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January 15 thru January 21, 1998

VOL. XXII, No. 3

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NATIONAL NEWS

U.S. Population Nears 269 Million as 1998 Begins

As Americans rang in the New Year, the Jan. 1, 1998 population of the United States was projected to number 268,921,733, an annual increase of 2.4 million (0.9 percent), the Commerce Department's Census Bureau said. The Census Bureau based its Jan. 1, 1998 figure on a projected 3.9 million births, 2.3 million deaths, not international migration of 327,000 and net return of American citizens (including armed forces) of 40,600 during 1997. "The level of births occurring in the United States each year has been declining since 1990, when 4.2 million births occurred," said Census Bureau analyst Lisa Kuzmeskas. "The number of deaths in 1997 were slightly higher than the number in 1996," she added. America's population is projected to grow by an additional 2.3 million persons during 1998, primarily because of natural increase--the excess of births over deaths. The New Year's Day population total represents an 8.1 percent increase over the April 1, 1990 census total of 248,755,170. The projections do not include U.S. citizens--armed forces or civilians--who live abroad.

Reno Delays Hate Crime Decision Pending Local Trial

Attorney General Janet Reno has postponed any decision about whether the burning and beheading of a Black man was racially motivated until two White men (Emmett Cressell, Jr. and Louis Ceparano) accused of the crime have been prosecuted. The notification came in a December letter to state Attorney General Richard Culien, who asked the Justice Department in August to allow the state to pursue its case first. "At the conclusion of the state proceedings and the federal investigation, federal prosecutors will consider all the evidence and determine whether any further federal action is warranted," Reno wrote. Federal authorities are investigating whether the July 25, 1997 death of 40-year-old Garnett Johnson, Jr. was a racially motivated hate crime. Such a finding could result in the filing of charges under the Federal Civil Rights Act. Investigators say Johnson was doused with gasoline and set afire and then his head was cut off, after an all-night drinking party at the rural Grayson County home of Ceparano. Cressell was charged with first-degree murder while Ceparano faces capital murder. Both were also charged with robbery for stealing the victim's watch. If convicted Ceparano faces a possible death sentence and Cressell life in prison. Ceparano's trial is set for April 1.

Nation's First African American-owned Theater Chain Opens in Chicago

Alisa and Donzell Starks, owners of Inner City Entertainment, Inc. (ICE), the first African-American-owned theater chain in the country, have brought more than a touch of Hollywood to Chicago. The three \$40 million state-of-the-art multiplexes, financed by the husband and wife team, also brought over 400 jobs, family-oriented entertainment and most importantly, hope for economic revitalization in Chicago's underserved communities. Inner City Entertainment, along with their Toronto-based partners, Cineplex Odeon Corporation, will operate the Chicago multiplexes. Mayor Richard M. Daley praised the project for generating "much needed" economic growth in the city's rebuilding of Lawndale, Chicago Lawn and Chatham neighborhoods, as well as providing a job training program for area youth. The Inner City City Entertainment/Cineplex Odeon Theatres premiered with the opening screening of Steven Spielberg's film "Amistad."

COORS BREWING COMPANY CELEBRATES THE NEGRO LEAGUES BASEBALL MUSEUM GRAND OPENING

Coors Pays Tribute at Museum Rededication as New Facility Opens Doors



KANSAS CITY, MO. -- Coors Brewing Company underscored its continuing commitment to the Negro Leagues Baseball Museum, by serving as a corporate sponsor of its recent grand opening gala in Kansas City, Missouri. Coors, which became a corporate partner of the museum last year, has completed one year of a three-year alliance.

In January, Coors announced a three-year partnership with the Negro Leagues Baseball Museum. The partnership is dedicated to increasing public awareness of the museum, increasing its memberships and highlighting the many achievements of Negro Leagues baseball players.

Also earlier this year, Coors launched, "Negro Baseball -- Their Legacy Still Hits Home," a special Black History Month campaign which was designed to honor the Negro Leagues and educate the public on the many contributions of the athletes over the years.

"Coors has been very pleased to be a partner of an institution that promises to be one of the finest history museums in the country," said Leo Kiely, president and chief operating officer of Coors Brewing Company. "Coors joins the museum in encouraging the public to visit and support this unique and culturally rich place, where an important part of American history is brought to life." Kiely also serves as an honorary chairman of the museum.

The Negro Leagues Baseball Museum, located in Kansas City's historic Vine Street District, is the only museum of its type in the United States. From the late 19th century into the 1940s, black baseball players were not allowed to play organized baseball

with white players or on white teams. Once black players were allowed to enter Major League Baseball, all-black teams began to dissolve. The legacy of the 2,600 Negro Leagues athletes will live on in the Negro Leagues Baseball Museum.

The one-of-a-kind museum preserves the history of athletes who made a number of great contributions to baseball history. Through photographs, Negro League memorabilia, writings and exhibits, the museum gives a living history of the many accomplishments that the athletes achieved.

More than 1,700 people attended the star-studded November event, which raised more than \$150,000 to support the museum. The museum's grand opening also coincided with the 50th anniversary of Jackie Robinson, shortstop with the Kansas City Monarchs, who broke the color barrier in Major League Baseball. Robinson became the first African American to play on a Major League team when he joined the Brooklyn Dodgers in 1947.

In honor of the grand opening event, Coors brewed "Heritage Ale," a special brew created to celebrate the achievements and the courage of the athletes. A commemorative bottle of Coors' Heritage Ale was given to guests at the event. An excerpt from the label of the special brew read, "They played for all the right reasons."

Founded in 1873, Coors Brewing Company is the third largest brewer in the United States using only the finest ingredients in an all-natural brewing process. For more information about membership in the museum, call 1-888-221-6526.

ANNUAL DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. CELEBRATION SET

With the theme of "Til' Victory Is Won", the annual Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Birthday Celebration will be held January 15 through January 19, 1998. This annual event is sponsored by the Martin Luther King, Jr. Commemorative Council of Lubbock, Inc.

The following is the schedule of the four days of activities:

Thursday, January 15, 1998 - Grand Opening - 7:00 p.m. - Hope Deliverance COGIC, 2812 East 4th St. Elder Charles Tanner, host pastor. - MLK Male Chorus in Song - Rev. J.J. Johnson, director

Friday, January 16, 1998 - Youth Night - 7:00 p.m. - Lakeridge United Methodist Church - 4701 82nd St. Rev. Bill Couch, Pastor - MLK Youth Choir in Song - Ms. Mary White, Director

Sunday, January 18, 1998 - City Wide Celebration - 5:00 p.m. - Lubbock Memorial

Civic Center Theater Guest Speaker - Rev. S.T. Hillard, Pastor, St. Luke Baptist Church - Houston, Texas. Martin Luther King, Jr. Mass Choir in Song - Ms. Mae Pearl Jackson, Director.

Monday, January 19, 1998 - "Birthday Celebration" - 7:00 p.m. - New Hope Baptist Church Rev. Billy R. Moton, pastor. - Martin Luther King, Jr. Women Chorus in Song Ms. Clara Leonard, Director.

"NEW FEATURE" Happy Birthday, Martin, & Spot Lights On Trail Blazers of Yesterday & Followers of Today Frances Bell, secretary. For more information, call 763-0853 or 762-3600.

"There is no admission to any of the events. We want everyone to come," says Ms. Ervin. Sponsored by the Martin Luther King Jr. Commemorative of Lubbock, Inc.

