

THE MINORITY VOICE NEWSPAPER - WOOW JOY 1340 RADIO CELEBRATES BLACK HISTORY MONTH

THE MINORITY VOICE NEWSPAPER
 "What You See Is What You Get
 What You Read Is What You Know And Save"

Jim Rouse
William Clark
Michael Adams

Publisher
General Mgr
Editor

Here, we believe that the future of Blacks will depend upon their awareness of the world around them. The 'M' Voice newspaper is designed to inform, educate, and entertain. Additionally, each issue features local photographs, stories, and advertisements that mirror this region. We endeavor to market those products that are of concern to the minority community. Since 1981, The Minority Voice newspaper has been the best print medium to deliver your message into the homes of their minority communities that rely on us for news and information from a different perspective.

Our Voice

Rising beyond the shadow of Black history

We join with you in hoping that GOD blesses the families of those either injured or killed during that massive explosion at the pharmaceutical plant in Kinston this week. Like the Hamlet chicken processing plant fire of 1991 which claimed so many lives, this tragedy will certainly go down in the history of our state.

As will the perplexing situation in our state legislature, where a veteran Republican switched sides to Democrat, thus evening up the count at 60-60, and preventing state lawmakers from choosing a House speaker of either party in five tries on the first day of the General Assembly's 2003 session. Hopefully they've had better luck by the time you read this.

If not, THAT will certainly go down in history, too. The point is, like or not, that history is being made everyday, in every way, for good or bad.

The question is, what kind of history are you helping to make? That's why, as we approach another Black History Month, it's important to use this time not only to learn about our glorious legacy of struggle and triumph as a people, but recommit ourselves to making not only February, but the rest of the new year and beyond, a productive one for our families and communities. Right now, with education, access to affordable healthcare, a bad economy and rumors of war determining our individual quality of lives, devoted and dedicated members of the community must turn to GOD and our history as a people to gain guidance as to how not only to survive, but overcome.

A close look at figures like Sojourner Truth, Frederick Douglass, Jesse Owens, Barbara Jordan, Dr. George Washington Carver, W.E. B. Dubois and so, so many others shows that each overcame the obstacles of racism and class discrimination to make a bold contribution to their community, and the world around them.

Each had a pride, clarity of purpose and devotion to making a difference that guaranteed their place in history. The same is happening now.

There are those in our midst, perhaps you are one of them, who consistently, by the strength of their work and commitment to accomplishment, carry us all to the next level each and everyday. We don't see their names in the newspapers, rarely hear much about them on television, and yet we know these unsung heroes who tirelessly struggle to make our community a better place to live for us all.

Making history as a community is the best kind of history of all, because by doing so, we all move forward together.

That means on many issues, we must make the effort to come together first.

It also means that there are efforts we must all simultaneously engage in, in order to make the kind of collective progress we need. Efforts like consistently working with our children to make them appreciate the value of education and hard work, the same standards that got our parents through. Efforts like attending City Council, School Board and Commission Board meetings to make sure that our elected leadership is indeed doing the work of the people, and that the needs of the community are being met.

Efforts like building strong black businesses that provide needed jobs in our neighborhoods. Efforts like supporting our black press, our weekly chronicle of community achievement, and advocate for positive change.

If there's anything we all know by now, it's that history is no accident. We all live it, and make it everyday. And when you look back, it's amazing how in our own lives a simple act by us or others can change the course of that history.

If you would have been home when that phone call came... I f only someone had told you earlier...

If it weren't for that happening, everything would be different today....

That means what we do everyday IS important, DOES change lives, and CAN make a difference.

That means, as we stand in the shadow of a great Black History which we'll all celebrate with our children during the month of February, we can all aspire to making the history we have today just as heroic, just as meaningful as that which came before us.

A future president of the United States is in our community, a future U.S. Supreme Court justice or North Carolina governor. That history is being made by a family in our midst, simply by doing our best in all that we do for our children and ourselves. When we all work together, when we all do the kinds of things we know in our hearts uplifts us all, we begin to rise beyond the level of that great shadow of Black History. Indeed we all grow tall enough to challenge our children to grow even taller.

One can only smile, and be truly excited about our future, because we know that the history we're making today builds stairsteps to a better tomorrow, pays tribute to the sacrifices of a brave yesterday.

Let's all continue to make great Black history together, from now on.

Your Voice

Consider This A travesty needed

Recently, Illinois Governor George Ryan pardoned four men who had been wrongly convicted of murder and sentenced to death. Then he commuted the death sentence of all 167 other death-row inmates to life imprisonment.

Ryan is a conservative Republican and a longtime supporter of capital punishment. He was moved to act after realizing that not only is there a risk that innocent people may be executed, but that the system is completely arbitrary and plagued by a long list of problems which make it impossible to administer fairly.

Ryan's extraordinary decision prompted reaction from around the world, including North Carolina's Mike Easley who said this week that Governor Ryan's actions were a "travesty."

Apparently Easley is now an expert on the details of the Illinois capital punishment system and convinced that there are no problems with it. That's not surprising given his blind support of the flawed system in his own state despite problems that are now prompting even many death penalty supporters to call for a moratorium in North Carolina.

Problems like the scheduled execution of Henry Hunt despite evidence that he is innocent and despite the fact that the state destroyed documents in his case that his lawyers never saw.

Problems like an Attorney General's office so determined to execute Alan Gell that it hid 17 eyewitness interviews and a tape recording that all pointed to his innocence.

Problems like the state's ongoing effort to kill another death row inmate whose lawyer was a convicted child pornographer who jurors admitted they couldn't believe.

Problems like the factual evidence that nearly 20% of N.C.'s death row inmates had trial lawyers who had been disciplined by the state bar and that race plays a role in deciding who is sentenced to death.

Remember Easley's official response to the New York Times about evidence of racial bias in North Carolina's capital punishment system was that "the issue has nothing to do" with his office.

Now he thinks Governor Ryan's action is a travesty.

The travesty is much closer to home.

It is the shocking and offensive indifference to justice and fairness shown by the Attorney General and the Governor of North Carolina.

If you haven't heard or read the speech by Governor Ryan, here is a link to his speech:



<http://www.newsobserver.com/front/story/2091464p-19996475c.html>

Chris Fitzsimon
Common Sense Foundation
Raleigh, NC

An Address to African American males in prison

Even in these times of patriotic fervor, coupled with the politics of war, there must be a voice that demands justice for the oppressed. America, a country that presents itself as the model for democratic ideals and the merits of capitalism, has allowed the legal system to criminalize a minority group.

The disproportionate number of African Americans in prisons should neither suggest a high criminal element nor an immoral character common to the group. Moreover, the fact that almost 50% of inmates are African Americans suggests the prevalence of discriminatory practices with the criminal justice system. African Americans cannot afford the luxury of seeing only red, white and blue when so many people wear prison colors.

Places like the Upper Peninsula of Michigan, a penal colony with fourteen correctional facilities, must be examined for political, social and economic ramifications to the African American community. The following portion of my letter is addressed specifically to those who are currently incarcerated and their loved ones.

When my teenaged son "caught a case," I witnessed the inequalities in the criminal justice system that began with the

police force and continued in the legal system. In dealing with the legal proceedings, I began to understand how "the system seems to work for us in the short run, but really works against us in the long run." This experience has motivated me to address the condition of incarcerated African American males.

Even though I agree with the credo, "Do the crime, do the time," I am opposed to discriminatory, vindictive justice. The attitudes and practices associated with "zero tolerance" law enforcement have allowed the agents of the government to supply the prison industrial complex with Black bodies. Moreover, being able to "read the writing on the wall," I realize that prisons are the 21st Century's "holding camps."

When a segment of the population has been classified as undesirable, a review of world history and current events will reveal their fate. Subsequently, those persons usually become the victims of mass confinements or deaths. America has the highest rate of imprisonment in the world. What are the circumstances that would change those cells into graves.

According to the Bureau of the U.S. Justice Statistics, 1997, there were 5.7 million adults under correctional supervision. Of this total, 2,149,900 were African American. Included in those figures were 1,734,896 persons in local jails and prisons. In particular, 816,000 were African Americans, 753,600 were males and 63,000 were females. African American males comprised 6.8% (6,838 males per 100,000 U.S. adult residents) of the inmate population while less than 1% of Caucasian males were behind bars. In 1999, nearly 1.5 million

children had at least one parent in prison. African Americans make up nearly 50% of the prison population, but only 13% of the total population.

Is there any hope, any help for inmates? The answer can be yes, if the community begins to support prison reform. Although this will not negate the punitive role of incarceration, it will add conscientious restoration. Provisions for prisoners such as education, job skills, mental health and drug abuse programs, religion, and family counseling could change a life. Perhaps, the availability of these alternatives would allow an individual to become an asset to the community. While the enlightened community has a role to play in examining the prison-industrial complex, each person behind bars must examine his/herself.

The circumstances that led to your confinement can't be changed; however, you can change. THE GOOD NEWS for those person locked down is that "walls do not a prison make." There is a possibility that you can have freedom in confinement. You need to get out of prison before you leave prison. When you examine the paradox, a contradiction, of prison as a refuge or shelter, our altitude can change. P.R.I.S.O.N. can become Personal Reflection Inside a Segregated Oppressive Nation. As you awaken to a new awareness of who you are, the physical surroundings and natural occurrence forfeit their power to enslave you.

If you are interested in the restoration and rehabilitation of a person in prison, please mail this letter to that individual

Joseph Lily
Detroit, MI

JONES STREET

Washington's quintessential "Hawk" is someone you need to know



BY VAL ATKINSON

Representative Michael Decker (R-Walkertown) did the unthinkable last week; he switched parties! Well, this wouldn't be such big news except that Decker was a Republican who switched to the Democratic Party. Over the past few decades several Democrats have switched allegiances from the Democratic Party to the Republican Party, but I guess that's all right, or the way it's supposed to be. But it appears (according to the State Republican Chairman, Bill Cobey) that when a Republican switches to the Democratic Party there's something inherently wrong with that decision. Yea

right!

