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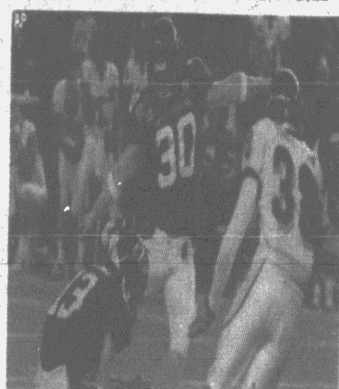
THE MINORITY VOICE



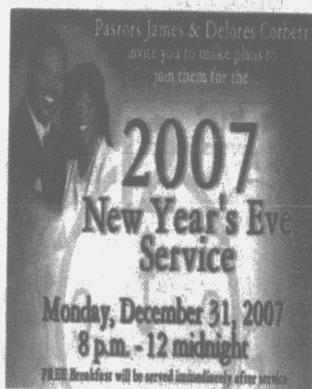
Greenville-Pitt
Chamber of Com

The Los Angeles Sentinel's LEGENDS by: Yussuf J. Simmonds

Pirates Win In Hawaii



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Chapter
35th Anniversary**



3rd Annual Turkey Shake Party A Success



THE MINORITY VOICE
NEWSPAPER AND STAFF
WISHING YOU
HAPPY HOLIDAYS



DRED SCOTT

"Any person descended from Black Africans, whether slave or free, is not a citizen of the United States, according to the US Constitution."

US Supreme Court, 1857

That was the gist of the US Supreme Court decision when the infamous "Dred Scott vs. Sanford" case was decided in 1857 and it is still reverberating today, 150 years after it was handed down. Scott and his wife, Harriet, had challenged the US Constitution and they lost. The Dred Scott case

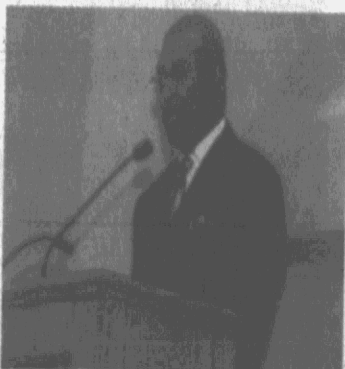
became a landmark case in judicial history because it represented the core values of the American judicial system — what the US Constitution stood for — and why Black people are still subjected to a different judicial system, up to and including the present. This was made perfectly clear when a sitting associate justice of the US Supreme Court reportedly said recently, "My job, as I see it, is to preserve the original meaning of the Constitution." To fully understand the essence of the Dred Scott ruling and its impact on society, it is necessary to revisit the circumstances that led Scott to file a lawsuit



FCC Chairman visits PCMH . . . shown above Rep. Walter B. Jones Jr, Cong. G.K. Butterfield, FCC Chairman Dr. McRae and PC County Comm. Johnson file photo



THE DEDICATION OF THE LITTLE WILLIE CENTER
(Standing from left to right) D.D. Garrett, Sylvia English, Tracy Donohue, Mayor-Elect, Ms. Pat Dunn, Bee Behr, Holly Garris and Geraldine Randolph of the Little Willie Center, Councilman Larry Spell and Mort Stine. Seated from left to right Renee Arrington, founder of the Little Willie Center, Edith Webber, LWC Honoree and her husband Carroll Webber, along with Marvin Arrington, Chairman-Board of Directors.



Preaching Machine

Rev Kenneth Hammond was on hand at the celebration for The Bishop Randy B. Royal. pictorial pg 11



Board Changeover . . . Newly elected mayor, Pat Dunn and Elected Council Members at Swearing In 12/10/07



Mother prayed . . . that was the feeling of all when Ms Lucille Gorham prayed during the ceremony of the oath of office for the elected officials in Greenville. photo M. Adams



The Gatlin Family . . . photographed here recently celebrating the 75th Birthday of Ellis Gatlin. Family and friends gathered at the home on Ward Street in Greenville. A family that is well known through out the community. Everybody knows a Gatlin (smile) photo by Atty Jimmy Streeter



SHARPTON MAINTAINS HEIGHTENED SECURITY AS THREATS INCREASE,

by HAZEL EDNEY,
TRICE

The Wilmington Journal
NNPA Editor-in-chief



WASHINGTON (NNPA) — The Rev. Al Sharpton, looking back on a year of volatile civil rights and race cases, says despite the false alarm when a prisoner sent a harmless substance to his New York headquarters last month, he is still constantly concerned for his life.

"We're getting all kinds of threatening calls. This is just one that hit the papers," says Sharpton in an interview. "Especially since Jena and then around the time of the Washington trip. Every time we're involved, we get threatening phone calls... It's a recurring problem because that's

continues pg 14 . . .

OPINIONS

Can Obama Save Black America?

by ALTON H. MADDOX JR.

Amsterdam News

Originally posted 12/7/2007

Assuming arguing that Sen. Barack Obama can win the White House, the relevant question, nonetheless, is whether he can save Black America. Rev. Jesse Jackson, in a recent Chicago Sun-Times op-ed piece, apparently would answer this question in the negative. A presidential candidate who is afraid to raise Black issues is also afraid to offer Black solutions. Our condition is so dismal that we need someone who can save Blacks in America and not someone who can simply win the White House. The criminal agents include racial genocide, racial mentacide, economic warfare, chemical warfare, environmental warfare, biological warfare and police terrorism. It is a contradiction in terms for someone who wins the White House to also solve Black problems. Again, Blacks are being asked to endorse and finance our own oppression. Oppression cannot occur without the acquiescence of the oppressed. The White House is the headquarters for white supremacy. It reminds Blacks of the "Big House." The doctrine of stare decisis controls public policy in the

United States. This means that whites respect their ancestors and public policy was formulated in this country more than two hundred years ago while Blacks were in slavery. There is also the doctrine of checks and balances with a bicameral legislature, a three-tiered judicial system and an impeachment process for both the judicial and executive branches of government. A politician has a better shot at escaping from Alcatraz than passing remedial laws for Blacks.

Although Rev. Jackson fails to say it in these words, there is a national conspiracy against descendants of enslaved Africans. On the state and federal levels, the executive, legislative and judicial branches of government are continuing to conspire to deny to Blacks basic human, economic and civil rights. Even if Obama had good intentions, history would be against him. This country assassinated President Abraham Lincoln and President John F. Kennedy and their credentials on race were mixed. President Bill Clinton was able to survive the White House because he signed some of the most repressive laws in this country's history against Blacks.

Rev. Jackson put his finger on the problem when he wrote: "The Rev. Martin Luther King saw

the movement to end segregation and gain voting rights as the first stage of the civil rights movement." These gains have benefitted immigrants from historically-oppressed groups. There have been no further gains.

Whites secured voting rights and the right to political and legal representation in 1787. Blacks only secured a semblance of voting rights in 1965. He never mentioned the continuing denial of the right of Blacks to enjoy political and legal representation. Politically, there is a wide gulf between whites and Blacks. Rev. Jackson further wrote: "The second stage—to gain economic justice and equal opportunity in fact—he knew would be difficult." Within the context of operating within the system, the second stage should be political and legal representation. This is the bridge between segregation and voting rights, on the one hand, and economic justice and equal opportunity, on the other hand.

