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# Southwest Digest

April 20 thru April 26, 1995

VOL. XIX, No. 12

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An Independent Pictorial Newspaper for All People • Primarily Serving the Black Population of Lubbock County and the Surrounding Area • Black Press of America

## National Black News Survey

From NBNS Communications

### Justice Department Obtains \$16 Million Settlement Against Insurance Company for Refusing to Insure Blacks' Homes

In the first Justice Department action against an insurance company under the federal Fair Housing Act, American Family Mutual Insurance Company has agreed to pay over \$16 million for allegedly providing blacks with inferior policies than those offered to whites and in some cases for simply refusing to insure homes of African Americans. "When property is not insured, homes cannot be rebuilt, neighborhoods deteriorate, and communities suffer," said Attorney General Janet Reno. "All of Milwaukee benefits from today's actions by American Family." Under the agreement the company has agreed not to discriminate based on race and to pay over \$16 million in damages to compensate the victims. It also agreed to advertise in media that target African Americans and inspect homes in African-American neighborhoods on an equal basis as in white neighborhoods. Among the charges in the complaint: American Family gave explicit instructions to agents and underwriters to consider race in deciding whether, and on what terms, to offer homeowners insurance; required agents to consider race as a factor in deciding whether to inspect a home; and made disparaging and stereotypical references about blacks as being poor insurance risks.

### Three Texans Indicted For Racially Motivated Shooting Spree

Three Texans who killed a black man and seriously wounded two others during a racially-motivated shooting spree through Lubbock have been indicted by a federal grand jury. U.S. Attorney General Janet Reno and the Justice Department have announced. The nine count indictment charged Roy Ray Martin, Eli Trevino Mungia, and Ricky Rivera Mungia with violating federal criminal civil rights and gun laws. It alleges the three drove through the streets of Lubbock last October hunting black men, luring them to their car, then shooting them at close range with a short-barreled shotgun. According to the indictment, the defendants expressed a desire to start a race war that would eliminate blacks. "This incident shows that racially-motivated killings are not a thing of the past," says Assistant Attorney General for Civil Rights Deval L. Patrick, the highest-ranking African American in the Justice Department. Under federal law, the defendants, if convicted, could be sentenced to death. Reno said the Justice Department opens approximately 450 hate-crime investigations each year.

### Dr. Pepper Denies Unfair Minority Hiring Allegations By NAACP

Dallas-based Dr. Pepper-Seven-Up Cos. is protesting allegations by the NAACP that the soft drink company has been unfair in minority hiring and contracting. The company defended its record saying the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People was spreading false information.

Continued On Page 2.

# Affirming Affirmative Action

By Bernice Powell Jackson

President Clinton says it has the potential to splinter the country in next year's elections. He was referring to affirmative action. He was referring to his concern about the alienation of white working class voters. What he may not realize is that it has the potential to split the country even if there were no election next year. And he also must be concerned about the alienation of people of color as this country lurches toward being a country with no racial/ethnic majority early in the new century.

Affirmative action was designed to be a remedy for past discrimination in the work force, particularly against African Americans and women. In the decades since it was instituted, the African American middle class has grown steadily. Affirmative action has benefited many in the black middle class, allowing many of us to enter educational institutions where we would never have studied otherwise and to enter careers which had heretofore been closed to us.

But affirmative action has also benefitted the rest of the country as well. Archbishop

Desmond Tutu of South Africa once pointed out how much their nation had lost in human potential because of apartheid and the same could be said of this country as well. Our total society has benefited by its commitment to seek out intentionally those who had been kept out in the past.

It is important to also remember that African Americans and people of color are not the only direct beneficiaries of affirmative action. Thus, the inclusion of white women in the work force through affirmative action has benefited white families directly by increasing their earnings and standard of living. Since most white women are married to white men, white men, too, have benefited from affirmative action.

California is facing a ballot test of its affirmative action policies led, in part, by an African American businessman. Indeed, as the debate on affirmative action grows louder, conservatives are quick to point out that there are African Americans opposed to affirmative action. They point to people like Clarence Thomas, whose entire career is a

direct result of affirmative action.

But critics of affirmative action fail to point to the many, many others who favor its policies. People like Dr. Joyce Ladner, interim president of Howard University, who has observed that affirmative action isn't about putting unqualified people into opportunities for which they are totally unprepared. People like Hugh Price, president of the National Urban League, who warns, "Now is not the time for society to waver on the goal of full inclusion in the mainstream." People like California Assembly Speaker Willie Brown, who has pointed out that even with current state affirmative action policies, blacks and Hispanics still lag behind in faculty tenure positions and admissions, as well as in government business contracts. People like Jesse Jackson, Mary Frances Berry and the Congressional Black Caucus.

Critics of affirmative action argue that we have given preferences to African Americans for long enough. But they neglect to look at the millions of African Americans who are still unemployed, untrained and who have

been written off by society as the "permanent underclass." What is the remedy for them?

Critics of affirmative action argue that it discriminates against white men. But they fail to admit the 300 years of preferences received by white men, under which African Americans and other people of color and women were totally excluded.

Affirmative action in the context of an economically scared society does have the potential to split this country. But instead of once again blaming the victim, why don't we frame the discussion in a new way? Why don't we look at the big picture of jobs in America and what has gone wrong? Why don't we look at how we can employ working class whites and African Americans who have lost jobs to the information and service revolution?

Our country cries out for responsible leadership around the issue of affirmative action. Our nation needs affirmative action, whether it wants to admit it or not. Our nation needs jobs for its people and the sooner we deal with that, the better we'll all be.

## NYSP SUMMER PROGRAM SET

LUBBOCK—Texas Tech is one of seven institutions in the United States to be selected to be a first-time host to the National Youth Sports Program this summer, university officials announced Monday.

The University will receive a \$47,000 grant funded jointly by the NCAA and the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. It will allow economically disadvantaged youths to attend a four-week program emphasizing activities such as supervised sports training and competition, health knowledge, drug abuse and career and educational opportunities.

Texas Tech was one of approximately 50 schools applying as first-time host, this year.

Founded in 1968, NYSP served more than 70,000 youngsters at 170 university sites in 1994. Program objectives are to:

- Expand opportunities for disadvantaged youths to benefit from sports skills instruction, engage in sports competition and improve physical fitness.
- Assist youths to learn good health practices and become better citizens, and to acquaint them with career and educational opportunities by utilizing the personnel and facilities of higher education institutions.
- Enable the institutions and their personnel to participate more fully in community life and in the solution of community problems.

Texas Tech, the city of Lubbock, and the Lubbock Independent School District share in the areas of facilities and transportation, according to Dr. Alfonso Scandrett, NYSP Program Administrator.

The program will begin June 1 for 150 boys and 150 girls in the 10-16 age group. Hours of the program are weekdays from 7:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Included in the program are medical examinations, accident and injury insurance and two meals per day.

Dr. Scandrett, Associate Athletic Director for Student Services, is the program's administrator for Texas Tech.

## Do You Remember?

Do you remember this young lady? She is Lillye Robinson Wright, a 1965 Dunbar graduate who will be attending the all-class reunion in July. She now lives in Denver and is looking forward to seeing her friends and classmates.

Why don't you get in on the fun? Call them at 794-6543. Attending or graduating from Dunbar is not a requirement to participate in their reunion!



