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Southwest Digest

A newspaper for the 21st century, representing the Black community's ideas and ideals since 1977

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Worth More!

1302 Avenue Q
Lubbock, Texas 79401
Phone (806) 762-3612



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



Community Meetings

This is a list of what is happening in Lubbock, to help complete the unfinished community-building work of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

- African American Chamber of Commerce, Lubbock meets on the 3rd Monday of each month, from 5:30-6:30pm at the Parkway Community Center, 405 MLK Blvd., 806-771-1815
- Lubbock Area Client Council meets on the 2nd Saturday, 1:00pm at the Patterson Branch Library
- Hub City Kiwanis meets every Tuesday, 7:00pm, 1708 Avenue G
- Dunbar Alumni Association meets 2nd Saturdays, 4:00 pm
- Booker T. Washington American Legion Post 808 meets every 2nd Tuesday at 7:30pm, American Legion Building in Yellowhouse Canyon
- Forgotten West Riders meets on the 1st & 3rd Mondays, 7:00 pm, Patterson Library
- East Lubbock Chapter AARP meets every 1st Thursday at 1:00 pm, Mae Simmons Community Center
- Lubbock Chapter of Black Alumni meets every 3rd Tuesday, 5:30 pm, TTU Market Alumni Center
- Dunbar/Manhattan Heights Neighborhood Association meets every 3rd Thursday at 6:00 pm 1303 East 24th St. (outreach center/party house)
- West Texas Native American Association Pot Luck Supper meets on alternating months prior to meeting, meetings held on 2nd Saturday of each month at 7:00 pm, Educational presentations and demonstrations.
- Texas Juneteenth Cultural & Historical Commission - Lubbock Affiliate meets at Patterson Branch Library every 3rd Thursday 7:00 pm
- West Texas Native American Association meets 2nd Saturday each month at Groves Library, 5520 19th Street, 7:30 p.m.
- West Texas Chapter of 100 Black Men meets the 3rd Monday evening at 7:00 pm at the Parkway Neighborhood Center.
- The Parkway Guadalupe & Cherry-Point Neighborhood Association meets the 3rd Tuesday evening of each month at 7:30 pm at Parkway Neighborhood Center.

If you have an announcement you want to appear in this paper, please get it to us in writing. You can mail it to:

Community Meetings
C/O: Southwest Digest
P.O. Box 2553
Lubbock, Texas 79408
or
bring it by our office:
Southwest Digest
1302 Avenue Q
Lubbock, TX 79401

or email us at:
swdigest@bglobal.net

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Volunteers needed for summer sports camps

SOUTHWEST COLLECTION
Texas Tech University
LUBBOCK, TEXAS 79401

In its second year of the All-Star Sports Camps in 2005, sponsored by the Living Abundantly Ministries, volunteers are needed for the two camps, according to Cullen Manny, executive director. The first camp is scheduled for July 18 through 22, 2005 at Ribble Park, 56th Street and Avenue U, from 5:30 p.m. until 8:30 p.m. The second camp will be held July 25 through 29, 2005, at Dunbar Junior High School, 12010 East 26th Street, from 9 a. m. until 12 noon. Each camp is free for those who will attend.

"At present time, we have more than 125 young people who have already registered," said Mr. Manny. "We are looking for more, as her were more than 20 who attended last year's effort," he continued.

The camp is for elementary-aged children, and any child who was in Kindergarten through 6th grade in the 2004-2005 school year. These children are eligible to attend this camp. Children who attend the camp of their choosing will be able to participate in the following activities: football, baseball, basketball, cheerleading, soccer, volleyball, and arts and crafts. The first part of each day is spent in the different activities. After sports, the attendees have

a little snack. All participants will attend a worship service. The worship time will include singing, puppets, drama, contests, life application talks, and Bible messages. This year's camps will include a meal and a prize each day of the camp.

Volunteers are needed to help at the camps. For each camp, approximately 100 volunteers are needed. Volunteers are needed in the following areas: coaches and teachers for different activities, registration, snacks/meals, and crowd control. Junior and high school students and adults are welcomed to be volunteers. All volunteers will need to complete a volunteer application before the camp begins. The volunteer forms will need to be returned by July 10, 2005.

Participants make pick up application forms at the following locations: Parkway Neighborhood Center, 405 N. MLK Blvd; Bridge, 1301 Redbud Avenue; Phea Boys & Girls' Club, 1801 East 24th Street; Butts "N" Stuff, 507 East 23rd Street; and the Southwest Digest, 1302 Avenue Q.

There are sponsorships available for the camp. As mentioned, children who attend these camps do not pay to attend. There is a cost in



A volunteer and camper play games with the rest of the group at one of last year's camps.

hosting these camps. There are sponsorships available for \$30.00 per child. Any donation is welcome. The All-Star Sports Camp is a 501-C3 corporation, and any donation is tax-deductible.

If there are any questions, call

Mr. Manny at (806) 535-6427.

"The sports camps are an effective way to reach out to children. It provides them a good safe activity for one week during the summer. Not only will we share the Gospel with them, but we will also use

sports to teach principles that will be beneficial in all areas of their lives. The children will also have an opportunity to meet adults from their community who are concerned with their well being," said Mr. Manny.

R&B legend Luther Vandross dies from stroke complications



By Nekesa Mumbi Moody
BlackNews.com

NEW YORK - Grammy award winner Luther Vandross, whose deep, lush voice on such hits as "Here and Now" and "Any Love" sold more than 25 million albums while providing the romantic back-

drop for millions of couples worldwide, died last Friday. He was 54.

Vandross died at John F. Kennedy Medical Center in Edison, N.J., said hospital spokesman Rob Cavanaugh. He did not release the cause of death but said in a statement that Vandross "never really recovered from" a stroke two years

ago.

Since the stroke in his Manhattan home on April 16, 2003, the R&B crooner stopped making public appearances - but amazingly managed to continue his recording career. In 2004, he captured four Grammys as a sentimental favorite, including best song for the bitter-sweet "Dance With My Father."

Vandross, who was still in a wheelchair at the time, delivered a videotaped thank you.

"Remember, when I say goodbye it's never for long," said a weak-looking Vandross. "Because" - he broke into his familiar hit - "I believe in the power of love."

He was arguably the most celebrated R&B balladeer of his generation. He made women swoon with his silky yet forceful tenor, which he often revved up like a motor engine before reaching his beautiful crescendos.

Jeff O'Conner, Vandross' publicist, called his death "a huge loss in the R&B industry. He was a close friend of mine and right now it's shocking."

Singer Roberta Flack, on tour in Japan, said she was mourning the loss of her friend of more than 20 years.

"He was a musician who couldn't help but give you all he had," she said by telephone. "He was the kind of guy who was born to do what he did musically and let the world

know about it. He was not born to keep it smothered in the chest."

Vandross was a four-time Grammy winner in the best male R&B performance category.

The album, with its single of the same name, debuted at No. 1 on the Billboard charts while Vandross remained hospitalized from his stroke. It was the first time a Vandross album had topped the charts in its first week of release.

In 2005, he was nominated for a Soul Train Music Award for a duet with Beyonce on "The Closer I Get To You."

Vandross' sound was so unusual few tried to copy it; even fewer could.

