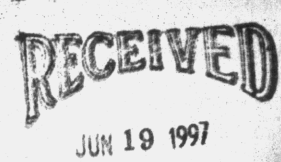
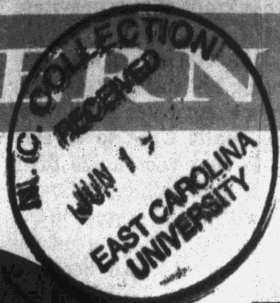


EASTERN 'NC' MINORITY VOICE



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People need responsibility. They are assuming it, but they cannot get along without it. — John Steinbeck

EASTERN NORTH CAROLINA'S MINORITY VOICE - SINCE 1981

JUNE 11 - 16, 1997

Hang in there, Betty

BY HERB BOYD
THE AMNEWS

Fire raged like a terrible theme in the life of Malcolm X, and sadly, it continues to blaze in the lives of his family and his descendants. And nowhere has this incessant fire been more tragic and ironic than in the recent flames that virtually engulfed Betty Shabazz, the matriarch of the family, placing her on the brink of death. Shabazz was rushed to the burn unit at Jacobi Hospital early Sunday morning after neighbors found her smoldering in the hallway outside her co-op apartment in Westchester County. She was still conscious, with third-degree burns over 80 percent of her body. According to the police, she mumbled something about her grandson being in the apartment. Later in the day the police arrested her grandson, Malcolm, 12, in Mt. Vernon, reportedly "reek-

ing of gasoline." He is in police custody and charged with juvenile delinquency connected with the fire. "He is a confused and frightened youngster," said Percy Sutton, the family lawyer who represented Malcolm with David Dinkins. "When he is asked about what happened, he breaks into tears. He is not emotionally disturbed as many of the reports are contending. He is a bright young man who can tell you all about his grandfather and what a great man he was." Malcolm's grandfather, Malcolm X, was about four years old when he experienced a fiery night-

mare in 1929 while his family was living in Langsing. "I remember being suddenly awake into a frightening confusion of pistol shots and shouting and smoke and flames," Malcolm recalled in his gripping autobiography. "My father had shouted and shot at the two white men who had set the fire and were running away. Our home was burning down around us." "We were lunging and bumping and tumbling all over each other trying to escape," Malcolm continued. "My mother, with the baby in her arms, just made it into the yard before the house crashed in, showering sparks. I remember we were outside in the night in our underwear, crying and yelling our heads

off. The white police and firemen came and stood around watching as the house burned down to the ground." A week before Malcolm was assassinated on February 21, 1965, the house he and Betty and the four children - Attalah, Qubilah, Gamilah and Ilyasah (the twins Malika and Maalak had not been born) - occupied in East Elmhurst was torched. The family was asleep when, at about a quarter to three on a Sunday morning, a terrifying blast awakened them. Malcolm aroused the family and with Betty's help hustled the screaming, frightened children safely out of the back door into the yard. "Someone had thrown flaming Molotov cocktail gasoline bombs through the front picture window." Malcolm later recounted, "It took the fire department an hour to extinguish the flames. Half the house was destroyed." They had no insurance.

'He is a confused and frightened youngster,'

— David Dinkins on Malcolm Shabazz, the 12-year-old accused of setting the fire



Dr. Betty Shabazz

The recent fire at Shabazz's residence in Westchester was confined to her bedroom and an adjoining hallway. This was one reason the police and fire department considered it a suspicious fire. They did not, however, suggest that it might have been a racially motivated arson, though See Betty On Page 14

Chances are slim, but not hopeless

Survival rates for these kinds of burns about 20 %

BY ELINOR TATUM

Betty Shabazz, widow of slain civil rights leader Malcolm X, is fighting for her life after sustaining burns to over 80 percent of her body in a fire that engulfed her early Sunday morning. Shabazz, 61, has fought before, but never in a fight such as this. According to Nina Johnson, a spokesperson at Jacobi Hospital, the doctors are doing everything to decrease the pain. "She is pretty bad, it's heartbreaking," said Johnson. While the hospital would not

comment on the chances for her survival in a case such as this, Johnson said that Jacobi has had patients recover from injuries of this magnitude. Dr. Roger W. Yurt, director of the Burns Medical Center at Cornell Medical Center, could not comment on the Shabazz case, but did give the Amsterdam News information on third-degree burns. Yurt said the possibility for survival of a young person in good health who suffers from burns over 80 percent of their body is approximately 20 percent, and the chances decrease to about five percent for those over 60 who are not in perfect health. In addition, Yurt said that after the first 24 hours the problem is infection, which can occur five to seven days after the injury.

There are three degrees of burns, and each degree is determined by burn depth. A first degree burn is a superficial burn such as a sunburn. In this instance the skin is red in color and can be painful. A second degree burn looks similar to the first, but the damage is severe enough to cause blistering of the skin and the pain is more intense. In a third degree burn, the skin is in a sense dead, and needs to be replaced with a patient's own skin or donor skin. The wound cannot heal on its own. Once a patient is in stable condition, surgery for skin replacement can begin, said Yurt, but, he cautioned, "They are not out of the woods until their wounds are healed." In addition, there are bound to

Blacks across country pray for her

Many 'deeply saddened' by the Shabazz tragedy

By J. ZAMGBA BROWNE
Amsterdam News Staff

Blacks from coast to coast are offering prayers and keeping their fingers crossed that Dr. Betty Shabazz, widow of Malcolm X, pulls through her current ordeal. She was burned beyond recognition early last Sunday in a blaze reportedly set by her 12-year-old grandson. State Comptroller H. Carl McCall said he was deeply saddened by the tragedy and noted her outstanding devotion to education, which he pointed out has

provided a beacon of hope and light to youngsters struggling to raise themselves up. "Dr. Shabazz has been a tower of strength and encouragement for the community, struggling through the tragedies in her life with grace and courage," he added. "She emerged from the magnificent shadow cast by the memory of her husband to be come a great New Yorker in her own right," McCall declared. The Rev. Jesse Jackson said he was confident that Shabazz will overcome. "She is a diligent laborer in civil rights, who did not allow the pain from her husband's murder to cripple her commitment to making America better," Jackson emphasized. He said he was saddened to learn of the incident leading to the injury of Shabazz, whom he de-

scribed as "a long-time friend and a long-time freedom fighter on the battlefield for justice." Myrlie Evers-Williams, board chairman of the NAACP, said she and the entire civil rights organization are sending prayers of hope and love for Shabazz and her family during this difficult time. Evers-Williams observed that Shabazz has not been given the amount of credit she deserves in shaping America's civil rights movement. "She has been a source of strength and encouragement not only to myself but to millions of Americans," Evers Williams declared. "Dr. Shabazz is the epitome of a strong woman and she was the strength and backbone behind Malcolm X throughout their lives together. We lift her up today in

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Shown above at the annual sales banquet held this year in Greenville at the Dubois Center, the president of Tara Distributors, Mr. Clement (Mr. 'C') and his mother and daughters. At the far left is the President of New Pride Distributors, Mr. Gatling and his wife and children. The product is Dirt Buster and everybody needs this product at their home or business. Keep up the good work.

Photo By Jim Rouse

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quality real estate firms in the area. Our success come from the company's emphasis on quality service, the careful recruitment of superior professionals, and continuous training for professional excellence. D. Dawson Realty opened in August of 1990 by Daniel F. Dawson. D. Dawson Realty is a full-service real estate company, working in the area of residential, commercial and investment of real estate. We sell property listed with the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) and the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban

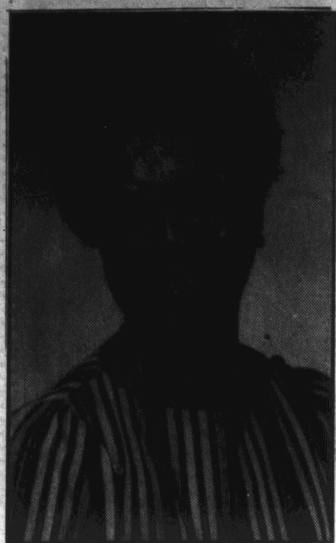
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from the desk of Mrs. Beatrice Maye

GO TO THE HEAD OF THE CLASS



Mrs. Beatrice Maye

To The Editor

Egalitarianism is not only far ahead of the rest of the world in sports, but also in politics, movies and TV, education, and every area of human achievement.

The gold, silver and bronze of popularity in America belongs to three men: Retired General Colin Powell, Masters champion Tiger Woods, who is also part Asian, and basketball sensation Michael Jordan (JET, May 19, 1997)

Alexis Herman gets Senate OK as 1st Black Labor Secretary.

Let's drop a note to our own North Carolina Representative Eva Clayton to praised her for carrying on the steady drumbeat about ending discriminating at the Agriculture Department, John H. Johnson, publisher of EBONY and

JET magazines, is among six inducted into this year's Junior Achievement National Business Hall of Fame; a Black teacher from Cincinnati was recently named the 1997 Teacher of the Year by the Council of Chief State School Officers and educational publisher Scholastic, Inc. Ms Draper was presented the Award by President Clinton during a White House ceremony in the East Room.

Our own Shekeila Harris-Parker, among five finalists who was recognized at a recent luncheon, sponsored by the Human Relations Council for the Young Citizen of the Year.

These strong makes and females provide our youth with positive role models whose diverse accomplishments demonstrate the several ways in which "excellence in leadership" is expressed.

Young folk, you are in particular, urged to evaluate and respond to problems in order to overcome these personalities I've cited and make the most of your inner potential.

Beatrice Maye

COUNTING YOUR BLESSING

Let's start counting all the good things in Greenville/Pitt County, the world, instead of lingering on the bad things - rapists and thugs walking the streets, AIDS, hate, guns, drugs and violence, sexual activity.

Some of the good things - Christ, love, true relationships, a mother's love, a father's love, friendships, Pizza, good books, ice cream, air.

Yes, there are reasons to hope. You make a difference. Make choices today that will help you succeed in the future. We're learning more about disease, technology must be mastered by knowledgeable hands for the world is changing and all of us must work harder to keep up.

Graduates, teenagers, too, get involved and strive to solve the small community problems around you, learn from your parents' mistakes, do not pollute, you know that racism is wrong, give to charity, darkness is large before you. Fortunately, so is the ambition of so many teens and graduates to shine a light on it, for hope is the anchor of the soul, the stimulus to action, and the incentive to achievement.

Grappling with GANGS

Mike Knox, a 15-year veteran of

the Houston Police Department and founding member of its first gang unit. Knox is now a national speaker and consultant on the topic of gangs.

Q. What kinds of kids gravitate to gangs?

A. Kids look for security, a sense of belonging, and social acceptance. They view themselves as failures, but they really want to be successes. So they reorganize their beliefs. In their minds, failing to succeed within the system is the key to success. What's good become bad, what's bad becomes good. For example, murder is the worst thing a person could do in our society, but in a gang, killing a rival gang member is the highest achievement.

Q. What are the latest trends in gang dress in schools?

A. Every street gang member wears the baggy look, which speaks about low self-esteem. Kids are also rolling up one pant leg, and, schools with strict dress codes, they're dying the inside of their pant pockets or shifting their belt buckles to the right or left. Bandanas are part of the ganster look, as is graffiti on clothes, and the repeated wearing of certain colors like blue, black or red.

Q. What can educators do to discourage gang activity in schools?

A. Educators, starting with elementary school teachers, need to work with parents on the discipline issue, because gangs are made up of kids, who lack self-discipline. Schools should enforce strict dress codes, conduct codes, and no-smoking ordinances. School staff should erase graffiti as soon as it appears, because it allow gangs to exchange messages.

Q. Can educators help kids get out of gangs?

A. Yes, by letting the child know he or she has safety net, parents, and the police department. The

police must inform the gang member that he'll be persecuted if he keeps it up. The parent must make sure the child changes his appearance and stops seeing gang members and that he or she is give fair, firm, and consistent discipline. Discipline is the real cure.

From NEA, November 1996 Active Worship "Enter into His gates with thanksgiving, and into His courts with praise". Psalm 100:4

It's easy to blame the pastor if we leave church feeling empty and discouraged. But he can't do all the work. We must do our share. Those who get the most out of the service are the ones who put the most into it. "Active worship requires active involvement".

Improvement: The largest room in the world is the room for improvement.

