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# The Minority Voice

Serving Eastern North Carolina's Minority Communities Since 1988

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Vol. 17 - Issue 7 May 2004

## Clinton Sets A Precedent With Attack On Bush

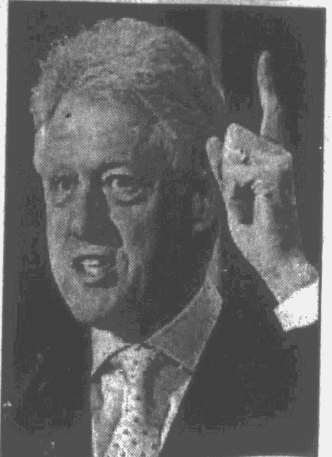
By Rupert Cornwell  
WASHINGTON - The final sentence of his memoirs completed, Bill Clinton is back, ripping into President George Bush's handling of the crisis in Iraq, and signalling he intends to play a role in the race for the White House.

Liberated from literature, the old master is limbering up anew for political action. On Tuesday evening, he ripped into his successor for neglecting the real menace of Osama bin Laden to go after Saddam Hussein, and for gratuitously turning world opinion against America.

"We had unanimous support for going into Afghanistan, they [the United Nations] participated in the hunt for bin Laden and supported giving an ultimatum to Saddam Hussein to open his country to weapons inspections," Clinton said. "We were in good shape. What happened?"

What happened was the Bush team's obsession with toppling Saddam, he claimed, regardless of the facts about Iraq's weapons and non-involvement in the September 11 attacks. It was an unprecedented volley. Former presidents largely follow a code that sees them keep mum about their successors' performances. But Clinton appears ready to

re-enter the fray, and his book will give him the platform to do so. "I've been in writer's jail," he said. "For three months I've been reliving my life - and it was hard enough the first time." But now, the 900-page volume My Life is ready. In barely three weeks, the hoop-la



## 100 Black Men Chapter Takes Root in Eastern Carolina



Butler W. Lewis - President, Stephan Pryor - Secretary, C. Reginald Oates, Clarence Goss, Jr Vice-President, Alan Bailey, Farris Dixon - Public Relation, Maurice Jordan, Events Chairperson, Joe Daniels-Fund Raising Chairperson, Joe Shambley - Membership Chairperson, Harvey Jackson, Thomas McMillian, Jr., Jesse Hinton - Education Chairperson, Edward Newton - Mentoring Chairperson, H.Emis Lee, Johnny Ford - Treasurer and Curtis Best. Not Pictured: Tarrick Cox, James D. Evans, Anthony Foreman, Charles Grimes, Bishop Earl Jones, Garrie Moore, Thomas Payne, Art Wallace and Russell Williams.

GREENVILLE - The idea of 100 Black Men has been around since 1963 and the idea of starting a branch in Greenville began about three years ago when Maurice Jordan and Butler W. Lewis began

discussing the merits of this movement. After many discussions and meetings, the Greenville Interest Group was formed to further develop this idea.

During this time, preliminary work was done to start a chapter with the guidance from the National Chapter located in Atlanta, Ga. Working nights and some weekends the necessary

information requested by the National Chapter was finally submitted for review and after much anticipation and planning, representatives from Greenville traveled to Atlanta in December

of 2003 for a President's Summit, in Atlanta. Finally on December 5, 2003, the Greenville Interest Group officially became the 100 Black Men of Eastern North

Continues on Page 5

will start, at a convention in Chicago. Then comes a worldwide tour to accompany publication in late June.

The early signs are that the tome will eclipse even his wife Hillary's Living History, which broke records for political memoirs when it hit the bookstores exactly a year ago. The former president is receiving a larger advance than his wife, a rumored US\$12 million (\$20 million), compared with \$8 million. The initial print run is also larger: 1.5 million against a million for Hillary. And, dare one hope, it will be better-written than her pedestrian effort.

Unlike earlier political books of 2004, by the journalist Bob Woodward, the former intelligence chief Richard Clarke and others, Clinton's will not dish dirt on the Bush administration. Instead, if he is halfway true to form, it will be an opus of self-justification. Readers looking for juicy stuff about Monica Lewinsky are likely to be disappointed. For students of modern

Continues on Page 5

## Financing our own Oppression

by James Clingman

Have you kept up with the progress of the reparations movement as it pertains to getting firms that benefited from slavery, such as insurance companies and banks, to pay reparations to the descendants of slaves? The argument is that since those businesses gained much of their wealth from financing and insuring the ships and other instruments of oppression utilized during the most heinous treatment of a people in history, they should also pay reparations.

From what I understand there are several well documented cases, put together by top-notch legal experts, that will make significant progress toward reparations when they come to court. Some are also calling for boycotts against the companies involved if they do not voluntarily admit their involvement and compensate Black people for obtaining their wealth on the backs of our ancestors.

That's not bad idea as far as I am concerned. I spent a little time with Conrad Worrill on two occasions during the past six months, and I am thoroughly

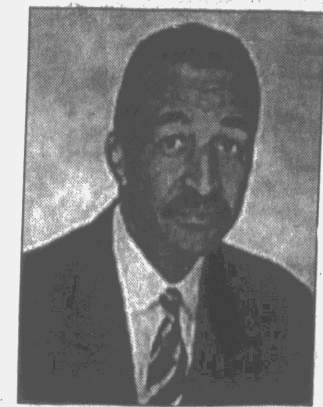
impressed with his knowledge of the reparations movement and his focus on bringing it to fruition. He is doing righteous work and we should support him and all of those, including our dear elder, Robert Brock, who have fought and continue to fight for what is right.

As I was reading an article in Cincinnati Magazine, titled, "The Baptist Economy," which noted the "wild-eyed glee" with which city officials and the virtually all-White Cincinnati Convention and Visitors' Bureau looked at the National Baptist Convention U.S.A., it

occurred to me that Black people, and in this case, Black churches, are financing the oppression of Black people as well.

You may have read my column, "The Rest of the Story," where I discussed the Baptist Convention deciding to come to Cincinnati despite being asked to stay away because of the Cincinnati boycott against travel and tourism to this city. When I read the piece in Cincinnati Magazine, I was even more assured that my assessment was absolutely correct. It's always about the money; and we are financing our own oppression.

Done under the tired mantra of "racial healing" the Baptist convention will bring \$21 million dollars to a city in which oppression



James Clingman

continues to run rampant. The only healing will be financial, and that will be for the oppressors. Vanessa

Williams, the new spokesperson for the National Underground Railroad "Freedom" Center, came to town and said it was good that the Freedom Center was "built by Black hands" and was a symbol of healing, which are more statements that not only are incorrect but also would make the ignorant person think all is well in Cincinnati. I wonder how much her compensation is.

Black leaders and Black folks in general should stop financing the oppression of their own people. But since it seems they are not ready to stop this kind of madness, I think we should implement the same tactics against them that have been brought

Continues on Page 12

## Report Shows Black Americans Catching Hell

NEW YORK (BNW) - Black Americans are less likely than white Americans to own homes, don't earn as much as whites, don't live as long, and don't do as well in school, according to a report by the National Urban League and the list goes on.

The report, released last week, is a collection of survey data and essays by experts in race, social justice, health, psychology and civil rights.

The most conspicuous differences it found were in the areas of home ownership and economic parity, with black earning power about 73% that of whites.

"The wealth gap is significant," Urban League President Marc Morial said in an interview.

"There are a number of things we

have to get much more focused on as a community: health, home ownership, estate planning, community economic development," said Morial, a former New Orleans mayor who was named president of the 93-year-old civil rights group last May.

The Urban League report found that blacks are denied mortgages and home improvement loans at twice the rate of whites.

About 68% of Americans own their homes, but the Census Bureau has reported that ownership among blacks and Hispanics is about 48%. Nearly 54% of Asian-Americans own their homes, compared with 75% of whites.

The report also found that, 50 years after the Supreme Court, in Brown vs. Board of Education,

decreed segregated public schools unconstitutional, the performance of black students continues to trail that of their white counterparts.

The 2000 census found that 91.8% of white students graduated from high school,

compared with 83.7% of black students.

"The as-yet unfinished process of implementing Brown has turned out to be nearly as slow as the process of tearing down the Jim Crow system that allowed the educational segregation

challenged in Brown," Harvard Law School professor Charles Ogletree Jr. said in one of the report's essays.

The report also found:  
• Teachers with less than three years of experience are twice as likely to work in predominantly

minority schools as they are in predominantly white schools.

• On average, blacks are twice as likely to die from disease, accident and homicide than whites; the life expectancy for blacks is 72 years, or six years less than that of whites.

## The Rouses want to make a difference on July 20th

GREENVILLE - It is often said that loyalty and devotion best describes the character of Mr. Jim Rouse. He involves himself in every aspect of the growth and development of his community, as well as the prosperity of the citizens who live within it.

Jim Rouse is a graduate of James Monroe High School in Bronx, New York. His desire to challenge the minds of others, while informing people, prompted him to enroll in the New York School of Broadcasting where he completed his post secondary studies. Later he attended Fisk University in Nashville, Tennessee.

Jim Rouse is presently the owner and operator of two prominent radio stations WOOW in Greenville and WTOW in Washington. He is a photographer, a journalist, and the Publisher of Eastern North Carolina's first African American newspaper the "Minority Voice". He is also the host of a weekly television talk show "The Minority Voices".

For one who knows Mr. Rouse it is easy to see that he is a "people person" dating back to his early military career from 1962-1965 where he served with the U. S. Army 101st Airborne.

He is also a Vietnam Veteran (Ranger).

Throughout his career Mr. Rouse has been involved with numerous organizations, boards, commissions, civic and fraternal affiliations to North Carolina Association of Broadcasting, National Association of Black Owned Broadcasters (NABOB), as well as sitting on NC State Board of Diabetes to increase awareness of Diabetes on a statewide level.

While community service does absorb a great deal of his time Jim Rouse always find time for church and home. He is happily married with seven children and ten grandchildren.

Mr. Rouse feels that registered voters who go out and vote have the power to create changes in government housing, unemployment and education, on both a state and local level.

He also feels that voters have the right to know what your elected officials are doing for citizens of North Carolina and that means what laws are being enacted on your behalf and most importantly how those laws will affect you now and in the distant future?

"Voting is more than a right bestowed upon citizens of this great country, it is a



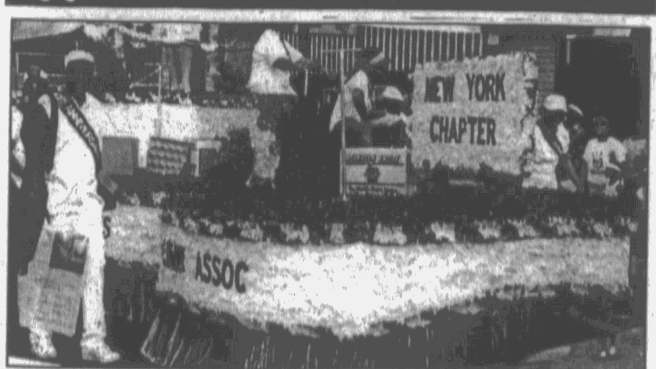
Shown above are Kaye and Jim Rouse in front of the Board of Elections after recently registering as candidates for the Pitt County School Board and the State Senate seat District #3, Edgecomb, Martin and Pitt County in Raleigh. This Senate District was created to give more black population in this part of the region more voice in various political agendas at a state level.

privilege. A privilege that should not be taken for granted, it gives you the ability to shape the future of this Nation", he stated.

He added that voting is more than casting ballots for faceless candidates whom you

may not have complete confidence in. It is the process of electing a person who you trust will act in your best interest and in the best interest of the state and country.

## Eppes Alumni Parade Flashback!!



GREENVILLE - This year the Eppes Alumni Association will be celebrating their 25th Silver Anniversary. It was in the fall of 1978 when Mildred Jenkins Whichard, Alice Gibbs Moore, Marion Gorham Wilkes and Imogene Taylor Dupree met at

the home of Marion Wilkes to begin planning a reunion of the Class of 1945. After much discussion, it was decided to include the classes of the 40's since their graduating class was so small. The first Eppes reunion was held at the Ramada Inn on the weekend of July 4th in 1979. At the first Reunion

Continues on Page 11

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# M(y)-VOICE OP/EDs

## A Different Global Vision

Former U.S. Rep. Cynthia McKinney is running to recapture her Atlanta-area congressional seat. She delivered the following speech to the Georgia Tech Globalization Forum, April 22. - Ed.

Tonight we are here to talk about globalization. During my grad school days, I sat through a few econ courses. And I remember that my teachers could draw elaborate diagrams on the board, and write mathematical equations that went the length of the chalkboard; and they would always add at the end, "if all things are equal."

And so I emerged from graduate school a true believer, that free trade was fair, if all things are equal.

But as I left the world of academia and entered the world of politics, my first lesson learned was that all things are not equal.

I think I would like to start my remarks by remembering a comment that Venezuela's President, Hugo Chavez, makes in the documentary, "The Revolution Will Not Be Televised." In that film, he says that the people who are labeled anti-globalizers are really not that at all. That they are the true globalizers because they care about the world and all its people.

The most glaring effect of globalization that I have confronted is the impact on the lives of real people for whom I am responsible.

My first encounter with people whose lives were impacted by what we call globalization came as I sought to represent Georgia's old

11th District that swept through Georgia's poor and rural black belt. Those most up in arms at the time were our farmers who were agitated about NAFTA.