"I'm proud of that - it's one of the things that I'm most proud of," he told The Associated Press in a 2001 interview. "I was never compared to anyone in terms of sound."

Vandross' style harkened back to a more genteel era of crooning. While many of his contemporaries and successors belted out tunes that were sexually charged and explicit, Vandross preferred soft pillow talk and songs that spoke to heartfelt emotions.

A career in music seemed predestined for the New York native; both his parents were singers, and his sister, Patricia, was part of a 1950s group called the Crests.

But he happily toiled in the musical background for years before he would have his first hit. He wrote songs for projects as varied as a David Bowie album ("Fascination") and the Broadway musical "The Wiz" ("Everybody Rejoice (Brand New Day)"), sang backup for acts

such as Donna Summer and Barbra Streisand, and even became a leading commercial jingle singer.

Vandross credited Flack for prodding him to move into the spotlight after listening to one of his future hits, "Never Too Much."

Vandross' first big hit came as the lead vocalist for the group Change, with their 1980 hit, "The Glow of Love." That led to a recording contract with Epic Records, and in 1981, he made his solo recording debut with the disc "Never Too Much." The album, which contained his aching rendition of "A House is Not a Home," became an instant classic.

Yet, while Vandross was a household name in the black community, he was frustrated by his failure to become a mainstream pop star. Indeed, it took Vandross until 1990 to score his first top 10 hit - the wedding staple "Here & Now."

Another frustration for Vandross was his lifelong battle with obesity. Health problems ran in his family, and Vandross struggled for years to control his waistline. When he first became a star, he was a hefty size; a few years later, he was almost skinny. His weight fluctuated so much that rumors swirled that he had more serious health problems than the hypertension and diabetes caused by his large frame.

Vandross' two sisters and a brother died before him. The lifelong bachelor never had any children, but doted on his nieces and nephews. The entertainer said his busy lifestyle made marriage difficult; besides, it wasn't what he wanted.

Seven Lubbock ladies to be honored

In order to show appreciation for the hard work of seven Lubbock women, an Ice Cream Social will be given in their honor on Friday evening, July 15, 2005, at the Parkway Neighborhood Center, 405 North MLK Blvd, beginning at 7:30 p.m.

Sponsor of this event is Shirley Roberson, who says, "It is just good to let those who work hard for the community to know, you really appreciate them. So the public is invited to come and eat their favorite ice cream and say thank you to these seven ladies." The ladies to be honored are: Emma Avery, Mae Jessie Cage, Vivian Cooke, Octavia Givens, Elnora Jones, Allie Mae Thompson and Rose Wilson.

A cool treat for some hard

working ladies. Bring your friends and family and join in the celebration as we give thanks and praise to these extraordinary women for their undying efforts in our community.

For more information about



Avery



Cage



Cooke



Givens



Jones



Thompson



Wilson

This special effort, please contact Shirley Roberson at (806) 773-6997.

Notice to home delivery customers

If you fail to receive your paper, please call the Digest at 762-3612 and give us your address. Due to the death of our delivery person, W.H. Pitts, we have had some difficulty getting papers delivered. We are aware of the problem and regret it. Please contact us and we will correct the situation as soon as possible. We apologize for the inconvenience.

The Southwest Digest

If you find mistakes in this publication, please consider that they are there for a reason. We publish something for everyone, and some people are always looking for mistakes.



Chatman Hills Corner

By Doris Reynolds

The talk of the town and in the Chatman Hill area was the outstanding honor bestowed upon a longtime Lubbock citizen, Ms. Lena Sheffield, who devoted her life to helping our young people. She retired from the Lubbock Independent School District after serving 42 years. She retired from Estacado High School after serving 19 years. She retired May 31, 1986. Her recognition was given by the Estacado High School Alumni Association at a banquet held at the Omni Theatre at the Science Spectrum. According to officers of this association, this event is a prelude to the upcoming 40th Anniversary for Estacado High School next summer, 2006. Ms. Sheffield was elated over this recognition. She was all smiles at New Hope Baptist Church, last Sunday morning, July 3, 2005. This was well deserved recognition, for a well deserved lady.

Ladies are asked to get ready for the upcoming Women's Prayer Retreat which will be held August 26 and 27, 2005 at the Ark in Amherst, Texas. More on this in a later report.

Another really big day is being planned for New Hope

Baptist Church. It is the annual Men and Women Day which is set for Sunday, September 3, 2005. If you are interested in working with I, contact either Sister Ervin or Brother Martin.

In a few days, the Annual Usher's Day program will be held at the New Hope Baptist Church. It will be held Sunday afternoon, July 17, 2005, beginning at 3:00 p. m. Sister Fannie Price is president. All are invited to attend and rejoice in this spiritual service.

Sister Lucille Jackson is announcing the upcoming "West Texas District Association," which will convene in Odessa, Texas on August 8, 2005. Sister Jackson is asking for Arts and Crafts for this meeting as she serves as chairperson of this area.

Church services began last Sunday morning, July 3, 2005, with meditation and prayer. The Praise Team did another marvelous presentation of singing God's praises. Minister Charles Wilson read the morning scripture and Minister C. Marin offered the morning prayer. The New Hope Choir sang out of their hearts and souls. What a time in the Lord as they sang "It's Alright Now!"

Pastor B. R. Moton delivered another powerful sermon. It was entitled "Who Stands Between You And Your Promise Land." His scripture text was Numbers 14:19-24. Pastor Moton talked about several areas which affect our lives, namely; fear, doubt, unbelief, limited faith and self-esteem. Praise God for the "WORD!"

Let us continue to pray for our sick and shut in citizens who live in our city as well as those others who live in other areas of our state and nation. All should know that God loves all of us, no matter our station in life. God is able!

Let us not forget those who have lost loved ones over the past week. They, too, should put their trust in God as He has all the answers to our station in life. What a mighty God we serve!

Remember if you are unable to attend your morning services on Sunday morning, you are invited to tune into the New Hope Broadcast over Radio Station KJAK, 92.7 FM, from 11:30 a. m. until 12:30 p. m.

Thought For Today: "Make it a priority to walk with God early today!"

In Remembrance

Thalma Woods
Funeral services for Thalma Woods were held Wednesday afternoon, July 6, 2005, at the Hope Deliverance Church with Elder Charles Tanner, pastor, officiating. Burial was held in the City of Lubbock Cemetery under the



direction of Griffin Mortuary of Lubbock. She passed away Wednesday, June 29, 2005, at the Covenant Medical Center.

Revival! Revival! Revival!

The Holy Trinity Church of God in Christ, 3500 East Cornell Avenue, will sponsor a revival July 10, 11, and 12, 2005. Services will be held Sunday evening, beginning at 5:10 p. m.; and 7:30 p. m. Monday and Tuesday evening.

The theme is "God Loves You." The scripture is St. John 3:16 and Romans 8:32. Special testimony service will be held. All are invited to share their testimonies with those present and make known God's blessing and

goodness to you. Wednesday and Thursday evening, July 13 and 14, open house will be held along with word discussion. Friday night, July 15, a special musical will be held.

Speakers will be Lubbock District No. 2 pastors, teachers, missionaries and local ministers and teachers.

The public is invited to come and worship the Lord with those present. Supt. Austin Butler is pastor.

