

The Minority Voice

Serving Eastern North Carolina Since 1981

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FREE!

To cultivate kindness is a valuable part of the business of life- SAMUEL JOHNSON

Can Residents resurrect a Historic Black Town ?

By Eric Ture Muhammad

Princeville - Ravaged in mid-September by floodwaters that rose 48 feet over a period of four to eight days, residents of Princeville are returning to what is left of their town to rebuild lives and return others to rest.

Across the street from a road marker that identifies Highway 64, just a few hundred feet from the remnants of the Town Hall, stands a National Historical Society plaque that reads, "Freedom Hill - Community established here by freed blacks in 1865. Incorporated as Princeville in 1885." Today, 110 years since its incorporation, new markers in recent days have become more prominent than the historical plaque.

Small fluorescent flags affixed to thin wire rods mark the open graves of Blacks in Princeville, Greenwood, Wilson and Dancy

cemeteries. At a pace of 16 per day, remains of town residents are replanted in the cities' four adjacent graveyards after the floodwaters of Hurricane Floyd unearthed them, sending 224 caskets on a wild water ride along the Carolina coast. Public health officials, Red Cross teams and the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) supervised the burials while other unit members train to take over the reburial process.

One of the markers belongs to Braswell Moses in the Princeville Cemetery. He was among the "floaters," as they were sometimes called. Along the bottom of the dug-out grave lay the leg bone of Moses, waiting to be rejoined with the sum of his parts. "First an archeologist comes to collect bone fragments that are found at the graves. He then matches them to remains already examined. Once the match is made, he then flags the grave with the appropriate marker signifying the match," said a professional gravedigger whose company from Redding, Pa., was contracted by federal officials to handle the reburial of the flooded coffins.

Even more noticeable are the bright "X" marks spray painted on practically every home and commercial building in the area.

Where the markings once signified rescue efforts, it is now rumored that it is part of an elaborate scheme by government agencies to buy out the town.

"The X marks was an indicated for the rescue people. It told them that residents cleared the homes and that it had already been searched for people who may have been trapped inside," said Kim Burwell, a crisis assistant to the city's mayor, Delia Perkins. Many residents now say that the marks indicate which homes will be torn down because of FEMA's buyout proposal. The proposal offers residents fair-market value for their property. "It will belong to the Federal government and you will never be able to buy it back," said Burwell. So far the town has resisted the offer, which Perkins insists has to be approved by the city's governing board, and that comes only after there is majority consent from the city's

residents.

Another pressure has been the Small Business Administration's (SBA) grant assistance program. "I believe it offers \$16,500 per qualified family, but the average approval has been only for \$4,000. You can't rebuild a kitchen for that," exclaimed Burwell. "The other thing that people need to know is that this is not ready money. At the closing, you will pay any federal debts owed, taxes, your existing house note and you still will have to wait on the money. Hurricane Fran came years ago and the people of Raleigh, N.C., are still waiting for the money they agreed to under the program."

The near 2,000 residents have been moved to a government trailer park that residents angrily refer to as "FEMA-ville." Some trailers house as many as eight people with one bathroom, sofa and two bunk beds. FEMA said residents would be allowed to remain there for 18 months until housing is provided or an authorized return to their homes is granted. Those living in FEMA-ville are expected to repay the government for their temporary housing once relocated.

"They want the properties, there is no doubt about it," said homeowner Tim Bridgers.

Bridgers and his wife were the first to return to their home, but they first had to outsmart the National Guard. "They were everywhere. We had to drive 80 miles around the city, rent a paddleboat and row our way in heavy water currents back to the country. It [currents] destroyed the boat, but we got to our house," he said.

The homes in Princeville are not elaborately built. They are modest, mostly wood-framed bungalows laced along sandy, tree-lined and semi-paved streets. Unemployment had always been high and incomes low. Now those homes, many barely standing, are caked in mud and debris. Many of the homes are beyond repair.

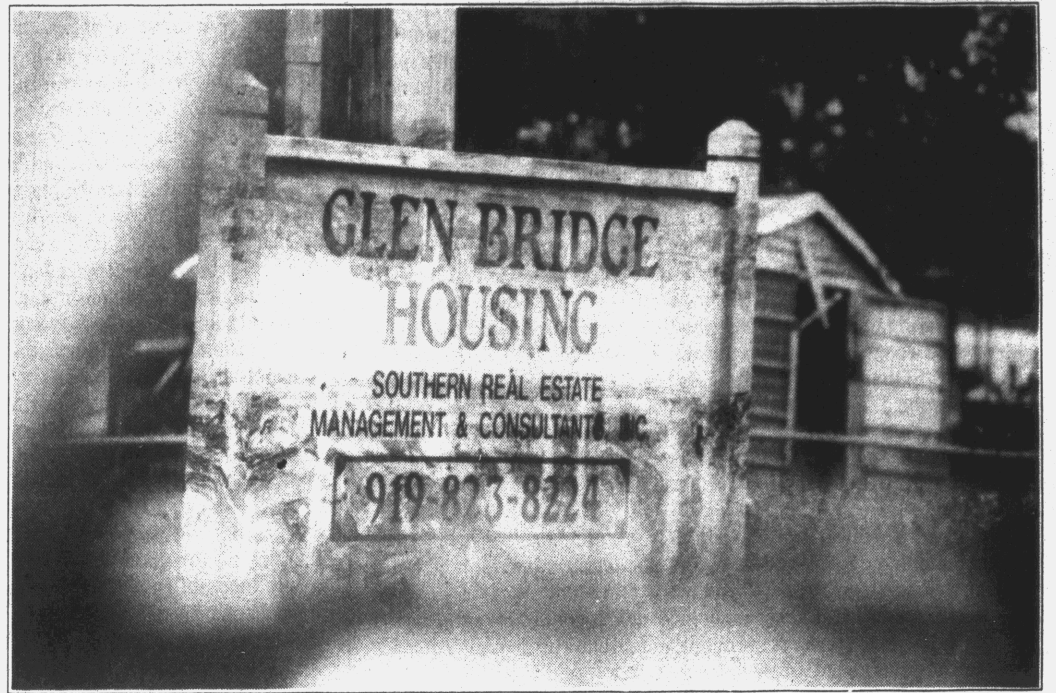
"This town belongs to the grandchildren and great-grandchildren of slaves. We are too proud of our heritage to let our town die," stated Perkins in an

interview.

"Why should they pay?" asked Bridgers. "The state added on Highway 64 and created a funnel. When the dike broke in Raleigh, that forced the water down to Rocky Mount. When the pressure got too great for Rocky Mount, they opened their dam and the water filled Princeville like a bucket. None of us found out about the water coming until 3:30 that morning when the Army and sheriffs were knocking on our doors telling us we had to leave."

"This was nothing but a big swamp full of mosquitoes and snakes," said Princeville resident and former Mayor Glenny Mathewson. "Others, he said, mainly Turner Prince, stayed and fought the snakes, mosquitoes and everything else. No one wanted to live there but us," he concluded.

States estimates of highway and road damage have reached \$80 billion and are climbing. Former presidential candidate and native of North Carolina, Elizabeth Dole, recently wrote Pres. Bill Clinton demanding immediate assistance for the state. Princeville was the hardest hit according to all surveyors. The Clinton administration has voiced concerns for the state and visited



Well known land mark, the devastation of Hurricane Floyd can be seen on this sign of Glen Bridge housing project. Dark areas on the sign tell how high the water was. Long live Freedom Hill AKA Princeville our African City.

Photo by Jim Rouse

The Delta Academy



The Delta Academy: Catching the Dreams of tomorrow-Preparing Young Women for the 21st Century is a signature program for Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc.

The Pitt County Alumnae Chapter makes the commitment annually to involve itself in the lives of at-risk girls, 11-14 years old, who demonstrate the potential to succeed, but may not have the necessary support system in place, nor the encouragement necessary to help them believe that yes-you-too-can achieve in math, science, technology and the Arts and be prepared to compete for the jobs of the future.

The Pitt County Alumnae Delta Academy objectives include: Encouraging local Deltas to use their collective power and resources to impact the lives of

at-risk African American females ages 11-14; Providing all participants with a special place to learn and share their experiences, their hopes and their dreams for the future.

Offering to Delta Academy students the opportunity to catch their dreams and accomplish great things together in the areas of sisterhood, scholarship, service and non-traditional careers for African American females.

Providing African American role models of encouragement for girls at this critical point in their lives and education, while inspiring desire for higher education; Increasing self-esteem and leadership abilities;

Improving math, reading, writing and cognitive skill building; Combating crime and teen pregnancies; Developing and increas-

ing marketable work skills in today's youth and giving them a sense of direction

The following young ladies are members of the 1999-2000 Class of the Dr. Betty Shabazz Delta Academy sponsored by the Pitt County Alumnae Chapter: Regina Elliott, Cheetora Moore, Gewl Galberth, Bridget Parlor, Quoshonda Knight, Shaquona Randolph, Tiffany Knight, Geishia Smith, Amber Moore, Kaitlyn Smith, Sherita Stephenson, Britney Tyson, Sheritha Wilson, Janita Wooten, and Pearl Yarrell.

For additional information or to register a young lady for future Delta Academics, call Valarie Gatlin, Academy Chairperson & Vice-President, at 551-0962 or the Chapter President, Renee Darden at 355-5968.



ATTENTION MEN IT'S RETREAT TIME AGAIN!

Reggie Price, WOOW's radio personality for the mid-day and drive time gospel music mix party is inviting men from all over the city and surrounding areas to join him and the Philippi Church of Christ men for an exciting Men's retreat. The theme for this year is "Men Of The Millennium, Blessed And Empowered, Coming Together On One Accord" Pictured above is a crew of 19 men who participated in the

men's retreat in 1997. Last year there were 22 men. This year 40 plus men have already registered to attend this year's retreat. Mr. Price says "When a man experiences this retreat he does not return the same." "The men come as better men, better husbands, better brothers and better fathers." "Some have left on crack and came back crack-free." Trinity bus line will be leaving Philippi Church in Greenville, November

the 18th at 12:00 midnight. The cost of the retreat is \$150.00 per person. The bus will travel to the Ebenezer A.M.E. church in Fort Washington, Maryland then the bus will proceed to the Xerox Training Center in Leesburg, Virginia. The workshop will include: buffet breakfast, buffet lunch and buffet dinner. The bus will return on Sunday evening, November 21st.

Evelyn Littles Receives Most Votes for Alderman



By Stephen Johnson ("M" Voice Editor)

Traditionally, the candidate who receives the most votes becomes Mayor.

If selected to become mayor Evelyn Littles will become the first African American and the first female to ever hold the position in the history of Grimesland.

Evelyn Littles served on the Board Directors of the NC League of Municipal for two years, as

well as, on the Board of Directors for the NAACP. She graduated from G. R. Whitfield High School in North Carolina and continued her education at New York University Adult Education Program. She attended several business courses there and received certificates while employed as a secretary at the university from 1957-1966.

Some of the issues she stands for is safety and security for all citizens of Grimesland. And zero tolerance on illegal drug trafficking.

Be apart of the Glory

ALTERNATIVE VIEWPOINT



KLEAVER'S KLIPPINS Explaining the 'Real' Facts of Life

A couple of months ago, the Willis family had their annual summer reunion. This was a different family gathering. It was different because for the first time in nearly 20 years, all of the youngsters were able to be present.