NPCBW "ADOPTS" THOMPSON FAMILY, THE NATION'S FIRST BLACK SEXTUPLETS RECEIVE EARLY CHRISTMAS GIFTS



WASHINGTON, DC--District-born Thompson sextuplets Emily Elizabeth, Richard Linden, Octavia Daniela, Steile Kimberly and Anne Marie Amanda today received early Christmas gifts, thanks to The National Political Congress of Black Women, Inc. (NPCBW). NPCBW announced that it is "adopting" the Thompson family, the nation's first black sextuplets born without fertility treatment. The announcement was made by NPCBW Chair Dr. C. DeLores

Tucker at Children's Hospital on the occasion of the Annual Children's holiday show which was attended by the First Lady Hillary Rodham Clinton. Mrs. Clinton warmly greeted Mrs. Jacqueline Thompson and the sextuplets. In her book, "It Takes a Village" Mrs. Clinton recognized Dr. Tucker and NPCBW's work to improve the quality of life for children.

Dr. Tucker observed that the proverb-title of the First Lady's book "It Takes a Village" to raise

a child will be truly apropos in the case of the sextuplets. This was demonstrated by my friends the President of Howard University Patrick Swygert and Toys "R" Us Vice Chairman/CEO, Michael Goldstein, who readily responded to my call for help. When we asked the mother for her wish list for the children she stated scholarships and toys. President Swygert agreed to give all the children a four year scholarship from Howard University. Vice Chairman/CEO Goldstein presented the sextuplets a gift certificate for free toys that will be good through the year 2012, when the sextuplets will be 15 years old. Born May 8, 1997 at Georgetown University Hospital, the seven-month old sextuplets (one was stillborn) received little donations following their birth, unlike the much-heralded McCaughey sextuplets born last month in Iowa. Thus, Dr. Tucker decided to "adopt" the Nation's Capital black miracle babies.

LYNDA WASHINGTON EARNS ACADEMIC AWARD FROM ESS--THE COLLEGE FOR BUSINESS

Dallas, Texas--Ms. Lynda Washington, a graduate of Guthrie Alternative High School, Guthrie, OK and the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Talmadge Washington of Lubbock, received an academic award for the past term from Executive Secretarial School--the College for Business--in Dallas. Ms. Washington is enrolled in the Associate of Applied Science Office Administration/Administrative Assisting degree program at the College. To qualify for this

award, a student must achieve a 4.0 grade point average on a scale of 1 to 4.

Executive Secretarial School was founded in 1960 to prepare people for successful careers as office professionals. Students come from throughout Texas, Oklahoma, and Arkansas to attend the College. The College offers Associate of Applied Science Office Administration Assisting, Legal Administrative Assisting, and Legal Assisting.

There is also a Spanish administrative specialization which prepares someone to work in companies working in and with Spanish-speaking countries. The College is accredited by the Accrediting Council for Independent Colleges and Schools as a junior college. The Associate of Applied Science Office Administration degree programs are authorized by the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board.

MOVING INTO THE TWENTY FIRST CENTURY

By E.P.R.

For us to move into the 21st century must we be prepared? Yes!!! In order to be prepared or be left standing by the wayside as complicated as life the facts are just that simple.

With the internet, super highway, high tech, etc. in this age of competition one has to be prepared and ready to move to stay in the game and be competitive. From these times now you have to be competitive to stay in the game.

For Lubbock to be in the race for economic development it has to make an investment in the future. A city a business, organization, etc. must grow or it will go in these times now and move so in the future that's the way it is.

We hear a lot of talk about new business and industry. Very good, but on the flip side of the coin is local business retention and growth to help local business and industry stay in business, expand and hire more people.

There are a lot of hair brain rumours going around about the devastating tax that will do all of

these horrible things to Lubbock. The first thing is check the source of the rumour mill then you will see why they fight everything that come up to help Lubbock move ahead. They all have personal axes to grind, hang ups with the past, present, and future elected officials. The over riding factor is they do not elected officials or any form of government.

The handful of people that fight everything that come up for the betterment and advancement of Lubbock, check their history. It will shock you.

There is one member of this negative reaction to Lubbock advancement that allegedly got a large sum of money for his personal business and allegedly had other ethical business practices that involved the courts. There are people that do not live in the city of Lubbock. Check the group. I am sure you will feel the way this writer does and vote the way this writer has already voted.

Some very important facts on why you should vote yes for jobs for Lubbock. *Reese A.F.B. - we

have not felt the full effect yet. *The merger of St. Mary and Methodist Hospitals - a lot of jobs are already gone and more to come. *The welfare reform program - 3 years we are almost 1 year in the program. What's next if no jobs!! *U.S.D.A. from now until 2002 programs will be eliminated. Lubbock, an agultral mecca what's next? And most of all a future for our young people having jobs for them and retaining their valuable talents keeping them home. Letting them make their contributions here.

It is very important that you vote yes for the jobs for today and tomorrow. Don't look at it as a tax but an investment in the future of Lubbock. The first thing is 3/8 of a cent is not much money. The next thing is this does not effect daily living such as housing, food, medical, etc. It's the so called luxury items. Our prayer is you your family, friends, to go the polls and vote yes Saturday, January 17th.

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Ruby Jay's Corner

The New Hope Baptist Church, 2002 Birch Avenue, is the "Church Where The People Really Care," and the Rev. Billy R. Moton is the proud pastor. If you don't have a church home, you are always invited to attend services at New Hope.

Services began last Sunday morning at 9:30 a.m. with the youth in charge as it was Youth Sunday. The youth did a wonderful job throughout the services. The singing was great. Keep up the good work, young people! God is smiling on each of you.

After thirty minutes of instruction, all classes reassembled in the main auditorium. High points of the morning lesson were given by the Junior Class.

Secretary's Report: Youth department -- the Senior Class won both banners. In the Adult Department, Class No. 4 received both banners, i.e. Offering and Attendance.

The Youth Department was in charge of the morning devotional period. Again, the young people did a marvelous job.

After the processional of the Youth Choir, altar prayer was offered. A song, "Blessed Assurance" was sung. The morning scripture was Psalm 18 and it was read by Justin Hibbler. Prayer was given by Isaiah Skief. Another song, "Joy, Joy!" was sung. Responsive reading was done with the congregation standing and led by Kendra Williams.

The morning hymn was "Blessed Be The Name." Pastoral observations were given by Pastor Moton. Another song, "I Won't Complain," was sung. The hymn of preparation was "Father I Stretch My Hands To Thee." Pastor Moton's sermon was entitled "God Wants Us To Put It All In His Hands." His sermon text was Jeremiah 33:1-3. If you haven't done so, you'd better start. Put it all

in God's hands, because Pastor Moton left no stone unturned.

An invitation to discipleship was extended. Sister Lucille Baylock came for prayer. Another came by Christian experience.

Let us continue to pray for our sick and shut in citizens. At this report, Brother Ulysses Kelly is a patient at Methodist Hospital.

The Clarence Ervins are out of town at this report due to sickness in Waxahachi, Texas.

Among our bereaved families is the family of Sister Gienda Ausbie who was laid to rest last Saturday morning. At the time of her funeral, her mother was a patient in the hospital with an heart attack.

Sister G.H. Davis was funeralized January 5, 1998 at New Hope Baptist Church. Sister Davis is another Warrior gone home. She was a Christian woman and a mighty good friend of this writer. Our prayers and sympathy goes out to all families who have lost family members.

Funeral services are pending for Robert Walker's father who passed away last week. Pray for the family.

Sister Gertrude Hawkins, a member of the Greater St. Luke Baptist Church, reported her house was broken into last week and all of her clothes and other items were taken.

Mr. Henry High's relatives of Tyler, Texas were visiting him last weekend. They attended the morning services at New Hope last Sunday morning.

Sister Clara Lee Blakemore was at church last Sunday morning. She has been shut-in with the flu. Mrs. Colquitt's brother, General Ponder, is in the Veterans Administration Hospital in Amarillo, Texas. He had a leg amputated. Keep praying. Jesus will surely answer your prayers.



