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Southwest Digest

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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 NEWS

Minority Golf Association Announces 1996-97 Scholarships

In its 15 year history, the National Minority Junior Scholarship Association (NMJSA) has been providing much needed assistance to minority athletes across the country. To date, 356 student athletes have benefited from the over \$435,000 that has been awarded through the association's fundraising efforts. This year a record breaking 70 students will receive assistance totaling \$102,000. In 1995-96, \$72,000 was awarded to 55 students. In addition the recipients of the joint Jackie Robinson/NMJSA scholarship will receive a \$5000 yearly award for four years. The are Eric Danridge, Sparta, IL (Jackson State), Steven Blount, Detroit, MI (Ferris State), Ahmad Perry, Durham, NC (Hampton) and E. Scott Petty, Peoria, IL (Illinois State). Bill Dickey, president of NMJSA, established the non-profit organization in 1984 to generate funds to help minority students pursue their education while playing and developing their golf skills at a college level. He wanted to provide opportunities for under privileged youth to learn about the game of golf and develop a network for young African-American golfers. The organization has since amassed an endowment fund of over \$400,000.

Chicago Street Honors Nation of Islam Founder

Admirers of the late Nation of Islam (NOI) founder, Elijah Muhammad recently celebrated the life of their leader and the formal naming of a street in Chicago's south side after him, reports the Chicago Defender. With Munir Muhammad, the NOI's business manager officiating, members of the Coalition for the Remembrance of Elijah gathered to rename 71st Street "C.R.O.E. Lane," the group's acronym. Munir said Elijah will be remembered the lives of prisoners nationwide and for creating schools, mosques, social service centers, farms, housing, rehabilitation centers and businesses in places like Detroit which also has a street bearing his name. Other honors have been extended nationwide: The late Richard J. Daley set aside March 29 to honor Elijah Muhammad, similarly Richard Hatcher then Mayor of Gary, IN, designated Dec. 13 as a day for remembering Muhammad and since 1975 still more public officials have reserved Feb. 3-9 for Muhammad Week.

Rainbow Holds Forum on Race and Racism in Sports Media

After examining the death of Blacks in the sports media, the Rainbow Coalition for Fairness in Athletics recently held a forum in New York City to examine race and racism in the sports media. The forum was held in conjunction with the National Association of Black Journalists Sports Task Force and the New York Black Sports Writers Association. Reverend Jesse Jackson said the forum was needed "to answer allegations of bias by the white dominated sports media as it relates to coverage and treatment of Black athletes and Blacks in the sports industry." Of 1,600 daily newspapers in the country, only 10 have a Black sports columnist. At those papers only two have Black sports editors. About 80 percent of radio and television broadcasters covering professional sports are white. The NBA is 80 percent Black, the NFL 67 percent Black and Major League Baseball is 37 percent Black or Latino, while almost 80 percent of the employees in those leagues' front offices are white.

DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. BIRTHDAY CELEBRATION SET FOR 1997

Sponsored by: Martin Luther King, Jr.
Commemorative Council of Lubbock, Inc.

The year of 1988 marked the first observance of the birthday of the late Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. as a national holiday. It is time for rejoicing and reflecting. The members of the Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Commemorative Council of Lubbock, Inc. are rejoicing because, in his short life, Dr. King, by his preaching, his example, and his leadership, helped to move all of us closer to the ideals on which America was founded.

Therefore, the local effort will reflect on all of this, beginning Thursday night, January 16, through Monday evening, January 20th. With a theme, "The Wheels of Justice Are Rolling Backward," much has been planned for this year's celebration. Mrs. Joan Y. Ervin, President of the local effort, says: "We need to stay focused on what Dr. King stood for, and we must not let wheels continue to fall off. If we stand back, we are making it more difficult for our young people."

The "Grand Opening" will be held at the Lyons Chapel Baptist Church, East 24th Street and Martin Luther King, Blvd., Thursday evening, beginning at 7:00 p.m. Rev. Wendell D. Davis is the host pastor. The Martin Luther King, Jr. Mass Choir will be singing. Director is Brother Samuel Curtis. Rev. Billy R. Moton, pastor of the New Hope Baptist Church will be the speaker of the hour.

Friday, January 17th, at 7:00 p.m. at the Mt. Gilead Baptist Church, 2511 Fir Avenue, where Rev. J.J. Johnson is pastor, will be a great effort. This is the annual "Youth Nite", where young people of the community come forth and give their special presentations to the birthday party in honor of Dr. King. The music will feature the Martin Luther King's Sara D. Blocker Youth Choir, under the direction of Ms. Mary White, director. "We are so proud of those young people as this choir is named after a young woman who was concerned about our youth," said Mrs. Ervin.

The City Wide Celebration will take place again this year at the Lubbock Memorial Civic Center Theatre at 5:00 p.m. Guest speaker for this affair will be Rev. Willie L. Brown, pastor of the St. Luke African Methodist Episcopal Church of Garland, Texas. A special treat this year will be a choir compiled of men of the community, with Brother William Shumate as director and assisted by musicians of the community.

Rev. Brown, who was called into the ministry at the age of 19 in Hillsboro, Texas was reared in Dallas, Texas. He attended Booker T. Washington High School and also Butler College in Tyler, Texas. After attending Butler College, he attended B.T.H. Amity Theological Institute, and received a Bachelor of Science Degree from Sleston Christina College.

Rev. Brown has pastored churches in Odessa, Abilene, Corpus Christi and Dallas, Texas. He has served as the President of Ministers Alliance in Corpus Christi Texas. He is also the Minister of the Year Southside Ministers Fellowship, Odessa, Texas in 1979. In 1983, Rev. Brown was awarded the "President's Award Paul Quinn College." He also received the M.V.P. Award East Texas Academy, Butler College in 1985.

Rev. Brown has also been honored by the League of Involved Women Media 1990 in Dallas, Texas. He has also received the V.I.P. Award from the Fredrick Douglas School in Dallas, Texas.

He has also utilized his professional expertise in the following areas: Abilene Community Coordinator of Volunteers, Department of Human Resources 1978; Director of Odessa Senior Citizens Center, 1979-80; Chaplain of Smith Jail, Tyler, Texas, 1985-86; Counselor for County Jail, Corpus Christi, Texas and other areas of involvement.

