do your grandchildren look up to you? TEMPERATE. This word comes from the Greek verb translated "to be of a sound mind." This refers to being selfcontrolled or right-minded. It is one who governs well his passions and affections. No "flying off of the

The good grandpa should be marked by godliness. He should be sound in these three areas of his

In the faith. A Godly grandfather will be grounded in the whole body of revealed truth, so as to be an unerring teacher of the young.

In love. A sacrificial giving of one's self for the welfare of another. This is love directed first to God and then to others.

In patience. It is a willingness to await God's time, knowing that

His purposes will be fulfilled.

What appropriate advice whether for "older men" in the

• Alfred Bu

Have a smile.

• Beatrice M

eth day of the second month, in the

taken up from off the Tabernacle of

second tear, that the cloud was

the testimony (10:11), and the

moved toward Kadesh Barnea,

people complained and then

After the Israelites arrived at

14:45).

Israelites followed the cloud as it

about 160 miles to the north. It

was not long, however, before the

rebelled against God (see 10:11-

Kadesh Barnea, 12 spies were sent

out to investigate the land. When

they returned 40 days later, Caleb

this not apply to grandmothers, too? Recently senior citizens in a retirement living class at the Pitt County Council on Aging which took place April 26th were asked what advice would you give youngsters concerning crime/violence in Greenviille/Pitt County communities? The answers were as follows:

• Dr. Damaso Fernandez - Be • Rosie Little - Respect your

curfew. David Red ford - Live as you

• Bertha Gaye - Be considerate of your elders.

• Willie Mac Dudley - Don't talk back to your teachers. • Pat Fernandez - Put your

brain in motion before you act or • Pallie Barrow - Go to school.

Get as much education as you Alfred Burke - Obey parents.

• Beatrice Maye - Ignorance is

WITH FAITH MAY

Later, the Lord commanded Moses

successor, to take a second census

of the new generation of men 20

numbering took place almost 40

years after the first census, in the

Only Joshua and Caleb, the two

men of faith from the first genera-

tion of Israelites, lived to enter the

promised land. The new genera-

10th month of the 40th year.

parents had left Egypt. This second

and Eleazar, Aaron's son and

years of age and older, whose

• Sandy Nelson - Live by the Golden Rule.

• Willie Henderson - Eat nutritiously.

• Eniska Brown - Stay away from tobacco, drugs and alcohol. Did you know that -

 Áfrican American (Black) men have the lowest life expectancy and the highest rate of cancer, hypertension (high blood pressure) and heart disease of any group of people in the country Eating right could help them

live well into their golden years • Eating meat requires more energy to digest than it generates

• That table salt increases blood pressure, hardens arteries and causes such ailments as kidney stones and gallstones

• Excessive sugar has a toxic effect, poisoning effect on the

 Margarine and other cooking oils that produce trans-fatty acids, chemicals that lead to

atherosclerosis and heart disease • White flour (which contains

• Tap water (which contains lead)

• Fast food (which contains preservatives) • Caffeine (which is addictive

and destroys cells) Second handed smoke because it is just as dangerous as

smoking
• For healthy living in today's world boils down to practices preached to us a kids. Live a life of moderation; educate yourselves on what we are putting into our body. Combine a sensible diet with moderate

exercise and regular doctor visits. Stay away from red meat • That tobacco use causes approximately 180,000 cancer

deaths annually • Secondhand smoke causes approximately 3,000 cases of

lung cancer in the U.S. each year • If you are 50 or older, you need to be tested for colon cancer. Colon cancer is one you can avoid, simply by getting

 Replace junk food wit nutritious alternatives

 Men are beginning to place increased importance on hats

· Coronary heart disease is America's Number 1 killer and it hits the black community especially hard

Marriage and family are where you find true happiness (Kanye West)

• Change is growth for institutions and individuals

What Is on Your Min By Richard Cox,

GospelCity.com Thou wilt keep him in perfect peace, whose mind is stayed on thee: because he trusteth in thee." Isaiah

We are living in a time where our minds need to be renewed and focused on the work of God. Our sustained trust and commitment to God should be fixed on pleasing Him in our lives. If our minds are filled with Godly thoughts then the devil has no choice but to leave. That is why it is important to daily renew our minds about the concerns of God. Philippians 2:5 (KJV) declares, "Let this mind be in you, which was also in Christ Jesus." Our minds need to be renewed from thoughts of doubt, worry and fear — replaced with in-ner peace. God's peace is expressed in Philippians 4:7 (KJV) where it ". ... surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your thoughts

in Christ Jesus." A mother testifying in church one Sunday morning said, "if the devil has your mind; he has access to your whole body." That means if the devil has control of your thoughts, then he could easily instruct your body to respond to any of his instructions. As Christians, we want to maintain Jesus Christ as the pilot of our minds to lead and guide us by the Holy Ghost into all truth. Thoughts Become Manifest

Do You Trust God?