In previous years, the children of the four brothers and two sisters of the Willis clan, had for one reason or another for not been able to attend. For the most part, just the senior adults had been involved in the previous gatherings.

Now, the children were all out of college and were getting settled in their own individual careers and business. For some of them, this was the first time in their lives they had been able touch bases with all of their cousins, aunts and uncles.

A program was planned. One of the brothers was a minister and he was called upon to offer the prayer and the blessing. This was done and the women and some of the men retreated to the area where the foods would be served. An older uncle was seated about 25 yards away from the rest of the food with some kind of weird contraption at his feet.

When he was asked about this "thing" he had, he just laughed and said, "This is my turkey fryer." Nobody believed him of course, until they saw him empty about three gallons of peanut oil into it, then light a fire under it.

He then pulled a whole turkey from a huge chest. The bird looked as though it weighed about 16-19 lbs. He injected the turkey with some spices and stuff and then he tied a lightweight nylon rope through it. He lowered the turkey into the boiling oil and the crowd grew. They had never heard of fried turkey.

As the pots and pans came forward on the serving table, some of the younger folk were amazed. They saw chitterlings (chittlins), smoked ham, (somebody had had a ham shipped from Arkansas), mounds of fried chicken, ribs, smoked sausages, roast beef and pork roast. One of the women had found some pigtailed and cooked them with white beans. There were at least three different huge pots of greens. One had mixed greens, another had just collards and another had greens cooked with okra.

There were several different pans of yams and sweet potatoes. One was cooked with apples, brown sugar and cinnamon and topped with marshmallows. Another had pecans in it and then there were a few with just sweet potatoes, sugars and spice.

Of course there was corn on the cob and potato salad, some with mustard, and some without. The desserts were too numerous to attempt to count, with at least six different kinds of cakes and maybe ten different kinds of pies and with always more of the same waiting in the wings.

One of the oddities of this reunion was that some of the foods that were there were new to some of the young people. They didn't know anything about "dirty rice" or fried gizzards. They didn't know about pigtailed, pig ears or "snoots." This was indeed a cultural awakening for many of them.

An amazing thing happened however. As the younger people ate, they initially criticized the choice of food, claiming it was unhealthy. They were looking for snacks that were fat free and perhaps Sushi, even. They complained about the deserts and the pork, calling the ribs and other pork "swine."

Then, one of the older family members happened to hear the criticism. He didn't make an issue, he just began to talk about the history of the family. He explained that the young people who were concerned about the food were probably right in some of the cases. But, he explained this food was the food that had brought generation after generation of this and many other black families through hard times.

He talked at length about the times when their family didn't have anything other than the scraps from the table at the big house. He explained about the depression years and how their faith in God and their own ingenuity in fixing whatever was available had seen them through the rough years.

As the evening wore down, and the darkness began to creep in, some member of the family had brought a large television set and VCR to the park for the family members to gather around to watch "Soul Food."

Some of the youngsters had seen it in the theater and some other others had seen it on television. There were, however, several of the older folk who had not seen it, and didn't know what it was about.

As the movie played, people became engrossed in it. Sniffles could be heard from more than one person. Noses being blown and discreet coughs made it clear that the people were enjoying the movie.

But nobody could explain why the tears came. Nobody could say why so many were crying at this silly movie.

Then great-grandma Willis, a stately woman with much class as style belied her 77 years. She spoke up and in a clear voice said, "Just in case anybody wants to know, yes, I cried when I saw that movie. It took me home and it made me have a better understanding of all those years that had gone by. I remembered my granny and granpaw, I could see them picking peas in Carolina. I could hear them talking among themselves in a room with the coal oil lamp at night."

"I remember Sunday morning breakfast with hot biscuits and sorghum and sometimes some fatback or jowl bacon," she continued. After church on Sunday morning, mama and granny would come home, fry chicken and we would have greens and candied yams and Aunt Minnie would bake a marble cake with white icing. We would eat and then sit around on the front porch and talk about the week past and the week to come."

"Make no mistake about it, this movie took me home and the feeling in that household is the same feeling that ought to exist at this family reunion."

As she spoke, her eyes filled with tears, as if she was remembering those family members who had gone on, and she looked at the youngsters who had been critical and she said, "This is the soul food movie for our family. It tells the story of the love we have shared and all of the things we have had to do to keep the family together."

GOP: The White People's Party

"Democrats remade themselves as the black people's party." Suppose former Speaker of the House Newt Gingrich said that. What would happen? Before you could say, "Jesse Jackson's next press conference," Gingrich would deny the remark, say he was misquoted, say it was taken out of context, before finally apologizing.

Well, a national leader did make a similar remark. NAACP chairman Julian Bond, in a recent speech, said, "Republicans remade themselves as the white people's party."

Yet in a typical national election, the "white vote" splits fairly evenly between Democrat and Republican. Minorities and single women tip the scales. As a percentage, far more whites vote Democrat than blacks vote Republican. Blacks show more loyalty to a party—in this case, Democratic—than does any group in America. Clinton's job approval rate among blacks hovers around 90 percent. So, the hypothetical Newt Gingrich remark, calling the Democratic Party the "black people's party," would have been far more accurate than Julian Bond's remark about Republicans and white people. Oh, well.

But there's more. Bond gave a ringing defense of affirmative action, stating that "...affirmative action made the black middle class ... affirmative action helped a third of all blacks." Really. In their book, *America in Black and White*, Stephan and Abigail Thernstrom show that the black middle class existed and grew well before affirmative action. Moreover, they point out that affirmative action did not accelerate the growth of the black middle class.

And economist Thomas Sowell recently wrote, "Yet the rapid growth of that (black) middle class began even before the civil rights revolution of the 1960s, much less the racial quotas and preferences that began in the 1970s. The rise of blacks into professional and similar occupations was faster in the five years preceding passage of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 than in the five years following its passage."

Bond is, quite simply, wrong. But this blind belief—no affirmative action, no black middle class—dominates contemporary thinking among "black leaders" and many other liberals. This mistaken view explains the almost pathological defense of big government and the indifference towards the unfair middle class tax burden. After all, but for government's benevolence, where would blacks be?

Note Bond says a third of all blacks owe affirmative action. Atlanta Mayor Bill Campbell places the figure at 100 percent: "Everybody who's a person of color in this country has benefited from affirmative action. There has not been anybody who has gotten into college on their own, nobody who's gotten a job on their own, no one who's prospered as a businessman or a businesswoman on their own without affirmative action." 33 percent versus 100 percent? Pretty big difference. But why quibble?

Now, no speech by a "black leader" seems complete without the obligatory attack on Ronald Reagan. Bond said, "Then Reagan removed government from every aspect of American life. They attempted to destroy all the laws that say America should be bias-free." Reagan removed government from every aspect of American life? Hey, despite promises, the GIP couldn't even shut down the Departments of Energy and Education. Social spending under Ronald Reagan went up, not down.

If Bond means that Reagan's policies hurt black people, wrong again. Under Reagan, black adult unemployment fell faster than did white unemployment. Black teenage unemployment fell faster than did white teenage unemployment. And blacks started businesses at a rate faster than did whites, with the pace of revenues exceeding that of whites. In 1981, the nation's poverty rate stood at 14 percent. It declined to 11.6 percent in 1988, Reagan's last year in office.

Republicans, the white people's party? Nearly half of all adults own stock, either directly or through some investment vehicle like a 401-K. This means that Americans of all races have a stake in strong, prosperous, growing companies. Since Republicans tax and regulate less—good things for the corporate bottom line—who is looking out for the little guy?

Despite the dastardly Reagan, the black middle class grew. What does this say? It confirms Barbara Bush's remark, "What happens in your house is more important than what happens in the White House."

So, Mr. Bond's pessimism is unwarranted. Worse than pessimism, however, is wasted energy. The tough problems—teen pregnancy, under-performing schools, crime—get slighted in favor of the gratifying (but ultimately unproductive) kicking of Ronald Reagan and the Republicans.

The great black singer Joe Williams just died. Like many of his black contemporaries, he toiled in relative obscurity until his mid-thirties, never reaching the status of other white crooners. When asked whether he felt bitter, Williams said, "A friend of mine once said that hate is too important an emotion to waste on someone you don't like." You know, like Republicans.

(Larry Elder is a talk show host on KABC Radio.)

MY THOUGHTS

Elvis? Hitler? or Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.?

By EARL OFARI HUTCHINSON, PhD



PART 1

If the voting booth closed and the ballots were counted today for *Time* magazine's Person of the Century" either Elvis Presley or Adolph Hitler would be runaway vote getters over Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Both men each have nearly doubled the number of votes that King has gotten for *Time* Magazine's top spot.

Since *Time* announced its national poll for "Person of the Century" earlier this year, King's vote total has barely budged. The editors insist that the poll is just that, a poll, and they will make and announce their final selection in December. But the fact that he has barely made the top ten list tells much about how little the towering contributions King has made to the movements for social change in this century are appreciated.

A King selection for the top spot should have less to do with what the editors at *Time* think about him than what the millions globally who have benefited from the movements for civil rights, peace and justice think about him. Still, *Time*'s "Person of the Century" derby is a priceless opportunity to educate young persons and remind adults of King's eternal legacy of peace and social justice and the need to continue the struggle to fulfill that legacy.

Yet King's contributions remain in mortal danger of being shoved to the wayside of history. Much of the public tightly labels him as a

"black leader," a "civil rights" leader, or say that he simply imitated Gandhi. These are huge myths. King certainly was a staunch practitioner of Gandhi's tactics of non-violent resistance and non-accommodation to injustice. But he took his teacher's message and refined, broadened and stretched it into a global moral imperative for all humankind. That moral imperative stretched way beyond the limits of the civil rights movement.

When he formed the Southern Christian Leadership Conference in 1957, King staked out the moral high ground for the infant modern day civil rights movement. It was classic good versus evil. Many white Americans were sickened by the gory news scenes of baton welding racist Southern sheriffs, firehoses, police dogs, and Klan violence unleashed against peaceful black protesters.

King made it possible, even obligatory, for millions of persons throughout the world to condemn racial segregation as immoral and indefensible. The civil rights movement spurred students and workers in Asia, Africa, and Latin America to oppose the military strongmen, dictators and demagogues in their countries. He inspired liberation priests in Latin America, and student demonstrators in Europe. He deeply influenced the struggle against Apartheid in South Africa. Nelson Mandela has repeatedly said that he owes a profound debt of gratitude to King.

Mandela is not the only major leader to say

that. Caesar Chavez, a leader much deserving of praise and gratitude for his selfless contributions to peace and social justice, made his greatest mark as champion of the farmworkers and labor organizing battles. Chavez never hesitated to admit that King taught and inspired him.

Nearly all of the main anti-war leaders expressed their debt of gratitude to King. They recognized that his brave and outspoken opposition to the Vietnam war and militarism gave a huge boost to the anti-war movement. The leaders of the gay rights, and women's movements also owe a debt of gratitude to King. They too were inspired by him and borrowed heavily from the tactics of the civil rights movement.

With due respect to Elvis, and (ugh) Hitler, this is what we should tell the editors at *Time* magazine when they pick their "Person of the Century."

