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The Minority Voice

Eastern North Carolina Since 1981

February 26 - March 16, 2001

FREE!

What You See Is What You Get, What You Read Is What You Know And Save.

PRISON KILLING

Could guards have prevented it?

NEW YORK AMSTERDAM
by-HERB BOYD

A surveillance camera is focused on a cell door at Upstate Correctional Facility in Malone, N.Y. Through the window in the cell door, seen from a distance, two figures dart back and forth. It is difficult to determine what's going on until the voices are heard.

"Say uncle, motherf---er, say uncle," a man's voice demands. There is a muffled reply. "Say I win," the voice screams once more.

Again the response is barely audible. Then, for the next 15 minutes, the two struggle with each other, their bodies flying from one end of the cell to the other.

Finally, a guard arrives and watches the altercation through the window. After several minutes, he calls another guard, and the two of them witness the fight with no thought of intervening. By now, one of the inmates has been beaten to a pulp and is almost unconscious. The cell is splattered with blood. Minutes later, six more guards arrive, along with a supervisor. But they refuse to enter the cell until the victorious inmate slips his hands through the door to be handcuffed. Like the other two guards, they are all white. The fighting inmates are Black. While they await a response to their order, the don white smocks and plastic gloves.

They debate the situation, occasionally laughing about the carnage on the other side of the steel door. When the rumble is completely over, they move as a group into the cell, grab the semi-conscious man and flop him on a gurney. He is a bloody

mess, and within a few hours he will be dead.

With the injured man removed, they throw his mattress, pillow and other bloody articles out the door. They wait a few minutes and then the other inmate is ordered to the door, handcuffed, searched and taken away.

All of this happened on May 12, 2000. Last week, via telephone from the Clinton Correctional Facility, Donnell Brunson, one voice on the videotape, told his version of the incident during a conference call with his lawyer, Earl Rawlins, and the Amsterdam News.

The problem started, Brunson said, when he was placed in a cell with a hostile inmate doing life for murder who repeatedly made sexual advances. "In our cell, the toilet and shower are open and you are not allowed to hang anything," Brunson explained. "So each time I used the toilet or the shower, he would comment on my body, telling me I had nice legs and a shapely butt. I knew of his reputation for stabbing people, so I knew I had to be careful around him."

The man had often bragged about his time in "The Box," a special housing unit comparable to solitary confinement, Brunson continued. "He had been sent there for beating one of his bunk mates," he said. "That is what he told me and during the hearing following his death, documents were presented to show what he said was true."

"He also told me he had been in prison 16 years without a woman, and he wanted me to take care of his sexual needs."

Brunson recalled. "I told him I wasn't with that, that I didn't go that way. As time went on he kept making sexual remarks, and he even touched me a couple of times. I told him to keep his hands off of me."

When Brunson learned that he had a time cut and would be leaving soon, completing his nine-month sentence, his cell-mate became more aggressive.

"He told me he was tired of being a nice guy," Brunson said, "and that when the lights went out, my butt was his. Knowing this, I decided to keep my light on until I knew he was asleep."

"It was about 2:30 in the morning and I had the light on and I was reading a book," Brunson went on to say. "Then he got out of his bed and cut the light off. The cell has two lights, one big one and one night light near my bunk. Each time he cut my light off, I cut it back on. Finally, he stood in the middle of the room and said, 'It's time to get it on.' I told him if we have to fight, he'd have to come to me. He did, and the fight was on."

Brunson said that when a fight breaks out in a cell they don't come in until it's over. "With this in mind, I knew that if he knocked me unconscious he was going to rape me and possibly give me AIDS that would kill me anyway. I knew I was fighting for my life," he said.

"We were fighting and he penned me down in the shower," Brunson related, "and he was choking me and kicking me. I was able to get free for a moment and then he grabbed me by my hair-I wear dreads-and



A Celebration of the Life and Legacy of Dr. Andrew A. Best

On March 30, 31 and April 1, 'Friends of Andrew Best', county, regional state and national health care participants will honor Dr. Andrew Best. A local family practice doctor with 46 years of medical practice. Dr. Best has provided the county, state and nation with leadership in many human services areas. As a health/medical care leader, he assisted the former chancellor, Dr. Leo Jenkins with the establishment of the East Carolina University's medical school. He is known throughout the country as one of the founding fathers of the medical school. Additionally, Dr. Best served on the first state "Good

Neighbor Council" that later became the NC Human Relations Council. He is also a former board member of the Board of Governors and East Carolina University.

The planning Committee has scheduled on March 30, Friday afternoon, 6:30 p.m. - 9:00p.m. at the Ramada Plaza Hotel of Greenville, a reception honoring Dr. Best and his many successes. Participants will have the opportunity to say "thanks" and to share their stories and experiences with Dr. Best Music and other entertainment will be provided. On March 31, Saturday morning, 9:00 a.m. - 12:00 noon. The Annual A.A. Best Comprehensive Community Health Screening will be conducted. Volunteers from different public health programs and medical students and local physicians will assist. Saturday afternoon at 4:00 p.m., a selected exhibit of Dr. Best's medical and community activities will be on display at the

Ramada plaza Hotel. At 6:30 p.m. to 9:00 p.m., a Banquet will be held honoring "The Life and Legacy of Dr. Andrew Best", with former Chief Justice Henry Frye, the Banquet Speaker. Also, selected participants will provide 3 minutes of presentations of Dr. Best's achievements of selected activities. On April 1, at 4:00 p.m., a musical concert/religious program will be held at Cornerstone Missionary Baptist Church honoring Dr. Best's religious accomplishments and work.

Invitations will be mailed to persons throughout the country to attend the banquet. However, the reception and musical/religious concert is open to the public.

Contact Persons are :
Dr. Donald E. Ensley, 744-1109 (O), 355-9669 (H), Ms Gracie Vine, 816-7959 (O), 355-6572 (H), Mrs Shonoda Bullock, 328-4400 (W), 321-5879 (H)



AN AFRICAN AMERICAN MAN

Mr Luke Jasper Best

In 1938 there was a man named Luke Jasper Best that was reared near Ballard Crossroad on a farm owned by his father. Luke worked in tobacco, cotton, and corn. He finished grade school and he wanted a business of his own.

So, on weekends he would go to Ballard Crossroad where there were four grocery store. At that time people had few cars. Luke would wait around the store to see if anyone needed a ride to Greenville or Farnville. If so, he took them where they wanted to go for 35 cents per trip and round trip for 70 cents. For approximately three years this was his extra income he earned and the starting of his own business.

After his route began to increase, he later moved to Greenville and rented a room on Bonners Lane with Mrs. Rosa Darden and worked in the city area. Later in

life, Luke chose to venture into Cab business. He never finished high school, but that never stopped him from wanting his own business. Later he purchased a better cab car. The cab number was no.34. He drove for a period of time and certain areas in the city he was not allowed. He was not allowed in *The Riggs House, East Carolina College, and the Bus Station.* He especially wasn't allowed to pick up students that came in on the 4:30a. m. bus.

Finally, Mr. Best consulted a lawyer, (Calvin Dish) regarding his "privileges. His path was finally cleared.

Luke owned his own cab business in the name of City Cab. Being the first African American cab driver in Greenville, he encountered several problems. He refused to give up! Later he moved to Bell Cafe on Albemarle Avenue, where he became established. Luke's business grew by

leaps and bounds and hired many drivers and high school students as dispatchers. The business excelled and he bought his own place and became known throughout the County. He also had contracts with many businesses, such as the airport, and American Red Cross. Luke's desire was to go forward! He made a great success!

The City Cab is still in business today. They have nine drivers, ten cars and many dispatchers. Residing on the corner of Albemarle and Martin Luther King Drive. Services are 24 hrs a day 7 days a week.

Luke's motto was "A Winner Never Quits and a Quitter Never Wins!" On September 30, 1993, Mr. Best passed away. The business still goes on today by his family and one brother, Moses Best. Even though Luke had many problems, he never gave up. He had a successful journey for 53 years. He will always be in our thoughts, and greatly missed.

"HUMANITARIAN" A TRIBUTE TO "Lillie Reid"



Daughter of the late Mr. and Mrs. Wille Monroe, the mother of Charetta Walls and the grandmother of Billie Walls, was born in the town of Rowland, North Carolina in 1934. She is the oldest of ten children, three boys and seven girls. She finished high school at Southside High School in Rowland NC and completed college at Fayetteville State University with a BS degree in Elementary Education. She worked in the Greenville city schools as a teacher and librarian for 25 years.

Being a lover and a promoter of children, Lillie always stayed willing, ready and able to support and encourage children. She encouraged them to learn and allowed them the opportunity to excel in whatever task they tried to undertake.

After marrying the late Charles Reid, Lillie took it upon herself to help raise her nephews, brothers and sisters after losing their parents. Under her advice and guidance, each of them finished high school and several of them completed their college educations.

After moving to Greenville in 1958, Lillie joined Cornerstone Missionary Baptist Church. She

became very active during the time that the church was located on railroad street and Rev. Tilliet was the pastor. She was instrumental in helping to organize and maintain the scouting program along with the late Bro. James W. and Sis. Magdalene Grimes with Mr. Ray Parker as the scout master. Lillie worked hard to help keep the scout ministry in focus. She organized the girl scouts and provided many outdoor as well as indoor learning experiences that taught the students behavior, and survivor skills many times using her own resources. There were times when she along with some of her friends, would go and visit the boy scouts during the weekend of their camping trips to help out if needed. This dedication earned her several awards for her hard work.

Under the pastroship of the late Rev. O'Kelly Lawson, in the year of 1972, Lilly was successful in encouraging a group of concerned members to attend the National Progressive Baptist Convention held in Charlotte, NC for the first time. From this experience, the board of Christian Education, the Young Adult Ministry and the Sunday

School were organized. After the church moved to its present location, Lillie got approval from then Pastor Griffin to let her run a day camp to provide a safe Christian environment for children that became a great success. Lillie also got approval to start a Christian environment for children that became a great success. Lillie also got approval to start a Christian childcare ministry that would provide services to the parents in the church and the community. She named it "The Children's Learning Tree" and then it was "Billie After School Children's Center"

She served her family, friends, church and community well. In addition to all that above, Lillie and her husband started a catering service called Occasional Delights which was also well received by the community, family and friends. She has retired from teaching due to health problems but that has not stopped her from inspiring and motivating young children. She is now working with children at the Health Department. Her focus continues to be moving children towards the future. Hats off to Lillie and to God be the Glory!



But I felt I could not tarry.
I desired a change of dime,
I thought it would be better;
While this was burning on my
mind,
I wrote and mailed a letter.

This letter was to Uncle Brock,
The one who loves me dearly,
He petted me when in frocks,
And sent me presents yearly.

I laid before him every plan,
I asked him for assistance,
He said, "I'll help you all I can,
But you must be persistent."

Long remembered it will be,
How my heart rejoiced;
When this answer came to me;
In tones of Uncle's voice.

I did not eat a meal for days,
Although I was quite healthy;
With mind all raptured and
amazed,
I packed for Philadelphia.

My welcome there was a very
grand,
He knew I had no money;
Placed \$50 in my hand,
I felt relieved but funny.

