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WEEK OF ENDING OCTOBER 13, 1995

School Choice: It's not a matter of black and white

Comes now word of the continuing progress of school choice. Three American cities have released plans for new or expanded programs of parental choice of schools. And not surprisingly, the driving force in each case has been a black person. In two of the three, a female black person. And thereby hangs a tale.

But first, the essentials.

The Wisconsin legislature has voted to expand Milwaukee's school-choice program, now in its fifth year, to include religious schools and to increase enrollment from about 1,000 to 15,000 students next year. The Milwaukee experiment is the product of a rare display of courage and determination by Polly Williams, a mother of four who refused to accept for her younger children more of the educational neglect her older children had experienced in that city's schools.

She enrolled her children in private schools, paid from her wages as a single working mother. Then she ran for the Wisconsin legislature, was elected on a school-choice platform and joined forces with Gov. Tommy Thompson to push through the nation's first significant school-choice program.

An issue that crosses traditional political lines

The political dynamics make

what happened in Milwaukee of more than passing interest. Williams is a Democrat. She headed Jesse Jackson's Wisconsin campaign in 1984 and 1988. Thompson is a two-term Republican governor, a leading GOP conservative and a staunch advocate of school reform. The bond between the two was forged by a common concern for the welfare of the children of Milwaukee's poor families, who were consigned to the city's public schools with no means of escape. No, that's not so. They could escape: Their families could move to another school district or the children could enroll in private schools. And nothing stood in the way of either except money.

Representative Williams and Governor Thompson noticed that few of Milwaukee's black citizens were affluent, so they set out to find another way. School choice.

In Cleveland, the story is similar. Fanny Lewis is a first term member of the City Council who became an apt pupil of Polly Williams and persuaded the citizens of Cleveland and Ohio Republican Gov. George Voinovich to rescue 2,100 of the city's poor children. They may now attend the schools of their choice, whether private, public or parochial. The scholarship award for each child is \$2,500.

The story in Washington is per-

haps the most arresting and the most promising for the growth of the school-choice movement. The plan put forward by the District of Columbia's leadership and endorsed by Superintendent of Schools Franklin Smith is designed to rescue low-income children in failing schools. It has been endorsed by Mayor Marion Barry and in this I kid you not, by the Washington Post, which, until this historic moment, has been a relentless foe of school choice in any form.

Black leadership is not surprising

Nathan Glazer, a highly respected education analyst, captures the essential truth about the quality of schools we provide for the black children in our large cities. "Constitutional law often moves along strange and circuitous paths," Glazer writes. "But perhaps the strangest yet has been the one whereby beginning with an effort to expand freedom-no black child shall be excluded from any public school because of his race-the law has ended with a drastic restriction of freedom as we have seen in this country in recent years: no child of any race or group may escape or flee the school to which that child has been assigned on the basis of his or her race."



MS. MAMOONI REEVES (C) IS SURROUNDED BY WELL-WISHERS at the opening of her store. Mamooni's International located at the Carolina East Centre in Greenville. Ms. Reeves welcomes all of her friends to shop with her.

Staff photo: Jim Rouse

Buked, Scorned, and Talked About

Tradition and transformations are prominent themes in Randall Kenan's *A Visitation of Spirits*, a first novel which takes place in the small rural town of Tims Creek, North Carolina. Explored here are the intricate workings of a Southern Black Baptist clan and the impact of family and community norms and expectations on Black men in general, and in the specific cases of two cousins: Reverend James Lalachal Green and younger Horace Thomas Cross.

Keenan's surrealistic writing style uses saints, sinners, and sorcerers to share in the storytelling-the supernatural mixing with the mundane works so effectively that, at times, the reader will have difficulty distinguishing reality from fantasy. This is particularly true in the telling of Horace's story. Whether it is the influences of the Old Testament, J.R.R. Tolkien, or Marvel Comics, the 16-year-old Horace hears the voice of "the demon" he has conjured by using a potion consisting of cat's urine, the whole head of a hummingbird, the stale breath of a hag three-score and ten, and the ground tooth of a leviathan-or reasonable facsimile thereof. That demon takes Horace and the reader back for a closer look at those turning points in the boy's coming of age as a man-loving man in a society where "Ife the way Horace want, it ain't condoned, you know what I mean?"

Widower Jimmy Green's story unfolds through memories of his experiences with his well-bred, red bone wife, Anne. While Jimmy's character is used to add a more realistic narrative voice to illuminate the inner workings of the Cross family and to chronicle the events of Horace's tortured life, there are also glimpses of his own unresolved issues regarding his sexuality and his reasons for entering the ministry.

In a scene where Horace confronts his cousin after Sunday service to discuss his fear that he may indeed be irrevocably homosexual, Jimmy responds by telling him, "Horace, we've all done a little..you know..experimenting. It's part of growing up." But, in the same conversation, he cautions Horace, "You're normal. Trust me. These..feelings..will go away. Just don't give into them. Pray. Ask God to give you the strength and in

no time.."

Horace becomes more conflicted when he begins dating girls. Kenan offers, "Gracie Mae Mayfield became his steady. He even had sex with her a few times." Yet, Horace's long-standing attraction to Gideon Stone, the pre-pubescent class sissy who in adolescence grows into an intellectual with a well-defined frame, does not dissipate regardless of his prayers. It is to Gideon that Horace "writes about twenty-three letters" drafts actually, before finally finding a suitable way to tell him that he loves him-if, in fact, there is a suitable way in this society for one teenage boy to tell another that he loves him. Thankfully, Gideon is of the same mindset and, for a time at least, the two boys develop a special friendship. But later, in a scene set in the boys locker room of South York County High School, Gideon makes a sexual advance to Horace-

who since has decided that, indeed, the Lord does mind-only to find himself nursing a busted lip. This is unfortunate since Gideon is the only Black man with whom Horace has sex at any point in the novel.

