

Pictured Former Council Woman and Mayor Pro-tem Mildred Council (far right) Congressman GK. Butterfield (center) and his lovely assistance (far left). All three take time from their busy schedules to pose for our MVoice Camera Photo by Jim Rouse

Attorney Phillip Aaron said after hearing the emotional stories of victims of sexual abuse by religious authorities within the leadership of the Roman Catholic Church in Chicago, he felt obligated to help.

CHICAGO (FinalCall.com) -

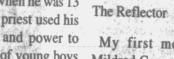
Part I of a series

Aaron, a legal Mr. representative for dozens of Black men who allegedly were sexually abused by Catholic

as age nine. David Nolan, now 42, said his sordid tale of sexual abuse by a Catholic priest began when he was 13 years old. He said the priest used his position of authority and power to have sex with dozens of young boys at will, and seemingly without fear of punishment. "We put them (priests) on pedestals almost to the point where I thought they were more than superhuman in a sense," said Mr.

abuse began when they were as young

continued on page 2



By: Cherie Speller

was related to work. I going on, her son -----I'm not sure which one - sat attention. If you didn't see tourism and equality in him, you wouldn't have Greenville and beyond. known he was there. Even Sometimes controversial in then ----- years before I had my own children - I true to her beliefs and worked realized . what. an to represent those she served. accomplishment that was. And, while I appreciate all her And, that's where my efforts, which have been admiration and respect for recognized with countless Mrs. Council began. Mrs.

Council recently lost to Kandie Smith in a tight race to represent the city's 1st district but not before the 22-My first memory of year veteran stacked up Mildred Council was at a accomplishments, not just for meeting in a building herself and family, but for the behind what is now known city she served. A retired as the Cupola Building, public health professional, the where Taff Office current Mayor Pro Tem and Equipment and the United her husband, Walter Council, Way of Pitt County have raised two Eagle Scouts who their offices. Back then, are both in graduate school, the buildings were home to Baker at Morgan State in Sycamore Hill Baptist Baltimore, and Logan at the Church; which has since University of Washington in moved to Hooker Road. I Seattle. That's quite a feat for dont remember what the any parents but especially meeting was about but, as African-American parents a fairly new reporter for raising boys - in west the newspaper, I'm sure it Greenville. That kind of personal family success took remember Mrs. Council focus and determination, the speaking and taking notes same qualities that Mrs. during the meeting, but I Council used to lead the city was most impressed by the to be inclusive, to push for behavior of one of her two lobbyists to bring more money sons. As the meeting was into the city, to build playgrounds and invest in affordable housing and to quietly at her feet, advocate for children, youth, occupied by his own the homeless, the elderly, the things, books, toys, sick and poor. She's promoted whatever held his education, culture, heritage,

her views, she's always been

awards, honors

recognitions, I mostly marvel at the fact that Mrs. Councul was there — at marches, walks, talks, celebrations, funerals, tragedies, reunions, meetings, workshops, forums, grand occasions and those most avoided. She was there, when you expected her and when you didn't --- such as one Sunday morning when she visited my church. Then meeting a few doors down from my home, the

and

newly formed congregation had just begun the service when she came in and took a seat. In greeting her after the service, she said she knew we were fairly new in the neighborhood and wanted to stop by to welcome us to the area. Mrs. Council may not be on the city council in the days to come, but I don't expect that her work is done. Some serve when they're elected to do so, but it's been obvious that she is a servant first.



Local youths display the true meaning of Christmas by Giving back to local nursing homes, details and full story inside ! photo by Steve Johnson

Pictured above is Brother Grady and his lovely wife, as they take a minute to pose for our M'Voice camera . Brother Grady is the owner ofGranelle's Limousine Service, so remember if your ever in need of riding in style give him a call 252.752.8989 photo by Jim Rouse