I left for Lincoln full of glee,
I landed and was greeted,
I found it just the place for me,
I here was kindly treated.

I entered the Sub-Freshman
Class,
I progressed here but slowly;
It was you know a jungled mass,
I too was many the lowly.

Each year I found myself ad-
vanced,
I saw that I was climbing;
I took advantage of my chance,
And ceased from all repining.

I fought and pushed myself
beyond,
All those who lead us gladly;
My love for them is just a fan,
But I'm determined yet to fly,
Onward and up forever.

I'll not retreat, I will advance,
I'll gain my expectation;
When things are dark I'll make a
chance,
I'll master situations.

A POEM

by G.R. Whitfield

When a boy my thoughts would
stray
I longed for education,
But scanty means as we may say,
Had blocked the situation.

I went to union to begin,
I entered there delighted;
There I made many friends,
But found my life was blighted.

My progress both in books and
thought,
While there was ordinary;
I kept a longing to be taught.

Correction

Issue / Feb 16th - Feb 23rd

Mr G.R. Whitfield's name was
printed as Mr George Raymond
Whitfield. In correction his name
is recorded as Mr George Roscoe
Whitfield. Please do accept our
most humble apologies.



A.K.A.'s Ball 2001- The Ladies of the A.K.A.'s shown at their Big Gala Affair at the Hilton Hotel for this joyous occasion. Shown is Brother Byron Tyson & his sisters in Princeville- Hat's of our ladies, A.K.A.'s
staff photo by Jim Rouse

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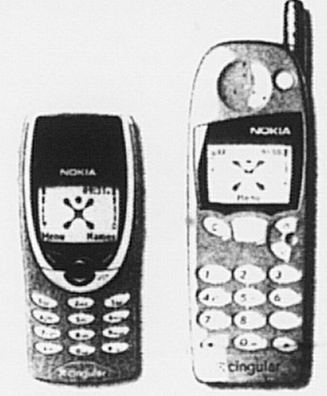
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Reflections, Expressions & Reviews



Suejette Jones

WORSHIP MUSIC

During the course of a worship service, most churches use music. Styles vary widely: Congregations singing traditional hymns while the pipe organ plays, gospel choirs with piano accompaniment, a band with drums, keyboards, and electric guitars leading contemporary praise and worship choruses, jazz ensembles playing updated versions of classic hymns, solo vocalists backed by a full orchestra, a lone individual strumming an acoustic guitar while leading the congregation in song, etc.

Things have changed a lot since the 1950's, when variety is critical to worship because music has become such a vital part of personal expression and vocabulary. For the new generation, in particular, you could argue that music has become their dominant language.

The role of music in Christian worship is central. But there are numerous issues regarding the use of music in worship--and the response to those issues can be very controversial. Three are important questions of worship/music debate: How much music should there be, what style of music should be used, and who should lead the music in worship? The answer is: There is not a "magic" number of minutes that represents the best answer. It seems that there are four factors that work together to determine how much music is included in a worship service. There should be enough to:

1. Focus people's attention on God and on the act of worship;
 2. Calm people down and soften their hearts toward God;
 3. Facilitate intimacy with God
 4. Stir their souls.
- Uninterrupted worship music should allow people to find a means of expression to God without having that flow disturbed

by other forms of activity or observation. How much worship music is enough is based not on the clock but on the congregation. This involves the music leader 'reading the congregation' and evaluating how much they are into worship by observing their facial language, body language, hand gestures verbal clues, call and responses. The music leader plays an important role in facilitating genuine church worship.

The use of dance is gaining in popularity in worship service even though some churches are slow to embrace it. Someone remarked that anytime you have anything new, particularly when you are working with people's religion, one must be careful so as not to be offensive or to shock. It is how each church wants to interpret it and some don't want it at all. They feel that dance has become associated with vulgarity or obscenity instead of reverence. For that reason, they hesitate to bring dance into worship service. Dance originally was an act of worship but remains controversial among people of the Christian faith as to its being immoral and having no place in a believer's life. In some worship services the trend is to use hand bells which produce marvelous musical sounds--quite different from other instruments.



CASH MICHAELS PHOTO

"I am the great grandson of a slave, who worked the fields of Edgecombe County, the grandson of a powerful Baptist minister, and the son of two wonderful parents who labored so hard, and dreamed big dreams for their boy."— G. K. Butterfield, R., newly appointed NC Supreme Court Associate Justice

Wilson Native Butterfield Is Sworn In As Associate Justice

Wilson native, who is the second African American to serve on the court, says he will work very hard to fairly interpret the law.

"I know the damage that is inflicted on the state when a single citizen is denied a fundamental right," the new Associate Justice told a jammed Supreme Court Chambers, moments after being sworn in.

"I fully understand the judicial system of this great state, and what it means in the lives of ordinary citizens.

"A host of top state dignitaries,

including members of the N.C. Black Caucus, former Gov. Jim Hunt, Gov. Mike Easley, and the first African American to serve on the states High Court, former N.C. Chief Justice Henry Frye, were in attendance as Butterfield was administered the oath of office.

Gov. Easley, who appointed Butterfield, told the justices how proud he was to have a fellow North Carolina Central University School of Law alumna serve on state's high Court.

"He is the first to come (onto the

state Supreme Court), from the (NCCU) School of Law where he trained. The mascot there is the eagle, so from this day forth, Justice Butterfield will be known as *LegalEagle*

the governor quipped to the justices. Easley added, "It's a relief to be before you when I know I can't lose."

The justices and the audience laughed. "We welcome a well respected member of the Judiciary



Pictured above..... Judge James Wynn, Kathy Castillo and our man Javier Castillo. Mrs Caastillo is all smiles and rightly so as they are heralded as Best Irons Humanitarians.

A Greenville couple has won the Best-Irons Humanitarian of the Year Award for their advocacy on behalf of the area's growing Hispanic community.

Javier and Kathy Castillo were presented the award during the annual ceremony Saturday night at the Hilton Inn Greenville.

"It is a very fine honor to serve as a bridge between the two communities," Javier Castillo said Monday. He said Greenville in particular, and the state of North Carolina in general, has made substantial inroads in recognizing the needs of Hispanics.

"We knew that we were nominated, but we were definitely surprised (to win)," he said of the honor.

His wife said the city's residents are naturally becoming more aware of Hispanics as more

move into the area and Hispanic-owned business pop up.

The Castillos were nominated by Sylvia McCreary, a past winner of the award and leader with Habitat for Humanity of Greenville-Pitt County. The Castillos helped to provide housing for the organization's first Hispanic family.

"I have observed firsthand the rapport this couple has with people McCreary wrote in her nomination letter to the Greenville Human Relations Council, which chooses the winners.

A special note to our readers:

Javier Castillo is the instrumental part of the Hispanic program on WOOW Joy 1340am broadcasting every Saturday morning starting at 6am. We congratulate Mr. Javier Castillo.

The Celebration of Life of Ms. Anne Leigh Garrett Harvey



1928 - 2001

Thursday, March 1, 2001
 1:00 PM

Sycamore Hill Missionary Baptist Church

1001 Hooker Road
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Dr. Howard W. Parker, Jr., Pastor
 Dr. Clarence B. Gray, Officiating

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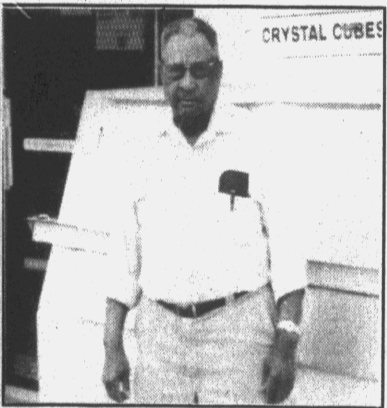
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Smith's Convenient Store



Mr. Buddy Langley, manager of Smith's Convenient Store posed for the 'M' Voice camera. Smith's Convenient Store has been around for at least forty years. Mr. Langley remembers children that are now adults coming in the little store with their children and grandchildren. Smith's Convenient Store is a good example of Black History in motion.

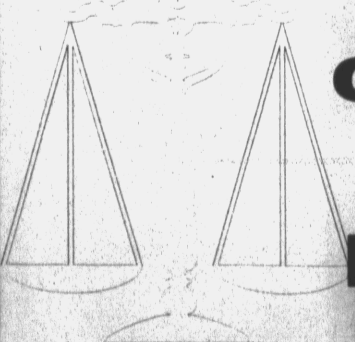
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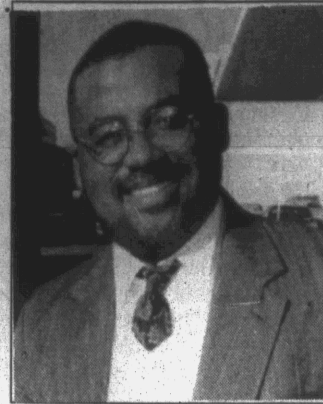
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Slavery in America has left permanent scars. In fact, if the descendants of slaves don't receive monetary restitution for their ancestors' pain and free labor, the vestiges of that abominable institution will remind us continuously of those dark days when black folks were hobbled by chains, whipped into submission, treated worse than dogs, and regarded as property. Additionally, people of good conscience must do more to debunk myths about the harsh realities of slavery. One such myth is that most slaves were satisfied with their plight and docile-poppycock!

Black plantation slavery, as American as apple pie, began in the New World when Spaniards imported slaves from Africa to replace Indians who died of miserable working conditions and exposure to diseases, most of which were brought to America by the Europeans. There were two major types of slavery: household and productive. Domestic slaves served

their owners mainly as menials. Productive slaves, however, produced marketable commodities on plantations or in mines.

Slaves manifested resistance in many ways. Moreover, the intensity of resistance threatened the very survival of slavery. In *Celia, A Slave*, Celia was raped repeatedly by Robert Newsome, her master, in Callaway County, Missouri in 1855. Ultimately, she resisted his sexual urges by crushing his skull with a blunt object. Celia then put the body inside the fireplace where it was reduced to ashes.

John Hope Franklin, distinguished black historian, cited numerous examples of slave resistance in *Runaway Slaves*. For example, fugitive slaves often clobbered their masters with axes in desperation.

Many slaves who didn't jump overboard during the Middle Passage were thrown asunder. Others were tortured for insubordination. I might add, slaves were packed like sardines in slaves ships heading for a horrifying journey to a land of chaos, dehumanization and servitude.

I agree with Sister Cynthia Tucker of the *Atlanta Journal Constitution* insofar as the peripheral significance of Black History Month is concerned. We need to teach our children black history throughout the year. Merely focusing on it during February, the shortest and coldest month of the year, is not just an insult to the intelligence of the descendants of slaves. It also suggests black history is not relevant beyond February.

Slave masters often slept with one eye open. Indeed, slavery,

the very foundation of southern civilization, caused slave owners many sleepless nights. The "writing was on the wall."

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HEAD START.....IT WORKS!!!!!! ENROLLMENT ANNOUNCEMENT-HEAD START PROGRAM

Martin county Community Action, Inc. Project head Start is now accepting applications for the 2001 Fall Enrollment for children and including children with disabilities. eligibility is determined by HHS Income Guidelines, family needs, disabilities, and/or special conditions of the child.