"We have invited men from all over the city to participate in the Martin Luther King, Jr. Male Chorus," said Mrs. Erin. "We are just happy with all of those men who have come forth to participate in the first annual Male Choir," continued Mrs. Ervin.

With Monday, January 20th, being the "Birthday Celebration", Rev. J.J. Johnson, pastor of the Mt. Gilead Baptist Church, bringing the message at the Mt. Vernon United Methodist Church, 2302 Cedar Avenue. Rev. Todd Raspberry is pastor. The Martin Luther King, Jr. Mass Choir will be singing.

"We are just inviting the entire city to come out and become a part of this celebration," says Mrs. Ervin. "This is a very good way to being 1997, by bring the city together as it should be," she continued.

If there is any additional information you would need concerning this celebration, you may contact Mrs. Erwin at 763-0853.



Rev Willie L. Brown

Vice President Addresses Students

Vice President Al Gore addressed more than 100 student government leaders and college media editors from Historically Black Colleges and Universities, (HBCUs), at a White House briefing. The Vice President talked about the Clinton Administration's support for HBVUs, the significance of the "Black College Experience" and the importance the Administration places on providing educational opportunities to all Americans:

"In the last three years, I'm proud to say that we've accomplished a lot to give you a better future...student loan reform...National Service...safer communities... a cleaner environment...not to mention jobs for you when you get out of school — 8 million new jobs since we took office, and African-American unemployment is at one of the lowest rates in 20 years."

But the Vice President also told the students much more has to be done:

"We still have a way to go before we can say that America is a land of equal opportunity. There's still too much division. There are still too many people who don't feel they are moving forward — in fact, they are feeling left further and further behind."

The students got to ask questions and were briefed by other members of the White House

including Catherine LeBlanc, Executive Director for the White House Initiative on Historically Black Colleges and Universities.

Enclosed is a picture from the event. Pictured from left to right are: Vice President, Al Gore; Catherine LeBlanc, Executive Director for the White House Initiative on Historically Black Colleges and Universities and Peggy Lewis, Director of Specialty Press for the White House.



Vice President Gore

JOE ARINGTON CANCER

CENTER TO PRESENT

"SOUL CONNECTION: THE POWER OF FAITH"

TUESDAY, JANUARY 21, 1997

LUBBOCK, TEXAS-St. Mary Hospital's Joe Arrington Cancer Research and Treatment Center (JACC) will present Soul Connection: The Power Of Faith, Tuesday, Jan. 21, 1997, from 7 to 8:30 p.m., at St. Mary Education Center (6502 Slide Road).

This panel discussion about the connection between faith and healing will feature the Rev. Samuel Brown-Dawson, Psychologist Charles Giles, Ph.D., and Medical Oncologist Donald Quick, M.D. In addition to individual presentations, panelists will answer questions from the audience.

Soul Connection: The Power Of Faith, is open to the public at no charge; however, because space is limited, reservations are required. For more information or to make reservations, call (806) 796-4777.

Big Event For Digest Coming Soon

The Digest has a major event planned for the near future. This will be a major project. Watch the Digest for more information.



Ruby Jay's Corner

The New Hope Baptist Church, 2002 Birch Avenue, is the "Church Where The People Really Care," and Rev. Billy R. Moton is the proud pastor.

Due to the inclement weather last Sunday morning, with three inches of snow, there were some members of New Hope thanked God for His goodness and came out to services last Sunday.

Services were as usual, beginning with Sunday School at 9:30 a.m. It was a beautiful lesson, and all present participated in the morning lesson.

Last Sunday was Youth Sunday, and they were in charge of services. They did a wonderful job. The Youth Choir sang and did a wonderful job. Following the processional of the Youth Choir, altar prayer was offered. This was followed by a prayer, song and scripture by Sister Lisa Skief. There was another selection, and responsive reading was done with the congregation standing. The morning hymn was "The Lord Will Make Away Some How."

Pastoral observations were given by Pastor Moton. Pastor Moton always reminds us of prayer meeting each week and wants everyone to be present on Wednesday evenings. Following the sermonic hymn, "Amazing Grace," Pastor Moton brought the morning sermon. He didn't let his being ill prevent him from bring forth a strong message. His scripture text was found in St. Luke 13:24-30. His subject was "Where Will You Be When The Door Is Shut." This is a very good question to answer. It makes one think about it.

Our sick and shut-in list is growing each week. Please don't stop praying for those who are ill. Remember God said "Pray without ceasing." When you pray, please include Brother Mannie Williams. Pray for his wife as well.

Sister Laura Skief is a patient in University

Medical Center Sister Dorothy Seales' mother is ill also. Among our bereaved families include Sister Wavie Johnson who was funeralized last Thursday at St. Matthew Baptist Church where Rev. R.S. Stanley is the pastor. Services were officiated by Brother Leroy Green and Rev. James Cavanaugh. She was the daughter-in-law of Sister Mable Biggers who is a member of New Hope Baptist Church.

Last Saturday morning, at 11:00 a.m., services were held for Brother Roosevelt Murphy in the Carlisle Baptist Church. Burial was held in Rest Haven Memorial Park.

He was a faithful Christina man who was dutiful in his church and loved by all who knew him.

Sister Judith Struggs returned home last week from Minnesota where she and granddaughter had a lovely trip with sisters and a brother. Her trip was a Christmas gift from her brother. The First of January was her birthday, and she reported a wonderful trip. She says: "Thanks to her relatives."

Thank God for the snow. It was very much needed for the moister.

Brother Henry High was so happy to receive the watch as a gift from the U.S. Postal Office. He brought it to church last Sunday to show it off. It was so beautiful.

Sister Lou Ella Hall is doing nicely, and is home from the hospital.

Happy Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Birthday!

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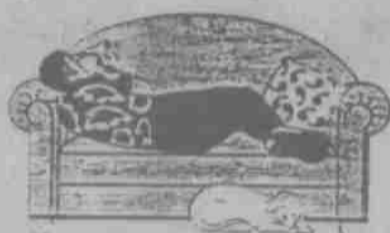
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As we pause to honor Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.
we are reminded that our proud heritage is
the key to a successful future. Let's work together
to make Lubbock a better place to live.