Whose Plan — Yours or the Lord's? As Christians, we are familiar with the sowing and reaping concept used in Bible parables. We can take that concept to understand how different types of fruit and weeds evolve and develop in the garden of our lives. Initially, the process starts out with seeds of thoughts sown in our minds that eventually take root. Seeds of thoughts received from our surroundings, absorbed by our senses. These positive or negative seeds attempt to bombard our minds daily. The result of the planted seed of thought eventually leads to a form of action taking place. That particular action later affects your character and behavior in a positive or negative manner. As time passes, your behavior will affect your course of destiny in fruitful or negative way.

It is good to be reminded how the sowing and reaping process of our thoughts can yield good or bad consequences. Those consequences result in a positive or negative impact on our families and friends. We are the Christians that represent Jesus Christ on earth. Unbelievers are looking at our examples with Jesus in our lives. Since God is invisible to us we need

to let the world see the affects of His WORD can be visible in our life. If we seek to sow spiritual thoughts daily, this will help us to fulfill our purpose and destiny on earth.

I pray that this article will help you raise your awareness about your daily thoughts. Remember a thought always precedes the manifestation of the results. For example you get the idea for a meal to prepare before you cook it. An artist first has an idea or inspiration before starting to paint. A builder has a design before building a house. You can look at your thoughts as blueprints; it creates an image of the form that eventually manifests into a physical form. What thoughts dominate your mind?

Here are some practical ways to keep our minds on spiritual things: Daily devotions with Bible reading, prayer and meditation

 Engaging in spiritual fellowship with your brothers/sisters in the

 Exchanging inspirational email messages, cards and testimonies Participate in church ministries

and activities

Attend Bible study

 Read inspirational books and magazines

 Listen to inspirational audio books and music

Watch inspirational programs and

 Attend inspirational plays, concerts and conventions

• Witness and share your testimony about the goodness of God to others On the Pulse

The key to maintaining my spiritual thoughts is renewing my mind to think Biblically and spiritually, rather than in a worldly way. Romans 12:2 (KJV) says, "...that ye may prove that good, and acceptable, and perfect will of God." God's power and anointing is manifested in our lives as a result of our spiritual thoughts and faith in Him. Colossians 3:16 (KJV) says, "let the word of Christ dwell in you richly..." Keep your mind filled with a stream of spiritual thoughts throughout the day. We should let Jesus rules our thoughts. Colossians 3:15 (KJV) says: "and let the peace of God rule in your hearts, to the which also ye are [were] called in one body, and be ye thankful.'

I pray you will let the words and thoughts of Jesus Christ dwell richly within your mind then God's peace will rule or preside in

We'd love to hear your feedback on this article. E-mail us at: Talk2BV@aol.com.



Job Of Your Life (NAPSA)-Before finding the right job, it may help to find yourself.

That's the advice in a new book that says asking yourself "who am I?" can help you find a career that's a good match for your personality, skills and

Written by Monster founder Jeff Taylor, the book is called "Monster Careers-How to Land the Job of Your Life" (Penguin, \$18.00). It includes

real-world advice-from recruiters, career counselors, human resource professionals and dozens of successful monster.com members-geared toward helping people find the jobs that are right for them. In addition, job hunters can use

the publication to cover a range of job hunt issues-from deciding what you want to do for a living, to starting out right in the first six months of a new

Readers can also benefit from the advice of hiring managers at Crisco, Ford, McDonald's and other leading companies. Taylor provides some words of wisdom as well. He's been called a visionary in both the Internet

and careers industries and his company,

monster Careers

monster.com, carries hundreds of thousands of listings in various career categories. you're a seasoned

professional or a recent graduate, whatever your job situation, this practical and pas-

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Page 10 The Minority Voice Newspaper May 1 - 31, 2005 Spelman College Honors Howard Zinn, Diahann Carroll and Virginia Davis Floyd at 2005 Commencement

ATLANTA - Forty years after inspiring students as a Spelman College faculty member, Howard Zinn, Ph.D., will return to inspire another genera-tion of students as speaker for the College's 118th Commencement to be held at Cathedral at Chapel Hill, in Decatur, Ga., on Sunday, May 15 at 4 p.m.Dr. Zinn will receive an honorary Doctor of Humane Letters at the ceremony, where nearly 500 students will celebrate becoming part of the Spelman alumnae sisterhood.

