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Southwest Digest

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50¢
Worth More!

1302 Avenue Q
Lubbock, Texas 79401
Phone (806) 752-3612



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

Local News

Maxey Community Center Alternative Found

City Manager Lou Fox will present an alternative budget proposal to City Council next week that allows Maxey Community Center to remain open.

The closure of Maxey Community Center was included in the first proposed budget that went to the Council last month. Closing the center will save the City approximately \$77,000 annually.

"We've taken another look at the budget," said Fox, "and we've found an alternative way to save that same amount of money while leaving Maxey open."

The City Council will continue their budget discussions during a meeting on Thursday, September 16. The public will also have a chance to voice their opinions about the 2004-05 budget during a public hearing that begins at 5 p.m. in Council Chambers, 1625 13th Street.

Community Meetings

- Lubbock Area Client Council meets on the 2nd Saturday, 1:00 pm - Mae Simmons Community Center
- High City Kiwanis meets every Tuesday, 7:00 pm, 1208 Avenue G
- Dinwiddie Alumni Association meets 2nd Saturdays, 4:00 pm
- Booker T. Washington American Legion Post 2008 meets every 3rd Thursday at 7:30 pm, 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, Oak and 8th St.
- Lubbock Chapter of Black Alumni meets every 3rd Tuesday, 5:30 pm, T.H. Merkle Alumni Center
- Dinwiddie/Mantolitan Heights Neighborhood Association meets every 2nd Thursday at 6:00 pm, 1305 East 24th St. (outreach center/party house)
- West Texas Native American Association Post Lunck 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 Jamezenth Cultural & Historical Commission, Lubbock Alliance meets at Patterson Branch Library every 3rd Thursday 7:00 pm
- West Texas Native American Association meets 2nd Saturdays at the mouth of Groves Library, 5520 9th Street, 7:30 pm.
- West Texas Chapter of 100 Black Men meets the 3rd Monthly 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 call or write 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 offices:
Southwest Digest
1302 Avenue Q
Lubbock, TX 79401

Stenholm appointed to House Armed Services Committee

BRAC, Intelligence Matters Among Issues On Armed Services' Agenda



Washington, D.C. Congressman Charlie Stenholm (TX-17) last night was appointed

to the House Armed Services Committee by the Policy and Steering Committee.

"I have worked hard on behalf of our military and our veterans throughout my career," Stenholm said. "This appointment will provide me with a greater opportunity to fight for our military service men and women and the interests of Dyess Air Force Base, including the mission of the B-1 Bombers, as we prepare for the Base Realignment and Closing (BRAC) Commission report."

Stenholm also said the Armed Services Committee has a history of bipartisan cooperation similar to the Agriculture

Committee. "I intend to approach my work on the Armed Services Committee with the same bipartisan and independent style of leadership that has been effective on the Agriculture Committee," Stenholm said. "I look forward to working with Republican and Democratic members to continue providing for a strong national defense and support of our active duty personnel."

"I am particularly excited to be a member of the Armed Services Committee as it determines important matters of national security, including the President's proposal to strengthen U.S. intelligence-gathering

capabilities and our efforts to win the war on terrorism," Stenholm said. "Charlie Stenholm is one of our most able Members of Congress," Ike Skelton, the Ranking Member of the Armed Services Committee said. "He understands national security thoroughly, and I predict he will be a tremendous asset to the House Armed Services Committee."

Stenholm plans to attend his first House Armed Services Committee hearing this morning. This morning's hearing will give committee members the opportunity to receive testimony on the performance of U.S. military service members in Iraq and

Afghanistan.

The next round of base closure recommendations will be among the key issues before members of the committee in the months ahead.

Stenholm provided key support for President Reagan's defense buildup in the 1980s, and he has been a leader of efforts to improve health care for our troops. He has consistently advocated funding of programs that protect and improve the quality of life for troops and their families. This appointment will not affect Stenholm's seniority or appointment to the House Agriculture Committee as Ranking Member.

Art of Rock: A Symposium & Live Music Event: Rock the Vote Party

Landmark Arts, the Galleries of the Texas Tech School of Art in the College of Visual & Performing Arts and the Buddy Holly Center, in collaboration, present Art of Rock, a two-day symposium of speakers and live music performances on September 17 and 18, 2004. The Art of Rock Symposium is presented in conjunction with Graphic Content: Art of the New Music Poster in the Landmark Gallery at the School of Art, an exhibition of over 100 contemporary rock music posters by 25 top gig-poster artists from the United States and Canada. Curated by Dirk Fowler, assistant professor of design, the Graphic Content poster exhibition remains on display throughout the Symposium weekend. Also on exhibition during the Symposium is Dylan in Woodstock: Photographs by Elliott Landy, at the Buddy Holly Center. The Buddy Holly Center is the exclusive venue in Texas displaying this collection of rare photographs of music icon Bob Dylan. Featuring over 66 black & white and color photographs, this exhibit provides a private look at the enigmatic performer at his home in Woodstock, New York.

The Symposium begins on Friday evening at 7:00 p.m. in English lecture hall 001 on the Texas Tech University campus, northwest of the Art Building located on 18th Street & Flint Avenue with speaker presentations, to include rock historian Paul Grushkin, giving a keynote address and Christopher J. Smith, assistant professor of music history and literature at Texas Tech. Grushkin, author of Art of Rock: Posters From Presley to Punk, will talk about poster art work by many of the over 400 poster artists that he has included in the soon to be published, Art of Modern Rock: The Poster Explosion. Dr. Smith, who serves as Director of the Vernacular Music Center at Texas Tech, will present a talk entitled, "Music, Visual Arts and the Rock & Roll Community". The lectures will be followed by a reception in the Landmark Gallery, located in the Art Building, where the Graphic Content poster exhibition is on display. A live music

performance will begin at 10:00 p.m. in the School of Art Quadrangle, at the Art Building by local band, The Hi-Fi Collective, a rock and roll band who integrates video art, painting, photography and poetry within their perfor-

mance. Fusing rock music and art. On Saturday, September 18, the Symposium continues with the opening reception and a guided tour of the Dylan in Woodstock exhibition, beginning at 4:00 p.m. Following the tour, will be a performance by the Austin-based punk band, Laslow at 5:00 p.m., followed by roots-rockers, Milan Mapes at 6:15 p.m., in the Meadows Courtyard of the Buddy Holly Center.

Also on Saturday, join the Buddy Holly Center, to Rock the Vote! Rock the Vote is a non-profit, non-partisan organization dedicated to protecting freedom of speech and empowering young people to change the world. Get registered to vote by local artists, musician, and athletes.

Join us for a weekend of rock music, history, and art at the Art of Rock Symposium. All events are free and open to the public. The Landmark Gallery is located in the Art Building at 18th Street & Flint Avenue, just east of the Architecture building. Gallery

hours are Monday - Friday from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Saturday 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., and Sunday noon to 4:00 p.m. The Buddy Holly Center is located at the corner of 19th Street & Avenue G, in the Depot District. Center hours are Tuesday through Friday, 10:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. and Saturday, 11:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.

Funding for the Art of Rock Symposium has been made possible in part by a grant from the Lubbock City Council as recommended by the Lubbock Arts Alliance. Additional funding for Landmark Arts exhibitions and arts programming is provided in part through generous grants from the Helen Jones foundation, Lubbock, Texas and The CH Foundation, Lubbock, Texas.