## **AARD Protests Discrimination** at Bloomingdale's

E



Washington, DC (BlackNews.com) Americans **Against Racism** n d Discrimination (AARD), held a protest at **Bloomingdale's** on Black Friday in response to current and

former employee's complaints of harassment and discrimination by the retailer. The employees, all African-American, say they experienced hostile and extremely humiliating acts of harassment and discrimination at Bloomingdale's by its management that included; verbal harassment/badgering, job discrimination, threats and race and gender discrimination. Several employees say they reached out for help and complained to company CEO Michael Gould, but the company retaliated with more harassment, including forcing some of them out of their jobs after they complained. The AFL-CIO Local 400 union was notified in an effort to curtail the harassment and investigate. Following an investigation, the union filed a grievance against the company and recommended that Bloomingdale's manager, Julia Palmer, issue a formal apology for or behavior in harassing several African-Americans in July 2009, ut Bloomingdale's and Ms. Palmer refused. "'Placism' is what it's alled today ... 'Placism' is the new racism," says a former employee and top-performer at Bloomingdale's Chevy Chase, who spoke on condition of anonymity. "If you're Black, Bloomingdale's means for you to stay in your place," says the employee, who even recently made a trip to Bloomingdale's corporate offices in New York to complain, only to be informed by VP William Hearst that the company has no intentions of changing. Another former employee and topperformer, who spoke on condition of anonymity, says that when he asked VP William Hearst why the company refused to hire any Black men as general managers at any of its stores or in senior level management, Hearst made a special trip to Washington where he stripped him of his title as Giorgio Armani specialist and told him to quit, or be fired. "Bloomingdale's is a racist company that harasses and discriminates against African-Americans, especially Black men," says the employee. He went on to say that Bloomingdale's is " ... a revolving door of racial harassment and discrimination against Blacks, and is a place where Black excellence, especially among men, is loathed."

## **Disney's 1st African American Princess**



LOS ANGELES (AP) --- For most of the last century, the Disney 'toon heroine was as white as, well...Snow White, the

# **Obama** Again **Reminds He's Not** Black **President** Obama

By Earl Ofari Hutchinson The Congressional Black Caucus got another painful reminder that President Obama is not black President Obama. In a press interview Obama bluntly said that he would not propose any special initiatives for blacks. Obama's sharp retort was in direct response to questions about how he'd solve a glaring problem and a glaring demand from the Caucus. The problem is the astronomical high unemployment rate for blacks, especially young black males. Latest job figures show joblessness for young black males matches and in some parts of the country tops the unemployment rate at the height of the 1930s Great Depression. The Congressional Black Caucus demanded that Obama specifically shell out more money and formulate more programs to help the black jobless and to aid cash strapped minority broadcasters and minority businesses. The Caucus lightly saber rattled Obama with the threat of delaying or even opposing his financial regulation plan if he didn't play ball. The Caucus is about as likely to buck Obama on the financial legislation when the final House vote is taken as the American Bankers Association is to back it. But the Caucus made its point. And so did Obama when he reiterated that he won't propose any new programs for blacks. Obama set that in stone from the first day of his presidential campaign. In his candidate declaration speech in Springfield, Illinois in February 2007, he made only the barest mention of race. The focus was on change, change for everyone. He had little choice. The institution of the presidency, and what it takes to get it, demands that racial typecasting be scrapped. Obama would have had no hope of winning the Democratic presidential nomination, let alone the presidency, if there had been any hint that he embraced the race-tinged politics of Al Sharpton or Jesse Jackson. His campaign would have been marginalized and compartmentalized as merely the politics of racial symbolism. The month after he got in the White House he mildly chided Attorney General Eric Holder for calling Americans cowards for not candidly talking about race. Obama got a bitter taste of the misery that race can cause a president him when in an unscripted moment he spoke his mind and blasted a Cambridge cop for cuffing and manhandling Harvard University professor Henry Louis Gates. The loud squeals that he was a bigot, racist and anti police for siding with Gates bounced off the Oval Office walls. A chagrined Obama back pedaled fast and asked all for forgiveness. There would no White House repeat of the Gates fiasco. Obama has clung tightly to the centrist blueprint Bill Clinton laid out for a Democratic presidential candidate to win elections, and to govern after he won. The blueprint required that the Democratic presidential candidate tout a strong defense, the war against terrorism, a vague plan for winding down the Iraq War, tepid proposals to control greenhouse emissions, mild tax reform for the middle class, a cautious plan for affordable health care, pro business solutions to joblessness, and make only the most genteel reproach of Wall Street. The Clinton blueprint also required a Democratic presidential candidate to formulate a moderate agenda on civil rights, poverty, failing inner city public schools, the HIV-AIDS crisis, and the racially skewed criminal justice system in written policy statements. And then say virtually nothing about any of these things on the campaign trail. Democratic presidential candidates Al Gore and John Kerry followed the Clinton blueprint to the letter during their campaign and if either had won, the likelihood is they would not made these. problems priority items in their White House. Obama is tugged hard by corporate and defense industry lobbyists, the oil and nuclear power industry, government regulators, environmental watchdog groups, conservative family values groups, conservative GOP senators and house members, foreign diplomats and leaders. They all have their priorities and agendas and all vie hard to get White House support for their pet legislation, or to kill or cripple legislation that threatens their interests. The health care reform battle and the decision to escalate in Afghanistan or near textbook examples of this. The two dozen back door meetings Obama had with the major pharmaceuticals and private insurers at the White House in February virtually guaranteed that a big chunk of the health care reform package would reflect the interests and the wishes of the health care industry. This is the price to be paid to get their backing. It's the same with Afghanistan. The Pentagon wanted and demanded a huge ramp up in American ground forces in the country. Given the pressure to win the war, and the power of the military and the defense industry, Obama was in no real position to say no. Obama's no to the Congressional Black Caucus on black joblessness and a beef up of minority businesses has everything to do with the price of White House governance. That price is a cautious, conciliatory, and above all, a race neutral presidency.