## Reverend, I'm Available Play Set Here May 5 & 6

The Black Chamber of Commerce of Lubbock, Texas will sponsor Rodney Clark's number one hit gospel musical comedy, *Reverend, I'm Available*, on Friday and Saturday, May 5 & 6, at the Lubbock Municipal Auditorium in Lubbock, Texas. Showtime is 8:00 p.m.

*Reverend, I'm Available* is about a widowed minister's search for a new wife—and the women of his congregation who want desperately to fill that role. The so-called sanctified sisters try every trick of the trade to become the Reverend's new wife. In the process, the reluctant Reverend is faced with overcoming the advances of the available sisters. Finally, the Reverend is reminded that "Jesus is also available." So, the good Reverend waits on the Lord to choose his new wife.

Jerome Stevenson portrays the confused pastor, with Hester Dean, Marva Walker, and Cecelia Daniels as the "sisters" who pursue him. The play also features Walter Randall, Sheila Asberry-Clark and Janice Robinson. Tickets are \$12.00 and can be purchased at J&J Beauty Supply, Cavil's Pharmacy, or S.L.&L. Salon. For more information call (806) 744-4521.



Hester Dean

## Van Ashley of Littlefield Seeks Mayoral Post

For the first time in the history of this city, the voters of Littlefield will have the opportunity to vote for an African American for the position of Mayor. Councilman Van Ashley has recently announced his campaign for that position to be decided on May 6th.

Van Ashley, fifty-one years of age resides at 1215 Davis Street in the Dunbar Community in Littlefield, Texas. He has been a councilman for District 1 for the past eight years. Ashley has served on the Littlefield City Council since May of 1987. He has served for one year as Mayor Pro Tem. He is serving as the Treasurer of the Irvin Street First Baptist Church and is expected to be ordained as a deacon at his church on April 29, 1995. Councilman Ashley's family includes his mother, Juanita Ashley of Littlefield; his brothers, Wendell Ashley, of Tampa, Florida, Thomas Ashley of Los Angeles, California, Clinton Ashley of Washington, D. C., and Larry Ashley of Santa Fe, New Mexico; his sister, Doris Ashley of Tampa, Florida; his daughters, Jacqueline Hayes of Littlefield, Vera Jean Minor, Cheryl Latrice Ashley and Shaketha Yeka Ashley all of Bellflower, California and three grandchildren.

During his tenure on the City Council, Councilman Ashley has supported all anti-drug activities and has supported bringing the South Plains Drug Task Force to Littlefield. He has served on the Planning Commission, the Park and Recreation Board, the Charter Amendment Committee, the Single Member Redistricting Committee and Neighborhood Improvement Committee for the City of Littlefield. Mr. Ashley serves on the United Way Campaign and the Housing Redevelopment Board of Lamb County. In addition, Councilman Ashley is the President-Elect of the Littlefield Lions Club for 1995-1996. He has served as president of the Dunbar Ex-Students Association for five years, and is a member of the Littlefield Ex-Students Association. On the regional level, Mr. Ashley serves on the South Plains Association of Governments as Third Vice-President, and has previously served on the Aging Advisory Committee. On the state level, Councilman Ashley is on the Texas Municipal League Legislative Policy Committee on Economic Development, as well as the Resolution Committee on Personnel.



Councilman Ashley earned the "Spot Light Award" and the "Citizen of the Year Award" presented by the Littlefield Chamber of Commerce. He was recently presented a plaque and flag from both Senator John Montford and Representative Bill Sarpaulis.

Mr. Ashley states: "In 1968 I left Littlefield thinking that life would enable me to purpose a better lifestyle. However, I found out that the warmth of a small home town and friends means more. While in Los Angeles, I had an opportunity to attend the American Vocational Nursing School, and that was when I really became interested in people and their problems. Also, I worked for the Long Beach Naval Shipyard. In August 30, 1976 I was presented a Certificate of Award in recognition of sustained superior performance of assigned duties which has benefited the shipyard and the Department of the Navy. In 1977 I was also presented a Certificate of Award in recognition of initiative and resourcefulness in contributing a suggestion which has been adopted with benefit to the shipyard and the Navy Department.

"On holidays and other occasions, I would come home and meet with others that were from Littlefield, and they would constantly complain about the condition of the city and the neighborhood, but no one put forth an effort to try and correct it. That is when I knew there were three kinds of people: those who watch things happen, those who wonder what happened, and those who make things happen.

"Now I am seeking to become Mayor of Littlefield; however, for this to become a reality, I will need the precious vote of each of the citizens of Littlefield on Saturday, May 6, 1995."

## Bagley Scholarship Foundation Recipient Named

The Gwendolyn F. Bagley Scholarship Foundation, which recognizes collegians of academic excellence, recently announced the name of its first annual scholarship recipient.

The Foundation wishes to congratulate this year's winner, Ms. Diana L. Archer, a resident of Houston, Texas. Ms. Archer is a Senior, General Business major, 3.52 GPA and is currently enrolled at Texas Southern University, Houston Texas.

The Gwendolyn F. Bagley Scholarship Foundation

was created to annually award scholarships to undergraduate students enrolled at Historically Black Colleges and Universities. The Foundation is committed to encouraging student continuance of education by endowing financial support to qualified students.

For more information please contact Ms. Linda Freeman, Texas Southern University Financial Aid Office (713-527-7530) or write: The Gwendolyn F. Bagley Scholarship Foundation, P.O. Box 93712, Lubbock, Texas 79493-3712.

## DEADBEAT PARENTS

If you have children you should take care of them, right? There are to many parents who do not take the responsibility of being a parent seriously. The Parents pictured failed to pay their child support and then failed to show up for the hearings on their payment arrangements. These photos were obtained from the records at the Sheriff's department. Files of parents not on file will not be shown. On file are: Mark Edwards, Jerry Garcia, and Sammy Washington. The no-shows for the hearings on paying arrangements make this a writ of capias through the State Attorney General's Office Child Support Division.



Mark Edwards



Jerry Garcia



Sammy Washington

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## Ruby Jay's Corner



The New Hope Baptist Church, located at 2002 Birch Avenue, is the "Church where The People Really Care," and Rev. Billy R. Moton is the proud pastor. During the Sunday School hour last Sunday morning which was Easter Sunday, the Youth and Young Adult Departments sponsored the Easter program. Sister Margaret Moton and co-workers did a wonderful job.

During the morning worship hour, devotional period was led by Brother and Sister Earnest Swain.

The processional was led by the Senior Choir during the morning worship hour. Altar prayer was offered by Brother Howard. A selection scripture and prayer were conducted. Responsive reading was done with the congregation standing. The morning hymn was "He Lives."

Pastor Moton gave his pastoral observation. He thanked those who attended the ground breaking services Sunday afternoon, April 9th. He also thanked those who attended the annual Sunrise Services at 6:30 a. m.

Another selection by the Senior Choir. It was entitled "What Can Wash Away My Sins, Nothing But The Blood of Jesus."

Pastor Moton's sermon was "The Blessed Assurance of THE RISEN LORD!" His scripture was St. John 20:19-23. It was a wonderful sermon for Easter.

After the invitation discipleship was extended, three came forward.

The fifth Sunday, April 30th, at 4:00 p. m., each member is asked to pay \$15.00. The speakers will be Brother Tharrington, Sister Winn Jackson and Sister Kendrick.

Mrs. Ann Jones Jones and granddaughter were visitors in the "Hub City" during the Easter weekend holiday. They are residents of Dallas, Texas.