For more information about this event, contact the Buddy Holly Center at (806) 757-2686 or online at www.buddyhollycenter.org, or Texas Tech School of Art, Landmark Arts, (806) 742-1947 or online at www.landmarkarts.org.



GRAPHIC CONTENT



Wilmer-Hutchins school district used suspended attorney, James Belt

The Wilmer-Hutchins School District's chief attorney was suspended by the State Bar of Texas last year, and it was revealed at least once during the suspension he used the state bar identification number of a lawyer who had been dead for 20 years.

It was reported last week, attorney James Belt has had his law license suspended twice since Wilmer-Hutchins School District hired him in 1998. On a court filing from November 2003, he used the bar number of O.E. Threlkeld, a Seguin, Texas lawyer whose legal career began in 1929.

Mr. Belt is a central figure in the troubled school district, where the Texas Education Agency auditors have been investigating finances. Last month, school board President Luther Edwards admitted the Wilmer-Hutchins School District is run by a "team of nine" — Superintendent Charles Matthews, the seven school board members and Mr. Belt.

It was two years ago when the Texas Comptroller's Office

recommended Wilmer-Hutchins School District hire a new in-house attorney to replace Mr. Belt as he was apparently charging Wilmer-Hutchins School District more than lawyers in comparable school districts.

Mr. Belt has been publicly reprimanded by the state bar twice, according to bar records. In 1995, he broke a rule that required him to "take steps to protect a client's interests" after that client had stopped using Mr. Belt as her attorney.

In 1999, Mr. Belt violated rules requiring attorneys to keep their clients informed about the status of a case.

Those public reprimands did not affect his ability to practice law. But in 2001, he fell behind in paying his bar dues and a special state tax all attorneys must

pay. Because of this, he was suspended from September to December and banned from practicing law during that time.

Despite this, bar association's disciplinary records reveal Mr. Belt continued to do legal work for Wilmer-Hutchins School District. The district also renewed his contract for three additional years during his suspension.

Because he continued practicing law, an evidentiary panel of the state bar suspended Mr. Belt's license to practice law for six months in June 2003.

The panel also ruled that Mr. Belt's suspension would be "fully probated." That means he was allowed to continue practicing law during his suspension as long as he met a lengthy list of requirements. They included working under an attorney mentor, attending a course on better managing a law office and paying \$1,500 in fees to the bar association.

According to Mark Pinckard, project director for the bar's Office of the Chief Disciplinary

Counsel, Mr. Belt apparently met those requirements without incident and had his full license returned in December 2003.

Mr. Belt's disciplinary problems have not appeared to be a major problem for Mr. Edwards, school board president, admitted he was unaware of Mr. Belt's difficulties with the state bar. "I don't know anything about his suspension," he said. "That's personal. You'd have to ask Mr. Belt about it. I don't know about it."

Mr. Edwards was a board member in March 2002, when the state comptroller's office released a comprehensive report on the district's operations.

The review discussed Mr. Belt's 2001 suspension and crit-

icized the district for not checking the lawyer's credentials before entering into a contract with him.

One of the 98 recommendations made by the comptroller's office was for the Wilmer-Hutchins School District to sever its ties to Mr. Belt and hire a new in-house counsel to replace him, because Mr. Belt had apparently failed to inform board members that they were repeatedly breaking state laws regarding it open HES-8S records, illegal contracts and other matters.

The school board's reaction was to give Mr. Belt a three-year contract extension, to August 2007. In a follow up report, the comptroller's office said the district had not acted "in the spirit of the recommendation."

If you find mistakes in this publication, please remind yourself that we are all human. We publish something for everyone and we don't always get it right. Some people are always looking for mistakes instead of looking at their own lives.

Chatman Hills Corner

By Clarissa Jay

There is an old saying: "When prayers go up, blessings come down." This was the case last week when the community prayed for a longtime resident Brother Hardin Barrow, who had been missing. Because of this, fliers had been sent throughout the community about him being missing.

He was found north of Lubbock, and was reported to be doing well. More about this will be forthcoming.

It is great when community citizens come together to assist another community family. This writer would like to say "thanks" to all of you for your concern. As we always say, God is able!

Congratulations are in store for Christi Antoinette Gibson and James Ray Hollins who exchanged wedding vows last Saturday, September 11, 2004, at the Bethel African Methodist

Episcopal Church, 2202 Southeast Drive, with Minister Ruthie Planks officiating. Rev. Danny Poe is pastor.

The Williams Brothers, featuring Lee Williams, will appear at the Lubbock Municipal Auditorium on Saturday afternoon, November 20, 2004, beginning at 3:00 p. m. You may purchase your tickets on Select-A-Seat at United Supermarkets or even Caviel Pharmacy.

A very good gesture each Sunday morning at the Bethel African Methodist Episcopal Church, during the altar prayer, cell telephone calls are made to seven families on the sick and shut-in list. Calls have been made to several states during this special mission. "We want to let those who are sick and shut-in to know that God loves them and we, as a church, are thinking of them."

said Rev. Danny Poe, pastor. Calls are made to those who are not members of Bethel.

Let us continue to pray for those who are sick and shut-in. A special prayer request this week is from Roy Davenport of Houston, Texas, who is the brother of Sister Dora Johnson. There are others as well. God is able.

There are those among us who have lost loved ones. They need our prayers as well. Among them is the family of Ray Davis who passed away last Saturday, September 11, 2004.

The City Wide Revival at the New Hope Baptist Church, 2002 Birón Avenue, concluded Wednesday evening, September 15th. Evangelist Dr. S. J. Gilbert, Sr. was guest speaker. This revival was sponsored by Churches United for Kingdom Building. Services at the New Hope

Baptist Church, the "Church Where The People Really Care," begun with Meditation and Prayer last Sunday morning. The Praise Team lifted up the spirit. The morning scripture was read by Rev. Cheryl Martin. Rev. Charles Wilson offered the morning prayer.

After the singing of several selections, Rev. B. R. Moton, pastor, delivered the morning sermon. His subject was "He Has Done Great Things For Me." His scripture text was St. Mark 19:1-20.

After an invitation to Discipleship, Sister Florinza Sockley read the morning announcements. All visitors were welcomed by Sister Lottie F. Barrow.

Sister Norweitta Lewis is the "Nurse for the Month of September" at New Hope.

FASHION FUN

by Shirley Roberson

Pencil Skirts

PENCIL SKIRTS Pencil skirts were created in the 1950s conscious fancies... not as a fashion statement, but as a way to save money on fabric. They're back, and what a powerful statement they are making. Your fall wardrobe is much deserving of this traffic stopping skirt. Long, slim fitting, and even slimmer at the bottom... ladies this skirt will definitely put more pep in your step, letting you write your own path to the fun of fashion.



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Phillipians 4:13
I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me.

In Remembrance

HABLE SWINDLE

Memorial services for Hable Junior Swindle were held last Friday morning, September 10, 2004, at the Kingdom Hall of Jehovah's Witnesses with Bernard Day officiating.



Swindle

He passed away Tuesday, September 7, 2004. He was born in Sabine County, Texas to Wade and Ella Mae Roberts Swindle. He received his education in East Texas. Hable married Margie Jenkins June 4, 1960.

Four children were born to this union.

For over 20 years, Hable enjoyed driving trucks for a living, and received recognition and numerous awards for his safety and work ethics. He was also a licensed salesman for home security systems.