Windy
Sitton
for Mayor
Leadership for a Thriving Lubbock

DELTA SIGMA THETA BOARD MOVES NATIONAL CONVENTION FROM CALIFORNIA

WASHINGTON, DC - At its national executive board meeting held on Saturday, December 7, 1996 in the nation's capital, Delta Sigma Theta Sorority (DST), a national public service sorority, voted to reverse its decision to hold its national convention in San Diego in the year 2004. Marcia L. Fudge, Esq., national president of the 190,000-member predominately African-American women's organization, stated that in view of California's recent passage of Proposition 209 which eliminates Affirmative Action in that state, the Delta leadership deemed it necessary to move its convention as well as relocate its 1999 Farwest Regional Conference slated for San Jose.

The Sorority is directing its 55 chapters located in California to refrain from hosting any major special events in commercial facilities that generate substantial revenue for the state's tourism industry. Delta chapters are asked to seek alternative sites such as church properties and privately owned school's, and community centers. Attorney Fudge of Cleveland noted that the Sorority's national convention could generate approximately 12 million in revenue for its host city.

"We are also urging other organizations to review their plans for conventions, conferences and other events that support California's tourism business," said the Delta president.

National President Fudge, joined by Betty A. McGill, director of the Farwest Region, and other 38 board members from throughout the country are upholding the Sorority's commitment to support Affirmative Action. "By changing the venue for our national convention and regional conference we are saying to the state of California that we will conduct our business in a more welcome environment." For many years, the Delta Sorority has vigorously opposed any initiatives that eliminate or debilitate Affirmative Action laws. The organization, comprised of college-educated, professional women, has directed its members to take a positive stand on Affirmative Action. The DST president explains that the Sorority overwhelmingly supports Affirmative Action because it has increased the number of women and minorities in the workforce, thus decreasing the disparity between them and the majority workforce.

"Discriminatory practices continue to stifle the equitable participation of African-Americans and women and we remain underrepresented in virtually all sectors in society. Affirmative Action has provided for increased educational

opportunities for minority student, seeking careers in professions requiring advanced degrees. We need Affirmative Action programs throughout this country to ensure fair practices and fair economic rights for all citizens," stated Fudge.

The Delta president also explains that it is a myth that Affirmative Action dictates that unqualified persons of color and women be given preferences regarding employment or educational opportunities. "That is not what Affirmative Action proclaims...it simply mandates that all persons regardless of race or gender be given an equal opportunity on a level playing field," stated Attorney Fudge.

Delta Sigma Theta Sorority is an 83-year old organization with 870 plus chapters located throughout the United States and abroad. The Sorority is organized in seven geographic regions. The Farwest Region includes the states of Alaska, Arizona, California, Hawaii, Idaho, Japan, Nevada, Oregon, Utah, Washington and the Republic of Korea. The mission of the Sorority is to improve the welfare of humankind through public service. The programs of Delta are centered around its Five Point Program Thrust: Economic Development, Educational Development, International Awareness and Involvement, Physical and Mental Health, and Political Awareness and Involvement.



741-1000

LOCAL POET PUBLISHED IN NATIONAL ANTHOLOGY

Lovie Nunley, 2723 East 9th Street, who is an employee of Methodist Hospital, has just had original poetry published in *Portraits of Life*, a treasury of today's poetry compiled by The National Library of Poetry. The poem is entitled "Flight of Life," and the main subject is "How Life Passed By You In A Blink Of An Eye."

The National Library of Poetry seeks to discover and encourage poets like Lovie Nunley by sponsoring contests that are open to the public and by publishing poems in widely distributed hardback volumes.

Lovie Nunley has been writing for two years and

her favorite subjects and ideas are one day, in the very near future, to write novels and become a script writer.

Poets interested in publication may send one original poem, any subject or style, 20 lines or less, to The National Library of Poetry, 1 Poetry Plaza, Suite 13712, Owings Mills, Maryland 21117-6282. Please be sure to include your name and address with your poem.

All poems received are also entered in The National Library of Poetry's North American Open Poetry Contest, with awards over \$48,000,000 in prizes annually.

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Obituary



Waivie Lee Johnson

Funeral services were held for Waivie Lee Johnson last Thursday, January 9, 1997 at the St. Matthews Baptist Church with Brother Leroy Green and Rev. James Cavanaugh officiating. Rev. R.S. Stanely is pastor.

Interment was held in Peaceful Gardens Cemetery in Woodrow, Texas under the direction of Ossie Curry Funeral Home.

Sister Johnson died Saturday, January 4, 1997 in Highland Hospital.

A native of Houston, Texas, she was born December 15, 1935.

She leaves to mourn her passing: five sons:

Major Lee White of Houston, Texas, Hampton White, Johnny Johnson and Donald Johnson, all of Lubbock, Texas and Herbert Johnson, Jr. of Abilene, Texas; five daughters: Gloria Smith, Barbara Johnson, Angela Johnson and Arlene Johnson, all of Lubbock, Texas and Colleen Johnson of Amarillo, Texas; three brothers: Willie L. White of Lubbock, Texas, John D. White of Abilene, Texas and Ernest Gene Wilson of Hale Center, Texas; two sisters, Adell V. Green and Della M. Cooper, both of Lubbock, Texas; and 17 grandchildren, and two great grandchildren.

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THURSDAY NATIONAL DO FOR SELF DAY

Acknowledged Spiritual Leader and Teacher of the Nation of Islam, Supreme Minister John Muhammad, proclaims THURSDAYS as our NATIONAL DO FOR SELF DAY, for all Blacks Americans.

Mr. Muhammad is fulfilling a promises to his brother, THE MOST HONORABLE ELIJAH MUHAMMAD, by continuing the teachings and the uplifting of the Black men and women in America, through unity and self-sufficiency.

One day a week Black people will Do For

Self by purchasing all their needs from Black businesses only. This will help Black communities throughout America who are suffering economical hardships.

Mr. Muhammad wants to redirect the estimated Four hundred and twenty Billion Dollars, annually spent by Black as consumers. "WE MUST UNITE AND DO SOMETHING FOR OURSELVES AS A PEOPLE," says Mr. Muhammad, each THURSDAY of every week beginning immediately.

Windy Sitton will be a mayor who will unite our City because her agenda is simple: "Work together to find new approaches and ideas to meet the challenges that are ahead for our city."