Among visitors in church last Sunday morning at New Hope Sister B. Jones' daughter. She is the granddaughter of Sister Jessie Evans.

The faculty and staff of Irons Junior High School are honoring Thelma Brown Saturday morning, April 22nd, in a retirement reception from 10:00 a. m. until 12 noon. We hope she is not retiring from Lubbock!

The church secretary of the New Hope Baptist Church will be the church office Wednesday and Friday from 10:00 a. m. until 2:00 p. m. All announcements are due by Friday of each week.

## National Black News Survey CONTINUED FROM PG 1

Recently the Southwest regional chapter of the NAACP began urging consumers to boycott the companies' products, charging that the company has no black managers even though 22 percent of its consumers are black. The NAACP urged Dr. Pepper-Seven Up to start a \$500 million hiring and contracting program. While admitting that there are no blacks in their upper management, company spokesman Gary Rollins says that 14 blacks are now in "fast track" management programs. Rollins said the NAACP is "wrong" and only 8.5 percent of their consumers are black. He also said 12 percent of the company's 950 workers are black. He said 15 percent of the company's outside spending is done with minority vendors and two blacks turned down offers to be on the company's board of directors.

### Black Newspaper Publishers to Meet in Oklahoma City

National Newspaper Publishers Association (NNPA) president Robert Bogle has announced that the 205 members of the NNPA, also known as the Black Press of America, will meet for their Annual Convention from June 7 to 10, 1995, at the Medallion Hotel in Oklahoma City. Call (202) 588-8764 for information on registration, exhibits and networking opportunities.

### Feds Need Color in Ranks

After a three-year hiring freeze, the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) has received funding to hire 600 new special agents. The FBI is looking for women and

people of color to fill most of these positions. The bureau says that applicants must be U.S. citizens, have valid driver's licenses, possess four-year college degrees and be between the ages of 23 and 37. People seeking information should check their local telephone books and contact the applicant coordinator at the FBI field office in that area.

### Alternative Employment Opportunities

While many blacks often turn to Fortune 500 companies for employment, the Department of Labor says that companies with less than 500 workers are the best source of jobs for the future. Some organizations for sources of information and guidance for African Americans getting into the job market are: Affirmative Action Register, 8356 Olive Blvd., St. Louis, MO 63132, (314) 991-1335; American Association for Affirmative Action, 11 E. Hubbard St., Chicago, IL 60611, (312) 329-2512; Black Human Resources Network, 1900 L Street, NW, Washington, D.C. (202) 775-1669.

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## Parkway Manor Care Center News

Mr. and Mrs. A. D. Pine visited with Scottie Moore Sunday afternoon, April 9th.

Monday afternoon, April 10th, Willie Hereford visited with Ezell Sanders for a short while.

Members of Faith First Baptist Church visited with the residents. Sister Gladys is president and two other members were with her on the visit. They brought the mission lesson to the residents, which was Lesson 15, with the basic: "The Holy Spirit and Daily Living Colossians 5:12-16; Romans 8:5-17, with Rev. W. H. Stephens as teacher.

Tuesday afternoon, April 11th, Mission members of the Greater St. Luke Baptist Church had nine members present and held their worship services and visited with residents. Members present included: Hannah, Mary, Martha Eunice, Glen, Betty and Harry.

Bessie Walker visited her aunt, Geneva Walker, last week. What a love time they had together.

Hannah Jordan visited all the residents last week.

Wednesday, April 12th, Brother Birmingham, a regular visitor, visited with the residents. He is a member of the Hope Deliverance Temple Church. Elder Charles Tanner is pastor. Residents always enjoy his visits.

Wednesday evening, April 12th, the Parkway Drive Baptist Church held their worship services, sung songs, and visited with all the residents.

Rev. W. H. Stephens held his regularly weekly Bible study last Wednesday morning. Songs were sung as usual with Hannah Jordan as his assistant. She played the piano for the residents.

As you may know by now, our Own Rev. W. H. Stephens has been elected as "Grandpa" by members of the Dunbar-Struggs Junior High School's Future Homemakers of America. They visit him every Thursday afternoon. Last Thursday they were unable to attend because of the Easter holidays. All were going out of town. They will be here this week. He was presented an Easter card.

Four members of the Outreach Prayer Breakfast came last Saturday morning, April 15th, with a spiritual service for the residents. Sister Dorothy Hood is president.

Cub Scout Pack No. 137 of the New Hope Baptist Church visited the residents last Saturday afternoon. Rev. Billy R. Moton is pastor.

Esther Moses visited Lewis Walton last Saturday afternoon.

The conclusion of "More Than One

Roommate," from last week.

"More Than One Roommate"  
When the pastor had ended, the woman in the next bed, who had reverently bowed her head during the prayer, asked shyly if she might add her own prayer. She said, "My name is Ellen," and she again bowed her head and prayed.—"Dear God this lady is your servant and she is need of healing and health. Grant her that feeling so she can serve you. In Jesus' name Amen.

Several days later, Mr. Frank called the pastor to tell him that the infection had responded completely to treatment and the operation first temporarily delayed had been finally cancelled.

When the pastor saw Mrs. Frank at home several days later, she said, "I have a thousand questions and no answers. That lady, Ellen, prayed for healing and after that I got better and better. The pastor, Mr. Williams, was silent for a moment. He said, God works in our lives and we know one thing for sure—God's power is forever beyond the most radical extent of our faith and prayer. Trusting in Christ, we may dare to knock on every door. We can hope for the very best for the miracle, even as we seek his help and support, and we endure the very worst. Emma. God is always with us and where he is anything can happen.

Do you have more than one roommate? May we think about it?

[Mrs. Gloria Olquin, A. D. & R.; Rev. W. H. Stephens, assistant A. D. & R.

## OBITUARY

### Erady Henly

Final rites were read for Mr. Brady Henly Tuesday, April 4, 1995 at Calville Funeral Home Chapel with Rev. Homer Avery, pastor of First Progressive Baptist Church, officiating. Interment was held in the City of Lubbock Cemetery under the direction of Calville Funeral Home.

Active pallbearers were Natricon Johnson, Stephen Jones, Curtis Jones, Eugene Patterson, Beary Hood, and Dick Maddox.

Mr. Henly was born May 28, 1909 in Freestone, Texas to the union of Albert and Laura Henly. He moved to Lubbock two years ago from Muleshoe, Texas. He was a retired farmer.

Mr. Henly passed away March 31, 1995.

He leaves to mourn his loss: two daughters, Ruby Johnson of Lubbock, Texas, and Jimmie Henly of Amarillo, Texas; his mother, Beatrice Henly of Fort Worth, Texas; four grandchildren: one great-grandchild; other relatives and friends.

### Willie Mildred Deo

Final rites were read for Mrs. Willie Mildred Deo last Tuesday morning, April 4, 1995, at the Carter Chapel C.M.E. Church with Rev. Clarence Weatherspoon, pastor, officiating.

Burial was held in the City of Lubbock Cemetery under the direction of Ossie Curry Funeral Home.

A native of Longview, Texas, Mrs. Deo passed at St. Mary Hospital Friday, March 31, 1995.

A retired school teacher in the Lubbock Independent School District, Mrs. Deo came to Lubbock 35 years ago from Dallas. She was active in many organizations, and among them were the Lubbock Retired Teachers Association and the Lubbock Alumnae Chapter of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc.

