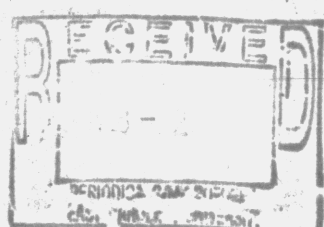


Tribute To Martin Luther King, Jr. and Black History Month

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JAN 2008 Issue

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JAN 2008 Issue

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Chamber of C

Barack Obama the Man Who Can be President

by Christine Sabathia

Jan 10, 2008 at 12:48 AM

BIOGRAPHY Dr Martin L. King Jr



It has been over four decades since the Voting Rights Act of 1965 was passed allowing for Blacks to freely participate in the political process, but not until now has America witnessed a phenomenon of the likes of Barack Obama.

"I would hope that it would happen, but I never thought it would happen in my lifetime," said 77-year old Lillian Mobley.

Mobley is a long time Los Angeles community activist who has championed the causes of the poor Blacks for most of her life.

"He's got what it takes to become president of the United States—his whole demeanor, character, love for people and life, love for humanity. I like the quality of Obama, what he talks about, what he seems to live everyday. I don't know him personally, but the way he comes across to me, he's a man of integrity, decency. He has all the qualities that it takes to make a president."

Like Mobley, this country is in the midst of witnessing what many felt they would never see in their lifetime—an African American becoming president of the United States.

Obama continues page 11...



SCLC, Coalition Against Racism 2008 Martin Luther King Day March

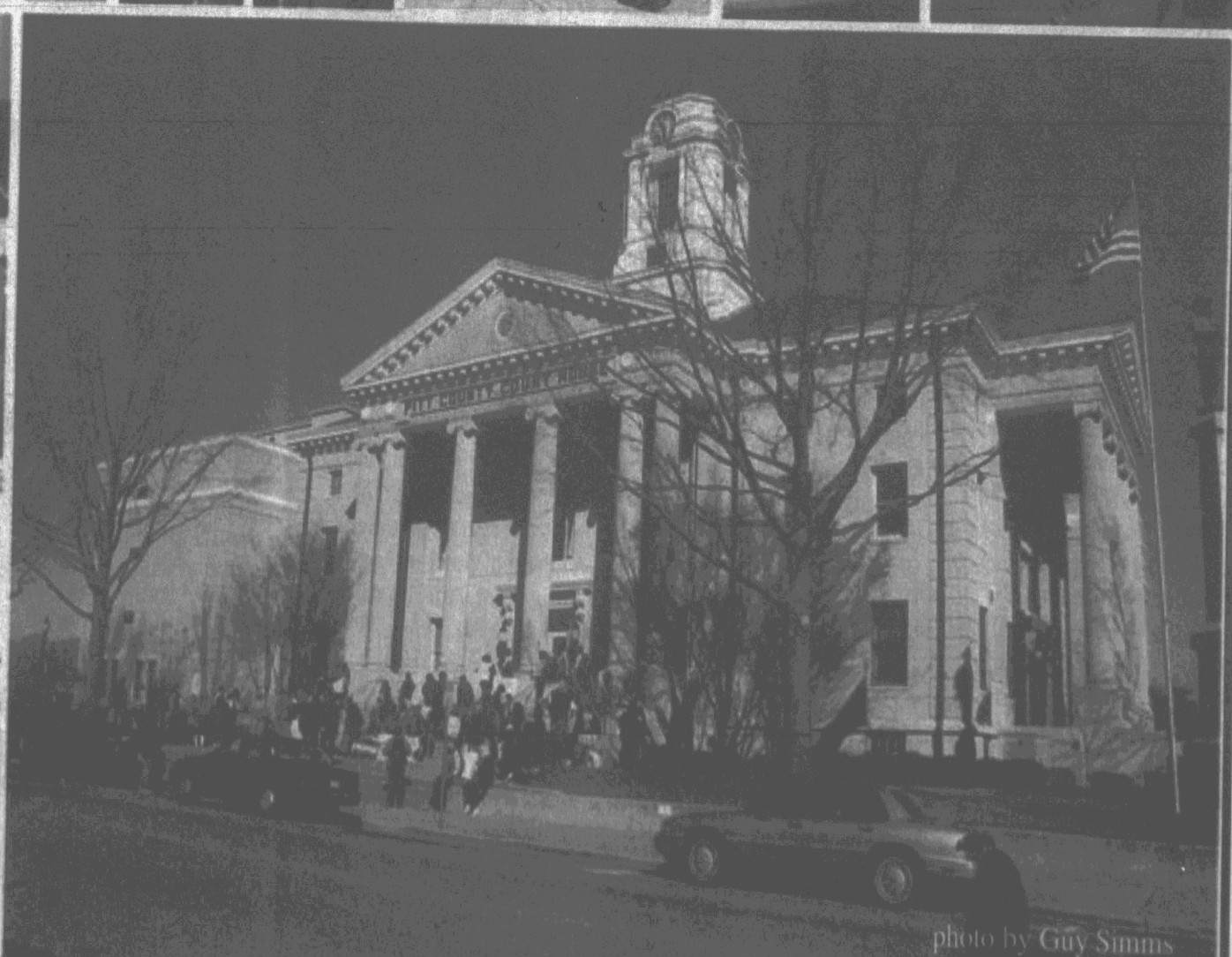


photo by Guy Simms

Martin Luther King, Jr., (January 15, 1929-April 4, 1968) was born Michael Luther King, Jr., but later had his name changed to Martin. His grandfather began the family's long tenure as pastors of the Ebenezer Baptist Church in Atlanta, serving from 1914 to 1931; his father has served from then until the present, and from 1960 until his death Martin Luther acted as co-pastor. Martin Luther attended segregated public schools in Georgia, graduating from high school at the age of fifteen; he received the B. A. degree in 1948 from Morehouse College, a distinguished Negro institution of Atlanta from which both his father and grandfather had graduated. After three years of theological study at Crozer Theological Seminary in Pennsylvania where he was elected president of a predominantly white senior class, he was awarded the B.D. in 1951. With a fellowship won at Crozer, he enrolled in graduate studies at Boston University, completing his residence for the doctorate in 1953 and receiving the degree in 1955. In Boston he met and married Coretta Scott, a young woman of uncommon intellectual and artistic attainments. Two sons and two daughters were born into the family.

In 1954, Martin Luther King accepted the pastorate of the Dexter Avenue Baptist Church in Montgomery, Alabama. Always a strong worker for civil rights for members of his race, King

was, by this time, a member of the executive committee of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, the leading organization of its kind in the nation. He was ready, then,

early in December, 1955, to accept the leadership of the first great Negro nonviolent demonstration of contemporary times in the United States, the bus boycott described by Gunnar Jahn in

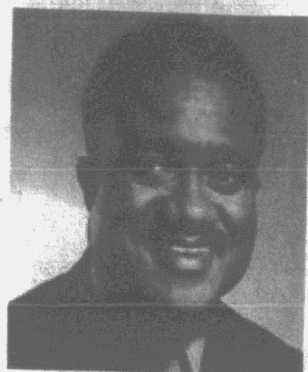
his presentation speech in honor of the laureate. The boycott lasted 382 days. On December 21, 1956, after the Supreme Court of the United States had declared unconstitutional the laws

requiring segregation on buses, Negroes and whites rode the buses as equals. During these days of boycott, King was arrested, his home was bombed, he was subjected to personal abuse,

but at the same time he emerged as a Negro leader of the first rank. In 1957 he was elected president of the Southern Christian Leadership Conference.

OPINIONS

CLINTONS PLAYING THE RACE CARD



by GEORGE CURRY
The Wilmington Journal

After Hillary Clinton fell off of her white horse with a third-place finish in Iowa and by barely edging Barack Obama in New Hampshire despite a 17-point lead just two weeks before the election, "Billary" Clinton are playing the race card by unfairly accusing Obama of injecting race into the presidential contest.

Billary — Bill and Hillary — have forcefully attacked Obama after his victory in Iowa, a state that is 94.6 percent White and New Hampshire, with a population that is 95.8 percent White.

Heading into the South Carolina primary, they accuse him of playing the

race card by exploiting an insensitive remark Hillary uttered about Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.

In an interview, the former First Lady said, "Dr. King's dream began to be realized when President Johnson passed the Civil Rights Act of 1964...It took a president to get it done."

Bill Clinton attempted to engage in damage control by calling Black radio talk shows, including one hosted by Al Sharpton, to contend that his wife's comments were taken out of context.

Hillary, in an interview on NBC's "Meet the Press," said, "This is an unfortunate story line that the Obama campaign has pushed very successfully.

I don't think this campaign is about gender, and I sure hope it's not about race."

A White presidential contender, John Edwards, also criticized Hillary.