"Let's face the challenges of the future together."

- Encourage Private Sector Job Creation
- Strategically Market Lubbock
- Responsible Stewardship of Taxpayers' Money
- Enhance Relationships with Texas Tech, LCU, WBU and SPC
- Promote Safe and Clean Neighborhoods

Windy has the experience and enthusiasm we need. She will first listen, and then lead. She will be a mayor of whom we can all be proud.

Vote Saturday, January 18th.

Windy Sitton
for Mayor
Leadership for a Changing Lubbock



741-1000

Subscribe to the Southwest Digest
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THIS N THAT

HAPPY BIRTHDAY, DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.!! THIS N THAT... who has always been a believer in what the late... DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR... stood for... will be among the community citizens... who will celebrate his... 68th BIRTHDAY... With all of the celebration... in Lubbock, Texas... and the surrounding areas of the ... SOUTH PLAINS OF TEXAS... this will be in concert with the ...MANY MANY PROGRAMS... set through this country... We must keep in mind as we celebrate his birthday... that much happened to him... As he was... AN UNCOMPROMISING CHAMPION OF NONVIOLENCE... HE WAS OFTEN THE VICTIM OF VIOLENCE... As we read in the various publications... and ... hear and see on national outlets... A SHAMEFUL ACT OF VIOLENCE... cut his life short... before he had an opportunity to reach his... FORTIETH BIRTHDAY... So when we attend the various programs of what this man... DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING JR... stood for... in those days when you really had to believe in what you stood for... regardless of the outcome... The late...DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. STOOD TALL FOR ALL AMERICANS... Will you help us celebrate this... BIRTHDAY CELEBRATION... this week??? Hope you will stand tall with... THIS N THAT!!! See you around the program area!!

D.C. KINNER THE BARBER SAYS: "The... STRONGEST MAN... in the world... is he who... STANDS ALONE..." DID-JAKOW!! THIS N THAT... reminds us that it was... PRESIDENT RONALD REAGAN... who did sign the ... PROCLAMATION... setting the... THIRD MONDAY... in January... as the official holiday for the celebration... of the birthday of ... the late... DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR... It was a VERY HARD TASK... but it did happen... For that... WE THANK ALMIGHTY GOD FOR WHAT HE HAS DONE FOR HIS PEOPLE OF COLOR...

CONGRATS TO THE DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. COMMEMORATIVE COUNCIL OF LUBBOCK, INC.!! THIS N THAT... would like to say...CONGRATS... to the ...DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. COMMEMORATIVE COUNCIL OF LUBBOCK, INC... for another year of... HARD WORK... in working

for a ... SUCCESSFUL CELEBRATION... of the... BIRTHDAY OF THE LATE DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR... For what you have done... and what you will continue to do... we say... CONGRATS!!! May this week's activities... proof to be what you have been working for ... and... hopefully... OUR YOUNG PEOPLE... are better off... because of what each of you have done... MAY GOD CONTINUE TO BLESS EACH OF YOU... in your important efforts of making our community a... MUCH BETTER PLACE FOR ALL OF US...

PROUD OF UPWARD BOUND STUDENTS!! THIS N THAT... visited with at least ... EIGHTY YOUNG PEOPLE... who are enrolled in the... UPWARD BOUND PROGRAM... on the campus of Texas Tech University... a program which was established in 1967... What a wonderful program... and we thank God for such a dedicated staff... with people like... BROTHER ERIC E. STRONG... assistant director... appreciate what you are doing for all kids of Lubbock... hopefully... The fruits of your labor will always be seen in our community...

HAVE YOU VISITED A PUBLIC OR PRIVATE SCHOOL LATELY!! THIS N THAT... will continue to ask the question: "HAVE YOU VISITED A PUBLIC OR PRIVATE SCHOOL CAMPUS RECENTLY... and if you did what did you see?? THIS N THAT... would hope we would take time this... NEW YEAR... and go to our various school campuses... and let ... OUR YOUNG PEOPLE... know we really care about what they are doing... IF YOU VISIT A CAMPUS THIS WEEK... let us hear from you!!

HAVE YOU DRIVEN AROUND CHATMAN HILL ADDITION LATELY?? THIS N THAT... would advise you should... DRIVE AROUND CHATMAN HILL ADDITION... and see what is going on... You'd be surprised... if you haven't done so lately! People... ALL OVER TOWN... are talking about... CHATMAN HILL ADDITION... Keep up the good work... CHATMAN NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION... WITH... DUKE HOMES... as its president....

IN CINQUE

by Renetta W. Howard



Ever since Congress passed laws in which money was appropriated to assist in the education of the mentally handicapped, especially the educable mentally handicapped, it has been a fact of life. Schools with EMH classes received federal funds for school supplies and funds to train and pay teachers in addition to what the local entity provided. The EMH classroom had stated of the art equipment which was just not available to the regular classroom student or teacher. The money earmarked for these classes had to be spent on these classes or to be lost. Misuse of these funds could constitute an act which could be interpreted as a federal offense. Consequently, the money and the items purchased with the money was carefully scrutinized, inventoried and monitored.

The 'so-called' Title I schools still receive federal funds to defray the cost of an education for the economically disadvantaged as well as the mentally undeveloped or handicapped students, though in many school districts, these students are no longer mainstreamed but included in the regular classroom to

some degree. These students, especially the mentally handicapped or so students, get their big reward at home in what has now been dubbed the 'Crazy Check.'

These 'Crazy Checks' are sent to the parents of the child, some from birth, to help defray the child's living expenses. If a doctor says that he child is eligible for SSI or federal welfare for the aged, blind and disabled who do not qualify for Social Security benefits, then they can get the 'Crazy Check.' SSI is the abbreviation for Supplemental Security Income which is administered by the Social Security Administration but is not paid from Social Security Taxes, but from general revenue. Unlike Social Security payments, one does not have to have worked qualify. In addition, eligibility for SSI can make one eligible for free medical care or Medicaid, the food stamp program and certain social services. In addition, you can keep your car and house without encumbrances.

We need to get 'in cinque' and find out what the full ramifications of the 'Crazy Check' is going to be, especially in light of the fact that all welfare is being scaled down.