The right to vote and the right of political representation are not synonymous. Representation is a broader concept and the right to vote is only a subset of representation. The goal line in politics is political representation. Blacks actually believe that they are scoring

touchdowns by crossing midfield. This explains why Blacks are mired in quicksand. We are putting the cart before the horse and we are equating political presence with political representation. As we put more Blacks in political offices, our condition is worsening. There is a national phenomenon that is spreading its wings in the United States and it is ensnaring all Blacks. A recent study by the Pew Charitable Trusts shows that while the middle class of every other ethnic group is expanding, the Black middle class is on the decline. Black children will not fare as well economically as their parents. In part, this results from a war on Black males. To be sure, the Black male is searching for solutions. See, for example, the Million Man March in 1995. More than two million Black males assembled on the National Mall. Since 1995, the war on Black males has escalated with no solution in sight.

Without the right of political representation, Blacks can only act as proxies and pawns for those who have an economic stake in this country. It was never the intent of the "Founding Fathers" to empower Blacks politically and whites will cut off their noses to spite their faces before Blacks enjoy political equality. The

right to vote is not mentioned in the Constitution. The Fifteenth Amendment authorizes Congress to enact legislation to keep discrimination out of the polling booth. For ninety-five years, voting rights abuses were honored in the breach. Voting rights focus, primarily, on polling booths and not on legislative arenas nor on political decision-making.

The condition precedent to enjoying the right of political representation is the exercise of the rights under the First Amendment. These rights include free speech, freedom of assembly, freedom of association and petitioning the government for a redress of grievances. Any examination of the legal history of the First Amendment will show that Blacks have not fared well. There is a reason why it is termed the "First Amendment," however. It is the most important of all the constitutional amendments. All elements of the First Amendment must be present to constitute political representation. Blacks are not allowed to engage in political speech. Cong. Adam Clayton Powell found this out when he hosted a Black power conference on Capitol Hill. This was one of the first nails in his coffin. He had previously criticized the corrupt practices of the NYPD. New York is still a police

state. This is why we are witnessing a legal charade in Sean Bell et. al. Any Black person who engages in political speech is committing treason. In 2007, Blacks must still know their place. Jim Crow is still alive. Forty years ago, Dr. King spoke out against the Vietnam War at Riverside Church in Manhattan on April 4, 1967. The following year, on April 4, military intelligence of the U.S. Army assassinated him in Memphis, TN. Connect the dots. We must strengthen our knowledge of our history.

Very few Blacks know the causes of the Civil War. Frederick Douglass, among others, knew that Blacks had to have a voice in the political debate. Thus, he helped form the Liberty Party and, subsequently, the Free Soil Party. This is instructive. To have a voice in politics, an oppressed group must have its own political party. Our ancestors must be turning over in their graves. No self-respecting Black person, in the nineteenth century, would have enrolled in the "slave party." It still is. An effort was afoot after the Civil War for the Democratic Party to recapture its Blacks. The crowning jewel of this effort would be to make a descendant of enslaved Africans its titular head. Next week's article: The Quid Pro Quo and the "Jena 6."

OUR VOICE, GUEST EDITORIAL, "YOUNG, BLACK AND LOCKED UP"

by MARIAN WRIGHT EDELMAN



The Wilmington Journal
Originally posted 12/1/2007

If you were asked where the United States ranks among industrialized countries on low birthweight, infant mortality or child poverty, a guess much higher than the bottom on any of these social indicators would be wrong.

But if you were asked where America stands on imprisoning its citizens, you would be correct to answer that we surpass everyone else. Our nation incarcerates more people — over 2.3 million in 2006 — than any other country. Because justice is not equally administered in the United States, Black males are disproportionately represented among America's imprisoned population, currently numbering 837,000 in state and federal prisons. Our ranking as the world's

number one jailer represents a monumental national failure.

More and more of those who enter the Prison Pipeline start with arrest records as young children. Earlier this year, a police officer arrested seven-year-old Gerard Mungo, Jr., in East Baltimore, Maryland, claiming that the child was riding a dirt bike on the sidewalk. Gerard was handcuffed and taken to a police station where officers took his fingerprints and mug shot.

Incarceration is extremely costly. In California, state detention centers for young people cost \$216,000 a year per child; county facilities cost about \$117,000. States spend on average nearly three times as much per prisoner as they do per public school pupil. In some states, the growth in prison costs also exceeds the growth in higher education spending. When it costs more to detain a child than to provide him a Head Start, we need to seriously reassess our nation's values and priorities. While there seems to be no cap on prison spending; Head Start funding serves only half of those eligible.

We need to refocus what we do with the children we detain. Too much cruelty permeates our youth detention culture where the focus is often on control and

punishment instead of rehabilitation.

A 2003 U.S. Department of Justice investigation into conditions at Oakley and Columbia Juvenile Training Schools in Mississippi found that juveniles there were being hog-tied with chains, physically assaulted by guards, sprayed with chemicals during military exercises, forced to eat their own vomit and put in dark, solitary confinement cells after being stripped naked. Mississippi's juvenile justice system is now under a federal judicial decree because of these and other violations found by the Department of Justice.

For some young people, being sent to a youth detention facility can be a death sentence. In January 2006, 14-year-old Martin Lee Anderson died of suffocation at a state-run boot camp in Florida after seven guards beat and restrained him. His death occurred the day after he arrived at the camp after violating parole for taking his grandmother's car for a joy ride.

One state that has gotten it right on juvenile justice is Missouri. Under the caring youth-focused leadership of Mark Steward, its former Youth Services Director, in 1983 Missouri closed all of its youth prisons and divided the

state into five regions so that confined youths would be within driving distance of their homes. Each region has two facilities housing no more than 40 young people.

This Department of Youth Services focuses on intensive individual counseling, academic and vocational education, and positive behavior modification. Key features of the Missouri model are its integration of mental health into all of its rehabilitation components and its comprehensive approach to treatment, which includes family therapy and counseling.

Each confined youth is brought together with nine other teens who eat, study and live together as a team. Each team of ten is under the supervision of two trained youth specialists. When a young person has a problem, s/he can call a meeting of the team to work out a solution. Academic success is emphasized and a high percentage of young people in Missouri's Department of Youth Services facilities earn their GEDs. Missouri has dramatically reduced youth recidivism to seven percent, at a cost of nearly one-third less per youth than the cost of systems in Louisiana and Florida, which have much higher recidivism rates.

Sadly, Missouri is an

exception to the bumper-sticker thinking of too many state leaders who pursue "Tough on crime," "Zero tolerance," "Lock 'em up" approaches to punish rather than address the problems of troubled youths. Increasing investments in health care, quality early childhood education, better schools and positive youth development in out-of-school time would not only increase the number of children reaching successful adulthood but increase public safety. The last thing a young person needs is lessons in how to become a hardened criminal by exposure to adult criminal mentors in adult prisons or callous adults in juvenile "justice" systems. It's time for a change for our children and our nation's sake.