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

Head Start is a comprehensive developmental program for children ages 3-5 years old. This program is based on the premise that children share certain needs and that children from low-income families, in a particular, can benefit from a program designed to meet those needs. Head Start operates nine (9) months of the year-September through May. The centers are opened Monday through Friday and the hours of operation are 8:00 a. m.- 2:00 p.m. Head Start has been operating in the Martin County area since 1965, currently there are 184 children. Six (6) classrooms are comprised of 4-5 yr. olds and four (4) classrooms consist of three year olds. Beaufort County has been operating since 1977 and presently serving 96 children. Three (3) classrooms consists 4-5 yr. olds. Pitt County originated in 1985 and serving 234 children in 11 classrooms accommodating three (3) year old children.

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

2000 FAMILY INCOME GUIDELINES FOR HEAD START PROGRAM
2000 FAMILY INCOME GUIDELINES FOR ALL STATES (EXCEPT ALASKA AND HAWAII), THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA AND PUERTO RICO

Size of Family Unit	Income	Size of Family Unit	Income
1	8,350	5	19,950
2	11,250	6	22,850
3	14,150	7	25,750
4	17,050	8	28,650

For family units with more than 8 members, add \$2,900 for each additional member. Please contact the Family Service Worker at the Head Start Center in your area
Martin CO: North Everetts 792-535 Beaufort CO: 264 Washington 946-5632
Pitt CO: St. Gabriel 752-9755 Aurora 322-5543
Ayden 746-4298 Farmville 753-8036 Belhaven 943-3006

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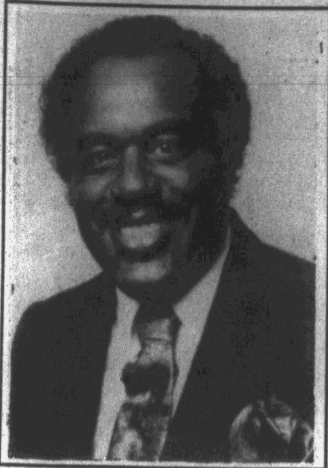
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Spiritual Thoughts



Dr. George Hawkins

Greetings in the name of The Lord Jesus Christ:

As Christians, we face many problems and circumstances in our daily walk with the Lord. You may be led to believe that you are living "this life" as best as you know how but still things are just not working out for you. There is something going on that you just can't seem to put your finger on. At times you have wondered why this is happening and why that is happening. You fast. You pray. you've even put yourself under the "spiritual microscope" but still your surroundings remain the same. The circumstances only seem to get worse. The subject I am about to address is something that is very seldom discussed or taught in churches today. It is

"Generational Curses"

Exodus 34:6-7 says "And He (The Lord) passed in front of Moses, proclaiming, "The Lord, the Lord, the compassionate and gracious God, slow to anger, abounding in love and faithfulness, maintaining love to thousands, and forgiving wickedness, rebellion and sin. Yet He does not leave the guilty unpunished; He punishes the children and their children for the sin of the fathers to the third and fourth generation."

Deuteronomy 11:26-28 says "See, I am setting before you today a blessing and a curse- the blessing if you obey the commands of the Lord your God that I am giving you today; the curse if you disobey the commands of the Lord your God and turn from the way that I command you today by following other gods, which you have not known."

Generational curses are judgments that are passed on to individuals because of sins extended in a family in a number of generations. Generational curses are similar to original sin curses because they can be passed down generationally. They differ in that generational curses do not impose eternal judgment. They bring judgment or bondage during an individual's life, until that individual addresses the sin issues that put the curses into place.

Moses addressed this issue when the Israelites were preparing to enter the promised land. He told the new generation that was prepar-

ing to enter in that they would not enter unless they dealt with their own personal sins and also the sins of their fathers. The account can be found in

Leviticus 26:39-42 "Those of you who are left will waste away in the lands of their enemies because of their sins; also because of their fathers' sin they will waste away. But if they will confess their sins and the sins of their fathers- their treachery against me and their hostility toward me, which made me hostile toward them so that I sent them into the land of their enemies- then when their uncircumcised hearts are humbled and they pay for their sin, I will remember my covenant with Jacob and my covenant with Isaac and my covenant with Abraham, and I will remember the land."

Curses take away the quality of life. They can bring failure, shame, sickness and even physical death. They are temporal in nature, causing much grief. They are administered to get our attention and encourage us to turn back to God. Those who are humbled by them, repent and find restoration and renewed freedom from the Lord. Those who become angry, self-righteous and rebel against what God has permitted go deeper into bondage and darkness.

The Scriptures reveal a two-prong approach for dealing with generational bondage. We have to address (1) Personal sins and also (2) Generational sins (in the family)

At this point, I know that many of you will reason, "I thought that all the past is under the blood when I received Jesus as my Savior!

As far as your salvation and eternal destiny is concerned, that is true. But our enemy loves to cause us grief when there is sin connected to our lives (personally or generationally) that has not been addressed through repentance and confession. Do you remember when you received Jesus into your life? You acknowledged your sin in a general way and asked Him to be your savior and forgive you and cleanse you. The Lord was very gracious with your general confession, but later on the Holy Spirit began to convict you of sins in your past. You were led to repent of them and confess them specifically to the Lord. Why did the Spirit do that?

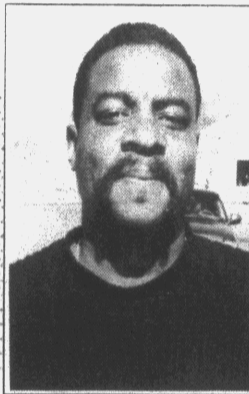
He wanted you to be free of any legal claims of the enemy upon your life. It had nothing to do with your salvation, but the quality and freedom of your new life in Christ.

Why does God permit the enemy to be such a hindrance? Because the Lord, in His sovereignty, can use even the enemy's activities to accomplish something good in our lives. Some of the effects include chastisement, testing of faith, a guard against complacency, humility, and the motivation to pursue a sanctified life.

You may be asking, how do I begin to address the problem of generational curses and bondages? I am glad you asked. First, you must develop two sin lists-one personal and one for your family (including parents and the members of each of their families) You must be specific and thorough. Take your time. Go before the Lord and ask Him to help you prepare those lists.



Black History Beautiespictured from left to right Sister Syles, Mother Palmer, Sister Moye and Sis Angeline as they pose for the M'Voice Newspaper camera when Keith 'The Wonder Boy Johnson' performed at the Philipi Church of Christ photo by Faith Maye



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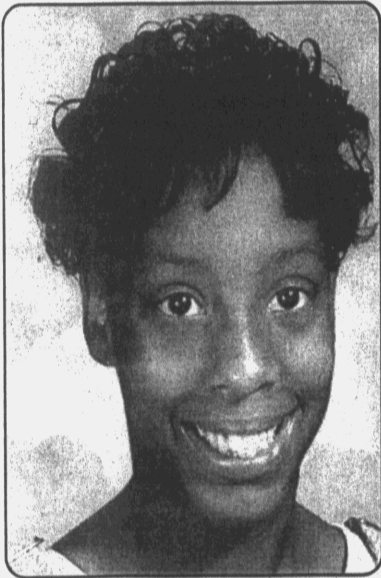
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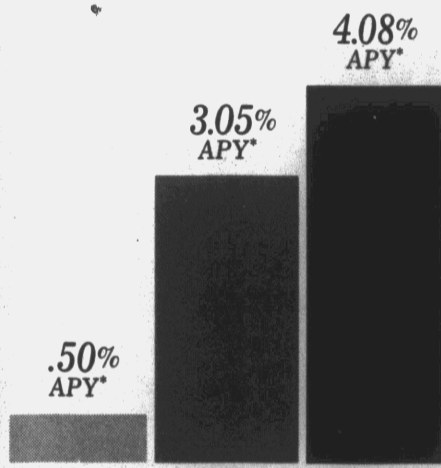
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MUSIC WORLD

by Tim Butler
Entertainment Editor

Charlie Wilson bridges the gap



Wilson

Legendary R&B singer Charlie Wilson of the Gap Band, is ushering in the new millennium with a new solo album, *Bridging the Gap*. While treading the waters of the new age, Wilson still manages to pay homage to the old. In the 70s and 80s, he and his band mates had a string of hits that in-

cludes *Outstanding*, *Burn Rubber* and *Yearning for Your Love*.

"When making this album, my goal was to have a CD where the older fans wouldn't disagree with me," says Wilson, "and the younger fans would feel me. I sang the way I wanted and picked the producers I wanted to work with. There's something on this project for everybody."

Over the span of Wilson's 30-year career, he has worked with the Eurythmics, Quincy Jones, Stevie Wonder, Dr. Dre, R. Kelly, Master P, Mystikal and Aaron Hall. He has hopes of working with Brian McKnight, Eric Benet, Jermaine Dupri, Kenny Latimore and Joe.

Although Wilson admits that becoming a solo artist is sort of like starting over, he says going it without the Gap Band behind him is a wonderful feeling. The debut cut from the solo project is the lover's love song *Without You*. The video was shot at the salsa tango-inspired club, the Conga Room, in Los Angeles, as well as a Malibu Beach mansion. Other cuts include: *Another Man* featuring Case, *Charlie's Angel* and *Sweet Love*. Some of his collaborators include Snoop Dogg, Angie Stone, Marc Nelson and the Stewart Brothers.

Texaco targets teens with educational opera



Texaco, now in its 61st season of sponsoring the live Saturday broadcasts of the Metropolitan Opera, also supports a variety of educational projects to bring music into the lives of young people of all ages. The most innovative of these is the Texaco Opera Learning Center, produced for the Internet by the Metropolitan Opera Guild. The Learning Center is unique in that it presents material in a manner not found elsewhere.

Launched at the beginning of the broadcast season of 1999-2000, the Learning Center has been highly successful with its two initial projects: the Texaco Study Guide to Opera and the Texaco Quiz Kids.

Texaco created the Learning Center in response to a Presidential Executive Order to encourage private sector support for public appreciation of the arts and humanities. This public service enhances the company's 61-year sponsorship of the Met Broadcasts.

For 60 years, the most popular intermission feature on Texaco-Metropolitan Opera broadcasts has been the Texaco Opera Quiz, in which world-renown experts answer questions submitted by listeners. The Texaco Quiz Kids' broadcast debut on April 1, 2000. Competition is now underway in six regions of North America to select the panel for this season's broadcast of the Texaco Quiz Kids.

For more information, visit the Learning Center's website, www.texaco.com.

Busta Rhymes picks Clive Davis' label



Rhymes

Much sought-after multi-platinum rap star Busta Rhymes, one of the most recognizable stars of hip-hop, has chosen Clive Davis' J Records as his new home.

Rhymes' career includes a history of chart-topping albums, smash singles and high-profile movie roles. In addition to

joining J Records as an artist, the rapper also brings Flipmode Entertainment, his own record label that debuted with the gold-selling *Flipmode Squad* album last year.

According to Rhymes, "The legacy of Clive Davis' leadership is undeniable and I respect him tremendously. What intrigued me most about going to J was that Clive believed in my vision as a whole. It wasn't about being in the Busta Rhymes business. For him it was about being in business with Busta Rhymes. What more could I ask for?"