See Beatrice On Next Page

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PUBLIC NOTICE

Do you ever wonder roads are to be widened or when? What is planned for funding in public transportation or what highway intersections or railroad crossings will be improved. When our greenway trail will be extended? If you have these or similar questions, then we need you to review and comment on the Greenville Urban draft Local Transportation Improvement Program (LTIP). This urban area consists of the City of Greenville, Town of Winterville and portions of Pitt County surrounding Greenville and Winterville.

The LTIP identifies project schedules and available funds for planned improvements to out highways, bridges, railroad crossings, bicycle paths and public transportation system.

Starting June 16, 1997, the draft LTIP will be available for public review and comment. The comment period will last for 30 days until July 15, 1997. At the end of the comment period, the Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) will consider the draft LTIP for adoption and send recommendations to North Carolina Department of Transportation (NCDOT) for inclusion in the State Transportation Improvement Program (STIP).

To obtain a copy of the draft LTIP, please visit the Public Works Department of the City of Greenville at 1500 Beatty Street during regular working hours, or call the Engineering Division at (919)830-4476.

June 9, 1997.

NORTH CAROLINA

has laws requiring ALL CHILDREN to receive shots against 9 childhood diseases by their second birthday! Appointments are available: Daily M-F and some extended evening hours. Come to the Pitt County Health Center who can administer these immunizations free or see your private doctor. Call 413-1300 for an appointment at the Health Center.

Enrollment Announcement Head Start Program

Martin County Community Action, Inc. Project Head Start is now accepting applications for the 1997 Fall Enrollment for children and including children with disabilities. Eligibility is determined by HHS Income Guidelines, family needs, disabilities, and/or special conditions of the child.

Children who will be enrolled will be exposed to a broad educational curriculum that will prepare them for preschool social and educational experiences. Health, nutrition and mental health are also important factors in the development of these children. These areas are also facilitated in the daily routines of the children. Parent Involvement and other program services as mandated are required and are fully utilized by the program. Ten percent (10%) of Head Start Enrollment is identified as: "health impairment, emotional/behavior disorders, speech/language impairments, mental retardation, hearing impairment/deafness, orthopedic impairment, visual impairment/blind, learning disabilities, autism, traumatic brain injury, and other impairments for children who require special education and related services."

Head Start is a comprehensive developmental program for children ages 3-5 years old. This program is based on the premise that children share certain needs and that children from low-income families, in particular, can benefit from a program designed to meet those needs. Head Start operates nine (9) months of the year, - September through May. The centers are open Monday through Friday and the hours of operation are 8:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m. Head Start has been operating in the Martin County area since 1965, currently there are 192 children. Nine (9) classrooms are comprised 4-5 year old and one (1) classroom consists of three year old must become three by October 16th; Beaufort County has been operating since 1977 and presently serving 99 children. Five (5) classrooms of 4-5 year olds are accommodated in this county.

Pitt County originated in 1985 and serving 222 children in twelve (12) classrooms accommodating 4-5 year olds.

Funding for Martin County Community Action, Inc.

Project Head Start is received from the Administration for Children, Youth and Families Unit, Department of Health and Human Services. In order for children to qualify, they must meet the family income guidelines. Below are the guidelines.

1996 FAMILY INCOME GUIDELINES FOR HEAD START PROGRAMS

1996 FAMILY INCOME GUIDELINES FOR ALL STATES (EXCEPT ALASKA AND HAWAII), THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA AND PUERTO RICO.

Size of Family Unit	Income
1	\$7,470
2	\$10,030
3	\$12,590
4	\$15,150
5	\$17,710
6	\$20,270
7	\$22,830
8	\$25,390

For Family Units with more than 8 members, add \$2,560 for each additional member. Please contact the Family Service Worker at the Head Start center in your area:

Martin Co: North Everetts 792-5353

Pitt Co: St. Gabriel (752-9755)
Ayden (746-4298)
Farmville (753-8036)

Beaufort Co: 264 Washington (946-5632)
Aurora (322-5543)
Belhaven (943-3006)

For more information or to enroll a child, please call Ms. Teresa Greene, Social Services Coordinator or Ms. Gloristeen Mathewson, Disability Services Coordinator at (919) 792-7141 or come by the Martin County Community Action Head Start Administrative Office at 106 South Watts Street in Williamston, North Carolina.

COMMUNITY



Geta Astaw's idea of neighborhood involvement began in his home of Ethiopia, and he continues it today as a McDonald's® owner in Denver. Geta sponsors programs like the NAACP Voter Registration Drive, school book drives, and his own special free Thanksgiving Day dinner to seniors, which attracts up to 300 people a year.



Being the owners of five San Diego McDonald's, Harold and Tina Lewis have been part of the community for over 10 years. In addition to supporting local causes such as UNCF, Black Law Enforcement Network, and a drug abuse education program, the couple started the McDonald's AVAIL (African-American Visionary And Inspirational Leaders) Scholarship Program, awarding over \$125,000 in scholarships in 1996 alone to local high school seniors.



Theda Rudd's love of children and education, combined with being a successful owner of six McDonald's, keep her a busy member of the Lansing community. Not only is Theda chairing a board to open an area Ronald McDonald House, but she also volunteers time reading to and speaking with school children of all ages. Each year, she even offers three of her McDonald's employees scholarships to her alma mater, Michigan State University.

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Malcom Shabazz arraigned

Percy Sutton and David Dinkins to represent child

By Damaso REYES
Special to the AmNews

Malcolm Shabazz, grandson of Betty Shabazz, appeared before a Yonkers court on Tuesday, June 3, with formal arraignment slated for Friday, June 6, when the prosecution will present charges.

Tuesday's hearing dealt primarily with two questions: whether or not young Malcolm should be released and if the media should be present during the hearings.

Percy Sutton, along with former New York City Mayor David Dinkins, are serving as co-counsel for the Shabazz family. Malcolm was remanded in custody of the Woodside Center. The defense ini-

tially opposed the details of how Malcolm was picked up, but as the prosecution began to discuss the details of how Malcolm was picked up, Percy Sutton relented.

"On the night of June 1, Malcolm was found wandering on California Road, Mt. Vernon smelling of gasoline. He was taken to the hospital where he admitted ... " said the prosecuting attorney as Sutton stood up and objected.

"This is the worst part of it all...that the details be exposed to everyone." Sutton objected. In order to protect his client, Sutton decided not to fight the prosecution who outlined the three historical reasons for keeping Malcolm in custody: the chance that he might not return, the chance he might commit another crime, and the seriousness of the crime.

The defense also contested the

presence of the media at the hearing. The judge claimed that the case was of "great public interest." To this Sutton said, "The press has no right to be here."

After the hearing, Dinkins and Sutton spoke to the media. "It is most unusual and unfortunate that this child, and let's not forget he is just a child, is being observed by the media. We think it is morally wrong, this judge is not protecting the child."

For much of the proceedings Malcolm kept his head down and he did not speak during the hearing.

As his mother Qubilah sat next to him, they did not look at each other. Qubilah seemed visibly upset, but not angry with her son. At several intervals during the proceedings, she wiped his eyes with a tissue. When the hearing was concluded, she kissed him on the cheek as he was taken away.

Dr. Donald Ensley is appointed Vice President-Elect of AHAMD region

Donald E. Ensley, PhD, Associate professor and Chairperson of the Department of Community Health has been appointed as Vice-President-Elect to the Middle At-

lantic Region of the American Heart Association. Ensley will begin his duties on July 1, 1997 and will serve two years each, to total of six years, as Vice President-Elect, Vice President, and Immediate Past Regional Vice President.

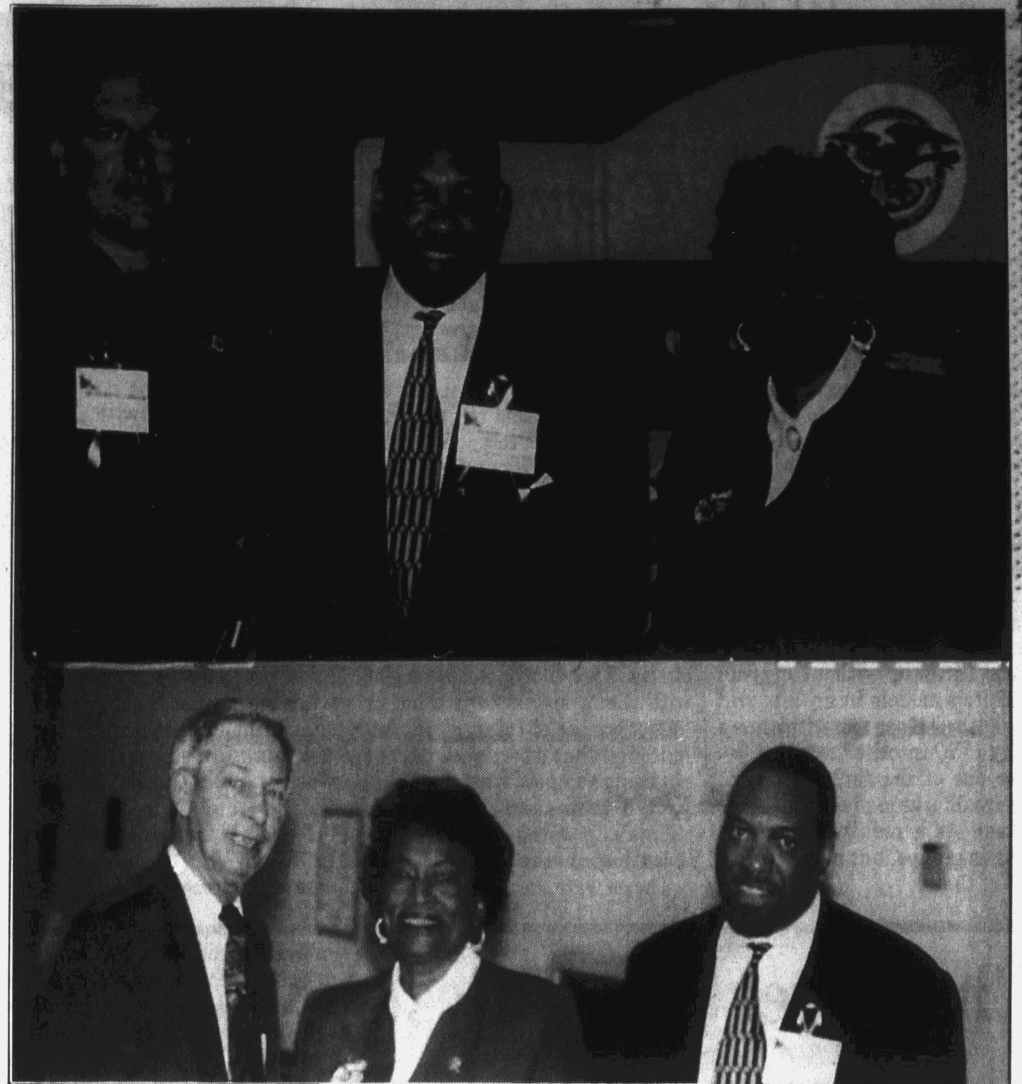
Ensley's basic roles and responsibilities will be to assist with the overall management of the region's activities, field operations, regional and national meetings, and other activities.

Ensley is the former chairper-

son of the Board of Directors of the North Carolina Affiliate, member of the CDI Committee, member of the Pitt County's AHA Division, and member of the National Women and Minorities Leadership Committee. Also, he co-chairs -- along with Senator Ed Warren -- the NC Heart Disease and Prevention Task Force.

Dr. Ensley has been an active member of the American Heart Association for approximately eight years.

Rep. Clayton's Job Fair



The Pitt Community College campus was the scene for a Job Fair sponsored by US Congresswoman Eva Clayton. The job fair was sponsored young and old and recent graduates from high school and college. To help with the job search, major corporations, from banks to industries, attended. Shown above is a Greenville Police Officer, Charles Worth, Rep. Clayton's aide, Clayton and Dr. Charles Russell, president of PCC.