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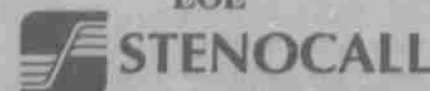


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The Racial Realities That Conservatives Don't Want To Hear

By Earl Ofari Hutchinson

From the moment that President Clinton announced his race initiative program, Newt Gingrich and other Republicans pounded on him to include conservatives in the dialogue. Clinton got the message. Before the Akron Town Hall meeting in early December he said he would listen to what conservatives like Ward Connerly had to say. While I agree that conservatives should be included in Clinton's dialogue, my guess is that the sum of their contribution will be to pawn off the same tired litany of racial stereotypes and slanders about African Americans.

The nub of their argument is that Whites are sick and tired of hearing Blacks blame racism, economic inequality, and an unjust criminal justice system for their failures. But these are the realities that many conservatives don't want to hear. The majority of violent crime in America is committed by Whites. The majority of drug users and abusers are White. The majority of welfare recipients and poor are White. Sociologist Joe Feagin in "Living with Racism," has thoroughly documented the sneaky storehouse of racist dodges and tactics many bankers, corporate officials, real estate lenders, hotels, restaurants, and cab drivers still use to perpetuate racial discrimination.

The prisons are increasingly jammed with poor, young Blacks due to draconian drug laws that target African Americans. The U.S. Sentencing Commission pointed to the blatant inequity in the criminal justice system when it recommended that the harsh

sentences handed out for drug possession to Black offenders and the light hand slap sentences given to White offenders be modified "or equalized." Clinton and Attorney General Janet Reno agreed. Congress refused to make any changes.

And what are the job prospects for those Blacks when they are released from prison? A study by the California Commission on the Status of The Black Male in 1996 revealed that one-sixth of California's 625,000 Black males age 16 and older were arrested yearly and concluded that the arrest, "thereby create police records which hinder later job prospects." Also the perception that Blacks are inherently prone to crime and violence is fed by much of the media's continued obsession with crime-drug-violence-gang-in-ghetto features and news stories. This almost certainly makes many employers believe that Black communities are vast wastelands of rot, and that Blacks are chronic social and educational failures, and not fit to be hired.

They are not. In 1996, according to the National Urban League's State of Black America report, 80 percent of African Americans graduated from high school and nearly 30 percent were enrolled in college (many in historically Black colleges). Contrary to popular belief, the high school drop out rate for African Americans was no greater than for Whites. But this was back page stuff in the papers, if reported at all.

The bad news is that many Blacks who want college degrees are losing ground. Since 1994 funding cuts,

elimination of scholarships, grants and financial assistance, and the paralyzing of affirmative action have badly thinned the ranks of Blacks and Latinos admitted to medical and law schools at several University of California campuses. While conservatives lecture Blacks to get an education and solve their own problems, they are stone silent about segregation and the gaping funding shortfalls that keep ghetto schools Blacker and poorer.

And that brings me to affirmative action. This is the hand's down favorite issue conservatives use to bludgeon Clinton and liberals into political submission. They dangle horrific visions before the public of hordes of unqualified minorities and women driving qualified White males from jobs.

Other than a few highly-publicized and anecdotal cases of Whites complaining about losing their jobs to a minority worker, there is not a shred of evidence that Whites are being displaced en masse by minorities. Corporate America is the proof. In 1994, there were fewer than a half dozen Black CEOs at the Fortune Magazine's top 1000 companies. Conservatives have done everything they could to bully and badger Clinton into packing his town hall meetings on race with anti-affirmative action hired guns like Ward Connerly. Now that they've gotten their wish and conservatives will be at Clinton's race table, let's see how they hold up when confronted with the realities of racism and economic inequality that they pretend no longer exist.



LUBBOCK HONOR INITIATES -- South Plains College students from Lubbock were recently inducted into SPC's chapter of Phi Theta Kappa, international honor society for students in two-year colleges. Seated from left are Keila Ayers, Melissa Lester, Kayla

O'Neal; standing, second row, from left, Deborah McCarley, Linda Boggs, Diana Hudgins and Cassandra Wood; and top row, from left, Arthur Duran, Jason Norman, O. Cole Etheredge and Claude Vandervlist. (SPC Photo)

Sharpton Defense Opens in NY Defamation Trial

By Holly McKenna

An attorney for civil rights activist the Rev. Al Sharpton denied in court recently that Sharpton had made defamatory statements in the racially charged Tawana Brawley case of 1987.

Sharpton and two other former advisers to Brawley are being sued for defamation by former prosecutor Steven Pagones, one of six White men the Black teenager accused of kidnapping and raping her in November 1987. Sharpton and his fellow defendants are all Black.

In his opening statement, lawyer Michael Hardy said that at the time of the allegations, Sharpton had repeated in public what he had heard and believed to be reliable information.

Hardy said it was not his job to prove that Pagones raped Brawley, as she charged, but to show that Sharpton did not defame the former prosecutor. "They must prove with clear and convincing evidence that the Rev. Sharpton displayed a reckless disregard for the truth, and even as Rev. Sharpton sits here in court today, he believes the story of Tawana Brawley, he believes what information was told to him," Hardy told the six-member jury in Dutchess County courtroom in Poughkeepsie, NY.

To collect damages from public figures, plaintiffs in defamation

suits must prove that statements about them were made with "malice" -- either know them to be false or with reckless disregard for their truth or falsehood.

Pagones claims that Sharpton and the other defendants publicly accused him of being a rapist on at least 30 occasions, thus defaming his character and damaging his reputation. In 1988 a New York state grand jury dismissed Brawley's charges as a hoax and exonerated the accused men, including Pagones.

"When you have a young Black girl making allegations of rape against White law enforcement officials, you can't go to the top to get justice because they suppress it. That's how you get an Al Sharpton. Somebody has to rise up," Hardy said.

Pagones' attorney Bill Stanton began questioning one of the defendants, C. Vernon Mason, 51, a lawyer who was disbarred for bilking clients. Stanton did admit that they had no evidence to back up their claims against Pagones.

"She looked like a person who suffered severe trauma. She couldn't walk and her emotional state was like someone who had been raped," Mason said of Brawley's condition two weeks after the alleged attack.

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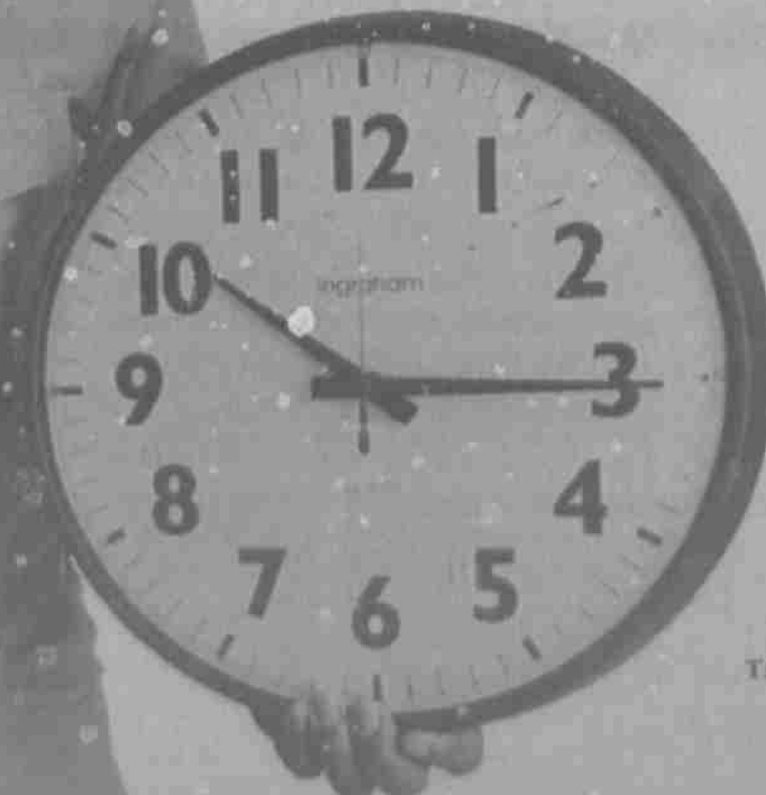
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Editorials • Comments • Opinions