Time Magazine email: letters@time.com fax: (212) 522-8949 (Earl Ofari Hutchinson is director of the National Alliance for Positive Action. On Oct. 27, the National Alliance will hold a Martin Luther King "Person of the Century" Walk. The group is calling for similar walks and commemorations in other cities between October 27 and 30 to urge everyone to tell *Time* Magazine to make King the "Person of the Century." He can be heard on KPFK Radio, 90.7, Tuesdays, 7-8 p.m.)

BETWEEN THE LINES

'Their' Times 1999 Most Influential: Example of Why 'Lists' Can be Dangerous

By A. ASADULLAH SAMAD



The homogenized version of community (black) press put out by the *Los Angeles Times*, a weekly insert called *Our Times*, put out a "most influential" list a couple of weeks ago. It represented a perfect example of why one should be very careful about compiling lists. Particularly when you label it, "Most Influential." Did the list convey some people with some influence? Definitely. People who are "Most familiar (People you're most likely to see everywhere)," maybe. People who are "Most popular," questionable. People who are "Most Influential" in the lives of people in Crenshaw and Inglewood, a few but not many. Definitely not 103.

After a couple dozen calls of "Samad, did you see that #@%!" I thought I'd take up the paper's offer for a public critique of its list ("Did we goof?") before it puts out its reader's list. I'm qualified inasmuch as I'm not exactly looking to get on anybody's (particularly the other's man) list, and the "listees" are not likely to take me seriously, but the rest of the community readership will. I love being in the position of being underestimated (freedom does that kind of thing). Comin' outta nowhere works.

Why is this list particularly dan-

gerous? Because it gives a false impression of degrees of influence that are deeply flawed, highly exclusionary and quite partisan in the *Los Angeles Times* desire to make "its leaders" in our communities. In fact, the editorial "lead-in" to "the list" states that there is no real (scientific) basis for their picks. They say they were just "our" picks to "invoke debate..." Well, that it did.

Imagining playing a game and saying it doesn't matter "who won." Vince Lombardi once said, "If it doesn't matter who wins or loses, then why do we keep score?" If you're going to have a "most" anything, what's the basis for the number you settle on? Why 103? Why not 33, or just three? Clearly, this helps you understand that there is another motive in mind.

A group of us, who know the community sat around a table to "have fun" with this list. We counted 22 people (that we could agree upon) that actually had "most influential" status in the community. We counted another 31 that had "some juice" status (Brownie point: naming teachers was a nice touch). That left another fifty (50) people that we all said, "???" in terms of the level of influence they had in the community. *Our Times* should have entitled its list, "103 people we like in

Crenshaw and Inglewood." There would have been no controversy over that. People can like who they want to like, but when you designate it "most influential," it's highly misleading, almost irresponsible and downright wack!!

Here's how ridiculous this list was; there were no community media organizations on the list. There are five black-owned newspapers, one black-owned radio station, and two community-based magazines that provide tens of thousands in the community their principle sources of information (news and views) on a daily or weekly basis. Black radio and black newspapers are the most influential entities for information in our community. You'd think one publisher, editor, writer, or general manager would make the list, right? Nope.

There are three community banks that provide thousands of community people services that the so-called "conventional" banks don't. They put millions of dollars into loans for home ownership and business (when the other man rejects many of them). Did one community bank CEO make the list? Nope.

There are two major medical centers (on Prarie and Santa Rosalia) with dozens of community-based doctors who treat hundreds of pa-

tients on a daily basis. Did any make the list? Nope.

One of the top academic private schools in the nation (Marcus Garvey)—which has graduated hundreds of students into top colleges with so-called incorrigible youth from inner city schools—made the list, right? Nope (nor did several other high achieving private schools in the area).

Did any of the bookstore owners, restaurant-owners (except Flying Fox), and watering holes where thousands of people frequent to eat and socialize "in their community," and discuss the issues of the day make the list? Nope. The owner of the most successful funeral home in "our" community serving over 5,000 bereaved families a year, did he make the list? Nope. Nor did lawyers like Johnnie Cochran or Melanie Lomax? Nor did the top two gang intervention agencies in the area make "the list." All of these were literally "no-brainers" for a "most influential" list. Then there was "the list's" biased subjectivity. If people are influential, they make the list whether you like them or not.

Can you imagine the nation's most recognizable former congresswoman (and county supervisor) making the list, but not the nation's currently most recognizable (and

most influential with President Clinton) congresswoman, who represents the district this list covers, not making the list? Nor the sitting state senator (and chair of the Black Caucus), nor the sitting assemblymen (in Crenshaw and Inglewood)? None of them made the list.

The "big" old Churches (FAME, West Angeles, Holman and Crenshaw Christian Center) made the list, but the fastest growing large "progressive" non-denominational are currently the influential congregation in the faith community. Can you imagine the Crenshaw Chamber president making the list, and not the presidents of the "more influential" business trade organizations from the Black Business Association of the Greater Los Angeles African American Chamber? Or even the L.A. Chamber of Commerce with its president, Essential Burt's, being from our community, not making "the list?"

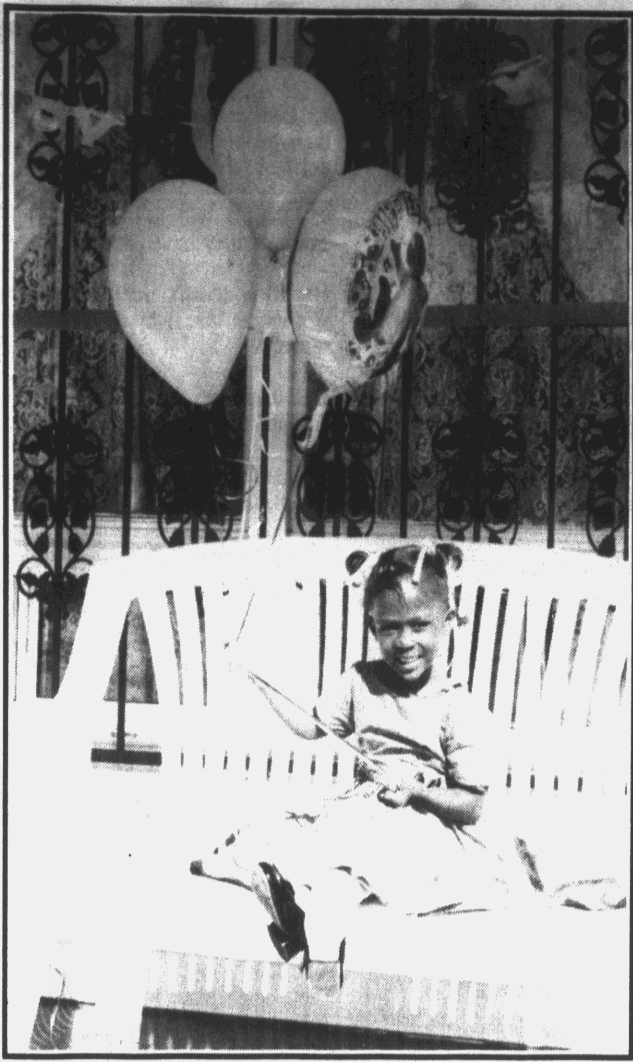
None of 'em made it. There were notable "exceptions." A few that made the list are not from Crenshaw/Inglewood. But there are three Cal State University presidents that did not make the list. What's the basis for going out of the area? There were some "Pasadena" activists, and "South Bay" people who made the list, but some very obvious senior

activists and elected officials that didn't. Very subjective choices (probably for political correctness sake).

The most glaring (and aggravating) bias was that demonstrated toward young leadership. Not one person under the age of 30 made the list. One person age 30 (actress Wendy Robinson) made the list. Los Angeles has learned very little since 1992 in terms of who's running what in L.A. There are some young professionals and community advocates doing some wonderful things in L.A.—none of it being recognized. If you don't think they have influence, attend one of their functions and see thousands of people you've never seen before, few of whom know you. They have their own network and their own leadership. And they probably recognize few people "on the list" as influencing their realities.

"The list" clearly continues to ignore a whole (probably our best trained) generation of technocrats and "cyber-prenuers" that have more influence than most anyone they named. Tsk, tsk.

Making lists is a very dangerous proposition. It not only let's people know what you think you know, it makes it very obvious to people what you don't know. And that can hurt you.



A birthday celebration was held for little four year old Jasmine Cooper Saturday October 23rd at her home on Lincoln Drive Greenville, NC. To help her celebrate were her parents Mr. & Mrs. David Cooper, her older brother David Cooper, Jr. and a host of relatives and friends. Jasmine posed for the M Voice camera with a big birthday smile

Photo By Faith May



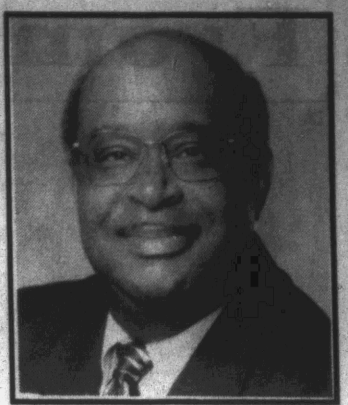
Two Strong Black Brothers, Butch Congleton and Na'imark posed for the "M" Voice outside Greenville Cable Television Station. They both appeared as guest on Jim Rouse's Minority Voice television program.

Photo By Jim Rouse



Women's Conference 99, shown above is DR. Ruth Peterson pastor of Anointed One's Church in Ayden, NC along with Evangelist to her right and DR. Scott to her left as well as Julie Aheart and CO-pastor Helen Williams-DR. Peterson and speakers were guest on WOOV discussing annual Women's Conference. If your looking for a church home DR. Peterson and the congregation of Anointed Ones Church welcomes you.

Photo by Jim Rouse



ROBERT L. "BOB" MOORE

Brooks wins council seat by 22 votes

Incumbent candidates took all but one of Washington's political leadership positions in Tuesday's municipal election, with all vote totals being unofficial.

For mayor of Washington, L. Stewart Rumley was re-elected.

The City Council nearly followed suit, with four of five incumbents being re-elected.

Rumley received 1,008 votes in his bid for another term. His nearest challenger was Muriel Brothers, a write-in candidate, who garnered 38 votes.

The four highest vote-getters in the City Council election were incumbents.

Incumbent Judy Meier Jennette, who received the highest vote total of the 12 candidates, collected 746 votes.

Second in the council race was incumbent Emma W. Howard, who tallied 625 votes.

Third in number of votes was incumbent Ed Gibson, who received 584 votes.

Incumbent Dan Olson collected 580 votes and was the fourth highest vote-getter.

The newcomer on the council is Richard Louis Brooks, who received 576 votes.

Incumbent Douglas Mercer was sixth highest vote-getter in the in the City Council race, finishing 22 votes behind Brooks. Mercer collected 554 votes.

Challenger William T. "Bill" Booth Sr., finished next in line with 13 votes less than Mercer, or 541 votes.

EASLEY APPOINTS BEALLY TO SBI DIRECTORSHIP



Bryan E. Beatty

Attorney General Mike Easley announced the appointment of Bryan E. Beatty as Director N.C. State Bureau of Investigation.

Beatty, an attorney and former special agent with the SBI, currently serves as Deputy Attorney General for Policy and Planning.