She was also a very active member of the Library Board of the City of Lubbock, and a member of the West Texas Library System Advisory Council.

Survivors include three sons: Kerwin Deo of Arlington, Texas; Lowell Deo of Seattle, Washington and Carl Deo of Los Angeles, California; a sister, Margie Barnes of Dallas, Texas; and a brother, Herman Newsome of Dallas.

The family of Mildred Deo would like to thank you so much for your calls, the beautiful flowers, food, and most of all your prayers.

It does somehow make our loss easier to bear. May god richly bless each of you. Kervin, Lorvell and Carl

## Free Legal Clinic

A free legal clinic has been scheduled for the last Thursday of every month beginning April 27, 1995, from 5:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. at the Housing Authority of the City of Slaton, 420 E. Powers, Slaton, Texas. The clinic is being sponsored by the West Texas Legal Services' Private Attorney Involvement Program. The purpose of the clinic is to provide services to the large number of low-income persons who need advice or representation with a civil legal problem. Types of cases seen at the clinic include family law issues, housing problems, government benefits, consumer matters, wills/estates, and other civil problems.

West Texas Legal Services is a non-profit organization which provides free civil legal assistance to persons who qualify under the financial eligibility guidelines. Cases are accepted based on the priority guidelines, available staff, resources, and merit of the case as determined by the legal staff. Attorneys will be present to talk to persons needing advice or representation with a civil legal problem.

Other legal clinics currently being held in Lubbock and surrounding counties include:

Mae Simmons Community Center—23rd & Oak Avenue, Lubbock, Texas, First Thursday of every month—5:30 to 7:30 P.M.;

St. John's United Methodist Church—1501 University Avenue, Lubbock, Texas, Second and Fourth Tuesdays of every month 5:30 to 7:30 P.M.;

Children's Service Center—So. 14th & Detroit Avenue, Lamesa, Texas—Second Thursday of every month—6:00 to 7:30 P.M.;

West Texas Opportunities—311 SE Avenue C, Seminole, Texas Third Thursday of every month—5:30 to 7:00 P.M.;

Public Benefits Clinics—offices of West Texas Legal Services (by appointment only)—Every Saturday.

For more information contact Elma Moreno at 763-4557 or toll free number 800-933-4557.

### Patrick Johnson's Class Does Well!

In a congratulations to Patrick Johnson in the weekly Reporter of the LISD, his seventh grade class at Smylie Wilson Junior High School constructed the winning replica of the Texas Capitol building in the Southwest Airlines Build a Capitol contest. Social studies classes from Cavazos, Irons, O.L. Slaton Junior High Schools and surrounding communities served by Southwest Airlines at the Lubbock International Airport also competed.

The winning students from Smylie Wilson were:

Andy Green, Derek Wade, Eric Briles, Patrick Garza, Anthony Salazar, Bud Stow, Anna Chamberlain, Osarieme Osaghae, Amanda Wunneburger, Kara Holder, Laura Guernsey, and Wendy Ruiz.

Southwest Airlines will fly the students to Austin April 19, where their replica will be placed on display, along with other winning replicas from around the state, during the Texas Capitol rededication ceremonies.

Johnson teaches social studies and is a coach at Smylie Wilson. He is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Virgil Johnson.



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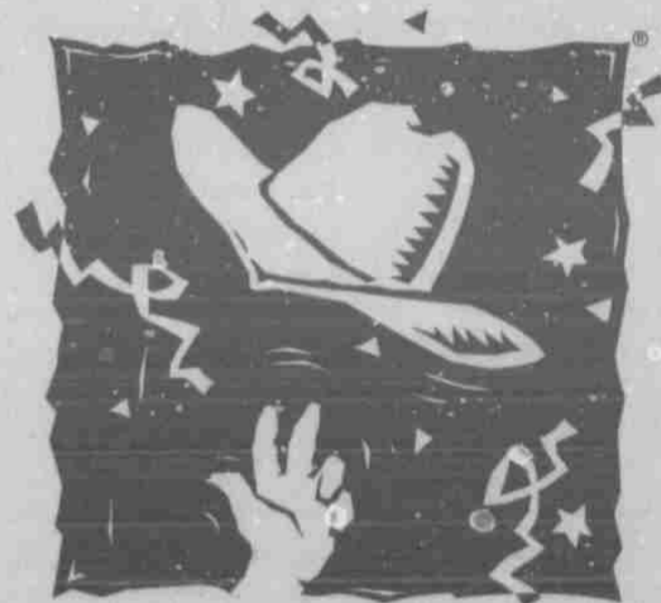
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### MUSIC PRODUCTION

Composers and arrangers who have experience in television and radio music production. Please submit a demo reel which demonstrates your capabilities and past experience and a

description of the equipment available in your studio. Prices must be competitive.

### FILM PRODUCTION

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## Affirmative Action Myths

By Eddie P. Richardson

*Affirmative Action is the going slogan now, pro and con. Below is a Rainbow Coalition article on Affirmative Action. Since this is the going phrase now, we are submitting this for our article this week. —Eddie P. Richardson*

The Rainbow Coalition convened a broad coalition of supporters to hold a press conference affirming affirmative action. The National Organization for Women (NOW), Congressman Kwesi Mfume (D-MD), former chairman of the Congressional Black Caucus, Katherine Spiller of the Feminist Majority Foundation and others sounded the warning that the Republicans are using affirmative action as a 1996 "wedge" issue to divide Americans, and too many Democrats, including President Clinton, are providing a weak defense.

Recently on the Sunday news shows both House Majority Leader Richard "Dick" Arney (R-TX) and imminent presidential candidate Pat Buchanan said affirmative action is unnecessary, and candidate, Senator Phil Gramm (R-TX), said his first act as president would be to issue an executive order ending affirmative action. Senate Majority and presidential candidate, Senator Robert Dole (R-KS), called for "review" of all affirmative action programs—only to be joined in that call by President Clinton.

That is like Johnnie Cochran and Bob Shapiro saying to O.J. Simpson, in the middle of his trial, that they are going to "review" his case. In the heat of battle, Mr. Simpson does not need someone to review his case, he needs to be defended by strong defense attorneys.

Obviously, as a general principle, no one is against reviewing public policies and programs. Government programs should be reviewed from time to time. But for President Clinton to suggest reviewing affirmative action in the middle of this political climate and at the start of the 1996 political season—with this president's lack of a moral center and a demonstrated record of political wishy-washiness, especially on this issue—it is a little unsettling. It is like O.J. Simpson's defense attorneys calling for a public review of his case in the middle of the trial.

There are those who say, "You have to understand, the president is under a lot of political pressure. What do you want him to do?" That's simple—STAND FOR PRINCIPLE, TEACH AND LEAD!

## Guest Editorial

### Home Rule School Districts A Bad Idea

by Richard Kouri, president, Texas State Teachers Association

The concept of home rule school districts is one of the most dangerous ideas to be introduced into this legislative session. Masquerading as local control, it is in fact a dirty little plot to rob children of educational opportunities and to punish Texas teachers.

Home rule advocates advance the peculiar idea that schools will be somehow better if their governing boards are free of all state standards. Never mind that the standards that are in place have been responsible for demonstrable improvement in student achievement over the past several years.

Home rule advocates want local school boards to be free to increase class size in elementary grades, to hire uncertified teachers, to ignore the state required curriculum, to eject children from school and to fire teachers without cause, to do anything they want with our children's education.