For more information on the Children's Defense Fund's America's Cradle to Prison Pipeline report, visit childrensdefense.org/cradletoprison.

Marian Wright Edelman is President of the Children's Defense Fund and its Action Council whose *Leave No Child Behind* mission is to ensure every child a Healthy Start, a Head Start, a Fair Start, a Safe Start and a Moral Start in life and successful passage to adulthood with the help of caring families and communities.

DEFINITION OF KWANZAA

Kwanzaa is a unique African American celebration with focus on the traditional African values of family, community responsibility, commerce, and self-improvement. Kwanzaa is neither political nor religious and despite some misconceptions, is not a substitute for Christmas. It is simply a time of reaffirming African-American people, their ancestors and culture. Kwanzaa, which means "first fruits of the harvest" in the African language Kiswahili, has gained tremendous acceptance. Since its founding in 1966 by Dr. Maulana Karenga, Kwanzaa has come to be observed by more than 18 million people worldwide, as reported by the *New York Times*. When establishing Kwanzaa in 1966, Dr. Karenga included an additional "a" to the end of the spelling to reflect the difference between the African American celebration (kwanzaa) and the Motherland spelling (kwanza).

Kwanzaa is based on the Nguzo Saba (seven guiding principles), one for each day of the observance, and is celebrated from Dec 26th to Jan 1st.

COMMUNITY NEWS



Mrs Beatrice Maye

The Editor:

What is forgiveness? Forgiveness is a feeling of wellness, freedom and acceptance. We no longer want to punish the people who hurt us, but it frees ourselves of moving on, forgetting and holding grudges, resentments and hatred because all have been hurt by parents, lovers, spouses, children, friends, co-workers, employers, teachers, preachers, peers, playmates — the whole system — schools, governments, criminal justice system, the media, even by ourselves. We wonder why they hurt us?

We often have heard:

- Forgive and forget
- Let bygones be bygones
- Turn the other cheek
- Kiss and make up
- "To err is human; to forgive is divine"

Not forgiving determines the kind of person you are and not forgiving has a price. Let's make peace with our past and get on with ourselves, for forgiveness becomes an experience you will treasure. Forgiveness can help us all. Follow these essential guidelines when asking for forgiveness: refuse to blame others, identify the wrongs you have committed, acknowledge the hurt you've caused, and ask the other person to forgive you; God forgives you!

Beatrice Maye

TURN YOUR HOUSE UNTO A HOME

Read these tips:

1. Take off shoes for slippers immediately after entering the house.
2. Change the color of your walls.
3. Try tapestries on the walls and rugs on bare floors.
4. Relax with a lighted candle, light the fireplace is preferable.
5. Turn off the overhead light.
6. Arrange your furniture conversationally.
7. Buy a round table for dinners. There's no

head of the table when the table is round.

8. Decorate the family room with family pictures.
9. Throw out the remote control — cutting out so much TV-watching. The inconvenience may cause moving instead of sitting too long.
10. Put your treadmill next to your favorite easy chair.
11. Throw down some extra carpet padding in one room. You may do a little bit of aerobic exercise.
12. Get more smoke detectors will make your home safer.
13. Get a carbon monoxide detector.
14. Light up your way to the bathroom.
15. Add a few plants to your home, getting rid

of excessive formaldehyde, causing certain cancers.

16. Batten down (buy some adhesive strips) to keep from slipping.
17. Get a dog...at least a dog dish. Dogs hear footsteps long before you do.
18. Put a few 'real' stickers in your windows and doors. Better still, install a real alarm system.
19. Keep curtains closed at night.
20. Get a reinforced strike plate. Most burglars enter through the front door. Let a professional locksmith install it.
21. Nail down windows.
22. Keep your doors locked. It's amazing how so many people

walk out their front doors without locking them. Also keep the doors locked even when you are at home.

Ages of Women

Age 8:

Looks at herself and sees: Cinderella/Sleeping Beauty

Age 15:

Looks at herself and sees: Cinderella/Sleeping Beauty/Cheerleader or if she has PMS: sees Pimples/Ugly ("Mom, I can't go to school looking like this!")

Age 20:

Looks at herself and sees: "too fat/thin, too short/tall, too straight/too curly" but decides she's going out anyway.

Age 30:

Looks at herself and sees: "too fat/thin, too short/too tall,

too straight/too curly" — but decides she doesn't have time to fix it so she's going out anyway.

Age 40:

Looks at herself and sees: "too fat/thin, too short/too tall, too straight/too curly" but says, "At least, I'm clean" and goes out anyway.

Age 50:

Looks at herself and reminds herself of all the people who can't even see themselves in the mirror anymore. Goes out and conquers the world.

Age 70:

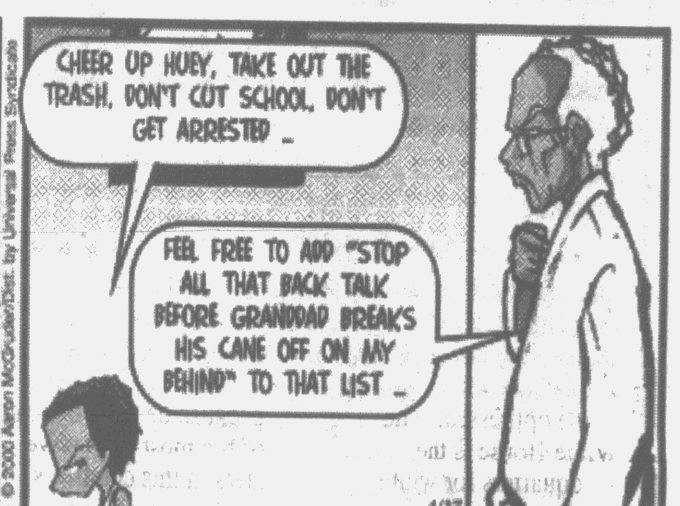
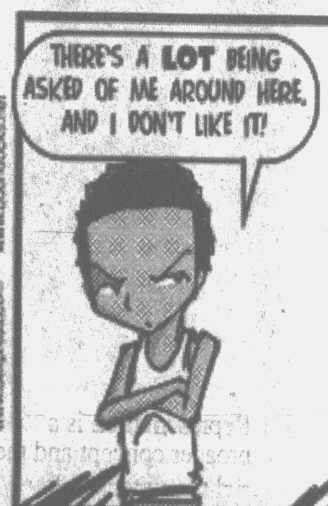
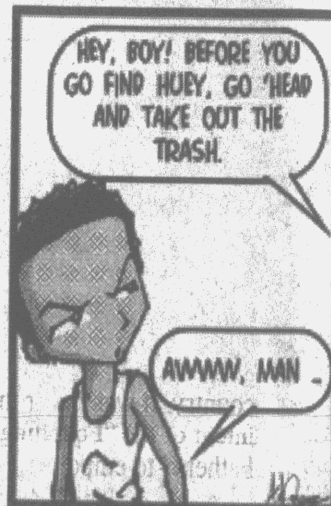
Looks at herself and sees wisdom, laughter and ability — goes out and enjoys life.