"I am extremely pleased that Bryan Beatty was willing to take on this assignment," Easley said. "He is a highly talented lawyer and administrator whose skills and

expertise I have relied upon in key positions in the past. I am certain he will carry on the tradition of professionalism and integrity that makes our Bureau the envy of law enforcement agencies across the county."

Beatty has worked with the Department of Justice in a variety of capacities since 1981. As Deputy Attorney General for Policy and Planning, he served as the legislative liaison for the Department of Justice. Prior to assuming that post, he served as North Carolina's first Inspector General, where he was responsible for a staff of attorneys and investigators charged with the investigation, prosecution and prevention of fraud in state public assistance programs. Beatty also has served as an Assistant Attorney General in the Motor Vehicles Section and as a staff attorney assigned to represent the UNC Hospital system.

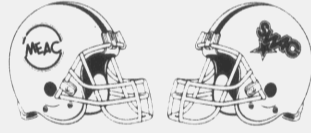
From 1981 to 1984, Beatty served as a special agent with the State Bureau of Investigation. His assignments included narcotics investigation and security to the Governor of North Carolina. In addition to his service to the State, he has worked in private practice

with the law firm of Johnson, Toal & Battiste, P.A. in Columbia, South Carolina.

Beatty is a 1987 graduate of UNC Law School and a 1981 graduate of the N.C. State Bureau of Investigation Academy at Salemburg. A native of Salisbury High School, he earned B.A. in Political Science from the State University of New York at Stony Brook in 1980.

Beatty serves on the board of directors of the Society of Former SBI Agents, the Frankie Lemmon School, and the Pines of the Carolinas Girl Scout Council.

He will succeed former director James J. Coman, who will rejoin the Attorney General's Offices as senior deputy attorney general responsible for the Law Enforcement and Prosecutions Division. "In seeking a successor to Jim Coman," Easley said, "I sought the advice of colleagues in law enforcement, the judiciary and the private sector. Bryan's unusual experience in law enforcement, as an attorney, and as Inspector General made him uniquely qualified to carry on the proud tradition of the Bureau."



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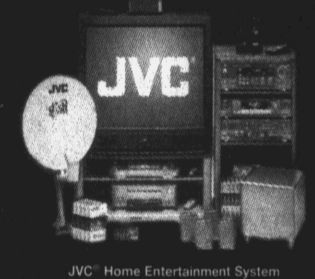
HOW YOU PLAY!

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MCDONALD'S® HERITAGE BOWL SWEEPSTAKES NO PURCHASE NECESSARY. SWEEPSTAKES OPEN TO RESIDENTS OF THE UNITED STATES ONLY. MUST BE 18 YEARS OR OLDER TO PARTICIPATE. 1. TO ENTER: Entry Form can be found in beginning about November 18, 1999 in the December issue of Essence Magazine, beginning about November 17, 1999 in the December issue of Ebony Magazine, beginning about December 1, 1999 in the December issue of BET Magazine, beginning about December 6, 1999 in select U.S. newspapers. Complete an official entry form or legibly handprint on a 3" x 5" card, paper, your name, address, city, state, zip code, daytime telephone number, date of birth and the correct half time or final score for each team in the McDonald's Heritage Bowl Game that is scheduled to be nationally televised on NBC on December 18, 1999 at 12:30PM EST. Mail the Official Entry Form to: c/o McDonald's Heritage Bowl Sweepstakes, P.O. Box 466127, Lawrenceville, GA 30042-6127. Entries must be received by January 6, 2000. You may submit as many entries as you like, but only one entry per envelope, mailed separately. Sponsor not responsible for lost, incomplete, illegible, misdirected, postage due or delayed entries. All of which will be disqualified. No mechanically reproduced entries will be accepted. All entries become sole property of the Sponsor and none will be returned. 2. DRAWING: On or about January 7, 1999 a random drawing will be conducted from all eligible entries received to award the prizes. The drawing will be conducted by an independent judging organization whose decision are final and binding in all respects. The odds of winning depend on the number of eligible entries received. Eligible entries must contain the correct half time or final score for each team in the Heritage Bowl Game. Entries selected in the random drawing will be notified by mail and/or telephone of the address, or phone number provided on the entry form and must satisfy all provisions of these Official Rules. Limit one prize per person or household. Winner will be required to sign an Affidavit of Eligibility and Release of Liability, and Publicity where legal, within seventy-two (72) hours of notification. Non-compliance within this time period or return of any prize notification as undesirable may result in disqualification with an alternate selected from the random drawing. Winner's guests will also be required to execute a Liability Release. If any of the winner's guests are a minor, the guest's parent or legal guardian must execute the Liability Release. In the event a selected entry is disqualified, the prize is returned as undesirable, or if the winner fails to comply with the conditions of prize award, the prize will be forfeited and awarded to alternate winner. 3. PRIZE: QUANTITY: ONE (1) PRIZE PER ENTRY. APPROXIMATE RETAIL VALUE: ARV. 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Prize includes roundtrip coach class air transportation for four on an airline designated by Sponsor between a major commercial airport in the continental U.S. near the winner's home as designated by the Sponsor and Sangre's International Airport in Montego Bay, Jamaica. Prize also includes ground transportation between the Renaissance Jamaica Grande and Sangre's International Airport. Trip is valid between January 30, 2000 and January 30, 2001 and is subject to availability and blackout dates including but not limited to four days before/after any major U.S. holiday, seven days before/after Easter and December 15 through January 31. Winner and guests must travel together. Prize winner is responsible for any other expenses incurred on the trip including but not limited to other ground transportation, airport taxes or fees, gratuities, any other incidental expenses and is also responsible for all required travel documents, including a passport. APPROXIMATE RETAIL VALUE FOR TRAVEL PRIZES MAY VARY DEPENDING UPON POINT OF DEPARTURE AND FARE FLUCTUATION. FOR TRAVEL PRIZES, THE ROUNDTRIP AIR TRANSPORTATION ELEMENT FOR THE PRIZE BEGINS AND ENDS AT THE DESTINATION (MAJOR COMMERCIAL AIRPORT IN THE U.S.) NEAR THE WINNER'S RESIDENCE. SPONSOR RESERVES THE RIGHT TO STRUCTURE TRAVEL ROUTE IN ITS SOLE DISCRETION. ARV \$5,040. SECOND PRIZE: Multimedia Gateway™ Computer System (5). Winner will receive one Multimedia Gateway computer system including a color monitor, DVD-ROM, graphics accelerator, sound system, hard drive, software, speakers, multi-function keyboard, mouse, and software package. Prize also includes a 3 years parts and labor limited warranty, 1 year on-site service, and limited hardware and software tech support for as long as you own the system. Prize is subject to change due to market conditions. Sponsor reserves the right to substitute a similar system of equal or greater value at its sole option, and in such case delivery may be extended as much as 6 months. ARV \$1,599. No cash alternative, substitution or transfer permitted for any prize, except of the sole discretion of Sponsor. Approximate retail value may vary depending on market conditions. Prizes awarded in the McDonald's Heritage Bowl Sweepstakes matches one for illustrative purposes only. Taxes, if any, are the sole responsibility of the winner. 5. ELIGIBILITY: Persons in any of the following categories are NOT eligible to participate or win prizes: (a) persons who on or after April 1, 1999, were or are employees or agents of McDonald's Corporation, its franchisees, employees or agents of service agencies or independent contractors of any of the above organizations or employees of the prize suppliers; (b) individuals engaged in the development, production or distribution of materials for the sweepstakes; (c) persons who are immediate family (defined as mother, father, sister, brother, daughter, son or spouse) of any person in any of the preceding categories, regardless of where they live, or who reside in the same household, whether related or not, as any person in any of the preceding categories. Void where prohibited by law. All federal, state and local laws and regulations apply. 6. CONDITIONS OF PARTICIPATION: By participating, winner agrees to be bound by these Official Rules and by the decisions of the judges, which are final and binding in all respects. (b) release and hold harmless: McDonald's Corporation, its franchisees, agents, affiliates, subsidiaries, local corporate advertising agencies, advertising and promotional agencies, and prize suppliers, and all of their respective directors, officers, employees, representatives and agents, from and against any and all liability, to any injury, loss, or damage to persons, including death, and property, due in whole or in part directly or indirectly, from or arising out of participation in this sweepstakes, or participation in any sweepstakes related activity, or the receipt, use or misuse of a prize, and (c) the use of his or her name, address (city and state) and/or photograph, videotape or any other information for advertising or publicity purposes (where legal) for this or similar future promotions, and to the use of statements made by or attributed to participant relating to McDonald's, and any and all rights to said use, without further compensation. Failure to comply may result in the prize being forfeited and awarded to an alternate participant. All prizes will be awarded, assuming sufficient number of entries. 7. LIST OF PRIZE WINNERS OR OFFICIAL RULES: For a list of prize winners or a copy of these Official Rules, mail postage prepaid, a hand-printed self-addressed, stamped envelope to: McDonald's Heritage Bowl Sweepstakes, Winner's List or Official Rules, P.O. Box 466127, Lawrenceville, GA 30042-6127. Only one request for Official Rules or a Winner's List per self-addressed, stamped envelope. All requests must be received by January 20, 2000. ©1999 McDonald's Corporation. All Rights Reserved. ©JVC Company of America. All Rights Reserved. ©JVC Corporation. All Rights Reserved. McDonald's Corporation. ©1999, Electronic Communications Corporation. All Rights Reserved. ©1999 Gateway, Inc. All rights reserved. Gateway and the Gateway stylized logo are trademarks of Gateway, Inc. ® in the United States of America.

PRIZES!

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5 FIRST PRIZES



5 SECOND PRIZES



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Chuck Autry

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Who Supported Him

In The Nov. 2, 1999

Election

From the Desk of Mrs. Beatrice Maye



THE MAGIC FORMULA THAT MAKES MARRIAGES EXTRA HAPPY

What's the secret of a happy marriage? Lots of people would say common interests and lots of time for romance. But after videotaping 800 couples, John Gottman, Ph.D., Author of *The Seven Principles for Making Marriage Work*, discovered it's simpler than that: in the happiest marriages, the number of nice things couples do for each other exceeds the number of negatives by five to one. In other words, for every argument they have, they do five small but nice things that make each other happy.

"Any couple who adopts this five-to-one way of relating will feel immediately happier, closer, and more loving", promises psychologist Steve Brody, Ph.D., co-author of *Renewing your Marriage at Mid-life*. In fact, experts agree the formula can even turn an unhappy marriage around. So how do you start using it in your marriage?

So for the very happiest marriage...For every one of these you do:

1. Criticize what he's wearing
2. Remind him that he forgot to do a chore
3. Listen with only half an ear to what he's saying
4. Disagree with him over money
5. Throw out that old catalog you forgot he was saving

6. Overdraw your joint checking account
7. Tell him how much his mother irritated you last week
8. Scold him for not being attentive enough
9. Get distracted when he is feeling romantic
10. Have an argument. (By the way, remember that huge fight during which you pulled out every grievance you've ever had against him? That still counts as just one negative incident, since it was one negative experience, explains Brody).

Want to make up for all that negativity, and make your marriage among the happiest?