"I must say I was troubled recently to see a suggestion that real change not through

the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, but through a Washington politician. I fundamentally disagree with that," the former senator from North Carolina said at a Baptist church in Sumter, S.C.

Because he disagreed with Hillary, does that mean that somehow Edwards also injected race into the campaign?

The New York Times obviously doesn't think so. In an editorial, the newspaper said Hillary "Came Perilously Close to Injecting Racial Tension" into the contest. It stated, "Why Mrs. Clinton would compare herself to Mr. Johnson, who escalated the war in Vietnam into a generational disaster, was baffling enough. It was hard to escape the distasteful implication that a black man needed the help of a white man to effect change."

Hillary Clinton understated the contributions of Dr. King and now she and her high-profile surrogates are trying to blame Obama for her

mistake. The candidate has dismissed Hillary's accusation as "ludicrous."

Bill Clinton didn't make matters better by referring to Obama in "fairy tale" terms. He would later declare that he was referencing Obama's position on the war in Iraq. But Michelle Obama, the candidate's wife, doesn't see it that way.

In a visit to the state in November, she made it clear that in contrast to Hillary Clinton's upper class background, her husband has lived anything but a fairy tale life.

"Dream of a president who was raised like Barack was by a single mom who had to work and go to school and raise her kids and accept food stamps once in a while," she said. "Imagine a president who knows what that's like."

It is no accident that as we move closer to Feb. 5, when voters in 22 states will cast their ballots in primaries and caucuses, that the Black vote will take center stage in the Democratic contests.

According to the Joint Center for Political and Economic Studies, Blacks make up 56 percent of the Democratic electorate in Mississippi, 47 percent in South Carolina and Georgia, 35 percent in Maryland, 33 percent in Virginia, 23 percent in Tennessee, 20 percent in New York, 15 percent in Missouri and 14 percent in Ohio.

In fact, with its January 26 voting, South Carolina becomes the first state to showcase the Black vote and an Obama victory there would force Clinton to have a strong showing on Super Tuesday or fold her tent. That's why she's racing to play the race card.

If the polls are accurate — and after New Hampshire, no one can count on that anymore — Hillary Clinton might be headed for a loss South Carolina.

A poll released Sunday by the Public Policy Polling in Raleigh, N.C. shows Obama holding a 42-37 lead over Clinton among likely Democratic voters, followed by South Carolina-born

Edwards with 16 percent. In a key finding, Obama has overtaken Clinton among Black voters and now holds a 68 percent to 19 percent lead, with Edwards getting only 4 percent.

Hillary Clinton can only beat Obama is if she can persuade Democratic voters that he is unelectable or somehow she is more deserving because of her last name. At the ballot box, Obama is dispelling both myths and it is therefore no wonder that Hillary Clinton is having to play the race card and have her husband pretend he is running for a third term. *George E. Curry, former editor-in-chief of Emerge magazine and the NNPA News Service, is a keynote speaker, moderator, and media coach. He can be reached through his Web site, www.georgecurry.com*

IN
2008
VOTE BLACK
AMERICA



by Rev. Jesse Jackson,

When I think back on Dr. Martin Luther King on his birthday, I know he would have been both pleased and troubled by our current state. He would surely have been pleased at the picture of the Democratic debate in New Hampshire an African American, a woman, a White male populist and a Hispanic competing for the Democratic nomination to be president. When Dr. King had his dream, he knew a day like this might come. He surely would have been troubled by the state of our country. Poverty is up; hunger spreading. Millions of children go without adequate health care. Affordable housing is lacking, and now in the subprime mortgage crisis, millions face losing their homes. Wages are more unequal; parents are working harder and longer and not keeping up. For much of America, the recession has been going on long before the economists woke up to it. Dr. King had a dream, but he was not a dreamer. He kept challenging this country. He understood that civil rights equal protection under the law were a necessary but not sufficient step towards a good society. He spent his last birthday organizing a poor

Eyes on the Prize - The Los Angeles Sentinel

people campaign meeting with Whites from Appalachia, Latinos, leaders from many different religions. He wanted to build a march across lines of race, religion and region that would call on this wealthy nation to deal with entrenched poverty. He was looking for justice, not for alms. The right to a job and a living wage, the right to organize and bargain collectively, the right to health care and affordable housing — these issues were the next stage in his struggle. That's why the current press focus on the sniping between the campaigns is a dangerous distraction. Candidates are tired; the campaign is close. Advisors argue for going negative; surrogates take cheap shots. Little things get magnified out of proportion, and start rubbing the raw wounds of race and gender.

When Obama said that Hillary was likeable enough, it was not a gender insult; it was a gentle compliment. These two were friends; they have campaigned together. To turn it into anything else is simply silly. When Hillary said Lyndon Johnson was necessary to get the Voting Rights Act passed, of course she's right. It took years of demonstrations, litigation and legislation to challenge segregation. King appreciated

what Johnson helped achieve, even as he continued to challenge him. Hillary's statement is not a racial insult. When surrogates start demeaning Obama's experience as an organizer or insinuating garbage about his past, that degrades all of us, not just him. The problem with this stuff is it can easily get out of hand, embittering supporters on both sides. We're having a vital competition inside the team about who should be the first string quarterback. And it's great that the competition is stiff and the competitors all highly skilled. But the battle for position shouldn't be so bitter that it divides the team, and makes it impossible for the winner to bring us together to meet the real competition. Show us your stuff; let the voters make the choice. Who can best bring about the change we need? Who has the best plan to make this economy work for working people? Who will stand up for the poor and stand up to the powerful? Who will best lead us out of this misbegotten war, so we can begin to rebuild America? Let's appeal to people's hopes, not their fears, give them someone to vote for, not against.

Reverend Jackson can be contacted by e-mail at JJackson@rainbowpush.org.

Why Do We Fight the N-Word Then Support American Gangster? They're Both Saying the Same Thing—Ni**er

Eric L. Wattree, Sr.

Why are we flocking to the movies and spending our hard-earned money to support "American Gangster?" And why did Denzel Washington, a brother that has brought so much pride to our community, even agree to make such a movie? We could ask the same question about "Training Day" as well. Both of those movies, along with much of the fare that's regurgitated over BET, are not only primers for dysfunction among Black youth, but they also serve as lucrative commercials being broadcasted throughout the world advertising the gross stupidity of Black people. Then after we've received all of that negative publicity-publicity that would cost a corporation billions of dollars to purchase—we don't understand why we can't get any respect, and why the police stop us whenever they see us anywhere near civilized people."

It's hard to understand how a brother of Denzel's character could even be involved in a project that reflects so badly on the Black community. But after giving it careful thought, I think I've come up with an answer: Most Black people, including Denzel, have become so accepting of this kind of character assassination that it has become routine, so he probably never even gave it a second thought.

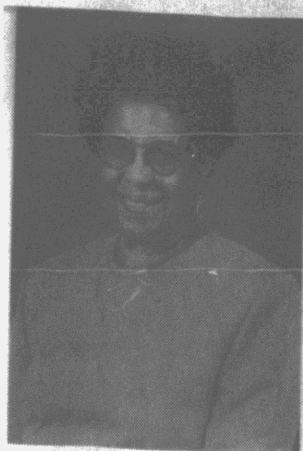
That is the very reason I had a problem with the campaign against use of the n-word. The Black community has been so brainwashed over the past 40 years that we've developed a mindset that is hypersensitive to the superficial, while the status quo is left carefully unmolested (the source of that brainwashing is grist for another time-at book length). While we're being distracted, and jumping up

and down over the n-word, people are being paid zillions of dollars to produce commercials in the form of movies being broadcasted around the world that say, "Look at how these ni**as live"—and we're supporting it! Come on, people, wake up! While I generally defer to the sensibilities of brothers and sisters who have an aversion to the "n-word", it's not a happy concession ("N-word"—I feel silly even writing such a foolish euphemism). As a writer, words are simply tools to me, and every tool has its purpose. Like a mechanic, I select whatever tool is necessary to best express the concept I'm trying to get across, so I feel like I'm being robbed of a valuable tool of my trade—and for what? From my point of view, the word "ni**a" represents any person, of any race, who takes pride in his stupidity. So as I see it, as long as we allow ourselves to get all worked up over a word, while at the same time, we all but ignore our kids killing kids in the street, grown men turning twelve year olds into whores, and half the community flocking to the movies, and PAYING, to watch commercials about our stupidity, the word "ni**a", in my opinion, is being prolifically under-utilized. The best way to avoid being called a ni**er is to rise above the definition. You don't hear anyone calling Barack Obama, Colin Powell, or the late Johnnie Cochran a ni**a. There's a reason for that. You see, any racist who would call any of these brothers a ni**a is then faced with the task of demonstrating that he's superior to these so-called ni**as, and very few people can meet that standard. If some racist pointed to Obama and told his son, "You see that guy over there—he's a ni**a." His son would probably look at Obama, then look at his dad,