Age 80:

Doesn't bother to look. Just puts on a red hat and goes out to participate in the world.

Age 90:

Can't see and doesn't worry about it!



Suejette A. Jones

Reflections

Should "Faith-Based" Solutions Be Given a Chance?

In the public square there is much debate concerning the public

Funding of faith-based social service delivery. Debaters rage in civic meetings, churches, barbershops and beauty parlors. There are strong arguments presented on both sides. Rev. Wilson Good, Sr., a former mayor of Philadelphia, quotes: "I came down squarely in favor of funding the extensive involvement of the faith community as it confronts the social and economic crisis facing the urban community. My stance is based on three very clear understandings. First, the secular agencies in America have not and cannot overcome poverty and the social dysfunction faced by these two communities. They have not applied the resources needed, and there is no strategic agenda to suggest they will act differently in the future. There are too many other priorities.

Second, it is not the government's job alone too address these problems. The government should do it's part, but it cannot do it all.

Finally, there are compelling reasons to suggest that faith-based organizations and

congregations can play a major role in social regeneration. For centuries, local congregations have played a major role in the struggles for economic justice, a compassionate government and civil rights. For at least a century, faith-based organizations have been involved in education, health, and welfare services. They have provided effective delivery systems. In most communities the church is the only remaining viable institution. These congregations are located where the problems are. They have the people, the buildings, and the money. Most important, they have the historic and enduring mandate to serve their neighbors.

To deny faith-based organizations the right but would shut the door on a service vitally needed to bring down the wall of poverty and social disintegration. " (end of quote)

Note:

Rev. Wilson Good directs a program that monitors children whose parents are in prison. I extracted this article as it correlates with the purpose of the Lucille W. Gorham Intergenerational Center — having such a broad spectrum of community services.

Respectfully submitted by: Ms. Suejette A. Jones

National politicians ignore New Orleans, again



Judge Greg Mathis

Four cities have been chosen to host the 2008 presidential and vice presidential debates. New Orleans, one of 16 finalists, didn't make the final cut. City officials were told it was because the city, devastated by Hurricane Katrina two years ago, wasn't ready to host such a large-scale event. Interesting, considering New Orleans held Mardi Gras celebrations just six months after the storm and has attracted numerous conventions and conferences, many of which bring hundreds of thousands of people into the city. Critics of the commission say New Orleans was omitted from the final list because politicians don't want to remind the world that the government failed the people of New Orleans.

In the days, months and weeks following Hurricane Katrina, the world watched as the American government failed to address the needs of the people of New Orleans. The storm-ravaged city

became a perfect case study of the country's inability to address issues of race and poverty. Promises were made to help rebuild the city. But, as the media and the government moved on to the next hot topic, those promises were forgotten.

The current presidential candidates are not doing much to bring attention to New Orleans either. Sure, Democrat John Edwards launched his campaign there. But the issues that New Orleans shed light on — economic oppression, governmental neglect of poor people of color and more — aren't as prevalent in the discussions as, say, health care or ending the war in Iraq. And we can't just blame the Republicans: one of the co-chairs of the committee responsible for selecting the debate sites, Paul G. Kirk Jr., is a Democrat. The other, Frank J. Fahrenkopf Jr., is a Republican.

Hosting the debates in New Orleans would have given the candidates an opportunity to examine the intersection between race and poverty and to unveil plans designed to adequately address the issue. Instead, the commission used unfounded complaints to say no to New Orleans.

America needs to remember how the government failed New Orleans. If the story isn't told often, the lesson won't be learned. The presidential debates would have once again shined a much needed light on the city and would have exposed the bureaucracy and red tape residents wanting to rebuild must struggle with. Instead, New Orleans is once again tossed to the side. And so, too, are the many poor people of color all around the country who saw their stories reflected in those of the hurricane's victims.

An opportunity for growth and change has been missed. All we can hope for now is that the candidates do what the debate commission was too cowardly to do: go to New Orleans, talk to the residents, learn what's really going on and begin to formulate plans to make sure what happened in New Orleans in 2005 never happens again.

(Judge Greg Mathis is national vice president of RainbowPUSH and a national board member of the Southern Christian Leadership Conference.)

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Mary L. Cates serves as Homecoming Chairperson at Elizabeth City State University



Mary L. Cates, a retired Pitt county educator and Elizabeth City State University graduate, was chosen by the National Alumni Association of ECSU to serve as the Homecoming Chairperson.

Cates, primary duties included identifying and recruiting Alumni from the different chapters to serve as contestants for the Mr. / Ms. Alumni contest. The contestant who raises the highest amount of money for scholarship is crowned Mr. or Ms. Alumni.

Cates, plans activities for the entire weekend of Homecoming, beginning with the Coronation, where the Mr. / Ms. Alumni is crowned; the Ice-Breaker dance; the After Party; and the Prayer Breakfast.

Cates, who was crowned Ms. Alumni in 1994, currently serves as the President of the Eva J. Lewis Alumni Chapter, Greenville, NC. She has also served as the Second-Vice President, Recording Secretary and Corresponding Secretary of the National Alumni Association of ECSU. Cates is a committee member of the Awards Banquet, 1961 Class agent for the 60's Decade Reunion, member of the Presidential Scholarship Ball, and is a life member of ECSU National Alumni Association.

Cates, a member of Cornerstone Missionary Baptist Church, Greenville, NC, serves as Lead Usher and Chairperson of the Hospitality Excellence Ministry. She also serves as Chief Judge during Election.

The Eva J. Lewis Alumni Chapter meets on the second Sunday of each month. For further information, please contact Ms. Cates at 758-5039.

.....MARRIED IN MINISTRY.....



Royal Banquet . . . Ministers Henry and Cynthia Tyson pose for the Minority Voice camera. Both Ministers are very active in the ministry in and outside of the church.