Representative Decker made a decision to leave the Republican Party, as did U.S. Senator James Jeffords of Vermont. These two patriots made a moral decision to support what's right. There are dozens of others who would like to do what Jeffords and Decker have done, but don't have the courage.

Representative Decker's decision to switch Parties was a slap in the face to those authoritarian, right winged, regressives in the Republican Party who equate Decker's defection with heresy. Don't be surprised to see more defections in the not-so-distant future.

Bill Cobey, the North Carolina State Republican Party Chairman wants Decker to resign and allow the Republican Party to choose a Republican successor. Where was Cobey, and those who think like him, over the past 10-20 years when Democrats were converting to the Republican gospel

by the dozens? But I guess it's all right for Democrats to covert to the Republican Party, but if a Republican converts to the Democratic Party it has to be some sort of social injustice. How arrogant can these guys get?

Decker's defection throws the NC State House in a virtual tie — 60 Democrats and 60 Republicans. This gives Speaker Black (D-Matthews) an opportunity to retain his Speakership in the face of a rising Republican tide. But Black has some issues of his own. All of the Legislative Black Caucus isn't totally committed to Black's candidacy. Mickey Michaux (D-Durham) has stated on several occasions that he reserves the right to disagree with the Speaker. It should also be noted that Michaux didn't vote for Black in 2001.

Decker's decision to switch parties and support Black has thrown the Republicans into a dizzying tailspin. Representative Holmes has replaced Leo

Daughtry as the possible Republican successor to Jim Black. Republicans don't know whether to attack or sit back. But because Republicans' nature is to attack first and ask questions later, they'll probably blow a great opportunity to wrestle the Speakership from the Democrats. Now is the time to show that the NC Republican Party is about something other than attacking, smearing, demonizing, polarizing, and dividing and conquering. Chairman Bill Cobey needs to be positive and let Decker (and any other Republican who chooses to ascend to the Democratic Party) go their way without demagoguery, ridicule or threats.

Val Atkinson is a syndicated columnist and radio talk show host. His column (Jones Street) appears in most of North Carolina's African American Newspapers. Val Atkinson can be contacted via e-mail at JonesStreet@nc.rr.com.

LEAD STORY

Carter G. Woodson

The father of Black History Month

CONTINUED FROM FRONT PAGE

African Americans. Yet Kentucky had profited from the slave market and the psychology of its people could not accept racially-integrated classrooms. One year after Woodson's graduation the "Day-Law" was passed, which prevented white and African American students from being in the same classroom or school community together. Integrated schooling became illegal.

The pernicious "Day Law" was actually enforced for nearly half a century, a fact that was not lost on Woodson in his writings about the social customs and laws that served as obstacles to the progress of "the Negro race." He recorded these events as he pursued his interests in the study of African American history.

In 1907 and 1908, respectively, Woodson earned an undergraduate degree and his M.A. from the University of Chicago. Just four years after completing graduate training at the University of Chicago, he was awarded the doctorate from Harvard. This educational background in the country's leading universities challenged Woodson's creative imagination.

He became increasingly interested in documenting for the permanent historical record the talents and accomplishments of the sons, daughters, grandsons, and granddaughters of slaves.

In 1916, during the height of World War I, the Association for the Study of Negro Life and History, which Woodson had founded, issued the *Journal of Negro History*.

This would become one of his most significant scholarly contributions for recording the backgrounds, experiences, and writings of Americans of African ancestry.

He served as the sponsor and editor of the *Journal of Negro History* for many years. This important medium became a significant milestone in promoting the history and contributions of African Americans to the culture. African Americans themselves became aware of their own influence in the intellectual sphere and in the whole society.

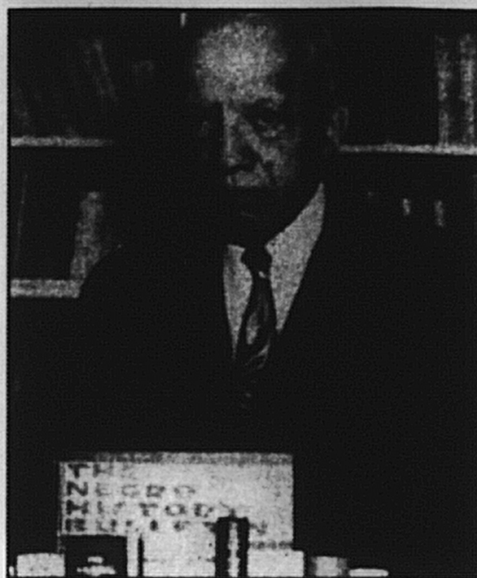
In addition to establishing and publishing the *Journal of Negro History*, while Woodson was dean of West Virginia Collegiate Institute he served as president of Associated Publishers.

The primary purpose of this innovative outlet was to publish and distribute writings by and about African Americans. When Woodson left West Virginia to continue his research, he involved himself more deeply in the work of the Association for the Study of Negro Life and History. It remains today as a monument to his dedication and foresight.

The broad spectrum of the life of Africans in America was of central interest to Woodson. He studied all facets of their experiences and rich cultural contributions. These included myths, patterns of migration, roles as wage earners, entrance into medicine, work in rural America, inventions and writings, and their unique history.

In 1926, during the zenith of the Harlem Renaissance, he launched a movement to observe "Negro History Week." Woodson felt that an annual celebration of the achievements of the African American should occur during the month of February, since both the gifted abolitionist and orator Frederick Douglass and President Abraham Lincoln were born in that month. In the 1960s what was once only a week of recognizing the outstanding achievements of Americans of African heritage in science, literature, and the arts became transformed into "Black History Month."

Woodson was one of the country's prominent historians and a prolific writer. From the moment he received the doctorate from Harvard, he initiated a career in publishing. In 1915 he wrote *The*



Carter G. Woodson in file photo in the late years of his life.

Education of the Negro Prior to 1861, in which he concentrated on both the obstacles and the progress characterizing the schooling of the descendants of slaves.

Three years later he published *A Century of Negro Migration*. This was introduced in 1918, as World War I was coming to a close. The examination of patterns of migration was followed by *The Negro in Our History*, published in 1922. This work has been defined as "the first textbook of its kind."

Among Woodson's basic writings are those that describe patterns of migration and family composition. For example, under the auspices of the Association for the Study of Negro Life and History he prepared two important documents—one on slave holding and the other on heads of families: *Free Negro Owners of Slaves in the United States in 1830*, together with *Absentee Ownership of Slaves in the United States in 1830* (1924) and *Free Negro Heads of Families in the United States in 1830* together with *A Brief Treatment of The Free Negro* (1925).

African Americans who had entered the professions of medicine and law during the eras of Reconstruction and post-Reconstruction were of particular interest to Woodson.

In 1934 Negro Universities Press published his documentation of *The Negro professional man and the community*, with special emphasis on the physician and the lawyer. Perhaps his most important work, and the one for which he is widely known in the late 20th century, is *The Mis-Education of the Negro* (1933, reprinted 1990). Woodson is remembered as a leading historian who promoted the rich intellectual and creative legacy of the African American.

Probably the two best books about Carter Woodson are: Jacqueline Goggin, *Carter G. Woodson: A Life in Black History* (1995) and Pat M. Kossak, *Carter G. Woodson: The Father of Black History* (1991). Woodson's writings, in addition to those listed in the text, include *The African Book* (1915), *Handbook for the Study of the Negro* (1916), *Freedom and Slavery in Antislavery America* (1921), *Negro makers of history* (1958), *Negro writers and their orations* (1925), *The cruel Negro* (1909), *The history of the Negro church* (2nd ed., 1922), and *Historical personalities of the Woodsons and their connections* (1915). See also Doris Y. Wilkinson, "Forgotten Pioneer," *Think*, the newsletter of the Kentucky Humanities Council (October 1988), and *Encyclopedia of Black America* (3rd ed., 1988).



BLACK & BEAUTIFUL..... The three Supremes are shown at Wells Chapel where their mother, Sis Parker began her work as a missionary. Their father is the pastor of the church, superintendent A.B. Parker. *photo by Jim Rouse*

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Reflections, Expressions, and Reviews



Suejette Jones

A History of African-American on Wall Street

Few of the people who made up quizzes for this year's Black History Month observances are likely to include in them such questions as: What company was the first black-owned member of the New York Stock Exchange? That's because few, if any, of those quiz-makers are likely to have read Gregory Bells account of the involvement of African-Americans in buying and selling stocks, in-

vestment banking and money management.

Its also because, until recently, few African-Americans have viewed serious investing as a way to achieve financial security or perhaps grow wealthy. And in view of the risks involved and the social barriers blocking their way, the numbers of African-Americans who have chosen careers in high finance have been comparatively small. Still there have been and are more of them than people outside the field might expect. The growth of black-led firms along with white urban flight is effectively conveyed. Also the ascension of big-city mayors such as Chicagos Harold Washington, Atlantas Maynard Jackson, Detroits Coleman Young and others put minority-owned firms in better positions. And the civil rights movement also drove white executives toward diversification of their work force, recognizing the growing economic power and desirability of the ascendant black middle class. After all, the color of money is often the

strongest equalizing force.

Blacks were among the first on Wall Street, when they were sold there as slaves and when they built the wall for which the street was named. To show how far African-Americans have progressed, the author concludes that E. Stanley O'Neal, an African-American, has been designated as the heir apparent to the current chief executive of Merrill Lynch Investment Firm.