Another Black man catches Horace's attention later when he takes a summer job at the local theatre. Everett Church Harrington IV-the son of a Beacon Hill law professor father and a mother of D.C. Black blue-blood fame-is the young caramel-colored actor whom Horace admires from the wings. Everett will have no part of Horace and so, Horace finds a casual sex partner, Antonio Santangelo, another actor who is part Italian, part Puerto Rican, and will have to suffice, I suppose, for an authentic man of color. In the meantime, Everett runs off

(Continued on page 2)



WOOW PERSONALITY, MS. JOY BROWN (C) IS FLANKED BY AREA Air Force Recruiters recently. While Ms. Brown does "Aim High", we really don't want to lose her-not even to the Air Force.

Staff photo: Jim Rouse

Darkroom back in business with passionate readings

The hot August air bore down with the suffocating weight of unnecessary bedclothes until the Darkroom reading began.

Randall Kenan practically acted out a scene from his newly published novel "A Visitation of Spirits," his energetic reading bringing alive the querulous, aged North Carolinians picking over bones of contention nearly as old as they are.

It is an intense family argument that winds down when a 92-year-old's fury is unexpectedly quelled by her introduction to a videogame.

The whirl of images is just as absorbing in Reginald Martin's writing, as he reads a chapter from an unpublished novel about a modern-day treasure search, "Everybody Knows What Time It Is." Three chapters of it have been published in journals.

The room alternately breaks up with laughter, then quiets in sympathy for mankind's plight, only to be tickled once again at foibles.

He reads of Zip fending off the advances of a prostitute at the bus station, described as an exemplar "Of glamorous, urban mass transit in the South...where they by-

products of urban poverty....try to figure out what had gone wrong with their lives, and until they found out, they'd bug the shit out of other people to pass the time.

"We got to be cool," Zip comments to his pal Dennis. "You look around this terminal. This is what happens to poor people in America - especially black people."

As these witty, engrossing stories take hold of their listeners' imagination, the room becomes less stifling. The air miraculously lightens. It stirs, at moments virtually crackles.

Aaaah, writers who are word magicians. Truly, these African-American authors are new voices to be harkened to.

Abubble with good will toward humankind, Kenan and Martin's writing has a kinetic force, a momentum that evolves from the relationships of the characters they have so tenderly detailed.

Martin is also a poet. There were wet eyes at the Darkroom as he read from verse he'd written: "After Reading Cecil Brown's Thoughts About His Grandmother."

Raised by his great-grand-

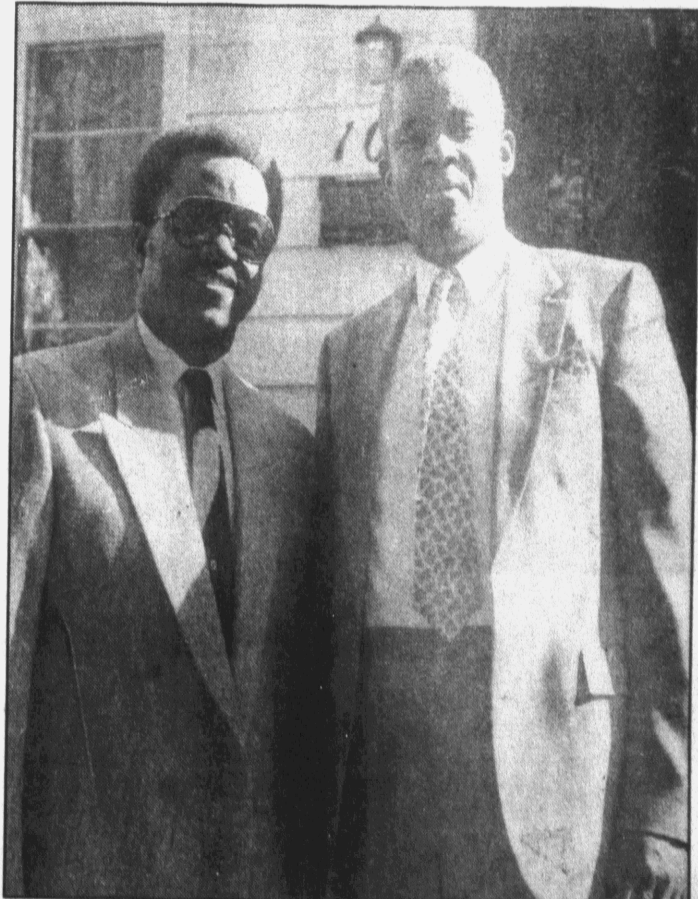
mother, great-grandfather, and great-great-grandmother in the South, Martin writes, "And I wanted to tell you to send me a new copy cause I smeared...cried on the part about god letting her into heaven cause she was the best, cried cause I knew what you meant cause I had been loved by Lucinda, Carrie, and Les."

A literary critic as well, Martin, 33, author of "Ishmael Reed & The New Black Aesthetic Critics," described briefly his interest in cross-genre writing. This theory asks a writer to incorporate into forms he may demean but which "pay the bills," the qualities "from the things he respects, poetry or whatever, endemic to them both," and vice versa.