Dr. Zinn mentored and supported Spelman students who worked

Cox Appointed

State President

in the civil rights movement in Atlanta and across the South. This story is well nasty." medicine and global cross-cultural experiences.

television, film and theater, will be honored with a Doctor of Fine Arts. In 1968, Ms. Carroll was the first African American actress to star in her own TV series, "Julia" for NBC. In 1984, she was the first African American actress to star in the award-win-



Miss Brandy Davis of Greenville, N.C. has been named Princeville Montessori School's Teacher of the Year. She is a fifth grade teacher and a nominee for Edgecombe County Teacher of the Year. Miss Davis is the daughter of Alice Highsmith of Greenville, N.C. and Eddie Davis of Como, N.C

(Mercer University Press, 2005). Diahann Carroll, a pioneer in

documented in "Undaunted by the Fight: Spelman College and the Civil Rights Movement," written by Profes-sor Emeritus Dr. Harry Lefever, Ph.D.

Dr. Virginia Davis Floyd, C'73, will receive the National Community Service Award. Dr. Floyd is the Visiting Scholar in Traditional Knowledge at Spelman College and is highly regarded for her research and community leadership in the area of traditional

Marian Wright Edelman, C'60, will be keynote speaker for Baccalaureate, Saturday, May 14 at 10 a.m. in Sisters Chapel at Spelman. Ms. Edelman, Founder of the Children's Defense Fund, is well known for her work on behalf of children across the

African-American Consultants Help Black Churches "Supersize" Their Memberships

McDonald's + Church = "McChurch."

Nina S. Griffin and Rachael D. Richardson, Founders of Lost Sheep Consulting, Las Vegas, NV (BlackNews.com) - There's a two woman army in Las Vegas who believe piping fries and the Bible have a lot in common. These ladies are teaching local clergy how to super-

160 active members. In response to this, Lost Sheep Consulting is conducting groundbreaking "McChurch" seminars. Founders Nina S. Griffin and Rachael D. Richardson are showing God's CEOs how to create the one-of-a-kind spiritual ex-

of all churches in America have just

perience similar to that of which McDonald's customers have been enjoying for the last 50 years. Fortune 500 companies didn't become successful until they started talking to customers who had left their companies and/or were on the verge of defection.

These brave ladies are visionary in empowering clergy with proven 21st century win-back and

retention techniques.

There is a "DAVID" in the desert with a sling-shot of a message; "SAVE THE LOST AT ALL COST".

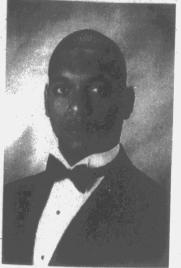
For more details, interested should www.sheepfinders.com or contact Nina Griffen at 702-876-8332 or sheepfinders@hotmail.com

valedictorian from Spelman in 1960, and was the first black woman to pass the bar in Mississippi, Founded in 1881, Spelman Col-

ege is the only historically Black college in the nation to be included on the U.S. News and World Report's list of top 100 "Best Liberal Arts Colleges - Bachelor's," 2004 edition. This pri-

vate college for Black women boasts outstanding alumnae such as Children's Defense Fund founder Marian Wright Edelman; former Foreign Service Director General, Ruth Davis; authors Tina McElroy Ansa and Pearl Cleage; and actress LaTanya Richardson Jackson. SQURCE Spelman College

Billy Council Signs With West Virginia State



William "The Judge" Council

by W. Council

Green Cove Spring, FLA - The 25 Grandchild of Mr. & Mrs. Arthur & Rosa Council receives a full scholarship to play football at West Virginia State University.

The 25th grandchild of Mr. & Mrs. Arthur & Rosa Council of Staton House Road, Greenville, NC. He graduates from Clay High School on Friday, May 20,2005, in Green Cove Springs just outside

Billy "The Judge" Council turned 18 in March, stands 6' 1" and weights 254 pounds and has maintained nearly 3.0 GPA has received a full scholarship to play Defensive Lineman for West Virginia State University in the Fall 2005.

Billy grew up in the Washington, DC area until his junior year. He is the son of Bill & Sherri Council. Bill Council graduated from Bethel Union High School in 1961 where he reighn as a 4-H champion for 4 years and a track star.

Billy's father taught Business courses at The University of the District of Columbia for 8 years, in the Washington DC., and he now has plans to major in Business himself at West Virginia State University where

he is thrilled to play football.

Billy began his sports career in elementary school playing basketball and in junior high school, he played baseball where he was known as the "the slugger". Now in football, he is called "The Judge" because he plays with such attitude.

The Council family, relatives, and friends near and far congratulate the youngest and last grandchild of Mr. & Mrs. Arthur & Rosa Council on Billy's achievements and continued success in his academic and sports career.

Preacher Gets 17 Years for Embezzling

Bishop

Leroy Woolard

The state youth

By: Errin Haines, Associated Press

convention wfll be held June

21-23 and will be attended by

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Memorial Drrive, where serves

more than 1,000 youths.

as teramch manager.