and say, "Daddy, I think I want to be a ni**a when I grow up." So we need to shake off our brainwashing, and start focusing on the substantive issues in our community, because our behavior indicates that our most tenacious shackle is attached to our minds. We in the Black community need to ask ourselves a series of very simple questions, and answer them honestly. We need to ask ourselves, do we truly want to elevate our community out of its current condition, or not? Do we want to bring an end to the epidemic of kids killing kids on the street, or not? Do we want our community to become known for producing excellence, or not? If we're satisfied with producing misery, dysfunction, and crime, then fine—we're doing an excellent job of that. But if it's truly important to us to produce doctors, lawyers, scientists, and scholars, we've got to recognize that our current behavior indicates that we're either lying to ourselves, or living in a deep state of denial. What we're doing to our children is comparable to holding a sirloin stake up before a starving man, then telling him to just say no. How can we expect our young people, many of whom have known nothing but deprivation all of their lives, to make the necessary sacrifices to become scholars, while we flock to the movies in droves to applaud a guy who literally soaked himself in riches by way of crime? Why should our young people waste their time in the pursuit of excellence, when they can fake it with the

continue next page....
The N-word

COMMUNITY NEWS



Mrs Beatrice Maye

BLACK MAN

Black Man, Black Man, "What's the matter with you?" Why do you do the things you do? You fight your father, you kill your brother. You sell your sister and steal from your mother. Black Man, Black Man, "What's the matter with you?" Why do you do the things you do?

Why do you think making babies makes you a man? When you won't even take care of the child; I don't understand. Being a man doesn't start between your legs. Being a man starts in your head.

Black Man, Black Man, "What's wrong with you?" Why do you do the things you do? You blame the white man when you don't succeed. Don't you know God has all you need? The white man didn't make you rape, kill, or steal. You did that out of your own free will.

Black Man, Black Man, "What's wrong with you?"

Why do you do the things you do?

You miss the woman of your own color. You take the drugs and sell them to one another. You'd rather pick up a gun and start a fight than to lay them down and do what's right.

Black Man, Black Man, "What's wrong with you?" Why do you do the things you do?

Why do you wear your pants hanging down so low? Don't you know people are watching you where so ever you go. Pull those pants up and stand up straight. Look like somebody it's not too late, cut that hair, maybe shave, put those guns down and turn from your wicked ways.

Black Man, love your brother, show more love one to another, give your life to God, He will help. Accepting Christ is your first step.

Black, Black Man, you can't fight out your pain. Give your life to Christ and you'll never be the same. Dr. King said, "We shall overcome some day."

By: Ernestine Lynch
Tarboro North Carolina

Given to Mrs Beatrice Maye by The Late Eugene Faison and his wife Richardine

Your 2008 Money Guide

Wipe out credit cards

Buying a home is a priority investment and if you already own, investigate investment properties.

Build your financial future and create a solid portfolio

Don't forget about cost for children's education

Don't forget to protect your loved ones with a will

You'll also need coverage in case you're unable to work. Almost one in five women of working age will have to leave the work force at some point due to injury or illness.

Make sure you have disability insurance.

Protect your home with ample home owner's insurance.

"Home is where the money is."

Make it a goal to put 15% aside to grow.

Also, make it a goal to live off 85% or less of what you earn.

50 WAYS TO IMPROVE YOUR LIFE IN 2008

- 1 Try open water swimming.
- 2 Cut back on corn.
- 3 Don't be afraid to get dirty
- 4 Turn work into your work-out
- 5 Waltz your way to better fitness
- 6 Detox your household cleaning products
- 7 Bite into dark chocolate
- 8 Give a health-care gift card
- 9 Dump your prescription pills safely
- 10 Get screened for an STD
- 11 Find a book worth talking about
- 12 Change your reading habits
- 13 Yawn!
- 14 Build memories through scents
- 15 Go to Ivy League classes online
- 16 Make a "Not-to-do-list"
- 17 Swing by your local library (get and use a library card)
- 18 Read an international newspaper
- 19 Sign up for an RSS ("really simple syndication") feed reader
- 20 Study geography
- 21 Put the freeze on identity theft
- 22 Analyze your investing strategy
- 23 Hedge your portfolio
- 24 Use your mobile phone for everything
- 25 Switch to geothermal heating
- 26 Get a raise
- 27 Click on compact fluorescent lights
- 28 Set up a Roth 401(k)
- 29 Use software to catalog your property
- 30 Donate your money better to charity
- 31 Take your kids into the voting booth
- 32 Remember the life of Martin Luther King, Jr.
- 33 Listen better
- 34 Learn American Sign Language
- 35 Stop drinking bottled water
- 36 Adopt a dog
- 37 Volunteer for your local fire department

38 Recycle your Christmas tree

39 Share ideas at changemakers.net

40 Commit "random acts of kindness"

41 Avoid recalls: Make your own toys

42 Go see a play or musical

43 Visit Shea Stadium or Yankee Stadium before they're gone

44 Avoid air travel delays

45 Try wines from unexpected places

46 Brew a better cup of coffee

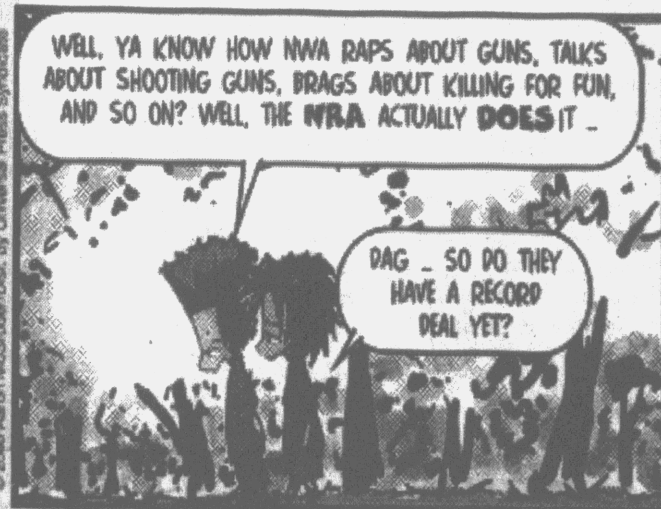
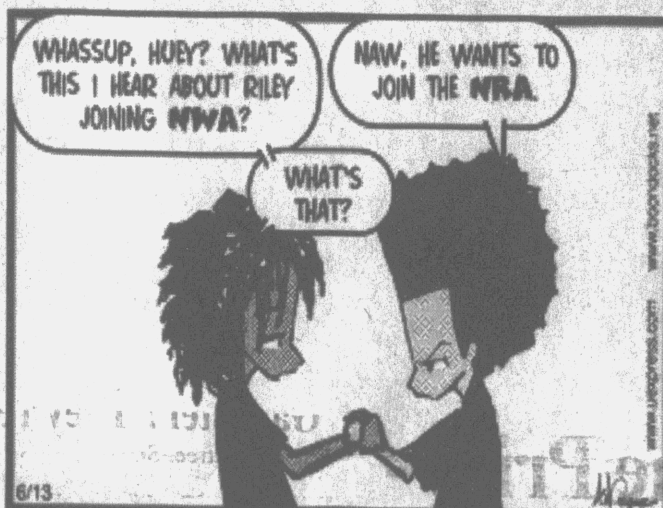
47 Be daffy: Celebrate Tex Avery's Birthday (the man who invented Daffy Duck and gave Bugs Bunny that famous catchphrase)

48 Get a coupon for a digital TV converter (upgrade that old TV antenna)

49 Pick up the next Harry Potter-style epic

50 Knit a sweater, hipster style

Taken from U. S. News & World Report
December 21, 2007/January 7, 2008



Reflections



Suetette A. Jones

Special Notice

To all Daughters of Isis and Prince Hall Shriners:

If you would like to view the video of the history of Arabian Court # 52 and the audio of the Isis song. Log on to: <http://www.doipha.org>

The Dudleys: Rags to Riches Story

Joe Dudley has built a very successful company grossing more than \$ 30 million annually. He accomplished all this with the investment of \$ 10 and with his wife Eunice, who was there from day one. He has built a thriving business - the Dudley Products Company with over 200 products in the hair care and cosmetology business.

But growing up, Joe was labeled as mentally retarded by his teachers as well as having a speech impediment. He was going out with the most beautiful girl in his school when she dumped him, because she wanted to have "smart children" which she said would be impossible with him. "That jolted me into the reality of what other people thought of me and how they saw me. I decided there and then, from that day on that I was going to be somebody," said Joe Dudley. Today Joe Louis Dudley,

millionaire by the age of 40, and president and CEO of one of the largest minority-owned manufacturers and distributors of professional hair and personal care products in the United States.

Born to Gilmer and Clara Dudley, Joe is one of eleven children - all college graduates. In 1957, Joe went to Brooklyn, NY to seek employment for his college tuition. One day he inquired of a man selling products from a black bag and learned that he was selling for a Rose Morgan product, which eventually became the Fuller Products Company.