Home rule is like a drive-by shooting that indiscriminately mows down every positive education reform that's been enacted over the past several years. It's little wonder that this untested idea has not been seriously proposed, much less adopted, in any other state.

Since home rule advocates are careful to mask their arguments in local control rhetoric, often talking about empowering parents and teachers, well-intentioned people are often misled. Advocates argue that home rule will get rid of bureaucratic red tape that stands in the way of innovative local programs. On close examination these arguments don't hold up.

First, home rule does not empower parents and teachers. The real benefactor of home rule, the group that stands to gain tremendous power, is the Texas Association of School Boards that writes the cookbook of recommended school board policy which is adopted verbatim by almost every local school board in the state. This truth can be easily tested by pulling 20 or so local school board policy manuals from across the state

and noting the similarity from district to district.

TASB has a history of opposing the reforms that have led to recent improvements in education. TASB opposed class size limits; they opposed site-based decision making to involve community and teachers in campus and district decisions; they opposed every single teacher salary increase that has been introduced; they opposed five days of sick leave for support personnel like aides and bus drivers; they even opposed the pre-kindergarten program. This group and the local school boards they represent over whose objection every important standard and employee benefit has been won will now be put in charge under home rule. Is there something wrong with this picture?

Second, although advocates argue that state standards are restrictive, no one has yet come forward to claim that they had a really innovative idea for an educational program that would have benefited children that couldn't be implemented because of state law or rule. Texas already has a very liberal waiver process. This movement is not motivated by a desire to make schools better. It is a mean-spirited concept that is fueled by the desire to save money.

Texas voters have already turned down home rule in one of its disguises quite recently. Constitutional Amendment 2 on the May 1, 1993 ballot called for local school districts to be free of state standards that were not fully funded by the state. The voters said no.

The Constitution of the State of Texas charges the state with the responsibility to provide free public schools. The state cannot relieve itself of the constitutional responsibility by handing it off to local school boards. Thus, the question really boils down to this: Who should set minimum standards for Texas schools, the Texas Legislature or the Texas Association of School Boards? Our choice is the Legislature.

## THIS N THAT

IT WAS A GREAT DAY FOR OUR KIDS!! THIS N THAT... and... hundreds of well wishers... were in attendance of the... OPENING DAY CEREMONY OF THE MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. BASEBALL SEASON... What a time... it was to see all those young kids on the field... prior to the opening of the 1995 baseball season... On the field... there were nearly... 200 BOYS AND GIRLS... from T-Ball to the... Senior League... What a day... it really was... As parents and friends... let's SUPPORT THIS YEAR'S LEAGUE PLAY!! DARRRELL SNELL... is president...

SURE WILL BE NICE WHEN?? THIS N THAT... would like to see... A LARGE NUMBER... of... BLACK MEN... do something together... If there was just... ONE PROJECT... it would be nice to see a group of... BLACK MEN... doing it together... With prayer... and concern... it just may happen... Anyway... THIS N THAT... is hoping it will happen... When a... BLACK COMMUNITY... has no visibility of its... BLACK MEN... we are... at a crossroad of which way to go and what to do for our kids... Our young... BLACK BOYS... need to see... SOMETHING BEING DONE... by... BLACK MEN!! SURE WOULD BE NICE TO SEE THIS HAPPEN!!

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GREAT CELEBRATION!! THIS N THAT... was in attendance of the... CHATMAN HILL ADDITION CELEBRATION last Thursday afternoon... It was just... GREAT... to see what's happening in this area... With a program... at the corner of... EAST 26th & Fir Avenue... and the kids singing from Ella Iles Elementary School... it just brought some positive publicity for the area... Sure... CHATMAN HILL... is on the move... and in a few years... this area of Lubbock will different in looks... It is on the move today... If you haven't been in this area lately... then do so... and you'll be glad you did... Cosby Murton is president of the Chatman Neighborhood Association...

D. C. Kinner the Barber says: "IF YOU... are not a... MEMBER... of the... CANYON LAKES CREDIT UNION... then do so today... It will help... EAST LUBBOCK..."



## IN CINQUE

by Renetta W. Howard

There is a lot to be said for "parental schools." That is, the schools where disruptive students are sent for a short while when they have been removed from the regular school, yet are too young to be excluded altogether.

The school from whence the child was removed may feel a release of some of the tension brought on by the child's disruptive behavior. A first-time offender may benefit from being placed in such a school for a short time. The second placement is usually a charm. A revolving door is put into action. The majority of these students become "repeat offenders." The revolving door syndrome should tell us something.

The removal from the regular school is but a respite for the regular school. The short stay at the parental school is only accomplishing time out for the regular program until the student returns and has time to do something else or the same thing again which landed him in the parental school in the first place.

A "boot camp" type of program making the parents responsible for their child's behavior and adequate participation may be all some students need, but it may not be sufficient for those who are placed in correctional institutions. It is time that we get "in cinque" and discipline ineffective parents.

Parents need training to be effective when they have failed their children too many times. Treating the symptom (the child) and not the malady (the parent) will not, in most instances, cure the problem.

## Army & Air Force Hometown News

DYESS AIR FORCE BASE, ABILENE, TEXAS—Air Force Airman Rene R. Moralez has arrived for duty here.

Moralez, a medical service specialist, is the son of Adela Moralez of 2704 80th, Lubbock.

His wife, Tosha, is the daughter of Arthur and Brenda McCrory of 2206 37th, Lubbock.

He is a 1993 graduate of Lubbock High School.

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The Southwest Digest is an independent newspaper serving the Lubbock, West Texas, South Plains of Texas and Eastern New Mexico areas printing the news impartially supporting what it believes to be right without opposing what it believes to be wrong without regard to party politics.

Devoted to the Industrial, Educational, Social, Political, and Economical Advancement of African-American People.

We may be critical of some things that are written, but, at least you will have the satisfaction of knowing they are truthful and to the point.

People will react to that which is precise, and we will publish these articles as precisely and factually as is humanly possible. We will also give credit and respect to those who are doing good things for the Lubbock Area and the people. We will be critical of those who are not doing as they have said they would, and this, we think, is fair.

So, this is our resolution to you. "Feel free at any time to call this office for information concerning this newspaper or any other matter that is of concern to you."

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### Multiple Sclerosis Essay Competition

Area high school students can win one of 10 college scholarships and help raise money to fight multiple sclerosis by participating in PROJECT: Learn MS '95™. Sponsored by the Multiple Sclerosis Association of America, PROJECT: Learn MS '95™ is a national essay competition with over \$16,000 in scholarship funds available to any sophomore, junior or senior high school student in the country. Information on the essay competition is available through local high school guidance offices or by calling the MS Association at 1-800-833-4672.

Designed to encourage education about multiple sclerosis and highlight a nationwide "May is MS Awareness Month" campaign, participants are required to write a 300-500 word essay on MS and its effects on the family. By acquiring sponsors, students raise funds to provide services to MS patients across the country. Separate prizes will be awarded for various levels of fundraising. A panel of experts will judge the essays on content, grammar and style. All essays must be postmarked by May 22, 1995 winners will be announced in the summer.

Cosponsored by Corestates Bank, officials from the Multiple Sclerosis Association also designed the program to reach young adults who typically represent the MS patient population. "There are over 300,000 Americans diagnosed with MS," said MSA President John Hodson. "Most are diagnosed in their early twenties, so we feel it's imperative that students begin to recognize the early signs of the disease. In fact, my wife was diagnosed at age 17."