Those not up in arms, but who bore the brunt of NAFTA, were in one case, the women of Sparta, Georgia - Hancock County. There, single mothers held families together with their low-wage jobs in the textile plants. There, single mothers lost their jobs when the plants moved away. I watched desperate families endure desperate times.

"All things being equal" didn't take the women of Sparta, Georgia into account. As a caring single

mother, who also happened to be an elected official, I had to. That's when I drafted legislation to take away tax breaks for corporations that locate their plants overseas. It wasn't a sexy subject at that time, but it was definitely a problem that I saw firsthand, affecting real lives and real people.

Now, more people are paying attention to globalization because at first it was just "them," now, it's a whole lot of us. Globalization used to be perceived as something that happened to poor workers or the

of jobs that have been lost since George Bush was sworn into office. How does one measure the anxiety level of American workers who need these jobs; watch them leave the US; realize

that some companies even continue to get tax breaks when they leave; and then find that their careers have been outsourced?

In all of my econ courses, I don't recall any of my professors ever adding that to the equation.

Secondly, I am concerned about the worsening gap between rich and poor; not just globally, but in

our own country, too. Globally, as many as 1 billion people fail to meet life's basic requirements as defined by the UN. About three-fifths of the world's population in developing countries live without sanitation. About one-third live without safe drinking water. One-fourth lack adequate housing; one-fifth live without modern health services;

one-fifth of their children don't make it through fifth grade; an equal number are malnourished.

Water shortage and contamination kill nearly 25,000 people a day. Diarrhea kills nearly 4 million children every year. In Bolivia, when the US multinational Bechtel tried to privatize the water supply, a revolution was sparked. Now, we can add Bolivia to the list of countries that don't like our policies.

In addition to global inequality, the United States is also experiencing domestic inequality.

According to the US Census, more than 34 million Americans now live below the poverty line. That's almost 2 million more impoverished than in 2001. Over 16% of our children live in poverty, almost double the figures for 2001. The Veterans Administration estimates that on any given night 300,000 veterans sleep on America's streets. The VA

estimates that during the year as many as half a million veterans experience homelessness. Conservatively, one out of every four homeless males who is sleeping in a doorway, alley, or a cardboard box in our cities and rural communities has put on a uniform and served our country. Surely America must remember them. But while our country spends one billion dollars a week for war, we can't find money to provide our vets shelter and a warm meal?

In addition to the highest unemployment in a decade and persistent health care challenges for those Americans who do have jobs, a permanent underclass is being created and that is not sustainable.

I'll just recite for you the findings from several studies published this year:

United for a Fair Economy: "State of the Dream, 2004" report states that on some indices, the racial gap has actually widened since the murder of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Sadly, it will take 8 years to close the high school graduation gap; 73 years to close the college graduation gap; 581 years to close the per capita income gap; and 1,664 years to close the home ownership gap.

The New York Times informs us that nearly half of all black men aged 16 to 64 in New York City are unemployed.

The Chicago Sun-Times tells us about a Hull Home Report entitled, "Minding the Gap: An Assessment of Racial Disparity in Metropolitan Chicago." According to the Sun-Times, "the report describes two completely



# 2004: The Year of Civil Disobedience

by Margaret Kimberley

Anyone foolish enough to vote for an Orwellian titled law, Uniting and Strengthening America by Providing Appropriate Tools Required to Intercept and Obstruct Terrorism (USA Patriot Act), should not be allowed to run for dogcatcher in Dogpatch. The White House, United States Senate, and House of Representatives should certainly be off limits to anyone so cynical or so stupid that they would not see the dangers inherent in such legislation.

Nothing symbolizes the lack of integrity of American politicians or the public acceptance of state power more than the Patriot Act. Just as the Help America Vote Act will disenfranchise voters, the Patriot Act has endangered our freedoms and increased the power the federal government has over our lives. The only thing worse than the existence of the act is the shameful manner in which congress has ceded its constitutionally granted authority to the White House and the ironically named Department of Justice.

Just 45 days after September 11, 2001 the United States Congress gave in to patriotic fervor and its own spinelessness and passed the Patriot Act with hardly any debate (see, February 27, 2003). Only one member of the Senate, Democrat Russell Feingold of Wisconsin, had the courage to vote against the legislation. Massachusetts Senator John Kerry dismisses criticisms of the act as mere "haggling."

"I voted for the Patriot Act right after September 11th, convinced that - with a sunset clause - it was the right decision to make. It clearly wasn't a perfect bill - and it had a number of flaws - but this wasn't the time to haggle. It was the time to act."

It is disconcerting when our civil liberties are likened to souvenir shopping while on vacation in a foreign country. The days and weeks following September 11th were the worst possible time to act on legislation that decreased individual rights and increased government rights. It was most certainly time to debate how much power government should have over the

lives of its citizens. Americans face an uphill battle in protecting their civil liberties no matter who wins the presidential election in November.

Acronyms like the USA Patriot Act have a long and dubious history in the fight against government controlled domestic terrorism. The Counter Intelligence Program, Cointelpro, sewed seeds of distrust among the Black Panthers and other groups and kept activists under surveillance. Three decades after its existence the word Cointelpro evokes images of a real life conspiracy so frightening that it still makes every other conspiracy theory, plausible or not, difficult to dismiss.

Unfortunately American memories are short, even in the Black community. It is easy to dismiss presidential candidates from the Yale Skull and Bones Society, but individuals and institutions who used to be thought of as friends are not, and should be treated accordingly.

Ministers subjected to Cointelpro surveillance now prove their Christian activism

credentials by extolling the virtues of an overly violent film about Jesus whose director says that Protestants are going to hell. These same members of the clergy have forgotten that Jesus had nothing good to say about governments or money and yet they swooned and bowed down to Caesar to get cold hard cash doled out through George Bush's Faith Based Initiative. The Faith Based Initiative should be done away with for no other reason than its initials are the same as the agency that gave us Cointelpro. A program meant to help religious groups should not remind anyone of J. Edgar Hoover.

While President Bush uses the Patriot Act as an election year tool Black leaders bicker about whether or not gay marriage is a civil rights issue. There are serious legal and moral issues involved with granting marriage rights to same sex couples, but it won't matter much if the government doesn't need to show probable cause in order to get search warrants and then doesn't have to inform us that we

have been searched. It is time for civil disobedience in America, and the targets this time around are not the usual suspects. We will have to take ministers and politicians to task when they tell us Wal-Mart is a good place to work. Elected officials should be dead politically if they make asinine comments such as these when asked about Wal-Mart's labor practices: "I don't know about them because I go in there and shop. I'm not trying to get into their business" (Black Chicago Alderwoman Emma Mitts).

If ministers are truly concerned about the state of the Black family they should also speak out against a corrections system that is built to incarcerate as many Black people as possible. Gay people can't compete with mandatory minimum drug sentences in causing damage to Black families. Taking on the powerful is more difficult than making trite comments about Adam and Eve versus Adam and Steve.

These same preachers will have to be reminded that Jesus Christ

was killed because he spoke out against the powerful religious leaders of his day. If they can't muster the courage to speak for the estimated 10,000 Iraqi civilians killed by U.S. military intervention, we may just have to hold church in our own living rooms while they pose for photo ops with President Bush.

If we are going to rid ourselves of the reactionary, the retrograde, the ignorant, and the cynical, we have to start speaking out against all of them. Their color and their past history should not change what we say or how we say it. 2004 should not be remembered only for the Olympics, leap year and a presidential race. It should be remembered as the year that Americans declared they are mad as hell and are not going to take it anymore.

Ms. Kimberley is a freelance writer living in New York City. She can be reached via email at [margaret.kimberley@blackcommnetator.com](mailto:margaret.kimberley@blackcommnetator.com). You can read more of Ms. Kimberley's writings at <http://freedomrider.blogspot.com>

Continues on Page 5

# Republican effort to gain Black vote is futile without party changes

by Brian Gilmore

The Republican Party is courting African-American support, but wooing Blacks with one hand while slapping them with the other is not an effective strategy.

The party says it wants to increase its share of the Black vote in the next election to 25 percent. Ed Gillespie, chairman of the Republican National Committee, stated recently that this push is a

"top, top priority." One wonders how Gillespie and his party expect to achieve such a lofty goal when his party has such an abysmal record on "many fundamental African-American issues.

For one thing, many Republicans have made it clear over and over that the party opposes affirmative action. The Bush administration opposed it

in the recent U.S. Supreme Court decision that upheld affirmative action at the University of Michigan law school.

Secondly, Republicans have fallen short on the issue of racial profiling, particularly since the Bush administration took office.

Attorney General John Ashcroft, during his March 2001 confirmation hearings, vowed to product a legislative product to

combat racial profiling, but nothing has come close to being passed into law since Ashcroft's statement.

Thirdly, Republicans have failed the Black community on economic issues. As unemployment rose across the nation, African Americans were disproportionately affected. In June 2003, the unemployment rate for African Americans

surged to 11.8 percent, a full percentage point higher than the previous month, one of the biggest jumps in the last two decades. Today that rate is still languishing at 10.2 percent while the overall U.S. rate is at 5.9 percent.

Since March 2001, the economy has lost 2.4 million jobs. The manufacturing sector, the one most responsible for the rise in the Black middle class, has been hardest hit. Since March 2001, 300,000 factory jobs held by Blacks, or 15 percent, have disappeared, according to the New York Times.

President Bush's chief response has been to provide the wealthiest Americans with huge tax breaks.

This has done little to lower the Black unemployment rate. And finally, Republican efforts to gain more of the Black vote will likely come face to face with the bitterness in Black America left over from the 2000 election. Many African Americans have not forgotten the controversy in Florida that propelled Bush into office.

The Republican Party's neglect of, if not outright hostility to, many important African-American issues cannot be easily forgotten. If the party wants Black support, it would do best by improving its record on African-American issues and reaching out to Blacks in non-election years, as well.

Brian Gilmore is a lawyer and

is what Black Americans have known for some time: the United States has no standing to be the moral arbiter of the world. Our experience from slavery to Jim Crow to the emerging apartheid state has been of a nation predisposed to the use of violence to maintain white supremacy. It is naive, at best, and ignorant, at worst, to believe that a nation that engaged in the genocide of American Indians and the dehumanization and enslavement of Africans, and subjugation of their ancestors, is capable of acting humanely toward people of color on another continent.

There is no getting around this point. What has transpired in Iraq is part and parcel of the American experience. It is the part of our nation's history that is conveniently forgotten by this war's apologists and the media. And it is our present reality. The disproportionate incarceration of African American and Latino men, many on minor drug offenses, and their conviction under sentencing guidelines that are patently racist and result in the warehousing of hundreds of thousands, provides the context

for Abu Ghraib. As does the hundreds of incidents of police violence and killings of Blacks. Is there any real difference between the brutality exhibited by U.S. soldiers against Iraqi detainees and what local police departments habitually impose upon Blacks across the nation?

And speaking of apologies: When do we receive ours? Even a lame one at that. It is particularly offensive to hear government officials offer an apology, albeit late and insincere, to foreigners but trip on their tongues when the subject of the experience of Black African descendants is raised. And believe me, it's not the apology I really care about. It's the acknowledgment of the pain and suffering this nation caused my ancestors expressly to maintain white privilege, the economic benefits derived from Blacks' free and exploited labor, and how that legacy transcends generations and continues to impede Blacks full and equal participation in American society.

What we see in Iraq is simply our own reflection.

Walter Fields is Publisher of The NorthStar Network.

# A Culture of Indifference....

The following article originally appeared in The NorthStar Network.

White men in power rarely apologize for their indiscretions. In fact, in most situations, they manipulate instances in which most of us would feel shame and find ways to profit from their immoral behavior. Just look at the Watergate alumni. Richard Nixon, though resigning from the presidency in disgrace, went on to become a best-selling author and highly regarded in the field of foreign relations. G. Gordon Liddy, the underbelly of the Nixon scandal, found refuge as a radio talk show host and media personality.

There are other examples. Oliver North was the shadow behind the Iran-Contra scandal, betrayed the nation's trust as a military officer, convicted of a felony and later cashed in as a conservative radio and television talk show host. Journalist Mike Barnicle was caught fabricating stories as a Boston Globe columnist and was promptly rewarded with a job on the MSNBC cable news channel and an offer from the Boston Herald. Bill Clinton engages in a sexual liaison with a young intern,

is impeached admittedly for an indiscretion that doesn't rise to the level the Constitutional standard of a high crime or misdemeanor, but shows little remorse en route to cashing-in with a multi-million dollar deal for his memoirs.

Even when apologies are offered they tend to be so trite that as soon as the words roll of the lips they evaporate into thin air. Such was the case with President Bush's feeble apology for the abuse of Iraqi detainees at the Abu Ghraib prison. Not only was the president slow to show any remorse for the physical abuse and humiliation imposed by members of the U.S. military, when he finally did exhibit a feint degree of humanity it was in passing and communicated to King Abdullah of Jordan, not directly to the Iraqi people.

Adding insult to injury, Secretary of Defense Donald Rumsfeld, under whose watch this shameful episode has occurred, appears before members of Congress and offers a sorry apology on one hand and displays the utmost arrogance on the other.

What has become painfully aware to many in the Arab world

is what Black Americans have known for some time: the United States has no standing to be the moral arbiter of the world. Our experience from slavery to Jim Crow to the emerging apartheid state has been of a nation predisposed to the use of violence to maintain white supremacy. It is naive, at best, and ignorant, at worst, to believe that a nation that engaged in the genocide of American Indians and the dehumanization and enslavement of Africans, and subjugation of their ancestors, is capable of acting humanely toward people of color on another continent.