A visiting professor of Afro-American literature and expository writing at Harvard University this summer, he soon begins a Ford Foundation Fellowship award to complete books on canonicity, cross-genre writing, and an annotated bibliography of black aesthetic critics.

Randall Kenan has come to read at the Darkroom in Cambridge

(Continued on page 4)



BROTHER CALVIN "SLACK" GATLIN IS SHOWN here with lifetime friend, Dr. Tommy Harris. Mr. Gatlin's family and friends mourned his passing last week. Certainly, "Slack" will be missed by all who knew him.

From Page 1

Randall Kenan

with Edward, the blue-eyed Georgian lead, after reading Horace for points in response to his ill-fated declaration of love. Romantically speaking, it's a sorry state of affairs for black gay men in fiction as well as real life these days.

But never mind romance, let's look at Horace's central support network. Horace's great-aunt Jonnie Mae and his mother's sisters, Rachel, Rebecca, and Ruthester, are none too pleased to find the young man hanging around with a group of jet-set white boys—the sons of doctors, lawyers, and businessmen—who are, in their own way, outcasts in the Tims Creek community. Horace's childhood buddy, Hohn Anthony, poses the question, "We ain't good enough

for you these days?" But Horace "ignored the criticisms of his friends, the labels that were being placed on him. Oreo. Graybery. He refused to notice how other blacks stopped talking to him."

Horace's introducing his newly pierced ear at Thanksgiving dinner doesn't go over well at all. This gesture is seen by the family as disrespectful and stupid to boot. Everybody has something to say about it except for Jimmy, who doesn't seem to agree that there is any harm in Horace putting a hole in his head, but can't get a word in edgewise. But we don't have to suffer the stereotype of the castrating Black matriarchy because, in fact, it is grandfather Ezekial Cross who eventually puts his foot

down and Horace out of the house, forcing him to make a choice between his solid Black southern roots and the presumed appeal of

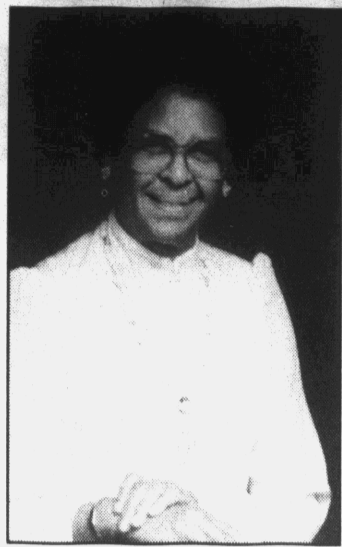
white society.

It all becomes enough to cause Horace to place a shotgun between his forehead and call it quite an un-

bearable day. The reader is left with another example of tragic Black faggot fiction of the Larry Duplechan genre—excellent writ-

ing, questionable sexual and racial politics—hopelessly wondering if we will ever read the story of Black men loving Black men.

from the desk of Mrs. Beatrice Maye



BEATRICE MAYE

To the editor,

The school year has begun. Three important gifts to share with your children are these: 1. The first gift is that of a happy home and the underlined word here is happy. Homes should be a haven to which children gladly return, rather than a prison from which they yearn to escape. Parents are 98 percent re-

sponsible for creating that happiness. Out of these ingredients comes a happy home.

2. The second gift comes right out of this. It is your gift to your child of self-esteem. You raise that child in such a way that he believes he is of value. You speak to her and share with her in such a way that she believes down deep that she is lovable and capable - a child of God's spirit in her!

3. And the third gift: Personal example. You can take all of your words about what you think is important, all your rules and they do need and expect rules, all your instructions and guidelines and scoldings and put them on one side of a scale and the whole collections far outweighed by one act the child sees you doing. Personal example is the bottom line of parental strategy. The toughest problems some children face are those of learning good manners without ever seeing any, learning to be good citizens, respecting law and order, without guns and weapons, good church men and women with character, morals and values, good husbands and wives, without the benefit of

personal example from mom and dad. Teachers would see a difference when they come to school. (Mrs.) Beatrice Maye

Discipline in the Schools Lack of discipline is the No. 1 problem in the schools according to John Rosemond in his article, Sunday, October 1, 1995, The Daily Reflector.

The problem doesn't rest with the administrators, teachers or school board, but with parents, which means it comes directly from the homes. They are a matter of parents who send children to school without discipline it takes to dig in and get an education; parents who overindulge and undercorrect; parents who neither indulge nor correct; parents who let the TV sets run day and night and rarely read anything more than the morning paper; parents who will not give total, 100 percent support to teachers disciplinary efforts; parents who expect schools to do what they themselves have been too lazy or busy to do - namely, teach their children the Three R's of respect, responsibility and resourcefulness.

is how our fellow creatures will remember us.

AFFAIRS: Before you consider having an affair, ask yourself these questions: Could I handle the guilt and the constant deception? How would my husband/wife react if he/she found out? How would it affect our children?

TRUE FRIENDS: It often takes a crisis to find out who your true friends are - but not always. Caring gestures are the cement that holds friendships together. They can be as simple as a birthday card or a checkup phone call.

This is the beginning of a new day. God has given me this day to use as I will. I can waste it or use it for good. What I do today is important, because I'm exchanging a day of my life for it. When tomorrow comes, this day will be gone forever, leaving something I have traded for it. I want it to be gain, not loss; good, not evil, success, not failure; in order that I shall not regret the price I paid for it.

