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NATIONAL BLACK NEWS SURVEY

BLACK CONSUMER CONFIDENCE LAGGING BEHIND WHITES

NEW YORK, NY—Black consumer confidence in the current state of the American economy is lagging significantly behind that of whites. According to an ABC/Money magazine poll released last week, 61 percent of Americans rate their own personal financial situation as positive. But the great bulk of those feeling positive about the economy and economic opportunities were white males and people living in households with family incomes of \$50,000 or more annually. Indeed, the highest income households rated a plus-24 on the ABC/Money Consumer Index while the lowest income households' overall confidence stood at a negative-51. Among blacks, consumer confidence stood at a negative-38. The index helps provide a view of how consumers think about the economy in general and their personal financial situations.

STUDY: REPUBLICAN PLANS WILL WIDEN RICH-POOR GAP

WASHINGTON, D.C.—"The poor are being asked to bear a large share of the burden of this economic program... at a time when economic forces are already running against them." Those were the words last week of Urban Institute spokesperson Isabel Sawhill referring to the Republican tax and spending cuts currently making their way through Congress. It is the view of Sawhill and an apparent majority of economic analysts that the Republican budget plans will have the effect of making the poor poorer and the rich richer. If the Republican plans become law, they will take effect at a time when a host of non-government economic factors are already making life increasingly difficult for the poor. According to the Labor Department, for example, the income gap between upper income Americans and lower income Americans has been widening for the last 15 years in a row. The result has been that households earning \$60,000 or more a year have been getting better off over time while those earning \$15,000 or less have been getting worse off. The Republican plan will make that situation worse because disproportionately the tax cuts will benefit the upper income while cut in government programs will most adversely affect the lower income.

ENLARGED HEARTS HURTING BLACKS DISPROPORTIONATELY

CHICAGO, ILL.—Heart disease is the number one killer in America. But it appears to affect blacks differently than whites. The biggest problem among whites is clogged arteries which reduce the ability of the heart to pump blood through the body. But according to a just released study, the deadliest problem among blacks is the enlargement of the heart. This may explain why blacks with heart disease have a higher death rate than whites with heart disease. It is not that one ailment is worse than the other. The simple fact is that most heart disease treatments have focused on clogged arteries and as a result the principle heart disease problem among blacks has gone largely unstudied and untreated. Controlling blood pressure is believed to be the best way to prevent enlargement of the heart. The heart becomes enlarged when it has to overwork and becomes over muscled and thus inefficient. The study was published in last Wednesday's issue of the Journal of the American Medical Association.

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continued on pg. 2

Washington's Quiet War on Our Children

by Bernice Powell Jackson



What is going on in Washington these days will have a chilling effect on the most vulnerable of our nation—our children. What is going on is called welfare "reform" or ending the war on poverty; but it really is a war on the poor and it signals an end of a fundamental ethical principle of this nation—that every child should be protected by our federal government as a last resort, when all else fails.

Numbered by the steamroller of the Contract with America and the rhetoric of a Congress which has chosen to demoralize poor mothers and their children, many Americans just don't understand what the welfare reform bill will mean for children in this rich nation. Seven million children will no longer have health care coverage and childhood immunization will no longer be guaranteed. Three million children will no longer receive income from Aid to Families with Dependent Children. Fourteen million children will lose food and nutrition programs, including school lunches and infant formula under the WIC program. In other words, millions of children will be sicker and hungrier and colder this winter.

The irony of all of these cuts is that they come at the same time that Congress is giving the richest 1 percent of Americans a tax break of at least \$12,000 per year and a \$92 billion capital gains tax to the wealthiest 3 percent of Americans. The irony is that these cuts come at the same time when Congress is giving the Defense Department \$243.3 billion—almost \$7 billion more than the Pentagon asked for. The irony is that these cuts come at the same time when Congress is giving the largest 1 percent of corporations a \$121 billion depreciation tax break over 10 years and has refused to cut corporate welfare or farm subsidies.

It is estimated that in 1994 the federal government spent

\$1.04 billion in corporate welfare—in bail-outs of failed companies, in export promotions, loans, debt forgiveness, interest-free financing and below cost sales to corporations. It was corporate welfare which paid the Walt Disney Company \$300,000 to put on a fireworks display while paying McDonald's \$466,000 to subsidize the advertising of Chicken McNuggets in Turkey. It was corporate welfare which paid Lockheed Martin Corp. \$850 million when it merged Lockheed and Martin Marietta aircraft companies and then paid the top executives of those companies an additional \$100 million as a reward for a successful merger. It was farm subsidies which paid Sam Donaldson, the millionaire television correspondent, \$97,000 in agriculture subsidies for his New Mexico ranch.

In her open letter to President Clinton, Marian Wright Edelman, president of the Children's Defense Fund, wrote, "It is moral hypocrisy for our nation to slash income, health and nutrition assistance for poor children while leaving untouched hundreds of billions in corporate welfare, giving new tax breaks of over \$200 billion for non-needy citizens and giving the Pentagon almost \$7 billion it did not request."

Our nation now is in the unenviable position of having the richest children in the industrialized world—and the poorest children as well. Right now, before these cuts one in every four American children is poor. Right now, before these cuts one in every 12 children is hungry. These proposed cuts will mean that our country has chosen to protect the future of the richest children at the expense of the poorest children.

I don't believe that is what our nation is all about—making expendable the most vulnerable of our society. For what will it profit us to gain the whole world and lose our souls?

(Call President Clinton today to ask him not to abandon our children—(202)456-1111 or E Mail: president@whitehouse.gov)

Miss National Black College Hall of Fame Honored as "Sister Who Excels"



Trenace Fayton, Miss Elizabeth City State University is crowned Miss National Black College Hall of Fame (NBCHF) during the Annual Black College Hall of Fame Queens Pageant. Fayton is congratulated by Thomas W. Dortch, Jr., Black College Hall of Fame Foundation Chairman, right, and Joyce Roché, Vice-President Global Marketing, Carson Products Company, makers of Exelle, No-Lye Relaxer. As reigning Queen, Fayton and the first runner Kenyetta Hampton, Miss Grambling State University received \$3,000 and \$2,000 scholarships respectively sponsored by Exelle. The thirty-six (36) college campus Queens were pegged "Sisters Who Excels" for having achieved excellence in academics, talent, charm, and African-American sisterhood. The pageant was sponsored by Exelle, No-Lye Relaxer and The Gillette Company.

Dunbar Alumni Assist Senior Citizens

It was recently brought to the attention of Dunbar Alumni International, Inc that Mae Simmons Senior Citizens Center was in dire need of a microwave. The association immediately got busy in search of someone who might help. Jim and John Broome of Crossed Keys, Inc. were contacted and within a few days, a new microwave was had-delivered to Mae Simmons Senior Citizens Center by Jim Broome and Virgil Johnson, then President of the association. "The Broomes and Crossed Keys are to be commended for their generosity and understanding. I have always known them to be helpful and caring people. We probably could have gotten this done much sooner if we had known about it." He further stated, "We're about service to the community and preserving the history of Dunbar High School. That's why it's extremely important for Dunbar eyes and supporters to pull together and remain united. Splitter groups are detrimental not only to the association, but to the community!" Dunbar Alumni International, Inc will meet again on Saturday, February 10th, 1996 in the Dunbar bandroom at 4:00 p.m. All exes and supporters are invited to attend and be a part of this exciting asset to the community!

How Could I Be Afraid of a Brother?

By Eunice Trotter
Special to the NNPA

We all hear the stories of people becoming victims in senseless street robberies. But it doesn't really hit home until it happens to you. A few weeks ago, it happened to me.

It wasn't in New York, where I've lived since last year. It happened in Indianapolis, where people still know their neighbors, where unemployment and drug abuse haven't yet ravaged the town.

I'd arrived at my mother's senior citizen apartment building when I saw him walking in the shadows. It was 2:15 a.m. I had parked my rental car, gathered a few items and placed my shoulder wallet strap over my head, tucking the wallet under my jacket. The parking lot was lit and a security guard was on patrol. Everything looked normal and safe. I stepped out of the car and began the 30-foot hike to the front door. Normally, I toot my horn when I arrive at my mom's—it's our special signal. But this time—because it was so late—I opted not to do so. Instead, I decided to use my mom's door keys and slip quietly inside.

As I approached the building, he watched me. I could see then that he wasn't wearing a uniform; in other words, he wasn't a security guard. But I was already 10 feet from the door and 20 feet from the car. My heart started beating more quickly, but I wasn't genuinely afraid. After all, how could I be afraid of a brother? Still, I put my hand in my pocket as if I had a weapon. I knew the game. I'd heard the advice of police: Act tough. Look him in the eye. (No problem.) Keep walking.

He dashed in front of me, pointing a silver pistol at my stomach. "Drop the bag, baby," he said.

"What?" I asked, amazed that I—Miss Streetwise—had walked into this situation.

"Drop the bag, baby," he repeated—stressing the "baby." You could tell he'd done this before. I held out my wallet. He snatched it and walked away with my money, my credit cards and my family pictures. Along with him went a piece of my sympathy and empathy for the plight of black men.

"At least let me keep my ID and pictures," I pleaded.

"You can't use any of that."

"No," he answered.

The mugger ran through an alley; I stood there watching,

feeling helpless, violated, furious. There was no one within earshot. Not a police car, or a neighbor or a security guard in sight. I dashed inside and telephoned the police. Their response was extremely fast—but not fast enough. There was nothing they could do. There was no trace of the robber. I had become another victim of black-on-black crime. Later that day, after hours of telephoning credit card companies, waiting in line to get a duplicate driver's license and combing the alley in a frustrating search for my wallet, anger turned to grief.