The Assassination Of The Black Female Image Part II

By Earl Ofari Hutchinson Ph.D.

On Aug. 22, 1996, President Clinton patted Black former welfare recipient Lillian Harden on the shoulder during the ceremony in which he signed the historic bill overhauling welfare. To Clinton and millions of Americans, Black women like Lillian Harden and America's poster girls for welfare, teen pregnancy, family instability, crime, violence and drugs. They provide much ammunition for the continuing media and political assault on welfare, job, education and social programs. The Lillian Hardens of this world reinforce these myths:

Welfare and Single Parenthood. Harden is not the typical welfare recipient. Nearly two of three welfare recipients live in suburban or rural areas, stay on welfare less than four years, have two children, and are white. When jobs, skills training and child care available welfare recipients grab them.

There is no evidence that poor Black women make babies in order to live luxuriously at state's expense. Even if they wanted to, state has maximum benefit levels that allow recipients to even exist at the official federal poverty level. The national average monthly welfare payout is \$373.

The twin myth persist that Black teens have a monopoly on "illegitimacy." They don't. In 1993, the typical single mother was a white, affluent, well-educated working woman. Sixty percent of out-of-wedlock births were to a white woman and 70 percent to women older than 20. The number of Black unmarried teen girls having babies, though still disproportionately high, has sharply dropped since 1992.

Prison. The draconian cuts by many states in welfare benefits as well as tougher eligibility requirements have shoved many Black women into economic desolation or to the streets. Racially discriminatory drug sentencing laws, biased judges and juries, media sensationalized Black female violence, the get-tough public mood on crime and drugs, and the feminization

of poverty has created a fresh crisis within the legal system. Black women are seven times more likely to be jailed than white women. By 1995, three out of every 100 Black women in some states were being imprisoned at nearly that same rate as white women.

This has wrecked havoc on the Black family. In 1992, 80 percent of women imprisoned were single parents. Eight percent gave birth in prison. The majority of their 167,000 children are warehoused in foster homes and institutions. Deprived of constant parental care and nurturing, many of these children are virtually doomed to perpetuate the cycle of crime-arrest-incarceration.

Image Assault. Drugs, crime, sexual abuse and prison may be reserved for many poor stereotypes and myths. When Lani Guinier, Clinton's first pick to head the Justice department's Civil Rights Division, drew fire for her views on racial redistricting, the Wall Street Journal punched the stereotype hot button. It dubbed her the "quota queen" a not-so-subtle play on the public belief that Black woman equals welfare leech.

The media quickly tagged her with the label and closed off any debate over her actual position on the issues. Clinton read the handwriting and quickly dumped Guinier.

Surgeon General Jocelyn Elders suffered a similar fate. Her intemperate remarks on abortion, condoms, and drug decriminalization brought angry howls from many conversations. (Even though many medical and public health officials said much the same as Elders). She was smeared as an advocate of sexual promiscuity and drug use. There was no national outcry or public protest when Clinton demanded Elder's resignation.

When Energy Secretary Helen O'Leary was accused of free-spending on luxury junkets at taxpayer expense, the media quickly tagged her "globe-trotting" O'Leary. Even though

O'Leary's three predecessors in the Bush and Reagan administrations splurged shamelessly on luxury travel and expensive hotels, they were white, male, conservative, and Republican. There was no demand that they curtail their travel, resign, or be dismissed.

Clinton didn't fire "Globe-trotting" O'Leary, but she was put on notice to mend her alleged spendthrift ways. She wasn't depicted as a welfare queen but probably only a thin line divided her in the public mind from the Black women whom they believe fit in that category.

The middle-and working class Black women on the O.J. Simpson, jury, were not prominent public figures. Yet as they also caught public heat, (while the two white and one Latino jurors were deliberately ignored). The Black jurors insisted that they acquitted Simpson because of the lack of evidence and the prosecution's failure to prove its case beyond a "reasonable doubt."

"Talking head" legal analysts, media commentators, pop authors, comedians, and tabloid TV talk shows called the jurors emotional, ignorant, dupes, racist, and soft on domestic violence. The public's passionate hatred of a Black man they believed got away with murder has punishingly been transferred to the Black women who they believed helped him.

Black women are blamed for the crisis problems of welfare, teen pregnancy, family instability, and increasingly violence, drugs, and sexual misconduct. They are accused of emasculating and taking jobs away from Black men. In addition, their special needs and problems are ignored by many feminists and women's organizations.

One remedy is an intensive, active media and public campaign to counter the negative gender images. If not, Black women will continue to be seen and treated as the other menace to society.

"A Little Reflection"

Eddie P. Richardson



As we enter the New Year 1997 lets reflect on the past a little to see where we come from to see where we are headed. The biggest show of 1996 was the O.J. Simpson murder trial which brought out the true spirit of how racial America still is.

Black people and a few others were accused of cheering O.J. after the verdict was in, not so they were cheering Johnnie Cockran for the job of defending his client, he was accused inventing the race card not so. The race card was around long before the emergence of Johnnie Cockran and will be around long after Johnnie Cockran is gone.

The race card was played by whites in the hangings, lynchings, etc. Of blacks accused of many crimes but most of all of raping white women. This action was always taken for granted, but when a black uses the same tactics it becomes a major event. When blacks cheered and whites grieved it proved one thing racism is still alive and well.

The blacks will stop cheering the controversial things such as the O.J. verdict when the playing fields levels off such as burning of black churches, companies like Denny's, Texaco, Avis, Sears, that has or have had racial problems.

One of the most disgusting things in the race card manners is the method in which that racist neck down in Mississippi Byron DeLa Beckwith, which took various trials and acquittals, it took 30 years to convict a man that said I would have a problem shooting a deer but no problem shooting a nigger, and he shot him in front of his own wife and children with no remorse, and bragged about it for years and said he would never be convicted for killing a nigger.

The then Governor of the state of Mississippi smiled and shook hands with Beckwith in the court room. So what does all of this say every American should forget the race card, communicate with each other and work collectively for the good of all Americans for a better life, a piece of the American dream for all Americans. Until America is truly America for every American, America is not America for any of us.