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mistresses - little attention has

been given to the race of the women linked with the world's greatest golfer. Except in the black community. When three white women were said to be romantically involved with Woods in addition to his blonde, Swedish wife, blogs, airwaves and barbershops started humming, and Woods' already tenuous standing among many blacks took a beating. On the nationally syndicated Tom Joyner radio show, Woods was the butt of jokes all week. "Thankfully, Tiger, you didn't marry a black woman. Because if a sister caught you running around with a bunch of white hoochie-mamas," one parody suggests in song, she would have castrated him. "The Grinch's Theme Song" didn't stop there: "The question everyone in America wants to ask you is, how many white women does one brother waaant?" As one blogger, Robert Paul Reyes, wrote: "If Tiger Woods had cheated on his gorgeous white wife with black women, the golfing great's accident would have been barely a blip in the blogosphere." The darts reflect blacks' resistance to interracial romance. They also are a reflection of discomfort with a Nolan. At one time, Mr. Nolan Muhammad Ali and Michael Mr. Nolan's victimizer forced Jordan. But Woods has declined him to recant. Even after many to identify himself as black, and complaints by members of the famously chose the term congregation, his victimizer "Cablinasian" (Caucasian, was transferred to a bigger black, Indian and Asian) to church on Chicago's Southside. describe the racial mixture he "No one cares about young inherited from his African- Black boys being molested, but American father and Thai I'm reading in the news mother. This vexed some everyday how holy hell is being blacks, but it hasn't stopped raised by White victims being them from claiming Woods as sexually abused," said Mr. one of their own. Or from Nolan, who said a young male disapproving of his marriage to relative was also sexually Elin Nordegren, despite blacks' abused by the same priest. historical fight against white Reginald Montgomery's racist opponents of mixed nightmare of abuse also began marriage. On the one hand, at age 13, when he was Ebonie Johnson Cooper doesn't homeless after being kicked out care that Tiger Woods' wife and of the house. He looked up to alleged mistresses are white his priest as a father figure, until because Woods is "quote- one evening the priest told him unquote not really black.""But he could sleep upstairs in the at the same time we still see him rectory. The seemingly as a black man with a white benevolent priest came and woman, and it makes a woke him up. "I felt somebody difference," said Johnson rubbing on me." Mr. Cooper, a 26-year-old African- Montgomery said when he American from New York City. opened his eyes, "He was "There's just this preservation standing there in his thing we have among one underwear." "He just did what another. We like to see each he wanted. I tried to get him off other with each other." Black me, but he was stronger then women have long felt slighted me. He actually raped me," said by the tendency of famous black Mr. Mongtomery. David men to pair with white women, Clohessy, national director of and many have a list of current the Survivors Network of those transgressors at the ready. Abused by Priests (SNAP), said "We've discussed this for years the guarded and mysterious among black women," said nature of the inner-workings of Denene Millner, author of the Catholic Church throughout several books on black history were key factors relationships. "Why is it when creating an atmosphere where they get to this level ... they tend priests could engage in this type to go directly for the nearest of sexual abuse, almost at will. blonde?" This tendency may be "For centuries the (Catholic) more prominent due to a Church hierarchy has been a relative lack of interracial rigid, secretive, all male marriages among average monarchy and remains so today; blacks. Although a recent Pew that is the crux of the crisis right poll showed that 94 percent of there," said Mr. Clohessy. "With blacks say it's all right for blacks virtually no checks and and whites to date, a study balances, you have almost published this year in limitless power in the hands of Sociological Quarterly showed a few secretive men. That alone that blacks are less likely to is a recipe for disaster," he actually date outside their race added. According to their than are other groups. "There website, SNAP "is the nation's is a call for loyalty that is oldest and largest support stronger in some ways than in group for clergy abuse victims."