I felt sad—sad that our black communities have become hunting grounds, where honest people are prey to black criminals who steal from our homes, take our cars, rob us, kill us.

How can these brothers do this to their own? Looking through police computer mug shots of armed robbers, I was struck by the thought that many of the men had the same look: a menacing, angry glare. How difficult it must be for people of other races to have to distinguish one black face from another, when they have no feel for the various hues, hairstyles and lip and nose shapes of black people, I thought.

While many would say I was lucky to have emerged relatively unscathed, the emotional damage is deep. Indeed, I will never be the same again. And I'm not alone. Thousands of African Americans are victims of other African Americans every day throughout the country. And many, I am sure, feel like me.

We want beefed-up police security in our neighborhoods. We want more attention focused on drug hotspots and gangs. We want a reduction in informant programs that allow black criminals to go free to commit more crimes, so long as they give up others. We want relaxed gun laws that will allow law-abiding citizens to protect themselves and their property—both at home and away from home.

Most of all, we want swift arrest, uncompromising prosecution and imprisonment. And yes, I write as a black woman.

Eunice Trotter, a reporter for the New York Post, is also a member of the national Advisory Council of Project 21.

No guns, no drugs, no violence



Ruffhouse/Columbia's hip hop group, the Fugees and label mate, Trammie Hawkins recently performed at the YWCA National Week Without Violence "Day of Remembrance" held at the Cathedral of St. John the Divine in NYC. The event, co-sponsored by Sony Music Entertainment Inc., was dedicated to remembering all the men, women and children that we have lost to violence. The Week's Co-chairs Senator Bill Bradley and Gloria Steinem as well as former NYC Mayor, David Dinkins and actor, Darnell Williams delivered inspiring speeches calling for a world without violence. Above center, Prema Mathai-Davis, National Executive Director, YWCA of the U.S.A. is joined by (from left) Prakarzel Michel and Laurya Hill (Fugees), Isisara Bey, Director, Corporate Affairs, Sony Music Entertainment Inc. and Wyclef Jean (Fugees).

Free Guide on Paying for College Available

Washington, D.C., November 13, 1995—Families whose checkbooks balk at four-year college costs, which top \$75,000 for private colleges and \$35,000 for public universities, might want to turn to another book. *Paying for College*, a free guide published by Sallie Mae, provides useful tips on coping with tuition and other college costs. In addition to advice on savings and financial aid, the 20-page primer is a particularly valuable resource for explaining the world of federal student loan programs.

Paying for College includes a step-by-step guide on applying for financial aid, charts for estimating future college costs and monthly payments, and information comparing different lenders participating in federal student loan programs. Some lenders, for example, offer flexible repayment plans and interest rate reductions for borrowers who develop regular on-time repayment habits. (Banks that sell their loans to Sallie Mae, for instance, reduce interest rates by two percentage points to Stafford loan borrowers who make their first scheduled payments on time. For borrowers who pay electronically—through automatic deductions from their savings or checking accounts—the rate is discounted another quarter percentage point.) Such benefits mean cheaper student loans, reducing overall borrowing costs by hundreds, even thousands of dollars.

For a free copy of *Paying for College*, call 1-800-806-3681.

Sallie Mae is the nation's largest provider of financing for higher education.



Ruby Jay's Corner

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

Services began last Sunday morning with Sunday school at 9:30 a.m. with Brother Henry High presiding as Superintendent. A song, "Near the Cross," was sung. Prayer was given by Brother High, after the singing of "I Need Thee," the classes marched to their classrooms for 30 minutes of instruction. After reassembling singing a song, high points of the lesson were given by Brother Virgil Johnson, and it was well done.

The secretary's report: Youth Department—Senior and Intermediate Classes tied for the Attendance Banner. Adult Class No. 1 claimed both banners as Class No. 4 lost the banners.

There was a high-spirited filled Sunday School as there are some great teachers instructing. There was one visitor in Sunday School last Sunday morning.

The 10:45 a.m. devotional period was led by Brother and Sister Jenkins.

The Senior Choir led the processional singing, "Glad to Be in the Service." Altar prayer was led by Rev. Jeff Brown. A song, "Somebody Prayed for Me," was sung. Scripture was II Chronicles 7:14 and read by Brother Harry Stokley. Prayer was offered by Brother Quigley. Another song, "Another Day's Journey," was sung.

Responsive reading was led by Sister Rhonia Henry with the congrega-

tion standing. The morning hymn was "Blessed Assurance." Pastoral observations were given by Pastor Moton as he brought greetings from the Executive Board meeting which was held in Abilene, Texas last week. Another song, "Great is the Lord," was sung.

The hymn of preparation was "Have Thine Own Way." Pastor Moton preached on the subject: "Too Much of a Good Thing." His scripture text was St. Mark 10:17-22. Wish you had been there. The Lord uses Pastor Moton every Sunday. It just got out of line last Sunday morning. What a message!

Our sympathy goes out to the Barrow family in their loss of a relative in Dehton, Texas last week, who was buried last Friday.

Brother Clarence Ervin lost a sister-in-law last Saturday in McKinney, Texas.

This writer, Ruby Jay, lost a cousin in Meridian, Texas and services were held there last week.

Thanksgiving services will be held for just one hour Wednesday night at New Hope. Come and join all of us. You are welcome.

The Church Secretary's hours have changed again. They are Wednesday, 4:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. and Saturday, 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. Try to remember.

Keep in mind the "Men of Distinction: The Black Man Banquet" will be held Friday, December 1, 1995 at 7:00 p.m. at the KoKo Palace. This event is sponsored by the Women Missionary Society of the New Hope Baptist Church. All of you are invited.

This writer would like to wish all of you a wonderful Thanksgiving Holiday. Don't forget to give God all the thanks!!! Be careful also!!!

NATIONAL BLACK NEWS SURVEY

From NBNS Communications

BLACK WOMEN HAVE MORE PREGNANCIES & MORE ABORTIONS

ATLANTA, GA.—According to a new report from the National Center for Health statistics, black and Hispanic women are "substantially" more likely to get pregnant than white women, but black women are also significantly more likely to have an abortion than either white or Hispanic women. The government figures revealed that the typical black woman will become pregnant 5.1 times over her lifetime while the typical white woman becomes pregnant 2.8 times. The figure for Hispanic women is 4.7. As for abortions, about one-third of white and Hispanic pregnancies end in abortion while about one-half of black pregnancies end in abortion. The group of black females most likely to become pregnant and have an abortion are teenage girls.

COURT MAKE IT EASIER TO DENY BLACK JURORS

WASHINGTON, D.C.—The U.S. Supreme Court has made it easier for prosecutors prevent blacks and other minorities from sitting on juries. In a 7-2 ruling, the high court justices held that a prosecutor does not have to give "persuasive or even plausible reasons" for rejecting black jurors. The case involved a Missouri man who tried to get his robbery conviction reversed because prosecutors deliberately excluded blacks from the jury. Black defendants have frequently charged that government prosecutors prefer white jurors in order to increase the chances of getting a conviction. If that allegation is true, the Supreme Court decision now makes the process easier.

Exactly What Does the Chamber of Commerce Do?

Recent developments, such as the closing of Reese Air Force Base, have brought economic development to the forefront of many Lubbockites' minds. People may wonder why the city government is taking such an active role in industrial recruitment. After all, isn't that the job of the Chamber of Commerce?

The answer is yes and no according to Lubbock Chamber of Commerce President Jerry Stevens.

"We are always interested in attracting new businesses to Lubbock, and we will do what we can through the Lubbock Industrial Foundation," said Stevens. "But we do not have the money to be the sole representative in industrial recruitment."

The city is in a stronger position to pursue industrial recruitment, not only because of their available funds, but because of their ability to provide tax abatements and other incentives to business.

If this is the case, where does that leave the Lubbock Chamber of Commerce? According to Stevens, the Chamber will be focused on business retention.

"While it is important that we bring new business and jobs to our city, it is just as important to keep the businesses that we have, that have already made a commitment to Lubbock," said Stevens.

For starters, the Chamber of Commerce hired Kathy Montgomery to focus full time on the retention as well as expansion of Lubbock businesses.

The first part of the Chamber's business retention plan is a new program called "Building Lubbock One-on-One." Through this program, teams of Chamber members will visit local businesses with two objectives. First, the teams will thank the business for their contribution to the local economy. Secondly, the teams will seek input as to what can be done to help that business be more successful, and even grow.

The Chamber of Commerce also helps local businesses through its everyday activities.

"There are problems and opportunities which an individual by himself cannot possibly solve," said Stevens, "but by working with others, pooling time and resources, important accomplishments can be made."

Stevens points out the success of the Committee for Champions as a way that the Lubbock Chamber of Commerce has helped local businesses, as well as helping the community.

The committee came about when Chamber members approached Texas Tech Athletic Director Bob Bockrath about having the Red Raiders play more night football games. The merchants noticed that their business was much better when Tech played night games, and also felt that attendance at the games would improve since those who worked Saturdays would be off work in time to attend night games.

"That opened the door for us, and we just found ways that we could help each other," said Committee for Champions Chairman Danny Koch.

Another way the Chamber helps member businesses is through networking opportunities. The Chamber sponsors monthly breakfasts and after-work receptions that allow businesses to interact. Another major event is the Lubbock Business Expo that showcases local businesses.

The Chamber also helps local businesses by taking an active role in legislative affairs. Not only does the Chamber represent business interest in lobbying efforts, but it provides members with access to elected officials by hosting legislative updates with area representatives.

The Chamber of Commerce is funded entirely by membership dues, and does not receive any tax dollars.