Staff photo by Haywood Johnson

Beatrice

Continued From Last Page

INCREASE YOUR WORD POWER

Place the alphabet before the correct answer

1. Exacerbate
2. Duplicious
3. Perforate
4. Exude
5. Exfoliate
6. Cadence
7. Exhort
8. Tepid
9. Ocillate
10. Hidebound
11. Proffer
12. Deify
13. Aerate
14. Extricate
15. Trivial
16. Bonhomme
17. Blase
18. Pall
19. Demure
20. Debauchery
21. Perusal
22. Commusate
23. Embrocate
24. Dowdy
25. Aphrodisiac
26. Chic

- A. To sweat
- B. To idealize; glorify
- C. To offer
- D. Elegant style
- E. Cloth covering on a coffin
- F. To put lotion on your skin
- G. Inflexible; narrow minded
- H. Goddess of love
- I. Scaling or peeling off
- J. Modest or shy
- K. Bored
- L. To make a speech
- M. Lukewarm
- N. Expose to air
- O. Careful examination
- P. Unimportant
- Q. Friendly manner
- R. Unfashionable, dull
- S. Complete; perfect
- T. Make angry, irritate
- U. To urge strongly
- V. Modulation of tone voice
- W. Vitrate; waver
- X. Deceitful
- Y. To free
- Z. Indulgence for sexual pleasure.

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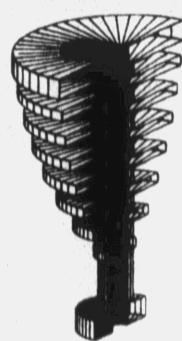
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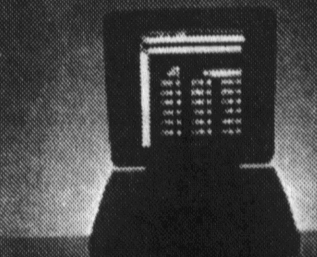
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OPINIONS

Trying to be 'Black' enough creates confusion, frustration, anger

By Melvin Bankhead III

There seem to be a lot of different meanings for what Black women consider to be a "Brother." Black men who do not meet these mysteriously elusive standards are classified as "Sell-Outs," "Uncle Toms," or as "not being Black enough." Having been raised in a virtually all-White environment I had not encountered this situation prior to college. My parents made the decision to move my sister and I to what they considered to be a better school system. I don't blame them; they were doing what they felt was best for their children. Regrettably, this means that isolated from other Blacks I grew up without any real Black role models in my life, and without social contact with others of my race. In other words, I became one of the "onlies": one of only five Blacks in my entire school system. As a result I ended up being in groups, but never truly a part of them.

Community VOICES

When I started college, I decided that this was my opportunity to finally get to know "others like me." There was only a three percent Black population at my school but that was still more than I'd had around me in my life. I tried to strike up friendships with my "Brothers" but they made it clear on more than one occasion that I was not wanted within their circles. I was not welcome to eat with them, speak with them or any other social interaction. Admittedly, that isolation hurt, but I had come to regard as normal...growing up as an outsider does that to you.

There were some very attrac-

tive Black women on campus and after getting to know some of them, I began to ask some of them out. True to my beliefs, I was polite and respectful. To my surprise, each politely declined. Not having dated in high school (or at any time prior), I was confused. Still? I saw no reason for me not being accepted. One day I surprised a lady friend with a birthday gift. Knowing of her love for stuffed animals I bought her a huge fluffy dog. Her friends were supportive of the birthday gift but her reaction made it clear I had somehow made her uncomfortable with the situation. Her best friend caught up with me later and asked rather rudely if I hadn't gotten it yet. I had no clue what she meant, so she told me that, although some of her friends did think I was attractive, I just wasn't "Black enough" for any of them to date.

I was no stranger to prejudice: in an all-White environment, it was ever-present in forms both

subtle and overt. Being rejected by my Black "Brothers" had hurt but I never thought that would be the case with my supposed "Sisters." Emotionally, I was devastated being rejected by my "Sisters" ripped away the underpinnings of the racial identity I was still struggling to form. Nothing I had ever learned had prepared me for such a betrayal.

Over the next three months I kept an eye on my Black "Brothers" thinking I would learn what it takes to be accepted. They were all athletic as was I but that was pretty much where the comparison ended. When in public many of them behaved crudely. They seemed to delight in being disrespectful toward women something my beliefs would not permit me to do.

Strangely enough these seemed to be the examples of who were considered "Black enough": The women who shunned me flocked to them. When the men cheated they stayed. If the women wanted

to date outside their race they were shunned by the "Brothers." But if a Black man wanted to date a white woman that was "different": and that so-called difference was accepted by the Black women. Needless to say, I was extremely confused by the paradox.

In time, I gave up trying to be accepted. I formed friendships with the only people that seemed more willing to accept me. Unfortunately, forming friendships and dating relationships with people outside my race only served to damn me even further in the eyes of the Black population on campus. I had ended up in a circular trap. I wanted the acceptance of other Blacks. When I was rejected by them, I was, at least outwardly, accepted by Whites. This furthered the division between me and my fellow Black students.

I would ask all Black women to examine their definitions of whom they consider to be "Black" enough. Those very rules are furthering

the problem of prejudice within our race. And these days, when I hear a Sister complain on TV about how the "White women are stealing our men," or that "Black men are just dogs" for dating outside their race, I get furious. Because I know why, in part, the situation has reached the point that it has. The "Sisters" at my school judged a man to be "Black enough" based on the level of his arrogance, his lack of respect, and his hypocrisy. The men saw this, and acted accordingly. The circle continued.

And this Black man, who offered the respect they complain they don't get, was rejected. By the way...there is a happy ending. Despite it all, I am married to a strong Black woman, and have been for going on four years now. So, I haven't lost complete faith. But I do know that there are Black women out there that don't deserve to be called "Sisters." Because they don't understand what sisterhood or brotherhood is all about.

Character or politics?

By George Wilson

From the day that William Jefferson Clinton raised his right hand and was sworn in as President of these United States, he has been targeted by his political adversaries. This President has seen his days in high school scrutinized as well as his tenure as the Governor of Arkansas. In spite of special counsels, inquiring Congressional committees, and questionable journalism on the part of some, none of the President's missteps have caused him to stumble from office or significantly in public opinion polls.

Clinton appears to be on his way to providing stimulation to an American public that has exhibited a particular delight in court cases involving the rich and famous. According to a lawsuit filed by Paula Corbin Jones in 1994, she was the victim of unwanted sexual advances from Bill Clinton. At the time of the alleged incident Clinton was Governor of Arkansas and Jones was a state employee. The suit contends that Jones was punished by lack of promotion, rude treatment from fellow employees and defamation of charac-

From CAPITAL HILL

ter. Clinton claims he doesn't recall meeting his accuser.

Since the suit was filed, lawyers for Clinton have been trying to delay any court proceedings involving the Chief Executive from occurring until his term of office is complete. The battle eventually found its way to the Supreme Court, which recently ruled that the President "can be sued for actions outside the scope of his official duties." In other words, the Supreme Court is saying "let the games begin."

Since this writer, and none of the readers, were present in the room when the alleged offense occurred, we are forced to believe either the President or Paula Jones. The final arbiters of this dispute will be the jury that will have a front row seat at the proceedings along with a probable

television audience. Clinton will have to account for his actions or the lack thereof. However, the credibility of American politicians will be viewed on the world stage for all to see.

A scenario is developing here in Washington where the President and his associates could be spending more time in hearings or courtrooms than in offices doing the nation's business. I am certain that there are many Republicans who are jumping for joy at that possibility. It seems that they want the courts to do what they couldn't accomplish at the ballot box.

I recently read an article in The New York Times which outlined some of the problems or previous inhabitants of the White House. From all appearances, that if guilty, President Clinton is part of a fairly large group which dealt outside of the realm of what could be considered ethical or moral behavior. For example, George Washington, known as the Father of this country, was also known to be the father of dozens of illegitimate children, including his own son, Alexander Hamilton. Incidentally, Hamilton was allegedly conceived during a trip that "old George" made to Barbados. Could this mean that Hamilton was a person of color? HMMMM! In addition, Washington was accused of stealing \$5,000 from the Continental Army.

Tourist season is here

By Dr. Ron Walters

I was traveling to a United Nations Conference in Antigua, a Caribbean island, the other day and when I arrived at the check-in counter at the Baltimore-Washington International Airport (BWI), I was astounded to see that the line of people getting tickets was 90 percent Black.

At first I thought that it was a club or church group going to San Juan, Puerto Rico. But, San Juan now has a modern American style airport that has become a transit point for other islands in the Caribbean. So, when our plane landed, people transferred to B° to other destinations.

I began to think about our growing affluence as a people and I was proud of that, but concerned that we looked and acted so much like the other tourists wanting to escape our troubles for a while by engaging in the mindless enjoyment of either decadent or simple pleasures. And, as such, we also contribute to the problems of the Caribbean.

Once in Antigua, at the United Nations Seminar, the delegates from countries all over the world,

From the DESK OF RON

representatives of non-self governing territories and some of us "experts" began to wrestle with the problems of non-self governing territories. We forget that some of the islands we enjoy are still colonial possessions of the United States (U.S. Virgin Islands and Puerto Rico), Great Britain (British Virgin Islands, Cayman Island, Anguilla, Montserrat, etc.), France (Martinique or Guadalupe), or The Netherlands (St. Maarten, Aruba and others).

These islands enjoy the same status with tourists as the independent well-known sister islands of Jamaica or Barbados. But they also share the same problems, such as drugs and other forms of crime such as money laundering, also run by a small, well-heeled, largely white sector of the island population.

One of the basic problems is that all of the countries in the

Caribbean are caught between the largest drug market in this hemisphere—the United States—and the largest drug suppliers—in Latin America. This makes them tempting targets for all sorts of illegal activity and their governments are too weak to resist the encroachments of the large criminal organizations such as the Cali or Medellín drug cartels or even the Mafia. These organizations have fire power, billions of dollars and global networks of transportation, finance and other things that make them like little countries.

Cayman Island alone has 470 banks, numerous other insurance companies and legal firms. They were established to service the needs of those who want to deposit large sums of money off shore, to escape taxes in the United States and elsewhere. But these banks are also tempting places to deposit large sums of drug money and from there, drug lords can transfer the money into legitimate enterprises or false ones and enjoy the fabulous sun, sand and sea with a clear conscience. Until then, I will occasionally get on your last nerve about the poor Black people I see along the road in these islands, while the rich tourist—Black and white—pass them by.

How soon we forget

By Bernice Powell Jackson

Any conversation about freedom of speech will almost surely end up trying to decide whether it must be absolute or if not, how it can be qualified.

It is a difficult question to answer, particularly for those who have been victims of actions which grow out of hate-filled speech. Thus, many college campuses find themselves having to allow hate-mongers or zealots invited by students to speak on their campuses, even though the colleges might find these people's positions abhorrent. That's the dilemma some U.S. colleges have found themselves in this spring. But the difference this year is that the colleges themselves are inviting a most controversial figure in recent world history to speak, and in most cases, to receive awards. They are inviting former South African President F.W. de Klerk, the last president of South Africa under the apartheid regime.

Civil Rights JOURNAL

Yes, Mr. de Klerk did receive a Nobel Peace Prize with current South African President Nelson Mandela. But while Mr. de Klerk must have approved the negotiation process which led the country to democracy, he also headed a government considered a pariah by the world community. Thus, it is clear that without Mr. Mandela's receiving the award simultaneously, there could not have been such an award to Mr. de Klerk.

Moreover, although South African Deputy President Thabo Mbeki and the African National Congress have been forthcoming in admitting their human rights violations during the years

of the liberation struggle in South Africa and have recently applied for amnesty from the South African Truth Reconciliation Commission, Mr. de Klerk and his Nationalist Party have refused to do so and have even condemned the process. Indeed, Mr. de Klerk has denied that his government ever authorized killings or torture. South African Archbishop Desmond Tutu, chairman of the Commission, and other Commission members, have said they found that hard to believe, especially since the Commission has already heard of more than 1,200 acts of torture by government agents. "It becomes difficult to see how one can sustain a position that it was just a few bad eggs," Archbishop Tutu said.

But de Klerk's hardline refusal to admit any guilt should not be surprising. For instance, he has called apartheid-era officials "good and honorable men." Just political hyperbole? Some might call it the cynical and untruthful ranting of a man who seems to have a sudden case of amnesia, forgetting the history of the past 40 years under the political party.