He served God and the community faithfully for the last 32 years as one of Jehovah's Witnesses.

He is survived by his wife, Margie Jenkins Swindle; his children (and spouses): Kenneth Swindle (Debra), Howard Swindle, Margaret Swindle, all of Dallas, Texas; Era Gail Swindle of Lubbock, Texas; and Gerald Thomas (Janice) of Hempall, Texas; brothers and sisters: Sam Swindle, Corine Canton, Mary Love Johnson and Mary Johnson, all of San Augustine, Texas; and Gertrude Dupree of Range, Texas; five grandchildren; Andre, Michael, Adrian, Jeremy, and

Tamesha; and a host of relatives and friends; his parents, Wade and Ella Mae Roberts Swindle; two brothers, Willie Wade Swindle (Doris), Curtis Swindle (Shirley Ann); and a sister, Irine Hollis (Bunny), all preceded him in death.

Rix Funeral Directors were in charge of arrangements.

WILLIE EDMUND JACKSON

Funeral services for Willie Edmund Jackson were held last Friday morning, September 10, 2004, at Hope Deliverance Temple with Elder Charles



Jackson

Tanner, pastor, officiating.

Funeral services were held at the City of Lubbock Cemetery under the direction of Jamison Funeral Home.

Mr. Jackson passed away Thursday, September 2, 2004.

He was born March 23, 1930 in Red River, Texas to the late Napoleon Jackson and Francis Johnson. He was also preceded in death by a daughter, Annie Thomas; and a son, Edward York.

He is survived by his wife, Mrs. Arlene Jackson; ten children: Janice Rush, and Willie, Jr., Edward, Robert and Shanna Jackson, Wanda Onuzurike, Brenda Bilal, Rickey Brown, Lisa Strong, and LaKendra White; a sister; two brothers; 30 grandchildren; 18 great-grandchildren, and a host of family members and friends.

Monterey High School

50th Anniversary & Homecoming

Schedule of Events:

Thursday, September 23, 2004

9:00 am Student Assembly
Monterey Magic - Excellence

1:35 pm "Spirited Ride Contest", Car Decoration,
50 year anniversary theme

7:00 - 9:00 pm Monterey Open House
"Relive Monterey Days with The Chaparral, The Mirror, The Key Roster, memorabilia and friends

Friday, September 24, 2004

8:50 am Pep Rally in "New Box"
9:45 am Exes Reception in Home Furnishings Room
9:45 am - 4:30 pm Building available to exes
7:30 pm Homecoming Football game vs. Odessa Permian at Lowray Field

(At halftime, we will crown the homecoming queen.)

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Kevin Glasheen is Board Certified in Personal Injury Trial Law by the Texas Board of Legal Specialization and is licensed in Texas, New Mexico, and Colorado. Other attorneys in the firm are not certified by the Texas Board of Legal Specialization. Robert Hogan is licensed in Texas and New Mexico.



Church News



We Thank God for Jesus IS JESUS YOUR YO-YO?

Written by Evangelist Billy "B.J." Morrison, III - Your brother in Christ Jesus always.

JOHN 16:16, JESUS SAID, A LITTLE WHILE, AND YOU SHALL NOT SEE ME: AND AGAIN, A LITTLE WHILE, AND YOU SHALL SEE ME, BECAUSE I GO TO THE FATHER. JESUS SENT BACK THE HOLY SPIRIT, IT WILL ALWAYS BE WITH US; EVERYWHERE WE GO, BUT MANY DON'T KNOW HIM LIKE THEY SHOULD: HE IS ONLY THEIR YO-YO. HEBREW 4:16 LET US THEREFORE COME BOLDLY UNTO THE THRONE OF GRACE, THAT WE MAY OBTAIN MERCY, AND FIND GRACE TO HELP IN TIME OF NEED. NOW THAT IS THE ONLY TIME SOME PEOPLE CALL ON JESUS; WHEN THEY NEED, BUT WHEN THINGS ARE GOING OK, THEY WON'T PRAISE HIM: GOD IS NOT PLEASED!!! PSALM 3:11, LET ALL THOSE THAT PUT THEIR TRUST IN THEE (GOD) REJOICE: LET THEM EVER SHOUT FOR JOY, BECAUSE YOU DEFENDED THEM: LET THEM ALSO THAT LOVE YOUR NAME, REJOYFUL IN YOU. BUT LET YOUR MOTHER GET SICK, AND THE DOCTOR SAY THAT IT IS CANCER, NOBODY CAN BEAT US TO THE THRONE ROOM THERE ON OUR BEGGING KNEES!!! PSALM 39:12, I HEAR MY PRAYER, O LORD, AND GIVE EAR UNTO MY CRY; HOLD NOT YOUR PEACE AT MY TEARS: FOR I AM A STRANGER WITH YOU, AND A SOJOURNER, AS

ALL MY FATHERS WERE, AND WHEN THINGS ARE BACK TO NORMAL, AND THINGS ARE GOING JUST OK, THEY YO-YO JESUS BACK OUT: THEY DON'T NEED HIM, SO THEY REEL HIM AWAY. LUKE 19:14, JESUS SAID, HIS CITIZENS HATED HIM, AND SENT A MESSAGE AFTER HIM, SAYING WE WILL NOT HAVE THIS MAN (JESUS) TO REIGN OVER US. BUT WHEN DAD IS NEAR DEATH, HE'S BEEN IN A TERRIBLE ACCIDENT, THEY RUN LOOKING FOR HIM, FROM THE LAST PLACE, WHERE HE WAS SENT. JOHN 11:25, JESUS SAID, I AM THE RESURRECTION, AND THE LIFE: HE THAT BELIEVES IN ME, THOUGH HE WERE DEAD, YET SHALL HE LIVE. AGAIN, WHEN THINGS ARE BACK TO NORMAL, AND THINGS ARE GOING JUST OK, THEY DON'T NEED JESUS IN THEIR LIFE NOW, SO WE YO-YO HIM AWAY. BUT WHEN YOU LOSE YOUR JOB, AND ABOUT TO LOSE YOUR CAR AND HOME, THEN YOU COME BOLDLY AGAIN, YO-YOING JESUS IN, YOU BACK AT THE THRONE. LUKE 11:9, JESUS SAID, I SAY UNTO YOU, ASK, AND IT SHALL BE GIVEN YOU; SEEK, AND YOU SHALL FIND; KNOCK, AND IT SHALL BE OPEN UNTO YOU.

AND WHEN THINGS ARE BACK TO NORMAL, AND THINGS ARE GOING JUST OK, THEY DON'T NEED JESUS IN THEIR LIFE NOW, SO THEY YO-YO HIM AWAY. BUT WHEN THEIR CHILDREN ARE IN IMPOUNDED, IN THE COUNTY JAIL, SENTENCED TO DO HARD TIME, HERE THEY COME AGAIN, AND THEY WILL WHALE!!! PSALM 102:20, TO HEAR THE GROANING OF THE PRISONERS; TO LOOSE THOSE THAT ARE APPOINTED TO DEATH. (BUT LET IT BE KNOWN: GOD HEARS NOT THE PRAYERS OF SINNERS, HIS HEART IS ONLY ON THE THINGS HE LOVES; AND HE PRAYS FOR THAT ONLY. LORD, LET ME WIN THE LOTTE; LORD, BLESS ME WITH THAT GOOD LOOKING WOMAN OR MAN, LORD, BLESS ME WITH A NEW CAR, LORD, MAKE THE DICE HIT FOR ME, LORD, GIVE ME A GOOD JOB, DO YOU NEED TO STOP PLAY PRAYING). PROVERB 28:9, HE THAT TURNS AWAY HIS EAR FROM HEARING THE WORD OF GOD, EVEN HIS PRAYERS SHALL BE ABOMINATION. JAMES 5:16, CONFESS YOUR FAULTS ONE TO ANOTHER, AND PRAY FOR ONE ANOTHER, THAT YOU MAY BE HEALED. THE EFFECTUAL FERVENT PRAYER OF A RIGHTEOUS MAN AVAILETH MUCH.