So in a nutshell, what is the Lubbock Chamber of Commerce? Stevens says, "The Chamber of Commerce is an organization through which community volunteers work effectively to make Lubbock a better place in which to live and work."

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Dunbar Alumni Contribute to Scholarship Fund

Dunbar Alumni International, Inc. recently made a contribution to the Roy Roberts Scholarship Fund. This scholarship is a function of the Black History class at Lubbock High School where Mrs. Gloria Carter is the sponsor.

New officers for the association were elected Saturday, November 11th. They are: Rowanda Toler, president; L.V. Andrews, vice president; Juanita Johnson, treasurer; Gwen Hunt, secretary; and Ida Jonson, assistant secretary.

Virgil Johnson, out-going president, stated, "I'm very pleased and supportive of our new officers. They are very capable and dedicated to the ideals of the association: preserving the history, pride, and cultural contributions of Dunbar High School to our city and state. We have some wonderful plans, and we're working hard to unite and involve as many exes and supporters as possible. We feel that 'true panthers' will rise to the challenge."

Membership dues for the association are only \$12.00 per year and can be mailed to P.O. Box 3362, Lubbock, Texas 79452. Plans are already underway for their next all-class reunion, July 2-5, 1998. Their next meeting is Saturday, February 10th, 1996 in the Dunbar bandroom.

The Salvation Army's Christmas Assistance Program

The Salvation Army's Annual Christmas Assistance Program will begin October 24, 1995.

Last Christmas The Salvation Army, along with the U.S. Marine's Toys for Tots, and many other service agencies, assisted more than 7,000 adults and children with clothing, toys and food. With your help, The Salvation Army will work miracles again this Christmas.

Volunteers are needed to assist with application taking, computer data input, and answering telephones. Volunteers are also needed to assist with the operation

of the South Plains Mall Angel Tree and Toy Shop during November and through December 23, 1995.

The Salvation Army's Christmas Central Building is located at 1111 16th Street.

Applications will be taken from Tuesday, November 28 through Wednesday, December 6. Weekday hours are 3:00 to 8:00 p.m. and Saturdays from 10:00 to 3:00 p.m. No applications will be taken on Sundays or Mondays.

For more information, please call Christmas Central at 765-6353.

Democratic National Committee Briefing Friday, October 10, 1995

GOP BUDGET PROMISES MORE HARDSHIP FOR VETERANS

The GOP Budget plan would force the 8.8 million Americans covered under Medicare to pay higher premiums and receive less care to finance a tax break for the rich. Included in this group are 4.3 million veterans with combat experience and 1.2 million veterans with service-connected disabilities. Medical cuts are equally harsh. If the GOP has their way, 171,900 veterans would lose their coverage, including 103,600 elderly veterans and 68,300 disabled vets under the age of 65. Private insurance is out of the question for most who lose Medicaid as 78% of Medicaid-eligible veterans make less than \$3,000 a year.

REPUBLICAN BUDGET PLAN RATIONS HEALTH CARE TO VETS

As if those cuts weren't harsh enough, those vets still "lucky" enough to receive care under the GOP plan would have their health care rationed. Under the current system, the Veterans Administration provides free care to veterans with service-connected disabilities and to certain other vets, including those with income below \$20,000. The GOP proposal would require the VA to manage the provision of medical services through an enrollment system based on priorities set by politicians, not by doctors. The GOP places vets who are unable to defray the cost of health care at the bottom of their priority list. (Say, aren't these the same guys who torpedoed universal health care?)

GOP PLAYS POLITICS WITH AMERICA'S ELDERLY AND DISABLED

Under the GOP budget plan, Medicare premiums will actually increase in January. According to today's *New York Times*, the move could be politically motivated: "...if the premium increased later in 1996 the change would be more noticeable, and it might become a political issue in the Presidential election and in Congressional elections." What's more, the GOP only included the cuts to seniors in the continuing resolution, the bill which allows the government to operate without a budget. According to Senator Kennedy: "Cuts in payments to doctors are not included... cuts in payments to hospitals are not included... the only Medicare cut in this bill is... a new tax on the elderly and disabled."

Quote of the Day:

"This legislation is not a debt ceiling increase, it is a shortcut to default on the full faith and credit of the United States of America for the first time in our history."

Treasury Secretary Robert Rubin
Wall Street Journal, 11/10/95



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CEO - Mortician

Parkway Manor Care Center News - Volunteer Registration

Mrs. A.D. Pine and daughter visited Scott's Missions last Sunday afternoon, and reported a wonderful visit.

The Faith First Baptist Church Mission held their meeting at Parkway Manor Care Center last Monday evening. Nine to ten members present. Mrs. Gladys Henderson is president. Their Bible theme was "You Prick How It Affects You" Infected scriptures were Deut. 17:20-22; Psalm 77:25-26. The leader was taught by Rev. W.H. Stephens.

Ane Day, who works with SBAG, and a friend visited the residents last Tuesday morning.

Mrs. Pitts visited Jim Norris last Tuesday afternoon.

The St. Luke Missionary Baptist Church Mission 1—Eunice, Martha, Henni and Mary Circles—met last Tuesday evening with the residents. The lesson was taken from John 14:6, with the subject being "I Am the Way." Rev. Jubany Barnes and Sister Annie Samuels taught the lesson.

Brother Birmingham, a member of Hope Deliverance Temple Church where Elder Charles Tanner is pastor, visited the residents last Wednesday morning.

Vernice and Jessie Norris visited Jimmie Norris last Wednesday afternoon.

The St. John Baptist Church Mission, with three members, visited Brother Lockhart last Wednesday afternoon.

Shimira S. Borgers and Jennie Ann Jordan visited their mother

and grandmother, Lar'le Wiggins, last Wednesday afternoon.

Rev. W.H. Stephens held his regular Wednesday morning Bible study at 10:15 a.m. without Sister Annie Day and Sister Helen Hereford. Both were missed very much by the residents, but it was a wonderful study. The Bible theme was "Ask to Receive God's Gift." The scripture was Romans 10:13, and taught by Rev. Stephens.

Mrs. Edna M. Perry visited Marie Finley last Thursday afternoon, and had a wonderful time with her.

The Parkway Manor Care Center's Family Day was a success, and a nice crowd was present. There was plenty of food and plenty of fun for everyone present. After it was over, the King Sisters moved forward and put the icing on the cake with their singing. They sang some of their favorite spirituals. What a time we all had together.

The Outreach Prayer Breakfast came with five members last Saturday for worship services. The spirit was high. If you were not present, you missed a treat. The lesson was taught by Rev. Stephens. The Lesson theme was "The Christian's Arms." Scripture was Ephesians 6:6-15.

Have a happy holiday. Please, remember what it says!

Mrs. Gloria Oguito, A.D. & R., and Rev. W.H. Stephens, Assistant A.D. & R.

Adults Also Need Immunization

HOUSTON—Anyone who's ever stood along the sidelines of a football field subscribes to the wisdom, "The best offense is a good defense." That's good advice for those sitting in the stands, too.

"We're acutely aware of the schedule for child immunizations, but not too many adults know they also need regular inoculations," says Penn Slater, a nurse who is assistant manager of the Infection Control department of The Methodist Hospital in Houston.

American adults, particularly those over age 65, are dying at an alarming rate from diseases that could have been prevented by common vaccines. Infections and complications caused by pneumonia and influenza claim about 80,000 lives each year. Many otherwise healthy young adults are hospitalized or die from hepatitis B, measles, tetanus and other preventable infectious diseases.

That's why Slater and others at Methodist are mobilizing for National Adult Immunization Awareness Week, Oct. 22-28. Activities at the hospital will share information with employees, patients and visitors about immunizations that adults can receive to help keep them healthy.

Fall also kicks off the beginning of the traditional flu season, so check out these stats: influenza vaccination has been shown to reduce hospitalization for flu and pneumonia by 48 to 57 percent; flu shots also account for a 27 to 39 percent reduction in hospitalizations for all acute and chronic respiratory conditions; and some managed care companies report annual direct savings of up to \$117 for every person vaccinated against the flu. Generally, flu shots are recommended for those who are most likely to contract the flu, including everyone over age 65; adults and children with long-term heart or lung problems; people who live or work in health care facilities or nursing homes; and those who have serious medical conditions (kidney disease, chronic fibrosis, diabetes, etc.) for which they are under close medical supervision. But it doesn't hurt to get a flu shot before the season starts, no matter how old or sick you are. Some people believe that an immunization will actually give them the flu—that's not true. "If you become ill after a flu shot, that means you may already had a virus in your system," says Slater. "The influenza vaccine contains only inactivated, or non-infected, viruses. They can take up to two weeks to develop the antibodies most adults need to protect them from the flu." Adults should also receive a tetanus/diphtheria (Td) booster every 10 years. Tetanus, a disease caused by bacterial infection, usually enters the body through puncture wounds. Finally, for certain persons an immunization against hepatitis B is a good idea. A debilitating and sometimes lethal liver infection, hepatitis B is transmitted by any behavior in which a person's mucous membranes or broken skin are exposed to blood, semen, vaginal secretions or saliva from someone who is infected. The disease is actually more infectious than HIV, because household partners of infected people can become infected as well as sexual partners.

High risk groups for the hepatitis B virus are workers and students in the health care professions; heterosexual and homosexual sexually active persons; IV drug users; natives of Alaska, the Pacific Islands, Asia or Africa; and people who are sexual or household partners of identified carriers.

Slater says a family physician or public health facility can provide immunizations for influenza, tetanus/diphtheria and hepatitis B. In Houston, call the city's Health and Human Services Department at 794-9181 to find out what clinics are giving immunizations.