ROME, Ga. — A small-town preacher was sentenced to 17 1/ 2 years in prison Thursday for



Abraham Kennard (above) was sentenced to 17 1/2 years in prison Thursday for stealing nearly \$9 million from some 1,600 black churches.

stealing nearly \$9 million from some 1,600 black churches by promising big returns on small investments.

Abraham Kennard was also ordered to pay nearly \$8 million in restitution and almost

\$600,000 in back taxes.

Kennard, 46, was found guilty by a federal jury in February on 116 counts, including fraud and evasion. Prosecutors said he ran a pyramid scheme that took advantage of the tight network of black preachers to

which he belonged. He could have gotten 33 years behind bars.

These people lost everything they had. Some even lost their church. The court cannot ignore that," U.S. District Judge Harold L. Murphy said.

Prosecutors said Kennard claimed his company was developing Christian resorts around the country. He told preachers that for a fee of a few thousand dollars, their churches could be "members" of his company. In return, he promised that in time the churches would get a grant or a forgivable loan of up to \$500,000.

Nina S. Griffin and Rachael D. Richardson; Foulnders of Lost sheep Consulting

size their dying membership. They call themselves Lost Sheep Con-

Las Vegas, where the women reside, has been the "GOLIATH" in national growth for 18 years in a row. 41 million visitors traveled to the "entertainment capitol of the world" in 2004 and approximately 6000 people a month are relocating to the Vegas area. However, church membership is at an all time low in the city that never sleeps, despite continuous residence growth.

Interestingly enough, the exact same thing is happening all over the country. Nationally, over 90%



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kinds of diseases.

night," says Lewis. "We don't do the

kind of outreach we do for other

tion of the attention devoted to dis-

eases like AIDS, she says, is simple:

"Rich people aren't the ones getting

Type II diabetes, for the most part.

trated among poor people. But we

are all paying the cost. In one recent

year, according to state figures, there

were 330,000 hospitalizations for

diabetes, at an average cost of

\$16,669 - a total of more than \$5

The disease is, indeed, concen-

The reason diabetes gets a frac-

The American Diabetes Associa-

tion (www.diabetes.org) estimates

that one in 10 health dollars goes to

the disease nationally, a staggering

politicians, preachers, teachers, jour-

nalists - should be urging the public

to recognize the dimensions of the

diabetes problem and the disastrous

end of the road that awaits those who

don't exercise or cut back on sugar

and starch in their diets. We owe it

to our neighbors, friends and fam-

Everyone with an audience -

\$132 billion a year.

Deadlier than AIDS

Diabetes killed, or helped to kill, my Great-Aunt Euphemia, my Uncle Donald, my Aunt Mildred and Bernell, my mother-in-law. Because the disease often destroys blood circulation, a few of them were forced to undergo horrifying amputations before the end.

Two of my uncles and a brotherin-law have the disease now. My family, sadly, is not unusual in this re-

In reality, diabetes is an epidemic. The disease - a failure of the

body to produce or process the insulin needed to digest sugar and starch - killed 1,891 city residents in . 2003, according to the Health Department. That's a one-year jump of 11%, making the disease more deadly than AIDS in the five boroughs for the first time. About 450,000 New Yorkers have the dis-

Diabetes is so prevalent in black and Latino communities that it has crept into the cultural fabric. It is now common to hear older women

talk about the disease almost casually in church or at the corner store. "My sugar is acting up," they say, as if it were no more trouble than a toothache or a bout of insomnia.

Here's the infuriating part: 90% of these cases are probably preventable. The leading cause of diabetes is a lack of exercise combined with over-consumption of sugars and starches; over time, the body's ability to process the megadoses of starchy foods collapses.

The link between diabetes and the obesity caused by poor diets and nonexercise is so strong that some doctors have coined a new word for the disease: diabesity. Anybody can

help stave off the disease by walking more, binging less and talking with a doctor about creating - and sticking to - a healthy diet.

Anna Lewis, an attorney and West Side activist, has taken to shouting from the rooftops about what it takes to avoid diabetes. Lewis is one of the 5% of diabetics who inherited the disease and has been dealing with it her whole life.

This week she spoke at a community health forum convened by the mid-Manhattan chapter of the NAACP. The event was ignored by news outlets, as are many life-ordeath issues.