THIS N THAT

VOTE YES FOR 3/8 SALES TAX! THIS N THAT...is asking all...REGISTERED VOTERS...to please...VOTE FOR THE 3/8 SALES TAX...which will be on the ballot this Saturday...JANUARY 17, 1998... If you are concerned about the future of...LUBBOCK, TEXAS...then you need to support this measure... It's time for us to...STAND UP...and support this crucial issue...which will determine which way we will travel in the near future... As concerned citizens...WE...just can't sit back and let people spread bad information...which could hamper our future... If you want to move in a...POSITIVE POSTURE...then join...THIS N THAT...and vote for this sales tax... This needed effort will only cost a family of four...ONLY \$40.00 A YEAR... Now...THIS N THAT...hope you will please come to the bat for something we all can be proud of... This new tax...if passed...will not tax the following items...GROCERIES...HOUSE PAYMENTS...MEDICAL BILLS...HOME UTILITIES...CARS AND GASOLINE... So you see...it's...WORTH THE SACRIFICE...To see that we will have a means to compete with other cities...who have already...PASSED SOME FORM OF A SALES TAX... If we are to continue to be...PACE SETTERS...and bring...MORE JOBS TO LUBBOCK...it is a must WE...GO TO THE POLLS...this Saturday...JANUARY 17TH...and vote for this measure... So...come on...and join...THIS N THAT...and say...YES...to the 3/8 SALES TAX... What a great way to...pay tribute to the birthday of...DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR...by helping pass this measure...

DR. KING CELEBRATION BEGINS THURSDAY NIGHT!! THIS N THAT...would like to advise you of the annual...DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. BIRTHDAY CELEBRATION...which will be held...JANUARY 15TH THRU JANUARY 19TH... The general opening will be held

at the...Hope Deliverance COGIC...2812 East 4th Street...beginning at 7:00 p.m...YOUTH NIGHT...will be Friday night...at the Lakeridge United Methodist Church...4701 82nd Street...also beginning at 7:00 p.m... The...ANNUAL CITY WIDE CELEBRATION...will be held...Sunday evening...January 18th...beginning at 5:00 p.m. with guest speaker being...REV. S. T. HILLARD...pastor of...St. Luke Baptist Church of Houston, Texas... Closing out the annual effort...will be the... "BIRTHDAY CELEBRATION" Monday evening...January 19th...at the New Hope Baptist Church...beginning at 7:00 p.m. A new feature will be a...MARTIN LUTHER KING WOMEN'S CHORUS...under the direction of...Ms. Clara Leonard... The Male Chorus will sing on Thursday night...under the direction of Rev. J.J. Johnson... With the theme..."TIL VICTORY IS WON"...TRAIL BLAZERS OF YESTERDAY AND FOLLOWERS OF TODAY...will be honored...

SHIRLEY CANADY THE BARBER SAYS: "NOTHING...is impossible for the...MAN OR WOMAN...who doesn't have to do it him or herself..."

HAVE YOU VISITED A SCHOOL LATELY! THIS N THAT...is still wanting to know...HOW MANY...of you...who are either...PARENTS OR GUARDIANS...who are visiting some schools in the neighborhood... It will surely...HELP OUR YOUNG PEOPLE... What a splendid way to celebrate...THE BIRTHDAY...of the late...DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR... VISIT A SCHOOL THIS WEEK...or...NEXT WEEK... Our young people need to see us in the...hallways or eating in the cafeteria... Think about it...

HAPPY BIRTHDAY, DR. KING!! THIS N THAT...would like to say...HAPPY BIRTHDAY...DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR...

If the Issue is Race, What About the White People?

By William Reaves

The President's yearlong forum on race has been conspicuously lacking one thing, the opinions of White people. And it appears that may be one of the strategies of forum organizers. However, on Dec. 18, 1997 at the meeting in Northern Virginia of the President's Advisory Board on Race, one White man broke the silence.

After listening to a lengthy discussion, primarily shadow-boxing around the issue of affirmative action, Robert Hoy, a White photographer from Virginia, had his chance to speak.

Hoy, 42, took his turn at the microphone and got down to business. "There's no one up there that's talking about the White people!" Hoy shouted. "We don't want to be a minority in our own country!"

There was a smattering of boos and jeers, as everyone in the audience detected that something was about to happen. Within moments a police officer (one source said he was a secret service agent), escorted Hoy out of the building because it was felt that his comments were "disrupting" the event. Several White and non-White audience members, as well as reporters, followed him out the door. And that is where the real debate took place. Hoy expressed what I suspect was genuine concern that his privilege of Whiteness was being overshadowed by the increasing presence of, and focus on, minority issues. I also suspect that Hoy's honest challenge and questioning is the view shared by many White people.

The President has asked for an open and honest discussion on race, and warned us that the "hard" questions needed to be answered. He also predicted that people would be offended. Indeed, given that counter-racist logic says that in order to have a serious discussion on racism/White supremacy, White people must be offended, and non-White people must be embarrassed, Hoy's speedy exit was perplexing though, sadly predictable.

The question must be asked, why did Hoy get escorted out of the President's forum on race, given that the constitution is generally interpreted to allow for free speech? Hoy's presence or the presence of other White people who share his perspective is essential if the "hard" questions are to be answered. Questions like: What about the White people who don't want to be a minority in this country? Who are they? What do they want? What will we/they have to settle for? Can any progress be made without settling the concerns of White people who want to insure a future for their White posterity?

I predict that in the aftermath many people will try to divert, deviate, subvert or confuse the central issue of these questions. I suspect that these subversive people will be covert White supremacists and others may be non-White people who are uncomfortable about having a direct discussion with White people about the true motivation for White supremacy.

However, these are questions that responsible "Black" people should ask of their so-called White and Black friends. If we are not willing to stand up and engage with White people in polite political dialogue, how can we ever hope to synthesize a solution to racism?

THE RACIAL IMAGING; AN UPDATE

an editorial by HARRY C. ALFORD

I want to sincerely thank all of the Black newspapers who ran my article entitled "Goodyear Tires are as Strong as a Black Man's Lips". This article dealt with stereotypical advertising and the advertising support of television shows with racist themes being broadcast in the nation of Peru. Friends of ours were having trouble getting this story out to the American public. We did it through the support of members of the National Newspaper Publishers Association, NNPA, which is led by their strong President, Dorothy Leavell, who is also on the Board of Directors for the NBCC.

As the story unfolded from city to city the whole nation became aware. WWOR television in New York City ran two shows about this matter. Inside Edition will be running it shortly. Wall Street Journal, Associated Press and other "mainstream" media are now reporting on the matter. Even the traditional civil rights organizations which previously ignored the pleas of our friends (just like they did in the early stages of the Texaco controversy) have now started to talk about it.

Goodyear Tire Co. has atoned. They have called this office and admitted their mistakes. The advertising agency that performed the infamous commercial no

longer works for Goodyear. The Leo Burnett Agency has been fired! Goodyear has sent written apologies to many organizations and has pledged to be more vigilant and sensitive. Some of the hustling organizations have begun the attempted shakedowns. I hope Goodyear does not give them a penny!