When combined with a routine of regular medical checkups and tests, immunizations are indeed the best defense, and can keep you in the game for a long time.



Garth Makes History As The First Black President the Illinois Press Association

William "Bill" Garth, CEO and Publisher, *Chicago Citizen Newspaper*, was the man of the hour during a reception in honor of his election to president of the Illinois Press Association (IPA). Garth made history as the first Black president for the IPA. He is the second Black in the nation elected president for a statewide press association. More than 250 community and business leaders, publishers, and politicians witnessed the historic induction ceremony co-sponsored by the IPA and Citizen Newspaper Corporation at Chicago's DuSable Museum of African-American History.

Garth will officially begin his presidential term on January 1, 1996. In his new position, Mr. Garth will preside over the largest statewide newspaper association in the United States. Garth said, "It's my pleasure and honor to be made president of one of the most powerful media associations in the world. The IPA is strictly business and the members are unified. That's what an organization should be about."

Garth began his career at the *Citizen Newspaper* in 1969 as an advertising salesman. Eleven years later, Garth took over the paper as executive officer/publisher. Building the paper from three publications to five publications and one magazine, Garth currently publishes the largest circulating Black newspaper in the Midwest under the *Chicago Citizen Newspaper Group* banner.

Garth continued, "During my presidency, I want to help strengthen the IPA's relationship with the Black press and Black community. I want to influence them (the IPA) to increase the employment of Blacks in the media in order for the mainstream media to have the Black perspective."

Garth is a member of several organizations including the NAACP, Operation PUSH, The National Newspaper Publishers Association, the Chatham Business Association, the Midwest Black Publishers Association, the Far South Side Business Association, the Chicago Association of Black Journalists, and MASCA. He holds several key positions in many of these organizations. Garth has also received several awards from a number of organizations for his hard work and dedication to the Black community.

The IPA is the official trade organization for Illinois daily and weekly newspapers and has continually been involved in safeguarding the freedom of the press and protecting the public's right to know during its 130 year history. The Association provides educational services, acts as an information clearinghouse and represents the newspaper industry in numerous co-operative projects with other businesses, state agencies and industries. The IPA is owned and operated exclusively by its membership, and governed by a board of directors.

The Illinois Press Association (IPA) and Illinois Press Foundation Board of Directors surround Mr. Garth in support as he accepts the gavel from the IPA immediate past president Tom Mathews, Wayne County Press (Fairfield). Pictured from L to R: Howard Hay, Chicago Tribune; Chris Winter, Downers Grove Reporter; David Bennett, Illinois Press Association; Tom Phillips, Pana News-Palladium; Bill Garth; Tom Mathews; David Redi, Eastern Illinois University; John Foreman, Champaign News-Gazette; Jerry Piper, Barrington; and Byron Tracy, Robinson Daily News.



Applicants Sought for National Step Show

Students Encouraged to Register Early for Competition

High school students around the country will go toe-to-toe in the "National Step Off" competition. Once a highlight for black Greek sororities and fraternities, this cultural pastime will have participants stepping in the right direction. The "National Step Off" will be held during the 1596 Black College Showcase in Miami, Florida, March 21-24.

"High school representatives have expressed a strong interest in this competition," said Alvilda Marie Greene, vice president of the National Black College Alumni Reunion, which organizes the Black College Showcase. "Students seem excited about competing against teams as far away as Detroit, Michigan."

The step teams will be judged on clarity, precision, uniformity and creativity. There will be a men's and women's category. Entries are on a first-come, first-serve basis. According to Samuel Guyton of Design and Architecture High School in Miami, whose students won first place in last year's competition, they've already begun planning for 1996.

According to Greene, there is no entry fee for step teams. Participants must be in high school. Students must be between the ages of 13 and 19. Schools or organizations can only enter one step team in each category, and participants can step for only one team.

The Black College Showcase is sponsored in part by the Dade County Tourist Development Council, Metro-Miami Action Plan Trust, Waste Management of Dade County, and WZL Channel 39.

For a full list of rules and inquiries regarding registration, contact Larry Miller at (305) 891-3039 or the Reunion office at (305) 653-7755.

Area Facilities Sign Participation Agreement

LUBBOCK, TX—Five West Texas medical facilities—including three in Lubbock—have signed a hospital participation and joint activities agreement which opens the door to managed care arrangements among the participants, it was announced today. Participants signing the agreement are St. Mary Hospital, University Medical Center (UMC) and Highland Medical Center of Lubbock; Memorial Hospital and Medical Center of Midland; and Scenic Mountain Medical Center of Big Spring.

The agreement allows both Highland and Scenic Mountain to immediately become participating hospitals in HMO Blue-West Texas, the health maintenance organization of which both St. Mary and UMC are equity partners. In addition, they also will participate in a reciprocity agreement with HMO Blue-Southwest Texas, contingent upon its licensure by the Texas Department of Insurance. Memorial Hospital and Medical Center-Midland is an equity partner in HMO Blue-Southwest Texas.

"All five of these participating facilities are concerned about the increasing costs of health and medical care to residents of West Texas. This agreement will allow us to explore opportunities to develop plans and products to make quality health care more affordable," said Charley O. Trimble, president and CEO of St. Mary Hospital. Other terms of the agreement allow for collaboration in education and an integrated approach to physician relations; involvement of participants' respective medical staffs in the development and implementation of an effective integrated healthcare delivery system; and development of management systems in support of a variety of health care plans and products, including capitated and preferred provider plans. St. Mary Hospital, University Medical Center and Memorial Hospital and Medical Center are nonprofit, acute-care facilities. Both Highland Medical Center and Scenic Mountain Medical Center are for-profit entities owned by Community Health Services of Nashville, Tennessee.

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Blacks Still Need The Black Press More Than Ever!

by Eddie P. Richardson

We have a lot of years in the Black Press of America. We wrote this article a few years ago, and, at this time, it is still applicable in view of the recent elections and other events that affect each and every Black American's life. The Black press still is the old, on going Black business in this country. Most of you probably know that the Black Press started in 1827 with Samuel Cornish—the organization of the first Black Presbyterian congregation. Cornish participated in many reform movements and he was an active member of the Anti-Slavery Society.

The publication he founded was *Freedom's Journal* with John B. Russwurm. Later, Russwurm became involved with the colonization movement, but Cornish continued to publish the paper for the next twenty years. *Freedom's Journal* played a major role in shaping a social and economic philosophy for Blacks. Such gifted persons such as James McCune Smith, Alexander Chummell, Martin R. Delany, and David Ruggles used the journal to express their opinions. Cornish, as the editors, fought relentlessly for full rights to citizenship and equality of Blacks as a trustee of the free schools for Blacks in New York. He energetically promoted higher education for Blacks, participating in many reform movements. He was an active member of the American Anti-Slavery Society.

On one occasion, he voiced his contempt for a group of prominent Philadelphia Blacks who at that time urged the free people of color to drop the adjective "colored" which at that time was used and preferred by Blacks from an identification standpoint used the term "oppressed Americans." We still, at this time, have the same term preferred by the masses Black being rejected by the same type today. More Black publishers have been lynched, mobbed, undergone tremendous financial pressures, because of their stands against injustice.

Segregation, discrimination, Jim Crowism and other unfairness. They have also been beaten, and killed more than

any other profession that Blacks have undertaken. The Black Press is still there. We have our ups and downs and it gets tough sometime, but most of the press-men we receive come from within through misunderstandings of what we are really about, and petty jealousy and envy.

As stated earlier, we have our ups and downs, but all businesses have their ups and downs, but we are beginning to understand more and more. As we become involved in mainstream America we are involved in this capitalist system as a business and we are endeavoring to convert our newspaper from a sociological phenomenon to a marketing tool to keep pace with the times and still do the job that was set out by Cornish and Russwurm in 1827.

As we do this we will understand more about the profit motive so that we will be able to survive and we won't have so many downs and ups. We'll just keep going up. The Black Press, Church and Community Organizations will have to take the leadership and initiative in this upward move.

It takes us all working collectively for survival and good of all of us. The advent of the Black Press is a many-splendored thing. If you do not believe it, check history. Certainly you don't like a lot of stuff we print. Certainly you criticize us and you give us a tough time, but we want you to know we are hanging in there and we are doing the best we can for the quality of life of Black people. We will continue to image build those who could not otherwise be recognized. We will continue to inform you of things which affect us that is not good in the best interest of us. That's our duty, that's our creed.

The ones who do not think the Black press is a Black business, let us go out of business or sell to a white media mongrel. See how much public service and free papers you will get, including subscriptions—the postage every week by us.

This is something to think about when you do not think of us as a for-profit business. We pay for everything we get and do try to be of the best of service to you.

Think about it!

IN CINQUE

by Renetta W. Howard



In 1621, the Pilgrims celebrated their first year in America and set aside several days to rejoice and give thanksgiving along with approximately 100 native Indians and about 30 new settlers who were not passengers on the *Mayflower*. There had been about 102 passengers on the voyage of 1620. Many of these pilgrims had made the voyage to the New World for different reasons though the underlying reason for many was religion. Some of them wanted adventure and others wanted their children to be raised in an atmosphere of freedom away from the Church of England or in a Dutch community. Nonetheless, they all wished to find some form of freedom.

Freedom was so important to the Pilgrims until they toiled with relentless determination to erect homes and cultivate the soil to sustain themselves, along with much help from the natives, mainly Squanto, who showed them how to plant corn and secure necessities for life.