other racial communities," said the author of the study, George Yancey, a sociology professor at the University of North Texas and author of the book "Just Don't Marry One." The color of one's companion has long been a major measure of "blackness" - which is a big reason why the biracial Barack Obama was able to fend off early questions about his black authenticity. "Had Barack had a white wife, I would have thought twice about voting for him," Johnson Cooper said. So do Woods' women say something about the intensely private golfer's views on race? "I would like to say no, but I think it garners a bit of a yes," Johnson Cooper said. Carmen Van Kerckhove, founder of the race-meets-pop-culture blog Racialicious, said there have been frequent discussions on her site about the fine line between preference and fetish. "Is there any difference between a white guy with a thing for blondes, and a nonwhite guy with a thing for blondes?"

#### Injustice continued page 1

man who has smashed barriers tried to tell, however, when he in one of America's whitest went to the Chicago Police, sports and assumed the mantle they called him a liar and of the world's most famous laughed at him. Scared with no athlete, once worn by resources and no protection,

studio's first feature-film superstar, who marked her debut in 1937's "Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs." It would take some 60 years for the Disney artists to begin painting their leading ladies with all the colors of the wind, including the

American Indian Pocahontas (1995), the Chinese Mulan (1998) and the Hawaiian Lilo (2002). Only now, with "The Princess and the Frog," have Disney animators put a black female front and center. Ironically, the inspiration for the new film came from two Caucasian men: current Pixar-Disney chief John Lasseter and the late Walt Disney himself. "The story really came from an initial idea of doing an American fairy tale, which hadn't been done at Disney," said "Princess" co-director Ron Clements. "And setting it in New Orleans, which is John Lasseter's favorite city in the world. It was Walt Disney's favorite city in the world ... Out of that, it seemed natural that the heroine would be African-American." Discussion of the character's race had some of the film's principals bristling. "We walk around being black every day, and nobody talks about it," noted Anika Noni Rose, who supplies the voice of lead Princess Tiana. "So, I suggest you follow your instinct and let it be nothing to be talked about." Yet the "Dreamgirls" actress continued to talk: "The big deal is that it will quietly affirm to young brown-skinned children that they are special in this world," Rose said. "And I think that it is a bigger deal to those of us who grew up without it and are now adults and have been waiting for it. It's exciting to us, because we know how important it is to our children to have, to be image affirmed." Production was started on "Princess" in March 2006, long before the election of a new American president. "We tried to arrange that," joked co-director John Musker. "We voted for Obama," Musker continued. "That was about as much influence as we had on things." But the coincidence isn't lost on some members of the "Princess" cast. "It is historical in the sense now that there is 'Obama' and 'Tiana,'" said veteran character actress Jenifer Lewis, widely known as "the black mother of Hollywood." "It is a new day," she continued. "There is hope. There is change. That is what this movie is going to bring." Perhaps, but the directors remind us that making history was never their point. "It is a universal story," Musker said. "It is a story of trying to follow your dreams and overcoming obstacles. And I don't think that necessarily knows a certain color." Walt Disney's "The Princess and the Frog" is now playing in Los Angeles and New York