Now more than ever: Families are needed for our waiting children

By Valor Washington

Kevin Green is 19 and one of the founders of the SUN Team—Speak Up Now. He testified recently before Mississippi lawmakers: "I told the legislature it was a great dream of mine to be adopted and have a family, but it's a dream that didn't come true."

Kevin entered foster care as a baby and has had 22 different placements. He was literally stuck in the system because the Mississippi courts were not structured to ensure timely adoptions. Just four months after the SUN Team testified, the Uniform Youth Court Bill emerged, making it easier for teens like Kevin to be adopted by putting more authority in the county courts.

There are thousands of African American children with similar stories to tell about their lives in "the system." An alarming number reach adulthood without ever experiencing the security of a permanent, loving family. Thousands of African American children enter and languish in America's child welfare system with little or no hope of returning home.

Most leaders in the African American community have a nagging sense that something is wrong: that we are losing the promise our children can bring to our future. Most have heard the sad stories about an abused child, or worse one that has died, who has been turned over to a broken system that is in need of reform. But too many people are simply unaware of the problem's magnitude, its seriousness, its impact on our children and the solutions for change. Unless we speak up now and become a part of the solution, the voices of our children will remain unheard in the system.

This Friday (May 30), in Washington, D.C., about 100 leaders and activists will attend the African American Leadership Summit to look at the problems and put forward solutions for foster care children, especially those who are legally free and ready to be adopted or permanently live with relatives. Hopefully, this event will be a turning point for children and teens who share Kevin's dream of a family. The Leadership Summit is being sponsored by the W.K. Kellogg Foundation's Families for Kids Initiative, with six co-sponsors who are leading experts on the plight of African American children in child welfare: Black Administrators in Child Welfare; Children's Bureau of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services; the Multicultural Network; National Association Black Social Workers; National Black Child Development Institute and National One Church, One Child.

D.C. Delegate Eleanor Holmes Norton is expected to open the summit, followed by presentations from Dr. Robert Hill, a leading academician from Morgan State University in Baltimore, who is also an expert on the Black family, and Karabelle Pizziganti of the

Guest COMMENTARY

Child Welfare League of America who will review pending policy proposals on foster care and adoption. Other experts will review data on the numbers: in a year about 500,000 children experience foster care; of these about 47 percent are African American—three times their representation in the general child population. The costs: about \$4 billion in federal dollars

are spent each year to maintain the foster care system; and the impact: many children who spend their entire lives in the foster care system leave without a high school diploma (66 percent); leave with no job experience (61 percent); go on welfare (34 percent) and end up on the streets (25 percent).

The bottom line for the child welfare system is that we know better than we do. The system can be changed. For example, consider the difficulties faced by African American families who are willing to adopt or foster our children. When an Urban League affiliate took a hard look at 800 African American families who made inquiries about adoption, at the end of the study, only two had actually received a child. During the same year, there were probably 10,000 African American children waiting for families. State governments are under federal mandate to recruit adoptive and foster families that reflect the children who comprise the foster care population. But too often, recruitment is a low priority and those willing families who do call and offer to adopt or foster get lost in the system—just like the kids.

The first step for our community is to expand the circle of activists, churches and organizations who will make waiting children a priority. Issues at the top of the agenda for the African American community today rightfully include crime, inadequate education, poverty, teen pregnancy, drugs and gun violence. But, the issue of waiting children who do not have a permanent family is evolving into a silent crisis for this generation of children and young people. More importantly, the child welfare system has an impact on all of these top issues.

As a community, we need to set a higher priority on reducing the backlog of children and teens who are in foster care too long and those who are ready and legally free to be adopt

ed. These children need permanent families now. They are usually older children, members of sibling groups, or have other special needs. Subsidies are available and can be accessed. But simply eliminating the backlog is not enough. The entire system needs to be reformed. When kids are brought into the system, ideally, they should have one stable foster home; one case worker or team that works on what is best for the child, not what is easiest for the system. There should also be family support services for caregivers and a family friendly assessment of what

See Children On Next Page

Speaking Out - Letters

WOOW inspires inmate to change to Christian life

My Beloved Brother, My name is Samuel Farmer and I was an inmate at the Pitt County Detention Center and I was there from Feb. 14 to March 30, but anyway I've been listening to your program and I've heard all the talk about the detention center and it's all true.

But that's not why I'm writing you. I'm writing you to tell just how much of an inspiration you've been to me since I've been listening to your station and I thank you very much and may God bless, because I've given my life to Christ since I've been here.

and you were a motivating force in that. I wish that I could stop by the

station and leave a contribution when I leave, but I think that Nash County is coming to pick me up, so I hope you understand.

I live in Rocky Mount and it's my first time in Greenville, but I have I go home I thank God that I have another memory besides the detention center. That memory is "WOOW." Bless you.

"No weapon form against me shall prosper."

Sam Farmer

Keep me in your prayers.

"M" Voice is accurate reflection of today's society

Dear Editor:

Ever since my wife and I moved to North Carolina we have enjoyed reading The M Voice. The topics

covered in each issue reflect what truly goes on in our society, rather than the "dressed for TV" viewpoint that is often propagated on the evening news.

My favorite section is usually the Opinion section, where people from all walks of life can air their opinions for others to read, and think about them. When I was teaching at Pitt Community College, I would often bring in a copy of the M Voice to read an article to my students. Following the reading, I would have my students debate the points presented in the articles. That way, they could argue about issues relevant to their lives, and learn to express their ideas in writing or through speech. Your newspaper made a wonderful educational tool..thank you!

Sincerely,
Melvin Trey Bankhead III

Rev. Jackson asks US for reparations for syphilis test subjects

He says President Clinton's apology is not enough

By CHINTA STRAUSBERG
Special from the Chicago Defender

The Rev. Jesse Jackson Sr. said President Clinton's apology to five African-American men who survived the government run-Tuskegee syphilis experiment isn't enough and called for reparations for those families. Jackson, who, told the Chicago Defender, that he may make a third-run for the presidency, said Clinton didn't go far enough when he publicly apologized to Frederick Moss, Herman Shaw, Fred Simmons, Charlie Pollard and, Carter Howard, who were among the 399 human guinea pigs used in the deadly experiment.

"I think that people deserve an apology, but they also deserve reparations because those men who were monitored had wives and children who were exposed to syphilis.

"We need to look at the lineage of suffering from this genocidal experiment," Jackson told the Defender.

"While an apology is important, there needs to be a monitoring of the impact of this experiment and those families deserve reparations," Jackson said.

U.S. Sen. Carol Moseley Braun praised Clinton for publicly apologizing to the men whose syphilis went untreated for decades under the federal study.

However, in a letter to the president, she asked about the ethics of the current nine U.S. funded medical experiments on AIDS currently underway in Africa, Asia and the Caribbean on people of color and their children.

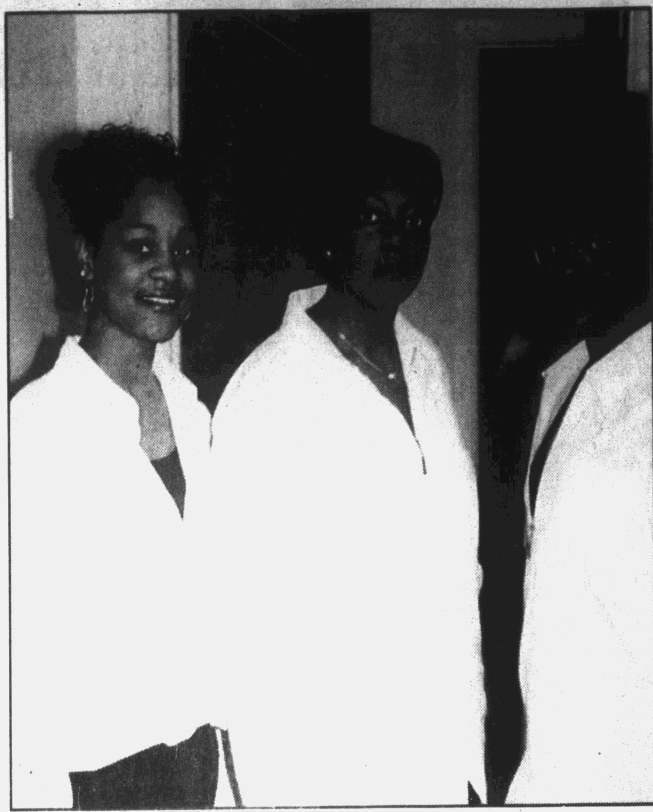
She was referring to government studies in these regions on the effectiveness of brief use of azidothymidine, or AZT, that allegedly prevents mother-to-child transmission of the HIV virus.

Saying that an apology for the Tuskegee experiment that went on from 1932-72 was "long overdue," the senator said these men were "denied a basic citizenship right ... to be treated as equal citizens under the law.

"They were lied to by their government and used as guinea pigs in a deadly experiment," Moseley-Braun said.

"Under the guise of wanting to provide adequate health care to poor African-American men, the U.S. Public Health Service enlisted 600 impoverished African American men to conduct a study on the natural course of syphilis.

Teen Summit



These lovely ladies will appear at the Teen Summit on June 18-19. They are students at East Carolina University and have recently formed a singing group some months ago. Now is the time to show what they can do live on Wednesday and Thursday at the Dubois Center. They will be singing all of their hits. The group performed at the Tara and New Pride Banquet last weekend.

Staff photo by Jim Rouse

Obituary

Steven Rouse

Mr. Steven Rouse, son of Mrs. Elsie Rouse and the late Mr. James Rouse, Sr., died May 1997 in the Bronx, New York.

Steven attended the Monroe high school and lived in the Bronx river housing projects for many years.

Survivors include: His wife, Hilda; his children, sisters: Betty

Shone, Joannie Crawford, and Brenda Rouse; Brothers: Jim Rouse, and Ronald Rouse; A host of nieces, nephews, other relatives and friends.

Funeral arrangements were handled by McCall Funeral Home, Bronx, New York; Burial followed in the heavenly branches cemetery in New Jersey.

"Blessed are the dead which die in the Lord from henceforth: Yea, saith the Spirit, that they may rest from their labours; and their works do follow them. REVELATION 14:13

Children

From Page 4

the child needs, including good health care, proper schooling, counseling and basics like food and clothing. Ideally, permanency decisions should be made in a year.

If Kevin Green and the SUN Team can make a difference, then so can we, working together as a community. We must not wait. We need to demand the best possible child welfare and judicial systems for our abused and neglected children and Speak Up Now. We must break the silence and become part of the solution.

NOTE: Dr. Valora Washington is a program director the W.K. Kellogg Foundation's Families for Kids Initiative, based in Battle Creek, Michigan.

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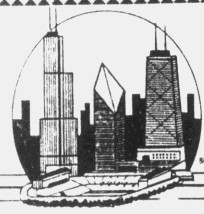
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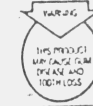
- Orange Juice, Apple Juice, Diet Pepsi, Diet Tea, Mountain Dew - \$.85
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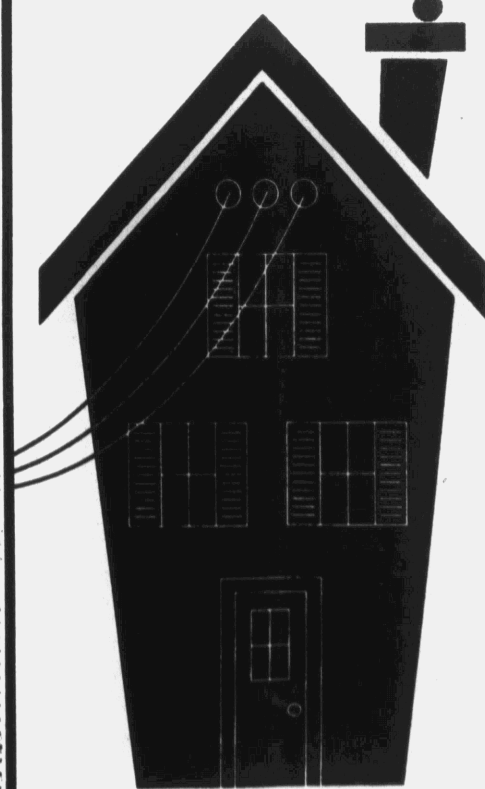
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What To Do In An Electrical Emergency

Electrical emergencies don't occur often in Greenville-Pitt County, but we all remember Hurricanes Bertha and Fran! It's hurricane season once again, so it's a good time to review the following safety tips:

- Never try to move downed power lines or trees or any other obstacles in contact with power lines. If you see a downed power line, flashes of light, or any other signs of trouble, call GUC immediately at 752-7166 during business hours or 752-5627 after hours. Our crews will work around the clock to restore your power as quickly as possible.
- If the power goes out, it's wise to unplug major appliances.
- Keep an emergency kit with flashlight (and batteries), battery-powered radio, manual can opener and a wind-up clock.