In addition to describing MS, fifty percent of the essay will focus on suggestions for society to impact and improve the quality of life for the physically disabled. According to Hodson, there are over 47 million Americans who are physically challenged. Multiple sclerosis is a crippling disease of the central nervous system with no known cause, cure or prevention. Funds raised through PROJECT: Learn MS '95™ and other programs help support patient care programs offered by MSA. These include peer counseling, a toll-free nationwide hotline, free loan of therapeutic equipment, barrier-free housing, educational and referral services and symptom relief programs. To learn more about MSA, call 1-800-833-4672.



**ANHEUSER-BUSCH JOINS BRYANT GUMBEL'S UNCF GOLF TOURNEY** — "Today" show host Bryant Gumbel (second, left), welcomes participants and supporters to the 1995 "Bryant Gumbel/Walt Disney World Celebrity Golf Tournament," an annual fund-raiser in Orlando, Florida, to benefit the United Negro College Fund (UNCF). Gumbel, an avid golfer, is shown with Boston Celtics great John Havlicek (left), Victor M. Julien (second, right), corporate affairs director of special programs for Anheuser-Busch Companies; and Deron Cherry, manager of United Beverage Co. of Kansas City, an Anheuser-Busch wholesaler. Scores of celebrities and corporate supporters joined Gumbel for the fundraising tourney, which helps expand educational opportunities at UNCF colleges and universities. Anheuser-Busch has been a corporate supporter of the event since its inception.

### "Reverend I'm Available"

"This is a very funny show—half-play, half-musical—that provides a nonstop, rollicking good time for its audience." (Jim Delamont - OMAHA WORLD HERALD)

"On a scale of one through 10, I rate this stage production a 10-Plus." (Angel Craig - OKLAHOMA EAGLE)

With some witty moments and some phenomenal musical numbers aided by a first-rate sound system, "Reverend I'm Available" is a step above other black-oriented theater shows ranging from Shelly Garrett's "Beauty Shop" and "Living Room" to "A Good Man is Hard to Find." (Alec Harvey - BIRMINGHAM NEWS)

"Make any plans possible to get to any city to see this production, for it will leave the hardest of hearts tickled or tested, and definitely high spirited." (Brandon Moore - CHATTANOOGA COURIER)

"It was the funniest of times; it was music to stir your soul; it was an outspoken incredible farce. It was great entertainment; it was a shame it only stayed for one night. It was "Reverend I'm Available," a play that approached a very real moral problem with so much humor that the whole audience roared, giggled and howled." (Joy Lynn Rosser - SHREVEPORT SUN)



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From left: Sue Garcia, Banking Officer  
Eddie Schulz, Vice President

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# CHURCH DIRECTORY



## from the Desk of Parson D.A. Smith

### Are Lubbock Blacks Genetically Inferior to Whites

Continued from 4/10/95... Luca Cavalli-Sforza, a Stanford University population geneticist who in 1991 started the Human Genome Diversity Project to collect genetic material from tens of thousands of individuals in about 500 ethnic group was cited in WPNWE (3/5/95) "If you reb entirely on superficial characteristics you would conclude that racial differences are real, and this is what laymen and also what some scientists have been doing... but races are not different when we look beneath the skin."

Cavalli-Sforza also says in this same article that "racially linked physical traits are explained by the environmental conditions in which those races evolved." He goes on to explain that the "Asian face which evolved in what is now Mongolia, has several features that protect against the cold: a smaller size, which reduces the ratio of surface area to volume to minimize heat loss; a smaller nose, which reduces the risk of it freezing, and extra layers of insulating fat in the eyelids to protect against cold winds." Cavalli-Sforza says that each of the environments in which the world's races evolved had its own challenges to intellect making it unlikely that significant intellectual differences would emerge among those races.

Douglas Wahlsten, a professor at the University of Alberta says the lingering belief that race is linked to intelligence or to traits such as violent behavior occurs in part because behavioral genetics studies have been held to a lower standard of proof than is appropriate, given the large number of genes involved in behavior and the many environmental factors, such as education and diet, that can influence those genes.

Peter Schoenemann, a Purdue University statistician, says the field of behavioral genetics has been fraught with conceptual and mathematical errors. "Most of the data on the heritability of behavior should be ignored," he says.

Are Lubbock Blacks genetically inferior to whites? The answer is a resounding NO! Blacks in Lubbock like their black brother in all of American as a people have been historically wronged by the larger culture. I believe that we as a people were at one time morally superior to the larger culture but we have lost much in the past twenty years because of our moral depravity. The very moral fabric of African American culture, whether in Lubbock, Texas or New York City is disintegrating because of OUR sins. The sub-human sins of many our young blacks will give the appearance of what the whole of African Americans are not.



## We Thank God for Jesus "Lord Don't Make Me Wait!!!"

Psalms 27:14, WAIT ON THE LORD; be of a good courage, and he shall strengthen thine heart: WAIT, I SAY, ON THE LORD.

LORD, I see the TERROR all around me; ITS FRIGHTENING: ITS BLOWING MY MIND, I am TURNING TO YOU FOR HELP LORD; PLEASE DON'T STAND ME IN LINE.

PSALM 37:7, 9, REST IN THE LORD, and wait PATIENTLY FOR HIM: fret not thyself because of him who prospereth in his way, because of the man who bringeth wicked devices to pass. For EVILDOERS SHALL BE CUT OFF: but those that WAIT UPON THE LORD, THEY SHALL INHERIT THE EARTH.

But I am VERY IMPATIENCE, I HATE THE LONG SUPER-MARKET LINES, I WAIT AND WAIT AND WAIT; THEN THE CHECKER PUTS UP THE REGISTER CLOSE SIGN.

Psalm 37:34 WAIT ON THE LORD, and keep his ways, and he shall exalt thee to inherit the land: when the wicked are cut off, thou shalt see it.

LORD, THE MISSIONARY said: TURN MY LIFE OVER TO YOU; THAT YOU WAS THE WAY I'VE BEEN PRAYING TO YOU FOR A MINUTE NOW; I ANT GOT ALL DAY.

Hebrews 10:35, 36, Cast not away therefore you: CONFIDENCE, which hath great RECOMPENCE OF REWARD, For ye have need of PATIENCE, that, after ye have done the will OF GOD, ye might receive THE PROMISE.

PLEASE, don't do me like the do at BANKS, WAIT 20 MINUTES IN THE LINE, THEN THE COMPUTER BRAKES DOWN: IT HAPPENS TO ME MANY TIMES.

Proverb 14:29, He that is slow to wrath is of great UNDERSTANDING: BUT he that is HASTY (SMALL) OF SPIRIT EXALTETH FOLLY (FOOLISHLY).

PATIENCE: I don't have I REMEMBER THE 70'S, GAS SHORTAGE LINES, GET TO THE PUMPS, AND IT WOULD SELL OUT; IT HAPPEN TO ME MANY TIMES.

Ecclesiastes 7:8, 9, Better is the end of a thing than the beginning thereof: and the patient in spirit is better than the proud in

spirit. Be not hasty in thy spirit to be angry: for anger resteth in the bosom of FOOLS.