The Fuller Products Company was the largest black-owned company at that time, generating well over \$ 10 million in revenues, and employing direct-sales-force of 5000 individuals. Joe continued to work at Fuller Products when by the end of the summer he was doing well. At the same time he met his future wife Eunice, a hard-charging self-assured young 17 year old teenager who had also joined the Fuller Products Company to make money for her own college tuition as well. They continued to sell for the Fuller Company, moving to Chicago to become president of Fuller. Eventually, after moving back to North Carolina and expanding their sales force they ultimately started their own products.

The Dudley Products Company is headquartered in Kernersville, NC where he has a huge manufacturing facility with more than 200 products being produced and a sales force of 500 people.

In a campus like setting, the Dudley Products Company has expanded into other areas, including the highly acclaimed cosmetology school-The Dudley Cosmetology University that has trained more than 20,000 students worldwide. They also have built the Dudley Hotel and Convention Center. The three Dudley children all with post-graduate degrees from Ivy League schools had to work their own way through school.

Extracted:

Reference by
Joe's Autobiography

Walking by Faith

Note:

One of the Dudley brothers settled in Kinston, NC, where he operated a cab company, and his wife, Mary, taught at the old Eppes High School under the principalship of Mr. Adam Murrell. Mary is a member of Arabian Court, # 42, Daughters of Isis, New Bern, NC.

The N--- Word (continued from previous page)

Why Do We Fight the N-Word Then Support American Gangster? They're Both Saying the Same Thing-Ni**er

flamboyance of wealth derived from criminal activity? After all, their mothers, who they sincerely want to impress, can't seem to tell the difference, and their fathers would be walking on air, because they're wearing their caps sideways themselves. So our community is sending out a grossly inconsistent message. On the one hand, we become insulted when we get on an elevator and ladies pull their purses close, yet we wholeheartedly support our community being portrayed as a cesspool of crime to people all around the world; and while we say that we're Black and we're proud, instead of addressing those issues that allow people to call us ni**as, we'd rather take the shortcut of trying to abolish the word-which makes us look even more ridiculous, since the more we say we hate it, the more useful to the word becomes. And finally, with our starstruck attitude towards crime, criminals, and criminal behavior, how can we tell our young people to just say no to a fantasy that we can't resist ourselves? So we need to sit down and get our priorities together-and fast. I want to end this tirade by pointing out that while I mentioned Denzel, it is not my intent to drop all of this in his lap. The brother has always been, and I'm sure he always will be, one of the bright spots in the Black community. But I hope in his future endeavors he'll recognize that he's got too much clout and believability to do movies like "Training Day" and "American Gangster" without having a negative impact on our community. He should do movies that lift up the community and inspire our young people to excellence like "Great Debaters," the other movie he did this year. In that movie he challenges young Black people to "Do what you've got to do, so you can do what you want to do." That's the message that young people need to hear. But it'll be interesting to see which one of the two movies will do best in the Black community. Unfortunately, my money is on "American Gangster"-and that's a damn shame.

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Civil Rights Revisited

by Francis Taylor,
Sentinel Staff Writer

If Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., were alive today, he would be looking forward to his 79th birthday on January 15. Many have attempted over the years to ponder how he would feel and what he would say about many of the conditions and circumstances that have befallen Black people since his assassination in Memphis, Tennessee on April 4, 1968.

From the relatively recent brutal police beating of Rodney King that sparked the Los Angeles Race Riots to the police killing of Tyisha Miller in Riverside, California and countless other acts of undeniable police misconduct against Blacks across the nation; an apparent deterioration of the Black family; the abysmal rate of Black high school graduates; the proliferation of unwed Black teenage mothers, and nearly every other category that compares and contrasts the condition of Blacks in the United States, then and now, one may wonder whether or not the tireless work of Dr. King and other civil rights activists has made a real difference in our society.

Arguably the most notable Black man in modern history, King will forever be known as the father of the civil rights movement, the man who through non-violent means, led the struggle for de-segregation and equality for Black Americans, and the man who had a dream for a color-blind America.

Despite the modest progress of many Blacks in the United States, in contrast to the millions of examples of racial discrimination against Blacks in employment, education, economic empowerment, police treatment, and many other examples that point to a society that remains lacking in true equality, King would most certainly be pleased with the accomplishments of democratic presidential candidate, Barack Obama, and more specifically, the citizens of Iowa and New Hampshire.

It appears that Obama is poised to symbolically deliver on one of the dreams King expressed on the steps of the Lincoln Memorial in Washington, D.C., at the March On Washington, 'the greatest demonstration for freedom in the history of our nation,' on August 28, 1963.

In that speech, which ranks at the top of the most powerful orations in the history of our nation, along with Abraham Lincoln's Gettysburg Address, and credited with mobilizing Blacks as well as Whites to support desegregation and prompted the 1964 Civil Rights Act and a year later the Voting Rights Act, King expressed a dream for his four children.

"I have a dream that my four little children will one day live in a nation where they will not be judged by the color of their skin but by the content of their character." He said.

Obama, who many believe would not be a serious presidential candidate, because of his Black skin, soundly defeated his opponents in a state with less than two percent Blacks. As his wave of multi-racial support follows him from Iowa to New Hampshire, then South Carolina and Super Tuesday, on February 5, it would certainly appear that at least in his case, the nation is supporting him because they are captivated by his message and not detracted by the color of his skin color.

Aside from Obama's surprising momentum however, one might seek to understand why did it take so long for King's dreams to be resoundingly displayed in America.

As a participant in the historical March On Washington in 1963, this writer has first-hand recollection of the coming-together of men, women and children of all ages, races, and religious backgrounds who were moved by King's message and who were inspired to take that message, and hope, back to their respective communities.

Baby-boomers, like myself, those born in the late 1940s and in the 1950s still have vivid memories of a life and struggle in this country that seems to have been lost among many of the children and most of the grandchildren of those baby boomers.

They cannot visualize the television images of Blacks being attacked by water hoses, police dogs, and 'billy-club' armed police officers on Bloody Sunday in Selma, Alabama in 1964. They cannot fathom being denied food service at many neighborhood restaurants in nearly every city in the nation. And while many may know the name, the new generation of Blacks may not appreciate the decision Rosa Parks made to ignore Jim Crow Laws, which subsequently launched the successful 382-Day Bus Boycott in Birmingham, Alabama that ultimately led the Supreme Court to outlaw racial segregation on any form of public transportation.

They do not have any conception of the number of Black-owned business establishments that did not survive the evolving integration movement. They cannot imagine being denied entrance to a White movie theater and later allowed to enter and sit in the 'Colored Section' only.

Unfortunately also, many of the offspring of those baby-boomers cannot grasp the feeling of learning that their parent was denied a job or promotion opportunity because of their Black skin. They will never have the opportunity to sit with an aunt, grandparent or other family member who was able to talk about their parents rearing in a segregated South or as a slave.

Similarly, they are generally oblivious to the fact that King, along with the Southern Christian Leadership Conference (SCLC) and other civil rights leaders and organizations marched, demonstrated, and were frequently arrested and tossed in jail, in pursuit of the right to vote, equal opportunities, and other liberties that are now usually taken for granted.

At the same time it is also prudent to point-out other BGO's (blind glimpses of the obvious). Young people today do not have to hear the repeated tales of their ancestors walking five miles to school. They cannot imagine asking for a dollar on a Sunday afternoon that would allow them to go to a movie, buy some popcorn, and have a hamburger, fries and a shake on the way home. Five cents for a candy bar, and \$8.95 for a pair of Converse All Stars basketball shoes, is about as real to them as 'ET.'

While the comparative list goes on and on, there are some things that have not changed, despite the dreams of Dr. King, the apparent success of Barack Obama, or the phenomenal success of Oprah, Denzel, 50-Cent, BET's Bob Johnson, and thousands of other extremely

successful Black doctors, lawyers, entrepreneurs, and others, across the board.

The playing field is still not level. The 'oasis of freedom and justice' King longed for in August of 1963 has not been realized for the majority of Blacks in America.

It is therefore, incumbent upon all Blacks to remain mindful of the struggle and the events of the Civil Rights Movement. We must teach our young people our history so that we can inspire them to achieve all that they are capable of achieving. We must celebrate our history and the struggle of our ancestors so that eventually 'freedom will ring' and we will all 'be able to join hands and sing in the words of the old Negro spiritual, "Free at last, free at last! Thank God Almighty, we are free at last."

Celebrating The Anniversary Of Mr Jim Rouse



Devoted Listener ... Evangelist Pratt, one of Joy 1340's listeners was on hand for the celebration. We thank you and all that were present for this great occasion.

photo Elder Michael Adams

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Excerpt from King's
Final Speech
I've Seen The Promised
Land"

I'm delighted to see each of you here tonight in spite of a storm warning. You reveal that you are determined to go on anyhow. Something is happening in Memphis, something is happening in our world.