Life was lost by half of the pilgrims because of

the harsh winter weather through which they had to toil for survival (Todd and Curti, *Rise of the American Nation*, 1977). The Thanksgiving holiday celebrations spread to other New England colonies as a family day of prayer and celebration, being thankful for a bountiful harvest. The day of thanksgiving has been proclaimed by governors and presidents since 1621, but they chose the last Thursday in November to be set aside for the celebration. President F.D. Roosevelt convinced Congress in 1939 to declare the fourth Thursday as Thanksgiving Day, and as a legal federal holiday. This move added an extra week for Christmas shopping, in order to help business (*World Book Encyclopedia*). The day after Thanksgiving is considered to be the first "official" day of Christmas shopping.

We need to get "in cinque" and revisit the original meaning of Thanksgiving: prayer and celebrations for a year of survival in a harsh, cold and dangerous world. HAPPY THANKSGIVING to all!

Letter to the Editor

"How Shall they Hear Without a Preacher?"—Rom 10:14

Back to the Desk of Parson D.A. Smith

Parson Smith, you are an insult to the Black Christian leaders and the Ministerial Alliances. The problem that the members are having in the Black church, the flock is being led by a non-Christian racist. Your problem, brother, is deeper than you think. You are not spiritually prepared to lead a flock. We are not the "out-group," we are the "put-out group," with you black ministers that are not practicing what you preach.

The Church needs to teach self-esteem, if we are lacking! You must teach self-discipline, if we are in need of it. But I find it very hard for you to teach self-discipline, when our Black ministers are very much in need of it. Black ministers are also in need of "practice." Practice disciplining yourselves from passing that collection plate on Sunday morning, noon and night. Discipline yourself from having those Saturday night romances with your mission sisters and in the pulpit on Sunday. Discipline yourself from taking that love offering and pastor's aide. Discipline yourself to feed your flock that spiritual food, not "neck bones."

Teach what Jesus said the Lord. Teach there is no such thing as a pastor and wife anniversary. "Stop selling the Word." Because Smith Temple raised \$5000.00, Lyons Chapel must raise \$10,000. One preacher drives a Cad. The other one must drive a Lincoln. Jesus walked and saved more souls than I see you riding black preachers saving. Once you are disciplined and we are spiritually fed, we won't have to run to the "mega-white" church.

True, you accept black members wearing "hand-me-downs" as long as your wife wears Eilen Tracy and gets that \$3000.00 packet. You accept people that wear impostor's designs as long as she wears "White Diamonds" and you wear "Ralph Lauren." Get real, Parson and ministers!

It's O.K. as long as your members pay you full-time salary they are the "Black in-group." When they pay your Visa, MasterCard, Diner's Club etc. that your wife uses at that mega-white store for that hat, purse and shoes that match. We are the so-called "In Group." Brother, you need an "in-group" to get in group with Jesus! But when we go to Southwest Lubbock we become the "out group." But, we don't have to stop by Furr's for filling! Because that Mega-White church has filled us spiritually. Brother, a true church has no certain colors, there are no differences, we all are one. Black, White, Brown, Red or Poor, we are one in Christ.

Our Black ministers need to stop selling the Word and start preaching the Word. Ministry has become like drugs, "Supply and demand." So therefore, brother, it leaves me with the thought that maybe we all need to get in where we fit in.

Faye Brown
Reach One—Teach One

Dear Parents,

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We're asking everyone in our community to help by saving the labels and proofs of purchase from the below-listed Campbell products. You may give them to students, or drop them off at the school during our regular school hours. Please join us in this worthwhile effort.

Please bring all labels to Ms. Reggi in the office. Thank you in advance for your support and cooperation.

Sincerely,
Ms. Reggi
Secretary

P.S. For your convenience, I've included a list of all products eligible in the Program, as well as the specific proofs of purchase to save. Please post it where it will remind you to save labels and proofs of purchase.

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the... LUBBOCK PUBLIC SCHOOLS... and suggest he contact LISD... so our kids will be afforded the same opportunity... It is a... VERY GOOD PROGRAM!

D.C. KINNER SAYS: "The... CONSTRUCTION... of your life... sometimes involves... some detour..."

HAVE A HAPPY THANKSGIVING... THIS N THAT... would like to take this time and... wish each of you a... HAPPY THANKSGIVING... and be very thankful of what you have going in your life... You see... if we would be... THANKFUL... and come together... so much we could do to better our conditions... So... HAVE A HAPPY THANKSGIVING...

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

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

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

People will react to that which is precise, and we will publish those articles as precisely and truthfully 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.

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Black presidential candidates, a source of Black hope?

By Ken Morgan
Special to the NNPA

Are you into black presidential candidates? Then take your pick! Colin "Hit-man" Powell, Jesse "Run-then-hide" Jackson, Alan "It's-okay-to-be-a-black-conservative" Keyes, or Arthur "I'm-the-godfather-of-affirmative-action" Fletcher for president in 1996.

Only Keyes and Fletcher have officially declared. Of the four, Powell and Jackson have been the most prominently talked about in the upcoming presidential campaign season. These four black men, like the parties and class politics they represent may differ—for and against different approaches to domestic and foreign policy—but they are cut from the same cloth.

Most of their ideas or solutions start from a common source, one similar to Bill, Bob, Pat, Phil, Pete, Pat, Newt and Ross, where politics is being pushed to the right. They will usually use words like "a r economy," "our foreign policy," "our national interest" or "our government." That's when you know that you have caught the propaganda virus, when you start saying "our" and "we" when talking about the U.S. or its actions.

These runners of the race may spout some of the rhetoric that reflects the interest of black and working people, but it is never in our context or on our terms. These "bloods" hang out in the "hood" of fake choices that are passed off as the people's democratic right to choose their political representatives—the bedrock of "our" (oops!) U.S. democracy. They represent or are influenced by: the entities who control the majority of wealth in the country, the ones who control most of the economy and who frame our political and social environments.

Take for example Jesse's "Parent Pledge" project to be signed by parents in 50 cities. His idea is to encourage parents to be more involved in school. Nobody disagrees with this thought. However, he starts from the premise that parents are the roots of the troubles with public schools, an idea similar to both the Democrat and Republican Parties' rhetoric, which are neatly tied into the family values issue.

Jackson completely ignores the declining resources for public schools, the fact that they are more segregated now than before the landmark Brown vs. Kansas 1954 Supreme Court decision; that there is a big drive to privatize public education and the oppressive socio-economic system that marginalizes, dehumanizes and alienates even larger segments of the black and working class populations. In reality Jackson helps to justify the assault on public education. Though Jesse is threatening to run as a fake independent, he will again play the role of Pied Piper, drawing blacks to Bill.

Powell, most likely the first serious black presidential

candidate, is so because he has proven his mettle as National Security Advisor and Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff. Powell unlike Jackson was a major participant in shaping establishment politics and enforcing its will and "national interest." For example, he played a leading role in unleashing the killing machines in the U.S. invasion of Panama and in the Desert Storm operations where thousands of Iraqi soldiers were gunned down fleeing back to Iraq, all in the name of protecting U.S. oil and dominance in the Middle East.

And true to form, even in his retirement, he served as one of the ambassadors of "bad will" in negotiating the occupation of Haiti by U.S. forces. America's hero could run as a Democrat, Republican or fake independent. He has not declared his candidacy for the oval office.

Just like Bill, Bob, and the others in the herd of presidential candidates, none of our good brothers are for quotas and timetables in enforcing true affirmative action. All of them like Bill and Bob start from how "we" can get rid of the deficit. None of the black presidential hopefuls, like Bill and Bob acknowledge the real deal, that government cut backs in social programs and entitlements mean lower taxes and less social wage contributions from employers.

And they ignore that much of the balance-the-budget ballyhoo is based on protecting the government and the bond security holdings of the wealthy (between 40 and 50 percent of U.S. government bonds and security holdings are owned by banks, corporations, and insurance companies). In other words, the less social wage and taxes they pay, the more profits are made in a world where profits are harder to come by.

So in November 1996, if you vote for these brothers dressed up in donkey brown elephant gray, or as fake independents or whether you vote for Clinton or Dole, be reminded, black gains are the results of our organized struggle. The civil rights movement is a prime example of what I mean. All social gains, from women's rights to labor gains, including the eight-hour day, resulted from struggle. Politicians have responded because the political price was usually too high to not.

I call for a truly black independent political party led by working people, everyday people where political action takes place every day, not once every two or four years; a party where participants are not beholden to the orchestra of the wealthy and big businessmen to whose music the two parties almost always dance; where foreign policy is based on international human solidarity and not how much profit you can squeeze from a country. That's the only time we can say "our" or "we."

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Texas Organic Cotton Marketing Cooperative Making Dust

Featured as Co-Op Leader in National Publication

Editor's Note: October is National Co-op Month. Here we highlight a local cooperative cited as a leader among U.S. cooperatives.

DENVER—Texas Organic Cotton Marketing Cooperative of Lubbock was featured in the June issue of "Farmer Cooperatives," a publication produced by the U.S. Department of Agriculture as an example of the upsurge in new cotton cooperative ventures being created as growers look to group action to increase or sustain their margins in the highly competitive industry.

The article, titled "Making Dust: New Alliances Explore the Frontiers of Cooperation," features 10 new cooperative activity and innovative business ventures between cooperatives across the U.S. These success stories involve farmers and their cooperatives producing ethanol from corn, turning waste products into high-performance building materials, pooling resources to buy warehouses and harvesting machinery, producing wheat gluten, and joining forces with competitors to market cheese.

The article went on to explain that Texas Organic Cotton Marketing Cooperative was formed in 1993 by 40 of the state's 45 certified organic cotton farmers. These growers wanted to share the risk inherent in marketing an alternative product.

"By pooling what we produce, we control how our cotton is marketed and how it's priced," says Jim Wedel, co-op secretary/treasurer.