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Because whatever happens to America happens to Black America first...

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Continues on Page 5

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# "I'm going to have you naked by the end of this song..." Black Exposure



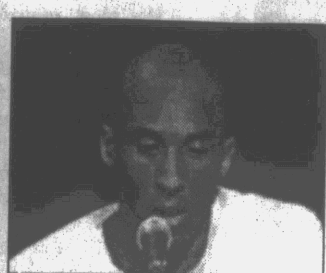
view, but if you really want to give your brain something to chew on, think about Blackness from a political, social and historical point of view.  
And if you are really up for the challenge, throw the power/pleasure dynamic into the mix. Maybe I'm just trippin', but

writer decided to make his only New York appearance at Hue Man bookstore in Harlem? From what I heard he made a typical yet passionate appeal for Black folks to forgive him because at the Times Black men are just so oppressed. Give me a friggin' break!  
4. The depiction of Black women



Janet Jackson

By Nicole Moore  
Amsterdam News  
Overexposure is never considered a good thing, regardless of what form it comes in. Overexposure to the sun will cause sunburn, overexposure to cold weather will result in frostbite, and to the media, as in the Bonier romp - well, I think that says it all.  
For me, the idea of overexposure really gets interesting when you throw culture and Black bodies in the mix. Insert Janet (Damita Jo) Jackson. Let me first say that I believe her move with Justin "I'm gonna have you naked by the end of this song" Timberlake (inset above) was a well choreographed, however it was a tacky publicity stunt to promote her album. Do I think it was inappropriate? YES! Do I think she should have apologized a second time to appear on the Grammys? NO! Do I think that by bringing up this incident again I may be playing myself out on some



Kobe Bryant

already over hyped media play? Maybe... But just hear me out on this one.

We live in a society well known for its erasure, marginalization and fetishistic exoticizing of the Black female (nude) body. So when I consider Ms. Jackson's major reveal at the hands of a Black-culture-adoring wannabe white male who in the end took no responsibility for the "wardrobe malfunction," I not only think about the corruption of standards, over which CBS and the FCC are justifiably going ballistic, I think about power and pleasure - who has it and who wants it.

I only wish that Janet could think as well as she can tease, because if she did, she would have conceived of a way to promote herself and flip the tables over on feminism, pop music and sexuality. She would have rocked the entire halftime show (who needed Puffy and Nelly anyway), the way sisters rock the dance floor when we hear Beyonce's "Baby Boy." Cause when Beyonce starts "ooohing" an "aaahing," you know it's a wrap!



Omarosa Stalworth

All of a sudden everyone gets Caribbean and our dancing becomes sultry, sexy, and celebratory, part Josephine Baker, part Lil' Kim (circa 1999), we know how to get our swerve on and still not totally give it up.

That's the thing with exposure; the art of it is to not only control what is shown but to somehow manipulate the way in which it is also seen (consumed) so that the experience remains self-defined and transformative - for the guy in the club, for 100 million television viewers and definitely for oneself.

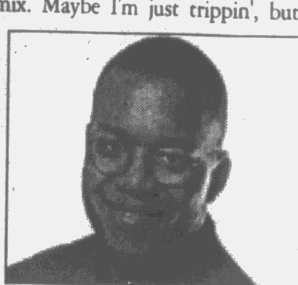
So in acknowledging Janet's quasi auspicious album's debut, I'd like to thank the sisters who knew way back when that 'sometimes less is more,' and still knew how to work their magic and use their beautiful Black bodies to empower,



Josephine Baker

impassion and inspire. Shout-outs to Salt-n-Pepa for "Push It," Josephine for her banana skirt, photographer Mfon Essien for her mesmerizing self-portraits, Sade for her "Love Deluxe" album cover (of which Janet took a huge bite), singer Joi for her live performances, Aaliyah for damn near everything, Ma Rainey for her trademark gold coin necklace and knowing how to swing that Black bottom, and a special shout to Sara Baartman, aka "The Hottentot Venus," who was taken from her home in South Africa in 1810 and "exhibited" throughout Britain as a "freak" for having a large booty and bosom. She is the original icon for Black female exposure, and we embrace her! Big up.

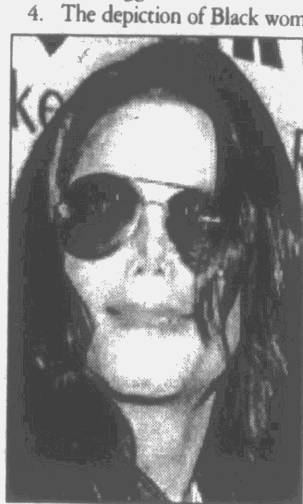
Folks tend to look at Blackness from a social point of



Jayson Blair

the following six things have got y wheels turning and my spirit rning. What do you think?

1. Janet debuts at #2 on the Billboard chart scanning a little over 381,000 units, yet MTV will not play her video. But they will show a bodacious Britney flashing her pink panties in "Toxic," and of course R. Kelly will even get some love, although he is accused of molesting a number of Black girls.
2. The media's reportage of high-profile scandal. Is it me or are Kobe Bryant, Jayson Williams, Michael Jackson, Diana Ross and Lil' Kim the only alleged lawbreakers on the continent? What about Courtney Love, Kelly Osborne and Robert Blake? Not to mention those Tyco and Enron guys or President Bush, who broke at least 10 international laws in his search for weapons of mass destruction. Hello - overriding the UN in pursuit of oil is way more interesting than Diana Ross's one-night prison stay!
3. Jayson Blair. Anyone notice how the disgraced NY Times



Michael Jackson

on reality television - Omarosa from "The Apprentice" (who took over Oprah Winfrey with her n-word allegations and her "I'm just playing the Black diva" excuses), Coral from "The Real World" ("I don't wrestle women, I beat birches up"), Camille from "Top Model," and my favorite, Babs of "Making of the Band." Think about the disservice we do to ourselves by falling into the easy, stereotypical role of being the Black Bitch or the Angry Black Woman. Dominique Devereaux is the only sister I know that continually, found success and happiness in being rude, arrogant and manipulative, and in the end, even she got the ax.

5. The testimonial procedure of Condoleezza Rice.

6. HIV/AIDS

## The Unfulfilled Promise



Students at a study session at a junior high school in Potal, Miss., Jan. 8, 1970. Today, the majority of Black students still attend schools that are predominately Black. In some school districts, segregation is higher than it was in the '60s.

by Leland Ware

The 1954 Brown decision was a critical turning point in constitutional law and American race relations. Many credit the decision with sparking the Civil Right revolution and leading to the enactment of state and federal laws that ended decades of official discrimination and segregation. Ronald Walters, a professor of government and politics at the University of Maryland at College Park, believes the decision had a "psychological impact" that helped

give African Americans the confidence to go on and participate in the Civil Right Movements."

The most immediate legacy of Brown was the restoration of principles that underlie the Fourteenth Amendment," said Waters. "There is a line between Brown and the civil rights act of 1964, 1965 and 1968."

But while the decision may have led to successful legislation in the areas of housing, transportation and public accommodations, schools

remained segregated for decades and today are rapidly resegregating as courts end years of desegregation orders.

What went wrong? What happened to the equal opportunity? Fifty years after the landmark decision, why has the promise of Brown remained unfulfilled?

"The court's ruling against school segregation encouraged African American to believe the entire structure of White supremacy was illegitimate and legally

vulnerable," Clayborne Carson notes in the Journal of American History article "Two Cheers for Brown V. The Board Of Education." But the civil rights struggles Brown inspired sought broader goals than the decision could deliver.

The Era of "Massive Resistance" The difficulties began with Brown II's ambiguous timetable. A year after the Brown decision, the Supreme Court directed schools to desegregate with "all deliberate speed," under the supervision of local federal judges. Pursuing a strategy of "massive resistance," many Southern officials openly defied the Brown decision. Others exploited the vagueness of the Court's timeline by engaging in endless delaying tactics.

For example, though the U.S. Constitution's Supremacy Clause requires state laws to yield to conflicting federal laws, segregationists reacted to Brown with far-fetched legal theories that included "interposition" and "nullification." According to these theories, when the federal government's actions intruded on state's rights, state officials were not obligated to obey federal authorities, including federal courts.

"The expectation on the part of a lot of Blacks and Whites that there would not be a backlash... did not pan out," says Walters, author of the recently published "White Nationalism, Black Interests: Conservative Public Policy and the Black Community."

Instead, violent opposition erupted in cities and towns across the South. One of the most dramatic episodes occurred in Little Rock, Ark.

In September 1957, nine

Black students were slated to enroll in Little Rock's Central High School. Arkansas Governor Orval Faubus sent National Guard troops to prevent the students from enrolling. The federal court, however, issued an injunction requiring the governor to withdraw the troops.

When the Black students attempted to enroll again, they were surrounded by a mob of angry Whites gathered in front of the building, screaming threats and brandishing signs against integration. Eventually, rioting erupted on the school grounds and President Dwight Eisenhower dispatched the National Guard to

federal troops to Oxford, where hundreds of Whites had gathered on the campus. A riot ensued and two people were killed. On Oct. 1, 1962, Meredith was finally able to register for classes. Federal troops stayed in Oxford until Meredith graduated in 1963.

And in Alabama, Governor George Wallace, who had vowed at his inauguration, "segregation now, segregation tomorrow and segregation forever," orchestrated a well-publicized standoff in the doorway of the University of Alabama to block two Black students — Vivian Malone and James Hood — from enrolling.

### THE HOPES AND DREAMS OF EQUAL EDUCATION FOR AFRICAN AMERICAN CHILDREN NEVER MATERIALIZED. WHAT HAPPENED?

Little Rock. After heavily armed federal troops arrived in tanks and other military vehicles, the Black students were finally allowed to attend classes on Sept. 25. The National Guardsmen remained on duty at Central High School throughout the school year. A similar confrontation unfolded in Oxford, Miss., when James Meredith applied for admission to the University of Mississippi (Ole Miss) in 1961. When an appellate court ordered Meredith's admission, Mississippi Governor Ross Barnett announced his intention to deny the federal court's decision, relying on the "interposition" doctrine, which allowed an individual state to oppose any federal action that it believed was unconstitutional.

As a result, when Meredith, accompanied by federal marshals, attempted to enter Ole Miss to register for classes, state officials blocked his efforts. Eventually, President John F. Kennedy sent

Lani Guinier, a professor of law at Harvard University, says the backlash to school desegregation was due in part to what W.E.B. Du Bois has described as the "psychological wages" of Whiteness — where even the poorest White person was superior to a Black person.

"The poor and working class Whites, who were often those caught in the most vengeful and hostile and hateful position of resisting desegregation, it was not simple intolerance driving them," says Guinier. "It was the role of race as an instrument of social control for Whites as well as Blacks. Race [was] compensation for economic disadvantages."

Too Much Deliberation and Not Enough Speed

Ten years after the Brown decision, only 2 percent of Black students in the South attended schools

Continues on Page 4

## M(y)-VOICE OP/EDs

### Global Vision

Continues from Page 2

disparities in income, education, housing, transportation, health, and safety."

According to the Hull House report researched by Loyola University, it will take 200 years for the gulf that separates black quality of life from white quality of life to close entirely.

One example cited in the report: "Whites are 125% more likely to use marijuana than blacks; 181% more likely to use cocaine; 431% more likely to use inhalants; 516% more likely to use LSD. And yet blacks account for 79% of all drug arrests."

A University of Cincinnati report shows that African Americans are stopped more often, frequently receive unequal treatment after being stopped, are stopped for longer periods of time, and are searched and arrested more often.

A Harvard University study finds that the quality of health care varies by race and at a recent seminar on the subject, one of the star panelists recommends that blacks see black doctors to escape racism in health care.

Harvard Professor Henry Louis Gates, in his series "America Beyond the Color Line," informs us that a full 40% of all black

children are living at or beneath the poverty line.

The Washington Post tells us that hundreds of children tested at least 47% higher than the national average for lead poisoning.

The most recent report comes from the National Urban League, which reports on the State of Black America, 2004. It reminds us that over "216 years ago, the authors of the US Constitution counted enslaved African Americans as 60% of a white person. According to the total of the 2004 Equality Index, the status of African Americans today is 73%" that of their white counterparts.

Over 200 years of American progress equals 73%. No wonder the National Urban League reports that 40% of blacks feel little or no improvement in economics or social mobility.

Clearly this is a situation that is not sustainable.

Thirdly, I'd like to talk about a situation that is a growing problem: sexual slavery and human trafficking. One major side effect of extreme poverty throughout the world is the growing crisis of sexual slavery and human trafficking. A recent U.S. Government estimate indicates that approximately 800,000 - 900,000 people annually are trafficked across



Cynthia McKinney - speaks about the threats to freedom posed by the USA PATRIOT Act at the Silencing Dissent in the age of the PATRIOT Act forum.

international borders worldwide and between 18,000 and 20,000 of those victims are trafficked into the United States. This estimate includes men, women, and children who are trafficked into forced labor and sexual exploitation as defined in the Trafficking Victims Protection Act of 2000. Girls as young as 13 are trafficked as mail order brides. Children are trafficked for domestic work. In Lithuania,

children as young as 11 are known to work as prostitutes. The Government of Azerbaijan wants to crack down on child traffickers who are believed to take children abroad and sell their organs for profit.