Outreach Prayer Breakfast

"Claiming Our Inheritance"
The New Testament to the family of God. What's the purpose of a will? So glad you asked. It's to provide an inheritance for loved ones. It's designed to carry out one's desires. It tells you what part of the estate is supposed to belong to you. The New Testament tells you what Jesus wants you to have. Just like in the physical earth realm, you have to be around when the will is read. So you'll know that your name is in the will, and then claim your inheritance. There are millions of dollars in estates that have never been claimed, but you can't claim what you don't know. Many Christians don't realize that God, through Jesus, left an inheritance that belongs to them. God wants you to have it. In fact, it cost God the Blood of his Son to purchase it for you. But you need to know that it's available to you. If you don't know how to claim it, you will never get it. There is something very beau-

tiful about the will that Jesus left. He's the only man in recorded history that ever made out a will; left the will for his heirs; died, and then rose from the dead to preside over the will to see that nobody cheats his heirs out of what belongs to them. We've robbed and cheated out of what rightfully belongs to us. We've been told, when we were going through hard trials and tribulations, that it was the will of God. So of course, if it is the will of God and you want to be obedient, then you just fold your arms and accept the things. Satan beats your brains out and you think you're suffering for the Lord. But Jubilee has come. The day of redemption has come. Faith is how we claim our inheritance. Faith is the way that we take possession of what belongs to us. Many people have the faith that waits, but we want to operate in the faith that takes. "The Bull dog kind of faith," because if you don't take it, Satan will and he has. Some people don't believe in the existence of Satan and

demons. So in essence, they are saying that they are smarter and more intelligent than the Almighty God. James 4:7 — "Submit yourselves therefore to God. Resist the Devil, and he will flee from you." Now why would God waste his time putting us in print in the Holy Bible, telling me to resist something that doesn't exist? Ephesians 4:27 — "Neither give place to the devil." How can you give place to something that doesn't exist? (To be continued next week). Thanks for reading, people. Keep blessing others with kindness. P.S.: To all hurting people, we're praying for you. Don't have to know you, or where you are, or what's your problem. We just pray for people of the world. Now, that's what we are all about. Sister Dorothy Hood, president; Sister Christene Burleson, vice president, and Sister Elnora Jones, teacher.

From the Desk of Parson D.A. Smith The Bush Agenda: "Making Home Ownership a Reality for Black America"

My neighbor and friend, Foster Cumming, a sage of the old school of political science and human rights and a savant of the new school of thought toward cultural diversity and a realistic in the thought of oneness and wholeness of generations five hundred years from the present is far ahead of the credenda that inhibit his peers. The word that he often speaks with authoritative force to me has its roots in the word "equality" which means "the state of being equal" correspondence in quantity, degree, value, rank, or ability. The word is "equalization." The word "equalization" leads to defining two idioms: "Read between the lines" which means to pay attention to what is implied in writing or speech, and "play second fiddle" which means to play a supporting or minor role in relation to someone else. The word "equalization" and the two mentioned idioms are found in the following truths. One of the most profound acts from the Bush presidency toward minorities is his national priority for home ownership. Minorities and Black Americans in particular under the leadership of President Bush should take advantage of new opportunities to own their homes. The relative equanimity of Mr. Bush toward homeownership for Blacks meets more than the eye.

Even with the perfervid negatives that cast shadows on the wholeness of the Bush Administration, this writer believes that now is the time for the "Hip Hop" generation of minorities to own a piece of the rock. Blacks in particular should purchase the soil of America. The reasoning might seem unorthodox, however, the "pipe" has to be paid. Blacks are products of slavery from our fore-parents who were sold by Black Africans and taken into slavery by slave traffickers which included Spanish, Portuguese, Dutch, Danish, French and English. To validate this statement, history provides us with eye-opening information. The African presence in the Americas (the lands of the western hemisphere including N. Central, & S. America & the W. Indies) is a direct consequence of the European colonization of the "New World." Over the first 350 years of European occupation, more than 10 million Africans of many different ethnic groups were sold into slavery and distributed like cattle throughout the Americas. History also informs us that more than 500 years ago, Africans and their descendants have been involved at one level or another in every aspect of the development of this hemisphere, providing the foundation on which today's Americas were built.

It is also of worth to note again these migrant or slaves from African come from diverse ethnic, religious and national backgrounds. These people who represented more than a thousand ethnic groups spoke more than a thousand languages. It is of worth to be reminded and let others who have no clue know that African or Black Americans are descended from the mixtures of these diverse African groups, whites of European descent, and native Americans throughout the hemisphere. Therefore, we applaud President Bush in his push for homeownership for people belonging to the same gene pool as the majority Americans. After all, why should the descendants of those who help build the land and who are the cousins of the true owners of the land (Native Americans) and the cousins that control the purse string (European whites) be left behind. This would be a form of ethnic cleansing. Are we not heirs by blood? And since the majority of our African Americans fore-parents have not received their 40 acres of land and their mule that were promised by the government upon emancipation, why should not the mixed offsprings be compensated with nothing less than the opportunity to purchase a home? A home is the American dream. Social welfare is not.

St. Matthew's Baptist Church News

Church services at the St. Matthew Baptist Church, 2020 East 14th Street, begun last Sunday morning, September 12, 2004, at 10:00 a.m. with Sunday School. The Superintendent and teachers were at their post of duty. The morning lesson was taught by Rev. Nina Davis. The lesson was reviewed by our pastor, Rev. Edward Canady. It was another wonderful lesson, and was well received by all.

The morning devotions began at 11:10 a.m. Deacon Edward Williams was in charge of the proceedings. The Senior Choir sung out of their hearts. What a time we had singing God's praises. Pastor Canady brought a very inspiring message. His subject was: "Then Said I, Send Me, I'll Go." His scripture text was Isaiah 6:6-8. The Ushers of St. Matthew pre-

sented their program last Sunday afternoon at 3:00 p.m. What a wonderful time all had in the Lord. The message was brought by Rev. Mony Smith. His subject was "A Good Shepard." His scripture text was St. John 10:11. It was a very inspiring message, and enjoyed by all in attendance. Thought For The Week: "To belong to Christ is to be a Saint. To live like a Saint is to be like Christ."

Alexander Chapel Church of God in Christ
4510 46th Ave. E., Lubbock, TX 79412, Phone: 747-0465

Rev. William H. Watson, Sr.
Rev. Stacy Watson, Sr.
Rev. C.C. Family, would like to extend a heartfelt welcome to you and worship with us.