The market for organic cotton has grown from 1,000 bales in 1991 to 3,500 bales in 1994. The cooperative expects to market close to 6,000 bales in 1995.

"If you don't make dust, you eat dust," adds Steve Montgomery, executive vice president of CoBank's Agribusiness Banking Group in Denver. CoBank, which finances agricultural cooperatives, provides funds for the cooperative.

Montgomery, commenting on a business environment that seems to grow more competitive with every passing month, sees plenty of examples of cooperatives like Texas Organic Cotton Marketing Cooperative which are making, not eating, dust. "Cooperatives being formed today continue to be used by producers to control their own destiny and proactively create a brighter future," he says. They are also broadening their involvement in the worldwide food and fiber system, he adds.

CoBank specializes in cooperative, agribusiness, Farm Credit association and rural utility financing, and finances exports for the benefit of U.S. agriculture. The bank is owned by approximately 2,300 stockholders, consisting of U.S. agricultural cooperatives, rural utilities and other businesses serving rural America. Approximately 2,000 of the stockholders are current customers of the bank. CoBank has a national office in Denver and additional banking centers in 10 U.S. cities. The bank also has a representative office in Mexico City.

Note: CoBank's Texas banking center has moved from Austin to Lubbock. The new location is at 6502 Slide Road, Suite 409, Lubbock, TX 79424, phone (806) 798-9090, fax (806) 798-9110.

ABA Creates "Spirit of Excellence Award" to Honor Minority Lawyer Achievements

CHICAGO, Oct. 16—The American Bar Association has created the "Spirit of Excellence Award" to honor achievements by minority lawyers.

"It is especially important, at a time when public discourse is focusing on race-based differences in perceptions about our legal system, to recognize the fact that for many years minority lawyers have contributed greatly to our society's progress toward justice in this nation," said Judge Bernice B. Donald, chair of the ABA Commission on Opportunities for Minorities in the Profession.

"We all have a stake in society as a whole and particularly in the legal system. Spotting minority lawyers' professional achievements, among others, advances both arenas," said Donald.

"This award recognizes that minorities also excel as lawyers, even while they concomitantly advance diversity in the legal profession despite historic obstacles to their participation," said Donald. That is signified by the award's motto, "To the Stars Through Difficulty," or "Ad Astra per Aspera."

Awards will be presented to up to four minority lawyers and one organization, such as a corporation, partnership or law firm. Individual lawyers will be selected based on substantive legal achievement as well as significant contributions to advancing racial or ethnic diversity in the legal profession, influencing other minority persons to become lawyers, opening or assisting in opening doors for minorities in job settings that historically have been closed to them, or advancing opportunities for minorities within a particular practice area or segment of the legal profession.

Nominations for the award may be submitted until Nov. 15. The award will be presented for the first time at the 1996 ABA Midyear Meeting in February in Baltimore.

Nominating forms are available from Marion Tucker, director of marketing and outreach for the ABA Commission, at 750 N. Lake Shore Dr., Chicago, Ill. 60611; phone, 312/988-5923; fax, 312/988-5647, or E-mail, tuckermj@aattmail.com.

Why the Jury was Right to Find O.J. Not Guilty

by Deborah Campbell Wright

You know something is wrong when Rush Limbaugh and Sam Donaldson find themselves agreeing on an issue. They both decided early on that Mr. O.J. Simpson was guilty. Sam Donaldson is a liberal and you expect liberals to make predictable emotional decisions, but conservatives are purported to be objective thinking people.

It is really too bad that race became an issue in the O.J. Simpson trial. The trial raised some far reaching ethical and Constitutional questions that the media chose to ignore. Instead, the radio talk shows, television news, and newspapers decided to play the race card, because the race issue always carries a sensational appeal which helps boost ratings and circulation. Especially now in the verdicts aftermath, we see the media, who has as much credibility as the Los Angeles Police Department, fanning the flames of racial division.

Before the verdict was announced, Rush Limbaugh said, "Only a blithering idiot would think that O.J. was not guilty." I say, "Only a blithering idiot or racist could ignore the serious credibility problem of the police and the illegal search of Mr. Simpson's home." People like Rush have a lynch mob mentality. A black man is accused of killing two white people, forget the constitution and the evidence—he is guilty.

After the not guilty verdict, some whites have been saying that Simpson was not convicted because the jury was black. In defense of objective white men and women, a conservative white man called Rush Limbaugh's show and insisted that there was reasonable doubt created by the lack of credibility of the police and the time-line. For those of you who only see race, consider a few facts before you get the rope.

The jury was instructed to disbelieve all or part of a witness's testimony, if they believed that the witness lied about a material fact. If you combine the lack of credibility of the lead detectives with incompetent criminalists, a sloppy crime lab, no time of death, an incompetent coroner, officers violating rules related to calling the coroner, Detective Vanatter taking Mr. Simpson's blood from the police department to the crime scene, and a contaminated crime scene, it is reasonable to distrust the blood evidence. Once the detectives were discredited, the mountain of evidence quickly became a pile of garbage.

Many whites believe that Mr. Cochran was playing to black jurors with his emotional appeal during the closing arguments, but I believe that it was directed to the white jurors. This is where the disconnect occurs between blacks and whites. Barry Sebeck's attack on the evidence played to the distrust blacks have of the police. Since whites trust the police, an appeal to their conscience was required. The Rush Limbaughs and Sam Donaldsons of the world do not realize that we have absolutely nothing in common with whites when it comes to our experience with the justice system.

The black people who celebrated the Simpson verdict were not cheering out of disrespect for Ron Goldman and Nicole Brown Simpson. They were cheering because the corrupt officers did not win, and I share their hope that changes will come as the corruption is exposed across this country. We worry more about our children being harassed by the police more than we do about criminals. When young black men encounter the police they do not see race, they see blue. The issue is not the race of the cop, it is the level of corruption.

Overshadowed by all the pomp and circumstance of the O.J. trial, this country has reached another critical point in its civil rights history. What is astonishing is the void in leadership in addressing this issue. Some Republicans are foolish enough to think that getting rid of affirmative action is addressing civil rights. While the politicians in Washington are inactive, at best, the move toward reestablishing the nation's Bill of Rights and emphasizing cultural unity is being addressed by the likes of Minister Louis Farrakhan and his Million Man March with its goal of teaching black men to be independent, disciplined and to take responsibility for the policing of their own neighborhoods. It is a sad day in America, when political leaders—mayors, city council members, governors, state legislators, conservatives, liberals, blacks and whites fail to uphold the "Bill of Rights," forcing our young people to look to Farrakhan for leadership.

Deborah Campbell Wright, Deborah Wright, a member of the national Advisory Council for the African-American leadership group Project 21, is chairman of Californians for Educational Freedom located in Oakland, California

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The Outreach Prayer Breakfast

The Outreach Prayer Breakfast met with the Parkway North of Lubbock sisters and brothers, and what a meeting it was. Our souls were blessed. Opened with songs of praise. Scripture by Sis. Burleson. Prayers by Sis. Dorothy Nash. Rev. W.H. Stephens brought the morning scripture lesson, subject: Christian Armor, Eph. 6:11-13.

Put on all of God's armor so that you will be able to stand safe against all strategies and tricks of Satan. For we are not fighting against people made of flesh and blood, but against persons without bodies—the evil rulers of the unseen world. In the Christian world, we battle against powerful evil forces, headed by Satan, a vicious fighter. To withstand his attacks we must depend on God's strength and use every piece of His armor. Paul is not only giving this counsel to the church, the body of Christ, but to all individuals within the Church. The whole body needs to be armed as you do battle against the evil rulers of the unseen world. Fight in the strength of the church, who's power comes from the Holy Spirit. This speaker said: Be sure your service comes from the heart, when you decided to follow Jesus, there's many more little trials and tribulations we have to face. If we will open our mouth against evil, our Lord will speak for us, and that's good news. *Get dressed, and let's go to battle. Through him we are winners.*

Thanks, Reverend, for this lesson of power. We love you. May God give you the strength to preach & teach His word many more precious years.

Let's pray: Our Father in Heaven, give us a clear vision through your word, order our steps in your word, help us to humble ourselves. Not to think more highly of ourselves than we ought to think. Help us to walk in love, peace—and happiness. In a world that seems to be *loving less*, help us Lord to remember every *soul* you made has a purpose in this world! Not to destroy it, but make it a better place for all of us. May your Kingdom come on this earth as it is in heaven. Help us to realize this can only be done when we come to ourselves, and realize there's plenty of everything in this world for all your people. You did not mean for a few to *hog it all!* The ones that plot evil in his heart destroying other's property, taking love of others as well as their joy and peace... silence the activities of these people now.

Father, we are entering into the Christmas season. Help us to slow down, and realize if you had not been born, there would not be a reason to celebrate. Help us think of you, Lord, who paid the price so we can walk into this season with joy, love and peace and forgiveness in our hearts for all mankind. In the name of Jesus we pray, amen.

We walk by faith and not by sight. Have a thankful Thanksgiving. Don't put more emphasis on the turkey than you do the one who provided that you might *have it.* Read your Bible daily. Please read II Chronicles 7:14, Mark 11:22-25.

Next Saturday, the 25th, the Breakfast will meet at 2132 E. 30th. To prepare for the Christmas holidays we need your help. More in next report.

Keep smiling and loving those *enemies.* Write P.O. Box 1223, Lubbock, TX 79402.