Do five of these:

1. Tell him he looks great
2. Praise his taste in clothes/music/movies/anything
3. Tell him what a good dad he is
4. Let him know how much you love his sense of humor.
5. Tell him you appreciate what he did around the house
6. Let him know he is a terrific protector or provider
7. Compare him favorably to some other nice or handsome man you know
8. Rave about him in front of others
9. Brush his hair with your

- fingertips
10. Kiss him for no reason
11. Hold his hand
12. send him an e-mail message at work that says, "I love you".
13. Buy his favorite ice cream for him, the high-fat kind.
14. Dress up for an evening with him
15. Bring him a glass of iced tea
16. Ask how his day was
17. Ask him about the meeting/phone call he was worried about/looking forward to
18. stop what you're doing and focus on him while he talks
19. Make him his favorite dinner or breakfast
20. clean up the drink he spilled before he can do it himself
21. Offer to field that call he'd just as soon not take
22. Leave the paper perfectly folded, at his place at the table
23. Circle a show he wanted to see in the TV schedule so he won't forget
24. Let him enjoy it uninterrupted
25. Watch some sporting event he loves with him and get totally absorbed
26. Cut him Some slack on chores..especially on days he's feeling pressured

27. Mention something nice his mother did recently
28. Remind him of an incredibly romantic time you had together
29. Ask his advice on a problem
30. Complain about something you know annoys him too
31. Overlook the grouchy way he acts when he's hot and tired

Basic Principles to Master in PUSHING PEOPLE UP (Con't.)

1. The first step to a goal is a dream you've got to get excited and "turned on" about your life and your future. All people want is a chance. All big men are dreamers.
2. Goals are for all areas of your life. setting goals for your spiritual improvement can work miracles in your life.
3. Don't be afraid to fail! We must take chances in order to have a great success.
4. Eliminate the four basic "failures": fear of competition, fear of controversy, fear of what other people say and fear of things you can't control.
5. Every big achievement has a big price. There is no easy road to success and riches.
6. Work hard.
7. Sacrifice is a part of paying the price. It means turning off the TV. Denying yourself of something you want, live below your means. Self-discipline is the key.

8. Leaders never ask anything of their people that they wouldn't do themselves.
9. People will follow whatever example they have good or bad.
10. If it doesn't matter whether you win or lose, why do they keep score?
11. Never sacrifice quality, there's no substitute for building it right.
12. Work with those who deserve it, not just those who need it.
13. A good leader keeps moving ahead constantly, regardless of whether conditions are good or bad.
14. People don't have time for a lot of meetings. Neither do you.
15. You can't do it all; teamwork is essential and to an active business, church, school, home.
16. Leaders never forget the power of giving in their personal and business lives.
17. Don't catch the disease of "self-ness", your loyalty, commitment, faith in people, talents and energy and you will win. The more people you help the more people will help you. Read Luke 6:30.
18. Give without expecting in return. A leader sees adversity as a challenge and keeps on giving.
19. A winner entertains the idea of quitting. Good people outlasts bad times.

To the editor

The Bible is the manufacturer's manual for all our relationships. If all of us would follow its instructions, our relationships would be ideal and racism and prejudice would not continue to trouble many of us. Our best defenses against discrimination are education, patience, understanding and time. Parents should be careful, for we educate our children every day, by our words, our deeds, our values and most of all by our thoughts. Children's attitudes are formed by watching their parents. Our aspirations are similar regardless of skin color or ethnicity, for we want to be accepted, liked, respected and treated with dignity. It is our choice to live in harmony, or to live with greed hate, suspicion. Let's stop blaming everything on race. God created us all from the dust of the earth and to the dust of the earth we'll return. Prejudice is essentially an outgrowth of ignorance.

Beatrice Maye



Kevin DeWitt Cobbs and Natalie Marie Ward exchanged vows Saturday, October 30, 1999 at 3:00 p.m. The wedding took place at St. Rest Holiness Church in Winterville, North Carolina Reception followed at Kiwanis Bldg. in Winterville, NC.

Photo By Faith May

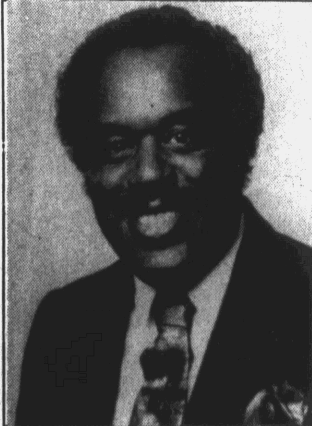
Corrections

In The October 22-29, 1999 issue of the Minority Voice, we reported that the New York Times (SCIENCE) for Tuesday May

19, 1999 ran an article titled "Perseverance is the Key for Asthma Sufferers" and it featured JOHN ROBERT BRYAN using a

nebulizer. The date of that article was incorrect. The correct date is October 19, 1999, please excuse the error.

Spiritual Thoughts



Dr. George Hawkins

A Very Present Help

Tribulation was one of the signs Jesus gave for His return. Matthew 24:32 reads, "Then shall be great tribulation such as was not since the beginning of the world to this time, no, nor ever shall be." The world has known trouble for a long time, but this trouble would be without precedent.

How many times have you recently heard elderly people say, "I've never seen anything like this flood before." The news media labeled it *The Flood of the Century*. Never have so many losses of lives of humans, livestock and cattle from a flood been recorded in Pitt County and surrounding areas. Perhaps this is a warning to us, and faithful Christians are admonished not to

be spiritually asleep so that they would not know the "day of the Lord" had arrived (1 Thessalonians 5:1-6)

The flood waters recently experienced in our area crept upon us unaware. Some were sleeping -- only to awaken and find themselves trapped in their own homes as a result of high waters. Some were ordered to evacuate, and they did. Others remained in their homes -- determined to "stick it out" -- only to lose their lives, sending a clear message that "your arms are too short to box with God."

Even though the sign of tribulation has already begun (and it will get worse) the good that will come from it will be more than compensated in Christ's 1000-year Kingdom. We cannot afford to be hung up on "things." The Bible tells us to "lay not up for yourselves treasures on earth where thieves break in and steal, but lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven." There are those who feel that they are secure in all of the necessities and some luxuries that life can afford. They go about "business as usual," never seeking the Lord Jesus Christ, never considering that the "things" of life can be wiped from them in a moment. What then do they have when all material "things" are taken away? Do they have Jesus in their lives? Do they have Jesus to turn to? To depend upon? Psalm 121:1-2 reads, "I will lift up mine eyes unto the hills from

whence cometh my help. My help cometh from the Lord which made heaven and earth."

Job had all the material things of life. He had all of the wealth that could be afforded at that time. Yet he had everything taken away from him, literally over night -- his whole family, all of his cattle, even his own body was ravished with disease. But his soul was spared because he had a relationship with God. He never lost faith that God was able to save him. He had a strong belief that God was able to deliver him, the same belief that Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego had when they were thrown into the fiery furnace and came out without a singe. After Job had been through the test of trials, tribulations, and losses, God restored him to health and gave him back twice as much as he had before.

To the flood victims, I would like to say, that even though you have suffered losses and disruption of your normal lives, keep your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus and he will supply all your need according to His riches in glory. Out of this all, you will eventually see the Shekinah glory -- the brightness of the Lord's glory (Ezekiel 10:4) when He restores you to even better things than you had before. Then you will be able to say like Job, "I have heard of Thee by the hearing of the ear, but now mine eye seeth Thee." (Job 42:5)

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Myra Wooten

Black Like Me

As an 8-year-old child I lived for the opportunity to take a picture with Santa. Dressed in blue, and bundled up we would head for the mall and the South Pole. I can remember waiting in line for what seemed like an eternity in my child's mind. And then suddenly leaving the line and starting out for a different mall. The reasoning my sister would tell me was, "That's the wrong Santa".

Not quite understanding tears would fill my eyes as I looked over my shoulder watching the South Pole become smaller and smaller, while Christmas Carols filled the air. Finally, to my relief we would find the right Santa and I would climb up on his lap and tell him of Easy-Bake Ovens, Baby-that-Away and my favorite, Cookie Monster.

Eighteen years later I understood what my sister meant when she said the Santa was the "wrong one". He was the wrong one because he was white. He skin didn't mirror my skin. To my sister Santa couldn't appreciate my beaded hair that clicked and clanked when climbed on his lap. He couldn't understand what I meant when I said I wanted a doll that looked like me. And he could never realize the importance of allowing a child to see themselves in others faces.

Now as an adult, the whole idea of Santa-a stranger bringing toys to children-is quite unappealing to me, but for many children and parents it still holds that same thrill that it once held for me. So that night while sitting in that meeting to hear the board president speak with the confidence that can only come from years of ignorance, that the Santa "can't be female and can't be black", sent off alarms in my head for several

different reasons.

First of all Santa was always black to me, and now for my niece and nephew Santa also is black and for the hundreds of thousands of other black children waiting to see Santa he too should be black. Maybe my whole view of the meaning of Santa has been lost, and I will be the first to admit that years of watching a racist world that has filtered into the world of our children has made me bitter.

The second and most disturbing reason is the ease with which this educated woman insulted not only myself and the other African-Americans present, but also the entire body. It would seem that while working in the field of mental retardation and encountering prejudice on an almost daily basis one would develop an internal sensor that would alert them to the fact that not every thought that enters their head should be shared.

I share this story with you, not to create a controversy surrounding the color of Santa or even his existence. I share this story to say that the claws of racism have become much more subtle and are being masked as, "slips of the tongues", "a simple mistake", and "just the way I am". When we consider that a town like Trenton shaped in racism and born into prejudice can elect a black, female mayor we can believe that there is still hope. For black adults we are used to the crafty ways of racism, but now it would seem that our children must learn these same survival skills that will allow them to live and create what so many people have spoken of, a utopia society.

Dedicated to all the Black Santas who still bring joy to white and black faces!

Flu and Pneumonia Shots Save Lives of North Carolinians with Diabetes.

People with diabetes are three times more likely to die with complications of influenza (Flu) and pneumonia, yet only half of those with get an annual flu shot, and only a third have gotten a pneumococcal shot. Doctors recommend flu shots in the fall, before flu season, which generally runs November through March. Local health have more information about dates times and places where flu shots are administered locally. People should consult their doctor before receiving a flu shot, or any other type of vaccine. Some people should not be vaccinated because of health reasons

Rep. Eva Clayton will join Fannie Mae (FNM/NYSE), the nation's largest source of financing for home mortgages, and key housing leaders to announce long-term housing solutions for flood devastated areas in eastern North Carolina. State experts will also unveil joint proposals to address some of North Carolina's toughest housing challenges. The proposal was drafted following a statewide public forum on housing held in June with Governor Jim Hunt and U.S. Senator John Edwards (D-NC). The forum addressed a wide range of critical topics including homelessness, rural housing, home ownership, counseling, affordable rental housing and "smart growth"

North Carolina Conference on Homelessness to be held Nov. 30- DEC 1 in Raleigh

More than 400 representatives of organizations and agencies that operate shelters and provide services to North Carolinas homeless people are expected to attend the North Carolina Conference on Homelessness to be held Nov. 30-DEC. 1 at the Jane S. McKimmon Center in Raleigh.