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Poems wanted for contest and anthology

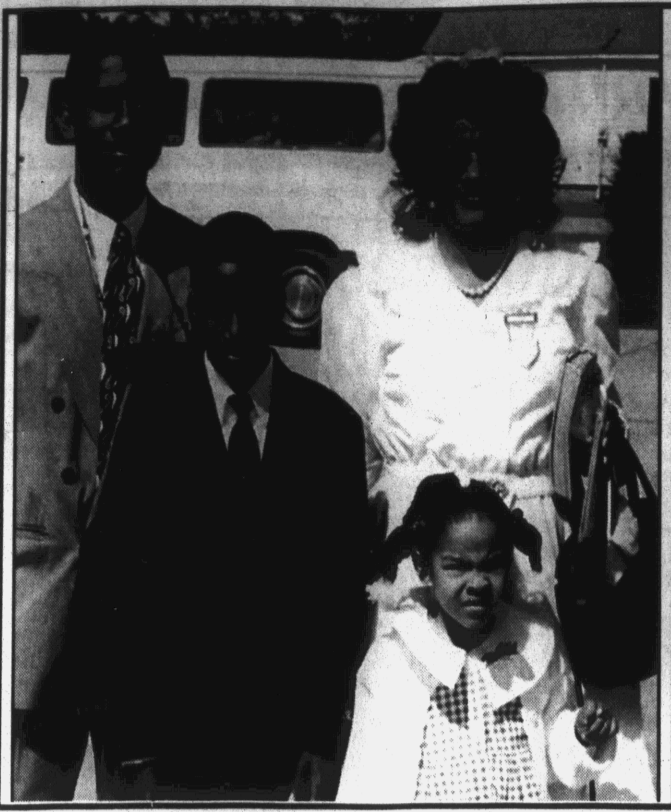
\$15,000 in Cash & Prizes Awarded Annually

Sparrowgrass Poetry Forum is offering a grand prize of \$1,000 in its new Awards of Poetic Excellence contest. Thirty-four other cash awards are also being offered. The contest is free to enter and open to everyone. Anthology purchase may be required to ensure publication, but is not required to enter or win the contest.

Poets may enter one poem only, 20 lines or less, on any subject, in any style. The contest closes July 31, 1997, but poets are encouraged to submit their work as soon as possible. Poems entered in the contest also will be considered for publication in the Spring 1998 edition of Poetic Voices of America, a hard-cover anthology. Prize winners will be announced on September 30, 1997.

"Our contest is especially for new and unpublished poets seeking a forum that enables them to share their work," says Jerome P. Welch, Publisher. "We are looking for sincerity and originality in a wide variety of styles and themes. Many of our contest winners are new poets with new ideas."

Poems should be sent to Sparrowgrass Poetry Forum, Dept. GM, 609 Main St., P.O. Box 193, Sistersville, WV 26175-0193.



"The family that prays together..." This lovely mother and her family are ready for worship at the Phillippi Baptist Church in Simpson, North Carolina. There truly is strength in unity; a family united is a strong family.

Staff Photo Jim Rouse



Creating Future Leaders...

Mrs. Gina Boyd shown above relaxer before the Minority Voice camera during their reach out and touch celebration that took place Saturday, in honor of their new affiliation of the Tabernacle Center Church of Deliverance outreach ministry, The Tabernacle Educational Counseling & Cultural Arts Center, located at 1328 Chestnut Street Greenville, shown below Gina are children who came out to enjoy the festivities.

Photos by M-Voice Staff Photographers: Haywood Johnson Jr.

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Shown above is Ms Bullock & grandson who is a graduate of North Carolina Central University and studying to be a lawyer.



Shown above is Sandra McCleary & daughter out in Robersonville. Daughter takes mom out to eat. Daughter loves mom.

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STRANGE THINGS

Thy shoe offends thee?

The Council on American-Islamic Relations objected to Nike athletic shoes that use a logo resembling the word "Allah" in Arabic script. The emblem was meant to look like the word "Air" written in flames for a new line of shoes, according to spokesperson Vizhier Corpuz. He said Nike had caught the problem before the shoes went into production and changed the emblem. The Islamic council's executive director, Nihad Awad, insisted the offending emblem was seen at stores across the country and suggested Nike investigate to see if "there are people at the company who want to insult Muslims."

And at Reebok, officials conceded it made a mistake naming a new women's running shoe "Incubus," which is the name of a mythical demon that descended on sleeping women and had sex with them. Explaining the shoe had been on the market for about a year but that Reebok had just learned of the name's meaning from ABC-TV Spokesman Dave Fogelson who said the company had no plans to recall the shoes but was looking into solutions, noting, "It could be as simple as taking a Magic Marker and blacking out the name."

What's in a name?

In the Italian village of Luserna, voters had to choose between two candidates for mayor, both named Nicolussi. The two previous mayors were also named Nicolussi. That was also the name of 24 of the 28 candidates for village councilor. According to the *European*, two-thirds of Luserna's citizens are named Nicolussi.

Easy going?

Before Danis Rivera, 25, was convicted of child molesting in Santa Cruz, California, the district attorney offered him probation and a light sentence of six to 12 months in jail. Rivera rejected the plea bargain and wound up being sentenced to 16 years in prison because he wouldn't stop spitting in court. The *San Francisco Chronicle* reported that during his trial, Rivera was banished from the courtroom after attacking a detention officer and spitting repeatedly at court staff.

After his conviction, he was brought in for sentencing strapped to a wheelchair and wearing a black beekeeper's bonnet. When Santa Cruz Superior Court Judge William Kelsay offered to have the bonnet removed if Rivera promised not to spit on anyone, he answered by spitting into his mask, then continued spitting noisily throughout the rest of the hearing. "He committed legal suicide," said defense attorney John Thornton.

Tough accident

In Chandler, Ariz., Johnel Trinidad, 18, was inspecting a gun he planned to buy from a friend when he had to go to the bathroom. He took the 9 mm weapon with him. While sitting on the toilet, Trinidad accidentally fired the gun. The bullet went through his hand, knee, a bathroom wall and a chair before it landed on the floor of a hallway, according to police Sgt. Matt Christensen. He noted: "Bathroom gun safety and gun safety in general pretty much dovetail."

The Chandler incident occurred nine months after another local resident, Harold Hughes, 52, took a loaded gun into the bathroom with him and set it on a counter. While he was sitting on the toilet, his pit bull dog, which was also in the bathroom, knocked the gun off the counter and onto the floor. It discharged, shooting Hughes in the leg.

Island views

In Israel, the *Jerusalem Post* reported that Israeli architecture professor Michael Burt has proposed building 40 islands off the small country's coast, stretching from Haifa in the north to Herzliya in the south. Burt, whose slogan is "a million Jews on the waves," said each island could accommodate 20,000 people in apartments with sea views. The paper, noting that the Japanese have built 86 islands in more difficult locations, said Infrastructure Minister Ariel Sharon is enthusiastic about Burt's and other island-building plans.

And in San Diego, California, Bill Warren, in need of a place to set up his sunken treasure business, filed a claim to take over Navassa Island, 25 miles off the west coast of Haiti. He said the 1856 Guano Island Act, which allows any U.S. citizen who discovers an uninhabitable island covered with bird droppings to take "peaceful possession thereof." The 1-by-2-mile island is buried under at least 20 feet of petrified seabird droppings - 500,000 tons, Warren estimates. He hopes to sell it as fertilizer to organic citrus farms in Florida for \$400-\$600 per ton.

Self-violence

There were 21,577 homicides in the United States in 1995, according to the National Center for Health Statistics, and 30,893 suicides.

Compiled by Real Times Communications, Inc., 401 North Michigan Avenue, Suite 745, Chicago, Illinois 60611.

Health Watch

Leg cramps and what to do about them

When I was a young boy, the most common complaint that I heard from my mom was about the pain and night cramps that she experienced in her legs. If she were alive today (God bless her soul!), or if I were a doctor then, I would have suggested the following things to this wonderful woman. First of all, I would have advised her to elevate her swollen legs when sitting for long periods. The legs should be elevated as high as the heart rather than straight out on a cushion. This encourages good venous drainage.

I would have also told her not to wear her stockings knotted below the knee. She already had varicose veins, and the knotting of the stockings acted as a tourniquet, restricting venous blood flow. Knee-high hose also causes the same condition.

Where there is poor venous circula-

tion, this also can lead to thrombosis, or clotting of blood in the veins, which ultimately can lead to pulmonary embolism or clots in the lungs. To say the least, this is dangerous. Secondly, I would have recommended that she take 400 IN of vitamin E daily to aid in relieving nocturnal cramps. Vitamin E also has been shown to be an anti-clotting agent. Be careful, however, in using this, vitamin in large amounts if you have hypertension.

To relieve the nocturnal cramps in her legs that would make her literally jump out of bed, I would have recommended that she sit on the edge of the bed and bring her toes toward her body while pushing out her heels. Holding this position for 20 to 30 seconds, releasing and repeating, would release the cramping.

Nutritionally, I would have suggested that she increase her calcium intake to 1500 mg. daily. Not only would this re-

duce the leg cramps, but it would also help in preventing osteoporosis, or softening of the bones. A low salt diet would also help reduce swelling in the legs.

If she had specifically complained of pain in her legs while walking, which was relieved when resting, this would have suggested a vascular condition known as intermittent claudication (muscle pain due to lack of oxygen carried by the blood). This arterial disease is caused by a decrease in the blood flow to the leg from narrowing of the arteries. I would have referred her to a vascular surgeon who would be able to measure the blood flow and recommend appropriate therapy.

Remember, leg pain and cramps can be treated conservatively with the use of vitamin E, calcium and elevation. However, arteries that become narrowed due to the aging process and other factors may have to be approached surgically.

More minority doctors to work in undeserved areas, new report says

Nearly 40 percent of 1996 medical school graduates who are Black, Mexican American, American Indian/Alaska Native and Mainland Puerto Rican will practice medicine in underserved areas compared to only 10 percent of all other graduates, according to a new report released by the Association of American Medical Colleges (AAMC).

Underrepresented minority medical school graduates also are more likely to pursue careers in general internal medicine, general pediatrics, and family practice. Approximately 40 percent of these minority students plan to become generalist physicians compared to 36 percent of all other graduates. Almost half of the Mexican American graduates said they would practice in one of the generalist specialties.

The career interests of minority medical school graduates are featured in the report, *Minority Students in Medical Education: Facts and Figures X*, which also provides extensive data on minori-

ties in medical education, including information on the educational and socioeconomic profiles of incoming minority medical school students and the representation of minorities on U.S. medical school faculties. Development of the report was supported, in part, by a grant from The Robert Wood Johnson Foundation. Black, Mexican American, American Indian/Alaska Native and Mainland Puerto Rican medical school graduates, who consistently and disproportionately choose to serve in the nation's most medically needy

communities, also continue to be the most severely underrepresented in medicine. In 1996, the graduates from these groups represented only 10 percent of the most diverse graduating medical school class ever. Asia/Pacific Islanders, which are not underrepresented in medicine, accounted for an additional 20 percent of the 1996 graduating class.

"The good news is U.S. medical schools graduated more underrepresented mi-

norities than ever in 1996, resulting in a pool of new doctors that begins to reflect the diversity of the nation they will serve," said AAMC president Jordan J. Cohen, M.D. "Despite spite this important milestone, those minorities underrepresented in medicine continue to fall well below their presence in society, now about 21 percent of the nation's population. We still have much work to do if we are to provide the diverse physician work force Americans need and current pressures to curb affirmative action in higher education will only make our job more difficult."

Applicants to U.S. medical schools continued to increase in 1996, reaching a new record of 46,968. Similarly, the number of underrepresented minority medical school applicants also has continued to increase, with 5,259 applying last year. The acceptance rate of these minority students has remained stable over the last three years, whereas, the acceptance rates for medical school applicants overall has declined more than 25 percent since 1989.