Weekly order of Services:
Sunday School - 9:45 am
Sunday Morning Worship - 11:00 am
Sunday Evening Y.P.W.W. - 6:00 pm
Tuesday Young Adult Study - 7:00 pm
Wednesday Night Bible Study - 7:00 pm
Thursday Praise Team & Choir Rehearsal - 7:00 pm

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- Benjamin Disraeli

News and Announcements

Ladies Ministry Day set at MLK S.D.A. Church

The public is invited to attend the annual ladies' ministry day Saturday Sept. 18, 2004 at 11:00am at the Martin Luther King Jr., Blvd Seventh Day Adventist Church, East 25th & MLK Blvd.

The speaker of the hour is Sister Violet Price, Ladies Ministry director is sister Betty Boswell. James Roberts is Pastor.

"The Passion of the Christ" will be shown at the New Light Baptist Church

The New Light Baptist Church, 3013 Idalou Road, will be showing "The Passion Of The Christ" on Sunday evening, September 19, 2004, at the Church, beginning at 6:30 p.m.

"We are greeting you in the Name of our Lord Jesus Christ, and hope you will join us," said Rev. James Cavanaugh, pastor.

Basketball and Volleyball League Signups

The City of Lubbock Parks and Recreation Department will begin registering teams for the fall season of volleyball on September 13-17, 2004. Divisions are available for men, women and co-rec teams. Players must be 16 years old or older to participate. Cost per team is \$170 for the ten-game season, and all games are played at L.I.S.D. Junior High gyms. Late registration will be September 20-24, 2004, with a late fee of \$25 added to the cost.

per team. Register in the Parks and Recreation Office at 1010 9th Street, Monday-Friday from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. For more information, call the Parks Office at 775-2673.

Adult Basketball League Signups The City of Lubbock Parks and Recreation Department will begin registering teams for the only adult basketball league of the year on September 13-17, 2004. Divisions are available for men and women's teams. Players must be at least 18 years old to participate. Cost per team is \$330 for the ten-game season, and all games are played at L.T.S.D. Junior High gyms. Late registration will be September 20-24, 2004, with a late fee of \$25 added to the cost per team. Register in the Parks and Recreation Office at 1010 9th Street, Monday-Friday from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. For more information, call the Parks Office at 775-2673.

Mayor McDougal supports Tech initiative

Mayor Marc McDougal joined Texas Tech University officials at a news conference Thursday, September 9, to speak in support of a Raider Assistance Program initiative called Neighbor to Neighbor.

Mayor McDougal talked about the Neighbor-to-Neighbor program from the City's point of view during the news conference which began at 10 a.m. in Wagner Park, 26 Street and Flint Avenue. Neighbor to Neighbor is a program for the 80 percent of Texas Tech students who live off campus. It is aimed at helping off-campus students live healthy lifestyles and build good neighbor relationships in the areas where they live.

"We support this program 100

percent," said McDougal. "Our Tech students are an important part of our community, and we want to give them all the support possible."

Tech kicked off Neighbor to Neighbor by knocking on 2,600 doors throughout Tech Terrace, Jefferson Commons, Raider Pass, and other neighborhoods that have a high concentration of Tech students. The students have received packets of information about responsible choices, resources to call for help, and other related issues. It is hoped that the Neighbor-to-Neighbor initiative will help students avoid behaviors (such as loud music, driving on the lawn and littering a neighbor's yard during a party) that causes problems in the neighborhoods.

The Raider Assistance Program is a safe and confidential place for students to go and ask for help with self-destructing and self-defeating behaviors such as alcohol, drug and tobacco abuse.

Preacherama "The Ten Commandments" set for September 25 at Mt. Gilead

With the theme, "How Ya Livin'", a Preacherama "Ten Commandments" will be held at the Mt. Gilead Baptist Church, 2512 Fir Avenue, & Elder J.J. Johnson is pastor, September 25, 2004, beginning at 7:00 p.m.

Elder Jeremy S. Walker will serve as coordinator. Speakers will include Elder C. Allen, Good Shepherd Church; Minister D. Avery, 1st Progressive Baptist Church; Elder D. Morgan, Mt. Olive Baptist Church; Minister T. Drones, Mt. Gilead Baptist Church; Minister F. Wilson, Lyons

Chapel Baptist Church; Minister J. L. Barnes, St. Luke Baptist Church; Minister M. Atkins, Community Baptist Church; Elder J. J. Johnson, Mt. Gilead Baptist Church; Minister Kevin Jackson, Full Armour Church; and Minister G. Hunter, Pleasant Grove Baptist Church.

We are looking for you to participate in the first annual "Preacherama." We are expecting God in the person of the Holy Spirit to be present, so come and experience this life changing event.

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WTOS candidate accountability session focuses on local health care, education issues

Lubbock, TX (September 2004) The West Texas Organizing Strategy (WTOS) will sponsor a candidate accountability session on Sunday, Sept. 19, from 3-5 p.m. at the Christiana Renewal Center, located at 4th Street and Toledo in Lubbock. Candidates for public office at the local, state and federal levels have been invited to participate in this forum, which is expected to draw more than 750 delegates from member churches in the area.

The meeting will give WTOS members an opportunity to raise critical issues affecting families with public officials and aspirants to elected office, before voters go to the polls on Nov. 2. Residents have been invited from WTOS congregations throughout Lubbock, Hereford, and Dimmitt.

Growing out of hundreds of house meetings held by member churches, the idea for an accountability session with candidates came from local residents who were concerned about steep budget cuts last year by the Texas State Legislature in the areas of health care and education and funding for public schools. Over 150,000 children were cut from the Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP) and more had their benefits reduced, said Virginia Almanza, WTOS leader with St. Elizabeths Catholic Church.

"Many of these families told me they've just been devastated by these budget cuts in the CHIP program," added Lane Powell, WTOS co-chairperson. "It's really difficult for struggling, working parents to manage on a day-to-day basis when they have to dig deeper into their pockets before their kid? can see a doctor."

Leon Williams, WTOS leader with Central Lubbock Church of

Christ, noted that residents expressed concern about the recent power struggle over redistricting in the last legislative session. "Our goal is to make sure that the voices of working families are heard in the upcoming elections," said Williams.

The accountability session will also address cutbacks in public school funding and recent proposals that require hospitals to ask the immigration status of patients as part of a federal program to reim-

burse medical institutions for providing services to undocumented workers.

WTOS builds constituencies of leaders and community members around a family agenda that addresses important quality of life issues that impacts area residents. It organizes and trains leaders from across the region to become active and effective citizens. It is a coalition of 60 churches, public school, and civic groups.



Ten free trees will be given to each person who joins The National Arbor Day Foundation during September 2004.

The free trees are part of the nonprofit Foundation's Trees for America campaign. The ten trees are the American Redbud, White Pine, Sugar Maple, White Flowering Dogwood, Pin Oak, Red Maple, Birch, Silver Maple, Red Oak, and Colorado Blue Spruce.

"These trees were selected to provide benefits every season of the year: lovely spring flowers, cool summer shade, spectacular autumn colors, and winter berries and nesting sites for songbirds," John Rosenov, the Foundation's president, said.

The trees will be shipped postpaid at the right time for planting between October 15 and December 10 with enclosed planting instructions. The six to twelve inch trees are guaranteed to grow or they will be replaced free of charge.

Members also receive a subscription to the Foundation's colorful bi-monthly publication, Arbor Day, and The Tree Book with information about tree planting and care.

To receive the free trees, send a \$10 membership contribution to TEN TREES, National Arbor Day Foundation, 100 Arbor Avenue, Nebraska City, NE 68410, by September 30, 2004. Or join online at arborday.org.