As you know, if I were standing at the beginning of time, with the possibility of general and panoramic view of the whole human history up to now, and the Almighty said to me, "Martin Luther King, which age would you like to live in?"—I would take my mental flight by Egypt through, or rather across the Red Sea, through the wilderness on toward the promised land. And in spite of its magnificence, I wouldn't stop there. I would move on by Greece, and take my mind to Mount Olympus. And I would see Plato, Aristotle, Socrates, Euripides and Aristophanes assembled around the Parthenon as they discussed the great and eternal issues of reality.

But I wouldn't stop there. I would go on, even to the great heyday of the Roman Empire. And I would see developments around there, through various emperors and leaders. But I wouldn't stop there. I would even come up to the day of the Renaissance, and get a quick picture of all that the Renaissance did for the cultural and esthetic life of man. But I wouldn't stop there. I would even go by the way that the man for whom I'm named had his habitat. And I would watch Martin Luther as he tacked his ninety-five theses on the door at the church in Wittenberg.

But I wouldn't stop there. I would come on up even to 1863, and watch a vacillating president by the name of Abraham Lincoln finally come to the conclusion that he had to sign the Emancipation Proclamation. But I wouldn't stop there. I would even come up the early thirties, and see a man grappling with the problems of the bankruptcy of his nation. And come with an eloquent cry that we have nothing to fear but fear itself.

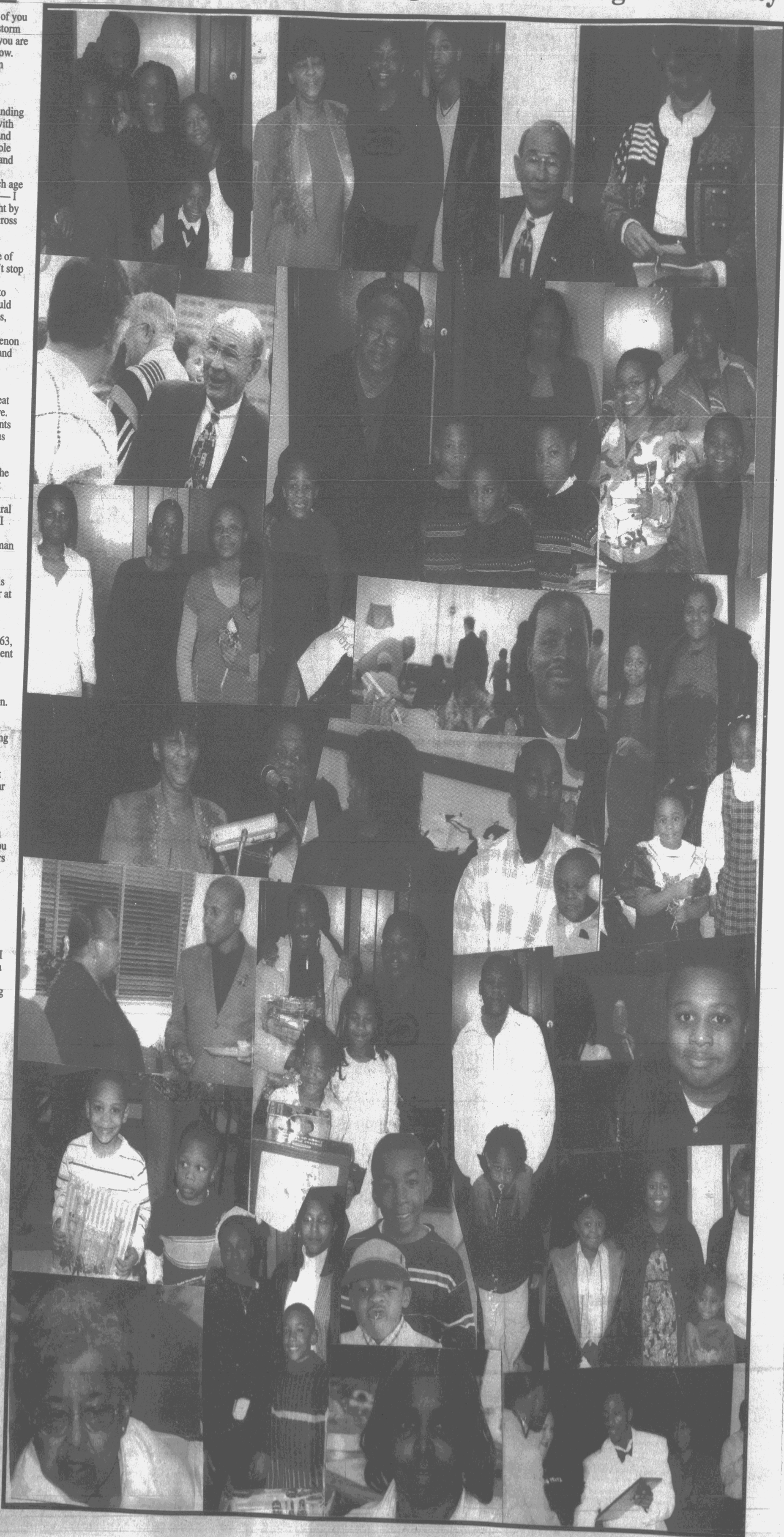
But I wouldn't stop there. Strangely enough, I would turn to the Almighty, and say, "If you allow me to live just a few years in the second half of the twentieth century, I will be happy." Now that's a strange statement to make, because the world is all messed up. The nation is sick. Trouble is in the land. Confusion all around. That's a strange statement. But I know, somehow, that only when it is dark enough, can you see the stars. And I see God working in this period of the twentieth century in a way that men, in some strange way, are responding—something is happening in our world. The masses of people are rising up. And wherever they are assembled today, whether they are in Johannesburg, South Africa; Nairobi, Kenya; Accra, Ghana; New York City; Atlanta, Georgia; Jackson, Mississippi; or Memphis, Tennessee—the cry is always the same—"We want to be free."

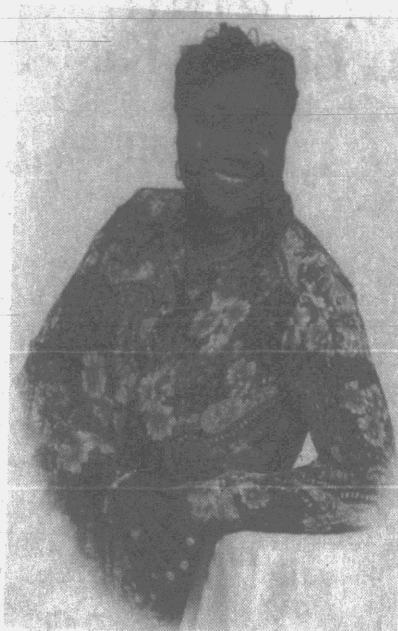
And another reason that I'm happy to live in this period is that we have been forced to a point where we're going to have to grapple with the problems that men have been trying to grapple with through history, but the demands didn't force them to do it. Survival demands that we grapple with them. Men, for years now, have been talking about war and peace. But now, no longer can they just talk about it. It is no longer a choice between violence and nonviolence in this world; it's nonviolence or nonexistence.

That is where we are today. And also in the human rights revolution, if something isn't done, and in a hurry, to bring the colored peoples of the world out

Speech cont. pg 9

The Lil Willie Center Shinning Star In A Strong Community





only myself but for God's people. Many times the body of Christ is mesmerized by catchy clichés that promise success throughout the year. For example, in 2006, everything would be fixed, 2007, we are standing under an opened heaven, but for 2008, I want the people of God to simply say no to the devil.

It's time for the people of God to arise and step into the divine assignment for your life.

The devil comes to steal, kill, and destroy, but when Jesus stepped on the scene, He came that we might have life more abundantly. It is not God's will for those who claim the name of God to be spiritually, physically, mentally, or financially imprisoned. It is His will for the people of God in 2008 to rise to the occasion, declare the name of God, and walk in the authority that He has given each believer.

Word in your life, if you can only believe. Say no to the devil in 2008, refuse to succumb to the devil's schemes and tactics, and finally walk in the victorious life ordained for you.

Rise up and walk in Jesus' name,

I love you to life!

Pastor Vanessa R. Byrd



Martin Luther King Quotes

Choose to tell the devil "no." Rise up in 2008; understand that "no weapon formed against you in 2008 shall prosper." You may feel the affects but it will not overtake you. You are more than a conqueror through Christ who strengthens you. Walk in 2008 with the mindset to boast in the Lord for the marvelous works that He shall perform.