D. Hood, President. Ernestine Frazier, Secretary.



from the Desk of Parson D.A. Smith An Example of Courage

"And all this assembly shall know that the Lord saveth not with sword and spear; for the battle is the Lord's and he will give you into our hands." I

Samuel 17:47

On the farm back in East Texas boys would often make themselves a toy that would cost nothing. That toy was a slingshot. One skilled with this slingshot could kill fowl or rabbits for the dinner table. One careless with a slingshot could cause serious injury to the face or teeth, put out an eye, or even break windows. Boys were taught by their fathers the dangers of this toy and were encouraged to be responsible. David had time as a shepherd boy to write psalms, commune with God, and become skilled with a sling and harp.

When David heard the challenge of the Philistine giant, Goliath, for an Israelite to fight him instead of the two armies fighting, he asked to be the one. Goliath had won so many victories that in his armament he felt invincible. When Goliath saw the young shepherd boy with no armor running forward to meet him he was incensed. Why would Israel insult him by sending out what in his eyes was a mere child to fight him.

Goliath shouted, "Am I a dog, that thou dost to me with staves?" However, he had not noticed the sling or wondered what was in the shepherd's bag. David had no trace of fear as he responded to the giant's curses. He had complete faith that the Lord would give him the victory. As Goliath moved toward him, David slung the first stone from the sling and it hit Goliath's only unprotected spot—the forehead at the opening for the eyes. As a chain is as strong as its weakest link, so Goliath's weak spot did him in. David then used the Philistine's own sword to kill him and cut off his head to take to Saul. When the Philistines saw this, they fled in terror with Israel in hot pursuit.

African-Americans, take courage in the example of David. The "Political Goliath" is too much for you to handle by yourself. Arm yourself with a good education (study math, physics, English), put some money into a savings account each payday, pay your debts, love your children, do some volunteer service and attend church and pay your tithes. In so doing, God will give you the victory.

The African-American Leader and the Million Man March

Presently there is a great deal of confusion in the African-American community concerning its leadership. As it becomes increasingly apparent that the old guard is out of touch with those most at risk in our community, as well as, the average self-aware African-American, a void is evolving within the Community that someone will eventually step into. For now that someone appears to be Minister Louis Farrakhan. If men and women such as Congressman Lewis from Georgia and others of the professional civil rights establishment could realize that marching with King during the sixties does not give them a monopoly of any kind on the experience of racism in America, nor is it a litmus test for the accuracy of one's judgement when it comes to the "ways of white folk" we might be able to move beyond the mire into which our community has fallen. Racism today has its own face. It is even more sinister and diabolical than ever before and must be understood on its own terms. The preoccupation with who did what to get rid of the culturally cumbersome and internationally embarrassing segregation signs is not the criteria for selecting our leadership today. Those who have "made it" off the advances of the civil rights movement of the past and transformed the movement into a career choice around as they are trapped in a time warp and can not see far enough past the sixties to allow the nineties to speak to us in their own terms. This is the cause of the frustration of our people, particularly what our young men and women are experiencing. Their experience is not being articulated and our present-day experience can not be forced onto the procrustean bed of the 1950s and 60s and their aspiration for freedom is being so badly refracted through a manipulative press with their deeply skewed yet nuanced appreciation of what is going on, that the cultural milieu has become repressive. The repressed aspiration for freedom is returning with a vengeance, in what appears to be a disregard for "law and order," and the reckless, often manic bravado we see in so many of our young men and women and hear in their music particularly Rap.

There has been a lot of resistance to the Million Man March in African-American Christian circles because they object to the leadership. But the fact of the matter is that others are taking the leadership in the struggle because the African-American Christian establishment has failed to select leadership able to respond appropriately to the challenges of our time. The nation's largest African-American Christian organization, the National Baptist Convention U.S.A. Inc. is a prime example. We have failed to read the signs of the time and we have failed to respond adequately to the pervasive hopelessness that saturates the community. Minister Farrakhan therefore appears to be a glimmer of light in an otherwise dismal situation.

Whatever your position on the Honorable Minister may be the fact of the matter is that his success is directly attributable to our failure. I speak here as a Christian Pastor and a member of the National Baptist Convention U.S.A. Inc.. The key issue is competence. We must have leadership that is capable of responding to the challenges of the present hour, at present we do not. The choice of Rev. Jesse Jackson to represent our convention and be our spokesperson on civil rights and the vulgar repudiation of Rev. Jackson's support for the march, came from the same man. Dr. Henry Lyons' best response to the Million Man March and the crisis to which it attempted to speak was a knee jerk rhetorical reaction consisting of poorly developed ideas, that were hastily arranged and thrown to the convention floor in a calculated effort to elicit an emotional response. When the furor died down we were left with confused signals and uncertain sounds. That is precisely the kind of leadership the nation's largest African-American Christian denomination can ill afford at this critical juncture in our history.

We must rise to the occasion and the challenge Minister Farrakhan has posed and elect leadership prepared to face this crisis, which is deeply spiritual in nature, if we continue to make poor and irresponsible choices in determining our denominational leadership and fail to fill the void, we forfeit our claim to the spiritual leadership of our race. If we do not adequately respond to the void we can not blame Minister Farrakhan for filling it or the people for responding to his call.



We Thank God for Jesus Unthankful America!

Matthew 15:36, 37a AND HE (JESUS) took the seven loaves and the fishes, and gave THANKS, and brake them, and gave to his disciples, and the disciples to the multitude. And they did eat, and were filled.

AMERICA used to be like that, she gave THANKS, TO ALL THAT GOD DID GIVE. But now she is GREEDY: EVERY MAN WANTS WHAT IS NOT HIS.

Ezekiel 22:12, They have taken gifts to SHED BLOOD; thou hast taken USURY (HIGH INTEREST ON A LOAN) AND INCREASE, and thou hast GREEDILY GAINED OF THY NEIGHBOURS BY EXTORTION, AND HAST FORGOTTEN ME, SAITH THE LORD GOD.

America: she at one time, she would SHAKE what she had with one another. That was long years ago, THE 50'S; WHEN EVERYONE WAS LIKE A BROTHER.

Mark 12:30, 31, JESUS SAID, And thou shalt LOVE the LORD THY GOD with all thy heart. And the second is like, namely this: thou shalt LOVE THY NEIGHBOR AS THYSELF. There is none other commandment greater THAN THESE.

Then came the 60's; CHRISTIANS MARCHING: SINGING WE SHALL OVERCOME, THE DEVIL USED IT; AND HE GAVE RIGHTS TO EVERYONE.

(You see GOD didn't want man to have RIGHTS! HE SAID: GO INTO ALL THE WORLD AND PREACH THE GOSPEL. IF GOD WANTED MAN to have RIGHTS, He would have said so. But HE DIED ON THE CROSS FOR MAN'S SINS. SO THAT HE COULD HAVE SALVATION, THE ONLY RIGHT GOD WANTED MAN TO HAVE IS: THE RIGHT TO BELIEVE ON HIS SON JESUS CHRIST.)

◆◆◆◆◆ WILL THE CHRISTIANS ROB GOD?? ◆◆◆◆◆
Even the CHRISTIANS: who led this REBELLION ON GOD & THE GOVERNMENT, THE WORD OF GOD TELLS US: OBEY; OF ALL WHO OF THE GOVERNMENT IS SENT.

I Peter 2:13, 14, 16, Submit yourselves to EVERY ORDINANCE (NO MARCHING) OF MAN FOR THE LORD'S SAKE: whether it be to the king (PRESIDENT), as supreme; Or unto governors, as unto them that are SENT BY HIM FOR THE PUNISHMENT OF EVILDOERS, and for the PRAISE OF THEM THAT DO WELL. As free, and not using YOUR LIBERTY FOR A CLOAK (TO HIDE UNDER) OF MALICIOUSNESS, BUT AS THE SERVANTS OF GOD.

◆◆◆◆◆ DID THE MARCHERS ROB GOD? ◆◆◆◆◆
AMERICA stopped following GOD; SO SHE COULD DO HER OWN THING, NOW THE WHOLE COUNTRY IS A DISGRACE TO GOD; SHAME, SHAME, SHAME.

Luke 19:14, But his citizens (THE MARCHERS) hated him (JESUS), and sent a message over him, saying, WE WILL NOT HAVE THIS MAN (JESUS) TO REIGN OVER US. Even before THANKSGIVING is here, AMERICA IS THINKING MALL AND GREED. THEY'VE GONE CRAZY OVER MONEY, LYING SANTA CLAUS; AND XMAS TREES.

Jeremiah 10:2, 3, thus saith THE LORD, Learn not the way of THE HEATHEN (THE DEVIL'S CHILDREN), and be not dismayed at the signs of heaven; FOR THE HEATHEN are dismayed at them. For the CUSTOMS OF THE PEOPLE ARE VAIN (USELESS); for one cutteth A TREE out of the forest, the work of the hands of the workman, with the axe.

AMERICA IS JUST UNTHANKFUL; CAN GO TO THE MOON, DO HEART TRANSPLANTS, BUT FOR THE LOVE OF MONEY; SHE GIVES HER CHILDREN DRUGS; KILLING THEM LIKE ANTS.

I Timothy 6:10, For the LOVE OF MONEY IS THE ROOT (THE FOUNDATION) OF ALL EVIL: which some coveted after, they have *cried* from the faith, and PIERCED themselves through with MANY SORROWS.

AMERICA KNOWS GOD'S WAY; BUT WENT OUT FOR GAMES AND HAVING A GOOD TIME, KNOWING: THAT WHEN YOU LEAVE GOD, IT AFFECTS THE CHILDREN'S MINDS.