The conference will include workshops on advocacy strategies, homeless children, runaway homeless youth and homeless people with special needs, veterans and program funding. Conference registration is \$50.00 for more info call (919) 715-5850



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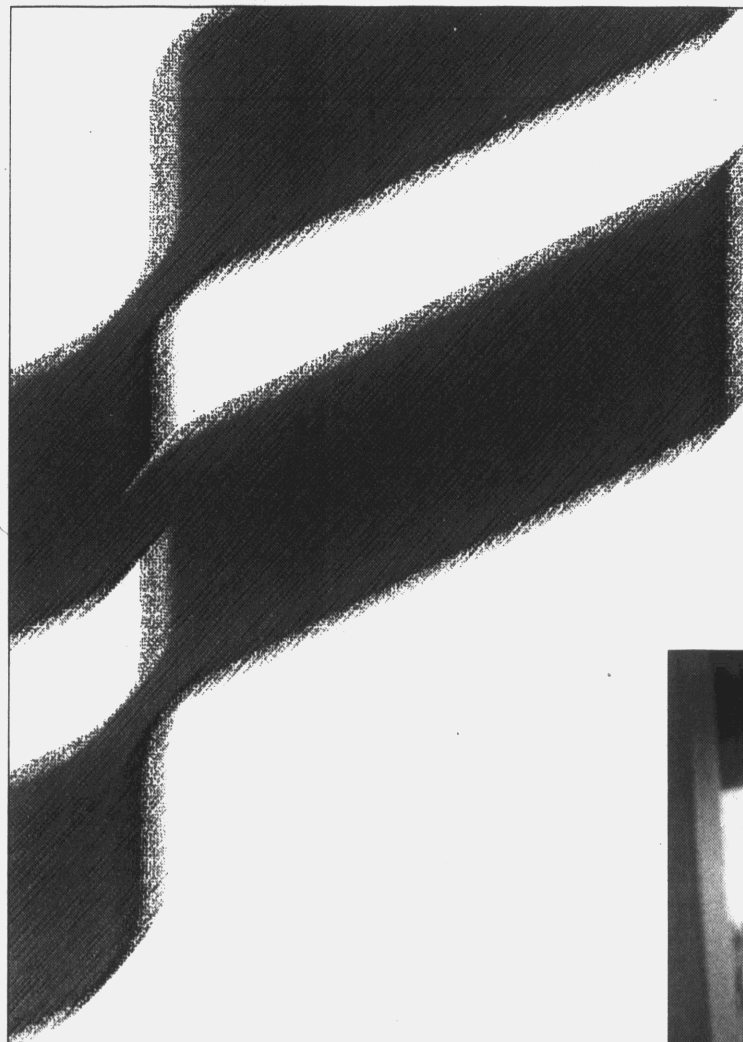
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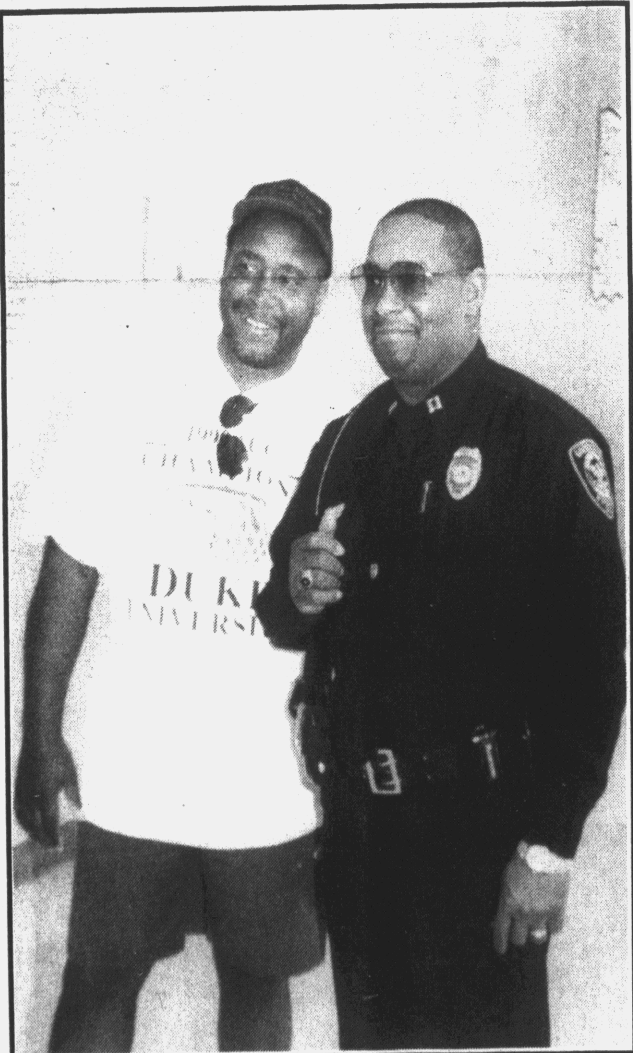
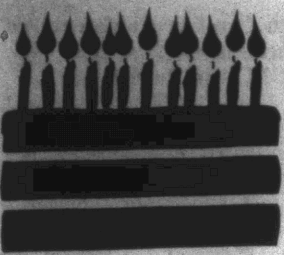
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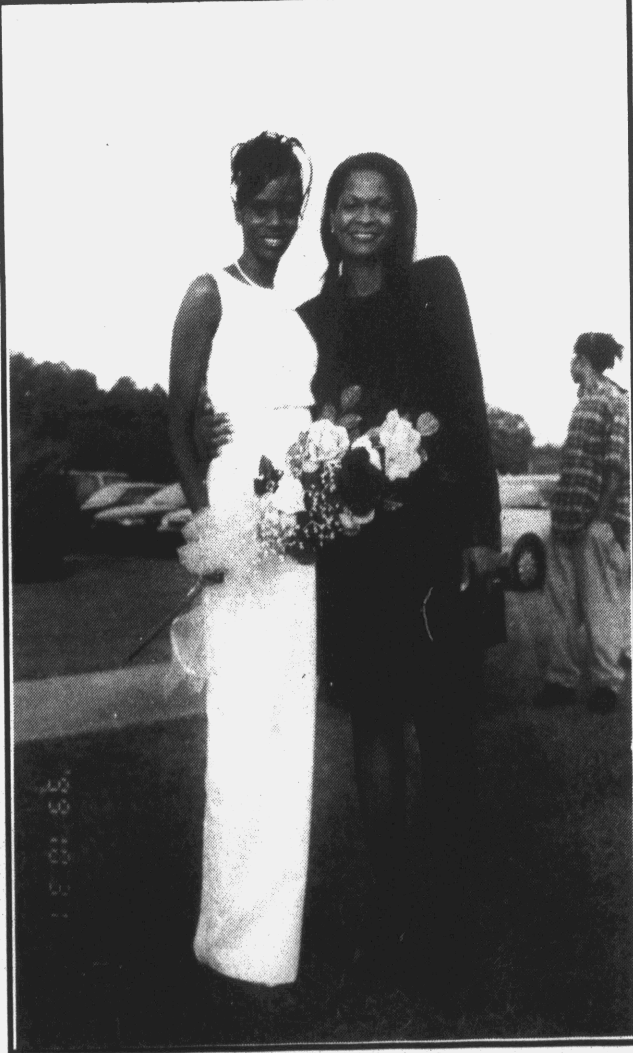
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Happy Birthday Mother Susie Langley 90 years young



Brother to Brother, shown above are the Hardy brothers, Captain Hardy of the Greenville Police Department is shown with his younger brother a former Deputy Sheriff. Captain Hardy is a perfect role model for the young people of Greenville.

Photo by Jim Rouse



Kimberly Ward, Maid of Honor and Valine Green were two lovely ladies in attendance at Mr. and Mrs. Kevin Dewitt Cobb's wedding Saturday October 30, 1999.

Photo By Faith May

WOOW Joy 1340 AM

Caught up in yet another controversy, Mike Tyson contemplates leaving the ring for good

By RHONDA SMITH
Sentinel Sports Editor

LAS VEGAS—Remember the character "Pig Pen" from the "Peanuts" comic strip? He was a sweet, lovable little guy who was always followed around by a cloud of dirt and dust.

Mike Tyson reminds me of Pig Pen. Not that he carries himself like a sweet, lovable little guy, but he does appear to have a constant cloud of dust and dirt following him everywhere he goes.

Last Saturday in at the MGM Grand Hotel/Casino in Las Vegas, the cloud manifested itself in the form of another controversial fight, this time declared a "no-contest."

An instant after the bell rang ending the first round, Tyson knocked down Orlin Norris with a left to the head. Referee Richard Steele deducted two points from Tyson and sent him to his corner. Norris got up but said he couldn't continue because his knee was injured. The fight was then declared a no-contest.

"He just hit me after the bell," Norris said. "I just went down the wrong way on my right knee."

Tyson saw it differently, accusing Norris of faking an injury.

"He walked back to corner, that shows how twisted his knee was," Tyson said. "He must have twisted it getting on the stool."

Norris was taken to Valley Hospital Medical Center and an MRI showed he dislocated his kneecap. Dr. Flip Homansky, a Nevada State Athletic Commission physician, said Sunday.

"The MRI clearly shows the path his kneecap took when he went to the ground," Homansky said. "When he stood up it popped back in. There's no way he could have continued. He very well might need surgery."

Nevada State Athletic Commissioners may fine Tyson for the late blow, but they are not expected to take any action to suspend him from the ring or change the decision in the fight from a no-contest to a disqualification.

The Commission will discuss the aborted fight at a Friday meeting, at which he is expected to get the \$8.7 million purse that has been withheld pending a review of the fight.

Commission chairman Dr. Elias Ghanem does not view what happened Saturday as serious as Tyson's biting of Evander Holyfield's ears. That cost Tyson \$3 mil-

lion and got him banned from boxing.

"If there was a disqualification it would have been a different ball game," Ghanem said. "When he (Steele) deducted two points, that means the fight could continue. That's the big difference."

Steele's ruling in the ring that the left hook that dropped Norris after the bell sounded was not deliberate may help Tyson avoid any penalties for the late blow.

"The important thing is that it was an accidental foul and that was the determination that was made," said Marc Ratner, the commission's executive director.

Under Nevada law, which was changed in the wake of Tyson's biting of Holyfield, a boxer can be fined his entire purse for an infraction.

"I would be in favor of some kind of fine based on what I saw and how the fight took place—a fine and a strong letter to Tyson and his advisers that this won't be tolerated," Commissioner Luther Mack said Monday.

"He got \$8.7 million. I don't have a number in mind (for a fine). It has to be a sum that he (Tyson) knows we're serious," said Mack, an African American Reno businessman.

"We have to make sure we protect the integrity of boxing. We have to take a strong stand."

Tyson is not expected to attend Friday's commission meeting, which was called in the wake of the ending that caused fans to boo both fighters as they left the ring.

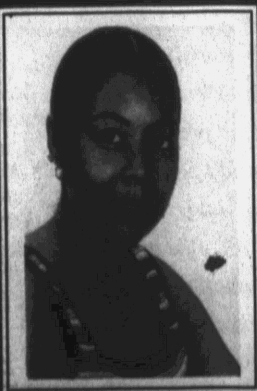
He said after the fight that he did not hear the bell, even though it rang five times as Steele moved in to try and separate the fighters in the middle of the ring. Ratner said Monday there was no dispute that Tyson hit Norris after the bell, but he noted that hitting after the bell is relatively common in fights.

Norris said he did not think Tyson hit him deliberately after the bell. He said it was loud in the ring and hard to hear the bell.