LORD, I see long line of SINNER; THEY're ALL GOING THE WRONG WAY, BUT I'VE MADE IT UP IN MY HEART; TO GIVE YOU, MY LIFE TODAY.

Matthew 11:28, JESUS SAID, Come unto me, all ye that labour and are heavy laden, and I will give you REST.

I THANK YOU LORD; FOR HEARING MY PRAYER; FOR SALVATION AND A NEW LIFE, EVERYONE SEE THE NEW MAN IN ME; SPECIALLY MY CHILDREN AND MY WIFE.

ROMANS 10:9, If thou shalt CONFESS with thy MOUTH THE LORD JESUS, and shalt BELIEVE in thine HEART that GOD hath RAISED HIM FROM THE DEAD, THOU SHALT BE SAVED.

LORD, NOW I FEEL SO NEW; AND MY LIFE IS EVER SO NICE, YOU WAS THERE ALL THE TIME; ALL I NEEDED: WAS YOU, JESUS CHRIST.

JOHN 8:31b, 32, JESUS SAID, IF YE CONTINUE IN MY WORD, then are ye MY DISCIPLES INDEED; And ye shall know the TRUTH (JESUS), AND THE TRUTH (JESUS) SHALL MAKE YOU FREE.

LORD, now that you've SAVED ME, and I'm WALKING WITH YOU; THE LIGHT, I STUDY YOUR WORD, THE HOLY BIBLE; IT HAS BECOME MY DAILY DELIGHT.

Psalm 40:1-3, I WAITED PATIENTLY FOR THE LORD; and he inclined unto me, and heard my CRY. HE bought me up also out of an HORRIBLE PIT, out of the miry clay, and set my feet upon a ROCK, and established my GOINGS. And he put a NEW SONG in my mouth, even PRAISE unto OUR GOD: many shall see it, and FEAR, AND SHALL TRUST IN THE LORD.

LORD, I'LL NOW LET YOU DIRECT MY PATH; AND ALL THE THINGS I DO, AND I'LL TELL A DYING WORLD; THAT YOU'LL DO THE SAME FOR THEM TOO.

Mark 16:15, JESUS SAID, GO ye into all the WORLD (SOCIAL SIN SYSTEM), and PREACH THE GOSPEL TO EVERY CREATURE.

\*\*\*\* I AM JUST A NOBODY, TRYING TO TELL EVERYBODY, ABOUT SOMEBODY, WHO CAN SAVE; EVERYBODY!!! \*\*\*\*

GOD IS NOT THROUGH WITH US YET. SO LET'S PRAY FOR ONE ANOTHER ALWAYS.

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## The Outreach Prayer Breakfast

The Outreach Prayer Breakfast met Saturday morning at Parkway Nursing Center. Devotion opened with songs of praise. Scripture by Sis. Burselson, Rom. 8:1-4.

Morning Scripture Lesson by Rev. W.H. Stephens: The Resurrection of Jesus—I Cor. 15.

All churches have people who do not believe. Some are moving in the direction of belief and others are simply pretending impostors. The good news saves us if we believe it. I passed on to you right from the beginning what had been told to me, that Christ died for our sins just as the scriptures said he would, and that he was buried, and that three days afterwards he arose from the grave just as the prophets foretold.

This speaker said, some are always trying to take credit for something. Never be ashamed to be a witness for Christ. He died for our sin, so we could have a choice, today. If Christ be not risen our living is in vain. The resurrection of Jesus is the cornerstone of the Christian faith. Has anybody cheated death and proved it? They went to the tomb of Jesus and found it empty; this is a fact.

"He's Alive," and because he lives we can face tomorrow. Thanks, Rev. Stephens, for the word. We love you.

Thought: Instead of calling the past Friday good

Friday, it would be nice if we called it *Crucifixion Day*.

Instead of calling Sunday Easter, call it *Resurrection Day*. No egg rolls, no rabbits, no chickens. This does not fit such a great event. And teach our children this from the *cradle to the grave*.

Tell them that Christmas is about the *birth of our Lord Jesus*. Not Santa Claus, reindeer, Frosty the Snowman. If it's his birthday, why not give the gifts to *Jesus, our total lives*.

And Thanksgiving, tell them it's about being thankful for what God has blessed us with, little or much, not the turkey and pumpkin pie and an overstuffed body.

We are redirecting every important day, but Halloween we don't try to redirect. This day—*why???* Ghosts & Goblins & Witches—with these words we know it's the *devil's night*.

Think about it, *Sabits*. Keep smiling, and believing the word of God. It's working so well.

To all of you that's not feeling well, read and believe II Chro. 7:14, Mark 11:22-26. Stay in a prayerful attitude daily. Our Lord wants you to be in *health*. Write P.O. Box 1223, Lubbock, TX 79408

### Poems Wanted for Contest and Anthology

Sparrowgrass Poetry Forum Inc. is offering a grand prize of \$500 in its new Distinguished Poet Awards poetry contest. Thirty-four other cash awards are also being offered. The contest is free to enter.

Poets may enter one poem only, 20 lines or less, on any subject, in any style. Contest closes May 31, 1995, but poets are encouraged to submit their work as soon as possible, since poems entered in the contest also will be considered for publication in *Treasured Poems of America*, a hardcover anthology. Prizes will be awarded by July 31, 1995.

"We are looking for sincerity and originality in a wide variety of styles and themes," says Jerome P. Welch, Publisher. "You do not have to be an experienced poet to enter or win."

Poems should be sent to Sparrowgrass Poetry Forum Inc., Dept. E, 203 Diamond Street, Sistersville, WV 26175

## 18th Annual Ladies Day

The Twentieth & Birch Street Church invites you to attend their 18th Annual Ladies Day Lectureship Saturday, April 29, 1995. Registration is from 8:30 a.m. to 9:00 a.m.

The theme is "A Friend to Jesus in the 90's."

Scheduled speakers are: Verlene Lemons of Midland, Texas; Dorothy Chapell of Dallas, Texas; and Essie M. Teanor of Houston, Texas.

Come one, come all!

## "Along the Color Line"

Dr. Manning Marable

In recent weeks and months, the politics of race has been expressed through a variety of issues and events: for example, affirmative action and minority set-aside programs are publicly attacked as policies promoting "reverse discrimination"; the televised trial of former football superstar O.J. Simpson continues to fascinate millions of Americans, with its burlesque mixture of interracial sex, double-homicide, spousal abuse, and police misconduct; welfare programs are under new scrutiny, with calls for mandatory work by AFDC recipients, and demands to outlaw support to unwed mothers under the age of eighteen; and new restrictions are being pushed on nonwhite immigrants, from the denial of access to public medical services to the imposition of "English Only" language requirements. "Race" thus continues to be central to American politics, but its definition and meaning are being radically transformed.

One reason for this is the massive migration of millions of Latin American, Caribbean, Asian and African people into the US, as well as in Western Europe, since the 1960s. The influx of these new minorities in Europe has meant the break down of older racial identities and communities. For example, in the United Kingdom by the 1970s, immigrants from the Caribbean, Asian and Africa of radically divergent ethnic backgrounds and languages began to term themselves "black", as a political entity. In the US, the search for both disaggregation and rearticulation of group identity and consciousness among people of color is also occurring, although along different lines due to distinct historical experiences and backgrounds. In the Hawaiian islands, for example, many of the quarter million native Hawaiians support the movement for political sovereignty and self-determination. But do native Hawaiians have more in common culturally and politically with American Indians or Pacific islanders? What are the parallels and distinctions between the discrimination experienced by Mexican Americans in the US Southwest and African-Americans under slavery and Jim Crow segregation? Do the more than five million Americans of Arab, Kurdish, Turkish and Iranian nationality and descent have a socioeconomic experience in the US which places them in conflict with native-born African-Americans, or is there sufficient commonality of interest and social affinity which provides the potential

framework for principled activism and unity?