In 2008, we shall walk in the manifested promises of God. No longer shall the Word that God has spoken concerning the body of Christ be prolonged. God shall hasten to perform His

Nonviolence is the answer to the crucial political and moral questions of our time: the need for man to overcome oppression and

violence without resorting to oppression and violence. Man must evolve for all human conflict a method which rejects revenge,

aggression and retaliation. The foundation of such a method is love.

Martin Luther King, Jr., Nobel Prize acceptance speech, Stockholm, Sweden, December 11, 1964.

Discrimination is a hellhound that gnaws at Negroes in every waking moment of their lives to remind them that the lie of their

inferiority is accepted as truth in the society dominating them.

Martin Luther King, Jr., speech, Southern Christian Leadership Conference, Atlanta, Georgia, August 16, 1967.

Sow A Seed

Joy R. Brown

This article was submitted by my pastor...Pastor Vanessa R. Byrd. Pastor Byrd is the founder and pastor of Paradise Outreach Ministries in Washington and Raleigh, North Carolina.

As I entered into the year of 2008, I received a Rhema Word from heaven for not

The Word of God declares that He would not have us ignorant of Satan's devices. However, we have underestimated the power of God and elevated the power of Satan by glorifying what he does. I am reminded of Luke 10:19, "Behold, I give unto you power to tread upon serpents and scorpions and over all the powers of the enemy and nothing by no means shall harm you." Jesus emphatically declared that we have no need to be afraid because we have "power", delegated authority, over every attack of the enemy.

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1/27

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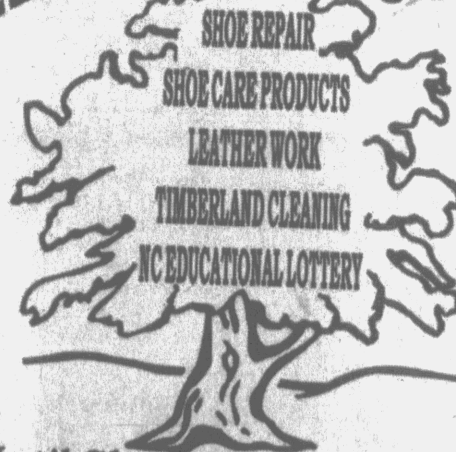
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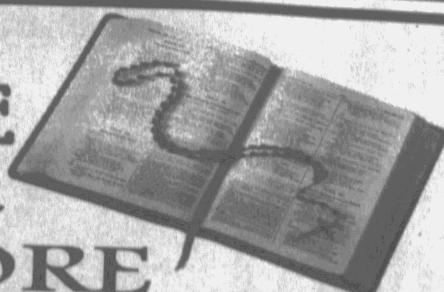


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Martin Luther King Quotes

If a man hasn't discovered something that he will die for, he isn't fit to live.

Martin Luther King, Jr., speech, Detroit, Michigan, June 23, 1963.

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7pm vs. Tulane

Adult/Youth: \$5/\$3



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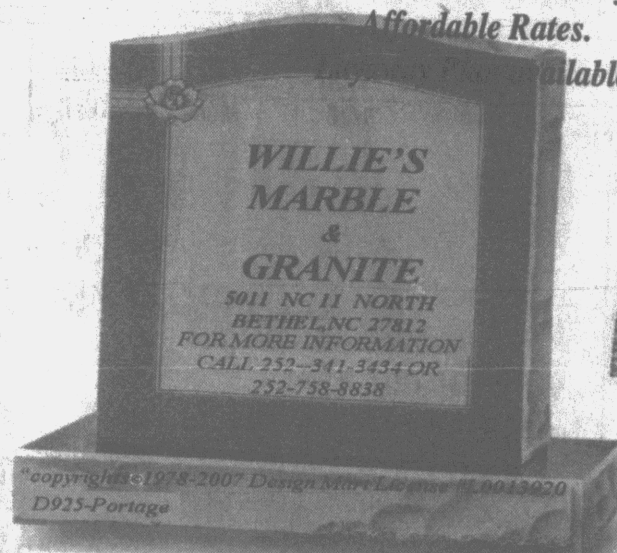
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Speech

of their long years of poverty, their long years of hurt and neglect, the whole world is doomed. Now, I'm just happy that God has allowed me to live in this period, to see what is unfolding. And I'm happy that he's allowed me to be in Memphis.

I can remember, I can remember when Negroes were just going around as Ralph has said, so often, scratching where they didn't itch, and laughing when they were not tickled. But that day is all over. We mean business now, and we are determined to gain our rightful place in God's world.

And that's all this whole thing is about. We aren't engaged in any negative protest and in any negative arguments with anybody. We are saying that we are determined to be men. We are determined to be people. We are saying that we are God's children. And that we don't have to live like we are forced to live.

Now, what does all of this mean in this great period of history? It means that we've got to stay together. We've got to stay together and maintain unity. You know, whenever Pharaoh wanted to prolong the period of slavery in Egypt, he had a favorite, favorite formula for doing it. What was that? He kept the slaves fighting among themselves. But whenever the

slaves get together, something happens in Pharaoh's court, and he cannot hold the slaves in slavery. When the slaves get together, that's the beginning of getting out of slavery. Now let us maintain unity.

Secondly, let us keep the issues where they are. The issue is injustice. The issue is the refusal of Memphis to be fair and honest in its dealings with its public servants, who happen to be sanitation workers. Now, we've got to keep attention on that. That's always the problem with a little violence. You know what happened the other day, and the press dealt only with the window-breaking. I read the

continue pg 14

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PRESS RELEASE

Contact: Mildred Robertson
For Immediate Release
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January 18, 2008

Local Obama Supporters Board the Bus to South Carolina

Raleigh, NC—Nearly 50 local Obama supporters will board buses Saturday morning to head to Florence, SC to put shoe leather to work for the Obama campaign. The group, heralding from Raleigh, Durham and Charlotte, plans to canvas in 5 South Carolina Cities: Florence, Kingstree, Hemingway, Marion and Bennettsville.

Brad Thompson, local organizer for the trip, says that a lot of people want the opportunity to do more than just send in money. "We've organized several fundraisers locally, and have been pleased with the response," Thompson says. "However, South Carolina is a key state in what I believe will be a historic campaign. We wanted to help mobilize folk to not just make a decision, but to act on it. That is why we will be encouraging our South Carolina neighbors to turn out in force to support Barack Obama."

The group will depart at 7:30 a.m. on Saturday, January 19 and travel to Florence, from where each van will be dispatched to the other designated cities.

Brad Thompson can be reached at 919-740-0110



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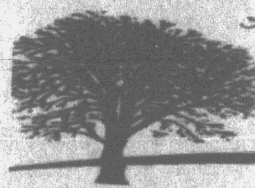
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Martin Luther King Quotes

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love correcting everything
that stands against

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Martin Luther King, Jr.,
Where Do We Go from Here:
Chaos or Community?, 1967.

NC's 529 College Savings Plan is a Top Choice

Money magazine recognized North Carolina's National College Savings Program as a good choice for North Carolinians based on the tax break and reasonable expenses.

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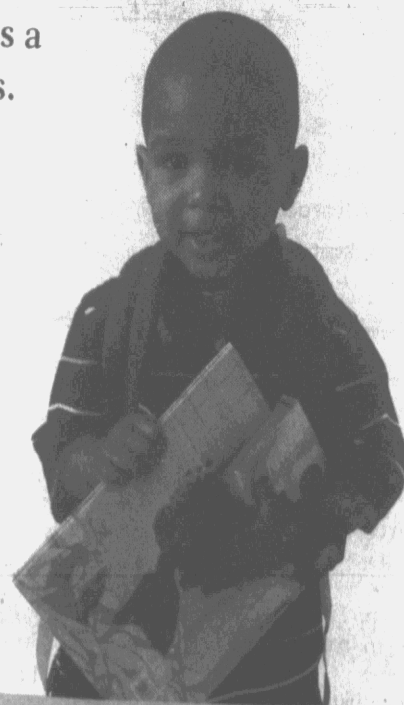
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College
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For more information about North Carolina's National College Savings Program, please review the complete Program Description and Enrollment Agreement available at NC529.org or contact 800-600-3453 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 Uprromise Investments, Inc. and Uprromise Investment Advisors, LLC (collectively, Uprromise). 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.

The features of a qualified tuition program are complex and involve significant tax issues. The earnings portion of withdrawals not used for qualified higher education expenses are subject to federal income tax and a 10% federal penalty tax, as well as state and local income taxes. The availability of tax benefits may be contingent on meeting other requirements.

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cont from front pg ... Barack Obama the Man Who Can be President

Barack Obama, the junior Illinois senator whom doubters believe lacks the experience needed for the nation's highest office, swept the first Democratic caucus in Iowa and went head-to-head with Senator Hillary Clinton during New Hampshire's primary, two states with an overwhelming White population.

Although it may be too soon to determine which Democratic candidate will ultimately receive the 2008 bid for the presidency, some say that Obama's successes thus far are quite telling.