Pleased with his new signee, Davis says, "To me, Busta Rhymes is the quintessential rap star. His charisma, presence and persona are electrifying. All of us at J Records are appropriately amped!"

Signed to Elektra Records, Busta Rhymes' first solo debut, *The Coming*, proved a huge hit with the single *Woo-Hah! Got You All in Check*, which became a Top Ten single. He burst onto the scene in 1995 with a breakthrough performance on Craig Mack's *Flava in Ya Ear*.

GREENVILLE ALUMNI CHAPTER OF KAPPA ALPHA PSI

On February 24, 2001 at 3:00 pm. One hundred men from the Greenville Alumni Chapter of Kappa Alpha Psi and the Eta Psi chapter of Kappa Alpha Psi of East Carolina University along with members of Kappa League, met on the South Memorial Drive medium to dedicate eight (8) pine trees that were planted 26 years ago. These trees, tiny saplings in 1974, were planted by the "First" line of Kappas at ECU. These pine saplings were furnished by Brother J. J. Brown, then Vocational Agriculture teacher at the Ayden-Grifton High School. Brother J. J. Brown is perhaps the oldest Kappa living in North Carolina. He celebrated his 94th birthday on February, 17, 2001.

The eight pines represent one pine for each brother on the first Kappa Line-Eta Psi- at ECU and one pine for the person who started the chapter, Francis H. Meban.

Alumni chapter pole march Darien White presented Bro. McCorkle who welcomed the brotherhood and explained the reason for the assemblage.

Prayer was offered by Brother J. J. Brown.

Each line of ECU Kappas had someone to give remarks. Following these remarks Brother Francis H. Mebane offered the dedicatory remarks and emplacement prayer. The emplacement stone is place at the beginning of the trees lined from the 3rd street intersection toward the river. The stone reads ECU-Eta Psi 1974.

Submitted by Brother Francis H. Mebane



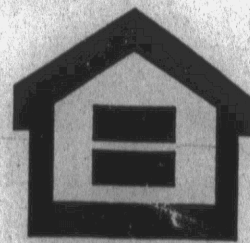
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From The Desk of Mrs. Beatrice Maye



Practice Random Acts of Kindness

1. Spend half an hour in a hospital emergency room and do one random act of kindness that presents itself.
2. Offer to help people who could use the assistance to cross streets, seniors, the blind, small children.
3. Plant a tree in your neighborhood.
4. Yes, it's a drag, but why not put your shopping cart back in its appointed place in the parking lot?
5. Write a note to the boss of someone who has helped you, thanking him/her for having such a great employee.
6. "Put your heart, mind and intellect and soul even to smallest acts. This is the secret of success," Swami Sivanada~
7. "The purpose of life is a life of purpose." Robert Byrne~

8. "Do every act of your life as if it were your last" Marcus Aurelius~
9. We cannot live only for ourselves. A thousand fibers connect us with our fellowmen; and among those fibers, as sympathetic threads, our actions run as causes, and they come back to us as effects". Herman Melville~
10. Open the phone book, and select a name at random and send that person a greeting card.
11. Walk around with a instamatic camera and take people's pictures and give them to them.
12. All of you reading these words have loved someone, have done kind deed, have healed a wound, have taken on a challenge, have created something beautiful, and have enjoyed breathing the air of existence. Never doubt how precious, how vitally important you are. Every moment you make a difference. So, today, appreciate yourself as a random act of kindness.
13. I don't know what your destiny will be, but one thing I do know: the only ones among you who will be really happy are those who have sought and found how to serve". Albert Schweitzer~
14. "Love is not getting, but giving. Not a wild dream of pleasure and a madness of desire-oh no, love is not that. Love is that and it is the best thing in the world and the thing that lives the longest", Henry Van Dyke~
15. "Kindness is more important than wisdom, and the recognition of this is the beginning of wisdom" Theodore Isaac Rubin~

Just Plain Common Sense

1. Surely you didn't drop your paper or cigarette butt in the street.
2. Did you take a short cut through someone's yard?
3. If you mistakenly dial the wrong number, did you courteously say, "I apologize, wrong number"?
4. How often did you not walk to the right, whether in the hall at school or in the mall? Then you'll not bump into each other.
5. Ladies cross their legs at the ankle; men, at the knee.
6. Men are never properly dressed unless they have a handkerchief in their pocket.
7. Please don't sneeze or cough in your hand, then offer it to be shaken. You're spreading germs.
8. Move down on the pew in church, so folk won't have a hard time passing you. You have not paid for any particular spot on a pew, nor are you in school where students are assigned a seat.
9. If you listen, you will learn something.
10. Don't hog the conversation, but please contribute.
11. Don't hold grudges.
12. Use your mind. Read, play a Scrabble, Wheel of Fortune. Work crossword puzzles, visit the library, check out books and read an used mind usually ends up with Alzheimer's disease, a brain disorder caused by senility, mental or physical infirm because of old age.
13. Don't worry. Be happy!!
14. Worry is interest paid on trouble before it comes due. William R. Engage
15. Get out of your rut.

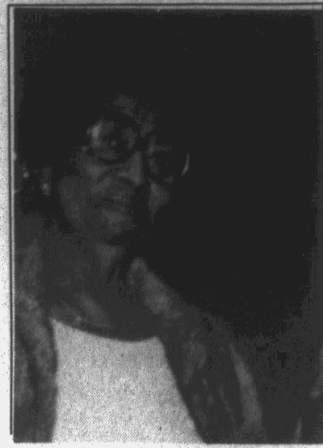
Very often a change of self is needed more than a change scene.

16. "Each person must take charge of developing his or her own mind" Bill Cosby~

17. "People who laugh together may be willing to work together" Bill Cosby~

18. "Rather than trying to bring the races of people together by talking about the differences, let's try to bring them together by talking about the similarities" Bill Cosby~

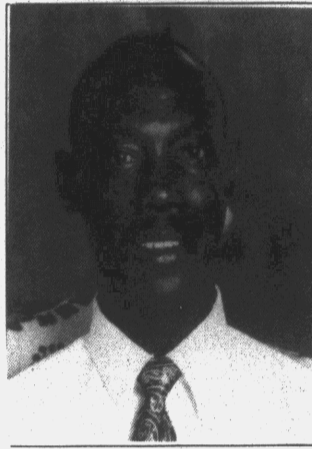
19. Most people expect clergy (preachers) to practice what they preach. Jesse Jackson has frequently spoken to groups of young people, urging them not to engage in sexual activity before marriage and pleading them to not father or mother children out of wedlock.



Mrs. O' Coma Wilson
An angel who will truly be missed

Corrections

Issue / Feb 16th - Feb 23rd



Rufus 'Baldy' Cooper
A young man who turned his turned life around

BLACK HISTORY CONTINUES

THE WOOTEN SCHOOL OF MUSIC ANNOUNCES THEIR EXTENDED SERIES OF "BLACK HISTORY CONTINUES" PROGRAM DURING THE MONTH OF MARCH. SCHOOL OFFICIALS HAVE STATED THAT THE PROGRESS AND EXPLOITS OF BLACKS ARE TOO NUMEROUS TO BE CRAMMED IN ONE MONTH-FEBRUARY, THE SHORTEST MONTH OF THE YEAR. AFTER STUDIES OF THE ORGIN OF BLACK

MUSIC, THE TRADITIONAL SPIRITUALS, BLUES, GOSPEL AND ETC.. THE SCHOOL IS PRESENTLY CONDUCTING A STUDY OF A NEW PHASE OF MUSIC NOT FOUND IN HISTORY BOOKS OR EXPLAINED IN PUBLIC SCHOOL CURRICULUM, "THE PRAISE DANCE TEAM." THIS IS A NEW INNOVATION OF PRAISE WORSHIP MOLDED INTO DANCE AND PANTOMIME ROUTINES RAPIDLY SWEEPING THE BLACK CHURCHES. THE SCHOOL IS CONDUCTING A STUDY OF PRAISE DANCE TEAMS.

THE SCHOOL IS PLANNING A PROGRAM OF THIS DISPLAY OF WORSHIP FOR THE PUBLIC AND INVITING "PRAISE DANCE" AND "STEP TEAMS" FOR THEIR MONTH OF MARCH "BLACK HISTORY CONTINUES" SERIES. CHURCHES WITH THESE PROGRAMS, DESIRING TO PARTICIPATE ARE ASKED TO REGISTER WITH THE SCHOOL OF MUSIC BY CALLING JOHNNY WOOTEN, @ (252) 757-1023-(WORK) OR (252) 757-1135(HOME) OR EDITH OUTERBRIDGE @ (252) 757-348-8. THE PROGRAM DATE WILL BE ANNOUNCED LATER.



Cultural Center Expands Campus Resources

The Ledonia Wright Cultural Center (LWCC), located in the Bloxton House on west campus, has been expanding and making great strides over the past year under director Nell Lewis.

The LWCC is an active on-campus resource designed to help students, faculty and staff continue to become more culturally aware and to promote diversity within the

university community.

"The cultural center is the place on campus where the university's commitment to diversity takes on real life," Lewis said. "No other place on campus is designed to do what the cultural center does for everyone."

"The cultural center recognizes that our campus expects it's {LWCC} leadership in preparing all of us to be culturally competent in our growing global society," she said.

Contained in the cultural center are many new and improved amenities available to students.

These amenities include 14 computer workstations, given by the microtechnology center; a reading room with more than 100 books on different cultures, all of which can be checked out; and 41 multicultural magazines and newspapers that represent a variety of cultures.

The LWCC gallery contains many displays of art from cultures all around the world. The works are on loan from the School of Art. Lewis plans to rotate the exhibits in since the gallery is not big enough to hold all works.

The LWCC newly im-

plemented programs include workshops on student leadership, multicultural and diversity sensitivity.

Lewis encourages in-Na'im Akbar, chair of the Minority Student Coalition, works with the LWCC and Lewis to create and implement many of the programs.

"It is a new adventure every day working with Nell," Akbar said. "Everytime I work with her, I see more and more of her commitment to the inclusion of all cultures and what is happening on campus."

"Nell has a wealth of knowledge about a lot of different cultures," he said. "She is so helpful and committed....No matter what you come to the center for, you leave with the desire to come back."

If students need information for reports or for personal gain, Lewis says she is more than happy to help that individual locate the information he or she seeks.

Since the LWCC opened in 1995, there have been three directors.

Lewis says she enjoys requests from professors to visit their classrooms, leading discussion on diversity. A five minute video production is

available, informing students of the benefits and activities available at the center.

Lewis plans to send requests to all professors to show the video in their classes on the first day of the semester.

"Within the thrust for multiculturalism in every aspect of daily life, we must have a way to learn about other cultures and the significance of our own culture so that we can thrive in the face of the greatest challenge of the 21st century-recognizing and appreciating cultures that are different from our own, Lewis said. "And the cultural center is designed to help us do just that."

Lewis arrived at ECU as a student in 1969, graduating in three years. She returned to campus last April when named director of the LWCC. Since then, more people than ever have paid their first visit to the center, a positive statistic that Lewis hopes will continue to improve.

A current tally of 4,067 people visited the cultural center during the fall 2000 semester. Of that total, 2,193 were first-time visitors.