Back to the cheering of the O.J. verdict which was for Johnnie Cockran, black people do not cheer or support domestic violence, child or spousal abuse, neglect, etc. Than any other American

This thing about America love it or leave it this writer personally is not going to leave it but fight like hell to change it. The ballot is much stronger than the ballot, the militia is not the answer again communication in a positive manner along with the ballot is. America love it or leave it, this writer will be on the last bout behind the last Indian.

As we reflect Johnnie Cockran, did the same thing F. Lee Bailey, Percy Foreman, Joe Tritico and many other top notch white lawyers has done for many years been praised for how good they did.

Then a black man come along use the same producers he is a bad guy, something is wrong. Nuff sed!!!

One last thing that stirs America is Race and Money.

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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.

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THE RACE WAR'S NOT 'COMING IT'S ALREADY HERE!

By Dennis Schatzman

Syndicated columnist Carl Rowan, one of the most senior writers among us, has written a fascinating new book that predicts a "coming race war" in America. I hate to disagree with my most esteemed colleague, even so slightly. The race war is not coming, as Rowan suggests, the "race war" is already here! And, I might add, it has been going on for quite some time.

Black Americans are under attack on so many different fronts that it is almost impossible to mount a decent defense. There are generals with serious battle plans. They (the enemy) even have Joseph Goebbels-like propagandists to spread palatable venom so that it doesn't look like racism.

And of course, there are foot soldiers and even spies and turncoats abound.

Who are the generals? Well, there are many. Let's just name a few. Former President George Bush and retired Col. Oliver North are two that come to mind. Under the guise of "national security," these two conspired to support the Central Intelligence Agency (CIA) and the Nicaraguan Contras by casting a blind eye to their joint effort to raise money for arms. In the process they introduced large quantities of crack cocaine in our nation's inner-city neighborhoods. What a slick move.

California's Governor Pete Wilson qualifies as a Four Star General. In Patton-esque fashion, Wilson has been unapologetic in his sure-fire attempts to create a race war. Not only did he launch a full-scale attack against Black Californians by pushing for the successful passage of Proposition 209—the measure to eliminate affirmative action programs in state government—he warmed up for the full-scale attack by first "bam-rushing" the state's Hispanic community with his equally successful support of last year's Proposition 187. That measure deprives undocumented Latinos of the right to get a public education and to receive health care.

Throw in the leadership of the Anti Defamation League (ADL), if not as members of the top echelon of leadership, at least as members of the scout team. These men, mainly ADL leaders like Cleveland's Clifford Savaran and New York's Abraham Foxman, are quick to tar and feather any Black they don't agree with as "anti-Semites." Foxman was adept at this when he went on the talk show circuit to lam-

baste anyone who supported the Louis Farrakhan-led Million Man March.

The war's chief propagandists are the nation's big-ticket talk show hosts. Among the most aggressive are CNBC's Geraldo Rivera and Charles Grogan. Their full-scale attacks on O.J. Simpson and the Blacks who support his acquittal are the stuff that makes George Creel stand up in his grave and cheer.

Unlike Rivera, who feigns hurt when he's criticized by the Black masses, Grogan doesn't care how much he's vilified in the African-American community. He brings on guest with racist propensities to support his sophistic arguments about the stupidity of Blacks. Rivera, on the other hand, claims he is being fair in his coverage of the Simpson situation and gets mad when intelligent invitees put him and his lock-step guest in their places. He is certainly earning the millions his generals are paying him.

To a lesser extent, the big three newspapers—the New York Times, the Washington Post and the Los Angeles Times play a significant role in the propaganda game. These three sisters have done their best to water down the CIA/crack cocaine story. They have even helped set the agenda on public opinion about the O.J. Simpson saga. All of them have a seat at the current trial as they did in the first trial. I know, I often sat next to their representatives.

Who are the foot soldiers? The police and the judges, of course. Whether it's Fort Lauderdale, Pittsburgh, Los Angeles or Detroit, Black men are being murdered by police. Like soldiers, they have a license to kill while "defending the honor of the nation," as it were.

Judges often sanction this police state behavior. In fact, in at least one venue, some judges say you don't have to be a cop to get away with murdering a Black. Ask Los Angeles County Superior Court Judge Joyce Karlin. She let a local grocer go after a jury convicted her of shooting a 15-year old Black girl in cold blood, all captured on video tape. Her sentence: Probation and a \$500 fine. One Black judge, Alban Niles, was so proud of Karlin he sent her \$200 for her reelection campaign.

Yes, there is a 'race war' going on in America. Blacks are the primary victims and certainly the main targets of the militia. Carl Rowan was certainly hitting around the bulls-eye, but he was just a teeny-weensy off target.

THE INFORMATION SUPER HIGHWAY! WEST COAST BLACK PUBLISHERS PONDER IF IT'S AN ESSENTIAL REVOLUTION FOR DISADVANTAGED OF A BARRIER TO THE ADVANCEMENT OF MINORITIES

Las Vegas • Participants in the opening session of the West Coast Black Publishers Association's (WCBPA) 13th Annual Convention were, in turn, fascinated, disturbed, and apprehensive of the prospects of the information super highway. The publishers were greatly concerned about the electronics revolution's potential effects on poor and/or disadvantaged Americans.

Edward D. Alston, head of Telecom Education Consultants in Los Angeles, urged the entrepreneurs and their associates to arm themselves—and their children, churches, political and business organizations—with whatever was needed to understand the electronics revolution.

He said all Americans need the means to understand the many and innovation technologies that are coming and also the new laws so that minorities can be part of the decision-making for this new age.

"Like it or not, we are a part of the information age. Almost everything will be done differently from the way things are done today," said Alston, a self-proclaimed "futurist." "The only real question is whether disadvantaged people can position themselves to profit from the highway or whether they will suffer from the revolution's steam-roller characteristics."

"Information technologies—while very important to newspapers and to other communications industries—will actually affect each and every one of us," he continued. "We must be prepared to react to this challenge in ways that best benefit ourselves."

Brian Townsend, President of the WCBPA, reminded the audience that "publishers, business and concerned community leaders have long been a beacon for progress in the African-American community."

Townsend pointed out that "there are few outlets for minorities to be informed of how these revolutionary adjustments in our society will touch their private lives or that of their communities."

Heading the information highway discussion session was Gwen Moore, President, GeM Communications, a former California State Legislator and an expert on the new information technology. Other panelists were George Davis, SONY Vice President, World Wide Satellite Services and Lynne Joy Rogers, Executive Director, Urban League/Ron Brown Information Technology and Business Center.