#### **Tiger's Troubles Widen**

## **His Distance From Blacks**

By JESSE WASHINGTONAP National Writer Amid all the headlines generated by Tiger Woods' troubles - the puzzling car accident, the suggestions of marital turmoil and multiple

3.4

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## Will Obama's Jobs Plan Satisfy the Black Caucus?



Getty Images President Barack Obama announced a broad proposal for job creation, targeting small business with more aid for the unemployed, but the jury is out on whether members of the Congressional Black Caucus, who have called for targeted efforts to help black Americans, will be satisfied. The jobs plan rolled out by President Obama during a speech at the Brookings Institution Tuesday morning followed the general theme of aid packages unveiled during his administration: general assistance to the poor and unemployed but none targeted to specific groups.

## **Public Option For Health Care Bill May Be Dead**

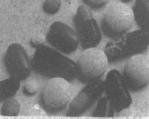


Democratic Majority Leader Harry Reid said he's close to formulating a health care bill that will pass the Senate, but the much-talked about public option may be history.

#### According to the New York Times:

Under the agreement, people ages 55 to 64 could "buy in" to Medicare. And a federal agency, the Office of Personnel Management, would negotiate with insurance companies to offer national health benefit plans, similar to those offered to federal employees, including members of Congress. If these private plans did not meet certain goals for making affordable coverage available to all Americans, Senate Democratic aides said, then the government itself would offer a new insurance plan, somewhat like the "public option" in the bill Mr. Reid unveiled three weeks ago. According to the Washington Post, negotiations for an alternative to the public option would also place strict new regulations on health care companies, forcing them to spend 90 cents of every dollar collected on providing medical care for their customers. The public option is supposed to provide competition to private insurers, forcing them to lower rates. Some Democrats have said a government-run plan is necessary to truly reform our health care system. Republicans have balked at the idea, saying it would drive private insurers out of business. Last month, the House passed a health care bill by a slim margin that had a public option but would force the government to negotiate with hospitals and doctors instead of just setting prices, like Medicare. I think most people are not wedded to the idea of a public option if other reforms can guarantee that affordable health care is provided to more uncovered Americans. The question that Democrats should thoroughly examine, though, is whether the alternatives to a public option provide enough of a guarantee to meet that goal. At the same time, President Obama needs a victory on this one. It could bolster his efforts to rein in other industries that don't have the best interests of Americans at heart. Now is the time to come to a resolution. According to a recent poll, the approval ratings for President Obama and the Democrats are beginning to slip. President Obama's approval rating has fallen below 50 percent, which doesn't bode well for the upcoming midterm elections. According to the Associated Press: Dropping below 50 percent is a warning sign of political peril if not corrected. Since 1962. presidents with approval ratings below 50 percent have lost an average of 41 seats in midterm House elections. That's precisely the number that would cost Democrats control of the House this time

New **Breakthrough: An Alcohol Pill That Can Get You** Drunk



AOL Health Russian professor Evgeny Moskalev has created a substance that can get you drunk without even lifting your shot glass. Moskalev, developed a pill that can be jam-packed with powdered alcohol derived from any type of booze: whiskey, vodka, cognac, beer or wine. The St. Petersburg Technological University researcher created the pill so that folks could consume their favorite alcoholic beverage just like any other solid food. "We have developed a technology that allowed us to turn any liquid solution into a powder," Moskalev said. Drinkers could measure the precise amount of alcohol they want to consume simply by popping the pill of their choice. These pills could come in quite handy at parties, for example, when someone may want to gauge how much they'd like to drink for the night.