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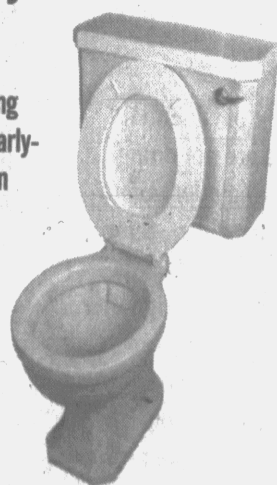
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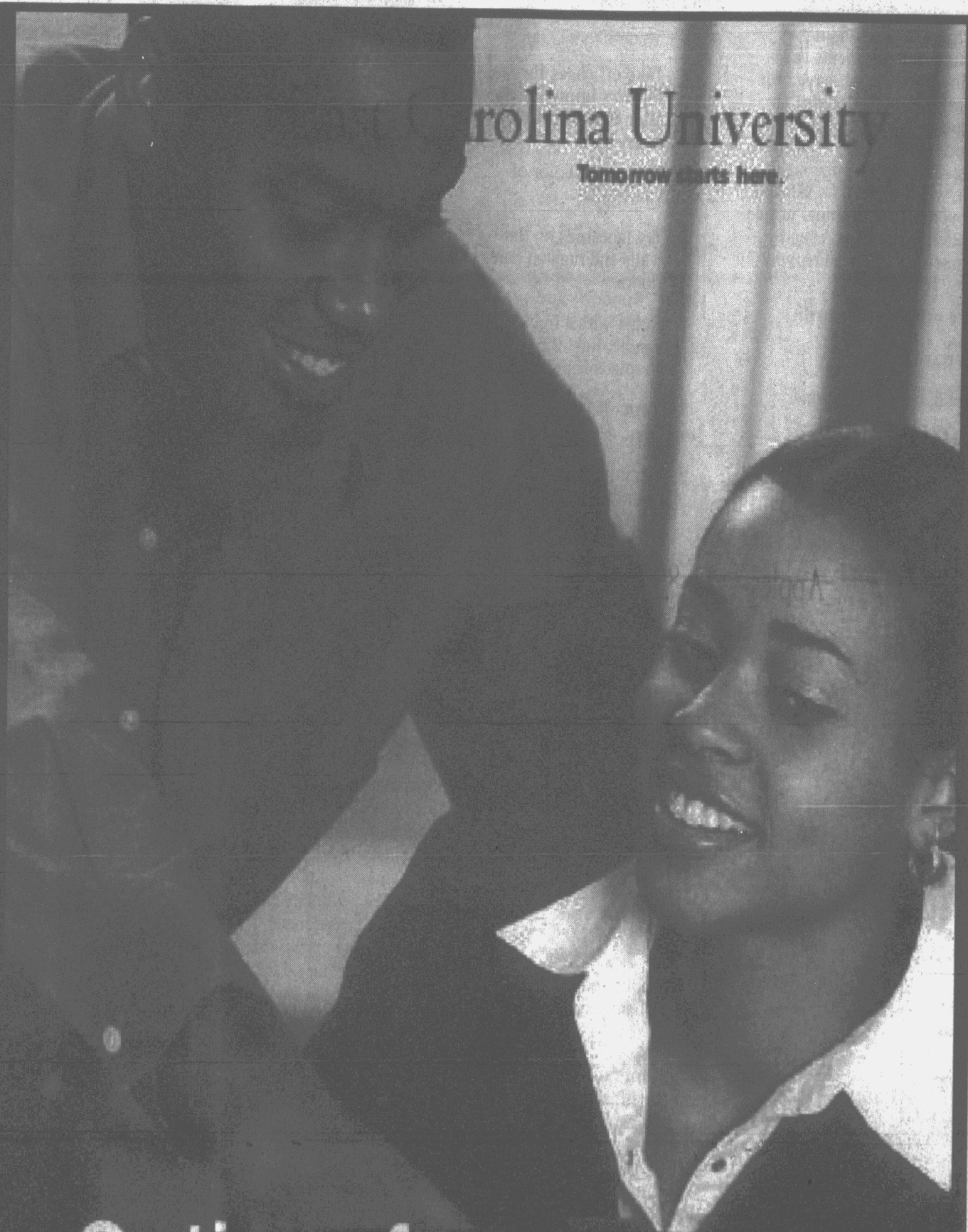
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House Axes Washington County OLF Site

House Axes Washington County OLF Site December 14, 2007

Washington, D.C. — In approving the annual defense authorization bill today, Congressman G. K. Butterfield said the House closed the door on the Navy's proposed outlying landing field in Washington County.

"The House has taken the Washington County site off the table because it posed a danger to the community, pilots and aircraft," Butterfield said. "This is a clear message that if the Navy wants to move forward with an OLF it must have the support of the community."

The conference report on the FY 2008 National Defense Authorization Bill includes language repealing "the authority for construction of an outlying landing field at Washington County, North Carolina." The language goes on to say conferees "expect

the Department of the Navy to request new authorization for an outlying field once a study of the impact to the environment is complete and a site is selected."

The House approved the bill by a 370 to 49 vote. The bill now goes to the Senate for an up or down vote, and, if approved, it goes to President Bush to be signed into law.

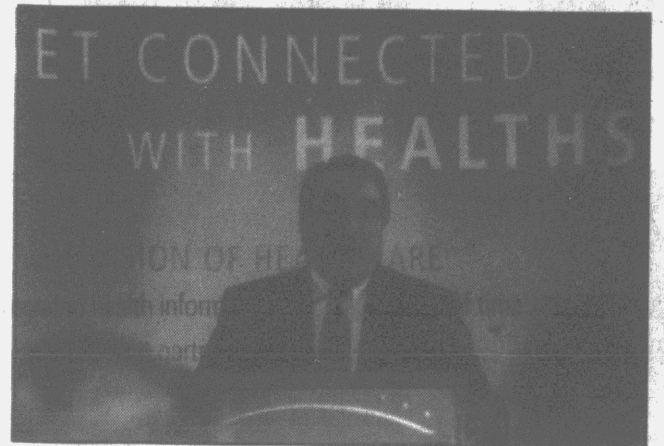
The Navy has already purchased more than 2,000 acres in Washington and Beaufort counties as part of a 30,000-acre OLF the Navy says it needs in order to train pilots to land on aircraft carriers. The proposed site lies just west of an area that was established specifically as a waterfowl sanctuary where thousands of birds winter annually. At peak, there are about 25,000 tundra swans and more than 65,000 snow geese which regularly fly out to feed in the farm fields just west of the site.

More recently, the Navy has been working with the states of North Carolina and Virginia to find an alternative site.

Last month, Butterfield wrote to Navy Secretary Donald C. Winter to express concerns about sites being considered in Gates and Camden counties. Butterfield said that while northeastern North

Carolina would be asked to bear all the economic and quality-of-life burdens, Virginia Beach would enjoy all the benefits.

"The small number of new jobs associated with the OLF simply could not offset the shock to the lifestyle and viability of these communities," Butterfield said.