Keynote speaker for the Awards Dinner was Congresswoman Maxine Waters of Los Angeles. She spoke of attempts by minorities to determine whether Central Intelligence Agency operatives were responsible for flooding poor districts of Southern California with crack cocaine.

"Information is an increasingly vital commodity and we are pleased to contribute to the WCBPA discussion of its increasing impact on its members, their businesses and their families," said Frank Gomez, Phillip Morris Companies Inc., a conven-

tion sponsor. "The information superhighway, properly understood and utilized can be of tremendous value to well-informed individuals and groups."

Alston, who holds an engineering degree from Howard University and a masters degree from Vanderbilt University's Owen Graduate School of Management, reminded convention delegates that years ago employers wanted workers who could use a telephone and later a typewriter. Today, he said, workers with computer skills are essential to most new jobs.

Tomorrow, he said, employers will be looking for persons who can master a variety of high tech systems and utilize data to determine trends.

"There will be a lot of jobs out there in the future but few people able to master them, Alston said.

Alston said the same preparation required to meet the challenge of the super highway applies to the entrepreneur wanting to develop a successful business in almost any field one can mention.

He said that publishing, health care and telecommunications providers are among the numerous career fields utilizing electronics systems that can move words, ideas and images from one location to another with speed and accuracy.

Publishers, he added, will profit from being able to move articles, photographs, videos and completed publications. Add to that capability the need for health care professionals to document, send and receive diagnoses of patients studied by experts in distant locations.

Alston told the publishers that industries that service private homes would be caught up in sales, installation and maintenance of these systems. Eventually, he said, a single telephone line would provide a family with direct broadcasting by low level satellites, cellular telephones, faxes, personal computers and access to the internet.

Just days after the black publishers convention, Alston and Ms. Moore, spoke to a delegation of 17 Japanese manufacturers of telecommunications equipment traveling in the U.S.

Alston told a reporter that the delegation was especially interested in the effects the U.S. Telecom Act of 1996 would have on the delivery of entertainment services to consumers.

"Well-informed people from all over the world come to us, and to other 'futurists' concerned with the information super highway," said Alston. "we try very hard to help our country's disadvantaged groups to be a part of the decision-making for the information age."

Contact: Frank Gomez (212) 880-5000

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SOUNDING ALARM ON INFORMATION SUPER HIGHWAY!— Brian Townsend, President, West Coast Black Publishers Association, right, greets telecommunications panelists for the Association's 13th Convention workshop on the electronics revolution in the information super highway. With Townsend (Pocant Reporter, San Bernardino, CA) are, from left: Edward A. Alston, President, Telecom Education Consultants; Lynne Joy Rogers, Executive Director, Urban League Ron Brown Information Technology and Business Center and Gwen Moore, President, GeM Communications. The panel's discussion proved to be one of the most popular of the convention's events. It touched on both fears and hopes the participants to create, as much as is possible, experts sympathetic to their own communities. The Association serves 18 major commercial markets. Its 22-member publications are located in Arizona, California, Nevada, Oregon and Washington, a region noted for its commercial leadership in the modern-day information super highway.



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Matthew 28:18a,19, Jesus said, ALL POWDER is given unto ME IN HEAVEN AND IN EARTH. GO YE THEREFORE, AND TEACH (TO DISCIPLE ALL NATIONS, baptizing them in THE NAME OF THE FATHER, AND OF THE SON (JESUS), AND OF THE HOLY GHOST.

When Jesus said: GO TEACH THE GOOD NEWS, TO THE WORLD (SIN SYSTEM), GIRLS.

Galatians 6:7, be not deceived; God is mocked: for whatsoever a man soweth, that shall he also reap. (you always get more than you plant.)

The church; went out with the devil's word; giving people their right's Jesus wanted them to know: I am the way; n that leads to everlasting life.

John 14:6 Jesus said, I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the father but by me.

Devil's rights; Woman rights, Gay rights, No spanking rights, Run away rights, Abortion rights white rights, black rights, No prayer in school rights, drugs in school rights, cut off the penis rights, no prayer in school rights, drive by shooting rights, shaking rights, child molestation rights, condoms and rubbers in kindergarten rights, suicide rights, bomb the federal building rights, kkk rights, kill the family rights, suicide rights, bomb the federal building rights.)

From the civil rights came; no prayer in the schools, now the devil is in there; with all his evils ways; who is the fool?

Romas 1:21,22, Because that, when the (the church) knew God, they glorified him not as god, neither were thankful; but became vain in their imaginations, and their foolish heart was darkened. Professing themselves to be wise, they became fools.

*****will the church rob God?*****

Mnay black churches will close on 2-19; to worship Martin Luther King, the white won't, the Spanish churches won't; it must be a black thing!!!

Matthew 15:7,8, Jesus said, ye hypocrites, well die E-saias prochesy of you, saying, this people draweth nigh unto me with their mouth, and honoureth me with their lips; but their heart is far from me.

*****I am free at last; free at last!*****

Didn't nobody have to give up their seat; on the citibus, my freedom came from up above; and God said that was enough.

John 8:36, Jesus said, if the son (Jesus) therefore shall make you free, ye shall be free indeed (truthfully).

Didn't nobody have to get hit; with a policeman's billy club, my freedom came from up above; in the form of God's love.

John 3:16, Jesus said, for God so loved the world (thats you and me) that he gave his only begotten son (Jesus), should not perish, but have everlasting life.

Didn't nobody have to get bit; by the policeman's bad dog, my freedom came from Jesus; dying on that old rugged cross.

John 8:31a, 32, Jesus said, if ye continue in my word, then are ye my disciples indeed; and ye shall know the truth (thats Jesus), and the truth shall make you free.

You see I wasn't shelked as a slave; that needed to be set free, but I was a slave to sin; the white man didn't enslave me. (only sin)!

Galatians 5:1, stand fast therefore in the liberty where with Christ hath made us free, and be not entangled again with the yoke of bondage.

I am hust a nobody; trying to tell everybody; about somebody; who can free anybody. jesus is the answer; to be free at last!!!

Galatians 4:16, am I therefore become your enemy, because I tell you the truth???