"Iowa was a huge victory," said Mitchell Schwartz, Obama's campaign director for the state of California. "To win by eight points in such a highly competitive atmosphere was huge. ... And, to win in an overwhelmingly White state means people are open to our candidacy."

In Iowa, a state with a 95 percent White population and two percent Black, Obama beat out his opponents with 38 percent of the vote while John Edwards and Clinton trailed behind with 30 percent and 29 percent, respectively.

On the grounds during the caucus was Dr. David Washington who gave his hypothesis regarding the win. "I think we won in Iowa because of the first-time caucus goers. ... When you hear of first-time caucus-goers you think of someone who has never voted before. But I put forth the hypothesis that a lot of these first-time caucus-goers were first time Democratic caucus-goers—people who were Republicans and are Independents that have never taken part in the Democratic caucus who came because they're so inspired by this guy named Barack Obama and his message of hope and change that they wanted to be a part of all of this."

Both Washington and Schwartz were hoping for another victory in New Hampshire, which also has an overwhelming White population of 97 percent and a small Black population of one percent. However, the scales tipped slightly more for Clinton. Their neck-and-neck race ended with Clinton holding 39 percent of the vote and Obama at 37 percent. The tight race showed that Obama's message of change continues to resonate throughout the country.

Born to a Kenyan father and White mother, Obama spent

his childhood in Hawaii and Indonesia struggling to find himself while under his mother's watch (his parents divorced when he was two).

After high school, he moved to Los Angeles to attend Occidental College and then transferred to Columbia University. He then developed a career in social work in Chicago before attending Harvard Law School and becoming the first Black president of the prestigious Harvard Law Review.

In 1997, Obama was elected to the Illinois State Senate where he cut his political teeth for seven years before he burst on the national scene in 2004.

That year, he delivered his inspiring keynote address at the Democratic National Convention and in November, he became the fifth Black U.S. Senator in history and the third since Reconstruction ended.

The married father of two, Obama has never been shy about sharing his background and concern for family values, basing most of his election platform on his social work experience in Chicago.

After shying away from religion early in his life, he now attends Trinity United Church in Christ in Chicago. He credits his conversion to realizing the power African-Americans churches have had in encouraging social change.

His journey toward self-discovery along with his message of change and a hope for a better America have appealed to a broad audience and now that audience is being gathered to cast their votes for him.

With two states already decided, one caucus and three more primaries to go this month, and Super Duper Tuesday opening next month, Schwartz and the Obama campaigners are focused on the work ahead.

In California, which shares its primary date with 19 other states on February 5, efforts are well underway.

Assembly Member Majority Leader Karen Bass, who co-chairs the California African Americans for Obama Campaign with San Francisco District Attorney Kamala Harris, is holding regular conference calls with the Black media to keep the press informed. And Robert Cole, serving as director of African

American outreach in California, is galvanizing a massive grassroots program that recruits precinct captains throughout the state in an effort to personally contact every registered member of the Democratic Party in California.

The next stop on the Democratic campaign trail is the Michigan primary, followed by the Nevada caucus, South Carolina primary and Florida primary. California's primary is set for February 5, Super Duper Tuesday.

For more information regarding Obama for America, visit www.BarackObama.com.

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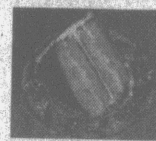
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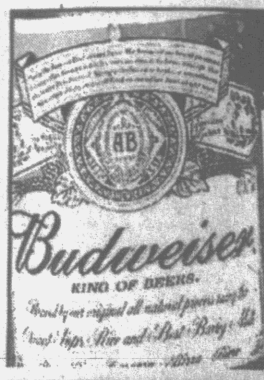
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Award Ceremony . . . Alice Parker holds an award presented by the Rev William Barber, President of the North Carolina chapter of the NAACP. *photo J. Rouse*



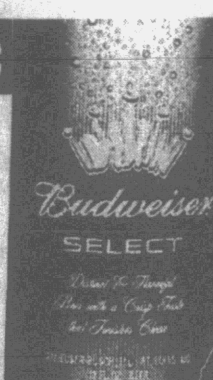
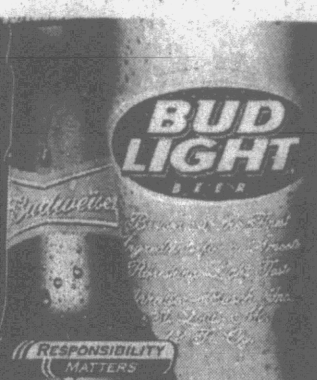
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THE LIFE and LEGACY

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DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING Jr



Madame President . . . Mother Peggy Hammond who is the President of the Pastor's Aide at the Philippi Church of Christ, where the Pastor is Bishop Randy B. Royal; was caught just as she took her seat at a recent Pastorial service for the Bishop. *photo Elder Michael Adams*

THE LIFE and LEGACY of DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING Jr

1929
Martin Luther King, Jr. is born in Atlanta, Georgia.

1955
At age 25, Martin Luther King, Jr. receives his Ph.D. from Boston University. In December, after the arrest of Rosa Parks, he leads the Montgomery, Alabama, bus boycott. The following year, the Supreme Court rules that bus segregation is illegal.

1962
Dr. King meets with President John F. Kennedy to advocate support for civil rights.

1963
In April, Dr. King spends 11 days in a Birmingham, Alabama, jail for demonstrating against segregated facilities and unfair hiring practices. In August, he delivers his iconic "I Have a Dream" speech to 250,000 people at the March on Washington, the largest civil rights demonstration in history.

1964
In July, President Lyndon B. Johnson signs the Civil Rights Act of 1964. In December, Dr. King, at age 35, becomes the youngest person to receive the Nobel Peace Prize.

1965
Dr. King continues to protest voter registration discrimination. He leads more than 3,000 people in a march from Selma to Montgomery, Alabama, and urges President Johnson to ensure voting rights for African Americans. In August, President Johnson signs the Voting Rights Act of 1965.

1968
Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. is assassinated on the balcony of the Lorraine Motel in Memphis, Tennessee.

1986
Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.'s birthday is declared a national holiday.

2006
Ground is broken for the Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. memorial on a four-acre site in Washington DC, near the Lincoln Memorial—where Dr. King delivered his "I Have a Dream" speech.

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ADMISSIONS TOOL



By Pastor Collins Randall '72

IF YOU READ the inscriptions on the more than 100 awards displayed in Annie Marable Brown's home, you will notice they all share a common thread—that of a great humanitarian. Ann, as she is affectionately called by family and friends, grew up on a small farm in Pitt County, North Carolina, with her 10 siblings. At an early age, while laboring in the scorching sun and pondering her future, she discerned that education would be the ingredient for a better life.

In 1948, after working a year to earn funds for college, Brown enrolled in A&T's two-year secretarial science program. After the first year she quit, citing the lack of required college courses being offered by the college as the reason. The ambitious student returned to her hometown, landed a job with the Pitt County Training School and got married. She later moved to New York. Lacking the credentials to accomplish her goals, a determined Brown returned to A&T, changed her major to commercial education and within 18 months acquired her degree.

"Survivorship is the most important thing I learned at A&T," the 1953 graduate said. With a degree in hand, Brown began her teaching career at Mace Lane High School in Cambridge, Md. She relocated to North Carolina and for three years worked as a secretary for Warren County Extension Service. Her big break in the field of education occurred when she became the first certified teacher in business education at the South Ayden School in Ayden, NC.

Henry Davis, a retired automotive businessman living in Pitt County, speaks fondly of his former high-school teacher.

"I like the humanitarian side of her more than anything else," he says. "When I was in school, she had a



Annie Marable Brown '53 has been recruiting students for A&T for over 40 years.

vested interest and real concern for all students."

Davis, who participated in sit-ins in the 1960s, compares Brown to the late Martin Luther King. "Ann had a keen sense of awareness like Dr. King," he said. "She wanted us to be aware of who we were, where we came from, the people that came before us and the people that would be coming after us."

Brown, the first automobile broker in Pitt County, taught high school for more than 10 years. The career was fulfilling; however, she felt that she could do more to enhance the level of education for her students—especially minorities—if she became a guidance counselor.

That objective led her to back to her alma mater seeking a master's degree in counseling (Brown later transferred to Ohio State University where she received funding to obtain a M.A. degree in counselor education). When she returned to A&T, Pitt County native John Maye was serving as president of the university's National Alumni Association (1983-85) and asked her to serve as chair of the National Student Recruitment Committee.

"That's when I made a commitment to A&T," the NC A&T Distinguished Service Award recipient said. "That means whatever A&T needs, whether it's in the line of recruiting, raising money, or attending meetings, I will do it."

Brown continues to keep her pledge. Mozell Weston, senior associate director of A&T's Admission Office, concurs with the magnitude of Brown's dedication to A&T.