Tyson, who owes the Showtime cable company \$13 million and, according to a Showtime insider, another \$7 million, said he'd like to quit boxing. "I'm tired of everything and everybody. I'm caught up in all this political bulls—. I don't want to put up with this anymore. I just want to go home."

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Woman's Health Center proudly announces the association of Vikki Darlene Brown, MD with their practice.

Dr. Brown graduated from East Carolina University School of Medicine. She

performed her residency training in Obstetrics and Gynecology at Pitt County Memorial Hospital. Dr. Brown received her B.S. Degree in Biology at Western Carolina University in Gullowhee, North Carolina.

She is certified in Basic Life Support and Advanced Cardiac Life Support and has received many awards and honors.



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Young Brothers on the rise, shown above is entrepreneur Roswell Streeter (L) CEO of All American Bail Bonding and attorney Derrick Brown representative for Millenia Community Bank. Our "M" Voice Camera caught them discussing business as they take a minute to pose. Hats off to all young Black Businessmen.

Photo By Jim Rouse

A response to the article appearing in the September 16-October 4, 1999 issue of The Minority Voice titled "Commissioner Savage Arrested For Drunk Driving".

After reading the article about Commissioner Jeff Savage's arrest for driving under the influence, we thought it was necessary to respond and let Jeff and our community know that he has the **Pitt County Chapter of the Southern Christian Leadership Conference's** support. We realize that drinking any amount of alcohol and driving especially on public property is not permissible in our society, but we see no reason why the two policemen had to treat him like a common criminal and a second class citizen. Jeff has proven to be a worthy first class citizen in every sense of the word and has done so very much to help our community prosper for all races in the Pitt County area.

When a police officer is about to arrest someone, shouldn't he read him his right and give him time to respond? According to what Mr. Savage said in the article, he received no warning from the policemen stating that he was under arrest. We feel that smashing his window, dousing him with pepper spray and pressing his face to the asphalt was absolutely uncalled for and not acceptable.

Announcing 7th Annual Greenville Community Shelters Raffle

It's raffle time again! Six years ago when GCS, Inc. began the holiday raffle, no one knew that it would become one of the most popular and successful fundraising activities in the Shelter's history. The raffle is a great opportunity to support the work of Greenville Community Shelters.

This year, the **GRAND PRIZE** is two round-trip airline tickets to any destination within in the continental United States, courtesy of American Express. Additional prizes include:
1-year supply of 12 oz. canned Pepsi products
\$100 cash prize
Two for Two Dining Package - Two meals at two restaurants

Additional prize contributors are Pepsi Cola of Greenville, Ray and Donna Baxter, and Chef's 505.

Talk of the Town will host a live drawing in December on Cable Channel 7 and WCZI Talk Radio, 98.3 FM.

Since 1988 Greenville Community Shelters, Inc., a United Way Agency, has provided services to the homeless and indigent population of Pitt County. Whether via services of the Emergency Shelter, Transitional Housing, or the Emergency Assistance Ministry, clients receive guidance in reaching lifestyle management goals that will allow them to become independent, productive citizens.

Those interested in purchasing, or selling tickets should contact GCS, Inc. at 757-0829.

Mr. Savage should have never sustained the injuries that he had to be taken to Pitt County Memorial Hospital to be treated for. As previously stated, Savage was wrong for drinking the beer at that time and place, but what about the brutal treatment imposed upon him? Do these allegations not deserve investigating? As citizens of Pitt County, we owe it to Commissioner Jeff Savage to give him support as much as necessary. There is no need for any citizen to be mistreated as such and we should let our voices be heard as we speak out concerning this matter!

By now, **ALL** employees of this city and county should know how to treat people and live together as Christian brothers and sisters. God requires us to treat each other as we would ourselves. Are we our brother's keeper? Who cares if we perish? Has any one tried to touch basis with Brother Jeff and see what he might be going through? Has the flood taught us that which is to be learned about brotherhood/sisterhood of man and fatherhood of God? There is a right and wrong way to handle any situation and this fellow citizens was **wrong** - a travesty indeed!

Sincerely,
 Christine Jetter
 Treasure, Pitt County Chapter of SCLC

The Minority Voice Newspaper, Inc.

405 Evans Street
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 Greenville, NC 27834

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 WOOW Radio Station
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Zeta Eta Lambda Chapter of Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc. has been in the forefront for manly deeds, scholarship, and love for all mankind for over forty (40) years in Eastern North Carolina. Even though the chapter seat is Greenville, services are provided for Martin, Craven, Onslow, Green, Beaufort, Jones, and Carteret Counties.

On November 19-21, 1999, Zeta Eta Lambda will host the Association of North Carolina Alpha men in its annual State Conference. New challenges will be forged at this conference to enable us to further the goals of Alpha in the next millennium.

We hope you will join with us as we welcome Alpha men and their families from all over North Carolina to Eastern North Carolina. Our souvenir booklet will allow us to exhibit the "open arms attitude" of Eastern North Carolina. We hope you will honor us with an advertisement in this booklet. The cost of advertisements is as follows:

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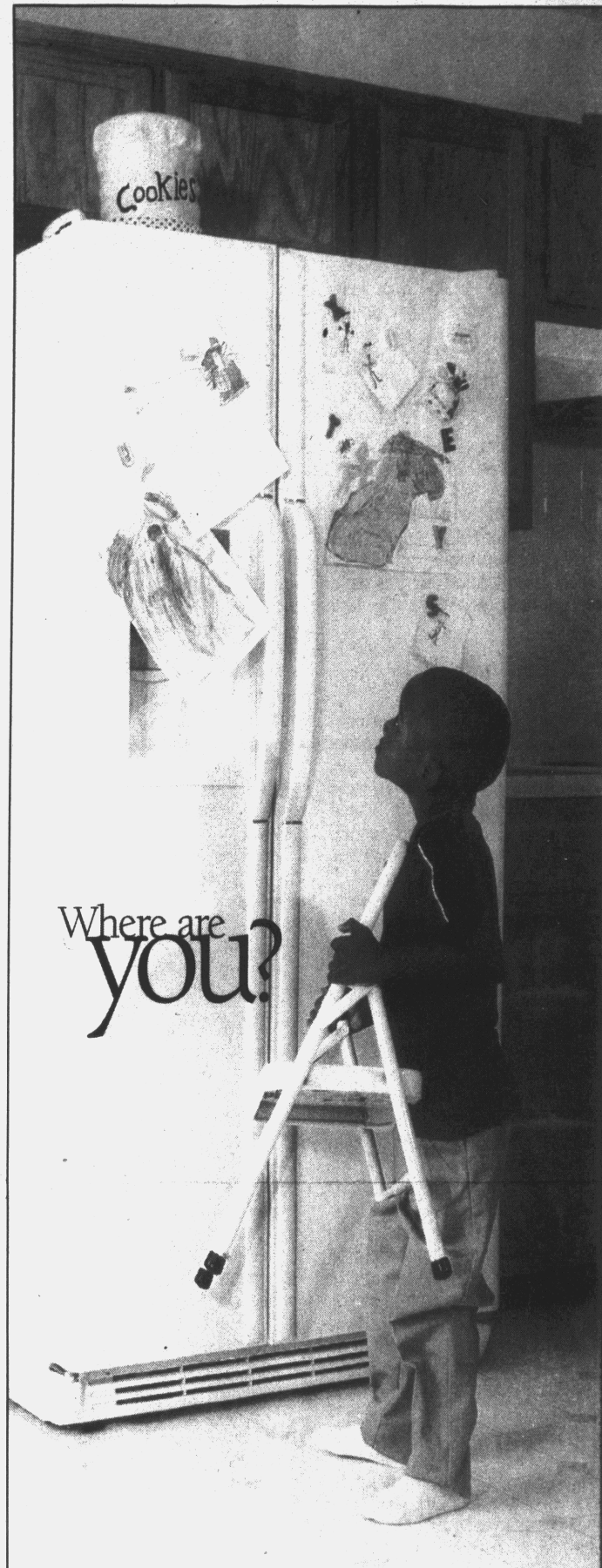
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Princeville Past, Present, and Future ?

THE GREAT FLOOD OF 1919

STREAMS OVERFLOW; HEAVY DAMAGE MANY POINTS LOOKED FOR Neuse and Other Rivers Flooded - Crops and Stock in Danger- Record Rainfall

The weather forecast is for rain Tuesday night and Wednesday. Neuse River is flooded. It is rising along its entire length from the rains of the past nine days. The Roanoke and Cape Fear and numerous other streams upstate and in this section also threaten to go out of bounds. The Cape Fear registered 43 feet at Fayetteville Monday. The Neuse was 18.4 feet at Smithfield. The Roanoke reached 41.2 feet at Weldon. The Tar is expected to overflow shortly.

Farmers along the rivers are preparing to drive stock out of the low grounds. At hundreds of points west of here flood water and the continuing rains are threatening enormous damage to crops. Precipitation records have been broken at West Carolina points.

July 23, 1919

On Wednesday, the 10th consecutive day of the war of the elements on this section's bumper crops, fields throughout the section were ankle to knee-deep in water. Hundreds of pessimistic reports poured in from the rural districts. Some of these said irreparable damage had already been done to cotton and tobacco and that corn stood in a fair way of suffering shortly. Streams Over Bank Scores of creeks, runs and ditches

were over their banks. Roads were submerged in spots. The precipitation during the dark hours of the morning was of cloudburst proportions, following upon similar downpours Sunday, Monday and Tuesday. A drizzle, apt to turn into showers at any time, continued through the day.

The sun appeared after 240 hours' absence to have deserted the country. The weather was similar all the way from Florida to the north of Washington. Sewers in north Kinston at 7 a.m. had not been able to carry off the night's rainfall.

Streams Running Away

With most of the rivers in the state flooding, some observers say the worst is yet to come along the shallow basins of North Carolina's lowland streams. Neuse River at this point has gone over its banks at places south and west of the city.

The high bank along the western edge of the city and the rise beginning at the southern corporate line will protect the city from inundation. The Neuse is still six to eight feet below the high water mark of 1908 and even with the great volume of water yet to come down river, it is not probable that the record stage of that year will be equaled...

July 26, 1919 RIVER OVER BANKS PUTS CITY WELL ON BLINK; CARE URGED

Supply Short - Mayor Issues Warning - Every Drop Must Be Conserved If All Hands Are to Drink and Bathe With an overzealous river full of it romping by, Kinston faces a serious shortage of water. "I wish to impress upon the public the need for scrupulous conservation of the supply," Mayor Dawson stated Saturday

forenoon following notification by the Water and Light Department of the bursting of a pipe from a main well at the pumping station and damage to a reservoir there by flood water from Neuse River.

With the well out of commission possibly 30 percent of the supply is cut off, Mayor Dawson said. It may be days before the damage can be repaired in the meantime the public must be careful or serious consequences may result.

"I must ask the public to see every leaking tap, even, the matter is so important," the Mayor stated. Negro Drowned Trying To Cross River at Snow Hill; Swept Off Dam

Herbert Nobles, colored, was drowned at 3 a.m. Saturday at a dam near Snow Hill while trying to cross it in an automobile. Moccasin River is swollen perhaps to record stage by the freshets.