Join us for the
heart matters
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Because our hearts matter, Covenant Heart Institute invites you to attend our "Heart Matters" Breakfast Club. Our goal is to bring people together who are affected by matters of the heart, either personally or through a family member or friend. We hope you will come and be encouraged to share your feelings, ideas and knowledge with others who understand the issues of coping with heart matters.

Friday, September 24
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Tyson launches African American communications program

New brand communication strategy unveiled

CHICAGO, Sept. 7 /PRNewswire/ — "The foundation of African American food preferences is soulfood - traditional cuisine that is flavorful, well seasoned, wholesome and home cooked. A major part of soulfood is protein - which gives families strength and energy to accomplish the many challenges of their busy days. Nobody brings quality, braced chicken, beef and pork protein to this consumer in more ways than Tyson Foods."

This is the foundation of a new strategy to communicate the strengths of the Tyson brand to key consumer segments. A product of 18 months of comprehensive research, the strategy recognizes Tyson's position as the premier provider of protein by pointing to the role meat protein plays in the diet and highlighting the chicken, beef and pork products marketed under the Tyson brand.

After Tyson Foods became the world's largest provider of protein with the acquisition of IBP, Inc. in 2001, the company made a strategic commitment to become even more consumer-focused, with an emphasis on building its new potential around the already-strong Tyson brand.

The result is a fully-integrated marketing campaign with the theme, "Powered by Tyson". The advertising features a humorous, tongue-in-cheek approach, showing people doing things a little better than others - because they are "Powered by Tyson(TM)". The campaign launched August 30, with television, radio and print advertising estimated at \$75 million over the next 12 months.

In addition, Tyson is building promotional partnerships to support the message. Tyson will be an associate sponsor of USA Gymnastics(TM) and the NASCAR(TM) Crew Chief Club. Existing partnerships with such organizations as Share Our Strength(R), America's Junior Miss(R) scholarship competition and Watch D.O.G.S. Across America(TM) will be infused with "powering" events and initiatives.

In the African-American community, Tyson will support Historically Black Colleges and

Universities via scholarships through the Tom Joyner Foundation and sponsorship of selected football classics and other community events. A

"Powered by Tyson" recipe book will be distributed at these events.

E. Morris Communications is the agency of record for Tyson's African-American initiatives.

Tyson Foods, Inc., founded in 1935, with headquarters in Springdale, Arkansas, is the world's largest processor and marketer of chicken, beef and pork and the sec-

ond largest food company in the Fortune 500. Tyson Foods produces a wide variety of brand name protein-based and prepared food products marketed in the United States and more than 80 countries around the world. Tyson Foods is the recognized market leader in the retail and foodservice markets it serves. The Company has approximately 120,000 team members and 300 facilities and offices in 27 states and 22 countries.



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Heart of the Plains Kennel Club AKC dog shows and obedience trials

The Heart of the Plains Kennel Club will be hosting 4 days of American Kennel Club licensed dog shows and obedience trials at the Lubbock Memorial Civic Center Exhibit Hall, September 23rd thru 26th. Dogs attending these shows will be competing in conformation and obedience. In conformation, the judge compares the dogs in competition with its interpretation of the perfect dog as described in the breed's written standard. The dog coming closest to the breed standard will be awarded points toward its championship title. In obedience, dogs will be scored on their proficiency in heeling, retrieving, jumping, signal work and scent discrimination.

Dogs will be earning qualifying scores towards Novice, Open, Utility and Obedience Trial Championship titles. Each day will have an entry of over 1000 dogs, coming from more than 20 states and foreign countries. Many of the top winning dogs in the nation will compete at this cluster of shows.

The shows will be highlighted by a display of the winning artwork from All Saints Episcopal School for the 7th annual "Kid's Art Show at the Dog Show". There will be free educational material offered to the public and no admission fee will be charged for these shows. The public is urged to attend this fun family event. For more information, call 794-1256 or email at spot@compuserve.com.

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Editorials • Comments • Opinions



In Cinque

by Renetta Howard



Early last Saturday, I woke with a familiar splitting headache which involved my ear, and right away I knew that I had fluid in my ear. Rather than wait until I could not hold my head up, I immediately went to a doctor who accepted walk-in patients.



Upon my arrival at the doctor's office, I felt that perhaps I would not be seen on this day, because the office is only open until noon. The room was lined with wall to wall people of all ages, sex and color. Some were standing in any available space as all the seats were taken and some tables were being used for seats.

There were a number of seats for children to sit and watch a television cartoon show, but only two children were seated and watching. Every once in a while, one of the seated children would get up to taunt his sibling in his

mother's arm. One little girl found the play toy of the year in the little white plastic chair which she sat in for about fifteen seconds. She enjoyed holding the chair by its armrests and swinging it around in the room. I feared she would lose her grip and hit me or someone else with it. She swung the chair around until she, along with her older brother were called in to see the doctor. She was never told to stop.

By this time, the little girl's brother had found a playmate. Another boy had come in who had some kind of novelty spinning tops and they were taking turns winding the spinning tops. Therefore, his mother had to wait on him to finish his play. She called him on.

In the meantime, another sibling set of three were running around and wrestling with each other while their mother would threaten to beat them if they did not stop. With a baby in her arms, she whacked at the little girl and told her and her brother to sit down. The girl sat for a second and the boy never did sit.

They went back at it again. After about ten minutes, the little girl became insistent and had a tantrum so her mother would give her something that she wanted. Her mother threatened again to beat her if she did not stop. She finally took a little switch and carried the girl outside for a few minutes and brought her back in screaming. She screamed until the doctor saw them.

I watched all of this as an elderly lady sat rocking in her seat and singing a gospel song, while the boy seated watching television played foosy with a medical information kit which had been on a table. His mother did not say a mumbling word. The room was noisy because the adults talked loudly to each other while the children ran, yelled, tore up magazines and hopped upon tables, chairs and their parents. We wonder why children are hard to teach in school. We need to get 'in cinque' and discipline our children better in their early years in order for them to be teachable when they attend school.

THIS 'N' THAT

FOUR BLACK OWNED FUNERAL HOMES IN EAST LUBBOCK THIS N THAT ... learned the other day of a fourth Black owned funeral home ... GRIFFIN MORTUARY located on East Broadway Avenue. With this new addition ... it hits the family of three older ones ... namely - JAMISON FUNERAL HOME ... perhaps the oldest ... OSSIE CURRY FUNERAL HOME, and BROCK'S SOUTH PLAINS DIRECTORS. At one time in the Black community, there were three Black owned funeral homes. They were JAMISON FUNERAL HOME, SOUTH PLAINS FUNERAL HOME, and SEDBERRY FUNERAL HOME. In those days ... THREE FUNERAL HOMES ... were apparently able to maintain a positive business. The population of the BLACK COMMUNITY ... hasn't grown in leaps and bounds ... and it brings about the question ... ARE FOUR BLACK OWNED FUNERAL HOMES TOO MANY?

LUBBOCK COMMUNITY. Hopefully ... the upcoming study which is being coordinated by the NORTH & EAST LUBBOCK DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM ... will bring that out. Since East Lubbock is behind in so many areas, it will take another ... TWENTY YEARS ... before things will begin to really be seen. Some work has been done ... and we thank God for all of that. One fact for sure ... THE CITY OF LUBBOCK ... can't do it by themselves. The commitment of ... ONE MILLION DOLLARS by this city is most appreciated, but WE MUST FIND SOME PRIVATE FUNDS. No doubt about it ... there are ... TWO LUBBOCKS!