Another corporation that has responded with proper leadership is Procter & Gamble. As a former employee of this corporate giant, I am personally proud of their correction. We received a copy of an internal memo written by a senior level manager to all "key U.S. managers". He was alerting the management to the upcoming public exposure. He said Procter & Gamble had been sponsoring television shows in South America that were not suitable and, in fact, racist. After reviewing the matter, Procter & Gamble will no longer support such shows and has immediately discontinued advertising - at significant expense to the company. He apologized to the employees and assured them that the mistake will not be repeated.

We have partially met our objective. Two companies, Goodyear and Procter & Gamble, have ceased support of racial stereotyping in Peru. It's time for Cheeseborough Ponds, Nabisco

Brands/RJR, Shell Oil, PepsiCo and Quaker Oats to do the same. Why haven't they atoned yet? As we investigated this matter, we found that Peru has a significant number of Black citizens. Brazil, Columbia, Venezuela have huge numbers of people of African descent and there are noticeable numbers in surrounding nations such as Ecuador and Peru. Thus, this racial stereotyping is directly assaulting some of our brothers and sisters. Since these assaults were being financed in the United States, we had the obligation to attack the financiers. Let's continue to mount the pressure until all participants cease and desist.

Thanks is also due to WWOR Television, Gary Brouse of the Interfaith Center for Corporate Responsibility, Dr. Manning Marable, Professor, Columbia University, and Dr. Jorge Morcone, Professor, Rutgers University. We could not have organized this effort without their input.

Again, thank you Black press. Information is power and you have once again demonstrated the proper use of that power. Racism anywhere is racism everywhere. Through you we will fight and destroy it whenever and wherever it rears its ugly head.

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

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

People will react to that which is precise, and we will publish the 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 columns 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 envelope is submitted. All notices must be paid in advance. Story deadline is 3:00p.m. Friday. Advertisement deadline is 3:00p.m. Friday or if camera ready, Monday at 12:00 noon. Member A.O.I.P.

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LITERACY - THE GREATEST GIFT

by Alexander R. Jones



Music icon Isaac Hayes used African dancers, Santa Claus, plentiful food and his own inimitable rendition of holiday favorites to explain to a group of inner city children in New York the importance of learning how to read.

Hayes, who alternately entertained and advised the children during a special Christmas party he threw for

them, was joined by other concerned celebrities including Haywood Nelson, star of the ABC-TV show "What's Happening?" and three-time world champion juggler, Jay Green.

Hayes noted that between 26 and 44 million adults in the United States are functionally illiterate and over 25 percent of all students leaving

or graduating high school lack the reading and writing skills necessary for daily living. According to various studies, the resulting unemployment, crime and human misery reach even more lives.

"The problem is illiteracy," the Academy Award winning composer stated. "By giving the gift of literacy," he advised an attentive Santa Claus, "we can get these kids back in communication with the world and give them real power over their lives."

"There is a solution," Hayes pointed out, "which is already making a difference in cities throughout the United States - the study methods of author and humanitarian, L. Ron Hubbard."

Hayes is the international spokesman for the World Literacy Crusade, a grassroots movement using Hubbard's educational breakthroughs. As

Christmas gifts, Hayes and Santa gave the students Learning How to Learn, How to Use a Dictionary and other practical educational books based on Hubbard's discoveries.

The World Literacy Crusade was launched five years ago in Compton, Ca by Rev. Alfreddie Johnson, a Baptist minister. Johnson had been searching for ways to handle the root problems that exploded into the Los Angeles riots. He seized upon L. Ron Hubbard's educational methods after he saw their power in dramatically improving people's lives. The program has since expanded from Compton to more than 15 inner city areas.

The Church of Scientology supports the World Literacy Crusade in cities throughout the U.S. in an effort to eradicate illiteracy.

Advertising Apartheid Exposes Insidious Institutional Racism

By Linn Washington, Jr.

The American Psychological Association (APA) voted in 1991 to stop accepting military advertisements in its magazine.

Association members voted to approve this advertising ban because of the U.S. military's policy of barring the admission of homosexuals.

While the APA voted to oppose a policy it considered discriminatory, the fact that its members-only magazine had military advertisements in the first place exposes an insidious form of institutional racism called advertising apartheid.

You generally don't see military ads in Black-owned newspapers like those belonging to the National Newspaper Publishers

Association (NNPA) member papers. The NNPA represents the historically Black Press and reaches over 12 million readers weekly.

You don't have to be an expert on the intricacies of advertising to readily understand that among the 12 million readers reached weekly by NNPA papers are a sizable percentage of persons who are in the target market for military recruiting ads.

Surely there are more potential military recruits among NNPA readers than those scanning the pages of the American Psychological Association's members-only magazine.

In September 1992, then Philadelphia Congressman Thomas Foglietta responded to a request from NNPA member Hugo Warren, publisher of the Philadelphia New Observer, confirming Warren's suspicion that the Black Press was being systematically shafted by advertising apartheid.

The U.S. Department of Defense, Foglietta's letter stated, "is ignoring the law" by refusing to "award five percent of its advertising contracts to minority-owned media outlets."

In fiscal year 1992, according to the Congressman's letter, only "3.6 percent of all magazine ads were published in African-American magazines" while "almost no" ads were sold to minority-owned radio. The Black Press was blacked out.

Although not mentioned in Foglietta's letter to Warren, the U.S. military's recruitment advertising budget during FY92 totaled \$129.1 million. You don't need a Ph.D. in economics to understand the insulting slice minority media received from the military's mega-bucks advertising budget.

Recently NNPA and the nation's Hispanic newspaper publishers announced the formation of a joint campaign to fight the advertising apartheid that left them with less than one percent of the \$670 million the federal government spent in 1996 to promote government agencies.

Asian-American publishers have also announced their intention to join this unique coalition that seeks to crack the apartheid practiced by the U.S. government and its contracted ad agencies.

Ad revenue is the economic life's blood of all media.

Tribunal verdict: Immediate release for Mumia Abu-Jamal

By Ken Morgan

An international "tribunal" found law enforcement officials, including U.S. Attorney Janet Reno, guilty of conspiring to deny former Black Panther Mumia Abu-Jamal his rights in a meeting recently.

"We find in fact those charged are guilty of criminal conspiracy to deny Mumia Abu-Jamal's human rights and we call for his immediate release, exoneration and compensation," said the 25 international tribunal "judges," representing a broad assembly of human rights advocates from around the world. Judges included Dennis Brutus, writer and former apartheid South Africa

prisoner and Phil Chinoesu, chair of the Million Woman March.

Though symbolic, the International Family and Friends of Mumia Abu-Jamal and a coalition comprising over 100 international and U.S.-based non-governmental organizations said the tribunal was held to make a point. Pam Africa, head of family and friends' group, said, "We wanted to take it to another level...to the world court and the United Nations to show the worldwide support for Mumia and the human rights violations committed against him."