Don't blame Google for photos of First Lady Michelle Obama depicted as an ape floating around the Internet. Instead, let's look at those around the world who are confused. because Mrs. Obama is very publicly and systematically smashing long-held stereotypes

began showing up on Google as the top search result for "Michelle Obama" a few weeks ago. The altered photo shows a smiling Mrs. Obama altered to look like that of an ape. Google refused to remove the picture, instead choosing to post an explanation and apology for the image: Sometimes Google search results from the Internet can include disturbing content, even from innocuous queries. We assure you that the views expressed by such sites are not in any way endorsed by Google. Search engines are a reflection of the content and about Black women. The photo information that is available

on the Internet. A site's ranking in Google's search results relies heavily on computer algorithms using thousands of factors to calculate a page's relevance to a given query ..... Accordingly, we do not remove a page from our search results simply because its content is unpopular or because receive complaints we concerning it ..... We apologize if you've had an upsetting experience using Google. We hope you understand our position regarding offensive results. The blog that hosted the picture eventually removed the photos and posted a poorly written apology in English that seemed to be the translation of a Chinese statement:

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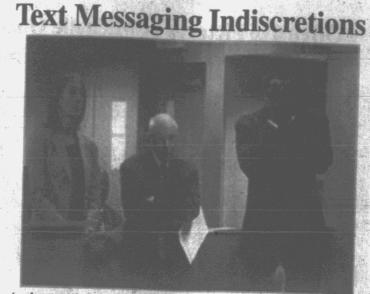
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## Black Caucus reminds Obama of pledge not to "forget" race -

Black Caucus reminds Obama of pledge not to "forget" race

In its bluntest challenge to President Obama since taking office, the Congressional Black Caucus expressed disappointment with Obama's Tuesday jobs speech — and reminded the first black president he promised not to "ignore" race during his famous Philadelphia speech in 2008.

A week after caucus member boycotted a vote on the administration's regulatory reforms in protest, CBC Chairwoman Barbara Lee (D-Calif.) threw down a gauntlet on the need to address racial disparities in unemployment in the upcoming jobs bill: In a statement tonight, Lee wrote: "We need a concerted effort from the Federal government to expand access to education. job training, direct job creation, infrastructure development and economic opportunities to provide pathways out of poverty and opportunities for all. "The **Congressional Black Caucus** remains committed to working with President Obama and our Congressional leadership to address the very real economic crisis gripping our nation. which is particularly acute in communities of color." Not only is the unemployment rate for African Americans nearly twice that of whites, these racial disparities persist in other areas as well. Nearly 28 percent of African Americans receive food aid compared to 15 percent of Latinos and 8 percent of whites. Recent African American college graduates are unemployed at higher rates than their white counterparts and African American workers remain unemployed an average of five weeks longer than the rest of America. The gaps are very real. "With more than 24 percent of African Americans living below the poverty line and African Americans 55 percent more likely to be unemployed than other Americans, the existence of racial disparities is undeniable. "As a candidate, President Obama said in his speech on race during the Democratic primary, 'race is an issue that I believe this nation cannot afford to ignore right now." facts speak for The



As the popularity of text messaging continues to grow, so does the extreme to which some will use text messaging to communicate what they can't always put into spoken words. This became painfully obvious a week ago when a woman, who claims to have had an affair with Tiger Woods, told a celebrity publication that he had sent her flirty text messages, some of which were published. It follows on the heels of politicians who ran afoul of text I.Q., including a former Detroit mayor who went to prison after his steamy text messages to an aide were revealed, and Senator John Ensign of Nevada, whose affair with a former employee was confirmed by an incriminating text message. Some may ask, why do these public figures take this risk, and why do they later try to justify the wrong that they have done? It would seem that in light of all of the public humiliation that has been caused by text messaging indiscretions, that people would realize the hurt and impact it causes. Yet, text messaging indiscretions are apparently on the rise... Divorce lawyers say they have seen an increase in cases in the past year where a wronged spouse has offered text messages to show that a partner has strayed. So, why would someone throw away a marriage or a career by carrying on a text message affair? Where does the heartbreak end?

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