Tech Athletics to held garage sale

New and used equipment, and apparel from all 17 sport programs will be available.

Did you ever dream of being Natalie Ritchie, pulling up and hitting the game-winning three, or Sonny Cumbie leading the Red Raiders on a game-winning drive? You can bring those dreams closer to reality when the inaugural Double T Zone/Texas Tech Athletics Department Garage and Official Merchandise Sale gets underway July 15-17.

Everything from authentic jerseys worn by your favorite Red Raider or Lady Raider,

other team apparel and new, and used equipment will be on sale to the public. All items featured from Tech's 17 sport programs are official team products. Autographed items also will be available and Texas Tech coaches will be in attendance throughout the three-day event.

The event will take place between Gate 3 of Jones SBC Stadium and the parking lot of the Double T Zone at the stadium's north end.

Hours are 10 a.m.-9 p.m. on Friday, July 15; 8 a.m.-9 p.m. on Saturday, July 16; and noon-6 p.m. on Sunday, July 17.

FASHION FUN

by Shirley Robinson

The play of color

Be creative, have fun with the power of color. Vibrant hues always make a polished impression. Nothing is more regal and classic. The play of color, especially in brights, brings you instant attention. Not only can it change your look, it can absolutely make your look. Color can extend your wardrobe. A great bag or tank in bright colors can reinvent your neutral pieces every time.

FASHION TIP: Always wear a smile! FASHION - Just for the fun of it!

Do You Have Loved One Incarcerated?

Do you have difficulty staying in touch with that loved one?

Texas Inmate Families Association (TIFA) has a local chapter here in Lubbock, Texas.

Come and see ALL of the benefits of being a member to address:

- Resources for families
- Legislation/policy updates
- Parole/Inmate information
- And much more to help families & children

A meeting will be held Tuesday evening, July 19, 2005 7:00pm, Central Lubbock Church 1409 23rd Street

For more information, contact Shirley Johnson at (806) 744-8633

Thank you's and words of wisdom

by Parson D.A. Smith

Parson D. A. Smith and his family are truly grateful to those of you who rendered acts of kindness in the lost of his mother, Mrs. Vicky L. Smith. The late Mrs. Vicky Smith was summons from labor to reward June 20, 2005, in Detroit, Michigan. Mrs. Smith funeral was held in Tyier (New Hope Community) at New Hope Baptist Church.

Parson Smith and Mrs. Ella will always treasure in their heart the acts rendered by the former Mayor Wendy Sitton, Councilman T. J. Patterson and the city of Lubbock Council members who acknowledged and befriended Mrs. Smith. Some acts rendered to Senior Citizens must cause the Heavenly Angels to rejoice!

The ole parson was much pleased at the grand jury decision in declining to indict a Monterey High School teacher who was accused of assaulting two boys. However, he is sadden that this teacher is out of work and it is a possibility that the Texas Education Agency will lift his teaching license. We agree with his

attorney that "He spent his whole life to be a math teacher...and right now thafs in jeopardy."

There is much truth in the adage "Your sins will find you out." Sometimes we think that our children are precious little angels when in actuality they do things knowing they will get by with it because we as parents buy into their evilness and help them to hurt other people by our defensive action. When we hold up our children in the destroying of other people property and cause financial and professional harm to the recipient of our children evil, be well aware "our sin will find us out." The Bible does not lie. "As a person sows, he or she shall reap."

People who take up the career of teaching today's youth and having to deal with parents who themselves act like children and who think their little angels can do no harm should be paid a great deal more than they are. I was angered when I saw my sister at my mother's funeral who is a principle in Los Angeles, California, limp, used a cane, and had limited use of her left arm because of a illegal

Mexican parent who harmed her and hightailed it back to Mexico before her husband and I could speak to him about his behavior.

Most males of my era understand the compassion that a mother has for her son. However, we remember that once upon a time we were young males and things with us were not always "sugar and spice and every thing nice." Most of us, at one time or another, were into something. Had it not been for the male teachers, many of us would have been in a correctional facility. Our teacher's jobs were not put in jeopardy because they corrected us. They were held accountable if they did not correct us.

I thank God today for my parents who stood with the teacher whenever I was corrected. My mother's heart would bleed because I was her only son, but she knew "I was a mean as a junk yard dog", so to speak. Their correction would keep me out of Huntsville and make me a professional.

We encourage parents to embrace their children's teacher, not sue them.

Local criminals to get their time on TV

The City of Lubbock government access channel, CNC-2, will begin broadcasting registered sex offenders residing in Lubbock County and individuals featured on Lubbock County's most wanted list on Friday evening, July 1, 2005.

CNC-2 (Cox Cable Channel 2) will air the new addition each day at 10:30 a.m. and also following the 6:30 p.m. edition of City Magazine daily in conjunction with the listing of registered sex offenders residing within the city. The city program began on August 19.

"This project is a priority for the Council," said Dixon Fatt, City Council Chief of Staff. "Councilman Gary Boren has been the driving force behind this venture. He wanted us to educate parents about sexual abuse in addition to showing the offenders, so he asked the Lubbock Independent School District to write a curriculum for the educational part of the program."

LISD counselors prepared age-appropriate lessons in preventing sexual abuse. The City's Public Information staff taped these lessons and has periodically showed them prior to the listing of sex offenders.

Each sex offender appears on the screen for several seconds. "Broadcasting the registered sex offenders offers residents who don't have access to a computer an option for learning which offenders might live in their neighborhood," Platt said. "All of the offender information we broadcast is also available on the Lubbock Police Department web site at www.lubbock-police.com."

Lubbock Obits

An alternative and compliment to newspapers obituaries. For more information, visit www.lubbockobits.com or email us at infor@lubbockobits.com.

PUBLIC NOTICE

Disadvantaged Business Enterprise (DBE) Goals for Federal Fiscal Year 2006

The Lubbock International Airport hereby announces its fiscal year 2006 goal of 4.43% for Disadvantaged Business Enterprise airport construction projects.

The proposed goals and goal setting methodology is available for inspection between 8:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m., Monday through Friday beginning June 27th and ending July 26th in the Office of the City Purchasing manager, 1625 13th Street, Lubbock, Texas.

The Airport will accept comments on the DBE goals for 45 days beginning June 27th and ending August 10th. Comments can be sent to either of the following:

Purchasing Manager,
City Of Lubbock
Re: Airport DBE Goal-2005
P.O. BOX 2000
Lubbock, TX 79457

Federal Aviation Administration
Civil Rights Staff, ASW-9
2601 Meacham Boulevard
Fort Worth, TX 76137-0009



To advertise your business in the **Southwest Digest** call 762-3612!

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We are the largest distributor of gospel music in the Southwest. We have Baptist church supplies, Sunday School literature, teachers training, church bulletins, Vacation Bible School kits, hymn books, bibles, cassettes, CDs, videos, DVDs, sheet music and songbooks.

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Call or send for your order blank
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Tim Pearson, Owner

MANAGE YOUR DIABETES

Let's Do Diabetes Care Together Program

Call to enroll!
Lubbock: (806) 725-5460

Our experienced, certified educators will give you the tools you need to manage your diabetes in partnership with your physician.

- Offered in Lubbock and Plainview
- Based on the National Standards for Diabetes Self-Management Education Programs
- Includes a primary care provider and medical professional
- Learning objectives and topics include:

Diabetes Monthly Support Group

Monday, July 11, 2005
beginning at 6:00 p.m.