Avail yourself to learn more about African-Americans

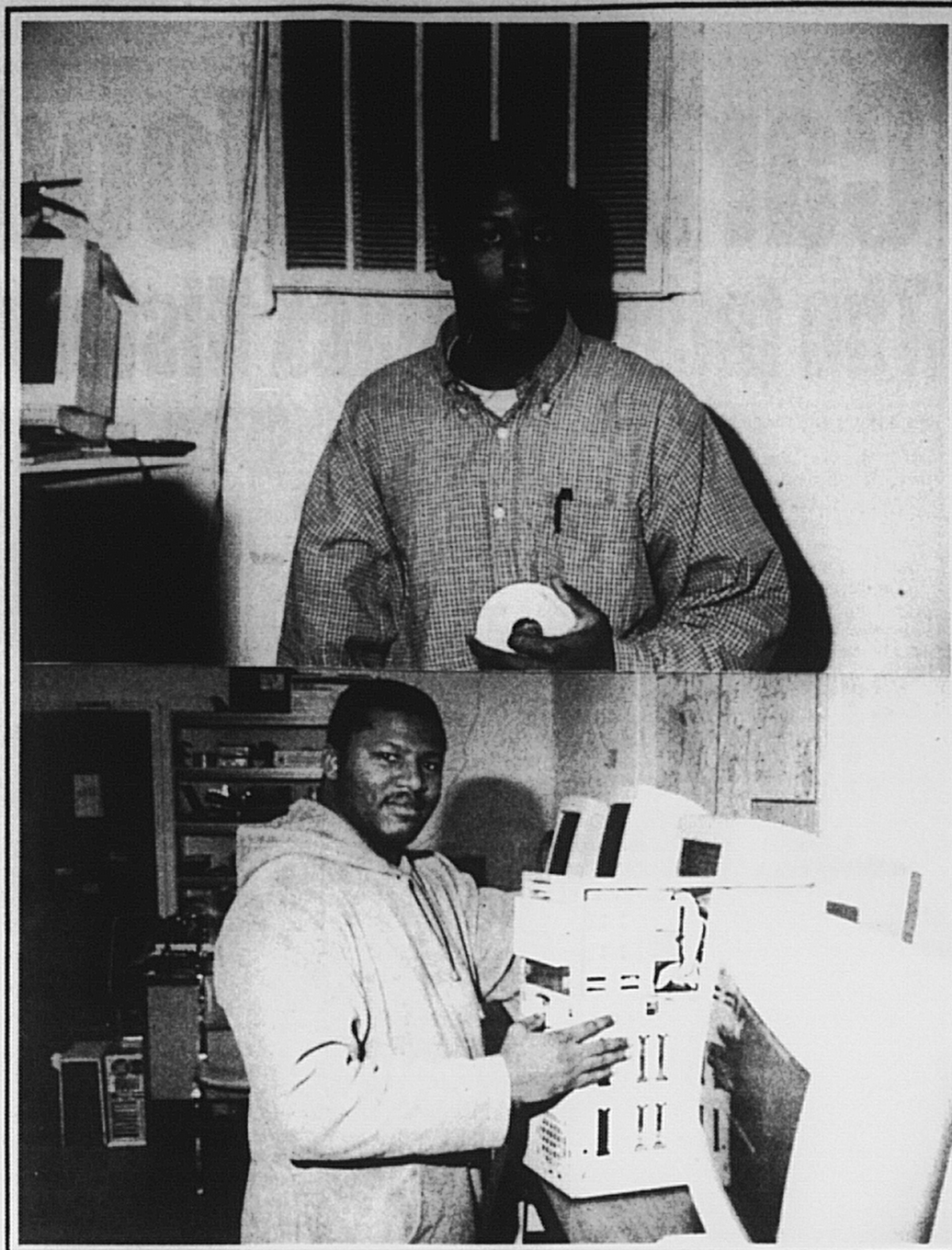
There is much more than the textbooks reveal.

Note: One does not have a lot of money to invest in stocks and bonds. For those who are not able to invest on a large scale, many financial institutions offer mutual funds and money market accounts which require only small automatic monthly payments as low as \$25 or \$50 per month with automatic reinvesting or interest earned. See your financial advisor or investment company.



EDUCATION. . . . Pitt Community College and Martin County Community Action has a program for young adults ages 14yrs to 21yrs of age. If you are looking for a job drop by Pitt Community College and sign up for a career opportunity

photo by Jim Rouse



FRANKLIN'S RECYCLING NEW & USED COMPUTERS.....Franklin Jr (top photo) and Kenneth Frederick (bottom photo) are stopped by the camera of the M'Voice newspaper on a busy work day. Young black brothers in the word of business. These brothers are examples that not all of our young brothers are in the streets.

photo by Jim Rouse

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**THE MINORITY VOICE
NEWSPAPER**

RANDOM NOTES

by Tim Butler
Entertainment Editor

**Gimme a Break's
Nell Carter dies**



The entertainment world lost Broadway and television actress Nell Carter last Thursday when the Tony Award-winning songstress died of apparent natural causes. She was found collapsed in her Beverly Hills home by one of her sons.

Carter Carter, who won the Tony for her role in the career-defining Broadway musical *Ain't Misbehavin'*, had battled diabetes for several years. She is also fondly remembered for her starring role in the 1981-87 comedy series *Gimme a Break*. Carter was born Sept. 13, 1948 in Birmingham, Ala.

**More rappers
to become actors**



Female rapper Eve is set to expand her career options. The Ruff Ryder will play a fashion designer of a multi-ethnic comedy series for UPN. The lady word smith conceived the show, which she will also produce.

Joining her in producing the program will be Babyface Edmonds and his wife, Tracey, producers of the successful and critically acclaimed Showtime series *Soul Food*. The proposed show has yet to be titled.

In other news, Jay-Z says that when his next album, *The Black Album*, is over and done, he will give up the rap game and concentrate on an acting career. (Who isn't?) Though he won't be in front of the microphone, he'll likely continue to head up his label, Roc-A-Fella Records.

"I've done basically everything, and it's time to take on new and different challenges," Jay-Z says. "I feel that I'm basically at that point in my career." One more thing, with the release of his new album, Jay-Z will give us his autobiography. (Everything after that point will be told up on the silver screen.)

**Do you have the
energy to succeed?**

When we think we are a victim and we are not in control of our lives, we will synchronize with the energies (people, experiences) which resonate to that frequency. We will therefore create a victimized, powerless physical experience. When we believe that the best things in life happen to others, they do, because we are not connecting with the energies that will manifest the best things in life. When you believe you will never have enough money, you won't.

Money is an energy and if you are going to attract that energy, you need to make a vibrational connection with it. Thinking that you will never attract money, consciously or subconsciously, ensures that you will be out of sync with that energy and you stay poor.

Fear of something is always guaranteed to attract what you fear. The energy of fear attracts like energy and so what you fear becomes what you physically experience. Fear of being without money becomes the circumstances in which you are without money. Fear of being alone, rejected or attacked all become that physical experience unless you deal with the source of the energy which manifests all things - YOU.

Quoted from *The Biggest Secret: The Book That Will Change the World* by David Icke.

Jessie

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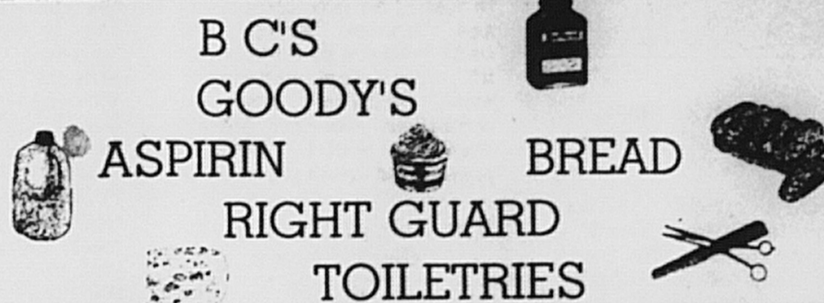
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From The Desk Of Mrs Beatrice Maye



Mrs Beatrice Maye

To the Editor,

February 2003 African American History Month is observed annually. The theme, "The Souls of Black Folks" Centennial Reflections, is the 77th celebration. Dr. Carter G. Woodson, founder, is nationally known, "the Father of Black History Week". Can we as a people be neatly packaged in one month of the year and that nonblacks are only interested in our culture for 28 (29, if it's leap year) out of 365 days? We are the achievers, the dreamers, inventors and wallbreakers, the movers, the shakers, and the shifters. Our hands make music and yet they are also the fists of the traffic light and bringers of the first successful heart transplant. We are the burden of motherhood and the dream of fathers, the bricklayers, the runners, and the flyers, the marchers, the dancers, and the scholars — the preachers, teachers, and the doers. Yes, we are unique. Our skin

is the color of strength, sweetness, and earth. Our music makes us cry and shout. We are the beacon of style and expression. Whatever we touch moves. We don't just talk, we rap. We don't just run, we fake, double take. We're not just smart, we've got game. We don't put inventions to waste; we give them sound and vibration, harmony and soul. Who can do it like we do it? Yes, every accomplishment, African Americans throughout American history, continue to enrich the lives of present and future generations.

The Role of Music in the Black Church

Dr. James Abbington, Ph.D., director, Shaw University's Visual and Performing Arts Department, who received his degree from the University of Michigan, stated in Monday's News and Observer, dated January 20, 2003 that hymns are rarely sung or played in many Black churches, that the movement in our churches against what appeared to be Western European, or the dominant White religion, as not relevant to our people. Nothing could be further from the truth. Those movements made us throw out the hymnbook, the anthem, the organ and the choir robe.