The LWCC has a redesigned its Web page, which can be accessed at www.ecu.edu/LWCC.

hours of operation are open 8 a.m.-8 p.m., Monday-Thursday and 8 a.m. - 5 p.m. Friday. Questions and comments should be directed to the LWCC at 328-1980

This writer can be contacted at news@tec.ecu.edu.

to be contributors to the inaugural campaign for the Cultural Center, and we hope you will join us by pledging your support when you are called" The spirit of his commitment to see the Cultural Center expanded and evolve into a focal point for influencing cultural sensitivity lives on!

Ledonia Wright Cultural Center

Contact Information

Ledonia Wright Cultural Center
Bloxton House
East Carolina University
Greenville, NC 27858
Phone: 252.328.1680
Fax: 252.328.1983
www.ecu.edu/lwcc

Operation Hours:

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7:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.	7:30a.m. to 11:30 a.m.
	8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Tribute to James Ebron, Jr.

This first issue of the LWCC Connections honors the memory of Mr. James Ebron, Jr., an active member of the Ledonia Wright Cultural Center Development Board at the time of his death.

Mr. Ebron was also actively involved in other areas of our campus including the East Carolina University Endowment, East Carolina University Black Alumni Association, East Carolina University Distinguished Alumni 1994m and the East Carolina University Pirate Club.

Last year, in a special letter to ECU African American alumni endorsing support of a fundraising campaign, "Meeting the Challenge," Ebron stated, "My family is excited and happy

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LET'S GET STARTED

WACHOVIA

Tuskegee Airmen, Buffalo Soldiers Unite For Museum of Flying Honors

By KEVIN HERRERA
Sentinel Intern

Lt. Bill Ellis sat on the red bench overlooking the Museum of Flying in Santa Monica Sunday, pointing down at the P-51 Mustang fighter that was resting on the tarmac.

"That one was my favorite to fly," he said.

Surrounded by one of the largest collections of WW II memorabilia, I could not help but be overwhelmed by the sense of history that was in the three-story hanger at 2772 Donald Douglas Loop North.

Looking around one could see British Spitfires, P-51 Mustangs, a Hawker Hurricane and numerous exhibits featuring items from the rich history that the aviation industry has brought to the area.

As smooth jazz played over the loudspeakers on this cloudy Sunday afternoon, Lt. Ellis began to relax in his seat and reminisce about his buddies and the time he spent as a member of an elite crew of African-American aviators, the Tuskegee Airmen.

The Tuskegee Airmen, along with members from the Buffalo Soldiers and other African-Americans were on hand to celebrate the accomplishments of African-Americans in aviation, during the

Museum of Flying's tribute to Black History Month.

"There is nothing more beautiful than a sunrise at 30,000 ft.," Ellis says.

He spent his childhood years in Columbus, Ohio, and it is there that he found his love for flying.

"When I was 8 years old, my mother took me to an air show. This one plane was giving free rides over the airfield, but they said I was too young to go up by myself," Ellis said with a smile on his face.

"My mother just hiked up her long dress and put on these trousers they had given her. She grabbed me and we both went up. That's when I knew I was sold on flying."

Ellis was drafted on Feb. 17, 1943, right in the middle of WW II. He joined a group of young men who were just as eager as he was to show that they could fly.

Ellis entered a group of pioneers in the field of flying, not because they had developed some new method of flying, but because of their race.

These men would become the first African-Americans to fly in the Army and would set records for never losing a B-25 bomber to enemy fire and for their outstanding training record.

"We trained for 18 months and

then they finally sent us overseas," Ellis said. "We had the highest IQs and Mrs. Roosevelt herself actually came down to the airfield one day and took a flight with us. We knew that if she was on our side then we had nothing to be afraid of."

As a member of the 332nd Fighter Group, Ellis and his fellow Airmen flew missions over North Africa, Sicily and Europe, earning 150 Distinguished Flying Crosses, Legions of Merit and the Red Star of Yugoslavia.

Ellis acknowledged the accomplishments of the Tuskegee Airmen in their efforts to win the war, but it was an opportunity to change the way people viewed African-Americans.

"We did not believe in turning the other cheek," Ellis said. "We considered segregation and racism to be that other cheek."

Ellis recalled the day when 104 cadets violated base regulation 85-2, which restricted African-Americans from using the base's pool hall and lounge.

"We built that type of camarade-

rie because of the situation that we were in," Ellis said as he gave a hand shake to one of his fellow Airmen who was in attendance for the Museum of Flying's tribute to African-American aviators throughout history.

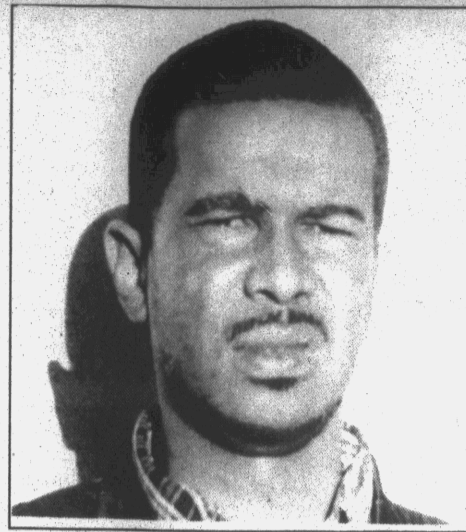
"We just walked up in there together, boy you should have seen the look on their faces when they saw us come in there. They arrested us right on the spot."

The charges against the cadets were dropped and this, according to Ellis, was the beginning of desegregation of the Army, which was completed in 1949 with President Truman's signing of executive order 9981.

Ellis signed a few autographs and took some pictures with young and old alike who had come to the museum to learn more about the contributions that African-Americans had made to the art of flying.

He then turned his attention out towards the cloudy sky and said, "it's a beautiful feeling, flying like a bird. You have the freedom to go wherever you want whenever you want. It's all about freedom."

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TAMIA

Finally drops her Sophomore album

After three constructive years, Tamia finally dropped her sophomore album, *A Nu Day*, last October, on a new label, Elektra.

Tamia left Quincy Jones' Qwest Records. Now, from underneath the legendary producer's shadow, Tamia is excited about her latest single, *Stranger In My House*, but notes that although the LP is what she wants to talk and sing about, some of the weighty issues, like that in *Stranger*, have put concern in the minds of her fans.

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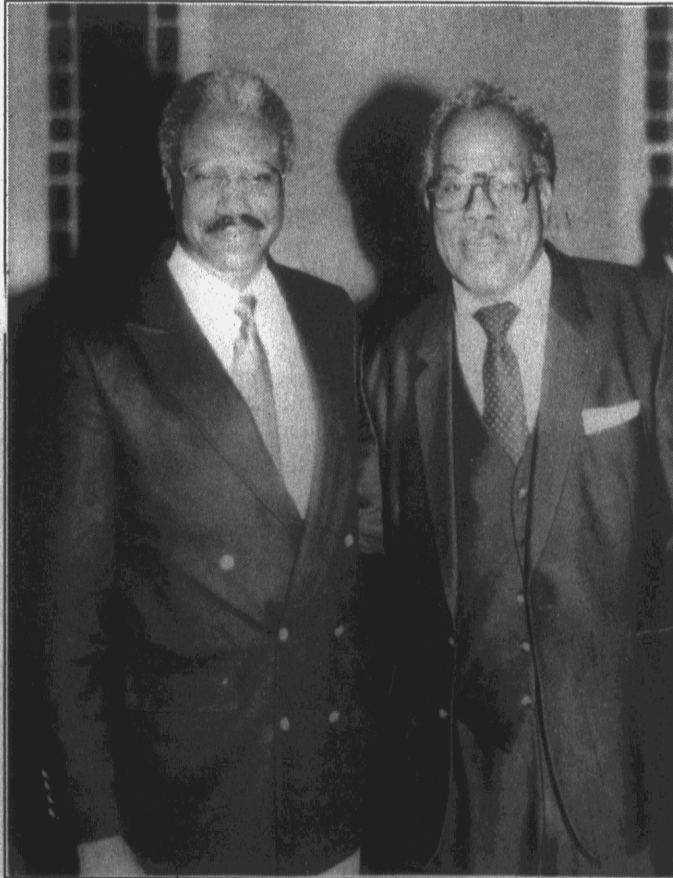
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"M" Voice Archives
The late Rev. Elmer Jackson Jr. is shown posing for our "M" voice camera being congratulated by an old friend who is now deceased as is Rev. Jackson. May God rest his soul.

file photo

NO, ERIC, I'M AFRAID I DON'T KNOW WHO INVENTED THE AUTOMATIC GEAR SHIFT, THE ALMANAC, BLOOD PLASMA BAG, ELEVATOR, GAS MASK, OR THE SPARK PLUG.

BLACK PEOPLE!

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- ALMANAC - BENJAMIN BANNEKER
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WOOW WTOW M'VOICE

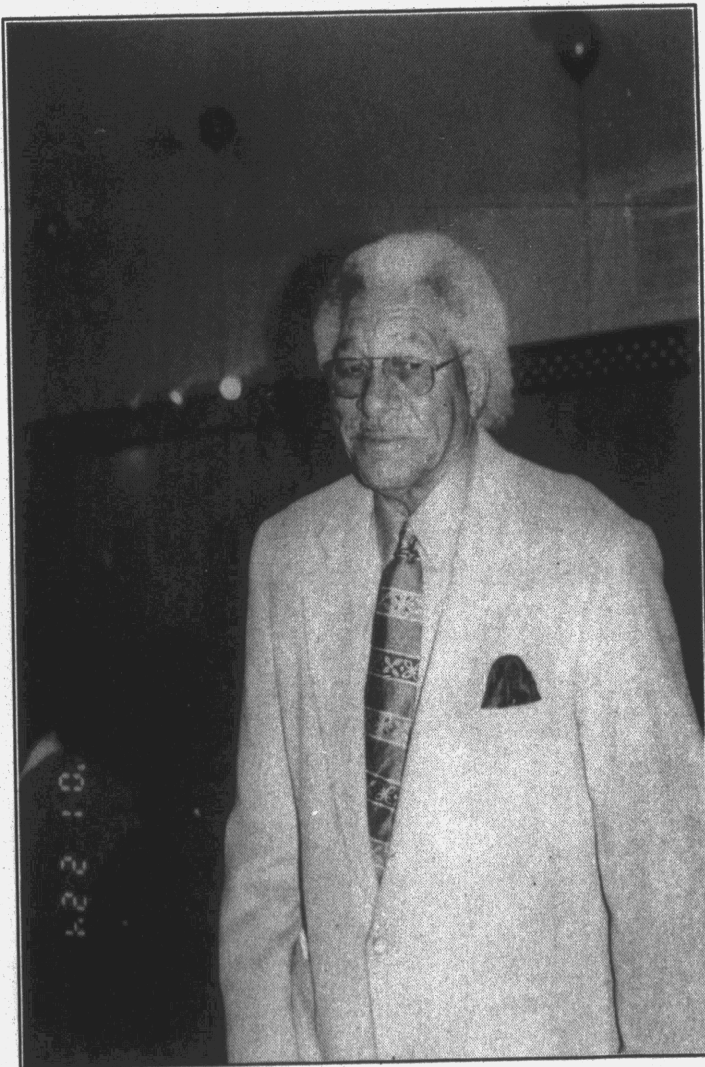
WE HONOR YOU BRO ROUSE

אָפּוואַרן



Rouse in the Housepictured in the center is daughter "M"bulu, who works in the home office of Jim Rouse Communications, enjoying the fellowship of her sister, 'M'dupe and brother 'O'najee who came in from Durham, NC to help honor 'Dad Rouse'. photo by Faith May

אָפּוואַרן



Elderly Wisdomshown here is Bro. Pete Hagin who gave his support to long time friend, Bro J. Rouse at Gala Banquet held at the Duboise building. photo Faith May

אָפּוואַרן



Hanging with a brother... Bro. Price, gospel music mixologist, joins the celebration after his daily program at WOOW Radio studio. Bro Price says, " Many more years to you Bro Rouse. staff photo M.