Congressman G. K. Butterfield... (pictured above) wrote to Navy Secretary Donald C. Winter to express concerns about sites being considered in Gates and Camden counties. file photo

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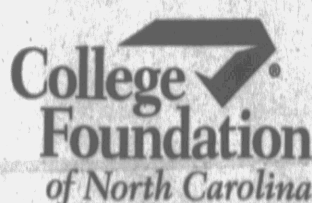
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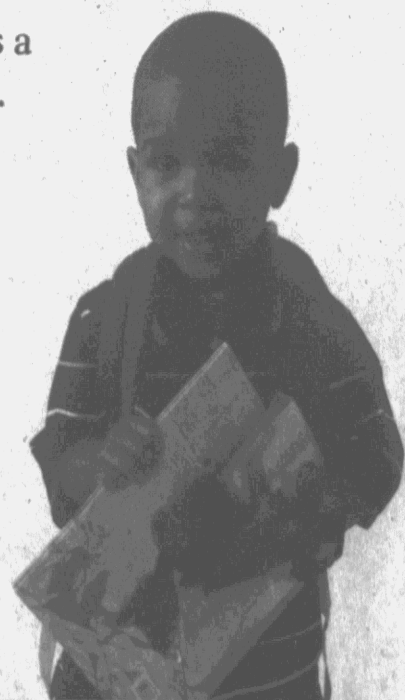
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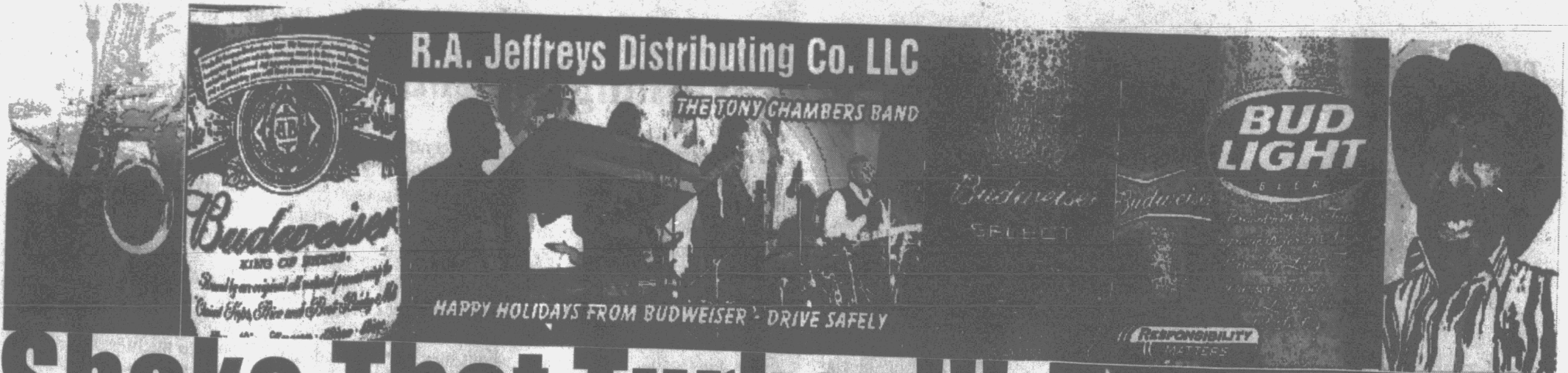
For more information about North Carolina's National College Savings Program, please review the complete Program Description and Enrollment Agreement available at NC529.org or contact 800-600-3453 to request an enrollment kit that includes both. Before opening an Account, or contributing funds to an existing Account, you should carefully read and consider the Program Description, which includes information on investment objectives, strategies, risks, charges, expenses, and other important information.

North Carolina's National College Savings Program is a program of the State of North Carolina, established and maintained by the North Carolina State Education Assistance Authority (Authority) as a qualified tuition program under federal tax law, and administered by College Foundation, Inc. (CFI) with administration and record keeping services provided by Upromise Investments, Inc. and Upromise Investment Advisors, LLC (collectively, Upromise). Investment options are made available through NCM Capital Management Group, LLC; J. & W. Seligman & Co. Incorporated; Wachovia Bank, N.A. through its affiliate, Evergreen Investment Management Company, LLC; the State Treasurer of North Carolina; Metropolitan Life Insurance Company (MetLife); and The Vanguard Group, Inc.

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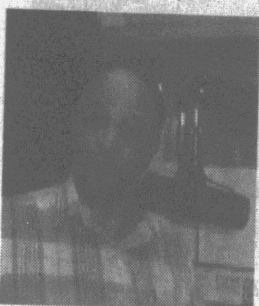


Shake That Turkey!!!

3rd Annual Turkey Shake Party A Success

Photos & Stories: Gaius "Guy" Sims, Sr.

GREENSBORO, NC



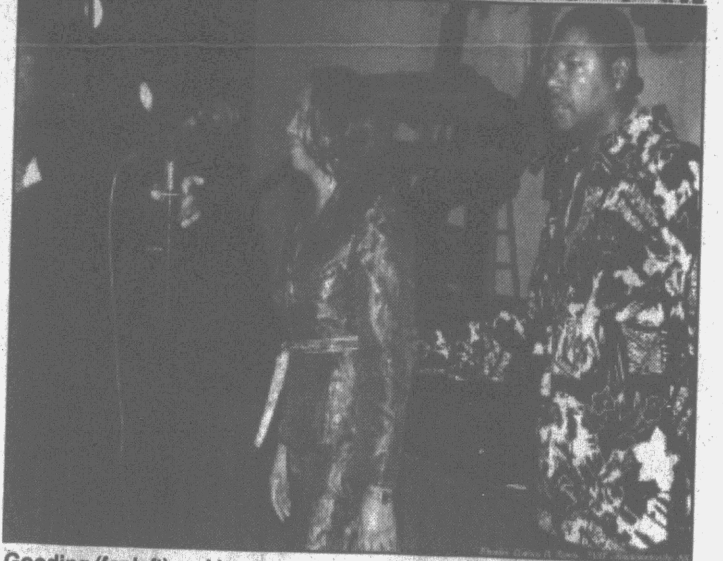
Guy Sims - DJ
WOOW Radio
SATURDAY MORNING IN SOULSVILLE

Adding Rich Washington Rodeo Promoter 1st Annual Rodeo Awards Presentation to this years 3rd Annual Turkey Shake Party hosted by Tony Chambers, his band and his lovely wife Linda in Kernersville (Greensboro) was like adding more spice to this years pumpkin pie. It gave their party an added degree of excitement. Cuba Gooding (Sr.) and the Main Ingredient performed at this years party, and did they put on an great show. Even with their star power this group was very approachable. And fellas this party drew out the ladies. It was a nice scene. Locally, I gave away free tickets on WOOW

Radio in Greenville to promote this event. Down there I certainly had fun covering it. It also turned out to be an eye opening event as well. In spending the night on the campus of Dudley Cosmetology University I was impressed by the size of the school.

In reflection, I also discovered that DCU is the only University of its kind in the world that helps the career cosmetologists to make more money by improving their attitude, self esteem, and skills while learning from other people and cultures through a technical arts program. As a mater of fact DCU offers several classes of continuing education and has a number of campuses throughout the country.

I consider myself to be well traveled but my visit to Dudley University where the event was being held at the Yates Convention Center, one of their on-campus facilities turned out to be something of an eye opener. Later that evening that Center would be packed with several hundred party-goers and the parking lot would be "stuffed" with a lot of shiny late model SUVs gleaming in the chilly night air.



Gooding (far left) and her husband Tony (right) throw the spotlight on a shy Linda Chambers after she was coaxed from the audience where she was enjoying her husband's performance. Linda is also an airline pilot.

Once inside you found yourself greeted by the sound of an earthquake disco sound system which provided preshow entertainment.