PEACE: Nothing can bring you peace but yourself. Ralph Emerson How often we wait for someone else to make us happy. If only our husbands would help more, our kids would listen, or the boss would stop picking on me... But when we turn inward and begin to accept ourselves and our lives exactly as they are, we find a peace that can't be shaken by the world around us. Go the extra mile. It's never crowded.

MAKE EVERY DAY A HAPPY DAY

1. Walk a mile a day. It's the best all-around exercise going and will release some of your tension.
2. Be slow to anger. Speak with a gentle tongue.
3. Eat a good breakfast. It will improve your day, your week, your health.
4. Let rumors die. A rumor wounds three people: the one who passed it, the one who listens to it and the one about whom it is said.
5. Count your blessings.
6. Make one new friend - in your church, on your block - whom you have noticed out of the corner of your eye.
7. Cultivate compassion. "It is the root of love and kindness and righteousness; and it alone brings us to the doing of good deeds without ulterior motives".
8. Put your finances in order.
9. Discard nonessentials: people and things. Review your relationships. End bad ones; more important, improve good ones.

The Minority Voice Inc.
 WOOW P.O. Box 8361
 310 Evans St. Mall, Greenville, NC 27835
 919-757-0365 / Fax: 919-757-1793
 WTOW P.O. Box 39, 903 Hackney Ave. Washington NC

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Community News

Gumber joins E.D.D.C. Inc. in Greenville

Dr. Gumber has joined E.D.D.C., Inc. in Gastroenterology. He joined us from Boston, MA, where he received his G.I. Fellowship train-

ing at Beth Israel Hospital, a teaching-hospital of Harvard Medical School. His training is comprehensive in the field of digestive dis-

eases which include problems of the esophagus (swallowing mechanism), stomach, intestines, liver and the pancreas. He performs and interprets all procedures needed for diagnosis and treatment in this field. His special interests include inflammatory bowel disease and hepatitis.

Dr. Gumber received his MD from the University of Massachusetts and subsequently trained in Internal Medicine at Boston University School of Medicine. In addition, he has also performed both basic and clinical research and published several papers in international journals.

VOTE

Tony P. Moore
Winterville Town Alderman

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Vernon begins working with E.D.D.C. Inc.

Dr. Vernon obtained a BS in Zoology with minor in Chemistry, Summa Cum Laude, from Howard University, Washington, DC in 1986. He also performed valuable research in the Department of Chemistry. He went on to Medical School at the same institution in 1986 also, and was awarded the MD degree in 1990, receiving various honors during that time.

Dr. Vernon completed his internship and residency as an outstanding resident in the Department of Internal Medicine in 1993. A Gastroenterology Fellowship followed and completed in 1995 all at Howard University Hospital, Washington, DC. While pursuing his clinical work, Dr. Vernon was able to publish work on Helicobacter Pylori, an infection important in ulcer formation and cancer of the gastrointestinal tract, and he also was co-leader of a Crohn's and Colitis patient support group. Dr. Vernon is American Board of Internal Medicine certified.

Dr. Vernon's special interests in the field of Gastroenterology include irritable bowel syndrome (spastic colon), Helicobacter Pylori stomach infection, gastroesophageal reflux disease, and liver diseases including viral hepatitis.

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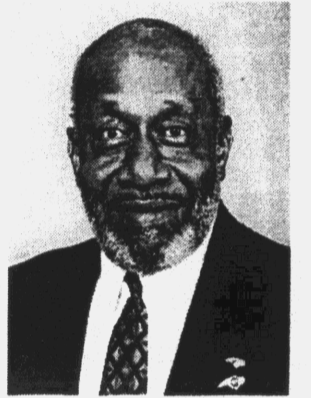
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The National Library of Poetry has announced that \$24,000 in prizes will be awarded this year to over 250 poets in the North American Open Poetry Contest. The deadline for the contest is September 30, 1995. The contest is open to everyone and entry is FREE.

Any poet, whether previously published or not, can be a winner. Every poem entered also has a chance to be published in a deluxe, hardbound anthology.

To enter, send ONE original poem, any subject and any style, to The National Library of Poetry, 11419 Cronridge Dr., PO Box 704-1985, Owings Mills, MD 21117. The poem should be no more than 20 lines, and the poet's name and address should appear on the top of the page. Entries must be post-marked by September 30, 1995. A new contest opens October 1, 1995.

The National Library of Poetry, founded in 1982, is the largest poetry organization in the world.



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Gross Monthly Income				
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Years With Present Employer				
Under 1 yr 0	1-3 yrs 1	4-6 yrs 2	7-10 yrs 4	Over 10 yrs 5
Years With Previous Employer				
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Former executive seeks N.C. Treasurer's Post

Kemper Financial Services, Inc. (KFS) announced today that Michael L. Weisel has left the firm to campaign for the office of State Treasurer in North Carolina. Weisel, a former vice president and portfolio manager, will compete in the state's primary election in May 1996. He is a resident of Raleigh, North Carolina.

"Michael has been a tremendous asset for us," said Jack Neal, president and chief operating officer of KFS. "His sound risk assessment skills, knowledge of financial markets, and transactional abilities have contributed to our success. We wish him well in his new quest."

Weisel joined Kemper Financial in 1990 as a vice president and portfolio manager. Prior to joining KFS, he was a vice president and investment manager at Wells Fargo Bank in the pension fund advisory group.

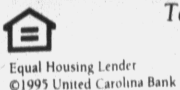
Kemper Financial Services is one of the nation's largest money managers. Together with its affiliates, KFS has more than \$63 billion in assets under management. It is a subsidiary of Kemper Corporation (NYSE: KEM), a holding company with operations in asset management and life insurance.