PENNY HASTINGS THE BARBER SAYS: "THE GENERAL ELECTION ... will be held Tuesday ... NOVEMBER 2, 2004, and if you are not a REGISTERED VOTER, become one today!"

ONE more cut would be nice! THIS

N THAT would like to see the ... TREES ... on the East 24th Street Overpass cut again. After doing this ... a good sweep over the overpass would be a very good thing. Hope this will be done soon ... so when those dwellings being done by the Lubbock Housing Authority are going strong, ALL can see when they drive ... EAST ON THE OVERPASS.

Thanks, City of Lubbock, for all that you do and have done for East Lubbock ... but help us with ... ONE MORE CUT & SWEEP!

BEWARE ALLEGED DRUG DEALERS! THIS N THAT ... are receiving information about those of you who are ALLEGED DRUG DEALERS, and evidently ... you have no respect for the community. Better beware, because as there are those who are watching you. It's about time to start showing PICTURES of some of our ... ALLEGED DRUG DEALERS.

Southwest Digest

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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 economic 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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AMALGAMATED PUBLISHERS, INC.



Where do we get on board?

by Eddie P. Richardson

As Black people, we know by our faith that a better day is a coming, and too many times don't just - but tough people do. We are survivors, we're God's children. Trouble don't last always. Things just got to get better for us, because we ain't gonna give up. Things gonna get better, by and by because we have faith and we are looking to tomorrow.

Life is a banquet and most of us are starving to death because of our lack of faith and determination. We have set backs and disadvantages, but with errors, confidence, willingness and hard work, we can achieve success. We have to have and maintain a positive mental attitude and a desire and ability to do hard work and give 100%. If this is done, we can achieve whatever we desire. We know that drought and famine have made it tough for millions and one million people will die because of it in 1985, but on the other hand, we wonder if it was a while country if this would have happened to one million people?

The high wave of crime which is disgusting, devastating and annoying, but there is a job and not more weapons. We need jobs and food, not weapons and war. Poverty and high unemployment, especially among young Blacks, contribute to the rise in crime. All the police in the world and all the jails in the world won't solve this problem, but jobs and food will help.

Along with parents and parental supervision, the church is good for night, but we need some jobs, recreation and cultural programs for daytime activities.

We are going to look for some positive things and happenings in 1985. We especially hope to see some local economic development in our area in 1985. For example, the East 34th & Quin Avenue overpass.

Hopefully, a business incubator, miniature car new business.

Reading the latest issue of Jet magazine, this writer found this article: "Black Students Study More Than White Ones."

It reads in part: "When it comes to hitting the school books, U.S. students spend an average of 5.4 hours a week studying, but Blacks study more than whites, revealed an annual school report from the Census Bureau in Washington, D.C. The federal report, titled 'Black' spend 5.6 hours a week studying compared to 5.4 hours for whites and 5.3 for Hispanics. The steepest difference in study habits was for students in public high schools who spend 5.5 hours receiving school work, compared with 4.7 hours for those in private high schools, the study said."

If this keeps up and we get off high school, maybe, just maybe in the next couple of generations, we can get on to the American dream merry-go-round.

A last minute thought: He and Paul Harvey mention a recent study by some psychologists which revealed one of the things that has changed sports so much in recent years. The study revealed that the change has occurred because "Sports have become so much more than just a game. Sports have replaced religion." They, about it!

God is Not a Republican.

Or a Democrat.

It is the responsibility of every political conservative, every evangelical Christian, every pro-life Catholic, every traditional Jew ... to get serious about re-electing President Bush.

-Jerry Falwell, The New York Times, July 16, 2004

"I think George Bush is going to win in a walk. I really believe I'm hearing from the Lord it's going to be like a blowout election in 2004. The Lord has just blessed him ... it doesn't make any difference what he does, good or bad..."

-Pat Robertson, AP/Fox News, January 2, 2004

These leaders of the Religious Right mistakenly claim that God has taken a side in this election, and that Christians should only vote for George W. Bush.

We believe that claims of divine appointment for the President, uncritical affirmation of his policies, and assertions that all Christians must vote for his re-election constitute bad thinking and dangerous religion.

We believe that sincere Christians and other people of faith can choose to vote for President Bush or Senator Kerry - for reasons deeply rooted in their faith.

We believe all candidates should be examined by measuring their policies against the complete range of Christian ethics and values.

We will measure the candidates by whether they enhance human life, human dignity, and human rights; whether they strengthen family life and protect children; whether they promote racial reconciliation and support gender equality; whether they serve peace and social justice; and whether they advance the common good rather than only individual, national, and special interests.

We also admonish both parties and candidates to avoid the exploitation of religion or our congregations for partisan political purposes.

By signing this statement, we call Christians and other people of faith to a more thoughtful involvement in this election, rather than claiming God's endorsement of any candidate.

This is the meaning of responsible Christian citizenship.

We are not single-issue voters.

We believe that poverty-caring for the poor and vulnerable-is a religious issue. Do the candidates' budgets and tax policies reward the rich or show compassion for poor families? Do their foreign policies include fair trade and debt cancellation for the poorest countries? (Matthew 23:30-32; Isaiah 10:1-2)

We believe that the environment-caring for God's earth-is a religious issue. Do the candidates' policies protect the creation or serve corporate interests that damage it? (Genesis 2:15; Psalm 24:1)

We believe that war-and our call to be peacemakers-is a religious issue. Do the candidates' policies reward "wars of choice" or respect international law and cooperation in responding to real global threats? (Matthew 5:9)

We believe that truth-telling is a religious issue. Do the candidates tell the truth of justifying war and in other foreign and domestic policies? (John 8:32)

We believe that human rights-respecting the image of God in every person-is a religious issue. How do the candidates propose to change the attitudes and policies that led to the abuse and torture of Iraqi prisoners? (Genesis 1:27)

We believe that our response to terrorism is a religious issue. Do the candidates adopt the dangerous language of righteous empire as the war on terrorism will combine the rules of God, church, and nation? Do the candidates get out only in our countries but never in our own policies? (Matthew 6:33; Proverbs 8:12-13)

We believe that a consistent ethic of human life is a religious issue. Do the candidates' positions on abortion, capital punishment, euthanasia, weapons of mass destruction, HIV/AIDS - and other problems - and proposals around the world deny the biblical injunction to cherish life? (Deuteronomy 30:19)

To sign this petition and make your voice heard, go to www.lubbock.com/faith.org

"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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Southwest Digest

Rick James mourned at services in Buffalo, NY and Los Angeles

Courtesy of JET magazine, August 30, 2004

The King of Punk Funk Rick James recently was laid to rest in his hometown of Buffalo, NY, where 6,000 people waited for hours to pay their final respects.

A line of fans stretching more than two city blocks, filed past James' open casket in St. John Baptist Church.

Universal City home in California (JET, Aug. 23, 2004). His family believed the cause of death was pulmonary/cardiac failure with his various health conditions of diabetes, stroke, and pacemaker being listed as contributing factors. An autopsy was given, but failed to determine the singer's cause of death.

Comedian Dave Chappelle's impersonations of James on

Mary Jane, You and I, Bustin' Out (On Funk), Give It To Me Baby, Dance With Me, Cold Blooded, Can't Stop, Glow, Teardrops, Happy, She Blew My Mind (59 Times) and Loosey's Rap.