The second thing is to decrease in the number of well-educated musicians. You have a number of musicians who are leading music but who have no training. They have never

learned to read music. They can't introduce new hymns because they're playing by ear. The assumption is that people would rather hear gospel anyway, so we have an overabundance of gospel music.

So many of our pastors, ministers, and musicians — the leadership of the church — are not familiar with the Christian Year, so they are not driven by Scriptures. They're driven by occasion — Men's Day, Women's Day, Senior Usher Board Sunday. If you follow the Christian Year and the Seasons from Advent to Pentecost, you would have to learn to sing more hymns. You would have to think of music that would be appropriate to the Word. If you don't have that kind of planning between the minister and the musician, it's just whatever goes.

What are the consequences of little or no music training? Dr. Abbington says, "I think it's very dangerous for ministry. We are finding that people are being entertained, as opposed to really being engaged in worship. As long as people are jumping and shouting, they are engaged on what makes them feel good, but they don't come away with anything that they can hold on to. It's kind of like a quick dope high. They feel like "I had church". But if you ask those same folk about the text and the engaging issues, they can't tell you.

You may ask for his book in the library or buy it from Judson Press, 2001. LET MIZION REJOICE: MUSIC IN THE AFRICAN AMERICAN CHURCH is the title.

Who's Who?

Place the letters J.L. for Joe Louis and J.O. for Jesse Owens beside the statement that correctly describes each one. Names may be used more than once.

1. _____ He developed his muscles by doing hard work.
2. _____ He won his first amateur fight in 1934.
3. _____ He became a famous Olympic track star.
4. _____ He was a high school dropout.
5. _____ He held a college degree.
6. _____ He worked to help support his family.
7. _____ He became known as the "Brown Bomber."
8. _____ He won four gold medals at the 1936 Olympics.
9. _____ He completed high school at Cleveland, Ohio.
10. _____ He moved from Alabama to Detroit.

Listed below are twenty black American athletes. Name the sport in which each became famous. Use a reference book if you need help.

- | | |
|---|-------------------------------|
| 1. O. J. Simpson _____ | 11. Florence G. Joyner _____ |
| 2. Jackie Robinson _____ | 12. Michael Jordan _____ |
| 3. Jim Brown _____ | 13. Ken Griffey, Jr. _____ |
| 4. Althea Gibson _____ | 14. Floyd Patterson _____ |
| 5. Muhammad Ali _____
(Cassius Clay) | 15. Gale Sayers _____ |
| 6. Hank Aaron _____ | 16. Darryl Strawberry _____ |
| 7. Arthur Ashe _____ | 17. Kareem Abdul-Jabbar _____ |
| 8. Wilt Chamberlin _____ | 18. Joe Green _____ |
| 9. Willie Mays _____ | 19. Lou Brock _____ |
| 10. Sugar Ray Robinson _____ | 20. Mike Tyson _____ |



Night On The Town..... The City received a treat in music when Benzino visited. Shown here with is manager and club owners while taking a pause for our camera photo by Jim Rouse

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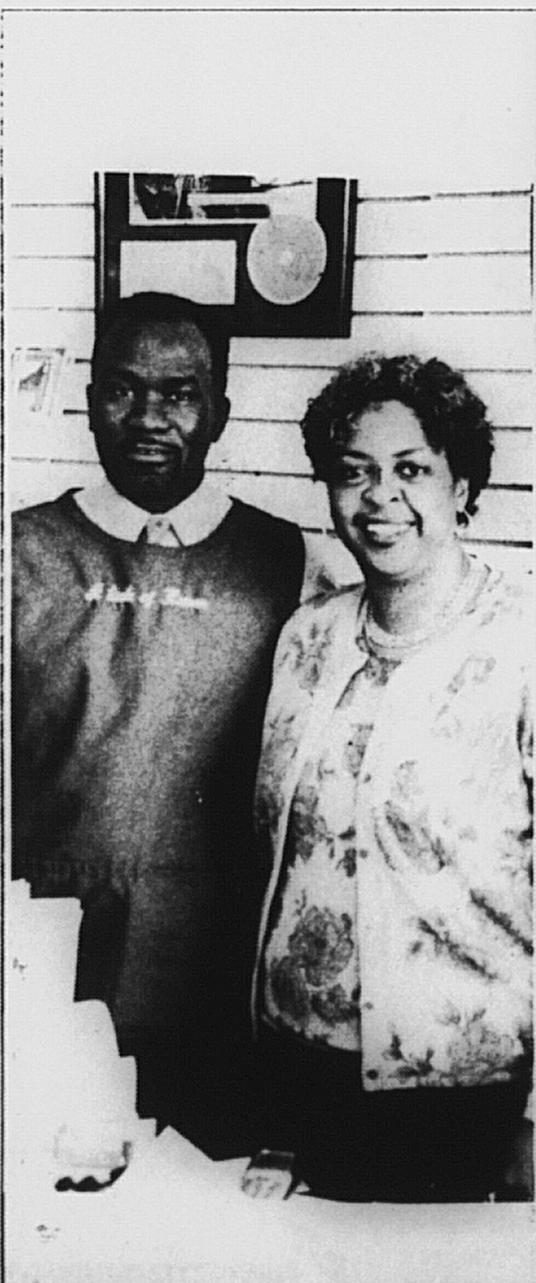
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A TASTE OF HEAVEN.....A taste of Heaven Christian Bookstore has moved to a new location at the Carolina East Center. Stop by and take advantage of their Valentine Day Specials. We stopped by to take a look at the new store and had a chance to catch John & Marsha Taylor, the owners of the store who have been in business for the last 12yrs.

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January 31, 2003
PRESS RELEASE

Mr. Javier Castillo Jr., president and founder of Castillo Interpreting Inc., presented a seminar at the Norman A. Wiggins School of Law at Campbell University. The seminar entitled "Working with Interpreters in a Multicultural Courtroom" spanned 12 hours in a period of 3 days, was attended by second and third year law students and is designed to teach law students how to work effectively with interpreters in a legal setting. The course focussed on the practical aspects of working with an interpreter and a non-English speaking person in a legal setting and cover topics including: where to find interpreters, gauging interpreter abilities, interpreter ethics, working with interpreters during informal and formal settings, court cases involving interpreters, common errors, and language issues.

The seminar discussed the history of the court interpreting, and some of the more famous court cases involving the use of interpreters. Since the majority of cases requiring an interpreter in North Carolina will be with Spanish-speaking clients or witnesses, emphasis was placed on understanding the background and cultural attributes of Latin Americans with a focus on the Mexican culture.

A summarized version of the seminar was also presented to the local Criminal Defense Attorney's Bar luncheon in Greenville. Castillo Interpreting Inc. was founded in January of 2002 to provide a broad range of interpreting and translating services to individual and business clients throughout eastern North Carolina. Specializing in legal, medical and insurance interpretation and translation, Castillo Interpreting Inc. is dedicated to the task of providing quality language services to enable clients to communicate accurately and effectively across language barriers.

Mr. Castillo graduated from East Carolina University in 2000 with a Bachelor of Science in Business Administration and a Bachelor of Science in Spanish Professions. He received professional training from the Agnese Haury Institute for Court Interpreting in Tucson, Arizona, the Administrative Office of the Courts in Raleigh and the Berkana Center for Translation and Interpretation Studies in Fuquay-Varina.

He is a member of the National Association of Judiciary Interpreters and Translators (NAJIT), the Carolina Association of Interpreters and Translators (CATI), Omicron Delta Kappa, and the Greenville-Pitt County Chamber of Commerce.

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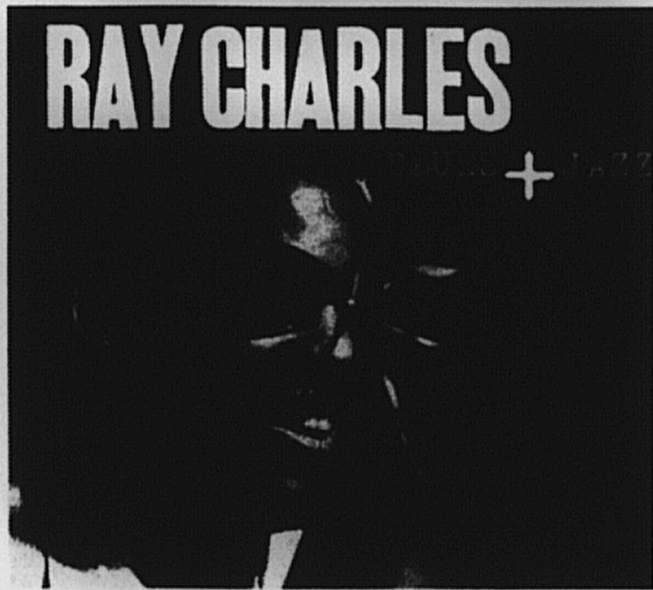
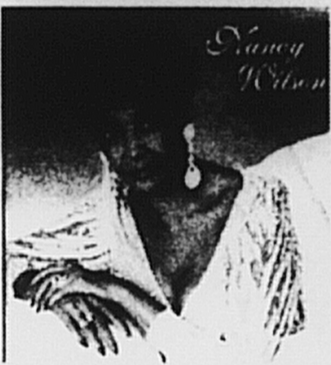


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Jeff Majors is a man with a musical ministry. His instrument is the classical harp. His repertoire includes traditional and contemporary gospel, accented by stirring originals with sparkling production and soulful vocals sweetened by fresh melodies, uplifting lyrics and innovative arrangements. Jeff Majors' sound and scope are nothing short of visionary.