I could have talked about it all

FTAA would include every nation in the hemisphere except Cuba. A U.S. State Department offi-

cial said the administration welcomed the idea of "positive dialogue" between the two nations and said that the State Department supported the idea of leaders from the Palestinian territories and Iraq attending the meeting. Palestinian Authority President Mahmoud Abbas is scheduled to attend the sum-

The South American leaders and representatives scheduled to attend the summit are from Argentina, Brazil, Bolivia, Chile, Colombia, French Guiana, Paraguay, Peru, Uruguay and Venezuela. Ecuador's new president,

By: Matt Kelley, Associated Press

WASHINGTON — U.S. civilian

authorities in Iraq cannot properly

account for nearly \$100 million that

was supposed to have been spent on

reconstruction projects in south-cen-

tral Iraq, government investigators

in the use of the \$96.6 million, ac-

cording to a report by the Special In-

spector General for Iraq Reconstruc-

tion. A separate investigation of pos-

tal is unaccounted for, the report

said. An additional \$89.4 million in

payments do not have the required

The report accused civilian contract managers of "simply washing

accounts" to try to make the books

balance. Staffing shortages and the

quick turnover of those responsible

for the cash contributed to the prob-

ficial now in charge of the program, wrote the investigators that he agreed

with their conclusions. Stefanko said

his office had corrected or was in the

A congressional critic of U.S.

"The U.S. risks fostering a cul-

problems identified in the report.

reconstruction spending in Iraq said

Wednesday the findings showed

"disorganized, sloppy management."

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re of corruption in Iraq

Col. Thomas Stefanko, the of-

More than \$7 million of the to-

sible wrongdoing continues.

supporting documents.

lems, the report said.

There are indications of fraud

said Wednesday.

Can't

Alfredo Palacio, won't attend owing to ongoing tension at home after last month's dismissal of former President Lucio Gutierrez. Suriname President Ronald Venetiaan is reportedly stay-

ing home to campaign for re-election

later this month. The Arab leaders scheduled to attend are from Algeria, Saudi Arabia, the United Arab Emirates, Bahrain, Comoros, Djibouti, Egypt, Yemen, Iraq, Jordan, Kuwait, Lebanon, Libya, Morocco, Mauritania, Oman, the Palestinian territories, Qatar, Syria, Sudan, Somalia and Tunisia.

• This article is based in part on wire service reports.

Account for

ummit By Carmen J. Gentile

RIO DE JANEIRO — Brazil will host a meeting of Latin America and Arab leaders, including new Iraqi President Jalal Talabani, in an effort to promote greater economic integration between the two regions and talk diplomatic goals.

But there are indications that the United States and Israel are concerned the summit could become a platform to attack U.S. and Israeli policies in the Middle East.

A summit declaration, to be released Wednesday, could strain relations between South America and the United States if it is seen to tacitly back groups such as Lebanon's Hezbollah guerrillas, which Washington classifies as terrorist organizations.

A draft copy of the declaration published in the Brazilian press raised expectations the meeting would criticize U.S. and Israeli use of force and back the rights of peoples to resist oc-

"The positions and worries of Israel regarding the summit have been expressed directly to the government of Brazil and other South American governments," the Israeli Embassy in Brazil said in a statement.

We have made our concerns known to the Brazilian government about the importance of not doing anything to undermine the world's shared goal of peace in the Middle East," said a U.S. government official, who asked not to be named.

Twenty-two leaders and officials from Arab states and at least 10 of their counterparts from Latin America will meet during the last two days of the summit, which begins today and runs through Wednesday in Brasilia and which was the brainchild of Brazilian President Luiz Inacio Lula da Silva and Algerian President

Abdelaziz Bouteflika. The leftist Brazilian leader first publicly proposed the idea of the two-region get-together during his five-nation tour of the Middle East in December 2003.

"It is time to change the commercial geography of the world," said Mr. da Silva during his stop in Lebanon. "If we are alone, then none of us can compete with rich nations."

Since assuming office in January 2003, the Brazilian president has traveled all over the world seeking to

(NAPSA)-Over the years, the issue

of equal access to education has been

the focal point of many civil rights

prise. Access to quality education,

regardless of a student's race, will

always be a critical element of any

attempt to build a society where the

opportunity of individuals to pros-

per is based on the "content of their

character" rather than the "color of

Through legislation, such as the No Child Left Behind Act, bold ef-

forts are being made to move this

new civil rights agenda forward by

pressing for a number of educational

reforms that reflect the interests of

the African-American and Latino

communities-such as increasing pa-

rental choice, demanding account-

ability from administrators and us-

ing market measures to evaluate the

performance of teachers and

This should come as no sur-

by Elvis Oxlev

confrontations.

their skin.

bolster Brazil's trade ties with developing nations, most notably India and China, with whom he formed a strategic partnership of developing superpowers dubbed the G-3.