Where: Knipping Education Center
Located atop Covenant Medical Center's West Parking Garage (6th Floor)
21st Street & Louisville, Lubbock, Texas

"Carbohydrate Controversies: from A (alcohol) to N (net carb)"
Presented by: Kelli Paschal, MS, RD, LD, COE, BC-ADM

No reservation required. Free to the public.



"The American Diabetes Association recognizes this education service as meeting the National Standards for Diabetes Self-Management Education."

Covenant Center for Outpatient Diabetes Education
POWERFUL MEDICINE!



Church News



We Thank God for Jesus The Wrong Way To Use My Rights

Written by Evangelist Billy "BJ" Morrisou, III - Your brother in Christ Jesus always.

II Samuel 11:2 - And it came to pass in an evening tide that David arose off his bed and walked upon the roof of the king's house, and from thence he saw a woman washing herself, and the woman was a very beautiful to look upon.

As I read of King David, he has the authority over all the people and the land. He could do as he pleased. All the earth was at his command.

Proverbs 18:21 - Death and life are in the power of the tongue, and they that love it shall eat the fruit thereof.

We know that sin is on the rampage. Everywhere, day and into the night, it's like creeper crawlers under a rock. They run and hide from the light!

John 3:19-20 - Jesus said, this is the condemnation that light is come into the world, and men love darkness rather than light, because their deeds were evil. For everyone that does evil hate the light. Neither come to the light, lest his deeds should be reproved.

Now when he knows her name was Bath-Sheba, he wanted this married woman when he knew where her husband was, he sent for her with power to demand!

II Samuel 11:3-4 - David sent and

inquired after the woman, and one said: is this not Bath-Sheba, the daughter of Eli-ah, the wife of Uriah, the Hittite? And David sent messengers, and took her, and she came into him, and he lay with her, for she was purified from her uncleanness, and she returned unto her house.

There is No Right Way To Do Wrong!!! *****

Matthew 5:28 - Jesus said, I say unto you that whosoever looks on a woman to lust after her has committed adultery with her already in his heart.

King David was the King, and didn't care about the laws of God. He was full of pride, and thought he had right to do what was in his heart.

I John 2:16 - For all of it is in the world - the lust of the flesh, and the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life - is not of the father, but of the world.

He should have been on the battlefield, fighting the battle with his men. It is said: an idol mind is the Devil's workshop. It is where sin begins!

James 1:14-15 - Every man is tempted when he is drawn away of his own lust, and enticed. Then when lust hath conceived, it brings forth sin, and

sin when it is finished, brings forth death.

After committing sin with her, he smiled, and he did get a good night's rest, but after a few weeks came a message saying: "I'm pregnant." Now he's in a mess.

Numbers 32:23b - You have sinned against the Lord, and be sure your sins will find you out.

II Samuel 11:5-15 - And the woman (Bath-Sheba) conceived, and sent and told David, and said, I'm with child, and David wrote a letter saying: sent Uriah in the forefront of the hottest battle, and retire you from him that he may be smitten, and die.

David knew he was with Uriah's wife, and should have been on the battlefield. He had a right to cover his sins, and he had a right to have the husband killed!

Deuteronomy 22:22 - The Lord said, if a man be found lying with a woman married to a husband, then they both of them die. Both man that lay with the woman, and the woman: so shall you put away evil from Israel.

Proverbs 28:13 - He that covers his sins shall not prosper, but whosoever confess and forsakes them shall have mercy.

Outreach Prayer Breakfast

The members of the Outreach Prayer Breakfast want to thank all of you who supported our "Garage Sale" over the past two weeks. With the help of God and all your support, we were able to have a most successful effort. Thanks a bunch!

Here are a few words from the upcoming Sunday School lesson entitled: "Practicing Genuine Piety." Scripture text is Matthew 6:1-14. The key verse is Matthew 6:1.

Vers: 1 - "Beware of practicing your piety before others in order to be seen by them; for then you have no reward from your Father in heaven."

In the Sermon on the Mount, Jesus begins this teaching by telling the people when you pay honor and glory to God so that others will see what you do and hear what you say, you have already gotten the reward you wanted. When you have given to the work of the kingdom to impress those around you, you have received the reward that you sought. Jesus also instructs the people on how to approach the Throne of Grace and how to pray so that the Lord and the person praying are both in their proper place.

Many people today serve God to honor Him, while many others serve God to honor themselves. Many people today pray so that the Lord will hear their prayers and answer accord-

ing to His will, while many others pray so those who hear them will think that they and the Lord are up-close and personal. Some people are for show while others are sincere.

In some churches, there is a group of people known as he show people. These are the ones who pray, who teach, who preach, who serve, and who give so that their names can be called and they can recognize for the things they say and do. This group of people will not do much of anything unless there is some glory and honor attached to the job or the position. These are the ones who need to be seen, need to be first, or have to be on top and if they are not, they won't be involved at all. Show people do not steal God's glory. They don't give it to Him in the first place. Jesus said to beware of these people because the rewards they seek are on earth and they will have no rewards in heaven. Self-piety (self-reverence) is what this group is after. In many cases, they will do what they must to acquire it.

It is good to know that in most churches, there is a group of people known as the sincere people. These people are the ones who pray, who teach, who preach, who serve, and who give in order to thank the Lord for His goodness, His grace, and His mercy. These are the ones who

remember that without the love of the Lord, they would have nothing and would be nothing. They put God first in all things and if there is any honor or glory to be had, they give it to God or share it with others. Sincere people know it is all about Jesus and they have no problem letting Him be first and them enjoying the position of servant. To honor the Lord God (genuine piety) is the goal of this group.

The question to ponder, at this time, which group are you a part of?

May God continue to bless each of you. Don't forget your drive by prayers. Pray for your Pastors and Wives as well as our schools and churches as well as our many businesses.

Don't forget to pray for those who are sick and shut-in in our community, and those who live in other parts of the state and nation. These are those who have lost loved ones. They need our prayers as well. Remember, God is able!

A Closing Prayer: "In the name of Jesus, I ask You, the Lord, to accept my service out of my love for You and to forgive me whenever I try to claim Your glory for myself. Amen."

Sister Dorothy Hood, president; Sister Christine Burleson, vice president; Sister Elnora Jones, teacher, and Sister Rosanna Henderson, secretary.

St. Matthew Baptist Church News

Church services were well attended last Sunday morning, July 3, 2005, at the St. Matthew Baptist Church, 2020 East 14th Street. Services began at 10:00 a.m. with Sunday school with Assistant Superintendent, Sister Oretta Moore, presiding. The morning lesson was taught by Sister Nina Davis, and was reviewed by Rev. Monty Smith.

The morning worship hour began with the morning devotion at 11:00 a.m. with Deacon Edward Williams at his post of duty. The spirit was very high.

The Senior Choir sang God's praises, and lifted the spirit to another level. What a blessing it is to sing God's praises.

The morning message was delivered by Rev. Monty Smith as our pastor and wife were out of the city. Rev. Smith's title was "In The Midst Of A Storm." His scripture text was Job 36:27-33. It was a heart felt message.

Let us continue to pray for our sick and shut in members as well as those who live in our community. God is able!