This is a human tragedy borne out of worldwide poverty. In fact, human trafficking is the ultimate form of globalization: people doing anything to generate commerce. And while

this Administration speaks about the scourge of human trafficking, it has done nothing to end the lucrative Pentagon contracts that go to DynCorp, in particular, a company whose employees are known to have engaged in sexual slavery, and are reported to still be doing so, even today.

Globalization without a moral compass is what we're experiencing today. Here's what John Kennedy had to say at his

inauguration in 1961:

"The world is very different now. For man holds in his mortal hands the power to abolish all forms of human poverty and all forms of human life.... To those new states whom we welcome to the ranks of the free, we pledge our word that one form of colonial control shall not have passed away merely to be replaced by a far more iron tyranny. We shall not always expect to find them supporting our view. But we shall always hope to find them strongly supporting their own freedom - and to remember that, in the past, those who foolishly sought power by riding the back of the tiger ended up inside."

"To those people in the huts and villages of half the globe struggling to break the bonds of mass misery, we pledge our best efforts to help them help themselves, for whatever period is required - not because the communists may be doing it, not because we seek their votes, but because it is right. If a free society cannot help the many who are poor, it cannot save the few who are rich."

Now, I'll end this as I began it. One vision of globalization has put our entire planetary ecosystem at risk. I do not share that vision. However, a different leadership can inspire us to have a very different vision. I have a global view and I care about the world and all its people. John Kennedy said it right; this Administration and those who think like it get it wrong.

# The Unfulfilled Promise

Continues from Page 3

with Whites. In Alabama, Mississippi, South Carolina, Louisiana and Georgia, there were no Black students attending White schools. In Prince Edward County, Va., the school board closed all of its schools in 1959 to avoid desegregation.

But the Supreme Court took steps to end the South's massive resistance. In *Griffin v. County School Board of Prince Edward County*, Justice Hugo Black concluded that "there has been entirely too much deliberation and not enough speed in enforcing the constitutional rights which we held in *Brown*." And in 1964, the county was ordered to reopen its schools.

In another case in Virginia, *Green v. County Board of New Kent County* (1968), the Court held that states with segregated schools had an affirmative duty to eradicate all vestiges of the formerly segregated system "root and branch."

The Supreme Court addressed other states' slow response to desegregation as well. In the 1969 Mississippi case, *Alexander v. Holmes County Board of Education*, the Court ruled that the "continued operation of segregated schools under a standard allowing 'all deliberate speed' for desegregation is no longer constitutionally permissible. The obligation of every school district is to terminate dual school systems at once and operate now and hereafter only unitary schools."

### White Flight

In the 1940s and '50s, White families began a rapid migration from the cities to the surrounding suburbs, while Black families remained concentrated in urban centers. By the late 1960s, residential patterns made the integration of urban schools virtually impossible in many communities. And in the early 1970s, civil rights advocates recognized that segregated neighborhoods inhibited school desegregation efforts.

Finally, in the 1971 North Carolina case, *Swann v. Charlotte-Mecklenburg Board of Education*, the Court approved busing as a means of achieving racial balance in schools. Three years later, in *Milliken v. Bradley*, a case involving schools in Detroit, the Supreme Court looked at desegregation in the suburbs. It ruled that suburban school districts could not be required to participate in court-ordered desegregation plans unless it could be proved that their actions contributed to "segregation" in "the jurisdiction" in which the case arose.

The Court's ruling in *Milliken* frustrated desegregation efforts in many jurisdictions because many believe it effectively insulated suburban districts from the desegregation process.

### Resegregation

During the 1970s and '80s, school districts relied heavily on busing to achieve racial balance. But studies by the Lewis Mumford Center

for Comparative Urban and Regional Research at New York's University at Albany found that progress toward school desegregation peaked in the late 1980s. By the early 1990s, the Supreme Court's approach to school desegregation changed dramatically.

In 1990, the Supreme Court set a new standard for desegregating schools. In the case, *Board of Education of Oklahoma City v. Dowell*, the Supreme Court redefined the standard for determining "unitary status," which refers to the circumstances in which schools are completely desegregated and court supervision is no longer required. The Court ruled that the standard now was whether the school board "had complied in good faith with the desegregation decree," and whether all vestiges of past discrimination had been eliminated to the "extent practicable."

Two years later, in *Freeman v. Pitts*, which involved a school district near Atlanta, the Court found that when single-race schools continue to exist because of changes in the racial composition of neighborhoods or other "external" factors, school districts would not be held responsible. It held that where "resegregation is a product not of state action but of private choices, it does not have constitutional implications. It is beyond the authority and beyond the practical ability of the federal courts to try to counteract these kinds of continuous and massive demographic shifts." The Court affirmed this ruling in the 1995 case *Missouri v. Jenkins*.

These rulings effectively

abandoned the standard that the court had set in the 1968 *Green* case, which imposed an obligation on school districts to eliminate all vestiges of segregation "root and branch." Under the Court's revised approach, school districts were required to eliminate lingering vestiges of segregation only to "the extent practicable."

And finally in 2001, a court-ordered busing plan used to integrate schools in Charlotte, N.C., ended 30 years after the Supreme Court ordered busing in the *Swann* case.

### Where Do We Go From Here?

**SCHOOL SEGREGATION TRENDS IN MAJOR SCHOOL DISTRICTS** This index measures the percent of Black students in a district who would have to move to other schools in order for the district to achieve integration. A score of 60 or above indicates a high level of segregation. Values of 40 or 50 are considered moderate levels of segregation. And scores under 40 represent fair integration.

	1968	1990	2000
TOTAL	80.5%	47.6	48.6
Memphis	94.8	71.7	67.1
Birmingham	94.1	75.8	68.6
Jackson, Miss.	93.8	76.7	67.0
Chicago	93.7	84.2	87.7
Atlanta	93.1	83.8	82.7
Los Angeles	93.0	74.2	72.9
Miami (Dade City)	92.4	68.5	72.2
Houston	91.7	66.6	74.1
Cleveland	89.4	22.7	72.9
St. Louis	89.1	62.6	51.1
Baltimore	86.8	77.4	79.9
Denver	83.8	46.3	63.1
District of Columbia	80.7	86.9	90.6
Philadelphia	79.8	80.2	76.5
Detroit	79.3	68.2	76.2
Boston	78.6	32.8	44.8
Pittsburgh	74.2	40.5	51.7
New York City	72.2	81.7	81.7
San Francisco	67.4	46.0	58.6
Seattle	65.4	34.0	55.8

SOURCE: LEWIS MUMFORD CENTER FOR COMPARATIVE URBAN AND REGIONAL RESEARCH, UNIVERSITY AT ALBANY

The Supreme Court has refused to recognize the critical link between segregated housing patterns and school desegregation efforts. In many cases, Black families did not

then, nor do they now, have the residential choices that are available to White families. Discriminatory practices limit the housing options available to African Americans and perpetuate segregated neighborhoods.

According to a report released in January by the Harvard Civil Rights Project, racial segregation persists in inner-city schools, and states with small African American populations have stopped pursuing desegregation. White students make up 60 percent of the nation's public school population, but those outside the South and Southwest, seldom

Aldon Morris, a professor of sociology at Northwestern University and author of *The Origins of the Civil Rights Movement*. This has not happened. I would argue that the most serious form of racial inequality in America today is the schools."

Indeed, Black students struggle in schools without the latest technology or the most qualified teachers. They graduate from high school and attend college at a lower rate than Whites. And Black youth continue to have the lowest test scores, are disproportionately placed in special education classes and have the highest rate of expulsion and suspension.

What happened? And will Black youth ever have equal educational opportunities?

"In hindsight, the nation would have been better served if the *Brown* decision had evinced a more realistic understanding of the deep historical roots of America's racial problems," says Carson. "[It] should have launched a two-pronged attack, not only against racial segregation, but also against inferior schools, whatever their composition."

Secretary of Education Rod Paige, the first African American to hold the position, says the nation must use this commemorative year to address the current crisis in education.

"We face an emerging de facto apartheid in our schools, a contemporary crisis that is similar, perhaps identical, to the situation in the 1950s South," says Paige. "We must address it with the same vision, commitment and courage found in *Brown v. Board of Education*. We must use history and learn from it."

John Hope Franklin,

renowned historian and Duke University professor emeritus, however, isn't too hopeful.

"There's no program, no grand dream or idea that in 2005, 2015, or 2020 that we will have no more segregation of schools," Franklin observes. "Behind that, there is no more dream of equality, of access to the facilities and resources that could be available to every child and adult in this country."

Morris of Northwestern University sees the solution not in integrating schools, but equalizing them.

"If White students can do well in quality schools that are all-White, why assume in any sort of way that Blacks cannot do well in schools that are predominately Black?" Morris asks.

Ultimately, though, Guinier says, the promise of *Brown* has gone unfulfilled because the initial strategy and the decision itself may have been flawed.

"*Brown* failed because it didn't address the fundamental problem of the way race is so deeply rooted in the narrative of our society. The decision was an example of very creative lawyering, but [also] an example of the problem of relying on litigation to address problems relating to social and economic structures, not just the law," says Guinier.

"[The decision] had important symbolic value. It was a triumph of the spirit for the Black community. But you can't eat symbolism."

—Additional reporting by F. Frank Cramer  
*Leland Ware is the Lewis L. Redding Chair for the Study of Law and Public Policy at the University of Delaware.*

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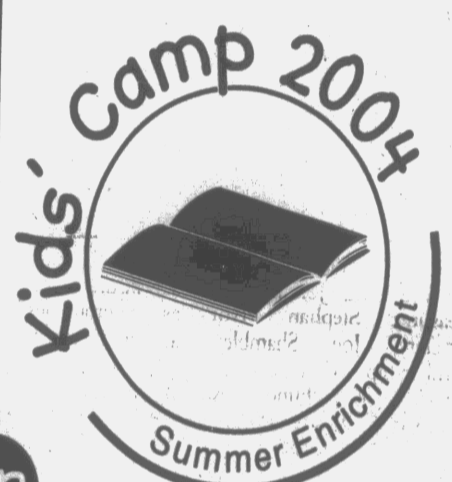
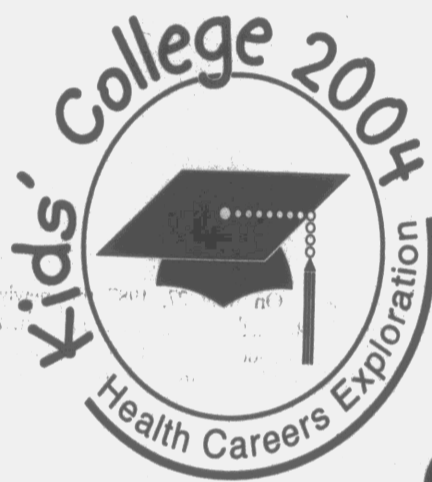
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# Community Voices

## Reflections, Expressions & Reviews



by Suzette Jones  
**Reproduction: Do fathers have rights?**  
 John Doe (an alias name) says he was excited when his

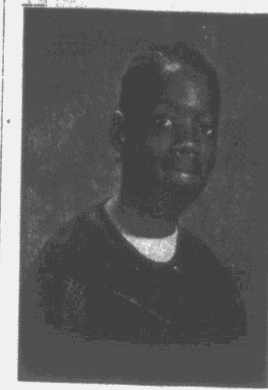
22-year-old girlfriend of 10 months told him she was nine weeks pregnant. He asked her to marry him. Instead, she broke up with him and announced she was having an abortion--whether or not he agreed. He went to court to block the abortion, arguing that the father has rights too. The case raised a difficult question now surfacing in courts and legislatures throughout the land: Should men have a say in the outcome of a pregnancy they helped create? Recently a Pennsylvania judge ruled that they do not and threw out a temporary injunction that had delayed the abortion for a week. One commentator remarked that it was the right decision; Men may help raise children, but they do not bear them. Women do. That's not a political

statement; it's a fact of life. Until men carry babies in their bodies and endure the hell childbirth they simply have no say in whether a pregnancy proceeds. "What a blatant double standard!" said one gender-issues writer. For decades, women have demanded that men share the burden of parenting. When a woman wants a child a man does not, she is free to give birth--and then insist that the man provide 18 years of child support. Women, in other words, "have rights", and men merely have responsibilities. This thinking reduces men to the role of "sperm donors" and "walking cash machines." Men at least deserve to be notified that an abortion will take place. Sorry guys, but the womb wins." From the U.S. Supreme Court

on down, judges will never order "a woman to bear a child against her will." Excluding fathers from the equation may be unjust, but no better alternative exists, except one--it's called marriage. It's true that a married woman can also get an abortion without her husband's permission, but most abortions involve unmarried people. The Center for Disease Control and Prevention, in fact, has found that four out of five women who have abortions are single mothers. The sorry debate is a direct result of "what happens when society abandons its most important institution". Next time John Doe feels the urge to become a dad, he should get married and then start a pregnancy. In that order.