Just like Mr. da Silvas visit to the Middle East in 2003, the upcoming summit is likely to raise eyebrows in the Bush administration. Not only will Washington take interest in seeing who is dealing with whom, but how successful those talks are in brokering lasting deals, particularly at

In their article "Closing The

Racial Gap In Education," Abigail

and Stephan Thernstrom argue that

too many inner-city school districts

shortchange young people with union

contracts that protect incompetent

are ignoring the threat to our nation's

future and social cohesion posed by

the inability of many poor young

minorities to compete successfully in

cal black or Hispanic student is scor-

ing well less than at least 80 percent

point that the schools they admire

most, in cities such as Chicago and

Philadelphia, are charter schools that

probably would not exist if not for

the Bush administration's leadership.

now select from schools such as these

and others, when trying to give their

child the best education possible.

Thanks to its efforts, parents can

For example, at age 17, the typi-

The Thernstroms also make the

school and in the workplace.

of his or her white classmates.

These districts, they contend,

teachers and smother innovation.

Education News

Is Education The New Civil Rights Battleground?

a time when the United States is trying to restart stalled talks on the creation of a free-trade bloc for the Western Hemisphere.

The proposed Free Trade Area of the Americas co-led by the United States and Brazil was supposed to be implemented by the beginning of 2005. But concerns regarding restricted access to U.S. markets and subsidies expressed by several Latin American leaders, Mr. da Silva included, have stymied the talks. The

America is best served when legislators and educators are willing to address race-related issues such as the gap in academic achievement. The enormous data supporting this divide, such as those presented in the Thernstroms' paper, should deeply concern all Americans-and stimulate

Elvis Oxley is the Executive Director of The Ripon Society. Founded on the values of Abraham Lincoln and Teddy Roosevelt, Ripon promotes innovation, equality of opportunity, personal responsibility and smaller government.

to download a copy of "Closing The www.riponsoc.org.



serious debate over educational re-

To learn more about Ripon or Racial Gap In Education," visit

\$100M Spent in Iraq Russ Feingold, D-Wis.

The money at issue is from proceeds from Iraqi oil sales and seizures from the former government of Saddam Hussein. Distribution of the money was handled first by the Coalition Provisional Authority, the U.S.-run occupation government in Iraq from 2003 to June 28, 2004.

After that, the money was overseen by the Joint Area Support Group-Central, which is managed from the U.S. Embassy in Baghdad, the Iraqi capital.

Managers gave the cash to "division-level agents" responsible for distributing the money for reconstruction programs in a certain area. Those agents - the report did not specify their nationalities - were supposed to keep detailed, signed receipts and other documentation for the money they spent but usually did not, the report said.

Part of the problem was a lastminute push to spend millions on reconstruction projects before the interim Iraqi government took over, the report said. One agent got \$6.75 million in cash a week before the handover, with the expectation that the money would be spent before the Iraqis took power, the report said.

process of fixing or investigating the Several of these agents "were under the impression that it was more important to quickly distribute the money to the region than to obtain all necessary documentation,"

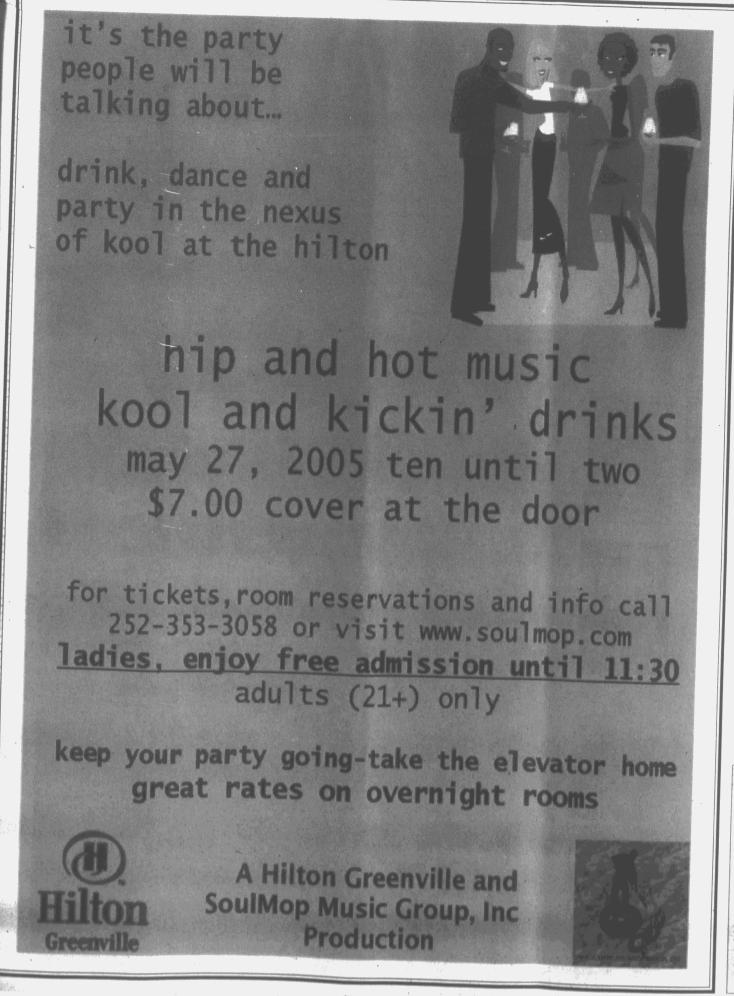
the report said. Securing the required documentation should not have been overlooked by those officials specifically charged with safeguarding Iraqi