Thought of the Week: "There are times when getting sick and staying sick are a choice. There are times when getting well and staying well is also by choice."

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1702 E. 26th St. (corner of E. 26th St. and Martin Luther King, Jr Blvd.)

Sunday:
Bible Class - 9:00am
Worship - 10:15am
Evening Worship - 5:00pm

Wednesday:
Bible Class & Devotional - 7:00pm

God's Plan for Saving Man
All have sinned - Romans 3:23
Jesus Christ died for our sins - 2 Cor. 5:21; Acts 2:38
We must do God's will and obey him to enter heaven - Matt. 7:21; Heb 5:9
How do we obey him?
Hear the gospel - Romans 10:17
Believe Jesus Christ is the son of God - Mark 16:16
Repent of your sins - Luke 13:3
Confess - Romans 10:10
Be baptized for the forgiveness of your sins - Acts 2:38
Be faithful until death - Rev 2:10

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Intercessory Prayer 8:30am
Church School 9:30am
Morning Worship 11:00am

Wednesday Bible Study
12:00 Noon and 6:00pm

PASTOR EDDIE L. EVERLINE, JR.

"GOD OUR FATHER, CHRIST OUR REDEEMER, MAN OUR BROTHER"

From the Desk of Parson D.A. Smith A Mexican "Little Black Sambo": Memin Pinguin"



Mexico recently released a postage stamp with a black Sambo-like cartoon character named Memin Pinguin. Pinguin has grossly distorted, monkey-like features, big white lips, a bald head and big ears. His mother who is on at least one of the series of five Mexican postal stamps is a grotesquely fat, bandanna-wearing mammy.

The difference between her and the racist image of black women in the 1930s and 1940s movies in America is she is not a domestic housekeeper. This woman with an appearance of a weight of 500 pound wears her bandanna around their house, a ramshackle affair in a poor barrio.

The stamps are reported to have been offered at prices exceeding \$200 for a full sheet on Wednesday, June 29, 2005. Hundreds of Mexicans were reported to have lined up at Mexico City's main post office to buy these offensive stamps.

CNN reported, "U. S. black activists and the White House have criticized the stamp featuring Memin Pinguin, a sort of Jim Crow-era image of a black child. However, Vicente Fox, Mexico's President is alleged to have said, "All Mexico loves the character ... and that he himself was fond of it."

Unbelievably, the Bush Administration joined with a number of others saying, "Racial stereotypes are offensive no matter what their origin."

This writer has pointed out time and time again his displeasure with Vicente Fox beginning

with his "talking down" to President Bush, his defending illegal Mexicans who work in the United States taking jobs from Americans and his referring to Blacks as the lowest among all races and his smart-mouthed attitude.

Fox's action has brought to light Mexico's nasty little secret of how they think and how they treat people of African descent. It is said that Mexican President Vicente Fox and most of Mexico's past presidents, top officials, business leaders, educators and government leaders are light-skinned of Castilian Spanish. They routinely boast they can trace their bloodlines to Spain (Fox's father is from Ireland and his mother is from Spain).

The Mexican government propagates the myth of a color-blind society. However, the "proof is in the pudding." There is no formal ban in Mexico on employment discrimination. But, classified ads in magazines and newspapers are said to be filled with requests for job applicants who are young and beautiful, an though it is not mention, the lighter and more fair-skinned you are the more than likely you will obtain the job.

And if this does not dispelled the myth, the most popular screen stars in film and on TV, and the models featured on magazines and billboards, are white or fair-skinned, with sandy or blond hair Mexicans. This is the standard of beauty, culture and sophistication. Dark-skinned persons, both Mexican and non-Mexicans are

referred to as "negritos," or little black people.

In Mexico, black people remain invisible, and are the lowest of the low on the country's social and economic totem pole. It is reported they are crammed into enclaves in the states of Guerrero, Oaxaca and Veracruz, where the schools are under-served, the road and public services are poor and they are subject to harassment by police. The fair-skinned Mexicans are treated differently.

When the Rev. Jesse Jackson and the Rev. Al Sharpton and leaders of the black and Latino organization criticized the stamp and urged it to be withdrawn, the Mexican leaders become arrogant and said, "By no means is Mexico considering the possibility" of withdrawing the stamps.

I would suggest to the black leaders in America to encourage Blacks not to purchase anything from Mexico. If an American automobile manufacturer, electronic equipment maker, or the like builds products to sell in America from Mexico, do not purchase the product. Look on the label of clothes made by fair-skinned Mexicans and leave them on the rack. If 35 millions blacks shut the door financial on the Mexicans who do not like blacks, the financial vultures will pick their worthless carcass. Oh yes, at the grocery store, look on the label of everything including watermelons and cantaloupes and see their point of origin. Through restrictive trade, the Mexican government will be glad to correct their evils.

City Wide Ushers will meet Saturday evening

The members of the City Wide Ushers will meet at the Faith First Baptist Church, 1504 East 15th Street, where Rev. N. A.R. Garrett, is pastor, on Saturday evening, July 14, 2005, beginning at 5:00 p. m. This meeting will follow a great meeting at the Greater St. Luke Baptist

Church. Come, and let's pick up where we left off in June.

We just want to thank all of you for attending that meeting. Now, we need you to come so we can catch up on our non-perishable canned goods for the needy of our community. As you know, we make these gifts available dur-

ing the Thanksgiving and Christmas holidays.

All Ushers who want to become a member, then please be in attendance. You are always welcome to attend our meetings.

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Live 8 rocks the globe to raise awareness and money for Africa



Birhan Woldu, the child whose photograph spurred Geldof into action in the 80's is shown here at the Live 8 concert in London. In the inset, she is shown as the "face of famine". A photographer noticed the pitiful child after her father had wrapped her emaciated body in a blanket, and sat to wait for her to die. She has grown into a remarkably beautiful woman and is attending college in Ethiopia.

when we do it will be the best thing that humanity has ever done," he said.

UN Secretary-General Kofi Annan said: "This really is the United Nations. On behalf of the poor, the voiceless and the weak, I thank you."

African musicians - from the Afro-Cuban melodies of Senegal's Baobab Orchestra to the funky rhythms of South Africa's Mahotella Queens - lent their voices to a hastily-added Johannesburg concert in the global call for a fairer deal for the world's poorest continent.

But the most eloquent voice may have been that of former South African president Nelson Mandela, who elicited bigger cheers than any of the musical acts. "History and the generations to come will judge our leaders by the decisions they make in the coming weeks," Mr Mandela told a crowd of 8000.

"I say to all those leaders: do not look the other way, do not hesitate . . . It is within your power to prevent a genocide."

The Johannesburg concert was added after Geldof was criticised for not including enough African artists in the musical marathon whose main focus is their continent.

The biggest turnout was in Philadelphia, where up to 500,000 fans turned out on US



Stevie Wonder, shown here on a huge video screen, performed at the concert in Philadelphia.

Free concerts were held in London, Paris, Berlin, Moscow, Rome, Philadelphia, Tokyo, Johannesburg and Toronto.

The centrepiece show was in London where 200,000 fans crammed Hyde Park to see a star-studded line-up.