Jeff's latest release, Sacred 4 YOU, is the fourth step in his twelve step program for spiritual healing and timeless understanding. The Sacred Series, when completed, will be a series of twelve CDs and cassettes embracing a wide spectrum of special occasions and moments in one's life that inspire worship, celebration and what Jeff refers to as "reality checks," or insights into the musical blessings that God intends for us to share. Sacred 4 YOU is also a bold and brilliant leap forward from its three predecessors, (Sacred, Sacred 2 and Sacred Holidays) extending Jeff's signature sound and direction.

Combining singular, eclectic sensibilities with down home, easy listening it seems only fitting that Sacred 4 You, as well as its 3 predecessors, were recorded at the legendary Philadelphia International Studios, creative home to nearly 200 gold and platinum recordings and a multitude of Christian and secular superstars.

Sacred 4 YOU was produced by Jeff, who also wrote or co-wrote all 13 of the collection's superb arrangements. Beyond the impact and power of the songs themselves, Sacred 4 You displays a bold move into prominent urban/hip-hop rhythm sections nurturing orchestral arrangements that are nothing short of majestic, and all beautifully complimented by Jeff's masterly touch on the harp. Heard here as a featured instrument, as well as a secondary coloration, complementing larger arrangements, Jeff clearly feels a new freedom of creative expression on not only the harp but throughout a full range of instrumental sounds.

"A song, at some point, becomes like a piece of clay," Jeff explains. "it hits the wheel and begins to show and tell you how it wants to be molded. That's really the intersection of the divine and the natural, and it's a very healing, comforting, and centered place to be."

Vocal great Al Johnson, a mainstay of the entire Sacred series whose own hit-making career spans more than three decades, sings as sweet and soulfully as ever on the smooth and stirring, instantly memorable "Pray" co-written by Jeff Majors and the legendary Luther Vandross.

Johnson who has known and kept a creative eye and ear on Jeff since he was only 14, also sings soaring vocal lines to accompany Jeff's moving narrations, which emerge on Sacred 4 You as almost a trademark sound for Jeff Majors. The heavenly mid-tempo "Heard My Cry" and the lush, orchestral ballad, "Psalms I" are but two of the major musical and spiritual cornerstones of Sacred 4 YOU.

"There is no musical genre to which I don't relate," says Jeff Majors. "All the different styles and categories of music are only different voices speaking the universal language of music. I don't characterize my music into one format or another, and that's been a great blessing. Everything I write and perform emerges from everything I've ever heard that has moved me, filtered through my own creativity." One listen and you, too, will agree that the Sacred Series is warm, familiar and uniquely, the Jeff Majors sound.

Sacred 4 YOU comprises a host of diverse yet seamlessly flowing songs that give full credibility to Jeff's broad and inclusive definition of both himself and his music. A rock solid rhythm section is overlain with lavish symphonic orchestration, and a delicate harp solo from Jeff on a gorgeous reinvention of the traditional "Somebody Bigger." The songs dynamic lead vocal is delivered by Jean Carn, who started her career as the last lead vocalist to sing with the legendary Duke Ellington, before going on to a hit-packed decade as a solo artist in the 80's.

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JOB EQUALITY, OPPORTUNITY & PROTECTION IN THE RAPIDLY CHANGING LABOR MARKET,
 PRICE GOUGING & EXPLOITATION IN THE BLACK COMMUNITY,
 THE EFFECTS OF INTERNATIONAL POLITICS & ECONOMICS IN THE BLACK COMMUNITY,

EDUCATING OUR BLACK YOUTH,
 THE REAL CAUSES BEHIND THE CHRONIC AND PERSISTENT SUSPENSIONS OF YOUNG BLACK MALES STUDENTS,
 DRUG INTERDICTION POLICIES THE BLACK COMMUNITY,

AND THE CAUSE FOR HUMANITY AND DIGNITY
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AND THE REASONS WHY THE BLACK FAMILY IS IN DANGER OF PERISHING
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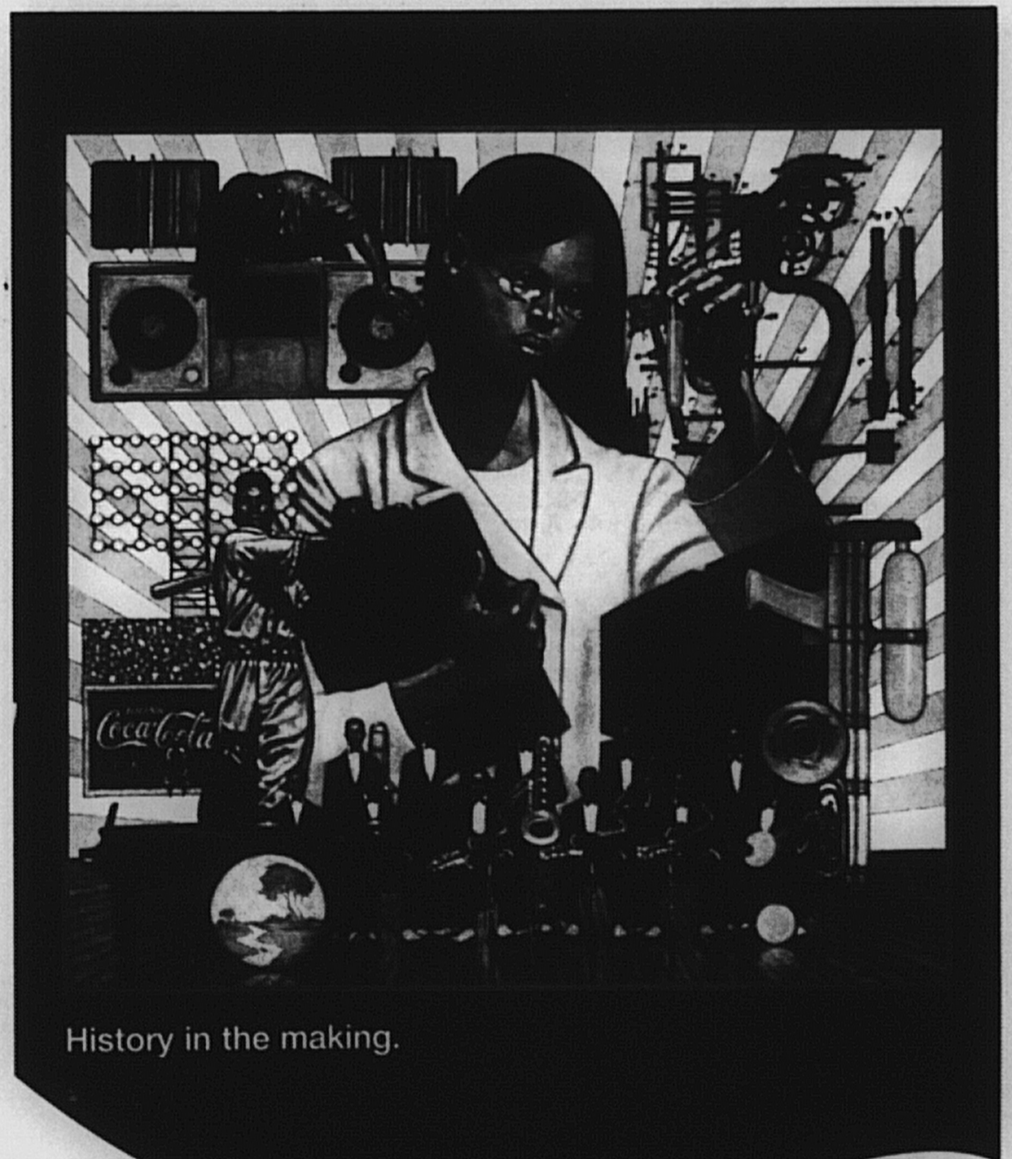
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 THIS MEETING IS ABOUT FINDING WAYS TO PROMOTE
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Edification of A New Generation



WHAT DOES IT MEAN TO FEAR GOD?

Many people react negatively to the idea that they should fear God. They believe that God is loving, kind, and gentle (which He is). They emphasize that for the person who has accepted Jesus' gracious offer of forgiveness, God's wrath against his sin has already been taken by Christ on his behalf. So is Solomon's advice good only for the unbeliever or for people in Old Testament times? No, because Solomon is speaking of the need for all men to fear God, and because the call to fear God is emphasized in the New Testament as well.

People who have irrational phobias (fear of heights, small places, crowds, elevators, telephones, water, darkness, snakes or bugs) often seek out psychological help to overcome their unnatural and disabling fears. The fear of God, though, is not an irrational emotion. It makes logical sense when you understand the facts about who God is and what He is like.

The biblical concept of the fear of the Lord involves a recognition of the power, greatness, authority, and holiness of God. It is a healthy fear. It means we respect Him.

Fearing and obeying God is the whole purpose of life. When we fear, reverence, and honor the Lord, we show that we recognize Him for all that He is. We therefore stand in the proper relationship to Him as a creature before the Creator. To fear the Lord means that we take Him seriously and we desire to please Him with all that we do and say. It demonstrates that we realize we are accountable to Him for how we use every minute of every day.

A fear of God will cause nonbelievers to seek forgiveness of sin through Christ. And fear of the Lord will cause believers to produce the fruits of faith and to be commended on the day they stand before Christ (2 Cor. 5:9-10; 7:1,11).

Many of us today, however, don't have the same attitude. Some people are outright atheists. Others are outwardly religious-at least they go to church every week. A vast number of men and women profess to believe in God but give Him little if any recognition throughout the day. Though claiming to believe, they live as unbelievers. That is the reason the Bible is full of reminders to fear the Lord.

It is easy to forget our need of God. It is easy to get wrapped up in our own ideas of the purpose for living and forget the real reason God has given us breath. He wants our loyalty, our affection, our companionship, our worship. He wants our loyalty, our affection, our companionship, our worship. He wants us to make the most of our lives so that when we stand before Him He will be able to say, "Well done, good and faithful servant" (Mt.25:21).