Defendants included Pennsylvania Governor

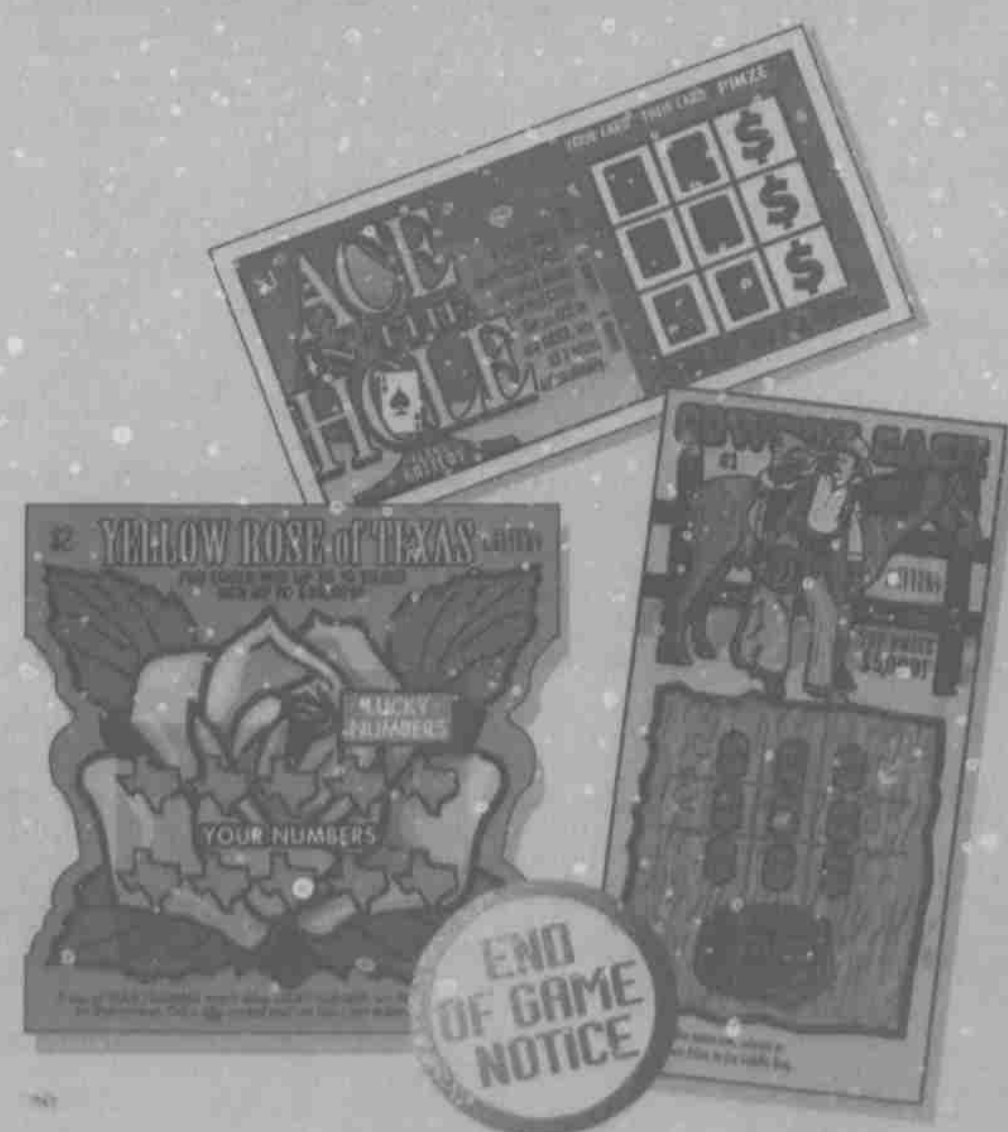
Thomas Ridge; the Pennsylvania Supreme Court; the Department of Corrections; Edward Rendell, mayor of Philadelphia; Albert Sabo, a Judge of the Philadelphia Court of Common Pleas; Lynne Abraham, Philadelphia district attorney; the Philadelphia Fraternal Order of Police; the Philadelphia Police Department and the FBI.

Jamal has been on Pennsylvania's death row since 1981 despite overwhelming evidence that indicates his innocence, supporters said. He is accused of killing a Philadelphia police officer.

Some of the most compelling and moving testimony at the tribunal came from Veronica Jones, Jones, a young prostitute in 1981, said she originally was intimidated by the Philadelphia police to finger Mumia.

Presently Mumia's appeal for a new trial is before the Pennsylvania Supreme Court and is expected to be heard sometime next spring. Those interested in finding out more about Mumia Abu-Jamal's case can contact the International Family and Friends of Mumia Abu-Jamal at 215 476-8812; e-mail: mumia@aol.com; website: <http://www.Mumia.org>.

Hasta La Vista.



No matter how you say it, as of January 30, 1998, it's goodbye for these three scratch games from the Texas Lottery: Ace in the Hole, Cowboy Cash and Yellow Rose of Texas. While we're scratching these games off our list, you can claim prizes through July 29, 1998. You can win up to \$3,000 playing Ace in the Hole, up to \$5,000 playing Cowboy Cash and up to \$20,000 playing Yellow Rose of Texas. You can claim prizes of up to \$599 at any Texas Lottery retailer. Prizes of \$600 or more are redeemable at one of the 24 regional Texas Lottery claim centers or by mail. Questions? Just call the Texas Lottery Customer Service Line at 1-800-37-LOTTO (1-800-375-6886).



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MATTHEW 11:28, JESUS SAID, COME UNTO ME (HIM), ALL YE THAT LABOR AND ARE HEAVY LADEN (OPPRESSED), AND I WILL GIVE YOU REST.

WHEN JESUS SAID, COME UNTO HIM; AND HE WOULD GIVE ME REST; I TRIED MANY THINGS; BUT, THEN I PUT HIM TO THE TEST.

PSALM 40:1,2, I WAITED PATIENTLY FOR THE LORD; AND HE HEARD MY CRY. HE BROUGHT ME UP ALSO OUT OF AN HORRIBLE (SIN) PIT, OUT OF THE MIRY CLAY, AND SET MY FEET UPON A ROCK, AND ESTABLISHED MY GOINGS.

I HAD AT ONE TIME FOLLOWED THE: WE SHALL OVER COME CROWD; THEY HAD ME SAYING; I HAVE MY RIGHTS NOW, AND I'M BLACK AND PROUD!!!

PROVERBS 6:16a,17, THESE SIX THINGS DOETH THE LORD HATE: YE, SEVEN ARE AN ABOMINATION UNTO HIM: A PROUD LOOK, A LYING TONGUE, AND HANDS THAT SHED INNOCENT BLOOD.

THIS RIGHT'S TEACHING CAME FROM CHRISTIANS; AND I BELIEVED IN WHAT THEY SAY; BUT THEN I HEARD ABOUT THE KINGDOM OF HEAVEN; AND WANTED TO KNOW THE WAY.

JOHN 14:6, JESUS SAID, I AM THE WAY, THE TRUTH, AND THE LIFE: NO MAN COMETH UNTO THE FATHER (JEHOVAH) BUT BY ME.

MY RIGHT'S TO DRUGS OF ALCOHOL, DIAMONDS, WOMAN, CARS AND CLOTHES; BUT YET THERE WAS NO PEACE INSIDE; THERE WAS NO JOY IN MY SOUL!!!

MATTHEW 6:31,33, JESUS SAID, THEREFORE TAKE NO THOUGHT, SAYING, WHAT SHALL WE EAT? OR, SHALL WE DRINK? OR, WHEREWITHAL SHALL WE BE CLOTHED? BUT SEEK YE FIRST THE KINGDOM OF GOD, AND HIS RIGHTEOUSNESS; AND ALL THESE THINGS SHALL BE ADDED UNTO YOU.

THE CHURCH CAME WITH CIVIL RIGHTS; AND NOW THERE IS NO PRAYER IN SCHOOLS; BUT THE DEVIL IS IN THERE; WITH ALL HIS EVIL WAYS: WHO'S THE FOOL???

ROMANS 1:21-23a, BECAUSE THAT, WHEN THEY (THE CHURCH) KNEW GOD, THEY GLORIFIED HIM NOT AS GOD, NEITHER WERE THANKFUL; BUT BECAME VAIN IN THEIR IMAGINATION (DREAMERS), AND THEIR FOOLISH HEART WAS DARKENED, PROFESSING THEMSELVES TO BE WISE, THEY BECAME FOOLS, AND CHANGED THE GLORY (WISDOM) OF THE UNCORRUPTIBLE GOD INTO AN IMAGE MADE LIKE TO CORRUPTIBLE MAN (MARTIN LUTHER KING).