Savings & Loans



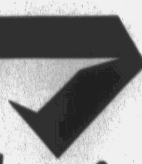
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In general, the building can be described as a two story wood framed structure, and is approximately 5,735 square feet in size. It contains a commercial kitchen, dining room, toilet rooms, offices, and ancillary meeting rooms.

A single bid proposal will be received for all work.

Sealed bids will be received at the York Memorial AME Zion Church, 201 Tyson Street, Greenville, North Carolina until 3:00 p.m. EST on Tuesday, March 27, 2001 Bids received after this time will not be accepted. Bids shall be submitted in sealed envelopes; give the name of the project and name and address of the bidder on the front of the envelope.

Bidding documents may be examined at the following locations:

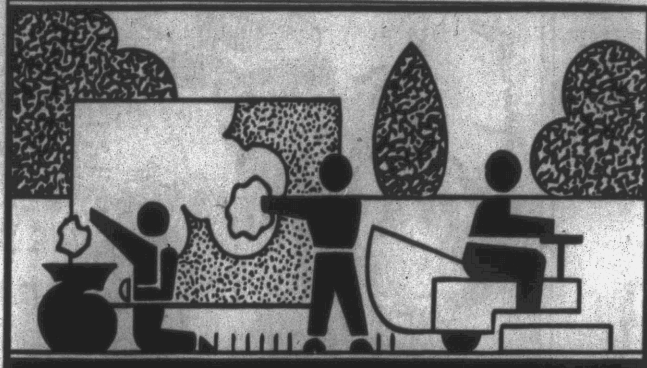
Speedy Blue Copiers, Greenville, NC 252-758-7311
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Copies of bid documents will be provided at a cost of \$50.00 per set, refundable, upon return of undamaged documents.

All Contractors are hereby notified that they must have proper license under the Sate laws governing their respective trades.

Proposal shall be accompanied by a cash deposit, certified check or Bid Bond of not less than 5% of the amount of the bid. A Performance, Labor and Material Payment Bond will be required for one hundred percent (100%) of the contract price. The minority participation goal will be 10%.

Joy, Inc. reserves the right to reject any or all Proposals or to waive any informality in the proposal process. No Proposal shall be withdrawn for a period of forty-five (45) consecutive calendar days subsequent to the receipt of proposals without the consent of the Owner.



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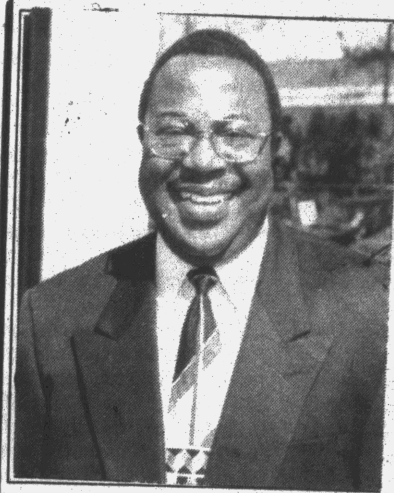
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Young warrior.....Bro Muhammed, the new voice of Muhammed Mosque #79 speaks to the people at the Gala Banquet held in honour of Bro. Jim Rouse. Bro Muhammed was also instrumental in the event. Peace be unto you my Bro.
staff photo by Bro. Adams



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Proud Mother.....Mother Rouse relaxes after the banquet that was held in honour of her son, Bro Jim Rouse who is the "Voice for the Voiceless". Maybe she's thinking, I'm glad somebody else cooked cause that son of mine can eat.
staff photo by M. Adams

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READ

N.C. quarter to be unveiled Monday has aviation theme

By TIM WHITMIRE

North Carolina's entry in the parade of state-themed quarters is scheduled for takeoff Monday in Raleigh, when U.S. Mint director Jay Johnson is to join Gov. Mike Easley in unveiling the state's design based on the Wright Brothers' flight.

The mint said Tuesday it will launch the coin in a 10 a.m. ceremony at the N.C. Museum of History, which is also to feature a presentation of the first N.C. quarter, actors portraying Orville and Wilbur Wright and a kite-flying demonstration.

Mint spokesman Michael White said the mint has been striking the N.C. quarters, which feature the words "First Flight" and an image of the Wright brothers' biplane over the sands of Kitty Hawk, since the last week of February.

Some of the new quarters will

be handed out Monday to students from North Ridge Elementary in Raleigh. The rest of us will have to wait for them to make their way into pocket change.

The coins will go from mints in Philadelphia and Denver to the nation's Federal Reserve banks, then to local bank branches. From there, they will be put into circulation.

White has said it can take anywhere from a few weeks to a couple of months for new quarters to move into circulation after the banks get them, depending on factors such as population density and the number of cash transactions individuals make.

The first N.C. quarters to reach the state will most likely come from the Philadelphia mint by way of the Richmond, Va., Federal Reserve - and thus might show up first along the N.C.-Virginia border.

The N.C. quarter will be the 12th in a series of 50 being released by the Mint over a 10-year period. The coins' fronts

feature the traditional portrait of George Washington, but each state gets the chance to create a unique design for the back of its quarter.

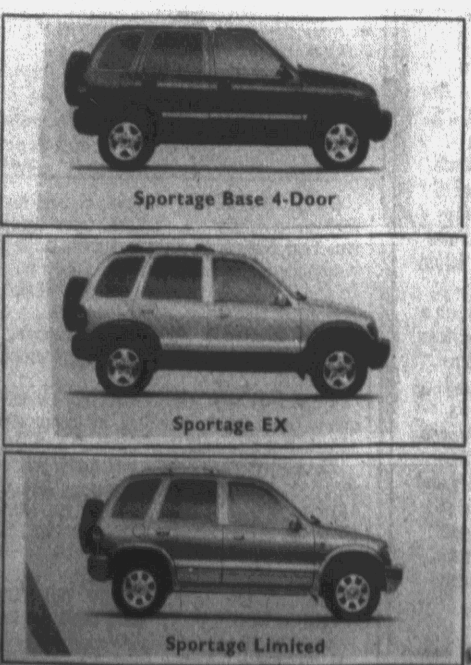
South Carolina's quarter, eighth in the series, was released last year. It features an outline of the state; a palmetto tree; the Carolina wren, the state bird; and the yellow jessamine, the state flower.

Because coins are being released in the order in which states were admitted to the Union, North Carolina will get its aviation-themed quarter into circulation a full year before Ohio - North Carolina's rival to claim the Wright brothers releases its coin.

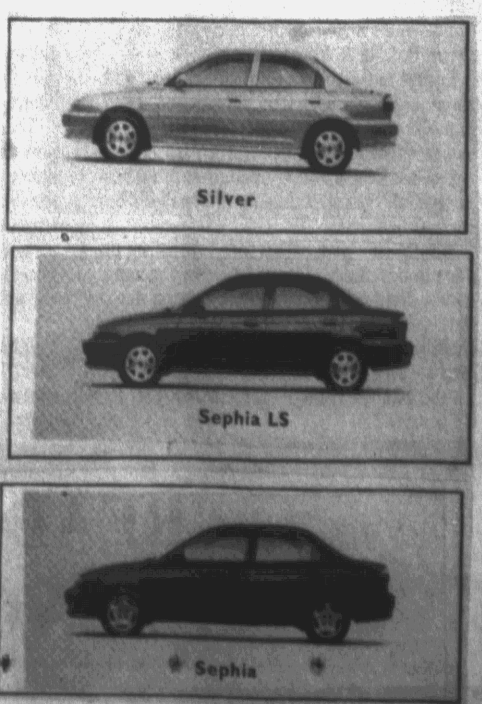
Wilbur and Orville Wright were natives of Dayton, Ohio, where in their bicycle shop they did the pioneering work that led to the first flight. They chose Kitty Hawk for the historic first sustained powered flight on Dec. 17, 1903, because of its favorable winds.

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EDITORIALS

We are now becoming what we are to be

As African Americans, we have a compelling interest in the struggle for America's future now underway in the nation's public schools. The national debate about educational policy is a debate about our future as a people.

The power of education has always been fundamental to the African-American experience. Today, more than ever before, information and the ability to use that knowledge for constructive purposes are the foundation of our empowerment.

From the Freedmen's schools of our past to the Historically Black Colleges and Universities of today, African Americans have stepped forward to serve our public schools. That is why, during Black History Month, we all should reserve a special place in our hearts for those wonderful men and women who have dedicated their lives to teaching others.

My parents were determined that their children would receive the formal education that they had been denied, but their dream for us could not have been realized without the teachers and college professors who saw beyond our superficial limitations and gave substance to our ability and will to learn.

I often return to the site of my childhood elementary school in South Baltimore and thank God for the teachers who asserted their faith in our future against the forces of poverty and prejudice. While sitting there, next to railroad tracks and an elevated expressway, I remember the words that once were etched on our school sign. "We are now becoming what we are to be," the sign declared, and the teachers in our small, under-funded school transformed that vision into our collective mission in life.

Last week, I was thinking about my long, personal journey from South Baltimore to the Congress of the United States as I joined Congressman George Miller (Calif.) and Dale Kildee (Mich.), along with 43 of our other House colleagues, in co-sponsoring the Excellence and Accountability in Education Act (H.R. 340).

Educating all of America's children has emerged as a national priority, but none of the proposals previously advanced to accomplish that task had committed the federal funds that will be required. Our legislation would provide significantly increased funding toward eliminating that contradiction.

H.R. 340 would reauthorize the Elementary and Secondary Education Act by providing increased resources to our public schools while

adopting reasonable, non-punitive accountability provisions.

Over the next five years, our plan would invest an additional \$110 billion in public education — far more than the \$25 billion to \$35 billion contemplated by other proposals.

We also would expand targeted federal support for the after-school, drug-free school, special education and e-rate programs that address crucial national priorities, while also funding school construction and renovation, teacher advancement and class-size reduction initiatives.

Perhaps most important, our proposal would progressively increase Title I federal assistance to disadvantaged school children — doubling that federal aid to more than \$17 billion annually by 2006, while also holding Title I schools accountable for boosting the performance of all students.

We would motivate our public schools to close the unacceptable gaps in academic achievement that continue to plague poor and minority students. Unlike the President's education proposal, however, our accountability plan would not divert scarce federal funds from public schools to private schools through vouchers.