funds," investigators said. Controls over the cash were so lax that two of the agents hired to distribute the money were allowed to leave Iraq before they had ac-counted for all of it, the report said. Between them, those two had been given more than \$1.4 million in cash which remains unaccounted for, the report said

A different agent failed to provide proper documentation for more than \$12.4 million in spending but had his accounts cleared by his supervisors, the report said.

Yet another agent kept distributing money for three weeks after his authority to handle the funds was revoked, the report said. That agent, told that \$1,878,870 was missing from his account, delivered precisely that amount to his supervisors three days later, the report said.

That suggests, the report said, that the agent had a reserve of cash and only turned in enough to make his account balance.





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Malcolm X And Music

by Norman Otis Richmomd El-Hajj Malik El-Shabazz (Malcolm X) was assassinated 40 years ago, on February 21, 1965, because of his attempt to internationalize the AfricanAmerican liberation struggle.

Malcolm was born 80 years ago on May 19, 1925. While it is unlikely that U.S. President George W. Bush will acknowledge these facts, people from Cape Town to Nova Scotia and Brazil to Brixton definitely will. African Americans in New York City have made a pilgrimage to Malcolm's gravesite every year since February 21, 1966.

Contrary to popular belief, it was Malcolm, not Martin Luther King, who first opposed the war in Vietnam. Malcolm was the first African American leader of national prominence in the 1960s to condemn the war. He was joined by organizations like the Revolutionary Action Movement and the Student Non-Violent Coordinating Committee. This was in the tradition of David Walker, Henry Highland Garnet, Martin R. Delaney, Bishop Henry McNeil Turner, W.E.B. Du Bois, Marcus Garvey, Ella Baker and Paul Robeson. Malcolm continued to link the struggles of African people worldwide. King came out against the Vietnam War after his famous April 4, 1967 speech at Riverside Church in New York City. Malcolm spoke against this war from the get-go.

Musicians did their part to keep Malcolm's name alive. Long before Spike Lee's 1992 bio-pic, "X," hiphop, house, reggae and R'n'B artists created music for Malcolm, high-life and great Black music (so-called jazz) artists first wrote and sang about Malcolm. The dance of Malcolm's time was the "lindy-hop" and he was a master of it. The Autobiography of Malcolm X, which Malcolm wrote with the assistance of Alex Haley, gives a vivid description of his love of danc-

Years later, on a visit to the West African nation of Ghana, Malcolm spoke of seeing Ghanaians dancing the high-life. He wrote: "The Ghanaians performed the high-life as if possessed.
One pretty African girl sang 'Blue
Moon' like Sarah Vaughan. Sometimes the band sounded like Charlie Parker."

Malcolm's impact on Ghana was so great that one folk singer created a song in his honor called "Malcolm Man.

Malcolm Man, Malcolm Man You speak your tale of woe The red in your face like our Blood on the land You speak your tale of woe Malcolm Man, Malcolm Man

The anger that you feel Will one day unite our people And make us all so real Malcolm Man, Malcolm Man.

After Malcolm's death, many jazz artists recorded music in his memory. Among them, Leon Thomas recorded the song, "Malcolm's Gone" on his Spirits Known and Unknown album; saxophonist-poet-playwright Archie Shepp recorded the poem, "Malcolm, Malcolm Semper Malcolm" on his Fire Music album. Shepp drew parallels between Malcolm's spoken words and John Coltrane's music. Said Shepp: "I equate Coltrane's music very strongly with Malcolm's language, because they were just about contemporaries, to tell you the truth. And I believe essentially what Malcolm said is what John played. If Trane had been a speaker, he might have spoken somewhat like Malcolm. If Malcolm had been a saxophone player, he might have playeds somewhat like Trane."

Shortly before Malcolm's death, he visited Toronto and appeared on CBC television with Pierre Breton. During the visit, Malcolm spent time with award-winning author Austin Clarke talking about politics and music. Time was too short to organize a community meeting, but a few lucky people gathered at Clarke's home on Asquith Street. Clarke had interviewed Malcolm previously, in 1963 in Harlem, when he was working for the CBC. Clarke recalled they "talked shop," but also discussed the lighter things in life, like the fact that both their wives were named Betty.