NCCU AWARDS LOCAL LEADERS DURING MLK CONVOCATION

DURHAM, N.C.

North Carolina Central University presented awards to Senator Jeanne Lucas and NCCU student Kimberly Jones during the Annual Martin Luther King, Jr. Convocation for exemplifying Dr. King's dream of making a difference.

"We are honoring three people who have brought Dr. King's dream alive by fighting for people who are less fortunate than others," said Provost Lucy Reuben. "Dr. King passed his legacy to Representative Michaux and Senator Lucas, who has in turn passed it on to Kimberly Jones."

Lucas received the first NCCU Martin Luther King, Jr. Leadership Award. A leader in her own right, Lucas was the first African-American female to serve in the North Carolina Senate. She was a major contributor in the push for focused-growth funding for smaller institutions in the UNC system and a member of the legislative Black Caucus study that led to the 2000 Higher Education Bond Initiative and resulted in NCCU receiving \$121 million for new capital construction and renovations.

Lucas earned her undergraduate and graduate degrees from NCCU and served as a foreign language teacher and school administrator for the Durham Public Schools. Today, she serves on several committees in the General Assembly, including member of the Agriculture/Environment/Natural Resources Committee, co-chair of the Appropriations on Education/Higher Education, and vice-chair of the Children and Human Resources Committee.

Kimberly Jones, a senior political science student from Littleton, N.C., received the NCCU Student Trailblazer Award for her service as president of the NCCU Chapter of the National Advancement for the Association of Colored People (NAACP). Jones was recently received the "Leadership Award" from the NAACP Youth and College Division. The NCCU chapter was also selected as "Chapter of the Year."

Jones has been a member of the NAACP for four years. She is a member of the NAACP's National Youth Work Committee and represents Region Five. This is the second highest position a youth under age 25 can hold in the NAACP. Jones has also received the NAACP Scholarship for two consecutive years and presented at several NAACP workshops.

Representative H.M. "Mickey" Michaux delivered the keynote address. Michaux told the audience in his speech that political empowerment is the best way to continue Dr. King's dream of equality and justice for all.

"The Civil Right's Movement is not dead," said Michaux "It is only marching to the beat of a different drummer. It's leaders are now 'sitting in' at City Halls, state legislatures and Congress. They are burning the political system with their ideas."

For serving as speaker, he was honored with the NCCU Chancellor's Award. Michaux was elected to the House of Representatives of the North Carolina General Assembly in 1972.

He has served as chairman of such House Committees as Highway Safety (1977), Courts and the Administration of Justice (1985), Constitutional Amendments (1987), and Pensions and Retirement (1999).

Mchaux received his bachelor's degree from NCCU in 1952 and his juris doctor from the NCCU School of Law in 1964. In 1969, he served as the chief assistant district attorney for Durham, County, and in 1977, he was appointed by President Jimmy Carter to serve as United States Attorney for the Middle District of North Carolina, becoming the first African American to hold the position.

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DURHAM, N.C. - North Carolina Central University Provost Lucy Reuben presents the first NCCU Martin Luther King, Jr. Leadership Award to Senator Jeanne Lucas during the University's Annual MLK Celebration.

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Congratulations to Carlton and Pauline Wooten who celebrated their 43rd wedding anniversary Feb. 13, 2003. Carlon also celebrated his birthday on the 12th of Feb. God bless you to have many more. " From your children (5) and your Grandchildren (12) Photo provided by the family

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SPIRITUAL REFLECTIONS



Apostle George Hawkins

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you today that God has entrusted and put the right things in your hand to be used at the right time in your life to be used for His glory. IVs more than just a rod. May I ask you again, **WHAT IS THAT IN YOUR HAND?**

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When thou hast brought forth the people out of Egypt, ye shall serve God upon this mountain. And Moses said unto God, Behold, when I come unto the children of Israel, and shall say unto them, The God of your fathers hath sent me unto you; and they shall say to me, What is his name? what shall I say unto them? And God said unto Moses, I AM THAT I AM: and he said, Thus shalt thou say unto the children of Israel, I AM hath sent me unto you. (Exodus 3; 11-14)

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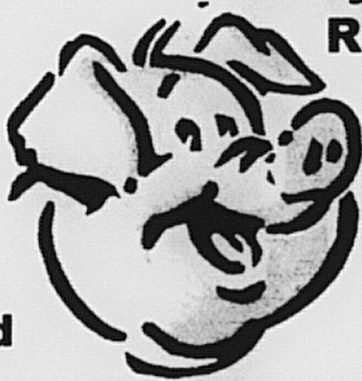
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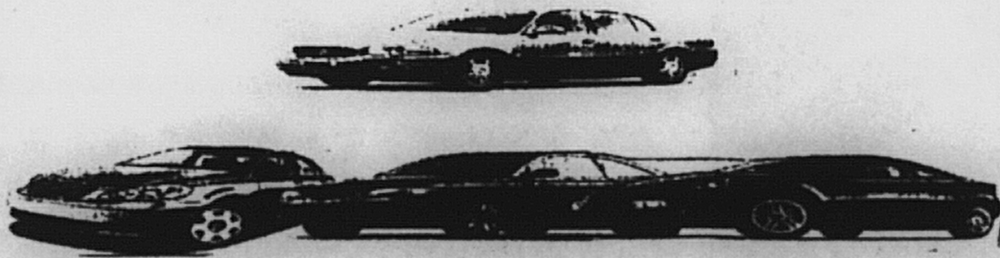
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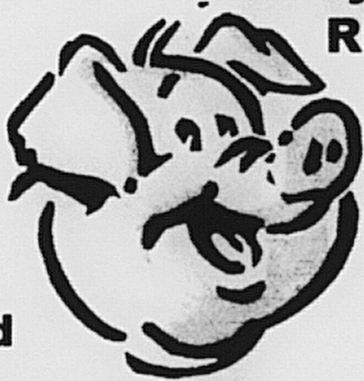
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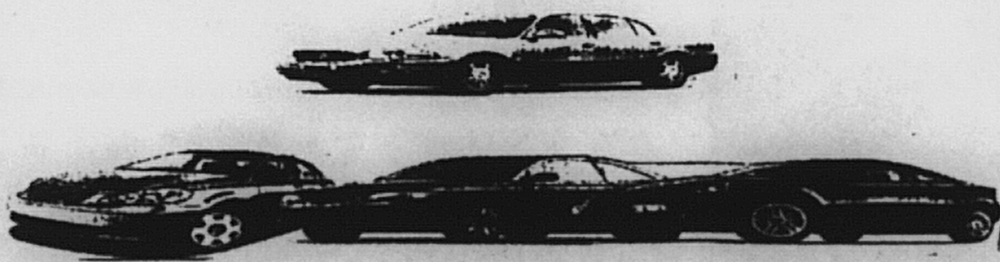
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Bush Nominees Rebuffed Black's Reparations Push

By PETE YOST Associated Press Writer WASHINGTON—As corporate executives, President Bush's nominees for Treasury secretary and Securities and Exchange Commission chairman personally approved public statements re-buffing efforts to collect financial restitution from their companies for descendants of African-American slaves.

As head of CSX railroad, Treasury Secretary-designate John Snow signed off on a press release last year after his company was sued for reparations. "Courtrooms are not the proper place to address" the issue, said the statement by the largest railroad on the East Coast.

It called slavery a "tragic chapter in our nation's history" but said it "cannot be attributed to any single company or industry."

William Donaldson, Bush's choice to run the SEC, approved a statement in 2000 as head of Aetna insurance that gave an unprecedented apology for the company's 19th-century role in slavery. The statement added that "beyond our apology no further actions are required." Aetna was sued last year for reparations.

With the Trent Lott race controversy still fresh in the public's mind, private attorneys for African-Americans suing 17 railroads, insurers, financial institutions and tobacco companies for slave reparations are high-lighting Snow's and Donaldson's roles as they prepare for Senate confirmation hearings this month.

The Snow and Donaldson appointments reveal "stubborn and pervasive disregard of the historical role played by enslaved African-Americans in building the financial wealth of our country and the monumental debt that remain! unpaid," said Diane Sammons, one of the attorneys bringing the law suits. The White House declined to discuss specifics of the two cases saying only that both companies headed by its nomi-

nees "have expressed their regrets over this particular time in the nation's history. Democrats and civil rights activists are questioning the nominations."

"I am shocked that the Bush administration was not aware of how sensitive this issue is, especially after the contretemps over Senator Lott and his insensitivity's," said Mary Frances Berry, the Democratic chairwoman of the U.S. Civil Right Commission and a Bush White House critic.

The office of Rep. John Conyer D-Mich., noted that as SEC chairman, Donaldson may have to decide whether corporations must report to the government on their past involvement in slavery, creating potential conflict of interest. Bill Fletcher Jr., president of TransAfrica Forum, said the two nominees "treat history as if it's an abstraction."

Fletcher, whose group is focused on the issue of slave reparations internationally, said countries dealing with the United States "are going to be skeptical of the ability of such a person to understand their situations."

The statements were issued in the face of efforts to collect money from the companies and were not designed to be complete representations of the nominees' views on race. The companies point to their records in philanthropy and in promoting diversity in the workplace as signs of their commitment to African-Americans.

Aetna says it has invested more than \$36 million over the past two decades in the African-America community for health education and economic development.

The statements arose from an effort in the black community to call corporate America to account for its past involvement in slavery.