Few human aspirations unite Americans more strongly than our natural desire to educate our children. Time and time again, wonderful teachers and local communities have sacrificed to support our public schools, and it is fitting that we honor their contributions this month. As a nation, however, America's investment in public education has been woefully inadequate — especially where poverty and racial prejudice conspire to deny our children the future they deserve.

Now is the time to tangibly express the gratitude we feel toward the teachers who have devoted their lives to empowering us by a renewed national commitment to educational excellence.

Congressman Miller recently declared that "...we are now at a time in history when we have both the will and the wallet to improve public school education. We have a President who has clearly indicated he has the will to impose real accountability and fix failing schools — but we must also provide real resources to get the job done."

I agree. "We are now becoming what we are to be," and we must act now to create the bright future our children deserve.

(Guest editorial by the Honorable Elijah E. Cummings who represents Maryland's 7th Congressional District.)

No "wobble room" left for Tennessee Tax Woes

Each year the General Assembly has been able to wiggle out of facing up to serious tax reform. Their "wobble room" is now rapidly evaporating.

The state's heavy reliance on the sales tax, coupled with the slump in consumer spending, has created a rising revenue deficit of at least \$130 million. This shortfall must be combined with the \$100 million of one-time funding used last year by the General Assembly to "balance" this year's budget.

Pending litigation to equalize teacher salaries across the state could add another \$400 million to the shortfall. And TennCare, the state's low-income healthcare program, will require an additional infusion of funds. Gov. Sundquist's recently proposed educational initiatives bring the estimated revenue shortfall into the \$800 million range.

The good news, according to a recent statewide poll, is that a growing number of Tennesseans recognize the need for fundamental reform of the state's tax structure.

The bad news, as usual, is that they can't agree on what to do.

In a mid-January 2001 poll, as many as 65 percent of respondents said the state's tax system needs an overhaul, while only 25 percent opposed tax reform. The poll was conducted for *The Tennessean* and *Chattanooga Times Free Press* newspapers by Mason-Dixon Polling & Research.

Buried in the results of this poll in an additional and potentially very significant bright spot: Of all the possible remedies for Tennessee's fiscal woes, the reform package proposed last year by Gov. Sundquist fared better than all the other popular alternatives being bandied about.

Sundquist's plan called for eliminating the sales tax on food, repeal of the Hall income tax on dividends and interests, cutting the state sales tax from 6 percent to 4 percent and enacting a flat income tax 3.75 percent. This year's poll showed improvement over support for the plan — from 37 percent last year to 42 percent?

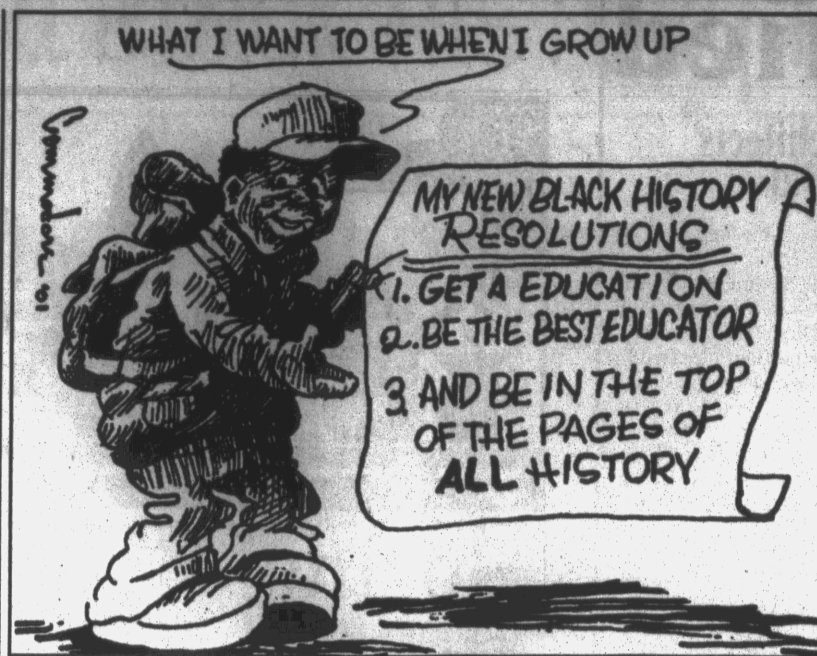
While support appears to be slowly building for the governor's plan, the public sent a clear message when it came to other measures for raising revenue. The poll showed that 85 percent opposed a state property tax (with 7 percent in favor). The poll showed 75 percent opposed a state tax on automobiles (with 18 percent in favor), and 72 percent opposed a further increase in the state sales tax (with 22 percent in favor).

Unfortunately, the Mason-Dixon poll did not include questions about "The Tennessee Fair Tax Proposal," a reform that could raise revenues without burdening the vast majority of Tennessee taxpayers, which has the potential for broad public support. This proposal was the result of input and suggestions of members of Tennesseans for Fair Taxation, a grassroots group organized across the state.

The Fair Tax proposal calls for a graduated, progressive income tax with generous deductions, rather than the flat, across-the-board tax proposed by Gov. Sundquist. Under the plan, 80 percent of taxpayers — persons of lower and moderate income — will pay less in taxes, 15 percent will pay about the same and only 5 percent will pay more. The plan will eliminate the state food tax and the Hall tax on dividends and interest, and reduce the state sales tax from 6 percent to 4 percent. It will generate more than \$500 million in additional revenue. Supporters of the proposal are pulling out all the stops to make sure that it gets full consideration during the current legislative session.

Tennessee's worsening revenue picture now makes the Legislature's traditional reliance on budget gimmicks and mirrors less likely. The central question remains. Will our legislators recognize the growing support for meaningful tax reform, including an income tax, and summon the courage to act? Or will the anti-tax horn-honkers prevail again?

(Guest editorial by John G. Stewart, a former Tennessee Valley Authority (TVA) executive and a board member of Tennesseans for Fair Taxation.)



COMMENTS

Jackson shouldn't be only Black protest voice

by Earl Ofari Hutchinson

The moment the news broke that Jesse Jackson had fathered a child out of wedlock, a parade of Black elected officials, civil rights leaders, community activists, and persons on the street immediately pleaded for prayer, understanding, and forgiveness for Jackson.

Some even praised him for publicly admitting his sexual dalliance. This was not surprising. Blacks have been more than willing to circle the racial wagons and forgive, if not outright defend, their leader's sexual misconduct.

Harlem Congressman Adam Clayton Powell Jr., Martin Luther King Jr., Washington D.C. Mayor Marion Barry, and even Black Baptist leader, Henry Lyons, quickly come to mind.

They chalk their behavior up to the pressures of racism, cite the need for racial unity, and hint at conspiracies, and plots to nail Black leaders. But even as many Blacks call for forgiveness for Jackson, the troubling issue is not his moral lapse but his leadership.

Jackson has been Black America's longest standing voice of protest. He could be counted on to pop up at a rally or lead a demonstration championing improved health care, education, end to police violence, worker's rights, prison and criminal justice system reform, affirmative action, and Black political gains.

But the top heavy reliance on Jackson to rev up the crowds and carry the torch on the burning social issues carries a steep price. This was immediately apparent in the fallout after his affair. Many Blacks expected him to keep media and public attention locked on their battle to torpedo the confirmation of Attorney General designate John Ashcroft and the continuing protests over allegations of voter fraud in Florida.

But he abruptly announced that he would temporarily withdraw from the public life. This took the edge off the protests and caused many Black activists to scramble to regroup.

The love-hate affair between Jackson and the media and the public didn't happen by chance. From the moment *Playboy Magazine* anointed him as the heir apparent to Martin Luther King Jr. following King's assassination in 1968, many editors and reporters dutifully fell in line, not because they were enthralled by his captivating personality, recognized his considerable talents, or genuinely believed that he was the next King, but because they felt compelled to pick a Black leader that they felt comfortable with, and whose views are not considered too extreme.

Editors and reporters, and many public offi-

cialists have gotten away with this crass and cynical tactic because many Whites regard Blacks as so far outside the political and social pale of American society that they filter their view of Blacks solely through the prism of a racial monolith.

They are profoundly conditioned to believe that all Blacks think and act alike. They freely use the words and deeds of the chosen Black leader as the standard to judge how African Americans behave. When the chosen one makes a real or contrived misstep, he becomes the handmade whipping boy to publicly attack Blacks.

Blacks are blamed for being rash, foolhardy, irresponsible, and prone to eternally play the race card on every social ill that befall them.

The furor over vote irregularities in Florida was a near textbook example of the danger of over-dependence on Jackson's leadership. Gore backers were scared still that Republicans would play hard on his status as the media-anointed leader of Black America, to fuel White backlash, and divert public attention from the legitimate issue of voter fraud.

The Republicans didn't play the race card with Jackson but many in the media did. *CNN* frothed that Jackson created a "mini-riot" and "fomented turbulence." *The Washington Post* railed that Jackson was "exciting racial passions." Bill O'Reilly, whose antipathy toward Jackson is boundless, accused Jackson of inciting racial and "class warfare." *MSNBC*, *Fox News*, *CNBC*, the *Boston Globe*, the *Dallas Morning News*, *Newsday*, and the *Detroit News*, gleefully took up the "Jackson-is-a-race baiter" cry. Many Blacks rapturously embrace prominent figures such as Jackson as leaders for a simple reason. They have been tossed to the far flung margins of American politics and are desperate to find someone, anyone, who appears to speak boldly on their behalf. The susceptibility of many Blacks to embrace this type of a populist-sounding leader has been the cause of profound pessimism about what and who a leader is and should be.

This has caused many Blacks to throw up their hands in disgust and brand Black leaders, in some cases all Black leaders, as corrupt, ineffective, selfish, and weak.

Jackson defenders insist that he will bounce back from the scandal and that he will be as effective as ever. But if by effectiveness they mean that he will once again resume his role as the exclusive voice of Black protest and that Blacks must look to him to galvanize them on racial issues, then his fall will be their fall.

(Hutchinson is the president of the National Alliance for Positive Action.)

The push is now on for moral leadership

by Amos Brown

I'm angry that Rev. Jesse Jackson allowed weakness to inhibit his ability to serve our people. Since Dr. Martin Luther King's Jr. assassination, Jackson's been our most visible and brilliant African-American leader.

Whether imploring youth to avoid drugs and choose education, standing up for workers, fighting injustice and bigotry, freeing American hostages overseas, challenging corporations to share the economic pie, Jesse Jackson has been involved in the social, political and economic issues of the past 30 years.

But Jackson forgot his Scriptures. Especially the story of Samson, the respected leader tempted by the siren lure of desire, which led to his personal destruction.

Jackson's Delilah was Dr. Karin Stanford, a 39-year-old working in the Washington Rainbow/Push office. Sometime in 1998, Jackson began an adulterous relationship with Dr. Stanford resulting in a child.

Having observed Jackson with the cameras off and the crowds gone, I know he's not a saint; that he has human frailties that some don't expect from religious leaders.

But, like Samson, Jackson allowed his frailties to take over. Now when our community needs him more than ever, Jackson's leadership has been seriously compromised.