Now this party was a **BYOB** affair but you didn't have to bring your own liquor unless you wanted too. The liquor, food, festivities, and entertainment by the Main Ingredients providing Las Vegas style entertainment was included in the price of the ticket... and for just \$35 dollars per person that was a real holiday bargain. And get this - the buffet was hand prepared by the Chambers entourage themselves, not some caterer plying you with weak ice tea, watery potato salad, cold beans and the like. No - this party didn't shake out that way. The food was sumptuous and the chicken was fried on the spot. There were some people who were disappointed because they were not able to get "seconds" on the bird. I didn't get any. However the turkey salad stuffed in tender croissant rolls was enough to fill in the empty spots.

This was a P-A-R-TEE-Y Folks - classy and fun. I spent my second night in nearby Clemens in spacious surroundings provided by Linda and Tony Chambers as their guest. During one of our conversations Linda revealed to that she and her friends had spent several days preparing food for the event. This was homecooked food. She didn't have to tell me as I continued to discretely and with great finesse "pig out" on her "leftovers." A side glance from Tony made a little cautious about approaching the remaining liquor

in the same manner - just kidding.

My first night of accommodation was spent on campus at the Dudley Hotel which was just a short walk from the Yates Convention Hall. I had only planned to spend only a night in the city and then take the train back to Rocky Mount the next morning but because of some wonderful fellowshiping and some urging from Rodeo Rich I changed that plan. The neat thing about that was if you planned on doing some drinking or you were a little tired from all of the festivities, the lodgings on-campus were quite comfortable. Now Amtrak to Greensboro was another pleasant surprise. Pricewise the round trip fare from Rocky Mount to Greensboro was only \$60.32. When I got there I was met by one of Tony's friends who took me straight to the "party spot" some 14 miles down the road. It wasn't long before I showed, dressed; grab my camera and my party was on.

When I walk into the convention hall the scent of food was already filling up the air, I saw some dude up on the stage tuning up the band and took a few preliminary snapshots. At first I thought it was one of the band members. Later I discovered that it was Cuba Gooding himself rehearsing. After taking a few more snaps I headed back to the hotel and met up with "Rodeo Rich."

Rodeo & Trail Ride promoter Rich Washington of

Cowboy Mania (and Jim Rouse's cousin) was preparing his awards to present to members of the Black Trail Riders Association later on that evening. This was a new event and an extra added attraction for the **TURKEY SHAKE PARTY**. It isn't everyday that you see black folks sharply dressed walking around in Cowboy attire mixing in with the rest of the crowd. And it is true, the "Good Guys" do wear white hats, and beige hats and black hats too. So do the Cowgirls and I am looking forward to seeing how they look dressed in blue jeans and sitting on a horse. According to Rodeo Rich and Tony Chambers, a trailride and entertainment event is in the planning stages. They are rumoring Millie Jackson. And I imagine she would still look good in jeans to

With Tony Chambers and his band backing up The Main Ingredient turned out to be smooth and top notch performers. Adding to that Tony was a superb vocalist. His skills as a saxophonist border on genius. He was a man who was masterfully in charge of his instrument and as a person who has spent decades in the radio business I can afford to be a critic and I was impressed. Tony currently has two CD's chocked full of original works (he has studio facilities in his home and spends time fine-tuning his recording skills). The whole event was not only fun, but it was relaxing as it was entertaining.

His wife Linda is also and extremely accomplished individual. Did I tell you what a great cook she was... well right I did tell you that, didn't I. But the story of Linda Chambers is a lot more prolific then meets the eye. Without going into a great detail she is also an experienced airline pilot and has more than twenty years of flying under her belt as the would say. Since my father also flew, we were able to exchange a few stories there as well. I was very honored to be her company. She was doing something I had once dreamed to doing - fly! So with that in mind... there are quite a few black airline pilots out and a quite few of them are black women. So the next time you left your eyes skyward and study the "vapor trails" coming out of those Jetliners... Linda (center of photo with Cuba Gooding, Sr. - previous page) or someone like her could be piloting that "big bird." Should you ever become interested in a career as a pilot visit the The Organization of Black Airline Pilots (OBAP) website at <http://www.obap.org>. They have been around for more then thirty years. And as far as the 4th annual Turkey Shake Party for next year, I plan on being there. Oh, don't forget to join me "Saturday Mornings In Soulsville" on AM1340 WOOW-Greenville.

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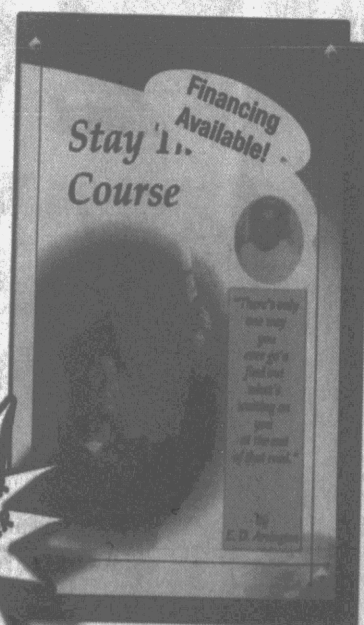
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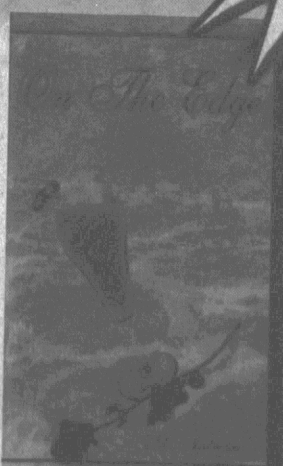
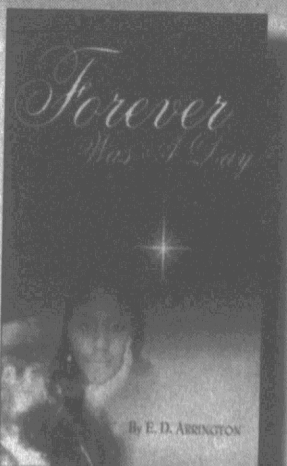


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Dred Scott

against his owner, Emerson/ John Sanford. Scott was born in 1799 as a slave of the Peter Blow family in Virginia. (The family included a congressman). The custom was not to allow slaves to read or write, consequently, Scott could neither read nor write. About 1830, the Blow family migrated to St. Louis, Missouri, along with their property, Scott, whom they sold to Dr. John Emerson, a military surgeon stationed at Jefferson Barracks.

Scott used to accompany Emerson to army posts in Illinois and the Wisconsin Territory where slavery was prohibited according to the Missouri Compromise, the Wisconsin Enabling Act and the Northwest Ordinance. Then Emerson was transferred to Louisiana, got married to Irene Sanford and sent for the Scotts. After he returned to St. Louis, Emerson died in 1843 and the Scotts became the property of Irene Emerson (Mrs. John Emerson). Mrs. Emerson's brother, John Sanford became executor of John Emerson's estate. For next three years, she illegally hired out the Scotts — including their children — for which she collected rent. Eventually, the Scotts tried to purchase their freedom from Mrs. Emerson; she refused.