In the case against CSX, the recent lawsuits note that slave labor built some of the lines that are now part of the railroad. Re-

garding Aetna, the lawsuits cite its sale of policies to slave owners on the lives of their slaves shortly after the insurance company was founded in 1853. The lawsuits, consolidated in federal court in Chicago, face seemingly insurmountable hurdles, says one legal expert. "I think it's impossible for the cases to succeed unless Congress changes the law to facilitate these kinds of claims and even then they would be difficult to sustain," said Yale University law professor Peter Schuck. "They would have to change the statute of limitations and the standards of proof."

CSX spokesman Adam Hollingsworth said Snow "approved the company's statement and stands behind the company's position."

At Aetna, Donaldson had just taken over as president and chief executive when he ap-

proved an unprecedented public apology on March 10, 2000, in response to a wire service story saying the insurer was considering paying restitution on behalf of slave descendants.

Aetna's statement ruled out such payments, stating that "beyond our apology, no further actions are required" in view of the company's numerous philanthropic and workplace diversity initiatives.

Aetna's statement stemmed from its discussions with Deedria Farmer-Paellmann, a law school graduate who is one of the plain-tiffs in the lawsuits. The same day as Aetna's apology, Farmer-Paellmann issued a statement saying she was "disappointed that Aetna has changed its mind about paying restitution." <http://www.csx.com>



... Or ministry, let us wait on our ministering: or he that teacheth, on teaching: Romans 12:7

Congratulations and all blessings to First Lady Carolyn B. Parker as she has accepted the calling of Missionary within The Church of God In Christ. She is pictured here with her husband Superintendent A.B. Parker Sr., who is the pastor of the Wells Chapel Church of God in Christ, located on the corner of 1401 Martin Luther King Jr. drive and Hudson Street, Greenville NC. Join them in their Sunday services where the Spirit of The Lord moves mightily. photo by Jim Rouse

Skin Care and Change of Seasons

Skin care routines should be adjusted with the change of seasons.

"People have to adjust their skin-care regimens as the seasons change," says N.Y.C. dermatologist Dennis Gross. "Products that deliver a squeaky-clean feeling in warm weather may irritate your skin in winter," said Dennis Gross, M.D., New York City dermatologist.

Try to avoid drying products like glycolic acid washes and alcohol-based toners; most skin types are better off in the winter washing twice a day with any of the mild, non-soap cleansers available on the market.

Use lukewarm water-not hot, which strips surface oils. While skin is still damp, apply a

moisturizer, which helps bind water to the skin. Use products for your particular skin type - extra dry skin may need richer emollients. Oily skin should use oil-free products.

If you are using retinoids (vitamin A derivatives such as retinol), switch from gels to less-drying creams and cut use to two to three times a week. If skin is still dry, try a kinetin-based product instead. Kinetin works like retinol but doesn't irritate skin or cause photosensitivity.

African American skin does need sunscreen. Even winter sun can be damaging, so look for a product with an SPF of at least 15.

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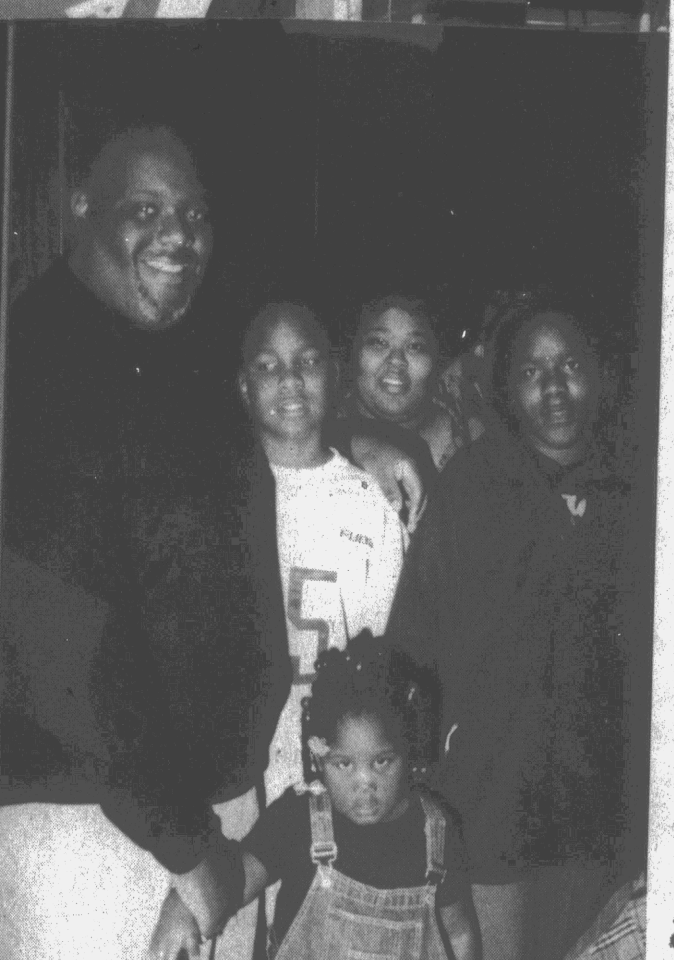
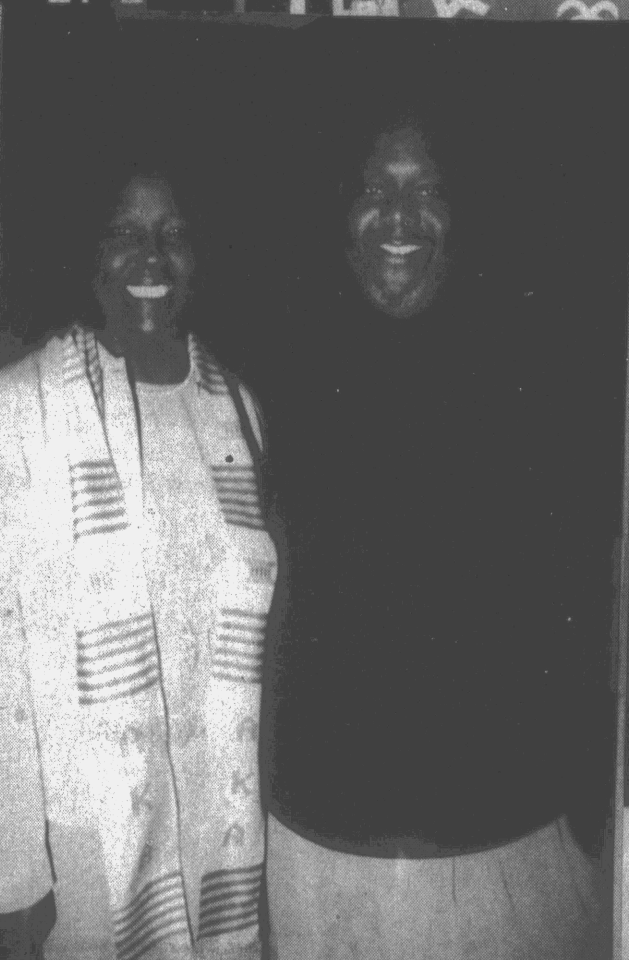
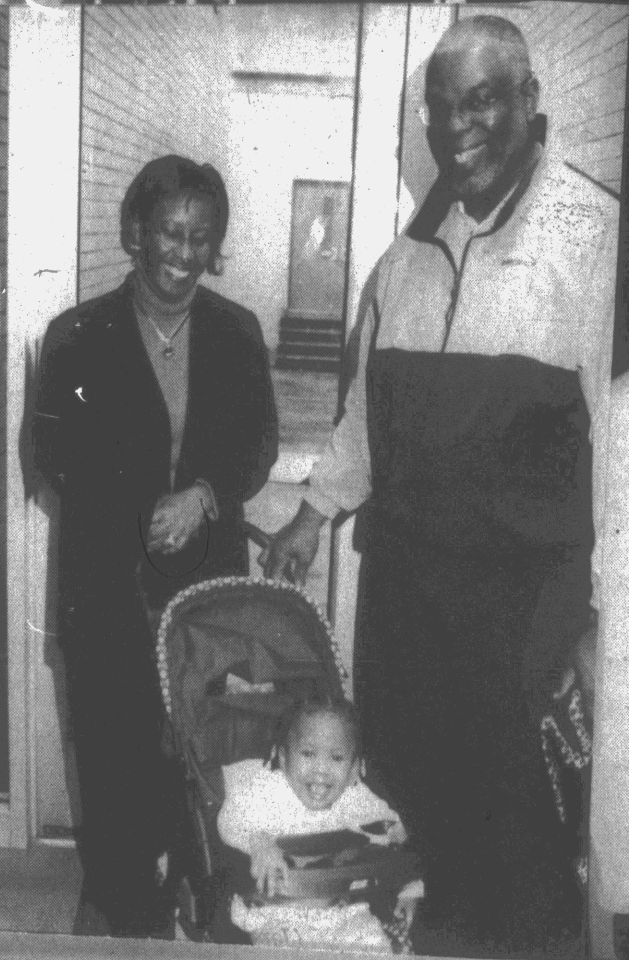
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Former Atlanta Mayor Joins Law Firm

from The Washington Afro American

Famed trial attorney Willie E. Gary is adding another jewel to his treasure chest. Bill Campbell, former Atlanta mayor, under whose leadership the city hosted the 1996 Olympic Games, is joining Gary's national law firm, best known for taking on and defeating some of America's most powerful corporations with verdicts totaling several billion dollars.

"The extraordinary honor of practicing law with perhaps the finest litigator in America is a dream come true," Campbell said. "Willie Gary's record of fighting for working people against corporate injustice is consistent with my philosophy in life. I now have the opportunity to not only make money for our clients, but to make a difference by shaping public policy through litigation at the same time.

Given my strong fight for affirmative action, I am particularly pleased that this law firm handles so many anti-discrimination lawsuits in its fight against racial inequality. I have been so richly blessed with the love and support of the people of Atlanta that only the opportunity of this magnitude - becoming a partner with Willie Gary - could draw me from a place that I love so dearly."