Grandparents have tough times

Characteristics of Grandparent Caregivers

The following statistics have been provided by the U.S. Census Bureau.

It is reported that there are 831,000 mid life and older adults caring for their grandchildren with neither parent present in the household. The total number of children in these households is 1.02 million. This number of grandchildren under 18 living with their grandparents has increased by 6% over the past 25 years.

However, from year 1992 to 1993 the figures jumped significantly up to 17%. The median age of grandparent caregivers is 57. A majority of them, 77%, fall between the ages of 45 and 64 with the remaining 23% age 65 and older.

• 68% of this population is White, 29% African American, 10% Hispanic origin, 2% Asian/Pacific Islanders and 1% American Indian.

• 20% of grandparent caregivers are single with 13% widowed and 7% di-

vorced. The remaining 80% are married. 93% of these single grandparents are women.

• The income of grandparent caregivers is outlined as follows: 27% are at or below the poverty level, 14% are near poor (100-149% of poverty), and 56% have incomes of less than \$20,000. The median income is \$ 18,000.

• 58% of grandparent caregivers have less than a high school diploma. The percentage of grandparent caregivers who have received a high school diploma is 26%. And 5% have attained a bachelor's degree or higher.

• Census Bureau statistics report that a majority of grandparent caregivers reside in the South, 57%. The remaining 43% of caregivers are split evenly among the following three regions: Northeast, Midwest, and West.

About the Grandparent Study
The Center on Aging at Bradley University has received a three year research grant from the National Institute

on Aging to conduct a study on the psychological well-being of grandparents who are raising their grandchildren. The study is entitled the Grandparent Study. The purpose of the study is to document the experiences of these grandparents and identify areas in which they find satisfaction and fulfillment, as well as those areas in which grandparents need more support.

The Center on Aging is seeking grandmothers, age 50 or older, who are living with a grandchild under the age of 18, with neither parent present in the household. The spouses of the grandmothers, age 50 or older, are being asked to participate as well. Participation entails taking part in a personal and confidential interview for two hours over the telephone (or in person if living in Central Illinois).

Grandparents interested in participating or learning more about the Grandparent Study can contact the Erin Driscoll at 309/677-3593 or 800/695-5927.

NC Medical Society promotes effort to prevent access to tobacco by minors

At a recent meeting, the Executive Council of the North Carolina Medical Society voted to support a policy that promotes stronger public and private efforts to prevent access to tobacco by minors.

Tobacco use is the single leading preventable cause of death and is responsible for more than

11,000 deaths in our state each year. Tobacco is a highly addictive drug. Most smokers begin at around the ages of 12 to 13, and 90% of smokers begin before the

age of 21.

Tobacco is easily accessible for use in North Carolina. In a survey last year, one out of two stores sold tobacco products to minors. Tobacco use in North Carolina has increased in the past five years among high school students and is up to 31%. Usage in adults in North Carolina is 29%.

The North Carolina Medical Society will use this decision to support stronger public and private efforts to prevent access to tobacco by minors.

The North Carolina Medical Society is an association of more than 9,000 physicians. The mission of the Society is to unite, serve, and represent physicians, in order to enhance physician advocacy for their patients and improve the health of the people of North Carolina. To that end, the Society seeks to extend medical knowledge and advance medical science, enabling physicians to better prevent and cure diseases and to prolong and add comfort to the lives of the state's citizenry.

Scanner errors at store in Morehead City prompt state to impose fines

Excessive errors in price scanning at the register has landed a North Carolina drug company a series of civil fines. Inspectors from the Standards Division of the N.C. Department of Agriculture found errors in excess of two percent representing overcharges at Kerr Drug Store #8594 in Morehead City, which now operates as an Eckerd Drug. This store was found to have an eight percent error rate in an inspection in January 1997, and a 9.3 percent error rate in a February 1997 inspection.

The company was fined \$3,210.00 for the errors, and negotiated a settlement of \$1605.00 with the N.C. Department of Agriculture, which has been paid by the Eckerd Corporation. "Scanners should be used to help speed the checkout process

and assure the customer of accurate pricing," said N.C. Commissioner of Agriculture Jim Graham. "When we repeatedly find scanning errors, it indicates the store is not performing a good job of maintaining their computer data base or shelf price tags, potentially costing customers thousands of dollars each month."

The Morehead City store had four items out of 50 incorrectly entered in the scanning system in the January 1997 inspection, and 28 out of 300 wrong in the February investigation. Items that scan at less than the shelf price are not added to the error total. Resulting from the investigation, Kerr Drugs was charged with violating Chapter 83A, Section 23 of the N.C. General Statutes, dealing with misrepresentation of prices.

Scanning errors in excess of the tolerance were found in four other Kerr Drug Stores dating back to May 1996, when fines of \$150 each were levied. Those stores are located on Wycliff Road in Raleigh; Old Tar Road in Winterville; Bern Square Shopping Center in New Bern; and, Washington Square Mall in Washington.

Consumers who encounter scanner-related overcharges should contact the Standards Division of the NCDA at (919) 733-3313. Inspectors from this division scanned 79,650 packages in 1996 for pricing accuracy in 1,218 stores across North Carolina, and found three percent scanned at a price higher than posted on the shelf or the advertised price, and 3.6 percent that scanned at a lower price.

AFRICA DIGEST

CONGO

Kabila attacks France



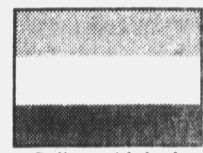
France is being accused of providing arms to loyalists of ousted President/dictator Mobutu Sese Seko to destabilize

the former Zaire.

President Laurent Kabila's Democratic Republic of Congo made the accusation this week. "We have heard that the French contingent that was stationed in Brazzaville has provided arms to elements of the former FAZ (Zairean armed forces) and DSP (Mobutu's presidential guard) and that those arms will be shipped here to try and destabilize our country," Finance Minister Mawapanga Mwananga said. But Congo Brazzaville ambassador to Kinshasa denied his country, a former French colony dwarfed in terms of territory and population by its neighbor to the south, would permit such traffic in arms.

ETHIOPIA

19 dead, 12 injured in crash

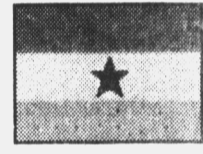


A bus crash in northern Ethiopia has resulted in 19 dead and 12 injured, according to the state news agency ENA.

Police said the bus driver was among the dead in the accident which occurred earlier this week. The cause of the accident is still under investigation. The accident occurred near the capital city of Addis Ababa.

GHANA

Plans to double cotton outlay



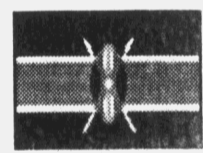
Ghana is preparing to double its annual seed production to 60,000 tons by the year 2002, up from 30,000 tons per year

at present.

The plan was approved this week by a 30-member Cotton Working Group, made up of government officials, producers, millers, bankers and researchers. With its market share of 300 tons of lint cotton, Juni Agro is Ghana's fourth largest cotton marketing company. There are three major cotton firms operating ginneries and eight other companies engaged in cotton marketing. Ghana does not export seed cotton. All its production is sold to local textile companies at a price much higher than the current world market price.

KENYA

Moi warns opposition



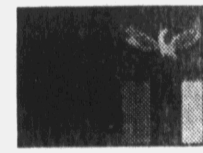
Kenya's President Daniel Arap Moi this week warned opposition politicians not to break the law in the run-up

to elections after police broke up a banned opposition rally.

Reform and opposition groups under the National Convention Assembly (NCA) banner pulled back from an earlier declaration they would hold an "illegal" rally in the coastal city of Mombasa. The NCA, a coalition of opposition parties, human right groups and church leaders, said it had yet to take a final decision on the Mombasa meeting, called to press for a minimum package of constitutional reforms before elections later this year.

ZAMBIA

Press for women's rights



The National Council of Catholic Women (NCCW) in Zambia has called for government officials and private industry to place women in leadership positions.

Delivering a speech to celebrate Zambia's silver jubilee, NCCW chairperson Mrs. Margaret Gondwe called for the apportioning of more leadership roles for women, if they were to contribute more meaningful to national development. Mrs. Gondwe said women had historically been marginalized and remained voiceless without any leadership positions although there was overwhelming evidence to prove their abilities in contributing to development.

SOUTH AFRICA

Attempt to thwart more strikes



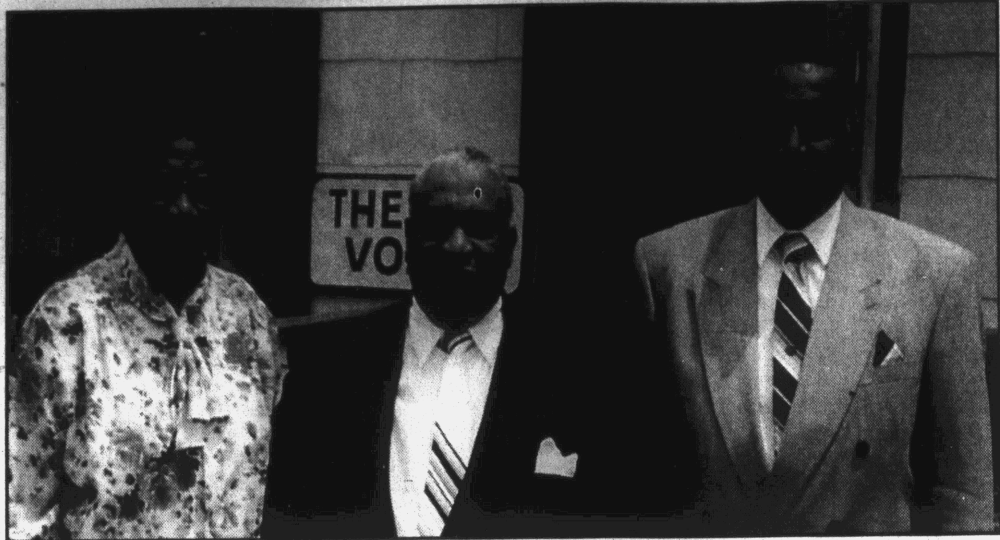
Business leaders in South Africa this week asked for high level talks with labor and government to head off the threat to

further damaging strike action, following a one-day stoppage over labor legislation.

The Congress of South African Trade Unions (SATU) issued a 14-day ultimatum to business. The ultimatum is to present revised proposals on the controversial Basic Conditions of Employment Bill or face further strike action. According to early estimates, some two million workers had responded to the 24-hour strike which was called earlier this week.

CHURCH

God Bless Our Bishop



Shown above is the Maranatha Church members with their Bishop from Detroit, MI. The church is located on US 17 towards New Bern.

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National Auxiliaries Convention
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Wednesday, June 25 through Sunday, June 29, 1997

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Singing
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8:30 until 4:30 daily



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Friday, August 22 and Saturday, August 23
at the Sheraton, in New Bern, NC

Special sessions will be held on
Friday at 2:00 p.m. and 7:00 p.m. and
Saturday, August 22 at 9:30 a.m.

Refreshments will be served during the
7:00 p.m. session on August 22
and a continental breakfast will be served on August 23.

The cost for the retreat is
\$100.00 per person for double room occupancy
and
\$200.00 for single room occupancy.

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James D. Corbett, Pastor

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Saturday
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Zion Temple A.M.E. Zion Church
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THE CONCERT WILL FEATURE
REVEREND GODFREY NELSON,
PASTOR OF THE
HOOKERTON CIRCUIT,
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PREACHED AND TAUGHT BY GOD'S
ANointed, WITH SIGNS FOLLOWING

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of Victory Christian Center in the city of Danbury
Connecticut. He has been in this office twelve years.
Prior to pastoring he did the work of the
evangelist throughout the east coast from 1980-85.
He is a native of Ayden, N.C.

Pastor Gardner has a local weekly television ministry
and is also involved in community outreach. He
occasionally appears on the Trinity Broadcasting
Network (TBN). Pastor is a firm believer in John 8:32.
"And you shall know the truth, and the truth shall make
you free".