### The Impossible Made Possible

Have you ever met a young child and thought he/she had a disability (problem) or have seen their parents act unseen or on drugs that you knew within yourself their children aren't going to be nothing? I was that child in someone's eye at that time. At a young age I didn't know why I was so strong minded in whatever I did if it was wrong or right. At a young age I had a speak problem and some teacher and people thought I was dumb but this special man pray for me when I was 2



years and told my parents that I was going to speak clear and that Lord is going to use me. My parents was going through a lot at that time in their life but they knew that the man that pray for me didn't know me. They use to tell me stories about how things start change in their life and around them. My father taught me to stand for what is right and be a man. My mother was a person who taught me what a real bond (relationship) is. My grandparents weren't what people thought they should be but they were there for their grandchildren. They always supported me along with my parents to do well in school. I'm a person that since pre-K to eighth grade have a very high expectation on being a lawyer and I know that it take high grade and being a good communication person. I thank everyone like my parents, grandparents, teachers, pastors, neighbor, and friend for all their support. My motto is "Practice make perfect or it will sure get you close to it." My grade average so far have been 94 and above for the pass years and I give the Lord Jesus all the praise. I'm the son of Toronto & Lillian Moye and the grandson of late Robert Little and Jean Hartley and grandson of Willie Ray & Joyce Moye. I have receive many award through the years but the academic award was the greatest for now.

man's body cannot bring defilement (refer to Mark 7:18,19). The Bible teaches the power of temperance and self-discipline rather than the fear of abstaining from things in pursuit of deliverance. Study Romans 14:17,23; I Corinthians 6:9-13, 8:8,9:25-27, and Galatians 5:23. Saints, true deliverance is trusting Christ for your salvation based ultimately and solely on faith and not on works. Study Hebrews 7:26 CODA: We give parties to enjoy ourselves, wine makes us cheerful, and money has an answer for everything." Taken from the New Jerusalem Bible with Apocrypha (Ecclesiastes 10:19) Peace, John

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### Abstinence Is Not Deliverance

**ABSTINENCE:** Voluntary forbearance especially from indulgence of an appetite or craving or from eating some foods.

**ABSTENTION:** Habitual abstaining from intoxicating beverages.

A few years ago I read a book that contained the title to this article. Although the book was illuminating and had coined the phrase, "abstinence is not deliverance", yet it failed to disclose to me what was exactly meant. Mind you, the book was not on abstaining from certain appetites or the like. Nevertheless, though, the phrase baffled me. Within two years I came to understand it, and knew that it would change my ministry forever. Now, the perspective and scope of proclaiming the gospel has broadened immensely. And I bless God for it.

Ever since I rededicated my life to the Lord in 1992, I've faced arrested development in spiritual liberty, I was stripped of my personality and converted under religious dogma. Of which, I tell you, I submitted to in order to be accepted. They told me to take the earring out of my ear, get rid of all my music: NO drinking, NO courting, NO dancing nor do anything that appears to be of the world. I, like many of you, was stripped of my desires and cloned to become an ordinary Christian. Yet, Jesus preached against this type of conversion (see Matthew 23:15.) He also says that whatever enters into a

man's body cannot bring defilement (refer to Mark 7:18,19). The Bible teaches the power of temperance and self-discipline rather than the fear of abstaining from things in pursuit of deliverance. Study Romans 14:17,23; I Corinthians 6:9-13, 8:8,9:25-27, and Galatians 5:23. Saints, true deliverance is trusting Christ for your salvation based ultimately and solely on faith and not on works. Study Hebrews 7:26 CODA: We give parties to enjoy ourselves, wine makes us cheerful, and money has an answer for everything." Taken from the New Jerusalem Bible with Apocrypha (Ecclesiastes 10:19) Peace, John

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There are Detroit Schools named after these African Americans: Brenda M. Scott, Carl T. Rowan, Maya Angelou, Damon J. Keith, Martin Luther King, Rosa Parks, Mary McLeod Bethune, Malcolm X, Marcus Garvey, Ralph Bunche, Mae Jemison, Langston Hughes, Thurgood Marshall, Paul Robeson, Frederick Douglass, George Washington Carver, Erma Henderson and Alonzo Bates?

### Tips For Your Next Amusing Trip

(NAPSA) -When you're visiting an amusement park, attraction or waterpark a bit of planning can go a long way. Here are some useful tips to consider before your next trip. You should also call the facility or visit the Web site for specific information prior to your visit.

**Amusement Parks & Attractions**

- Dress comfortably, but avoid open-toed shoes and dangling clothing or jewelry. Protect yourself with sunscreen and a hat, even on cloudy days.
- Observe all posted rules and follow the verbal instructions given by ride operators.
- Obey listed age, height, weight and health restrictions.
- Keep hands, arms, legs and feet inside the ride at all times and remain in the ride until it comes to a complete stop and you are instructed to exit the ride.
- Always use the safety equipment provided and DO NOT attempt to wriggle free of these restraints.
- Parents with young children need to make sure the ride can be enjoyed safely and children understand safe and appropriate ride behavior.

**Waterparks**

- Dress appropriately, including water shoes, a hat and loose shirt for when you've had enough sun. Monitor how much sun children, especially toddlers, are exposed to
- Apply waterproof sunscreen before leaving home (reapply throughout the day) and drink plenty of fluids (avoiding those heavily sweetened or with caffeine)
- Make sure non-swimmers and weak swimmers have a life vest. Bring your own if you are unsure of availability and fit.
- Children in diapers should be dressed in swim diapers to minimize leakage. Change diapers only in designated changing areas.
- Read the sign at every waterpark ride and obey its rules and experience-level guidelines.
- Follow the lifeguards' instructions and signal them if you see someone in trouble.

These tips come from the International Association of Amusement Parks & Attractions, the largest international trade association for permanently-situated amusement facilities worldwide. To learn more, visit [www.iaapa.org](http://www.iaapa.org).

# The Little Willie Center

The Little Willie Center The Little Willie Center was organized in 1990. It is a grass root effort and concern that addresses the needs of latchkey children, whose parents work, seek employment, or attend school, therefore, as a result must leave their children "Home Alone." The center meets the needs of the children by providing after school tutoring and mentoring services, Monday through Friday from 2:30pm - 6:30pm during the school year and a summer camp from 10:00am - 2:00pm with offsite recreational activities. Our children range in ages from 3 to 17 years old. The center has operated for the past 14 years. It has stood through adversity, difficult times, and times of need and continues to stand in the gap for our children. The center is located at 807 Martin Luther King Jr. Drive in the heart of West Greenville. Regardless of the reputation of West Greenville, the center provides a safe alternative to being "Home Alone." Knowing this, the parents have a "peace of mind" and the children are loved and encouraged to work for excellence in school. Our volunteers are ordinary people with God giving gifts, from college students, retired educators, medical students, sorority and fraternity members, ministers, manufacturing workers, administrators, housewives, and community leaders. Our staff has donated their time for the past 13 years and these are professionals who hold degrees in Human Services, Business Administration, Education and Mental Health. The center provides services for free to children who are enrolled. We realize that some of our parents are low income and cannot afford childcare services. Therefore, they

make choices of leaving their children home alone instead. The founder came up with a way the parents could give something back to the community to enhance their parenting skills, as well as compensate the Center for helping them. That is, every parent must volunteer two hours every week in the center, attend Basic Adult Education classes (taught at center by instructor from Pitt Community College) and attend monthly Parents Meetings (PIT Program). Other services we offer are tutoring/mentoring, transportation, nutritious meals, survival skill classes, PSR Big Buddy Program (ECU Medical School), Girl Scouts of America, Boy Scouts of America, 4-H Club, LWC Ensemble (Vocal Group), Praise Ministry I & II Dancers, and Bible Study. The center has received several awards such as: Presidential Volunteer Award presented by President Clinton at the White House, Governor's Helping Hands Awards (one of the eight exemplary volunteer programs in the State of North Carolina) presented by Governor Hunt. Yet after all of that, the center would not exist without the hand of God resting upon it and the unselfish generosity of His people, some who remain anonymous to this day. The center salutes Roger Johnson, N5 Step Shoes for raising funds for our summer camp 2000. For more information or brochures, please call (252) 752-9083. Please send all tax deductible donations to: 807 MLK Jr. Drive, Greenville, NC 27858



# Their Mission: To Empower Our Youth and Rebuild Our Communities

May 15 - 31, 2004 The Minority Voice Page 9

The Little Willie Center is empowering our youth and rebuilding our communities for tomorrow. Our children are our futures. We need to give our time and monies to programs like The Little Willie Center in preparing our children for the tough challenges for tomorrow.

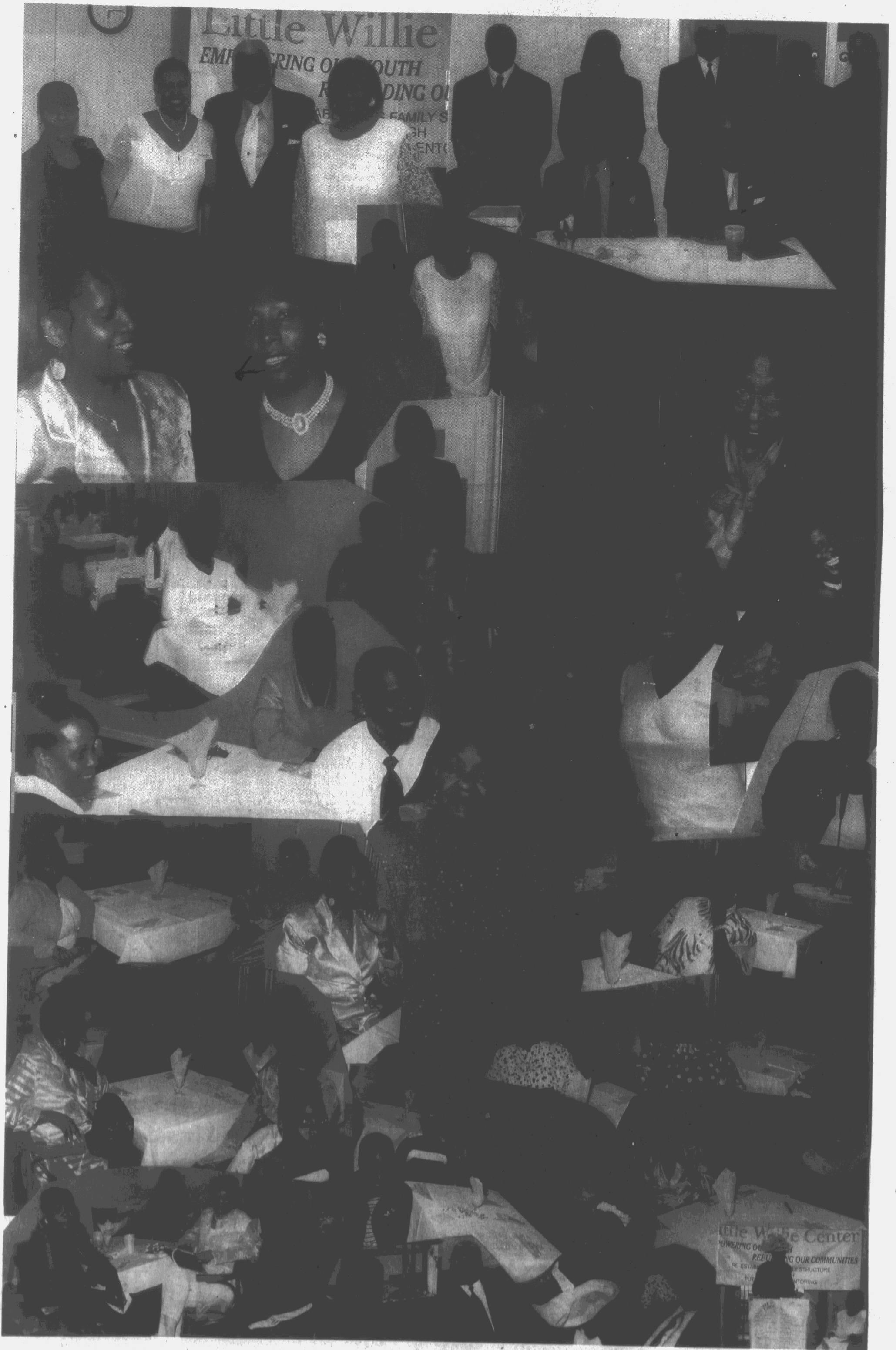
The goals of parents are to nurture and prepare our children for the new technology in our forever changing world.

The Little Willie Center has been in existence for over a decade and continues to keep "latch-key" children off the streets. The center is a haven for some children because one or both of their parents have to work. While at the center they receive help with homework. The center embraces strong work and study ethics. A reading program has been in place since the very

beginning. If a child can not read well, they will fail other subjects in school. The children are cared for and learn to treat each other with respect.

We are sure that not only does The Little Willie Center keep children off the street but it also in the long run; it may keep them out of jail. Hopefully with the support of caring parents, relatives and friends the center will remain in place for many more years to come.

We salute Mrs. Arrington and the entire Little Willie Center staff, board members and volunteers for a job well done. Also a heartfelt Thank You from the kids!



# Community Voices

## Local Student Athlete Competing Internationally this Summer



CARY, NC - Herman Leon Best, a Basketball Athlete from

Kinston will be joining a national team of Sports Tours USA athletes competing in Australia during July of 2004. Leon has been accepted to represent the United States during the summer of 2004.

Sports Tours USA is the nation's leading provider of international athletic experiences to athletes and their parents. Founded in 1984 by a group of coaches dedicated to helping our nation's youth exceed their potential in sports and in life. Sports Tours USA offers eleven different sports to ten different destinations.