***** WILL A MAN ROB GOD??? HE DID!!!!*****
(THE DEVIL AND HIS RIGHTS; WOMAN RIGHTS, GAY RIGHTS, NO SPANKING RIGHTS, ABORTION RIGHTS, RUN AWAY FROM HOME RIGHTS, WHITE RIGHTS, BLACK RIGHTS, DRUGS IN SCHOOL RIGHTS, DRIVE BY SHOOTING RIGHTS, SHACKING RIGHTS, KILL THE ABORTION DOCTORS RIGHTS, KKK RIGHTS, CHILD MOLESTATION RIGHTS, CONDOMS OR RUBBERS IN KINDERGARTEN RIGHTS, KILL THE FAMILY RIGHTS, BLACK SUICIDE RIGHTS, BOMB THE FEDERAL BUILDING RIGHTS, AND CLONING RIGHTS, RIGHT'S IS OF THE DEVIL!!!)

GALATIANS 6:7, BE NOT DECEIVED; GOD IS NOT MOCKED; FOR WHATSOEVER A MAN SOWETH (PUT FORTH), THAT SHALL HE ALSO REAP (RETURN UNTO YOU!!!).

***** I AM FREE AT LAST; FREE AT LAST!!!!*****
DIDN'T NOBODY HAVE TO GIVE UP THEIR SEAT, WHILE RIDING ON THE CITY BUS; MY FREEDOM CAME FROM UP ABOVE; GOD SAID, THAT IS ENOUGH.

JOHN 3:16, JESUS SAID, FOR GOD SO LOVED THE WORLD (THAT'S ME), THAT HE GAVE HIS ONLY BEGOTTEN SON (JESUS), THAT WHOEVER (THAT'S YOU AND ME) BELIEVETH IN HIM SHOULD NOT PERISH (DIE), BUT HAVE EVERLASTING LIFE (BE SAVED).

DIDN'T NOBODY HAVE TO GET HIT, WITH A POLICEMAN'S BILLY CLUB; MY FREEDOM CAME DOWN FROM UP ABOVE; IN THE FORM OF GOD'S LOVE.

JOHN 8:36, JESUS SAID, IF THE SON OF JESUS! THEREFORE SHALL MAKE YOU FREE, YE SHALL BE FREE INDEED (TRULY).

DIDN'T NOBODY HAVE TO GET BIT, BY THE POLICEMAN'S BIG BAD DOG; MY FREEDOM CAME FROM JESUS DYING; OUT THERE ON THAT OLD RUGGED CROSS!!!

JOHN 8:31a,32, JESUS SAID, IF YE CONTINUE IN MY WORD (THE BIBLE), THEN ARE YE MY DISCIPLES INDEED; AND YE SHALL KNOW THE TRUTH (JESUS) AND THE TRUTH SHALL MAKE YOU FREE.

GOD IS NOT THROUGH WITH US YET. SO LETS PRAY FOR ONE ANOTHER ALWAYS. WRITTEN BY EVANGELIST BILLY B.J. MORRISON, III YOUR BROTHER IS CHRIST JESUS ALWAYS!!!

from the Desk of Parson D.A. Smith

The Compassionate God



"For his anger lasts only a moment, but his favor lasts a lifetime; weeping may remain for a night, but rejoicing comes in the morning." —Psalm 30:5, NIV

The heart of God has been compared to the face of a clock. The short hand of discipline and the long hand of mercy pass over again. The hand of discipline circles slowly and surely, but the hand of mercy multiplies those strokes, bringing many blessings to each stroke of trial. Both hands, of course, originate at one secure point, the God of Love.

When we read the 30th chapter of Isaiah, we discover the prophet seeking to put all the troubles and afflictions the Israelites face in perspective. He reminds them that the oppression and trial will come to an end, and he paints a beautiful picture of the world to come where the sunlight is seven times brighter ("The moon will shine like the sun, and the sunlight will be seven times brighter, like the light of seven full days, when the Lord binds up the bruises of his people

and heals the wounds he inflicted." v. 26, NIV)!

The 20th century Christian knows that there is a glory above the brightness of the midday sun. It is the more excellent glory of the "Sun of Righteousness." There is a beauty softer and more tender than the pale splendor of the queen of the night; it is that of the Church walking in the beauty and light of her Lord. The Church is the glory of humanity and the light of the world. The Church has its internal woes. However, God's richest love always shines on the blackest clouds of sorrow and sin.

Too often, like the Israelites, we lose perspective in the midst of adversity and affliction. We see only the problems around us and bemoan our seemingly hopeless plight. But for all who have undergone trials, the light that follows darkness is so much brighter, because it contrasts with the dark times. God never promised that Christians would be exempt from trials, but He did promise His ever present hand of mercy when the discipline strikes.

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The Outreach Prayer Breakfast

The members of the Outreach Prayer Breakfast is asking what does God want now? What is that God desires in our time? What is it He wants to do in and through His people the last decade of this century, and today now? We believe He wants to complete what He began in the Church on the day of Pentecost. What God established there is the source of true spiritual renewal today. We can list some of the essential elements and desires.

I. Faith -- God wants to fire our Faith for all the supernatural ministries of His spirit. When we began to see through the eyes of Faith. We can have what we say.

II. God's Word -- He wants to work His word into and through our lives for instruction, direction and correction.

III. Prayer -- God wants to inspire us to confession, intercession, and spiritual warfare.

IV. Love -- God wants to give us His heart of compassion and concern for the victims of a sinful society.

V. We are to be united in our warfare against Satan. Therefore we will try by God's spirit to cooperate rather than compete. Complement rather than divide. Appreciate rather than discredit. Correct rather than criticize.

If we are to have God operating in our lives. We will have to operate on His system, and check out how it works. Like in Mark 11:22-26. It's like going into this new year without shedding some weight. We're not talking about pounds. We're speaking of sin, of unforgiveness, jealousy and hatred, envy. Learn to shed. Being a mean machine in God's house, smile when you see nothing to smile about. Saints of God, we're the salt of this world. Have we lost something?

When we look at Acts in the early church and take a good look at the modern church today. We can't help but say something is wrong, and it's not something which can't be fixed. Acts 17:30. This was once the way it looked over but no more. Repent, Repent, Repent.

Would you have thought a jailed preacher would have letters that would change the world? We will meet Saturday morning, January 17, 1998 at 10:00 a.m. at the Lubbock Health Care Center, 4120 22nd Place. Please meet us there. You're welcome wherever we meet. Keep smiling and loving all.

Write to us: Outreach Prayer Breakfast, P.O. Box 1223, Lubbock, Texas 79408.

Sister Dorothy Hood, president; Sister Christine Burleson, vice president; and Sister Ernestine Fraizer, secretary.

I KNOW I'M SOMEBODY

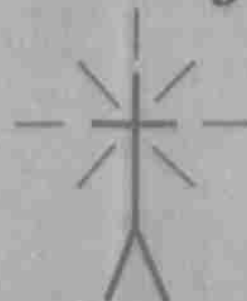


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Church Community Outreach Suggested

Dharma Entertainment, in association with Action Media Products Inc., has initiated a unique publishing project which will raise funds for and awareness of a wide range of inner-city improvement programs across America. The theme of this multi-media event is "churches demonstrating their faith through their actions in their communities" and will feature church sponsored outreach programs that are making a difference in the battle against the crime, drugs, illiteracy, poverty and despair that consume so many people within our communities.