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From Page 1

from New York on the very eve of the publication of his novel, an event he says makes him at once "nervous, excited, fearful, thrilled even."

At 26, the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill graduate has been working in publishing for the past five years, "so I know all the things that can go wrong."

The assistant editor at Alfred

A. Knopf says of his Grove Press deal, however, "they've been no mess ups yet—it's been a brilliant tap dance."

But he adds, "I know the majority of novels sell poorly. A first novel should be seen as an opportunity merely to go through the process, a beginning, not to be considered as anything else."

"My expectations are not that

Darkroom

high," he says, "but I hope it won't be a total disaster."

He was heartened by word that the initial 8,500 copies have already been "back-ordered," meaning more copies will be printed.

Still, he jokes that a vice president in advertising he admires, "told me at a party having heard about the back-order, 'Too bad, it's all over for you. Your first is supposed to be a disaster.'"

A sophisticated piece of writing utterly without the awkwardness of many first efforts, "A Visitation of Spirits" is Kenan's first published work, "but much before it went unpublished and was unpublishable," he says.

"I wrote my first novel in high school. No one read it. Nor would I wish that horror on a reader."

Eight years ago Kenan, determined to become a writer, changing his major in college from physics to English. "I still admire sci-

ence," he says, "but I had better aptitudes in other areas and at best would have been a mediocre physicist."

He adds that there's "no secret" to writing well.

"You have to learn to listen to

what you see," he continues, going on to decode the cryptic advice.

"Writing is an unnatural process. God did not make man to sit in rooms and scribble on paper. The challenge is to learn how to translate multidimensional objects

into words. "It requires an intoxication with words," he says. "It's as Auden says about who has the heart of a poet, the man who loves to hear what words will say to him."

Several sites to offer free screening for depression during National Depression Screening Day

Mental health professionals will offer local residents the opportunity to learn about the signs and symptoms of depression and to participate in a free screening as part of National Depression Screening Day, Thursday, October 5, 1995. The free program will be held at the following locations: Carolina East Mall - 12 - 8 pm, East Carolina University - 10 - 6 pm, GHA Cultural/Recreation Center-Moyewood - 4 - 8 pm, Mental Health Association 12 - 8 pm (phone in only - 752-7448), Pitt Community College - 9 - 5 pm, and the Plaza Mall - 12 - 8 pm.

National Depression Screening Day, held each year during Mental Illness Awareness Week, was developed by Harvard psychiatrist Dr. Douglas Jacobs. Last year, more than 82,000 people attended screening at 2,000 sites nationwide. National Depression Screening Day inaugurated the concept of screening for a mental illness, when it began five years ago.

Participants at the above listed Depression Screening locations will hear a brief talk on the causes, symptoms, and treatments of depression followed by a short video.

Individuals will complete an anonymous written screening test for depression and have the opportunity to discuss the results with a mental health professional.

Depression strikes more than 17 million Americans each year, according to figures from the National Institute of Mental Health. Fewer than half of them, however, actually seek treatment even though treatment can help 80 percent of those affected.

"We hope that this nationwide effort to provide mental health screening for depression will educate the public about the signs and symptoms of depression and encourage those who may be vulnerable to seek evaluation and treatment," said National Depression Screening Day Project Director, Dr. Douglas Jacobs.

National Depression Screening Day is sponsored on the national level by the American Psychiatric Assn., National Institute of Mental Health, Harvard Medical School Psychiatry Dept., National Mental Health Assn., National Depressive and Manic-Depressive Assn., AARP, National Alliance for the Mentally 111, and McLean

Hospital. Supporters include the American Psychiatric Foundation, the American Assn. of Suicidology, the National Assn. of Psychiatric Health Systems, the American Assn. of General Hospital Psychiatrists, the American Hospital Assn. Psychiatric Services Section, Employee Assistance Professionals Assn., and Wellness Councils for America. In addition, Eli Lilly and Co. has provided a generous educational grant.

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Pastor of the year

The Old Eastern Missionary Baptist Association, which is made up of sixty-seven churches in Eastern North Carolina, held its' one hundred and thirtieth session on September 29-October 1, at the Mount Shiloh Missionary Baptist Church in Williamston. Dr. James

M. Moore, Jr., is the moderator. An awards banquet was held Friday night at the Holiday Inn in Williamston. The keynote speaker was Dr. John D. Fuller, vice president, at large of the General Baptist State Convention of Raleigh. Awards were presented to a

number of members for their services. The Reverend A.C. Batchelor, pastor of the Phillippi Missionary Baptist Church and administrator for the Child Care Center of Simpson, was awarded the Pastor of the Year award for services rendered for the betterment of mankind.

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Ray Craft Wanda Hager

Local woman rises to bishop position

The Body of Christ Unlimited Outreach Ministries announces

the installation of its new bishop Stephanie Winfield.

throughout the United States.

Miss Winfield is a member of the Coastal Carolina Gospel Music Workshop of America and N.C. Act, a drama school in Pitt County under the direction of Sandra Jones. Miss Winfield also has toured the South with the play "A Good Man is Hard to Find." She also performed in the nation's capital during Congresswoman Eva Clayton's swearing-in ceremony.

"To God be the glory, and with His help, the Body of Christ Unlimited Outreach Ministries will be going all the way," Miss Winfield said.