James produced Eddie Murphy's 1985 debut music album and performed, wrote and produced the song Party All The Time. James and Murphy reunited in 1999 when James made his acting debut in the Murphy-Martin Lawrence film Life. He played a gangster.

One of his proudest moments was joining the seven members of the Temptations including his late uncle, Melvin Franklin on the 1982 song Standing On The Top for their Reunion album.

"That was probably the most incredible moment of my musical life," he said. "And working with Smokey Robinson on the song Ebony Eyes was a tremendous thrill."

During the early '80s, the outspoken entertainer engaged in a heavily publicized battle to get his videos and those of other Black Artists aired on the then rock-dominated MTV.

Michael Jackson and Prince videos were later played, but the five videos submitted by James were rejected because it was "funk" music and MTV only played "rock and roll," an MTV spokesperson at that time said. By 1990, rapper MC Hammer had just released the song U Can't Touch This, which sampled James' song Super Freak.

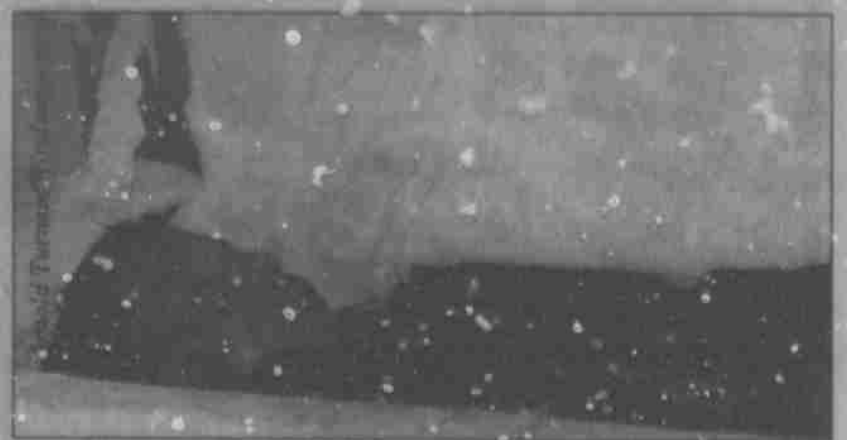
U Can't Touch This became one of the biggest rap songs of all time and won Hammer and James, who shared the songwriting credit, Grammy awards. That was the only Grammy James ever earned.

James characterized himself as "The most sampled artist in history," with his music being used in songs by: Mary J. Blige, J-Lo, and Ja Rule, LL Cool J, Ashanti, Will Smith, Salt 'n' Pepa and ODB.

He had just completed his memoir, Confessions of a Super Freak, a book he began writing while doing time at California's Folsom State Prison. A movie, to star Chappelle, was also in the works.

In late June, James received a lifetime achievement honor, the Heritage Award, during ASCAP's Rhythm & Soul Awards. Motown founder Berry Gordy presented James with the honor. E. said of James, "His creative abilities, his instincts about music and production were just awesome." He added that James was "a pioneer who took Motown, to a whole new direction."

The following day he performed also lead the sizzling duet Fire and Desire with Teena Marie at the BET Awards. He then took center stage and



Hundreds of fans attended a public viewing at the Forest Lawn Mortuary in Los Angeles.



James' children, daughter Ty (l), and sons, Plick Jr. (r) and Tarman, attend their father's private memorial at the Forest Lawn Mortuary in Los Angeles. Plick Jr. and Ty spoke at the service.

"This Buffalo project boy was like a phoenix rising from ashes to the pinnacle of America's musical world," said his cousin, former Ohio congressman Louis Stokes at the memorial service. "He took us all with him on a roller coaster ride. Rick James became our family's first superstar."

Later that day members of his Stone City Band, who served as pallbearers, and 70 gospel singers performed a lively tribute concert at Martin Luther King Jr. Park to the man who coined the phrase Super Freak, the title of his 1981 hit song.

James was cremated after the service according to funeral director Vincent Amigone.

Three days earlier, more than 1,200 fans attended a public viewing at the Forest Lawn Mortuary in Los Angeles.

The following day the Grammy Award-winning funk star was remembered during a private four-hour ceremony, filled with family, friends and music, at Forest Lawn.

Called A Celebration of the Life of Rick James, Bishop Noel Jones delivered the eulogy.

The Hon. Minister Louis Farakhan, whom James often went to for counseling, spoke for 45 minutes about the late funk icon.

Stevie Wonder and gospel singer Eric Dawkins both delivered heart-wrenching musical tributes to James. Ali-Ollie Woodson, formerly of the Temptations who sang lead with James on the song Standing On The Top, also performed a musical tribute.

James "loved and idolized" the late Mar. in Gaye, who was among his closest musical buddies. Gaye's daughter, singer-actress Nona Gaye, attended the private ceremony as did Motown founder Berry Gordy Jr. and comedian-actor Jamie Foxx.

James died in his sleep at his

"Chappelle's Show" revived his Super Freak persona for new generations.

Born James Ambrose Johnson Jr., he was a skillful musician who wrote, produced, arranged and performed on all of his albums. Some instruments he played were guitar, bass, keyboards and drums.

James birthed a new genre of music which he called Punk Funk. It was a different type of funk that was part punk because he had roots in rock and roll and part funk because of his soul roots influence from James Brown, Sly and the Family Stone and Parliament Funkadelic.

Classic Rick James songs include

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- 2) The contest is open to all children born between January 1, 1986, and December 31, 1991, to parents (or parent) who are U.S. citizens and residents of The Avalanche-Journal's home newspaper delivery area.
- 3) Employees of The A-J and Media Communications Corporation and their immediate families are not eligible to participate.
- 4) No purchase is necessary.
- 5) Official entry forms will appear regularly in The Avalanche-Journal through Sept. 23, 2004, or can be obtained at The A-J Information Center, 710 Ave. J, Lubbock, between the hours of 8 a.m. and 5 p.m. Monday through Friday.
- 6) A copy of a legal birth certificate and a reproducible photograph of the child to accompany each entry form. Also, entry forms must be completed in their entirety. Only one entry per child will be accepted.
- 7) Deadline for entry is 7 p.m. Friday, Sept. 24. Entries received after Sept. 24 will not be accepted. Entries can be mailed to MAKE KIDS COUNT SCHOLARSHIP GIVEAWAY, P.O. Box 491, Lubbock, TX 79408, or dropped off at The A-J Information Center.
- 8) All contestants agree to allow their names, pictures, birth information and photographs to be published in The Avalanche-Journal without further compensation.
- 9) The Avalanche-Journal is not responsible for undelivered entries that are forwarded, lost, lost, misdirected, damaged, illegible, incomplete or postage due.
- 10) Contest winner will be determined through a series of random drawings. From the total number of entries, 64 names will be drawn on Friday, Sept. 24. Names will be listed (22, 16, 8, 4, 2, 1) weekly until the winner is announced on Tuesday November 16, 2004.
- 11) In addition to the \$10,000 U.S. Savings Bond awarded to the winner, The A-J will present a \$5,000 Savings Bond to the runner-up, \$1,000 Savings Bonds to the other two quarter-winners, \$500 Savings Bonds to the other four entries who make the round of eight and \$100 Savings Bonds to the other eight entries who make the round of 16. All Savings Bonds will be issued in the names of the winning children, other conclusion of the contest.
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