Selected athletes must pass two separate screening criteria before being considered for the

team roster. Leon will dedicate the months prior to travel conditioning for the competition and providing services and volunteering locally in Kinston to help earn the program cost for this once in a lifetime experience. Leon will be competing while learning about the local culture and meeting individuals from around the world. Herman will also visit historical sights and local attractions providing a well rounded experience in Australia. The Sports Tours USA mission has always been to give American Athletes the opportunity to enrich their lives, attain a sense of global citizenship and enhance their character development.

## Beatrice Maye

Continued from Page 6

speaking positively) are a joy to be around. Decide to join that group so people won't have to cross the street when they see you coming.

Dr. Laura Schlessinger, Radio-talk-show host/psychotherapist said in her book **THE PROPER CARE & FEEDING OF HUSBANDS** - "I've got to tell you how remarkably true and sad it is that so many women struggle to hold on to some jerk, keep giving an abusive or philandering man yet another

chance, have unprotected sex with some guy while barely knowing his last name, agree to shack up and risk making babies with some opportunist or loser, all in a pathetic version of a pursuit for love, but will resent the h... out of treating a decent, hardworking, caring husband with the thoughtfulness, attention, respect, and affection he needs to be content. It boggles my mind".

Advice to Women  
"If you can't accentuate the positive, at least acknowledge it. The world is full of messages to men that there are standards we don't meet.

There is always another man who is more handsome, more virile, or more athletic than we are. None of that matters if the most important person in our life looks up to us, accepts us as we are, and loves us even though we aren't perfect.

Maybe there is a part of the small boy that never leaves the grown man. I don't know all I know is that the husband who has a wife who supports him and praises him for the positive things he does is the envy of all the other men who have to live with criticism, sarcasm, and constant reminders of their failures.

## Keeping It In The Family

Continued from Page 6

Player of the Year, Prom Queen, Debutante in the Cotillion, 12-Sport Athlete, Academic All-State, All-State Super State Third Team, All Metro Academic in Track and Field, Chieftain of the Week, Gatorade Player of the Year, Nebraska All Stars, OMAHA WORLD HERALD Player to Watch in Volleyball and Spotlight in Basketball, VARSITY VIEW Student-Athlete, All Metro Honorable Mention in Volleyball and Basketball, All Metro Holiday

## Basketball

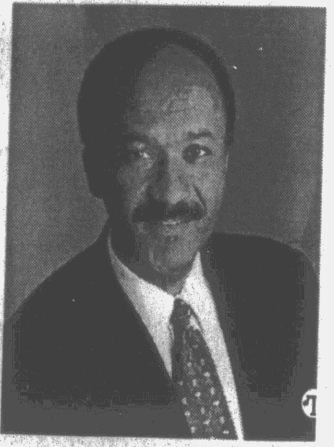
Tournament Team, Class A Second Rebounder in the State, Class A All-State Second Team, All Nebraska Honorable Mention in Basketball, All Metro Third Team, Girls Super State Third Team, All Star Red Team, Metro Conference Champions, Class A State Runnerup, and District A-5 Champions. She was also the Captain of the Varsity Basketball and Volleyball teams, and was on the Principal's Advisory Council. She is President of her Senior High Sunday Class and was a member of the Fellowship of Christian Athletes, Spanish Club and Wind Ensemble. She is a member of

the National Honor Society and the National Honor Roll. She has received a U.S. Achievement Academy Award and the University of Nebraska, Lincoln Honored Student Award. She is listed in WHO'S WHO AMONG AMERICAN HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS and WHO'S WHO IN SPORTS. Janielle is a Children's Church volunteer, a member of the Parent Teacher Student Association (PTSA), and participates with Bellevue Ice, Bellevue Juniors and City of Bellevue Recreation Department. She enjoys playing the clarinet and reading.

## HINTS FOR HOMEBUYERS

(NAPSA)-Homeownership is the dream of many Americans-and manufactured housing plays an important role in homeownership for many low and moderate-income borrowers, especially in high-cost and rural areas. That is why Fannie Mae, the nation's largest source of financing for home mortgages, is committed to providing funding for this crucial segment of the housing market. Supporting the manufactured housing market is a key element of Fannie Mae's "Expanding the American Dream Commitment" to help as many as six million families-including 1.8 million minority families-become first-time homeowners over the next decade. As part of this initiative, Fannie Mae has pledged to tackle America's toughest housing problems and expand the supply of affordable housing where it is needed most. For example, the manufactured housing industry has undergone many changes in recent years and those changes have resulted in higher borrower delinquencies and foreclosures and fewer financing options available for both new and existing homes. To help rectify these problems, Fannie Mae has joined with nine of its lender partners to work

toward transforming the manufactured housing market, including providing purchasers of manufactured homes nationwide access to affordable 30-year mortgage financing with down payments as low as five percent. The lenders include: AgFirst Farm Credit Bank; Flagstar Bank; GMAC Manufactured Housing; Huntington Mortgage Group; Origen Financial; RBC Mortgage; 21st Mortgage; Vanderbilt Mortgage; and Washington Mutual. Fannie Mae will work with these experienced lenders to disseminate best practices, which will help ensure that consumers stay in their homes and reduce the cost of owning a manufactured home. Additionally, the company has pledged to work with its lender partners over the next year to develop a pilot effort to save consumers at least 10 percent of the cost of buying and financing a manufactured home. Fannie Mae has invested in manufactured housing mortgages for over 20 years and we're committed to working with our housing partners to ensure access to low-cost homeownership for a large part of the population, especially



seniors and people living in rural communities who rely on manufactured housing as an affordable option," said Franklin D. Raines, Chairman and CEO of Fannie Mae. "We want to strengthen the market for manufactured housing financing, and eliminate predatory and anti-consumer features that have contributed to instability in the marketplace over time." To obtain contact information for the lenders who are offering the five percent down payment options for manufactured housing mortgages, contact Fannie Mae's Consumer Resource Center at 1-800-7-FANNIE or log onto www.fanniemae.com. Franklin D. Raines, Chairman and CEO of Fannie Mae.

\*\*\*  
Obstacles cannot crush me. Every obstacle yields to stern resolve. He who is fixed to a star does not change his mind.

—Leonardo da Vinci

## Princeville to hold Third Annual Festival of Flood Recovery

PRINCEVILLE - Princeville, the oldest black town chartered by Blacks in America will be going for their 3rd Annual Festival, which will be held at the Riverside Heritage Park on July 17, 2004. The park is located at 417 East Mutual Boulevard. The festivities will begin at 12:00 noon and last until 5:00 p.m. The Board of Commissioners and citizens have committed themselves to ensure a highly successful Festival. The Festival marks the celebration of their "recovery efforts" since the flood of Hurricane Floyd of 1999 and seems to be growing into quite a celebration. It does mark a time when the citizens opted to rebuild their town rather than sell out to the governments. It became a convergence of the

spirit The day will be filled with games, food, vendors, talent skits, music, and much more for the entire family. To give you some brief history, Princeville is the "oldest town chartered by Blacks in America." It was settled in 1865 and incorporated on February 20, 1885. Princeville was originally called Freedom Hill after the freedmen first occupied the low swampy land across the Tar River south of Tarboro, North Carolina. The constant flooding caused by the Tar River created a sanitation problem of stagnated water and swarming mosquitoes. In 1965, the State of North Carolina and the Army Corp of Engineers constructed a dike around the town which stopped the

constant flooding. But on September 16, 1999, Princeville after decades of calm was once again devastated by the heavy rains caused by Hurricane Floyd. The river once again flooded the town after the dikes were breached by a heavy flooding river in which Princeville was virtually erased from the map. The town as the was completely covered with water for ten days. Since then they have restored and rebuilt much of the town with much of the citizenry returning to Princeville to take up residence. Princeville welcomes you to participate in our Festival this year and if you have any questions, you can call Samuel Knight at (252) 823-1057

## 4-H Accepting Applications for Summer Camp

GREENVILLE - 4-H Accepting Applications for Summer Camp. The Pitt County 4-H Office is still accepting applications for boys ages 8 through 12 for 4-H summer camp. These youth will be camping at the Betsy Jeff Penn 4-H Center near Reidsville, N.C. June 20-25, 2004. The Penn 4-H Center allows campers to grow by challenging themselves and offers a variety of classes and activities. These include swimming, canoeing, horsemanship, ropes, archery, hiking, and crafts. The camp program is designed to teach skills and enhance learning but also develops sportsmanship, self assurance, and promotes group cooperation. All 4-H camps in North Carolina are accredited by the American Camping Association and staffed with trained and certified camp staff and professionals. The total cost for this week of residential summer camp is \$300, which includes transportation, registration, class instruction, food while at camp, craft and other class supplies, cabin accommodations, camp souvenir, and insurance. Expenses for a pre-camp physical and camp store expenditures are not included. The 4-H Biotechnology Camp for rising seventh through ninth

graders at Chowan College July 13-15 also has vacancies. This camp cost \$75. for the three day, two night program. At this camp, participants use clues and hands-on experiments to solve a "murder" mystery. Participants

learn about curing disease, feeding the world, and developing careers in the new millennium. All camp spaces are filled on a first-come basis. For more information or for a brochure call the Pitt County 4-H Office at

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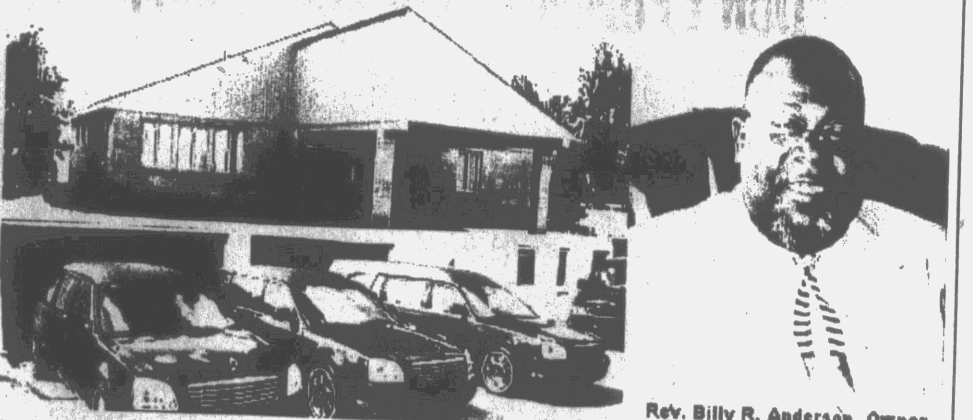
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**Eppes Alumni Continue from Page 1**

July 4th in 1979. At the first Reunion Breakfast, Mrs. Olga Battle Myers, Mrs. Mildred Thompson, Mrs. Edna B. Graves and Mrs. Erma Staplefoote Carr, former teachers, were among the the reunions first speakers. Being complimented on their achievement in setting up the Alumni Association so that they could scholarships to a deserving seniors at Rose High School to honor of the three principals of Greenville Industrial / Epps High School: C.M. Eppes, W.H. Davenport and A.E. Murrell. This year brings the association

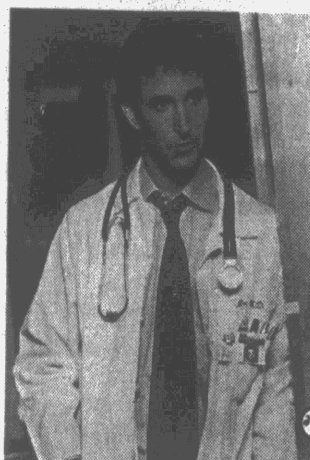
new and continued opportunities to strengthen the organization's goals in the areas of scholarship program enhancement, scholarship fund raising, grantmanship, preservation of the cultural center and greater community visibility and collaborative support. Some of the new undertakings included participation in the Greenville Belk Department Charity Day at the Colonial Mall to gain more funds and visibility, requests from community groups to tour the Cultural Center by schools, family reunions and East Carolina University faculty. The Eppes-Davenport-Murrell

Scholarship which are given annually have a net value of \$5,000.00 and is distributed in two intervals during the student's four years of college. The Madge Barnes Alien Art Scholarship of \$1,000.00 is awarded to a student majoring in the arts. In order to keep this as a perpetual scholarship program, the Alumni Association continues to campaign for adequate funds must be raised in excess of the annual outlay of \$6,000.00 per year and are positioning themselves to take aggressive steps in assuring that the needed funds are on hand to educate outstanding young scholars. William T. Atkinson who will be

taking over the presidential reigns from the current President Jimmye L. Jones, acknowledged that those who make up the group of older graduates who kept the ball rolling are now getting older. Atkinson said it was time for C.M. Eppes graduates who graduated in the 'sixties' to combine their resources and carry the torch. He said that during his term as president he would work diligently with all chapters to help them reorganize and come full circle. He is also calling for the formation of new chapters to be formed in other cities. This years event will be held at the City Hotel & Bistro on Memorial Day Reunion Weekend.