Statement by the president

All Americans agree that we must protect the lives and future health of our children. The bipartisan "Commitment to Our Children"—in support of this Administration's efforts to reduce children's smoking or use of smokeless tobacco products—shows just how deep that sentiment runs through our country. The Representatives and Senators who stood up today for our children deserve the nation's thanks. These Democrats and Republicans showed that this is not about partisan politics; it is about doing the right thing for our children and families. Public health leaders, children and family advocates and elected state and local officials from across the nation have also pledged to support our efforts.

Each day, three thousand young people become regular smokers. Nearly 1,000 of them will die early from smoking-related diseases. We must reduce children's access to tobacco products and limit the advertising and promotions that tell our children it is cool or glamorous to smoke, but do not tell them about the disease and death that also come with smoking. The stakes are too high not to act.

Obituary

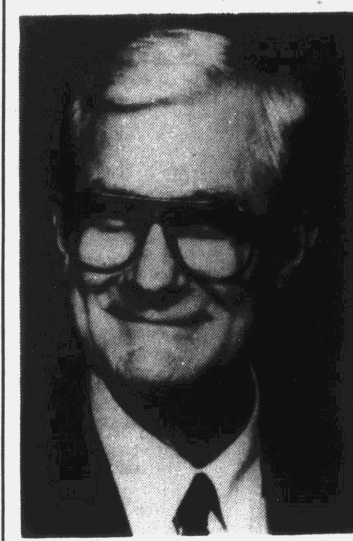
CALVIN H. GATLIN

Mr. Calvin Henry "Slack" Gatlin, 55, of Greenville, died Friday, September 29 in Pitt County Memorial Hospital.

Funeral services were held Wednesday, October 4th at 3:00 p.m. at Sycamore Hill Baptist Church. Burial followed in the Brown Hill Cemetery.

Mr. Gatlin was a Greenville native and a member of Sycamore Baptist church where he served on the Senior Usher Board. He was employed with the Pitt County School system and was a vocational instructor and Assistant Basketball Coach at North Pitt High School. He was a member of the National Masonry Instructors Association, and the NC Masonry Association, Sertoma, Mt. Herman Masonic Lodge #35 and GIHS/Eppes National and Local chapters.

Surviving: his wife, Barbara Barghen-Williams Gatlin; son, Keith Gatlin of Alexandria, Va; daughters, Tiffany Nichole Branch of Butner and Eleggra Gatlin of Greenville; step-sons, Cortez and Jeffrey Williams of Knightdale; step-daughter, Felecia M. Williams of Greenville; mother, Carrie Lee Gatlin of Greenville; brothers, Eddie Gatlin, Walter Earl Gatlin, Charles Douglas Gatlin, Reginald Gatlin all of Greenville, John Gatlin of Tucson, Arizona; sisters, Lucille Hines, Ellis Brown, Caldonia Norfleet, Marjorie Gatlin, Mary Gatlin and Allie Gatlin of Greenville, and Janice Crawford of Newport News, Va.; 5 grandchildren



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2	2	2	1	1	2

QUIZ:

Dependents					
One	Two	Three	Four	Five or More	
2	2	2	1	1	

Residence					
With Parents	Rent Furnished	Rent Unfurnished	Own Mortgage	Own Clear	
1	2	3	4	5	

Years at Present Address					
Under 2 yrs.	2-4 yrs.	5-8 yrs.	9-14 yrs.	15 yrs. or more	
1	2	3	4	5	

Gross Monthly Income					
\$1,000-1,500	\$1,501-2,000	\$2,001-2,700	\$2,701-3,500	Over \$3,500	
3	4	5	6	7	

Years With Present Employer					
Under 2 yrs.	2-3 yrs.	4-6 yrs.	7-10 yrs.	Over 10 yrs.	
1	3	4	5	6	

Years With Previous Employer					
Under 1 yr.	1-3 yrs.	4-6 yrs.	7-10 yrs.	Over 10 yrs.	
0	1	2	4	5	

% Monthly Income Remaining (After monthly obligations)					
Less than 10%	10% to 24%	25% to 32%	33% to 49%	Over 50%	
1	2	3	4	5	

Bonus Points (Circle all that apply)					
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NOTICE OF MUNICIPAL ELECTION IN THE CITY OF GREENVILLE ON NOVEMBER 7, 1995

Pursuant to G. S. 163-33(8) NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that a municipal election will be conducted in the City of Greenville, Pitt County, North Carolina to elect a mayor, one at large council member who will be voted upon by all registered voters within the city and one (1) council member from each of five districts to be voted upon within each district. The mayor, at large council member, and district council members are elected for two year terms. The candidate receiving the highest number of votes for mayor will be elected. The candidate for the at-large seat receiving the highest number of votes will be elected. The candidate receiving the highest number of votes in each of the five council districts will be elected. The polls will be open for voting on November 7, 1995 from 6:30 a.m. to 7:30 p.m. The voting places in the City of Greenville are as follows:

Greenville # 1	VFW Hut
Greenville # 2	Merged with & designated as #8 in December, 1974
Greenville # 3	West Greenville Recreation Center
Greenville # 4	American Legion Post # 160
Greenville # 5	American Legion Building, St Andrews Drive
Greenville # 6	Fifth Street Fire Station
Greenville # 7	Elm Street Park Gym
Greenville # 8	Willis Building, Reade Street
Greenville # 9	Hooker Memorial Church
Greenville # 10	Oakmont Baptist Church
Greenville # 11	First Free Will Baptist Church
Greenville # 12	Faith & Victory Church
Belvoir	Belvoir Fire Station
Pactolus	Pactolus Fire Station

Registration facilities and polling places in most election precincts are now physically accessible to the elderly and handicapped. In those instances where polling places cannot be made accessible, elderly and handicapped voters may vote ballots at curbside or request assignment to an accessible facility for the purpose of voting.