Campbell served two consecutive terms as the 57th mayor of Atlanta and was the city's third African-American mayor, following Maynard Jackson and Andrew Young.

"I am pleased to add Bill Campbell to our team of fighters," Gary said. "In addition to getting a great public servant, we add a great litigator who has spent his life working and fighting for the least of these. With more than \$50 billion in litigation pending, he is a perfect fit for our national litigation efforts."

Gary says Campbell's record of accomplishment is remarkable. Noting how he came from poverty in his own life, Gary said he is impressed with Campbell's leadership of what is viewed as one of the most incredible overhauls of public housing in America, a project that is now considered a model for national reform of public housing.

Gary also noted that the 6 billion dollar expansion of Atlanta's airport - the busiest in

the world - during Campbell's tenure as mayor included a high level of minority participation.

"He oversaw an expansive downtown renovation, including the construction of a new basketball and hockey arena at no cost to the taxpayers," Gary said. "He oversaw the economic renaissance of Black Atlanta, from the \$100 million redevelopment project along Martin Luther King Jr. Drive to the luring of Magic Johnson's movie theaters and restaurants to southwest Atlanta."

Gary also pointed to Campbell's support of affirmative action, which his administration successfully defended in court and his appointment of Atlanta's first female African-American po-

lice chief, under whose watch the city saw a record reduction in crime.

In addition to Campbell's many successes as mayor, Gary pointed to Campbell's role on the national stage as a plus for the firm.

"As a close friend of President Clinton and Vice President Gore, I know of their respect for Bill Campbell," Gary said. "He was personally selected by them for the honor of seconding the nomination of Vice President Gore during the Democratic National Convention. He is a leader on a national level who never forgot where he came from, always working to better the lives of the people of Atlanta."

Now, Campbell will partner

with Gary, who has earned his reputation as "The Giant Killer" by taking on some of America's most powerful corporate giants and winning billions of dollars in verdicts and settlements.

In 1995, Gary won a \$500 million verdict - one of the highest jury verdicts ever - against a Canadian funeral home company. In 2000, he won a \$240 million verdict against Disney when a jury found Disney stole the idea for a sports complex. In 2001, Gary won \$139 million from beer giant Anheuser-Busch on behalf of baseball great Roger Maris' family. Gary has also earned settlements of \$205 million, \$185 million, and \$175 million.

Campbell has spent the past year as the principal of Bill

Campbell and Company, a communications and media-consulting firm in Atlanta. He has also been hosting a daily public affairs morning radio talk show in Atlanta along with Jean Ross, while providing weekly political commentary for the syndicated "Frank Ski Morning Show." Campbell has also lectured at national and international forums about diversity, race relations, affirmative action, the digital divide, and terrorism.

He has been named one of the "Top 25 Most Dynamic Mayors in America" by Newsweek magazine and one of the "100 Most Influential Black Americans" by Ebony. In 2001, he was awarded the "Courage of Conscience" medal from Morehouse

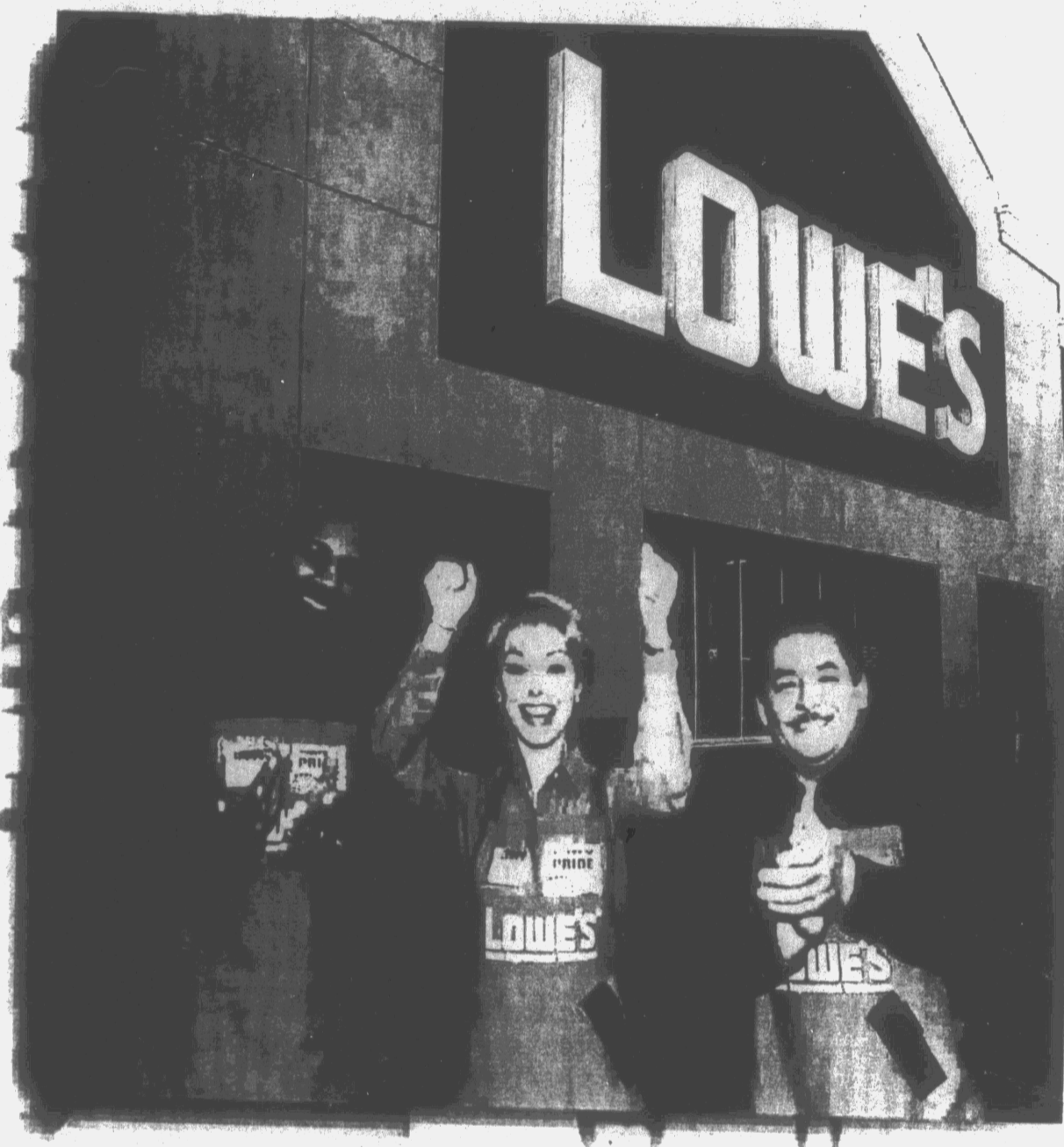
College. Campbell has also received honorary doctorates of law from Morris Brown College and Shaw University.

Campbell graduated cum laude from Vanderbilt University in 1974 in only three years with his bachelor's in history, sociology, and political science.

He received his doctorate in law from Duke University in 1977. Campbell has practiced law in Atlanta and has been a prosecutor with the U. S. Department of Justice. He is a member of the Atlanta Bar Association.

He is married and has two children. He joined the law firm of Gary, Williams, Parenti, Finney, Lewis, McManus, Watson & Sperando on Feb. 3.

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Some of the world's most gifted and prolific inventors have been African-American. Their work can be seen every day on the aisles at your local Lowe's stores.

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Sarah Boone, the Ironing Board, 1892

John Albert Burr, the Rotary Blade Lawn Mower, 1899

Jack Johnson, the Wrench, 1922

We Salute Black History Month



Improving Home Improvement

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BOOKSCAPE

by Tim Butler
Entertainment Editor

Can Black women really have it all?

Having It All?

In her book, *Having It All?*, Veronica Chambers addresses what it means to be a successful Black woman. She profiles a wide variety of successful women of color, including Donna August, CEO and co-founder of Fresh Water Software; Thelma

Golden, chief curator of The Studio Museum in Harlem; and Anna Perez, the current deputy assistant to President George W. Bush and counselor to the national security advisor for communication.

According to Chambers, there is more than one road to success, multiple definitions of success and how the world treats successful Black women. In the chapter "Black Swans: Women of Privilege Across the Generations," Chambers examines Black women who have come from a privileged background and the effect their prominence has on the cultural image of Black women.

In "To Whom Much is Given Much is Expected," she delves into the guilt and pressure that successful Black women can feel from less affluent family members' expectations of them as the "family money store."

Having It All? is a book that invites a better understanding of Black women, all women, and the changing fabric of both the Black community and the American community.

Chambers is formerly a cultural writer for *Newsweek* and executive editor of *Savoy*.

The power of being a woman



Sue Monk Kidd's debut novel, *The Secret Life of Bees*, is the story of Lily Owens, a girl who has shaped her life around one devastating memory - the afternoon her mother was killed, when Lily was four. Besides her harsh and unyielding father, Lily's only real companion is

Rosaleen, a tender, but fierce-hearted Black woman who cooks, cleans and acts as her "stand-in mother."

One summer afternoon in 1964 in South Carolina - a place and time of seething racial tensions - violence explodes and Rosaleen is arrested and beaten. Lily is desperate, not only to save Rosaleen, but to flee from a life she can no longer endure. Relying on her personal power, she breaks Rosaleen out of jail and the two escape, into what quickly becomes Lily's quest for the truth about her mother's life.

They are taken in by three Black, beekeeping sisters, May, June and August, and Lily is consumed by their secret world of bees and honey, and of the Black Madonna who presides over this household of strong, wise women.

This is the special kind of book that mothers and daughters can share.