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PRAISE & WORSHIP and the MINISTRY OF GOD'S WORD!!!
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Youth Gospel Explosion

Revival Revival Revival
Thursday, June 12, 1997
7:00 p.m.
Speaker: Minister Michael Smith of
Mt Zion Disciples of Christ Church
Goldsboro, NC
and the Mt. Zion Youth Choir

Friday, June 13, 1997 • 7:00 p.m.
Speaker: Minister Larry Williams of Word of Faith Christian Church
Smithfield, N.C.
and the Word of Faith Mass Choir

Saturday, June 14, 1997 • 7:00 p.m.
Musical Extravaganza

Featuring: Joshua Generation Youth Choir, Philippi Youth Choir, Mt. Calvary
Youth Choir, Spiritual Express, Anvinted Ones and many, many more.

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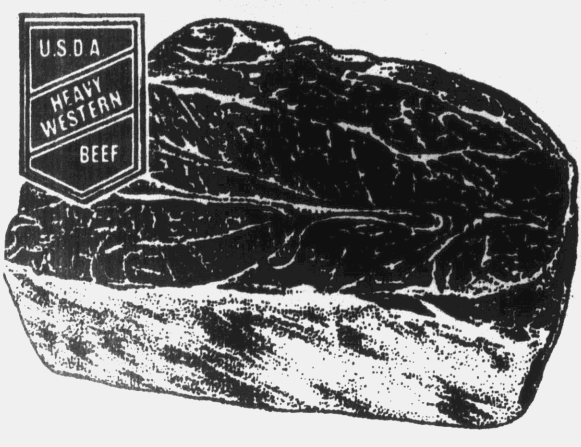


MEAT

SALE

Boneless
Chuck Roast
\$1.19
Lb.

U.S.D.A. Bone-In
Chuck Roast

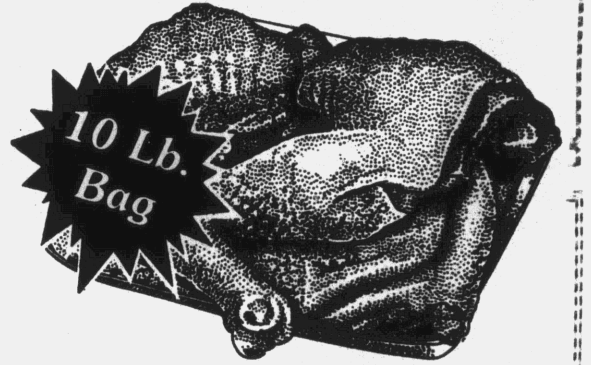


99¢
Lb.

U.S.D.A. Boneless Whole
N.Y. Strips
\$2.99
Lb.



Fryer Leg Quarters
39¢
Lb.

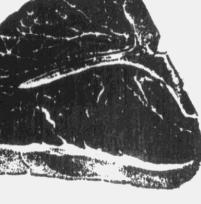


U.S.D.A. Whole Boneless
Beef Tenderloin
\$4.49
Lb.

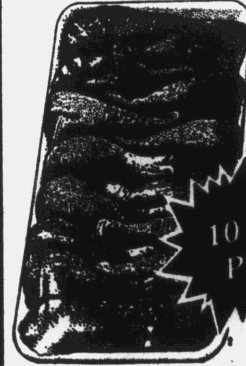


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U.S.D.A. - Cut into T-Bone Steaks Free
Beef Short Loins
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Lb.



Fresh Fryer
Drumsticks
79¢
Lb.



10 Lb. Pkg.

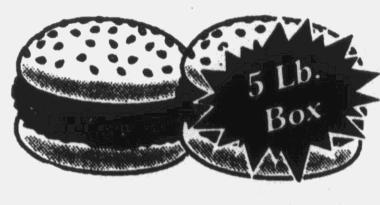
U.S.D.A. Boneless
Whole Top Sirloin
\$2.39
Lb.



U.S.D.A. Freshly Ground
Ground Chuck
\$1.19
Lb.



Alphin Brothers
Beef Patties
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COUPON
18 Oz.
Piggly Wiggly
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COUPON
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COUPON
32 Oz. Sauer's
Salad Dressing
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COUPON
32 Oz.
Sauer's
Mayonnaise
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Chicken Patties & Chicken Nuggets
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Chitterlings **\$5.90**



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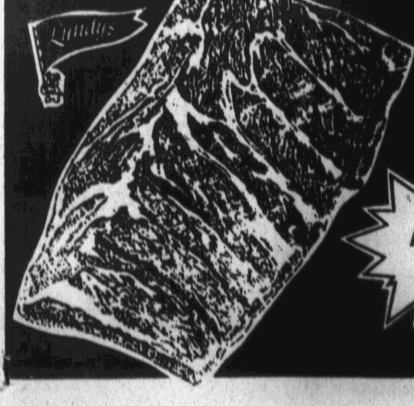


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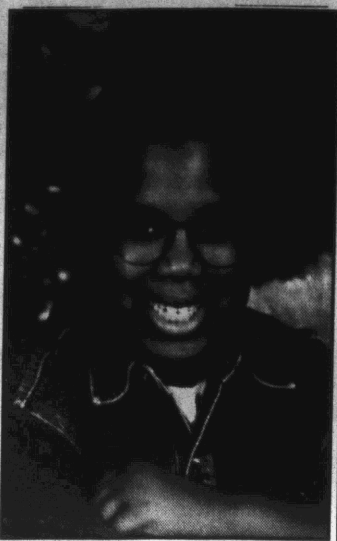


Teel is Tops

Justin scores Levell III and IV on NC Writing and EOG Test

Once again, Justin J. Teel has made his family proud. He contributes his achievement to God first, the support of his family and hard work. Justin is the son of Hubert Lee and Hilda Graye Teel of Greenville, NC. He is a member of Noah's Ark FSHG Deliverance Church. He is active in Sunday School, Youth Choir and Jr. Usher Board. He likes to play basketball and wrestle.

Justin scored a 3.0 on the NC Writing Test for 4th grade, with the highest possible score being a 4.0. He also scored Level IV on the EOG Test for Reading and



Math, with a IV being the highest score possible. He attends school in Halifax County where his mother teaches 4th and 5th Grade. He has maintained a 3.0 or better average for the past 3 years. Justin is a rising 5th grader.

Bright receives Hayes award during reunion

Frank Bright, a retired 34-year Department of Correction veteran living Durharn, received the Lewyn Hayes Award during the Minority Pioneers annual reunion April 26.

The award, which is the group's top honor, was presented to Bright for his outstanding service and impressive career in the Department of Correction.

Bright will long be remembered for his tireless efforts and strong push for integrated caseloads. He encouraged supervision of white offenders by black officers and vice-versa. Because of his efforts, the attorney general's office moved that segregated caseloads were illegal according to DAPP officials. In 1970, all probation and parole caseloads became integrated.

Frank Bright was an inspiration and mentor to many minorities in the correction profession," said Deputy Secretary Theodis Beck. "His record of accomplishment is worthy of this distinguished honor."

"If it were not for Frank Bright and many others like him, none of us would be where we are today in our career development," said DAPP Assistant Director Larry Harris. "I've never seen any fear in Frank Bright, nor have I seen any hesitancy on what was right or what was wrong. I've never seen him waiver in his position when fighting for a just cause."

Bright began his career as a Durham probation officer in 1960. In 1973, he was named branch manager. He began to quickly move up through the ranks. In 1974, he became the first African-American appointed director of program services. Bright later became the first African-American named chief of field operations. In 1981, Bright was again the first African American appointed assistant secretary for programs and development.

The Minority Pioneers top award is named after Lewyn Hayes in memory of his personal sacrifices and contributions to the criminal justice area.



Frank Bright (left) 1997 recipient of the Minority Pioneers Lewyn Hayes Award is congratulated by Ms. Lewyn Hayes. The award was named in honor of her deceased husband who was one of the first African American employees in the Division of Prisons.

Legendary publisher of Chicago Defender dies at 84

By J. ZAMGBA BROWN
Amsterdam News Staff

The legendary publisher of the Chicago Defender, John Herman Sengstacke, was buried this week following funeral services in the Windy City. Sengstacke died on May 28 at St. Joseph Hospital, following an extended illness. He was 84 years old.

For more than 60 years, Sengstacke blazed a courageous trail on behalf of African-Americans and the African-American newspaper industry. His legacy began when he was 21, following the death of his legendary uncle and founder and publisher of the Chicago Defender, Robert S. Abbott.

Named by Abbott as his successor, Sengstacke set out on a crusade that paved many firsts for African-Americans. One of his initial accomplishments during the Roosevelt era and World War II was to establish the first Washington correspondent for a Black newspaper.

In business, Sengstacke was equally tenacious and successful in getting Blacks recognition among Fortune 500 CEOs. He served as the only African American on President Johnson's governing board of the National Alliance of Businessmen, and his became the first Black business to integrate many of America's prominent business clubs and associations.

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MEDICAL PARK PSYCHIATRIC ASSOCIATES

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McKinney warns African-Americans about Christian Right

GA Congresswoman fears the so-called "Christian Right" will divide black community and black churches

By Cash Michaels
The Carolinian

Saying that "before you know it, the penetration is complete," U.S. Rep. Cynthia McKinney warns that if the increasing influence of the so called "Christian" political right in the African American church is not challenged, the black community may find itself irreparably divided, and powerless.

"Four hundred years of Willie Lynch ain't easy to shake off," McKinney, a black democrat from Georgia's new 4th Congressional District, told more than 400 gathered at the Sheraton Imperial Center Friday night for the N.C. Legislative Black Caucus 12th Annual Weekend Conference.

"If we don't, our own legacy will be open to manipulation of the worst sort. The result-our own self-marginalization in the political process."

A sure sign of that projected "penetration," she says, will be when black churches start distributing the Christian Coalition conservative voter guides to their congregations right before elections.

The nationwide distribution of 40 million of what the Coalition call "nonpartisan" evaluations of the candidates and issues in white churches, is credited with bringing about the Republican takeover of Congress and state legislatures in 1994, stringent welfare reform, and the repeal of several affirmative action laws.

"The Christian Coalition and the Republican Party have been waiting for the opportunity to penetrate the African-American community," McKinney continued,

"and the pain and grief of black burning churches provided the unlikely opportunity for just such an alliance to take place."

With black and white state and local lawmakers in attendance, along with congressional Democratic colleagues Mel Watt [N.C.-12] and David Price [N.C.-4] McKinney, who won her election last year in a landslide after the U.S. Supreme Court ordered her former 11th district redrawn with fewer black voters, noted how the conservative Christian Coalition was quick to post a \$25,000 reward after last summer's black church burnings, then earlier this year offered to help 1,000 black churches throughout the nation with funding, outreach, and "racial reconciliation" with its "Samaritan Project."

But McKinney's greatest concern was about Revelation Corp., another vehicle set up by the religious right, she says, to woo the black church with offers of financial assistance.

"Revelation Corp. is a for-profit corporation that seeks to empower the National Baptist Convention, the African Methodist Episcopal Zion Church, and the Christian Methodist Episcopal Church," Rep. McKinney said. "Together, these five denominations claim 43,000 church congregations, representing one half of the African-American population in the entire United States."

"[Former Moral Majority leader Rev.] Jerry Falwell was allowed to join Revelation Corp., and with his commission, he plans to set up scholarships for African-Americans so they can study at [his] Liberty University in Lynchburg, Va. So black preachers will go to Lynchburg for their Bible training with Jerry Falwell; and [Christian Coalition head] Ralph Reed becomes the 'messiah' for black people.

"I would not sat that the Christian Coalition and the radical right are alive and well in the African-American community," the Georgia Democrat declared.

McKinney noted that even though the religious right has already appointed several black ministers, like Samaritan Project head Rev. Earl Jackson, to carry their messages into the black communities, the National Missionary Baptist Convention of America, the Church of God and Christ, and the African Methodist Episcopal Church, "chose to not participate" in Revelation Corp.

McKinney also echoed a charge that many progressive observers have made-that the conservative movement is making an all-out, aggressive effort to not only make inroads into what has traditionally been a Democratic monopoly on the African-American vote, but attract, and even cultivate black voter support for GOP candidates.

Now is the time, conservatives to say, because black people are becoming increasingly frustrated with the broken promises of the Democrats. But while blacks have been able to "see through" GOP political overtures in the past, conservative manipulation of Christianity, the bedrock of faith of the black community, is another, bolder strategy now.