Any elderly or handicapped voter is entitled to assistance in casting votes from the qualified person of his or her choice. The chief judge, judges, and other election officials appointed by the Pitt County Board of Elections will serve as election officers for said election.

A list of the registered voters residing within Greenville and newly annexed territory will be available for public inspection in the Elections office, 201 East Second Street, Greenville, during normal business hours and ending Monday, November 6, 1995. Registered voters must reside within the City of Greenville to be eligible to vote in said municipal election. Qualified residents of the Town of Greenville who are not registered to vote must register on or before October 13, 1995 to be eligible to vote in this municipal election. Any registered voter who has moved from the address on his/her registration record must notify the Elections Office of that change on or before October 13, 1995. Qualified individuals may register to vote at the Pitt County Board of Elections office located at 201 E. Second St., Greenville, Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. during office hours, at other public agencies, public libraries, or by mail. Mail-in voter registration forms are available upon request from the Elections office. Questions concerning voter registration, location of polling places, and other election matters should be directed to the Elections office at telephone 830-4121. Challenges may be made during office hours.

Qualified registered voters who reside in the City of Greenville may apply for absentee ballots to be mailed beginning Monday, September 18, 1995. The deadline for applying for absentee ballots to be mailed is Tuesday, October 31, 1995 at 5 p.m. Voters may apply in person for "One-Stop" absentee ballots beginning Monday, October 16, 1995. The deadline for applying for One-Stop absentee ballots is Friday, November 3, 1995 at 5 p.m. Voters who are sick or disabled may apply for absentee ballots until Monday, November 6, 1995 at 5:00 pm. No notarization or medical certification is required of a handicapped voter with respect to an absentee ballot or application such ballot. All absentee ballots must be returned by Monday, November 6, 1995 at 5:00 pm in order to be counted pursuant to G. S. 163-227(2) and G. S. 163-232. Voters may inquire as to absentee voting procedures by contacting the Board of Elections.

Patricia C. Dunn, Chairman
Pitt County Board of Elections

Youth Speaks Out

The Good News Gazette

"You don't have to be in a church for the Holy Spirit to move."

On September 8 and 9, there was a youth revival featuring Rev. Damion Royal from New Bern on Friday night, and a Christian rapper Marty Grace from New York City. This revival was held at the Roxy, downtown Greenville, and sponsored by WOOW radio station. Saturday night, we partied for Jesus with Marty Grace, ECU steppers, and no other than the Joy 1340 Crusade Choir. We sang, rapped, and danced for Jesus. We shouted, we praised God, we lifted up holy hands, we just had a ball. The Holy Spirit came like a "mighty rushing wind." Everybody was blessed in some way or another. Someone got saved, we prayed for people, and everybody was praising God, young people and adults. Testimonies were given. What I'm saying is you don't have to be in a church for the Holy Spirit to move. Wherever you go the Holy Spirit is with you, so I encourage you to move when the Holy Spirit moves. I say again, the Holy Spirit don't just move in a church.

Aida Taylor
19-year-old Child of God
Joy 1340 Crusade
Choir member

"God is before us, who can be against us"

God had done a lot of things for me. He's blessed me with two hands, two feet, and a sound mind. I may not have all my health and strength, but I'm still here. All I want to say is that the world is coming to an end. The people of the world today have turned their back on the word of God. They say God has turned his back on them by God said "I will not leave nor forsake you." There's so many things to hold us back from the Lord. Such as temptation for example: that's the Devil's job. The devil tempts us where we are weak. He wants us to turn away from God and go to hell because he has to go.

Jesus overcame temptation, if we want to be like Jesus, we have to overcome temptation. Don't give up, God is still there. He won't never leave you, all you have to do is, read the word, pray every night and believe in him.

Kim Randolph
16-year-old Child of God
Phillipi Church of Christ

"A Message"

Hi, my name is Fabian Deloatch. I am 11 years of age, but the good thing about it is I'm a witness for Christ. Kids and youth, I have a message for you. Walk with God, have faith, and trust in the Lord. Most of all lets do away with the hatred.

Fabian Deloatch
11-year-old Child of God
Phillipi Church of Christ

"Live the way God made you"

You should live the way God made you, that's male or female. In the time of Adam and Eve, God made man and woman, not "Steven's." Everyone has their own opinion on the way to live their life, but homosexuality is of the devil not of God. God didn't make woman to be with another woman, or man to be with another man, but he ordained marriage, we are to marry the opposite sex, not the same sex. So live the way God made you.

Jackie Daniels
17-year-old Child of God
Joy 1340 Crusade Choir
Member

"Appeal to our youth in Christ"

1. Be all that you can be in Christ.
2. Stand for what right in Christ.
3. Don't be fearful of changes from tradition to Christ ways it will profit you.
4. God looks at the heart before he look at ward appear.
5. Do not judge unless you plan to be judge for God is the high court, and he only can dismiss any case.
6. Know who you are in Christ, don't let someone tell you.
7. Don't be afraid of God ask him your questions.
8. Appreciate God. Even when things are not going your way (smile).
9. Finally, you are an ambassador so please conduct your self as one, someone may come to Christ. Praise the Lord.