Rock legends Pink Floyd set aside their squabbles to perform together for the first time since 1981 - joined by the likes of Sir Paul McCartney, U2, Sir Elton John, Coldplay, REM, the Who, Robbie Williams and Madonna.

Sir Bob Geldof, 53, founder of the 1985 Live Aid concerts for famine relief, received a rapturous reception as he sang I Don't Like Mondays, a No. 1 hit in Britain in 1979.

As at Live Aid, Geldof paused on the line: "And the lesson today is how to die," bringing cheers from the crowd.

US billionaire and Microsoft founder Bill Gates made a surprise appearance. "We can do this, and



U.S. singer Mariah Carey performed in London. Carey said in an interview that she was afraid she didn't fit in to the rock and roll feeling of the concert. Her performance was a huge success.

More than one million fans jammed into 10 venues across four continents for the Live 8 extravaganza at the weekend. Another two billion television viewers were estimated to have tuned in worldwide.

The music marathon was aimed at pressuring world leaders into eradicating African poverty at this week's Group of Eight summit in Scotland.

"For God's sake, take this seriously. Don't behave normally. Don't look for compromises. Be great," organisers said in a joint statement.



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Geldof, who also organized the first Live Aid concert reached out and asked musicians to come together for the effort.

pressure the world's richest nations into action.

"Mahatma Gandhi freed a continent, Martin Luther King freed a people, Nelson Mandela freed a country. It does work. They will listen," Geldof said.

Geldof wants world leaders to commit to ending poverty by cancelling debt, doubling humanitarian aid and introducing fairer trade rules to allow African countries to compete.

Bono summed up the message: "We're not asking you to put your hand in your pockets but we are asking people to put their fist in the air. This is your moment. Make history by making poverty history."

The raucous crowd in London then fell silent when Geldof replayed Live Aid footage from the 1980s of dying Ethiopians.

After freezing on the image of a girl on the verge of death, the same person, a now healthy Birhan Woldu, arrived on stage.

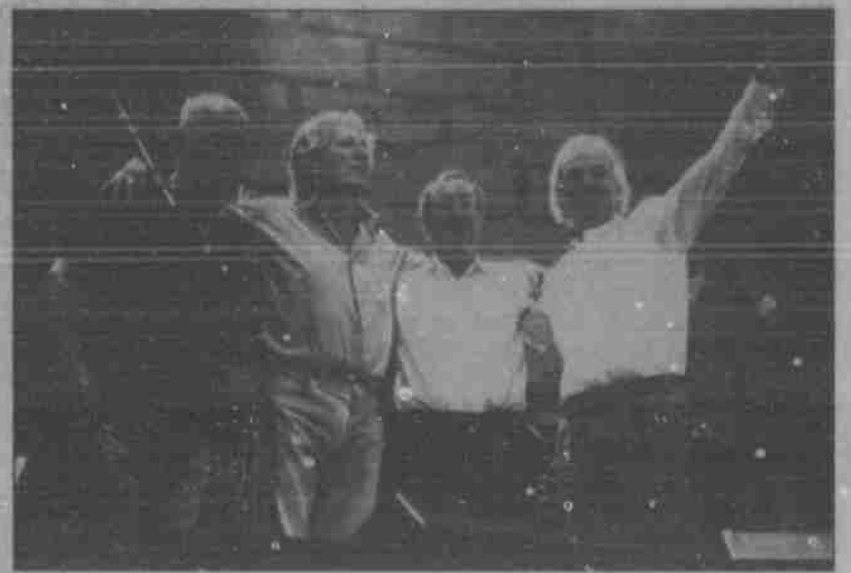
G8 are leaders meeting near Edinburgh this week, where British Prime Minister Tony Blair has put poverty on the agenda.



British teenage singer, Joss Stone performed in London. Stone has been compared to Janis Joplin and has won rave reviews from critics and fans.

In Edinburgh, close to where the G8 meets, 200,000 demonstrators marched through the city to back the Make Poverty History campaign.

For more information on the concert and the effort, visit www.live8live.com. Sign the petition, send in your photo, join the forces of millions. Also, see performances from the concerts at www.aolmusic.com.



Classic rock band, Pink Floyd set aside past differences that had separated them, to reunite for the Live 8 concert. According to reports, their album sales have spiked over 1300% since the appearance.

We want to hear from you!

Do you have an gripe or comment about an issue affecting your community, state or nation?

Have you heard about a concert, play, recital or game?

Is your child excelling at school or church?

What about an upcoming event you want to share with your neighbors?

We'd love to see your photos of things like babies, weddings, graduations, vacations and family reunions!

Send us your stories, photos and letters in a variety of ways!

Our mailing address is: Southwest Digest, 1302 Avenue Q, Lubbock, Texas 79401.
 Email items to us at swdigest@sbcglobal.net. Fax them to us at (806) 741-0000.
 Or call us at (806) 762-3612. We want to hear from you!

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Editorials • Comments • Opinions



THIS 'N' THAT

WE NEED YOUR HELD, CITY OF LUBBOCK! THIS N THAT ... is asking for held from the ... **CITY OF LUBBOCK** ... as the weeds on ... **AVENUE A** ... between the 1800 and 1700 block ... have gotten out of control ... and are at least five to six feet tall ... It would certainly help this area ... as this is a major drive area ... and would help make this area better in viewing ... Also at the corner of ... **EAST 23RD STREET & SOUTHEAST DRIVE** ... There is a weed ... which is becoming a small tree ... and is making it bad for those driving in this area ... Since many Lubbock citizens attend the ... Bethel African Methodist Episcopal Church ... at 2202 Southeast Drive ... it would make good sense to ... **CUT IT DOWN** ... since it is in a right-of-way ... before someone has a terrible wreck ... Need your help ... **CITY OF LUBBOCK** ... on these two projects ... and while you are in the area ... there are some lots getting out of control with tall weeds ... As always ... **THANKS FOR ALL YOU DO** ... for the citizens of Lubbock ...

YOUTH PROGRAM NEEDS VOLUNTEERS! THIS N THAT ... Learned of a youth program ... **ALL STAR SPORTS CAMP** ... which is sponsored by the ... **LIVING ABUNDANTLY MINISTRIES** ... with Cullen Manny as its executive director ... He is asking for ... **VOLUNTEERS** ... for either of the two camps ...

ATKINS JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL ... July 18 thru 22, 2005 ... and ... **DUNBAR JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL** ... July 25 thru 29, 2005 ... Between both camps ... they are expecting at least ... **500 PARTICIPANTS** ... and these are young people between the elementary-aged children and any child who was in Kindergarten through 6th grade in the 2004-2005 school year ... All are eligible for the camp ... If you are interested in volunteering ... call ... **MR. MANNY** ... at (806) 535-6127 ... And do it today! You will glad to give our talents to our children ...