Dred and Harriet Scott sued Irene Emerson for themselves and for their children's freedom in 1846 in the St. Louis Circuit Court. Their argument was since they had lived both in a free state and a free territory, they were legally free and could not be reverted back to being slaves. The Blow family paid the legal fees for the Scotts. The first trial ended being hinged on a technically and the presiding judge granted a second trial because hearsay evidence had been introduced and Scott could not prove to the court that he was or was not a slave. Mrs. Emerson appealed the order for a second trial and the court ruled against her in 1848. In a new trial, a jury ruled that the Scotts and their children were legally free under the Missouri and then turned the responsibility of the case over to her brother, Sanford. The Court reversed the lower court's ruling and returned the Scotts to their masters once more as chattel. (At that time, the Chief Justice of Missouri himself owned slaves.) However, the decision was rife with inconsistencies including that the Missouri courts had previously ruled and held the position that slaves taken into free states were automatically free. The Scotts sued again for their freedom in federal court. They lost again and appealed to the United States Supreme Court. (A presidential election was pending.) The Chief Justice of the US Supreme Court delivered the majority opinion that cast a shadow over the status of Black people in the US via measures like Civil Rights Issues, the Voting Rights Act, Affirmative Action and Reparations. The opinion declared as follows:

1. Any person descended from Black Africans, whether slave or free, is not a citizen of the United States according to the US Constitution; (this seems to reinforce the opinion of those who want to revert to the original meaning of the Constitution.)
2. The ordinance of 1787 could not confer freedom or citizenship with the Northwest Territory to Black people.
3. The provision of the Missouri Compromise were avoided as a legislative act because it exceeded the powers of Congress, insofar as it attempted to exclude slavery and impart freedom and citizenship to Black people in the northern part of the Louisiana cession.

There has been centuries of different interpretations relative to the Dred Scott case and it has been compared and referenced with similar landmark cases in the American judicial system including "Roe v. Wade" and "Marbury v Madison." But at the time of the decision, the meaning was clear that Blacks were "being of an inferior order, and altogether unfit to associate with the White race, either in social or political relations, and so far inferior that they had no rights which the White man was bound to respect."

Finding an act of Congress to be unconstitutional had only been done one time before the Dred Scott case and that was in the "Marbury" case. To justify and advance his nefarious ruling, the chief justice had to rule the Missouri Compromise unconstitutional.

The biological aspect of the matter was never called into question therefore despite the ruling, Black people were biological human beings who just happen to possess a different skin color. Yet, in referring to the Constitution's "three-fifths of all other persons" to justify the decision, the Supreme Court conveniently seemed to overlook another phrase, of similar and equal importance, in the Declaration of Independence which stated, "all men are created equal."

Also another landmark case which was decided forty years afterwards, "Plessy v Ferguson," revealed the hypocrisy and the moral bankruptcy of the judicial system. The Plessy dictum institutionalized the concept of "separate but equal" public facilities. The results were the "separate" was always rigidly enforced but never the "equal." This paved the way for "jim crow" segregation in the South and a milder, less overt but still racist, version in the North and the West. The only other portions of that law they rigidly upheld and/or enforced were the draconian sections that adversely affected Black people.

After the landmark ruling, Scott and his family were returned to slavery as the property of Mrs. Emerson. She remarried and her husband turned the Scotts over to the Blow family in Missouri, who freed him and his family in 1857. Less than nine months later, he died from tuberculosis. Harriet Scott lived beyond the pronouncement of the

Emancipation Proclamation in 1865.

The thirteenth and fourteenth amendments were said to have overturned the evil effects of slavery and the Dred Scott decision. But did they? And if they did "in theory" overturn them they certainly did not "remove" them from where they were infamous lodged. (The "three-fifths" clause is still in the Constitution.) For example, when a teenager is convicted of a crime, his record is "supposedly" sealed. But is it really? In recent incidents, teenagers' "sealed" records have been hurriedly unsealed, and that's because, they obviously were not "really sealed." So too is the "three-fifths" clause in the Constitution and the Dred Scott decision, they have been supposedly overturned but

never removed. They are still lying there dormant on the (waiting to be resurrected), and that is why a large segment of (White) society including an associate Supreme Court justice, wants to revert to the original meaning of the Constitution. The late Associate Justice Thurgood Marshall state, "The men who gathered in Philadelphia in 1787 could not have imagined, nor would they have accepted, that the document they were drafting would one day be construed by a Supreme Court to which had been appointed the descendant of an African slave."

It is for this reason and much, much more that Black people have had to experience the Little Rock Nine, the Scottsboro Boys, the Tuskegee Experiment, Plessy v. Ferguson, and of course the Jena Six.

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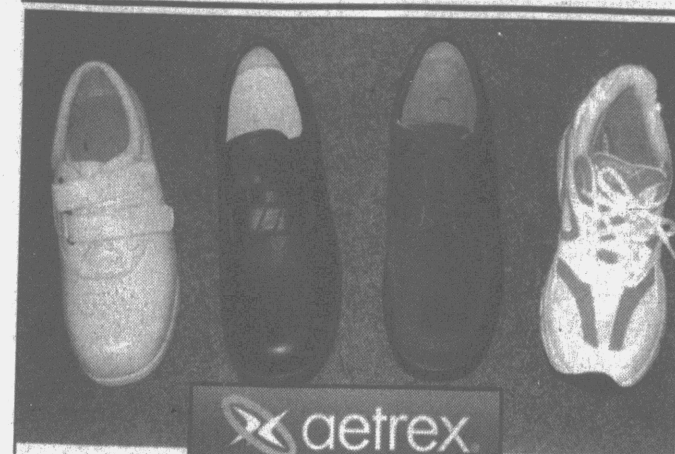
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In 1908, sixteen undergraduates on the campus of Howard University in Washington, DC founded Alpha Kappa Alpha (AKA) Sorority, Inc. Under the current leadership of the national president, Ms. Barbara McKenzie, the organization will celebrate its Centennial anniversary on January 15, 2008.

The Iota Kappa Omega Chapter of AKA was chartered on October 28, 1972 in Greenville, NC with the late Addie R. Gore as its first president. The sixteen chartering members of Iota Kappa Omega chose "Communications through Service" as its umbrella theme and the Chapter has gone on to establish itself as a community leader in programs of social action and service.

The 82 graduate members of Iota Kappa Omega are currently being led by President Delilah Jackson and Vice President Sharon Mallette. The Chapter celebrated its 35th anniversary, "Exemplary Service with a Purpose", the weekend of October 28th, 2007. The festivities began with "game night" on Friday night, October 26th, at the home of member, Ms. Laura Carmon. Sorority members worshiped together on that Sunday, October 28th, at Wells Chapel Church of God in Christ and concluded the festivities with a banquet at the Greenville Hilton. The banquet's keynote speaker was Director of The Marvelous Mid-Atlantic Region, Mrs. Ruby Batts Archie.

With a combined membership approaching 200,000 across the United States, Africa, Asia, Europe and the Caribbean, the singular determination of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc is to be "supreme in service to all mankind".