"The Christian Coalition and the radical right use the spirituality of the black community-the same spirituality that brought us through slavery, through Jim Crow democracy, through the civil rights turmoil of the '60s and '70s-they use our spirituality that sustains us today, for their own purposes," McKinney said.

"If Ralph Reed is the new 'messiah' of black people, then who are we?"

She reminded those that gathered of the racist history of the religious right, and said a close look at what they trumpet today as "family values" and "the American way" is really old-times racism painted over.

Pat Roberson, for instance, who reportedly founded the Christian Coalition in 1988 to "take over the Republican Party" after his failed bid for the presidency, is quoted on one of his "700 Club" television shows as complaining that the

majority of America's future populations coming from Asia, Africa, and Latin America will threaten "our Anglo-Saxon heritage and values," the main reason why the religious right is so fervently anti-abortion rights.

While tuition tax credits for parents to send their children to the private schools of their choice it seems like an innocent enough conservative proposal, McKinney noted that the same thing was demanded by "extreme right-wing segregationists" for white students to attend private then segregated Christian academics, right after the 1954 Brown vs. Board of Education U.S. Supreme Court decision outlawing separate but unequal education.

"This call for the effective dismantling of the public education system as we know it, has been a consistent thread throughout right-wing politics since 1954," McKinney said. "so we shouldn't be surprised that tuition vouchers constitute a central part of the Christian Coalition agenda."

"The bottom line is that the Christian Coalition is not about taking a 'moral stand,' she continued, "the Christian Coalition is about winning elections and holding power. And with a budget of \$25 million, and distribution of 40 million voter guides, and a massive phone bank operation on behalf of its favorite candidates, it is a well oiled, successful political machine."

McKinney also urged keeping a close eye of radical right-wing militia groups, who are amassing armaments for a "race war" they claim is imminent, she says.

One of the African-American community's other greatest challenges ahead is saving its children, McKinney said. She talked about visiting a detention center recently where African-Americans made up 85 percent of the population, and talking with young black males who had committed serious crimes.

McKinney said she found disillusionment among them, some not having a clue as to what kind of

perilous road they were on, others who knew they needed direction, but didn't know where to find it.

Using her 11-year-old son as an example, she talked about the importance of giving him that direction so he could grow up strong, respectful of women, and "proud of his blackness."

"One thing is clear to me," McKinney said. "The most important thing I can give my son is a

social conscience -an understanding of who he is, and why life ain't always as simple and easy as 'Fresh Prince,' 'Urkel,' and 'Amen,' which have limited meaning," McKinney said.

"I want my son to know himself. I want him to know that when I say role model, I don't mean Dennis Rodman, I don't mean Clarence Thomas, and I don't mean what he sees on television in music videos."

Congratulations!



Dr. Tiffney Harper

Congratulations goes out to Tiffney Harper for completion of her Doctor of Dental Surgery degree from Howard University College of Dentistry located in Washington, DC. Tiffney completed high school in Greenville, NC at J.H. Rose in 1989. After receiving her high school diploma, she attended North Caro-

lina Central University where she conferred her Bachelor of Science degree in biology on May 10, 1993. Three days after receiving her degree from NCCU, she began her dental career at HUCD. The graduation ceremony was held on May 10, 1997. CONGRATULATIONS DR TIFFINEY HARPER!!

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Pity the consumer - Black and White

By Dr. Lenora Fulani

Take the latest controversy over the stunningly talented golfer Tiger Woods. Within hours after he had won the Masters Tournament, television commentators were debating the "meaning" of his triumph and of the public enthusiasm for it. On CNN's Capitol Gang, the Sunday night weekly political affairs talk show, Tiger's extraordinary performance was the big topic. Several commentators proclaimed that Wood's enormous popularity — which crossed racial lines — was an indicator that America was truly a "meritocracy" where talent, drive and accomplishment were revered and "trumped" race.

Suddenly Tiger Woods was no longer a golfer, nor a Black golfer, nor an incredibly famous and popular Black golfer. He was a symbol of what these political pundits — all of whom are white — are selling to the American people: That's the notion that America, deep down inside, is color blind. And that it should be.

Of course, the salesmanship did not stop there. By the day after the last round of the Masters, the Black radio talk show phone lines were buzzing with commentary about Tiger Woods.

Some were insistent that a most

important feature of Tiger's game is that he is Black. There was criticism of Woods' seeming unwillingness to emphasize his African American identity. The message was that Tiger and America were acting colorblind. And they shouldn't, because that denies racism.

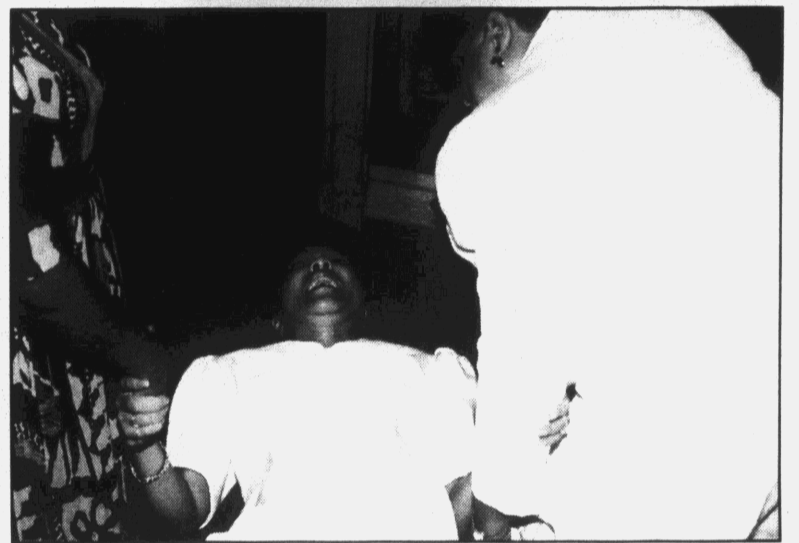
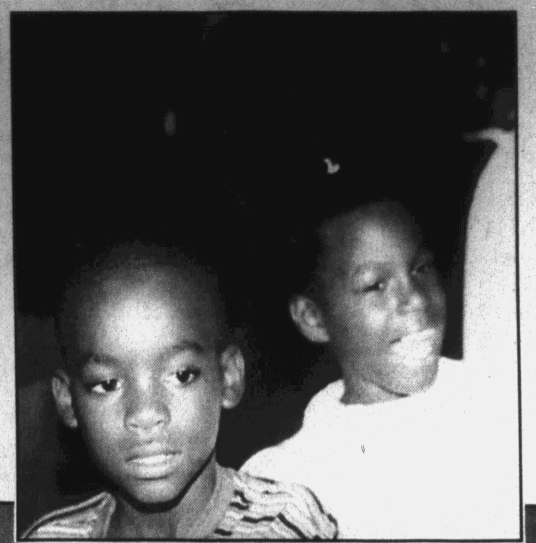
This national dialogue on golf contains the two most pervasive sales pitches on race. For the white "salespeople," there is no racism. It's bad for business. For the Black "salespeople," there is only racism.

If these are the positions of the "salesmen," what are the positions of ordinary Black and white Americans on race? Like any consumers who go to the store, you can only buy what's on the shelf. Is it what we really want? Doesn't matter. It's what's for sale.

Lenora B. Fulani twice ran for President of the U.S. as an independent, making history in 1988 when she became the first woman and African American to get on the ballot in all fifty states

Dr. Fulani is currently a leading activist in the Reform Party and chairs the Committee for a Unified Independent Party. She can be reached at 800-288-3201 or at www.Fulani.org.

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Betty

Continued From Page 1

there had been a racist incident in the vicinity recently.

While Shabazz fights for her life, her grandson is enduring his own personal trauma and bewilderment, and with each report, his troubled past becomes more evident. He first came into the news back in 1995 when he mother, Qubilah, was arrested for allegedly hiring a hit man to kill Minister Louis Farrakhan of the Nation of Islam. Her apparent motivation was to avenge her father's death which she had witnessed that harrowing day at the Audubon Ball-

room when she was four years old. Like her mother, who for many years often asserted that Farrakhan was involved in the assassination of her husband, Qubilah believed Farrakhan was responsible for killing the father she dearly loved.

Arrested for her part in the plot, Qubilah eluded prosecution when the charges were waived. If she agreed to accept responsibility for her role in the plot and seek help for her chemical dependency, a clean bill of health was hers, literally and figuratively.

She was sent to Texas, where she worked at a radio station. And in May all the charges against her were formally dropped, two years after Shabazz and Farrakhan rec-

onciled their differences. Meanwhile, her son, then reported to be mentally disturbed, was removed from her and placed in her mother's custody, which must have been a temporary move since it conflicts with reports that Malcolm had only recently been living with his grandmother.

Several accounts of the tragedy suggest that Malcolm set the fire because he wanted to return to Texas, that he was trying to frighten his grandmother.

Shabazz (nee Sanders) was in charge of the office of Institutional Advancement and public relations at Medgar Evers College. During the arraignment some clarity may occur, but it will not remove the dread that for years has stalked the ill-fated Shabazz family.

Dawson

Continued From Page 1

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Say Cheese!



Shown here is Ms. Shirley Hunter, Brother Weaver, and daughter

Burns

Continued From Page 1

be cosmetic and physical problems. Patients will never fully regain their pre-injury appearance. "With aggressive therapy they can get back to near normal appearance," Yurt said.

At the U.S. Army Institute of Surgical Research, Dr. David Harrington, chief of the Burn Study Unit, put the odds for Shabazz's survival at less than 20 percent.

The fact that she has survived so far has little impact on her outcome. "She still has a long way to go," he said.

In addition, the psychological problems later on are immense. Harrington said that it is a "tremendous violation of one's body image." He concluded that what is most important is "concentration on survival and pain control. If the patient is alive four weeks from now then we can consider the other problems."

Andrew Munster, director of the Burn Center at John Hopkins

Bayview Medical Center in Baltimore, spoke highly of the facility at Jacobi. "Jacobi has an international reputation as a first-class burn center," he said. "There are 25 leading burn centers that are state of the art and Jacobi is one of them. I'm sure she is getting the best possible care."

The burn center, a component of the Jacobi Medical Center's level 1 trauma center, was founded in 1955. It is one of only two burn units in all of New York City. The center admits over 200 patients a year and sees over 500 more on an out-patient basis.

Prayers

Continued From Page 1

prayer and in love," she added.

Hazel Dukes, president of NAACP Branches, described Shabazz as a "woman of fortitude" who has provided strength to the civil rights struggle and to women in America and Africa.

Roy Innis, chairman of the Congress of Racial Equality (CORE), sent his prayers and deepest wishes for Shabazz' safe recovery.

"As a mother, sister and educator," Innis continued, "Dr. Shabazz has proudly carried her late husband's memory and message as an inspiration for us all ..."

Brooklyn community leader James T. Connolly said he was confident Shabazz will survive the "horrendous experience." Connolly also said he was sure that with the "help of God Dr. Shabazz and family will overcome." Political activist Dr. Lenora Fulani called the situation a "terrible tragedy" and said her heart goes out to Shabazz and the entire family. Ella McDonald, who graduated

with Shabazz from nursing school in 1956, said she too was praying that her former classmate recovers.

"We don't know why things happen, but sometimes things happen for a reason," McDonald said. "All we have to do now is pray," she added. Civil rights activist Sonny Carson said Shabazz means a lot to the Black liberation struggle in America.

Carson said he hopes last Sunday's incident would be a wake up call for all parents and grandparents; "We cannot put

ECU's Summer Theatre season announced

GREENVILLE, N.C.—The East Carolina Summer Theatre announces its 1997 Season, which will include two blockbuster musicals, CRAZY FOR YOU (June 24-28, 8pm each evening with 2pm matinees June 25 and 28) and NUNSENSE II: The Second Com-

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Season and individual tickets are now on sale. Tickets may be purchased in person, Monday

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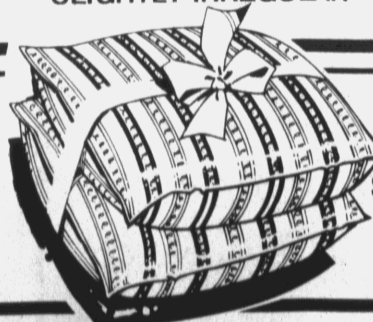
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