Sis. Beverly Strong
Joy 1340 Crusade Choir
Member
Phillipi Church of Christ

"Distance Learning Technology: How Can You Benefit?"

The World Class Strategies Network, sponsored by ECU's Center for Applied Technology, hosted a meeting on September 27th from 2-4 p.m. at the Willis Building in downtown Greenville. Dr. Barry DuVall, from the ECU School of Industry & Technology, facilitated and demonstrated distance learning technology.

Dr. DuVall is an expert in the field of teaching and instruction through the use of interactive television, interactive video networking, electronic data interchange modules, and e-mail. He enlightened the group on features and benefits surrounding the concept of learning at a distance. He discussed how an individual or company can utilize distance learning methodologies.

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RE-ELECT NANCY JENKINS MAYOR

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November 7, 1995



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It's all relative

Randall Kenan is a man who can tell a waiter "I'll eschew the appetizer" and write about hog killings so vividly that his readers will never feel the same toward him again.

His first novel "A Visitation of Spirits" was published last month amid a fair amount of acclaim and the University of North Carolina alum has returned to Chapel Hill this week to sign books and give readings. He appears to be taking it all in stride.

Certainly anyone who says "eschew" to a waiter would.

Set in a tiny Eastern North Carolina town called Tims Creek, Mr. Kenan's novel is full of allusive language-biblical, demonic, literary-and jarringly clear descriptions of Southern country life.

In the hog passage he writes: "Then someone will take a great silver knife and make a thin true line down the belly of the beast, from the rectum to the top of its throat. He will make an incision at the top and with a wet and ripping sound like the bursting of a watermelon, the creature will be split clear in two, its delicate organs spilling down like vomit, the fine shiny sacs waiting there to be cut loose, one by one."

And his descriptions of aunts are particularly clear and evocative: "Rachel, Rebecca, Ruthester. His Aunt racehl was his favorite. Her skin was cinnamon and ginger. She had a rebellious spirit, uncensored and harsh. Whatever came to her mind, she said; whatever she felt, she expressed. She was the youngest..."

Throughout the book two plots are simultaneously woven: One story line is about a black homosexual teen, Horace, who is tortured by real and imaginary demons. The other concerns a crisp day in December when James, a preacher, James takes his Aunt Ruth and Uncle Zeke to Fayetteville to visit Aunt Ruth's dying husband.

It might be said that Mr. Kenan owes much to aunts, of which in reality and in his novel, he seems to have plenty.

Mr. Kenan was raised by his Aunt Mary Kenan Hall, to whom he has dedicated his novel—"to one who made a way out of no way"—and whom he calls "my mother."

Although born in Brooklyn, N.Y., Mr. Kenan was sent to North Carolina at an early age to live with his grandfather.

At any rate, he was to have been raised by his grandfather. But his Aunt Mary, like many of his female characters, knew what she wanted and acted upon it swiftly and decisively: One weekend he went to visit Aunt Mary. Aunt Mary kept him.

His grandfather and grandmother, who were "busy with their dry cleaning business," eventually acquiesced—and there he stayed, on his Aunt Mary's farm.

Hence the hogs. At any rate, Mr. Kenan, 26, grew up a wonderfully thoughtful young man in both senses of the word. He apologizes profusely for having been only minutes late, and expounds about racism, religion and plot and character—all over a plate of baked grouper and okra at Crook's Corner.

"One thing that strikes me now is the way the races interact," he says. "It is a subtle, complex and key dynamic that we need to understand. At this point in our country it is vital that we understand what we are doing. It seems if we don't there would be only two things to do: Exterminate all blacks or for all blacks to rise up in arms. And that would be a tragedy."

And writing, he says, "is always tension between character and plot. It begins with a question. To answer that question you need two more questions and it grows and grows exponentially."

Then he gives a hoot of laughter at himself and says "You've got me going tonight, must be the wine."

But he says he is not all serious—while at UNC-Chapel Hill he was active in the Comic Book Club, and "I guess when you go to college there's a choice, social or academic. Coming from a small town I guess I chose social. Who wouldn't?"

But that is hard to believe. In fact, when he left his hometown of Chinquapin and came to Chapel Hill he was determined to be a physics major. UNC English professor Max Steele and a stint at Oxford University set him right. "Well, really, by the time I went to Oxford it had crystallized that this was what I really wanted to do," he says.

"Actually I was going to major in physics and I had an interest in science fiction so I wound up in Max's class and he doesn't like science fiction." Mr. Kenan dropped physics as his major, graduated in December 1984—early—and "made a beeline for New York City. Well, I packed first," he says, and laughs.

Enter the second aunt who in-

fluenced him.

Before he left North Carolina, he says, he went to visit his great-aunt Erie—who has never left the state of North Carolina.

He told her he had no money and no prospects and certainly no place to stay in New York City, where he needed to go to make his fortune as a writer.

Aunt Erie, he says, "kind of sked and picked up the phone and called her sons and grandsons. She has 10, well, 10 living—she probably has more. And within 20 minutes, she didn't ask, she TOLD one that I was coming to New York and I was to stay with him in Newark. And she made sure Newark was close enough to New York."

And off Mr. Kenan went.

Once there, he was hired by Random House Publishing Co. as "An office boy in waiting," was promoted to receptionist, then assistant to vice-president and editor Ashbel Green. And in the meantime wrote a book "at night, on weekends and on trains."

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i

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Service, Parts
& Body Shop:
Mon.-Fri. 7:30am-5:30pm

OUR FAREWELL TRIBUTE TO "PAPA SLACK"