PENNY THE BARBER SAYS: "WORKING ... with our precious children today ... Will help them in ... **LIFE** ... tomorrow"

A DESERVING HONOR FOR MS. SHEFFIELD! THIS N THAT ... was glad to learn of a special honor presented to a longtime educator ... **MS. LENA SHEFFIELD** ... who was honored by the ... **ESTACADO HIGH SCHOOL ASSOCIATION** ... In a banquet at the Omni Theatre last Saturday night ... July 2, 2005 ... Scores of Estacado High School former graduates and students ... were on hand ... and all were elated over this special presentation ... Ms. Sheffield taught at Estacado for 19 years ... and retired from the Lubbock Independent School District after serving for 42 years ... She retired May 31, 1986. What a great presentation! **ENCOURAGE OUR CHILDREN TO STAY IN SCHOOL!** ... **THIS N THAT** ... is hoping we will continue to ... **ENCOURAGE OUR CHILDREN** ... to stay in school ... and hopefully ... they will want to make an attempt to enroll in some college or university ... After receiving their high school diploma ... No matter what they may want to do in life ... we need to stay with them and do all we can to see that they remain in school ... When ... **THIS N THAT** ... was a young fellow ... there were always those our senior ... who would insist that we remain in school and do our very best ... as many of them didn't have an opportunity to do so ... As one looks back ... one can recall hearing someone encouraging us to stay in school and do our very best ... Shouldn't we do so today for our children ... Hope you believe so and are willing to do so ... Our young people need all the encouragement they can get ... Will you help with this message? Hope so!

CONTINUE TO SUPPORT THOSE WHO SUPPORT THE SOUTHWEST DIGEST! THIS N THAT ... is asking those of you who read the ... **SOUTHWEST DIGEST** ... to keep supporting those businesses who support the ... **SOUTHWEST DIGEST** ... with advertisements in this newspaper ... Let them know when you are in their establishment ... Oh ... by the way ... **THIS N THAT** ... appreciates all of our loyal readers and those businesses who support us.



Think About It! The Train Is On The Track!

by Eddie P. Richardson

For us to become competitive at the market place with our goods and services, the leadership and initiative must come from us. And we have to learn to be competitive, professional, and always, give the best friendliness service always with our goods and services.

We can't ill afford to be angry, because our people will not trade with us, because we are Black. But on the other hand, we should not ail to trade with each other, because one is Black. It's a competitive world, and we have to get on board and make the bet of it.

The North and East Lubbock Development Corporation, with John Hall at the helm, the train is on he

track. It is up to us, however, to be ready to get on board. This has to be done from a professional manner, and not a hand out. We have for too many years beat the drum to death, and now it's past time for us to stop setting around and waiting for a hand out. Let's get our bottoms off the chair and prepare ourselves or a very prosperous future. We need to pull our pants around our behinds, quit showing our nasty backside or dirty drawers. As this only leads to no where, and causes destruction in a hurry. An example of this is Bill Cosby's latest stand to make it in life legitimately. And this is done by pulling ourselves out of the mud and get on solid ground. And we must

stand firm on morality and cleanliness, both personally and mentally. Then we can turn around and heads back toward family, community, trust, love and support. We can go back to being strong as a family and community. Then we can go back being our brother's keeper.

When parents go back to being parents raising their children and their children stop raising their parents, hen and only then, we will go back on track heading for morality, prosperity and unity which brings about togetherness collectively for all of us.

Closing Thought: "There is nothing wrong in the world, but wrong will of man."

In Cinque

by Renetta Howard

After listening to President Bush's speech on our involvement in Iraq the other night, it came as no surprise that he does not have immediate plans to bring our troops home from that country. He so much as intimated that our enemies agree that U. S. Troops should stay in Iraq until the job to be done, is done.

The job to be done, is to bring American troops home, not a year or so from now, but **J.R. NOW**. To add insult to injury, it has now been said that the newly elected President of Iran was involved in the detention and gross treatment of U.S. Soldiers in 1979. Of course he denies the allegations. What do they expect him to do? He could be telling the truth as so often it is said that members of certain ethnic groups all look alike. He may be a look alike, but if any of those persons who lived to see him again say that he was the one, true or not, he is the one! It is going to be interesting to see

West Wind Brass Band concerts in the park

Come out and enjoy a summer evening this month at Wagner Park. The park is located at 26th and Flint, in the Tech Terrace neighborhood. Concerts start at 8:00 p.m. on July 10, and July 17 and are hosted by the Tech Terrace/UNIT Neighborhood Association

how this plays out. It should be clear to the United States and the rest of the world, that the people of Iraq want to be left alone. They show us every day, by killing as many Americans, soldiers and civilians, as possible. Then we send some more to take the place of the dead ones. We should realize that if the people of Iran elected a president whom has oppressed Americans, there must be something on their agenda that our President and Congress does not know, or they have decided that we do not need to know.

We do have a need to know, however, why Congress can put so much of the taxpayer's money in fight effort and does not have money to feed and house the American poor, or educate our youth, especially since Iraq was not a threat to the world, let alone America and the Middle East. We still live in one of the greatest countries in the world, but we must realize how much greater it would be if we took proper care of

us and then, them. Charity begins at home.

Charity should not involve the daily risks of the lives of citizens in this country. We should be able to help others without giving all of ourselves to the cause. After all, some things in life should be about us, the United States.

It is heartbreaking when a man, any man in these United States, neglects his family, wife and children, to help another lady and her family across town, while his family is ragged, hungry and miserable. Any child protective services in any state in the United States would label him a neglectful parent and take him to court on those charges. In the case of our country, it would be called abuse and neglect because the neglected subjects hard-earned money is being used to finance the efforts across the sea, while the family at home suffers. We need to get 'in cinque' and pound the messages to our Congressmen that this war needs to end. Limiting the funding will do a lot of talking.

Controversial website says "amen" to Cosby's inflammatory comments

Has Generation X embraced Afristocracy?

Washington, DC (BlackNews.com) - Controversial website says, Bill Cosby was right. HotGhettoMess.com bills itself as a call-to-arms of sorts to challenge the African-American community to examine how it is living and



Donaldson Georgetown University Law

Center graduate, Jam Donaldson, features images of the African-American community at its worst. She considers the site constructive criticism; this site wags a shameful finger at those who bring us all down with their foolishness.

Jam Donaldson, after receiving dozens of emails featuring photos of X-rated high school proms, street fights, and children dressed as pimps, decided there had to be a way to turn these images into a force for change because unfortunately, they represent us all when they go out into the streets like this, act like this, go to work like this, sing lyrics like this.

She challenges the likes of Michael Eric Dyson who would call such an endeavor an exercise in Afristocracy, this is not an elitist or classist endeavor. "Money has nothing to do with it," Jam says. "A

lot of folks in these pictures are doing just fine. Check out the Celebrity Mess section to see that money doesn't equal class. Alternatively, look at old photos of African-Americans in the 1920s-1960s when we didn't have a pot to piss in, but damn we looked good, we had class and style and pride in our image."

No one is immune from the judgment of hotghettomess.com, from Boo-Boo to Beyonce - the site features celebrities, song lyrics, and a category appropriately named Just Sad which features shocking and heartbreaking images of popular culture. The site garners over 8,000 unique visits a day and has attracted attention from Hollywood. HotGhettoMess.com: The DVD has just been released and is being sold through the website.

From school to music to clothing to behavior, where have our standards gone? Are we now to accept any and everything? And if our own can't come out and point out what's wrong, how can we ever get better? There is a new trend in the African-American community focusing on personal and financial responsibility and HotGhettoMess.com is leading the parade.

She gets plenty of support all over the world—from London to Germany and from New York to Alabama. She also receives plenty of feedback from those who feel the site is exploitive and denigrating to Blacks. To her opponents she responds, "To all of you who are angry at me for airing our dirty laundry— good, I'm glad you're

angry, now maybe collectively, we'll be forced to finally go wash it."