**My New Role: Speaking Up For America's Uninsured**

My New Role: Speaking Up for America's Uninsured by Noah Wyle (NAPSA)-Throughout my 10 years of work on ER, I have become increasingly aware of the plight of people who arrive in emergency rooms around our



country without health insurance of any kind. These people end up in ERs sicker than they need to be, because they have been forced to delay care for more simple problems that then become true emergencies. I only wish that these stories were completely made up by ER's writers. Sadly, the stories on the show are similar to many of the 44 million uninsured Americans throughout the United States. These are people we all know. They're teachers, farmers and small business owners. Millions of them are kids. Being uninsured means they go without medical care when it is needed. It means minor illnesses become major ones because care is delayed. In fact, the Institute of Medicine says that close to 18,000 adults in America die each year because they are uninsured. Do I need to say anymore? This

situation is a real life tragedy. That's why I'm proud to be the national spokesperson for the Cover the Uninsured campaign. Co-chaired by former Presidents Gerald Ford and Jimmy Carter, the campaign lets Americans know that they can make a difference in getting affordable health care coverage for all Americans. Organized by The Robert Wood Johnson Foundation, and involving a diverse group of hundreds of national and local organizations, the campaign was created to focus the nation's attention on the plight of the nearly 44 million Americans who do not have health care coverage. In communities in all 50 states and the District of Columbia, you can join with people who are just like you-doctors, nurses, business owners, religious leaders, educators, union members, employees and others who are expressing their concern about the sharply growing number of uninsured Americans. Cover the Uninsured is for everyone, not just those who currently have no health care coverage. With so many Americans at risk of becoming uninsured, we all must play our part and get involved in this exciting campaign. Here are a few examples of how you can join me in this effort by logging on to [www.CoverTheUninsured.org](http://www.CoverTheUninsured.org). Get Informed-On our Web site, you'll find Health Care Coverage in America: Understanding the

Issues and Proposed Solutions, an easy-to-use guide that provides basic information about the issue of the uninsured and explains approaches to solving the problem. The guide provides sample questions to ask when weighing the pros and cons of proposals to solve this problem. Get Involved-Get connected with organizations that need your help to care for the country's uninsured. Consider volunteering at a local campaign event, health clinic, public hospital or advocacy organization. Or join the national effort to enroll eligible, uninsured children and adults in available public health programs such as the State Children's Health Insurance Program or Medicaid by contacting Covering Kids and Families. More information is available at [www.CoverTheUninsured.org/individuals](http://www.CoverTheUninsured.org/individuals). Speak Up-Get pointers on how to write an op-ed, how to contact your elected representatives and how to hold a health fair on [www.CoverTheUninsured.org](http://www.CoverTheUninsured.org). You can also speak out on the issue by calling into a local radio talk show or by writing a letter to the editor of your local newspaper. I'll be playing my part in this effort by speaking at national and local events, making public service announcements and participating in other campaign activities. I hope I can count on you to play your part. When millions of Americans cannot afford health coverage, we cannot afford to remain silent.

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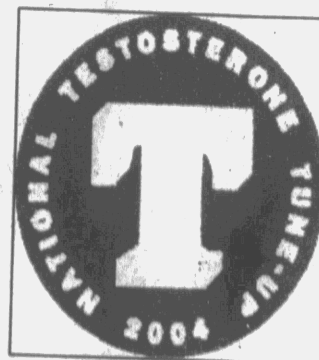
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**May is National High Blood Pressure Month**

**Understanding Your Body Men Take Better Care Of Their Cars Than Themselves**

(NAPSA)-Most men consider their car and its maintenance a priority and rarely fall short on the upkeep. Unfortunately, the same doesn't always apply to maintaining their health. In fact, nearly 84 percent of men say they've had their car serviced in the past year, but only 66 percent have had an annual checkup with a doctor in the same period, according to a recent survey by the Men's



Health Network (MHN), a Washington, DC-based nonprofit organization. "Men hear an engine ping and they bring their car to a mechanic, but they don't listen when their body tells them it may be time to see a doctor," said Jean Bonhomme, MD, MPH of Emory University and a member of the MHN Board of Directors. "Regular checkups and age-appropriate screenings can help improve men's overall health and longevity." To jumpstart men's health maintenance, MHN is launching the first annual National Testosterone Tune-Up in thousands of doctors' offices nationwide. As part of the Tune-Up, physicians will speak with men about low sex drive, erectile dysfunction, fatigue, depression, reduced muscle mass and strength, increased body fat and decreased bone mineral density-all possible signs of low testosterone (low T). A simple blood test is needed to diagnose the condition. "Low testosterone is an often overlooked medical condition with potential long-term health consequences if left untreated," said Dr.

Bonhomme. "We recommend men have their testosterone levels screened after age 40, as this hormone tapers with age." It is estimated low T affects up to five million American men. Problems in the testes, the pituitary gland or in a part of the brain called the hypothalamus may cause low T. As men get older, the ability to produce testosterone gradually declines.

In fact, after age 30, testosterone levels drop by about 10 percent every decade. Treatment is for men of any age with below normal levels of testosterone accompanied by various symptoms, used under a doctor's care. There are several FDA-approved therapies available, including gels, patches and injections. "As with all medications, it's important for doctors and patients to talk about the benefits and risks of treatment prior to initiating therapy," said Dr. Bonhomme. "Multiple studies have shown proper treatment can provide significant health benefits for men with testosterone deficiency." The doctor-patient discussion about low T also may point to other illnesses or lifestyle issues. Men may even learn their low testosterone levels are related to other conditions, such as obesity or diabetes. The National Testosterone Tune-Up kicks off June 14 during National Men's Health Week and runs through the end of July 2004. Visit [www.tuneupyourT.com](http://www.tuneupyourT.com) to locate a doctor participating in the program. Additional information about low T also is available on the site.

# Police union rejects Bush, backs Kerry

WASHINGTON - Presumptive Democratic nominee John Kerry [related, bio] on Friday collected the endorsement of the International Brotherhood of Police Officers, a police union that backed President Bush [related, bio] in the 2000 election.

"After three and a half years of disappointing leadership under George Bush, we need to change course in November and elect a president with a real record of supporting police officers and a lifetime of standing with law enforcement," IBPO President David Holway said in a statement provided by the Kerry campaign.

The union endorsed Bill Clinton in 1992 and 1996. Kerry scheduled a round-table discussion with members of the group on Friday to talk about law enforcement issues.

In a statement provided by the Bush campaign, a former New York City police commissioner said Bush has provided unprecedented support for first responders, including \$13 billion to state and local governments to prepare for terrorism.

"The president has given law enforcement the tools to do their job in the Patriot Act, while John Kerry attacks the law on the campaign trail," former commissioner Bernard Kerik said. Earlier Friday, Kerry laid

two wreaths at the National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial, which honors 16,666 officers killed in the line of duty. One of the wreaths was for the national memorial but the other, in a Massachusetts section, honored a Middlesex County officer killed on this date in 1961. Kerry, a former Middlesex County prosecutor, chatted with officers and family members during the 15-minute visit.

In an unexpected visit Thursday night to the Capitol, Kerry viewed photographs depicting abuse of Iraqi prisoners in U.S. custody. He made a last-minute decision to travel to the Senate and then spent 45 minutes viewing the photographs in a secure location, spokesman David Wade said.

Lawmakers who saw the photographs earlier in the day reacted with revulsion. Wade said Kerry had no comment.

Kerry said in a television interview Thursday he welcomed Defense Secretary Donald H. Rumsfeld's trip to Baghdad but had not changed his view that Rumsfeld should resign.

"I'm glad the secretary of defense went there. The troop morale needs, I think, that kind of visit," Kerry said on Fox News Channel's "Hannity & Colmes." "I don't think it

changes the dynamics of what America still needs to do to get to the bottom of this."

The Massachusetts senator has warned that the reports of abuse in the Iraqi prison threaten to undermine the

effort to combat terrorism in the Middle East by infuriating Arabs suspicious about U.S. intentions in the region.

Republicans have accused Kerry of politicizing the war on terrorism. Viewing the

photos was an effort to gather all the facts before weighing in on the issue any further, Wade said.

Kerry planned to fly to his home in Boston for a day off on Saturday. He resumes his

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## Black newspaper readership study announced

dramatic profile of a consumer group that most marketers have traditionally overlooked or ignored was released today by Amalgamated Publishers, Inc. The API Black Newspaper Readership Study clearly and unequivocally substantiates that readers of Black newspapers are prime consumers who demand the best and spend freely to get what they want.

Designed and executed by CNW Marketing Research, Inc., this study is the largest and most comprehensive examination ever undertaken of readers of Black newspapers.

Lengthy interviews were completed with 121,692 randomly selected, pre-qualified respondents

across the country. The study encompassed not only the collection of the detailed demographic and psychographic data but also an in-depth examination of the effect that Black newspapers have on their readers' product perceptions and purchase patterns.

A key element of the study was to chart the Purchase Path of the Black newspaper reader and compare it to the Purchase Paths of Hispanic consumers, Caucasian consumers and total consumers.

The Purchase Path is an exclusive, groundbreaking research technique developed by CNW Marketing Research, Inc., seven years ago for Time Warner,

Inc. This technique tracks the influence that various forms of media have on a consumer from the time a decision to purchase is made to the time of its actual purchase.

"The results of this study will now document beyond question the value of the Black consumer and the best vehicle to reach them that we have been trying to tell advertisers for so long," said Dorothy Leavell, Chair of API.

Readers of Black newspapers represent 73 percent of the total \$645 billion African American consumer buying power, yet 87.6 percent of regular Black newspaper readers do not regularly read general market daily newspapers. This means that an

advertiser who thinks he is reaching this consumer through the daily paper is wrong.

"When you look at these findings," he continued "you see a market with average income of \$64,615; average net worth of \$391,290; average age, 42 years old; 85.2% home ownership; 83% having at least some college; 69% being a manager, professional or owning a business; and spending 71.7% of disposable income on enhancements, and embellishments (i.e., non-essentials).

"We now have the most comprehensive database on readers of Black newspapers in existence anywhere," added Spinella.

## Financing Oppression

(CONTINUES FROM THE FRONT PAGE)

Black leaders and Black folks in general should stop financing the oppression of their own people. But since it seems they are not ready to stop this kind of madness, I think we should implement the same tactics against them that have been brought against the insurance firms and the banks. They financed the oppression of Black people, and now Black organizations are financing the oppression of Black people. Why should we have a double-standard? Don't you think that because everything is about money, especially for many of our so-called Black leaders, we should seek reparations from our own organizations as well?

Crazy, you say? I don't think so. How can we ask for recompense from White-owned companies and not seek it from Black organizations that continue to finance our oppression by committing Black dollars to cities where Black people are oppressed? Turnabout is fair play, and in the case of hundreds of millions of Black towns dollars being looked upon with "wild-eyed glee" by White-dominated convention centers that get much of their funding from Black tax dollars, our acquiescence to calls from our organizations (and local Black politicians) to go against boycotts is unconscionable.

Despite the horrendous treatment of our people, both economically and otherwise, all over this country, we continue to mimic the overseers and the crumb snatchers of the past, selling out for a few dollars, hotel suites, and banquets. Yes, we must seek reparations from anyone and any company that benefited from the misery of Black folks. We must support Brother Worrill in any way we can, and we must never give up. During a retrospective on Harold Washington's mayoral tenure earlier this year in Chicago, I heard Worrill say, "Yes, our initial lawsuit was denied, but that's just the beginning."

He went on to ask, "Do you know how long it took for Black people to gain the victories of the past? Do you know how many lawsuits had to be filed to remedy other wrongs against us? This is just the start and we will continue to fight no matter how long it takes." The same attitude must be applied to these sell-out Black

organizations that do nothing but help hold us down. Their leaders are interested in two things: Money in their pockets and not offending those who give it to them. They will continue to finance our oppression, just like the financiers during slavery, if we don't hold them accountable for the dollars we give them. Reparations for oppression? Let's also demand that from Black groups that are obviously guilty of complicity.

James E. Clingman, an adjunct professor at the University of Cincinnati's African American Studies department, is former


editor of the Cincinnati Herald Newspaper and founder of the Greater Cincinnati African American Chamber of Commerce. He hosts the radio program, "Blackonomics," and has written several books, including: Economic Empowerment or Economic Enslavement - We have a Choice; Blackonomics; and his soon-to-be-released book, Black-o-Knowledge. Stuff we need to know. Contact him at www.blackonomics.com or 513/489-4132.

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**Power and Vain Glory Continue from Page 5**

regime. At a global level, the principal beneficiary is al-Qa'ida, which is now a more serious threat than it has ever been.

The Bush administration's self-defeating approach to terrorism is symptomatic of a dangerous unreality running right through its thinking. For Paul Wolfowitz, the Deputy Defense Secretary, and other neo-conservatives, the solution to terrorism was to "modernize" the Middle East. For them, that meant overthrowing many, if not most, of the area's regimes and replacing them with secular liberal democracies. They appear not to have noticed that the region's secular regimes were authoritarian states such as Syria and Iraq. In the Middle East today, as in Algeria in the past, democracy means Islamist rule.

In part, the attack on Iraq was simply another exercise in the type of neo-Wilsonian fantasy that is a recurring feature of US foreign policy, but it was also an exercise in realpolitik - and a resource war. A key part of the rationale for the invasion was to enable the US to withdraw from Saudi Arabia, which had come to be seen as complicit with terror and inherently unstable.

If it was to pull out from Saudi Arabia, the US needed another source of oil. Only Iraq has it in sufficient quantities - hence the drive for regime change. In this Dr Strangelove-like vision, once Saddam had been removed and Iraq remodelled as a Western-style democracy, the oil would start flowing. The war would be self-financing, and the world economy would move smoothly into the sunlit uplands.

Things have not turned out quite like that. Oil prices have risen, not fallen, and they could easily rise further. Partly this is a result of the increasingly desperate security situation in Iraq. The Americans did more than overthrow Saddam's despotic regime; they also destroyed the Iraqi state, with the result that the country is now in a condition of semi-anarchy.