God is not through with us yet, so lets pray for one another always.

Written by Brother Billy B.J. Morrison, III Your Brother in Christ Jesus Always!!!

I KNOW I'M SOMEBODY



'cause God don't make no junk!!

CITY WIDE USHERS WILL MEET SATURDAY

The City Wide Ushers will meet together in Christian love at the Rising Star Baptist Church, 2620 East Cornell Ave., Rev. F.B. Bell, Pastor, Saturday afternoon, January 18, 1997 at 5:00 p.m.

All Ushers of the city are asked to come and be in attendance. Ushers remember they are only picture of Christ some people will ever see. So

we must come get ourselves equipped to serve them in the Name of Jesus.

Happy New Year to all of you!!
Sisters J. Shaw president; Sister C. Turner, vice president; Sister L. Harris, secretary; Sister D. Dickens, treasurer; Sister Ann Sanders, director and Sister Minnie Darthard, reporter.



from the Desk of Parson D.A. Smith

"Love Thy Neighbor"

If you really keep the royal law found in Scripture, "Love your neighbor as yourself", you are doing right. But if you show favoritism, you sin and are convicted by the laws as lawbreakers. -James 2:8-9

What a pleasant community! Each year the citizens took on special charitable projects, such as bikethons for the Heart Fun and money drives for the United Way. As individuals, they prided themselves on contributing to the work of their own churches. Crime in the community was at an all-time low, beautification programs were flourishing, and in general, the town was considered an excellent place to raise a family.

Then the governor of their state asked the community to open their well-planned environment to hundred of foreign refugees. Suddenly, a somber callousness seeped into the town. Share their beloved community with strangers? Negatives thoughts and plans took form and many excuses were given. Disheartened, the governor soon relinquished the idea-the community breathed a quiet sign of relief. But the lovely community was never quite the same. Their neighbors around the corner seemed important,

but their neighbors across the sea would never share that lovely community.

The word neighbor in this royal law according to James, has through the lapse of ages, acquired a narrow meaning. This meaning had come to be mainly because men's thoughts and sympathies and understanding were less comprehensive than the divine purpose. This royal law that James speaks of is the law of love and righteousness. This law of love is called the royal law because it is from a king, not mortal but immortal: /the King of kings and Lords of lords. This laws of love is called royal because it is like the king's highway-open, plain, no turns, and is to be travel by every human being. This law enjoins every person regardless to race, creed, or color to love their neighbors as themselves. The key command is clear: don't show no favoritism. All prejudice and preferential treatment in this context is condemned.

As we celebrate the birthday of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., let us remember to "Love our neighbor!"

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Oh God, whose loving arms ever surround and protect us. Even when we are at our meanist, help us to rid ourselves of those attitudes that will not reflect to the world that we are called by your name. In this year 1997 we will use our power that's layed out in your world that say we shall receive power.

We won't let distractions which deny an across to your Divine presence or, to weaken our Faith, rid us of the frustrations which belittle our efforts to walk in Faith and power. Protect us from the "Busyness" of this day that our minds might stay on you. Prod our consciousness that he petty annoyances of the moment may never disrupt our precious time for communion with you, give us a renewed desire to seek your face with diligence, give us a greater determination to hear and to obey the leading of the Holy Spirit. Let no doubt, no desire, nor disappointment pollute the channels that we open to you. For in this way, we may be ever more available, honest, and humble, continually, we remain thankful that your Grace is always sufficient, that your mercy always Endures; and your boundless Love is Everlasting, we will walk in the Power of the Holy Spirit. (Amen)

THOUGHT

If Christians are so Smart why are most of them Employed by Sinners? Think about it.

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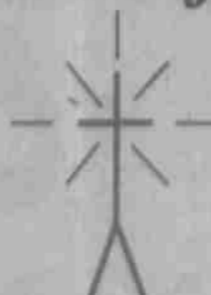
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RODNEY KING AND O.J. SIMPSON : "SOUL BROTHERS?"

BY Fred Beauford

Many legal commentators following the O.J. Simpson Civil Wrongful death trial see a remarkable similarity between the O.J. Simpson trial and the Rodney King civil trial. In King's Civil trial he was awarded \$3.8 million.

I returned to Oakland, California to continue my conversation with attorney John Burris. If anyone in America is in a position to see and understand the similarities of the two "Trials of the Century" it is Mr. Burris. Not only is he one of the nation's leading legal analysts, but also served as co-counsel for the Rodney King trial, and helped win King his \$3.8 million.

Beauford: In our last conversation you said the a "political specter" to convict O.J. Simpson may have been put in place because many in the white community felt that Mr. Simpson got away with murder. Do you see any similarities between the Rodney King civil trial and the Simpson civil trial in that many in the black community felt as if the police got away with beating Rodney King, and that a "political specter," as it were, was put in place at his

civil trial to ensure that King received justice?

Burris: I think that there is something to be said for that point of view. The black community's outrage at the acquittal of the police officers in the Simi Valley state criminal trial, was very much like that of the whites in the Simpson trial. The difference was that in the Rodney King case there were also a substantial number of white who thought that the officers should not have walked, and were disgusted with the verdict.

All the polls I have read show that in the O.J. Simpson case, overwhelming numbers of blacks think that O.J. Simpson is innocent of killings his ex-wife and her friend, Ronald Goldman.

Therefore, it is easy to understand the sense in the white community that the O.J. Simpson case is a unresolved

matter, and the this matter should play itself out in a civil case, much like the way we felt in the Rodney King case. In that case we needed to bring closure. King was the victim.

But there is no question that there are some very strong parallels between the Rodney King case and the O.J. Simpson case. In addition to the issue of closure, you have a black male and white police officers, some with highly questionable backgrounds. But most significantly, you have the Los Angeles Police Department with its horrible racist history.

Beauford: So you are saying that in both cases, the main entity in trials was, and is, the Los Angeles Police Department?

Burris: That is exactly what I am saying. History has a way of coming back and biting people. Maybe the cops framed O.J. and maybe they did not. However, in the first case they paid for the awful history of their Department in that they were not believed by the mostly black jurors. Now we have in the Civil trial a mainly white jury. We shall see if this current jury is more believing of the police because the LAPD is still going to be as much on trial as O.J. Simpson.



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