Visit Donaldson's site at www.hotghettomess.com

Lil' Kim sentenced

Grammy-winning rapper Lil' Kim was sentenced Wednesday to a year and a day in prison and fined \$50,000 for lying to a federal grand jury to protect friends involved in a 2001 shootout outside a Manhattan radio station.



Lil' Kim

While many rappers have served time in prison, Lil' Kim is the first big-name female to do so.

Lil' Kim (real name: Kimberly Jones) could have gotten up to 20 years - five years each on three counts of perjury and one count of conspiracy. She was convicted of the charges in March.

Lil' Kim, who turns 30 next week, was the sidekick and mistress of the late Notorious B.I.G. As a solo artist, she has become known for her revealing outfits and raunchy lyrics. She won a Grammy in 2001 for her part in the hit remake of "Lady Marmalade."

(Th)ink
NEWS ITEM: MEXICAN POSTAL OFFICIALS DEFEND THEIR DECISION TO DISTRIBUTE STAMPS CELEBRATING A BIG-EYED, BIG-LIPPED, BLACK CARTOON CHARACTER CALLED MEDIN PINGUIN...

I think somebody in the office mentioned that it might be offensive...

BUT WE WERE JUST TOO LAZY TO STOP IT.

BY KEITH KNIGHT

The editors and publishers of Southwest Digest welcome your letters and encourage you to write to us. Share with us your concerns, praise, gripes and celebrations. It's what we want - to keep our Black community in Lubbock informed and in touch with one another. Your letter doesn't have to address something that's been in our paper, just what's been on your mind. Had an interesting discussion lately? Share it with us!

When you write to us, please provide your name and city so that we may know where you are from and so that our readers may see how far our publication reaches.

You can bring your letter to our office or send it through the mail to: Southwest Digest, Letter to the Editor, 1302 Avenue Q, Lubbock, TX 79401

You can also email us at: swdigest@abcglobal.net. And lastly, we have one more option. You can fax us your letter at (806) 741-0000.

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EDITORS/PUBLISHERS: T.J. Patterson & Eddie P. Richardson

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.

You 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."

This is not a propaganda sheet made to chastise or vilify. This is a newspaper made to educate and not to agitate.

The opinions expressed by guest columnists or editorials are not necessarily the opinions of the publishers/editors or those of the advertisers. Comments and pictures are welcome but the publishers are not responsible to return articles unless a self-addressed stamped envelope is submitted. All notices must be paid in advance. Story deadline is 5 p.m. on Friday. Advertising deadline is 12:00 pm on Monday, the week of publication.

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"Darkness cannot drive out darkness; only light can do that. Hate cannot drive out hate; only love can do that." - Martin Luther King, Jr.

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BET Awards '05 shatters all-time viewership mark

Salute to Greatness Becomes Most-Watched Show in BET's 25-Year History

Los Angeles, California (BlackNews.com) - It was a night like no other at the 2005 BET AWARDS as the network's annual salute to superlative performances in music, entertainment and sports lit up the Hollywood skyline and the Kodak Theatre on Tuesday. Fans responded accordingly by making that premiere showing BET's most-watched telecast in the network's history with 6.6 million viewers (5.1 rating, 4.1 million households) watching the three-and-a-half-hour program according to Nielsen Media Research.

The 2005 viewership numbers marked a double-digit increase for the BET AWARDS telecast across all metered categories. BET again teamed with Cossette Productions, famed producers of the GRAMMY Awards and the four previous record-setting BET AWARDS shows, to handle production of the telecast.

Rapper/producer impresario Kanye West was the evening's big winner, grabbing awards for Best Male Hip Hop Artist and for Video of the Year for his spiritual composi-

tion "Jesus Walks." First-time BET AWARDS nominees Ciara and John Legend each walked away with trophies, as Ciara won for Best Collaboration for her tandem with

In an effort to keep the show "on par with all the other esteemed award shows", hosts Will Smith and Jada Pinkett-Smith comically announced the new rules for the show:

1. A three-homeboy limit for acceptance speeches.
2. No bright suits or gold goblets.
3. Do not thank God if you cannot perform your work in church.

rapper Missy Elliott on "I, 2 Step," and Legend scored as Best New Artist. Multi-platinum songstress Alicia Keys took home her first BET Award as well, being crowned Best Female R&B Artist. BET also used the star-studded night to honor music legend Gladys Knight with the network's Lifetime Achievement Award, and Academy Award-winning actor Denzel Washington and his wife Pauletta with the BET Humanitarian Award. Former B2k phenom Omarion

won the coveted Viewers' Choice Award, voted on prior to and in real time on the BET.com website throughout the telecast. This was also the first year that viewers could vote via major wireless carrier. A total of 805,479 votes were cast in the hotly-contested category.

BET's big night exploded with amazing performances and special salutes as Hollywood power couple Will Smith and wife Jada Pinkett Smith served as hosts for the first time. Bringing the audience to its feet from the beginning was a surprise reunion of Lauryn Hill and the Fugees with a killer performance of their old school hits including "Ready or Not" and "Killing Me Softly." Other performers included living legend Stevie Wonder, smoking hot "Dirty South" rapper T.I. along with superstars Mariah Carey, Destiny's Child, Toni Braxton, Ludacris, Faith Evans, Missy Elliott, Mary J. Blige, Mike Jones, Fantasia, Tye Tribbett and The Game in an "off the meter" throw-down that rocked the house and the thousands fortunate enough to have a seat for BET's biggest show of the year. A sparkling list of Hollywood's celebrity A-List also joined the show as presenters, including Halle Berry, Tom Cruise, Queen Latifah, Steve Harvey and Vivica A. Fox.

The night included solemn moments, too, as BET paid memorial tributes to actor Ossie Davis, attorney Johnnie Cochran, singer Rick James and rapper Ol' Dirty Bastard, all of whom died since last year's BET AWARDS show.

The following is a list of all winners from the 2005 BET AWARDS:

- Best Female R&B - Alicia Keys
- Best Male R&B - Usher
- Best Group - Destiny's Child
- Best Collaboration - Ciara and Missy Elliott (I, 2 Step)
- Best Female Hip Hop - Remy Martin
- Best Male Hip Hop - Kanye West
- Best New Artist - John Legend
- Best Gospel Artist - Donnie McClurkin
- Best Actress - Regina King
- Best Actor - Jamie Foxx
- Female Athlete of the Year - Serena Williams
- Male Athlete of the Year - Shaquille O'Neal
- Video of the Year - Kanye West (Jesus Walks)
- Viewers' Choice Award - Omarion (O)



In one of the most memorable performances of the BET Award Broadcast, members of Destiny's Child plucked three men from the audience while they performed *Cater 2 U*. Shown here is actor Terrance Howard, of the upcoming movie *Hustle and Flow* with singer Beyonce Knowles. Basketball legend Magic Johnson and actor/rapper, Nelly were also selected for the performance. Johnson clowned and gaped at the display while Nelly relaxed and enjoyed himself. Howard had one of the strongest reactions to the performance. Afterward, some jokingly speculated that Knowles' boyfriend, rapper Jay-Z, would be phoning Howard.



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