"Miss Brown is committed always to recruiting good students for A&T," Weston explains. "She works in her community (Pitt County) to identify high quality students and is in constant touch with the Admissions Office. She always has her 'pulse' on young people and their parents to get them in college, especially A&T, and it does not matter what race, color or creed."

Brown not only influences students to attend her alma mater but she assists them and their parents with completing the admissions application, filling out financial aid forms and meeting scholarship deadlines. She works so tirelessly for the university that some people think she is on A&T's payroll.

Ivy Smith, a Pitt County resident who is a freshman at A&T, had her mind set on attending East Carolina University this year when her grandparents convinced her to talk to Brown. After listening to Brown's reasons why she should attend A&T, Smith enrolled. Pitt County residents often refer to Brown as "Miss A&T". The Alumni Excellence Award winner, who has served as president of the county's chapter, has no inclination of the number of students she has assisted.

"I have no earthly idea how many students I have helped. They work in a variety of positions including medical doctors, lawyers, nurses, teachers, and the whole gambit."

Brown seldom keeps in touch with the Aggies she recruits; however, every now and then, as fate would have it, one crosses her path. She reflects on the time she was shopping in the grocery store when a man ran up and hugged her.

"I said to myself, 'Who in the world is this?'" He explained to Brown that while he was in high school she had pulled him out of class one day and told him he was going to A&T.

At the time, college wasn't in his future plans. He went to A&T, graduated and moved up north and was now back home taking care of a sick grandmother.

"I prayed to the Lord that one day I would get back home to say thanks to you," he told her. Brown has not only dedicated her life to helping Aggies, but she has been a catalyst for change in Pitt County and the country. She has organized civil rights marches, boycotts and other demonstrations.

In the 1960s, Piggly Wiggly built a store in her community. "We asked them to hire one black cashier and they refused," she said. Confronted by the Klan and other bigots, she supervised a picket line that lasted 62 days.

"We brought the owner to his knees," she said. "By the time we finished, he his wife and the meat cutter were the only whites working in the store."

Realizing the need for better housing in the Ayden community, Brown originated public housing and was instrumental in securing \$1.5 million from the federal government to build 125 units. Each year the housing authority presents an award in her honor.

In 1999, Brown received the National School Public Relations Association's Eugene T. Carothers Human Relations Award for her establishment of a junior ROTC program at D.H. Conley High School in Pitt County (1972) to assist in easing racial tensions. The honor she received is bestowed upon leaders who foster justice and equal opportunity for all people, regardless of race, religion, national origin, economic status, sex, or age.

Brown is very active in her church and her political and civil activities are insurmountable. Jerry Cox, executive director of the Ayden Housing Authority, believes the world should have more people like Annie Marable Brown.

"She is a go-getter with a bundle of energy," he said. "It is time for her to sit back and let others fill her shoes, but she keeps going."

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Sojourner Truth

Harriet (Ross) Tubman (1820-1913)
Underground Railroad Conductor and Rights Activist

Born about 1820 in Dorchester County, Maryland, she had the hard childhood of a slave: much work, little schooling, and severe punishment. In 1848 she escaped, leaving behind her husband John Tubman, who threatened to report her to their master. As a free woman, she began to devise practical ways of helping other slaves escape. Over the following ten years she made about twenty trips from the North into the South and rescued more than three hundred slaves. Her reputation spread rapidly, and she won the admiration of leading abolitionists (some of whom sheltered her passengers). Eventually a reward of \$40,000 was posted for her capture.

name Sojourner Truth, which she felt God had given her, she assumed the "mission" of spreading "the Truth" across the country. She became famous as an itinerant preacher, drawing huge crowds with her oratory (and some said "mystical gifts") wherever she appeared. She became one of an active group of black women abolitionists, lectured before numerous abolitionist audiences, and was friends with such leading white abolitionists as James and Lucretia Mott and Harriet Beecher Stowe. With the outbreak of the Civil War she raised money to purchase gifts for the soldiers, distributing them herself in the camps. She also helped African Americans who had escaped to the North to find habitation and shelter. Age and ill health caused her to retire from the lecture circuit, and she spent her last days in a sanatorium in Battle Creek, Michigan.



Harriet Tubman

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MLK Speech cont. . .



articles. They very seldom got around to mentioning the fact that one thousand, three hundred sanitation workers were on strike, and that Memphis is not being fair to them, and that Mayor Loeb is in dire need of a doctor. They didn't get around to that.

Now we're going to march again, and we've got to march again, in order to put the issue where it is supposed to be. And force everybody to see that there are thirteen hundred of God's children here suffering, sometimes going hungry, going through dark and dreary nights wondering how this thing is going to come out. That's the issue. And we've got to say to the nation: we know it's coming out. For when people get caught up with that which is right and they are willing to sacrifice for it, there is no stopping point short of victory.

We aren't going to let any mace stop us. We are masters in our nonviolent movement in disarming police forces; they don't know what to do. I've seen them so often. I remember in Birmingham, Alabama, when we were in that majestic struggle there we would move out of the 16th Street Baptist Church day after day; by the hundreds we would move out. And Bull Connor would tell them to send the dogs forth and they did come; but we just went before the dogs singing, "Ain't gonna let nobody turn me round." Bull Connor next would say, "Turn the fire hoses on." And as I said to you the other night, Bull Connor didn't know history. He knew a kind of physics that somehow didn't relate to the transphysics that we knew about. And that was the fact that there was a certain kind of fire that no water could put out. And we went before the fire hoses; we had known water. If we were Baptist or some other denomination, we had been immersed. If we were Methodist, and some others, we had been sprinkled, but we knew water.

That couldn't stop us. And we just went on before the dogs and we would look at them; and we'd go on before the water hoses and we would look at it, and we'd just go on singing. "Over my head I see freedom in the air." And then we would be thrown in the paddy wagons, and sometimes we were stacked in there like sardines in a can. And they would throw us in, and old Bull would say, "Take them off," and they did; and we would just go in the paddy wagon singing, "We Shall Overcome." And every now and then we'd get in the jail, and we'd see the jailers looking through the windows being moved by our prayers, and being moved by our words and our songs. And there was a power there which Bull Connor couldn't adjust to; and so we ended up transforming Bull into a steer, and we won our struggle in Birmingham.

Now we've got to go on to Memphis just like that. I call upon you to be with us Monday. Now about injunctions: We have an injunction and we're going into court tomorrow morning to fight this illegal, unconstitutional injunction. All we say to America is, "Be true to what you said on paper." If I lived in China or even Russia, or any totalitarian country, maybe I could understand the denial of certain basic First Amendment privileges, because they hadn't committed themselves to that over there. But somewhere I read of the freedom of assembly. Somewhere I read of the freedom of speech. Somewhere I read of the freedom of the press. Somewhere I read that the greatness of America is the right to protest for right. And so just as I say, we aren't going to let any injunction turn us around. We are going on.

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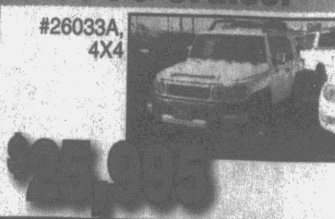
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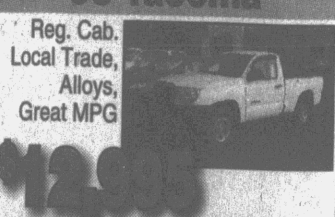
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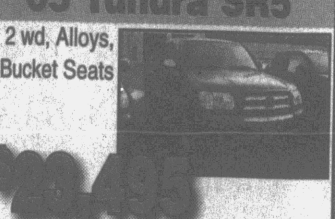
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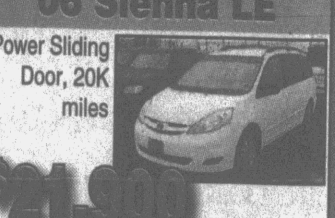
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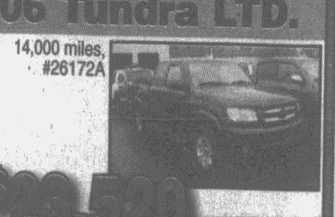
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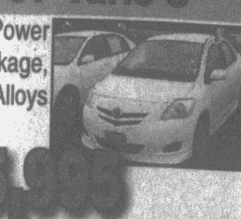
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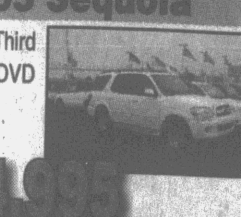
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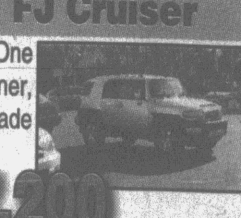
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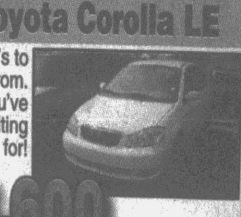
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