It is not surprising that Malcolm made his way to Canada. His mother and father, Earl Little, met and married in Montréal at a Universal Negro Improvement Association (UNIA) convention. Both were followers of Marcus Garvey. His mother, Louise Langdon Norton, was born in Grenada but immigrated first to Halifax, Nova Scotia and later to Montreal in 1917.

Jan Carew's book, Ghosts in Our

England, and the Caribbean, documents this aspect of the life of the Pan-Africanist. I suggest that Carew's volume be read to commemorate the 40th anniversary of Malcolm's assassination.

While on a visit to Nigeria Malcolm was given the name Omowale, which means in the Yoruba language, "the son who has come home". It was this period of his life that he visited Nigeria, Ghana, Liberia, Senegal, Morocco, Algeria, Egypt, Ethiopia, Kenya, Guinea and Tanzania. It was during that period that he met with Osagyefo Dr. Kwame Nkrumah, Julius K Nyerere, and Nnamoi Azikiwe, Sekou Toure, Jomo Kenyatta, Dr. Milton Obote and others. During this visit he also met Ras Makonnen, a legendary Pan-Africanist from Guyana, Richard Wright's daughter Julie Wright, Maya Angelou, Shirley Graham Du Bois, the wife of W.E.B. Du Bois, and the Chinese Ambassador Huang Ha.

Malcolm was the chief organizer of the Nation of Islam and the founder of the group's newspaper Muhammad Speaks. He split with the nation and its leader Elijah Muhammad in 1963. At the time of his death he headed two organizations. The secular group the Organization of Afro-American Unity (OAAU) was his political arm. He also organized the religious group, Muslim Mosque Inc (MMI), which practiced Sunni Islam. Today Islam is the second largest religion in the United States and Canada. Many credit Malcolm with helping spread Sunni Islam as well as revolutionary African American Nationalism and Pan-Africanism among African people in the Western Hemisphere.

Like Augusto Cesar Sandino of Nicaragua or Sun Yat-Tsen of China, Malcolm was embraced by all sectors of the African American Nationalist and Pan Africanist movements. All Nationalists and Pan-Africanists claimed to follow his example. Revolutionary Nationalist groups like the Black Panther Party, and the League of Revolutionary Black Workers emerged in the late 1960's, after Malcolm's death. Even after the BPP Blood: With Malcolm X in Africa, and the League embraced Marxism,

Malcolm was still their man. The cultural Nationalists who maintained that the Cultural Revolution must precede the political one also embraced

He was a controversial figure. Actor Ossie Davis eulogized him as our "Black Shining Prince" while the director of the U.S. information agency Carl T. Rowan referred to him as "an ex-convict, ex-dope peddler who became a racial fanatic." He was loved by the oppressed and hated by the oppressors. Malcolm spoke about the MMI and the OAAU in these terms: "Its aim is to create an atmosphere and facilities in which people who are interested in Islam can get a better understanding of Islam. The aim of the OAAU is to use whatever means necessary to bring about a society in which the twentytwo million Afro-Americans are recognized and respected as human be-

At the time of his death Malcolm was not nearly as well known as he is today. Each year his stature grew. By 1992 Malcolm was the subject of a major motion picture, "X" by Spike Lee. Lee's film was as controversial as Malcolm's life. Lee was attacked from the left, right and center for his portrayal of Malcolm. And he marketed the hell out of the movie. His campaign began with the marketing of "X" caps. He gave the first cap to basketball icon Michael Jordan. And as they say, "the rest is history." Many who up hold the Black radical tradition fought Lee over the film. They accused him of "pimping and sampling" Malcolm. Lee re-sponded with a book, By Any Means Necessary: The Trials and Tribulations of the Making of Malcolm X ... (While Ten Million Motherfuckers are Fucking With You!).

The Autobiography of Malcolm X by Alex Haley and other books by

and about Malcolm continue to sell worldwide. Some of his books have recently been published in Cuba. Malcolm was one of the few African American Nationalist leaders that welcomed Cuban leader Fidel Castro to Harlem in 1960. Many Nationalists didn't want to be identified with communism. But African people in the West could easily identified with the slogan, "When Africa called Cuba Answered." Kwame Ture (Stokely Carmichael) was fond of reminding us that the only place in the United States that Fidel felt safe was in Harlem.

Toronto-based journalist and radio producer Norman (Otis) Richmond can be heard on Diasporic Music, Thursdays, 8-10 p.m., Saturday Morning Live, Saturdays, 10 a.m.-1 p.m. and From a Different Perspective, Sundays, 6-6:30 p.m. on CKLN-FM 88.1 and on the Internet at www.ckln.fm. He can be reached by e-mail at norman@ckln.fm.

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