Given the ill-judged attack by US forces on the Shia holy city of Najaf and the likelihood that the beheading of Nicholas Berg by Islamist militants will be followed by more such atrocities, the level of violence in the country will almost certainly escalate. In that case, Iraq will be the scene of a

mass exodus. International organisations and Western oil companies will leave and any prospect of rebuilding the country will be lost. Where will that leave Iraq - and its oil?

The exodus will not be confined to Iraq. Western companies are already leaving Saudi Arabia, the producer of last resort in the global oil market. Emboldened by the worsening situation in Iraq, forces linked to al-Qa'ida have intensified their attacks on Saudi targets. Economists may say that the world need not fear another oil shock, but they have forgotten the geo-political realities. Saudi oil is still hugely important, and any sign of increased instability in the country is immediately reflected in the oil price. The impact of a major upheaval in the kingdom would be incalculable.

The US cannot afford an ongoing war in Iraq, but the price of a quick exit will be high. Even so, it looks clear that that is exactly what is about to happen. After the torture revelations, "staying the course" is no longer feasible. This is not because the American public has reacted with massive revulsion to evidence of the systematic abuse of Iraqis - as has been the case in Britain and other European countries. Rather, Iraq and its people are now viewed with a mix of bafflement and hatred, and a mood of despair about the war has set in. Most Americans want out - and soon. Locked in

internal dispute, the Democrats have not so far been able to grasp the nettle. The pressure on President Bush to announce that America has completed its mission with the handover of sovereignty may well prove overwhelming.

If he decides to cut and run, Bush may yet survive the débâcle in Iraq. No such prospect beckons for Tony Blair. It was his brand of messianic liberalism that dragged Britain into the war. For the Prime Minister, going to war in Iraq offered an intoxicating feeling of rectitude combined with the reassuring sense of being on the side of the big battalions. But American invincibility was a neo-conservative myth, and the

notion that Blair can survive the hideous fiasco that is unfolding in Iraq is as delusional as the thinking that led to the war in the first place. It cannot be long before he is irresistibly prompted to seek new avenues for his messianic ambitions.

In the US, American withdrawal will be represented as a reward for a job well done. The rest of the world will recognise it as a humiliating defeat, and it is here that the analogy of Vietnam is inadequate. The Iraq war has been lost far more quickly than that in South-east Asia, and the impact on the world is potentially much greater. Whereas Vietnam had little economic significance, Iraq is pivotal in the world economy. No dominoes fell with

the fall of Saigon, but some pretty weighty ones could be shaken as the American tanks rumble out of Baghdad.

The full implications of such a blow to American power cannot be foreseen. One consequence is clear enough, however. The world has seen the last of liberal imperialism. It died on the killing fields of Iraq. It is no consolation to the people of that country, but at least their sufferings have demonstrated the cruel folly of waging war in order to fight a liberal crusade.

John Gray is Professor of European Thought at the LSE. His book 'Al Qaeda and What it Means to be Modern' is published in paperback by Faber & Faber (£7.99)

**Dial Up A New Use For Your Old Cell Phone**

(NAPSA)-Old cell phones can't have to just fade away. They can be put to good uses. For example, one well-known wireless company encourages consumers to bring unwanted cell phones, batteries, and accessories to any of its stores. Equipment is reused or recycled whenever possible and, barring that, disposed of in an environmentally friendly way.

AT&T Wireless donates phones that can be refurbished to groups that respond to emergency situations, such as the American Red Cross. Proceeds from recycled phones are donated to Keep America Beautiful, a nationally known non-profit environmental organization. "It doesn't matter which wireless carrier you use or which company manufactured the equipment-we're happy to accept it," said Wally Hyer, vice president of AT&T Wireless. "We can even arrange to pick up unwanted cell phone equipment from businesses." According to Gail Cunningham, vice president of Keep America Beautiful, the proceeds help fund activities, including the Great American Cleanup. This is an annual event in which volunteers nationwide engage in community improvement activities. "We hope this gives the public one more reason to recycle old cell phones," Cunningham added. AT&T Wireless is also the first wireless carrier to participate in the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's Plug-In To e-Cycling campaign, an effort to increase the national recycling rate.

AT&T Wireless deserves a lot of credit for its leadership in furthering mobile phone reuse and recycling," noted Marianne Horinko, assistant administrator of EPA's Office of Solid Waste & Emergency Response. "But ultimately it's up to cell phone users to take advantage of programs like this, which make recycling easy." To learn more about how to give your cell phone a new lease on life as part of AT&T Wireless' tax deductible recycling program, visit [www.attwireless.com](http://www.attwireless.com). Proceeds from recycled wireless phones are donated to Keep America Beautiful, a national non-profit organization. Refurbished wireless phones are donated to groups that respond to emergency situations, such as the Red Cross.

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# The world has become a darker place in last 50 years

NEW YORK - In the second half of the 20th century, the world became, quite literally, a darker place. Though the Sun remains as bright as ever, scientists believe less sunlight is reaching the Earth's surface because of pollution.

Defying expectation and easy explanation, hundreds of instruments around the world recorded a drop in sunshine reaching the surface of Earth, as much as 10 per cent from the late 1950s to the early 1990s, or 2 to 3 per cent per decade.

In some areas like Asia, the United States and Europe, the drop was even steeper. Hong Kong, for instance, saw a 37 per cent decrease in its sunlight.

No one is predicting that it may soon be night all day, and some scientists believe the skies have brightened in the past decade as the suspected cause of global dimming - air pollution - clears up in many parts of the world.

Still, the dimming trend - noticed by a handful of scientists two decades ago, but dismissed at the time as unbelievable - is now attracting wide attention. Research on global dimming and its implications for weather, water supplies and agriculture, will be presented in Montreal next week at a joint meeting of the American and Canadian geological societies.

Dr James Hansen, director of

Nasa's Goddard Institute for Space Studies in New York City, said scientists had long known that pollution particles reflected some sunlight, but added that now they are realising the magnitude of the effect.

'It's occurred over a long time period, so it's not something that perhaps jumps out at you as a person in the street,' he said. 'But it's a large effect.'

Satellite readings show that the Sun remains as bright as ever, but less and less sunlight has been making it through the atmosphere to the ground.

Pollution dims sunlight in two ways, scientists believe. Some of the

light bounces off soot particles in the air and back into outer space. Pollution also causes more water droplets to condense out of air, leading to thicker, darker clouds that also block more light.

For that reason, the dimming effect appears to be more pronounced on cloudy days than sunny ones. In some more pristine regions, there has been little or no dimming.

But the dynamics and effects of global dimming are not fully understood. Antarctica, which would be expected to have clean air, has also dimmed.

'In general, we don't really understand this thing that's going

on,' said Dr Shabtai Cohen, a scientist in Israel's agriculture ministry who has studied global dimming for a decade, 'and we don't have the whole story.'

The instrument to measure sunshine, called a radiometer, is simple in design: a black plate under a glass dome. Like asphalt in summer, the black plate turns hot as it absorbs the Sun's energy; its temperature tells the amount of sunlight that has shone on it.

Since the 1950s, hundreds of radiometers have been installed, from the Arctic to Antarctica, dutifully recording sunshine levels.

Not every scientist is convinced that the dimming has

been pronounced. While radiometers are simple instruments, they do require periodic calibration and care.

Dirt on the glass dome will block light, leading to erroneous indications of declining sunlight. Also, all the radiometers have been on land, leaving the effect over water, which occupies three-quarters of the Earth's surface, to supposition.

'I see some datasets that are consistent and some that aren't,' said Dr Ellsworth Dutton, chief of the radiation monitoring group at the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration.

'Certainly, the magnitude of the phenomenon is in considerable question.' -- The New York Times

## Fatty Acids Affect Brain Function

According to medical researcher Michael A. Schmidt, research of how essential fatty acids (EFAs or omega oils) profoundly affect brain function opens up many new and exciting horizons for the prevention and treatment of some of our most perplexing conditions. The balance between Omega-6 and Omega-3 Fatty acids and avoiding Trans fatty acids are critical for maintaining proper brain function. EFAs affect three main areas of brain function: mood and behavior; learning memory, movement and sensation. They are involved with producing energy in our bodies from food substances and moving that energy throughout our body. They also help transfer oxygen and hemoglobin products, and help control the flow of nutrients through cell membranes.

Even though we know that Omega 3s are found in fish oils and reportedly lower fats in the blood, thus reducing the risk of coronary heart disease, most of us still fall short of getting these vital nutrients into our diets.

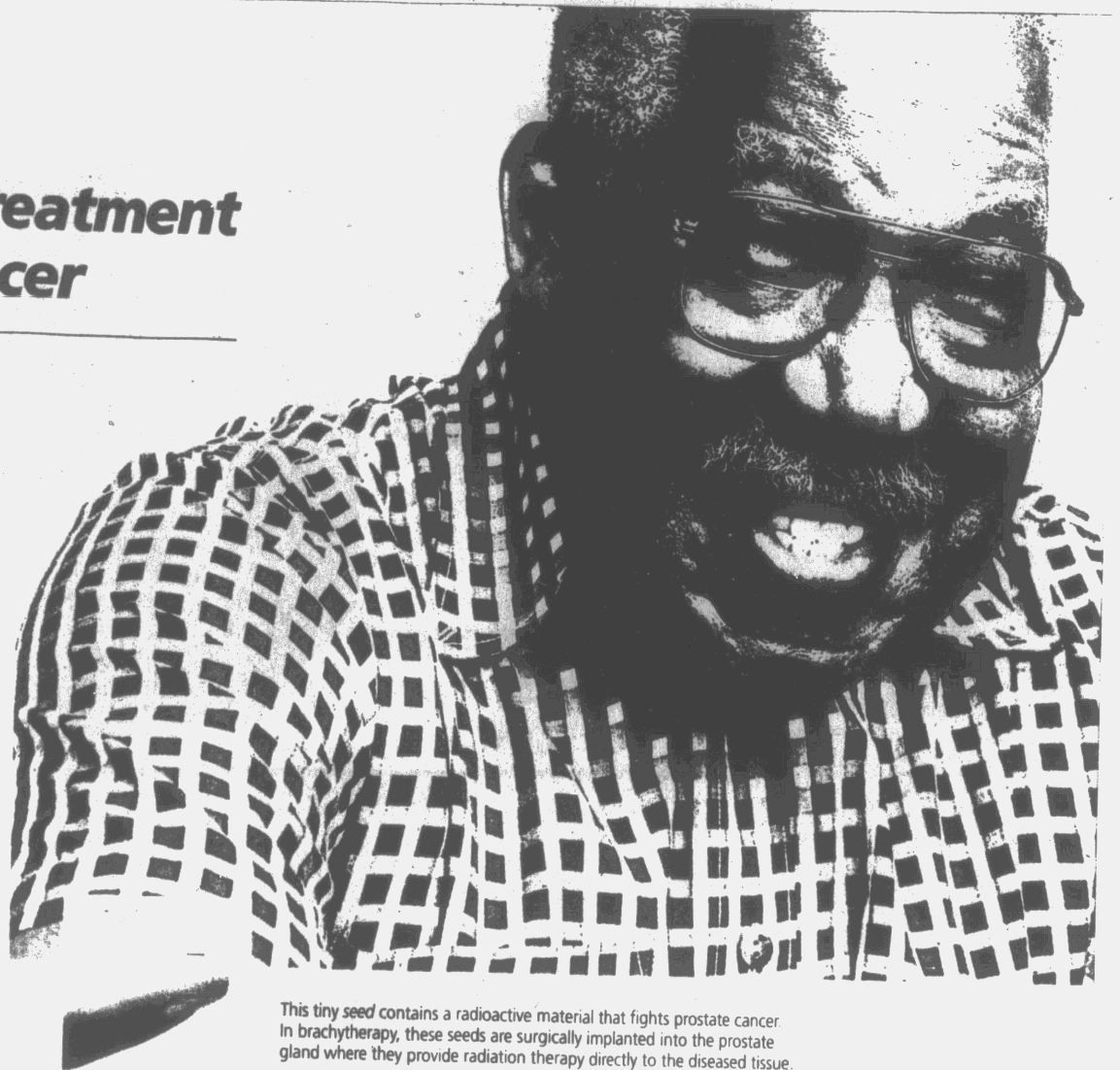
"When it comes to EFA, the American Diet of fast foods and processed ingredients can easily fall short of what the body needs in terms of essential nutrients," says Dr. Richard Podell, M.D. and the clinical professor at Robert Wood Johnson Medical School, "and DHA is one that is not abundant in our diets."

Secondly, some of us may have certain conditions that can restrict the absorption of EFAs into our body such as a low-fat diet.

Other conditions that may respond to additional EFAs are pregnancy, lactation, infancy, depression, diabetes, early senility, multiple sclerosis, aggression, bulimia and hyperactivity.

## Announcing a breakthrough treatment for prostate cancer

**Brachytherapy** is a long word that means big help for men with prostate cancer. It is an effective treatment that delivers precise doses of radiation to the tumor with minimal damage to surrounding tissue and fewer side effects than many other forms of treatment. Brachytherapy is now available in eastern North Carolina thanks to a team effort involving staff and facilities at Pitt County Memorial Hospital, private practice physicians in our area and the Brody School of Medicine. Ask your doctor if brachytherapy is right for you. Call 252-847-7777 or 800-816-7264 for more information.



This tiny seed contains a radioactive material that fights prostate cancer. In brachytherapy, these seeds are surgically implanted into the prostate gland where they provide radiation therapy directly to the diseased tissue.

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