Jackson tried to minimize the damage

from the *National Enquirer's* revelation of his affair, by publicly acknowledging his mistake and indiscretion. But, that screaming *Enquirer* headline "Jesse Jackson's Love Child" and those sleazy photos of Jackson and his paramour did him and our Black community great damage.

Jackson's the butt of jokes from the *Jay Leno Show* to offices and homes nationwide. Instead of being a moral force for good, Jackson's a national joke! Risking ruin as similar scandals ruined the Rev. Jim Bakker and the Rev. Jimmy Swaggart.

What really angers me is that seven months ago, at Light of the World Church, Jackson talked about the scourge of AIDS in the African-American community, urging Blacks to refrain from unprotected and promiscuous sex. Obviously, Jackson failed to practice what he preached.

Now more than ever, we must insist on a higher standard from our African-American leaders. They can't afford to place themselves in a position where moral scandal and shame ruins their credibility, allows their enemies to weaken their effectiveness, thus harming African-American progress.

My prayers are with Jackson, his wife and family, but I fear his credibility and oral standing has been seriously compromised. Samson recovered to regain one brief moment of redemption. It remains to be seen whether Rev. Jackson can reclaim his.

(Brown's is a columnist for the Indianapolis Recorder.)

LETTERS

Letters Policy: We welcome letters to the editor you mail, fax or e-mail. Letters may be edited for length or clarity and should refer to issues vital to the M'Voice Newspaper readership or subject matter published in the M'Voice Newspaper. Please include your address and complete name. Mail letters to: The M'Voice Newspaper
405 Evans Street Greenville, NC 27835
Fax (252) 757-1793

Where is our moral authority?

Dear Editor,

I ask Black America, where is the moral authority? If we look to our leadership for guidance in all matters of life and they fail miserably then where do we turn? Are there no role models? Are there no men who are real men of honor and character?

Believe it, there are men who don't cheat on their wives. There are men who live as they profess. They are men who lead by example. Those are the men we need to look to. Those are the men that embody all that is good about human decency, building familial bonds and are being the bedrock of modern society.

Anything less and we miss the mark. We get situations such as we've just witnessed. Yes, no man is without faults.

But some of us, the best of us, those who seek to guide, others should know "to whom much is given, much is required."

There are many who want to forgive and forget. But for some Black folk, the Black folk who've made the sacrifices, the Black folk who remember chattel slavery, the Black folk who felt the whips, the chains the hangman's rope, those Black folk have come too far to put up with bedroom picadillos and whims of passion. To them we owe a much greater debt.

As Donny Hathaway and Robert Flack said in a song so long ago, "Where is the love?" And on that note, where is the moral fortitude that will carry Black folk? We need a dose of sure-footed morality and we need it right now.

L.A. Emenari III,
Chicago

Thompson pushes Ashcroft for INS office in Nashville

Dear John,

I am writing to urge you to establish a full service Immigration and Naturalization Service (INS) office in Nashville, (Tennessee).

As you may know, the entire State of Tennessee is serviced by a single office located in Memphis, which serves all of Tennessee, Arkansas, and North Mississippi. Over the past 10 years the number of cases handled by the Memphis office has risen dramatically. Applications for citizenship and permanent residency alone have increased by 126 percent since 1994. Moreover, the backlog currently exceeds 7,000 cases. The INS estimates that there are about 200,000 foreign nationals in the Memphis office's jurisdiction, and a little more than half are reportedly in some state of the INS process. Clearly, something needs to be done to address this problem.

There are several benefits to establishing a full service office in Nashville. First, there is an overwhelming need to provide adequate services. The number of people requiring INS services in Tennessee has increased sharply, and the INS has already identified Nashville as one of the "15 Unlikely Immigration Hotspots." The fact that the Memphis office has a 7,000 case backlog clearly indicates that more resources are needed to meet demand. Moreover, approximately 46 percent of the cases processed by the Memphis office originate in East and Middle Tennessee. It is extremely difficult for these residents to travel across the State; some are forced to drive eight hours each way. Second, the establishment of a full service office in Nashville will improve efficiency and increase overall effectiveness. A Nashville office will help to alleviate the burden on the Memphis office by reducing the backlog of cases and by allowing INS officials to more actively pursue enforcement operations.

As you may know, I sought additional funding for the establishment of a full service INS office in Nashville as part of the Fiscal Year 2001 Commerce-Justice-State Appropriations bill.

Although specific funding was not appropriated, the Committee did direct the INS to prepare a report examining the need for offices at several sites around the country, including Nashville. I am confident that the report will underscore the need for a new office in Nashville. I urge you to take action to address this problem by supporting the establishment of a full service INS office in Nashville.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Fred Thompson,
United States Senator

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READ
THE 'M' VOICE

"Vitamin Overdose"

predisposed to high cholesterol levels, but for most it's a matter of diet." And, let me add, even those children who are "genetically predisposed" to this deadly condition are the victims of their parents, poor dietary practices.

An article by a Black Doctor, Ian K. Smith, appeared in the April 24th edition of Time magazine, entitled, "Vitamin Overdose." An accompanying photograph had a caption which read, "Forget those vitamin megadoses. Eat plenty of fruits and vegetables instead." The Doctor states in the article:

"Of course, if you eat the way your mom told you to, you may not need to take any supplements. Consuming five servings of fruits and vegetables in the course of a day is often a better way to meet your daily vitamin requirements. It's almost impossible to overdose on such foods unless you're eating truly gargantuan portions. Besides, fruits and vegetables seem to have other, hidden health benefits.

"For good sources of vitamin C, look to citrus fruits, potatoes, strawberries, broccoli and leafy green vegetables."

The same issue contained a section named "IN BRIEF" which displayed a color picture of a cauliflower with the caption, "It used to be that heart disease was something to worry about late in life, but recent studies have shown that atherosclerosis, the narrowing of the arteries that lead to heart attacks and strokes, can begin in children as young as 10. Some children are genetically

Another study, which appeared in the Journal of the National Cancer Institute, concluded that, "Among all the cancer-fighting vegetables, broccoli, cauliflower and cabbage stand out, especially in cancers of the bladder. Regardless of how many fruits and vegetables a group of 48,000 men ate, only those eating broccoli and related cruciferous vegetables reduced their risk of bladder cancer.

In the choice of produce, Dallas nutrition director Georgia Kostas advises, "Go for color. Color, she explains, is so much easier to remember than individual vegetables. A caption appearing under a picture of fruits and vegetables in the CHICAGO TRIBUNE states, "Color is a tip-off to finding flavonoids, for instance, they're found in apple skins, broccoli, celery, citrus peels, and red pepper. But pale foods such as soy protein, garlic and onions are also good sources." (Information provided by The Final Call)



BOOKER T. WASHINGTON

lished in 1881 by an act of the Alabama general assembly. Booker T. Washington, the school's organizer and first principal, established at the school a curriculum which was to provide black students with the means to become economically self-supporting.

The first postage stamp honoring an African American was the ten cent Booker T. Washington stamp. This stamp went on sale at Tuskegee Institute in 1940.

Excerpt from **BOOKER T. WASHINGTON'S "Atlanta Compromise Speech" (1895)**

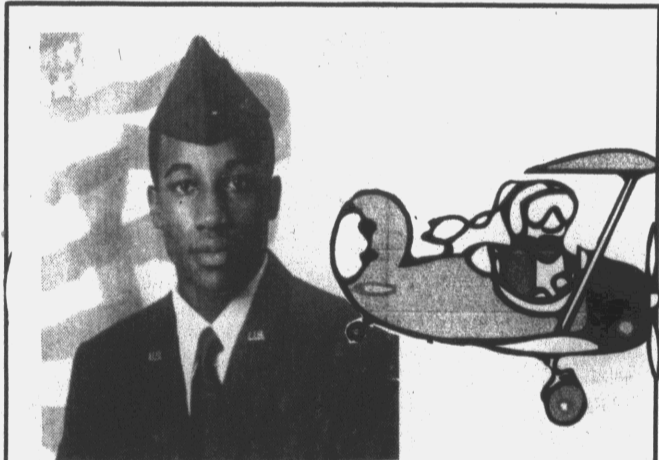
One-third of the population of the South is of the Negro race. No enterprise seeking the material, civil, or moral welfare of this section can disregard this element of our population and reach the highest success

The education of African Americans has been largely a function of independent, private schools and institutions founded to meet the educational and employment needs of African Americans.

One of the earliest surviving black independent schools, Tuskegee Institute was estab-



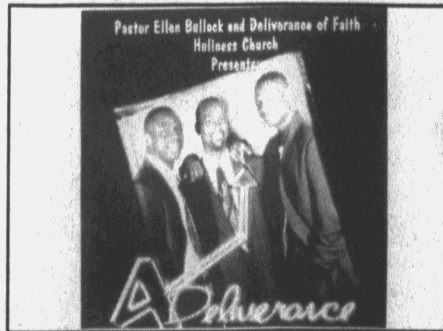
Pictured above left... Keith 'The Wonderboy' Johnson with Pastor Randy B. Royal Sunday Feb 18th at an 8:00am service. Above right.. Keith sings one of his latest from his new CD. photo by Faith May



Clinton Ray Barnes Jr

Clinton Ray Barnes Jr., a positive young black role model, graduated in the class of 2000 in Atlanta Ga. and has made a positive step towards creating a brighter future for himself by enrolling in the United States Airforce. Clinton Ray Barnes Jr. is now stationed over seas in Germany.

Clinton Ray Barnes Jr. is the son of Clinton Ray Barnes of Greenville, NC. who works at GUC in Greenville NC



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GALA BANQUET HONORING BRO. JIM ROUSE



At The Banqueting Table....seated from left to right is Sis Betty Rouse, Mother Rouse, Sis Gaynor of 'Something to Consider' which is heard on WOOW, Mayor Jenkins Councilwomen Rose Glover, Ariel Morris, and Mildred Council on hand at the 'Gala Banquet' held in honor of Bro Jim Rouse, owner of WOOW, WTOW, and the M' Voice Newspaper. Sis Betty who is Bro Jim's oldest sister spoke of how everyone knew even when he was young, Bro Rouse was very special.

staff photo by Faith May

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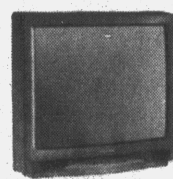


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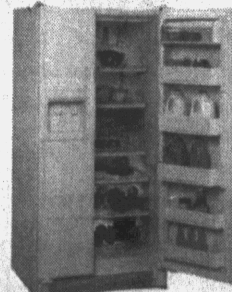
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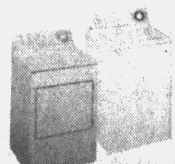


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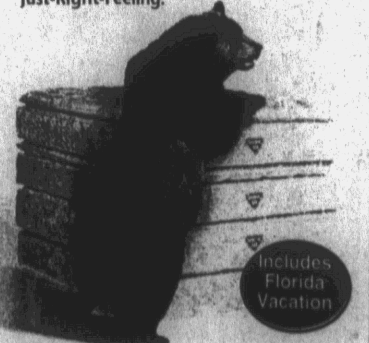
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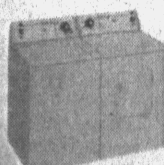


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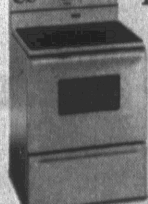
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