Similar questions about social distinctions rooted in mixed ethnic heritages and backgrounds could be raised within the black community itself. At least three out of four native-born Americans of African descent in the US have to some extent a racial heritage which is also American Indian, European, Asian and/or Hispanic. Throughout much of the Americas, racial categories were varied and complex, reflecting a range of social perceptions based on physical appearance, color, hair texture, class, social status and other considerations. In the US prior to the Civil Rights Movement, with a few exceptions, the overwhelmingly dominant categorization was "black" and "white". In the late 1970s, the Federal government adopted a model for collecting Census data based on four "races"—black, Asian, American Indian or white—and two ethnic groups—Hispanic and non-Hispanic—which could be of whatever "racial" identity. Today, all of these categories are being contested and questioned. Some of the hundreds of thousands of African-Americans and whites who intermarry have begun to call for a special category for their children—"multiracial". By 1994, three states required a "multiracial" designation on public school forms, and Georgia has established the "multiracial" category on its mandatory state paperwork. The "multiracial" designation, if popularized and structured into the state bureaucracy, could have the dangerous effect of siphoning off a segment of what had been the "black community" into a distinct and potentially privileged elite, protected from the normal vicissitudes and ordeals experienced by black folk under institutional racism. It could become a kind of "passing" for the twenty-first century, standing apart from the definition of blackness. Conversely, as more immigrants from the African continent and the Caribbean intermarry native-born black Americans, notions of what it means to be "black" become culturally and ethnically far more pluralistic and international. The category of "blackness" becomes less parochial and more expansive, incorporating the diverse languages, histories, rituals and aesthetic textures of new populations and societies.

Dr. Manning Marable is Professor of History and Director of the Institute for Research in African-American Studies, Columbia University, New York City. "Along the Color Line" appears in over 275 newspapers and is featured by 80 radio stations internationally.

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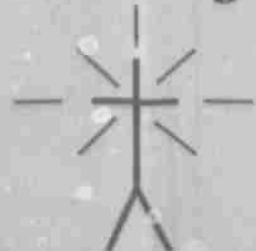
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**JUST THINKING**  
**By Maurice A. Dawkins**  
**Black Republicans and Affirmative Action**

They claim that Richard Nixon really took the Lyndon Johnson concept of affirmative action and made it work to the advantage of blacks in business. They say that his "Black Capitalism" executive orders made more blacks richer than ever before in American history. They say that black Republican Civil Rights Commissioner Arthur Fletcher was the real father of affirmative action, as the man who created the Philadelphia Plan to eliminate racial discrimination in unions and the building trades. They point to the records of white Republican Earl Warren, and Senators Everett Dirksen, Howard Baker, Bob Dole, Hugh Scott, Dick Schweiker, Arlen Specter, and black Senator Ed Brooke, strong supporters of the NAACP's Clarence Mitchell and civil rights legislation. They will tell you about Eisenhower's Attorney General Brownell, who got the first civil rights bill signed into law since Reconstruction during a Republican administration. Yes, they will point to Adam Clayton Powell campaigning to elect Ike in 1956 and his getting 28% of the black vote because of Republican commitments made to support civil rights. They will remind you of stalwart NAACP civil rights leaders who were Republican, such as Sam Jackson, Sam Cornelius, John Wilks, Ed Sexton, George Haley, Jewel Lafontant, Celes King, James Farmer, Roy Innis and Ersa Poston. They will point to Maurice Dawkins, who marched in the 60s in non violent demonstrations and Bob Brown, who raised funds for many Martin Luther King initiatives, including his Southern Christian Leadership Conference. They might take you back to black attorney Grant Reynolds, an A. Philip Randolph protege who successfully fought to get Harry Truman to desegregate the armed forces with the old March on Washington Movement.

I was just thinking that there is a long and honorable list of black Republicans, who, through the last 100 years, have made invaluable contributions to civil rights progress in this country. Of course, Frederick Douglass was a black Republican and a relentless fighter for freedom. So how ironic that in 1995, a hundred years later, we find headlines reading "The End of Affirmative Action and Color Blind Initiative Makes Foes See Red." How ironic that a Republican majority leader in the Congress calls for an end to race-based preference and a rebirth of equal opportunity on a level playing field. Of course, civil rights advocates protest that the playing field is not level yet, although it may be some day. Republican Senate Majority Leader Dole and Democrat President Clinton both call for review of affirmative action laws. Jesse Jackson cries out that review shouldn't mean retreat.

Gov. Pete Wilson of California prepares to make a color-blind society a major issue in the 1996 Presidential campaign. Reverse discrimination cases are being reviewed by the U.S. Supreme Court. White billionaires exploiting minority businesses set aside laws are exposed in congressional hearings as having millionaire blacks fronting for hundreds of millions in tax exemptions. A white contractor with the lowest bid is rejected in favor of a Hispanic contractor to assure diversity and he protests that Hispanics were not even slaves and oppressed victims of Jim Crow in America. So why he asks, should they get preference over a son of white poor people. Whatever happened to Fair Employment Practices? Or have they been changed? Or do they need to be redefined? Just who has affirmative action helped? Has it done more for white women than black men... more for elite professionals than working masses? Has it outlived its usefulness? Has the need been met, the problem solved?

Well, the National Republican Civil Rights Task Force is issuing a call for a one-day conference in Washington, D.C. to hold an agonizing reappraisal of affirmative action. This task force has worked quietly for more than 20 years to make sure that the Republican Party can get on the right track when it comes to finishing the unfinished business of civil rights. They have fought to have a civil rights plank in the party platform and to get Republican presidents to sign civil rights laws including the Martin Luther King, Jr. Holiday. They have lobbied to get Republican votes for the Civil Rights Act of 1964, the Voting Rights Act of 1965, the Fair Housing Act of 1968 and all other civil rights bills leading up through 1991. Now comes the battle for the minds of the Republican majorities in the Dole-Gingrich era. We look with interest and some hope to the Task Force appointed by Speaker Newt Gingrich to handle racial minority issues. But black Republicans must provide the real leadership in the struggle to keep the Republicans from throwing out the baby with the bath water as they seek to affirm a faith in a color-blind society and the goodness of the American people to do the right thing in race relations.

The call to conscience that went out to black Republicans across the country sets the proper tone. It states: "During the Dole-Gingrich revolution we still are engaged in a fight for freedom. Democratization overseas and finishing the unfinished business of civil rights here at home. That unfinished business is a wake up call to the conscience of America. The Republicans of 1995 must call for blacks and whites alike to hold our Republican Party accountable for improving race relations and reducing the racial tensions in business, employment, schools and social institutions. We must hold up the banner of equal justice under the law, equal economic opportunity and equal access to the political process."

*Rev. Maurice Dawkins has been a civil rights activist since 1943 and a Republican since 1968. He has worked with the leaders in the NAACP, the SCLC, CORE, the Leadership Conference on Civil Rights and the Urban League, before serving as a Chairman of the Black Republican Task Force on Civil Rights.*

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