"The focus," says Dharma spokeswoman, Joi Peay, "will be on ministries that reach beyond the four walls of the church and demonstrate the historical role of the church as the institution that effects positive change in the environment. By introducing the real-world successes of these programs to a wider audience, we believe we can elicit greater support for existing programs and inspire others to start similar activities in their communities."

Dharma is inviting readers to nominate church programs in our community. Homeless shelters, drug treatment, food programs, gang prevention and youth counseling, literacy and education initiatives, employment and empowerment programs and similar ministries will all be considered. "We're looking for the Mother Hales in each community," says Ms. Peay in reference to the noted foster mother who raised and inspired over 1,000 children beginning with one drug addicted parent's child back in 1969.

If you are aware of a church-sponsored community betterment program that should be considered for this project, please write a short note to Dharma Entertainment, 1918 West Magnolia Blvd., Suite 207, Burbank CA 91506. Please include the name of the organization, the need that is addressed, any historical information, copies of available media coverage, if any, and contact information including a telephone number.

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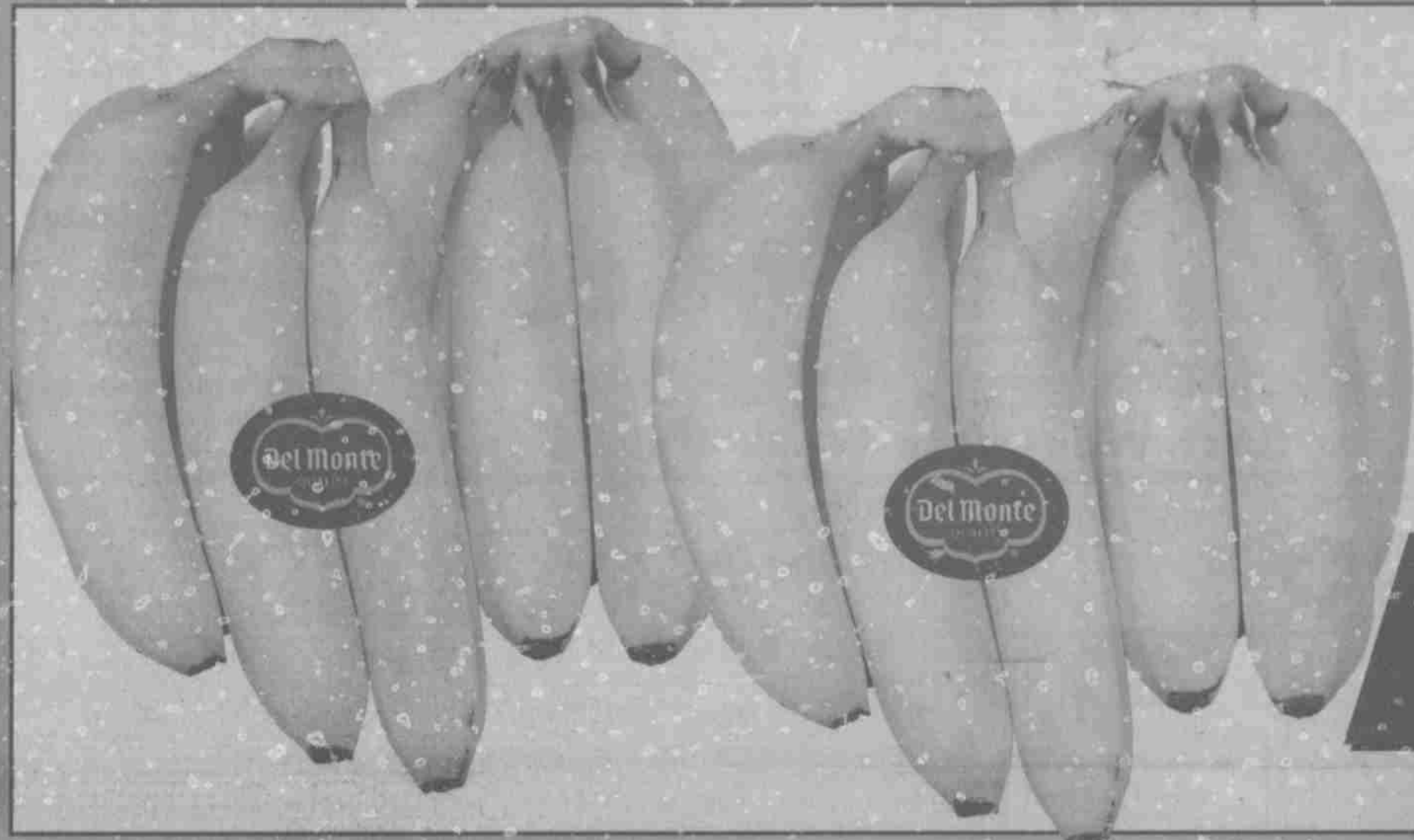
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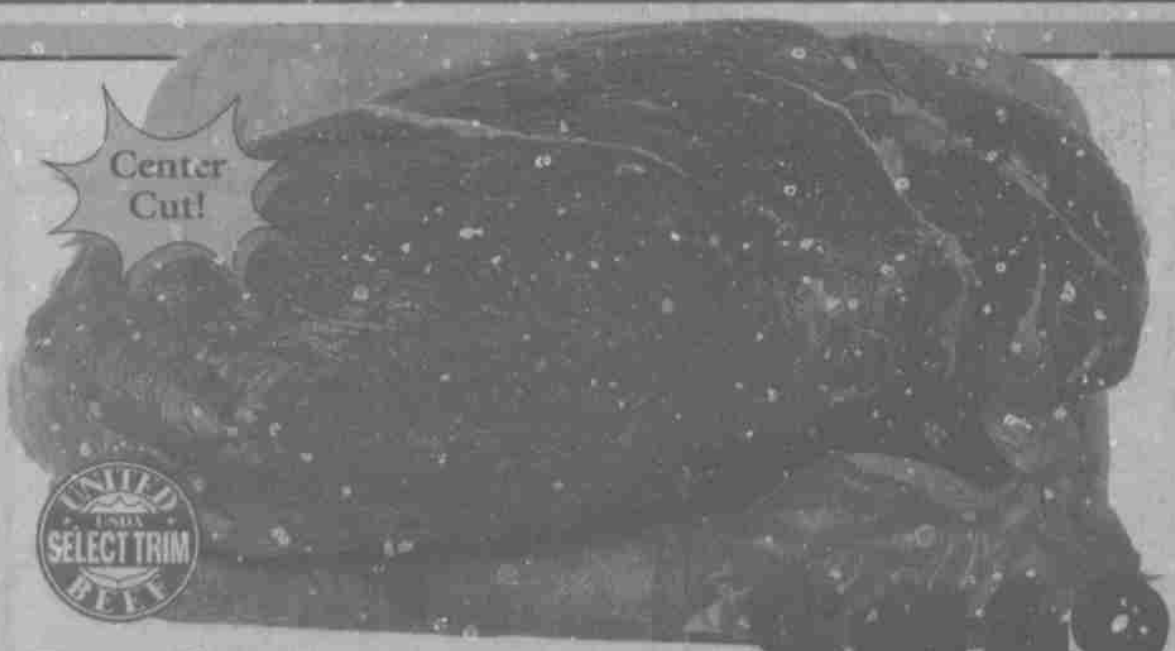
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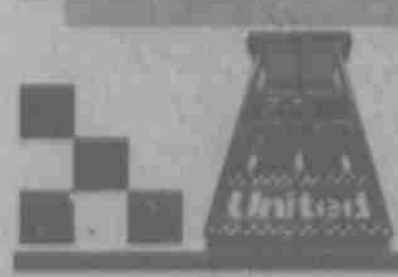
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