Nobles, thinking it too risky to try the crossing under the car's power, engaged a two-mule wagon to draw his machine across. Midway, the mules, wagon and car were swept off the dam into 15 feet of water.

Nobles drowned. The mules were swept far down stream and broke loose from the wagon. One was drowned in a swamp. The other disappeared. Two negroes who were in the wagon were rescued from a tree by M.C. Lassiter.

Moccasin River rose 48 inches during 24 hours ending Saturday morning.

July 28, 1919

At 3:30 o'clock Monday Neuse

River was about two inches above the high water mark of 1908. The stream had hung up a new record. It was still rising. Water was a foot deep over the Central Highway at one place. The stage now may be more than two inches over 1908's high mark, but some persons say the tree that carries that mark has not grown in height.

Kinston Monday morning was a peninsula between the seas of water to the south and west of the city. Neuse River was within a few inches of the 1908 high water mark. The stream was rising rapidly.

Damage to crops in inundated fields will aggregate many thousand dollars. "A hundred thousand won't touch it," according to some farmers. A quarter of a million dollars might not be too low an estimate, for thousands of acres are under water for many miles on either side of Kinston.

Parrot's Park is completely submerged. Frame buildings there threaten to wash away. The two story brick residence and store of Mrs. Walter J. Redd at the west end of Caswell Street Bridge is an island in a broad expanse of water. The main road leading from the bridge is deep under water for a long distance. It was predicted Monday morning that the Central Highway would be submerged for a distance beyond the city. South of town the low grounds are covered. The water came over the "Dam Road" to a depth of three or four inches near the "Iron Bridge" Monday morning, and at 9:30 was lapping the bottom of the "Second Slough Bridge."

At Goldsboro and Seven Springs, the stream has exceeded the former record stage by feet. It is falling at Goldsboro. Whitehall Bridge, near Seven Springs, the stream has exceeded the former record stage by feet. It

is falling at Goldsboro. Whitehall Bridge, near Seven Springs, is now en route to Kinston, unless it has broken up along the banks. It collapsed Sunday morning. Travel Halted

The Norfolk Southern Railroad offices Monday said trains were making all points on the system, but that tickets were not being sold to northern points via Goldsboro. The Atlantic Coast Line people here had no information that trains had been suspended on the other side of Goldsboro, but said it was impossible to go farther than Greenville toward Parmale, where Plymouth, Rocky Mount and Washington connections are made.

The bridge over the Tar at Greenville is weighted down to keep it from going down. The Norfolk Southern offices here understand that the A.C. L. bridge at Black Creek is down. Should the various streams fall considerably during the next 48 or 72 hours, it may still be the end of the week before the bridges can be restored.

Tar on a Rampage

The Tar is supposed to be falling now. Some houses have floated away. For miles around that town the country is under water. Some stock is understood to have been lost. Boats are plying through fields. The situation in Edgecombe County probably is worse than anywhere in the section. The Tar empties into Pamlico River at Washington. Effects of the flood will at the latter point be negligible, as they will at New Bern, near the mouth of the Neuse.

Rapid Rise Here

From 8 to 2 o'clock Sunday the Neuse rose to 10 1/4 inches. From 2 to 4 there was an increase of 3 1/4 inches. From 4 to 7 the stream gained 5 3/8 inches. At 8 o'clock two inches more had been added...

Crops Ruined

Many farms are partly or wholly inundated. Houses may go down at spots. Planters in the vicinity of the city Monday estimated their losses in the thousands of dollars. R.F. Hill, declaring his loss comparatively small, said the damage on his place would be at least \$4000. There is almost no way of calculating the total damage, it may amount to a quarter of a million or even half a million dollars.

Spectacle For Many

Hundreds thronged Caswell Street Bridge Sunday to view the rampant stream. Where there had been dry land currents raced along at a 6 mile clip. The west end of the bridge will probably be under water in a few hours. The crowds continued Monday.

Little Loss of Life

There has been little loss of life in the section so far. The only casualty reported here so far was Lt. David M. Prince, Jr., an Old Hickory veteran. Prince, who served with the 119th Infantry overseas, attempted to save a child from the Neuse River at Goldsboro. The child threw her arms about Prince's neck and drew him under. He drowned. The child was rescued.

July 29, 1919

Knocked Out The Movies

Most all of Kinston was on the streets Monday night. The ice cream places and soda fountains did a big business. The Grand Theater was closed. The moving picture films failed to get through.

July 30, 1919

Flood Water Nears Sea; All Streams are falling now Nervy Duplinites Walk Into Town Over Submerged Dam Road - Neuse Drops Half-Heartedly For Start But Surely Neuse River fell slowly Tuesday night, apparently about three inches. The stream was comparatively placid Wednesday morning. Experienced observers predict that a material fall will come within the next 48 hours and that much of the surplus water will be out of the river by Saturday night. These think the water will have receded from the inundated low grounds within 72 or 96 hours. No additional reports of loss of life and stock have come.

The declaration by Herbert Nobles of Greene County that his reported drowning did not occur reduces the number of human victims in this section to one. Local showers occurred Tuesday night, together with a big electrical display, but the rain had little effect upon the river, swollen by millions of tons of water from upstream. Wednesday failed to reduce the estimates of crop damage, and it appears that the loss from the flood will aggregate \$250,000 to \$500,000, with equally as much from the excessive rains.

Wade Mile Through New Lake

Three Duplin County men, two named Lee and one Stroud, waded from the Iron Bridge to Kinston Wednesday morning over the submerged Dam Road. They got to the bridge neighborhood and was ferried from the home of Mr. Sutton to the county home. From there they waded across the Iron Bridge and on into town.

The Duplinites found the water deep at all points. Knee-deep or a little better was the limit. The rushing water tickling their shins was not nearly as vicious as it appeared. The semi-aquatic tromp was a cinch. The men found the "slough bridges" intact. There appeared to be some loose planks, but no material damage had been done, it appeared to them.

Railroaders Breathe Freere

Railroad men expect early return to normal conditions. There has been improvement at a number of points, although not all trains are making their full trips. Nearly everywhere in the section the rivers are falling. At Snow Hill the Moccasin is lowering rapidly.

November 4, 1999

RESIDENTS BEGIN RETURN TO PRINCEVILLE

Princeville, NC Princeville residents are now returning to the town in small numbers. With the exception of some homes in the Southern Terrace neighborhood, most homes have been destroyed, and citizens who have the means are bringing to their property temporary housing in the form of mobile homes and RV's. Although water, sewer, and electric services have been restored, residents may only tie into these systems after having received permission from officials who certify that the hook-ups are safe.

The overnight curfew has been lifted, but the State of Emergency declared by officials immediately after Hurricane Floyd remains in effect.

While officials aren't telling people that they should or shouldn't move back into town at this point, "we are stressing that if they do return, they need to be prepared that things are very far away from being back to normal," said Princeville Town Manager, Sandra White. White said on Wednesday that around 50 of Princeville's 2,000 residents had signed up to receive hazard mitigation material for possible relief from FEMA if Princeville is found to be eligible for such programs, including buyouts.

Officials cautioned that many "unofficial" information sources seem to be springing up, and citizens are advised to look to the Town for official news on recovery efforts. "There continue to be inaccurate statements made about Princeville from all sorts of places," said White, referring to a few news stories, as well as several websites that she's heard of carrying incorrect material on Princeville. "We strongly encourage our citizens to use the official information sources we've set up to ensure they have the facts."

Princeville's temporary Town Hall established in the Edgecombe County Office Park in Tarboro is fully operational, and citizens are encouraged to call or stop by weekdays during regular business hours. Officials have also set up information kiosks containing flyers on important subjects at both Town Hall locations. In addition, Princeville's

Phone Home Hotline--(252)977-8788--contains the latest information on recovery efforts. Finally, the only official web presence for the Town is currently being hosted and maintained by sister-city Cary, NC at www.townofcary.org. In the coming months, this effort will be assumed by Princeville and hosted by interpath.

BUFFALOES TO COME TO PRINCEVILLE

PRINCEVILLE, NC - A platoon of "Buffalo" is coming to the aid of Princeville. On November 11th, 32 youth and 12 staff from VisionQuest Buffalo Soldier Re-enactors are coming to Princeville from South Mountain, Pennsylvania to help as part of a community service project. The Buffalo Soldiers will help with the cleanup, the inventorying and distribution of donated goods, and other issues as needed. The group will be housed at the National Guard Armory in Tarboro for the duration of their stay.

Youth are referred to VisionQuest by county or state government staff in corrections, probations, mental health, and child welfare. The name VisionQuest was borrowed from the Plains Indians and reflects the philosophy of the program. During a vision quest, Native American adolescents were sent into the wilderness to overcome challenges and discover a view of their futures. VisionQuest programs seek to give adjudicated youth this same opportunity to succeed in challenges, see a new future for themselves and give them skills to accomplish their goals and reach their highest potential. Other key components of the VisionQuest approach include the emphasis on staff's role as parents rather than counselors;

the use of rigorous outdoor activity, living history and historical re-enactment that connect youth to their heritage and culture; and the blending of military influences with treatment and education.

MASTER P

Couldn't cut mustard with Hornets

Well, he got a lot further with the Toronto Raptors than he did with the Charlotte Hornets, but Master P still could not cut the mustard.

The artist also known as Percy Miller was cut by the Raptors last week ending his second attempt to stick in the NBA. The day before P got the ax he released his latest album titled *Only God Can Judge Me*. The funny thing about him releasing an album now is he is scheduled to drop a greatest hits album this week.

D'ANGELO

Keepin' it real

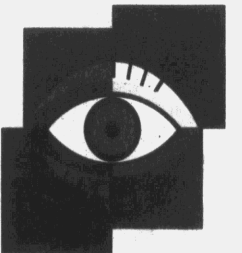
D'Angelo is the type of R&B crooner that brings soul back to the basement parties and high school proms. In other words, he's keepin' it real.

During a recent interview with MTV D'Angelo talked about vibing with two other guys that have been known to keep it real as well, Redman and Method Man. They appear on D'Angelo's new single *Left And Right* from the forthcoming *Voodoo* album. "They just vibe, man. I got a kick out of watching them write to my track, man. That was the bomb because I'm a big fan of both them, man, from the beginning of their careers. I watched them grow as artists, and you know, I always admired both of them. So to have both of them collectively on the song, man, it was a big thing. It was dope."

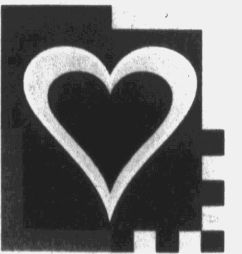
MISSY ELLIOT

She's catapulted to fame

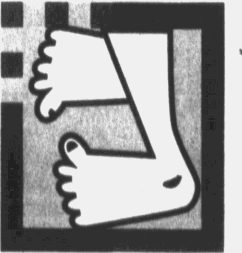
Missy Elliot was catapulted to fame by the overwhelming success of her first album, but, as any college athletes will tell you, the sophomore slump can be a mother. Her second set, *Da Real World*, hasn't come close to reaching the platinum level of *Supa Dupa Fly*. To date it's sold 650,000 copies, which isn't bad, but when you're expecting 1 million that can be a bit daunting. But Missy is planning on doing something about that. She will remix her single *Hot Boys* which features Nas, Eve, and Q-Tip. The video for the remix is already in production.



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