Romans 1:20, 21, for the invisible things of HIM (GOD) from the creation of the world are clearly seen, being understood by the things that are made, even HIS ETERNAL POWER AND GODHEAD; SO THEY ARE WITHOUT EXCUSE: Because that, when they knew GOD, THEY GLORIFIED HIM NOT AS GOD, NEITHER WERE THANKFUL; but became VAIN (WORTHLESS) in their imaginations, and THEIR FOOLISH HEART WAS DARKENED.

GOD IS NOT THROUGH WITH US YET. SO LET'S PRAY FOR ONE ANOTHER ALWAYS. Directed • Arranged • Produced • Guided By OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST... Written by Evangelist Billy B.J. Morrison, III Your Brother in CHRIST JESUS ALWAYS!

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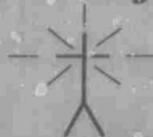
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COPING: Disgusting

By Dr. Charles W. Faulkner

Charles Barkley, star member of the Phoenix Suns basketball team, is also an African American. Barkley recently said to an ESPN reporter, "... that's why I hate white people." In apologizing for Barkley, Jerry CoAngelo, Suns' President, said, "... He's (Barkley) the furthest thing from a racist there is."

Which of the two statements is disgusting? It certainly isn't Charles Barkley's statement. Incidentally, Barkley, a well-known joker who has even jokingly said, "I hate light-skinned black people," was just having fun with reporters.

However, Jerry CoAngelo's statement has several hidden assumptions, the most disgusting of which is that black people have no legitimate reason to "hate" white people. Therefore, whenever a black person has an antipathy towards white people, he must be a "racist."

Kind of ridiculous, isn't it? Are you black? If so, I want you to write me and tell me how many acts of disrespect you encounter for the entire day. Then, I want you to tell me the race of the person who disrespects you, most of the time.

For most black people, the race of the person who offends them most often, and who has been doing it for his entire life is obvious. Think about it. You catch the bus in the morning to go to work and a white person bumps into you and doesn't apologize. A white clerk throws your money down on the counter (after saying, "What's up?" and "have a good one"). Your white boss talks to you as if you are a

child. Your white co-worker says that affirmative action should be ended (his white buddy says, "Yeah, blacks are too lazy"). You leave work to return home and a group of white slobbers crosses the street when they see you coming and stare at you from the other side, with fear in their eyes. As you cross the street to catch the bus, all of the white people in their cars quickly press down their door locks. And for your final indignity of the day, a white lady cautiously sits next to you on the bus, but sits on the edge of her seat, far from you and watches you carefully out of the corner of her eye, careful not to touch you.

Every day of your life, over and over again, you experience the same kinds of indignities. On some good days, you might experience only two or three acts of disrespect. On a bad day, you might experience 20 or more. But you experience some everyday. Even when you decide to spend the entire day home in bed, your mind tortures you by reliving the abuse that you previously experienced. Ninety-nine percent of the abusers are white. That's a fact. I didn't make it up. What has happened to your mind? What has happened to your feelings about white people?

Practically every black person has major antipathy toward white people, generally. You shouldn't be surprised. It's silly and illogical to expect black people to have positive, or even indifferent feelings to any group of people who abuse and disrespect you, no matter what their color. Sammy Davis, Jr. often told of the abuse

that he received from many of the white people with whom he came in contact. So did Quincy Jones, Dean Sanders and most other black people—rich and famous or poor and unknown.

We live in a racist society. It is foolish to deny it. Are blacks racist? Of course not! Blacks are responding to the many instances of abuse that they have received at the hands of white people. Thus, all blacks are suspicious of nearly all whites.

If nine out of 10 bulldogs had bitten you 10 times every day of your life, would you be suspicious and frightened of all bulldogs? Or would you be calm and friendly with them? The answer is obvious. Anyone who tells you that you hate bulldogs because of their race is stupid.

White people are racist because they insult black people solely because blacks have a dark skin color. This is their only reason, even though they say that your dark skin means that you are an inferior human being. They know that they are racist and they know that racism is immoral. They know that racism is an ugly word. So they call blacks racist as a means of putting blacks on the defensive.

Don't ever let anyone get away with referring to you as a racist. It really does befuddle me to hear so many white people express shock and surprise at the fact that so many black people despise them. Practically every black person has a little of Minister Farrakhan in him. He'd be foolish if he didn't.



Burglars can be deterred in many ways. Consult your local law enforcement agency for home security advice.

Sponsored by Southwest Digest & East Side Chapter of AARP II 3591, E. 3rd & Oak Avenue

Zucchini Bread Made Lowfat

Thanks to an all-natural fat substitute, zucchini bread can now fit in a lowfat diet. A simple mixture of pitted prunes and water can be used to replace the large amount of oil used in a traditional zucchini bread recipe without sacrificing flavor.



Prune purée keeps the bread moist and tender, while reducing the fat to 3 grams per slice—a traditional slice has 25 grams of fat!

Prune purée can also be used in place of butter or oil in brownies, cookies, cakes and muffins. For more lowfat recipes, send a SASE to: Decadent Desserts/M, P.O. Box 10157, Pleasanton, CA 94588.

Lowfat Zucchini Bread

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| 1-1/3 cups sugar | 2-1/2 cups all-purpose flour |
| 1 cup (4 ounces) grated zucchini | 1 teaspoon each baking soda, baking powder and salt |
| 1 cup water | 1-1/2 teaspoons cinnamon |
| 1/4 cup Prune Purée* | 3/4 cup chopped pitted prunes |
| 2 teaspoons grated lemon peel | 1/2 cup chopped toasted pecans |
| 1 teaspoon vanilla | |

Preheat oven to 350 degrees. Coat a 9x5-inch pan with vegetable cooking spray; set aside. In large bowl mix sugar, zucchini, water, Prune Purée, lemon peel and vanilla. In another bowl combine dry ingredients; stir into zucchini mixture with prunes and pecans. Spoon batter into pan; smooth top. Bake about 1 hour until pick inserted into center comes out clean. Cool in pan 5 minutes; remove to rack to cool completely. Makes 1 loaf, 16 (1/2-inch) slices.

*Prune Purée: In blender or food processor purée 2/3 cup pitted prunes with 3 tablespoons hot water. Store remaining Prune Purée in tightly covered container in refrigerator up to 1 month. Makes 1/2 cup.

Nutritional Information Per Slice: 180 cal.; 3g fat; 0mg chol.; 220mg sodium.

Nominations Open for 1996 Presidential Awards

WASHINGTON, DC—Nominations are being accepted from now through December 1, 1995 for kindergarten through twelfth grade science and mathematics teachers to be considered for 1996 Presidential Awards for Excellence in Science and Mathematics Teaching. Elementary and secondary teachers who have taught science or mathematics for five years or more in public or private schools are eligible.

Up to 216 Presidential Awards will be granted in 1996. An award is granted to one science and one mathematics teacher at both elementary and secondary levels from each state, the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, The Department of Defense Dependents Schools, and the U.S. Territories. The four 1996 Presidential Awardees in each state and jurisdiction will receive a Presidential Citation, an expense-paid trip to Washington, DC, a \$7,500 National Science Foundation (NSF) grant for their school, local and national recognition, and generous gifts from business and industry. Sponsored by the NSF, this is the nation's most prestigious award for a K-12 school science or mathematics teacher.

The 1996 Presidential Awardees will be selected from a pool of 648 state finalists. Each of the twelve state level finalists will receive the National Science Foundation State Award for Excellence in the Teaching of Mathematics and Science and a \$750 NSF grant.

A teacher may put forth his or her own name or be nominated by a colleague, administrator, student or parent. Each nominee receives a packet with instructions for applying. The application must be post-

marked by February 28, 1996.

Address inquiries to:
PAESMT c/o National Science Teachers Association
1840 Wilson Boulevard
Arlington, VA 22201-3000

The Presidential Awards program is managed for the National Science Foundation by the National Science Teachers Association with assistance from the National Council of Teachers of Mathematics and the Council of State Science Supervisors.

Cooperating organizations are the American Association for the Advancement of Science, American Association of Physics Teachers, American Chemical Society, American Geological Institute, American Institute of Physics, American Meteorological Society, American Society for Microbiology, Association of State Supervisors of Mathematics, Council for Elementary Science International, Federation of American Societies for Experimental Biology, National Academy of Sciences, National Alliance of Black School Educators, National Association of Biology Teachers, National Association of Elementary School Principals, National Association of Geology Teachers, National Earth Science Teachers Association, and The Mathematical Association of America.

An Open Letter to president Clinton Do Not Abandon Children!

by Marian Wright Edelman

As President, you have the opportunity and personal responsibility to protect children from unjust policies. It would be a great moral and practical wrong for you to sign any welfare "reform" bill that will push millions of already poor children and families deeper into poverty as both the Senate and House welfare bills will do. It would be wrong to destroy the 60-year-old guaranteed safety net for children, women and poor families as both the Senate and the House welfare bills will do. It would be wrong to leave millions of voteless, voiceless children to the vagaries of 50 state bureaucracies and politics as both the Senate and House bills will do. It would be wrong to strip children of or weaken current assured help for their daily survival and during economic recessions and natural disasters as both the Senate and House bills will do. It would be wrong to exacerbate rather than alleviate the current shameful and epidemic child poverty that no decent, rich nation should tolerate for even one child.

Both the Senate and House welfare bills are morally and practically indefensible. Rather than solve widespread child deprivation, they simply shift the burden onto states and localities with far fewer federal resources, weakened state maintenance of effort, and little or no state accountability. Neither the Senate or the House welfare bill is an example of the good competing with the perfect. Both are fatally flawed, callous, anti-child assaults. The Senate and House bills eviscerate the moral compact between the nation and its children and its poor.

If child investments are unfairly and indiscriminately cut by many billions of dollars, there is perhaps some prospect of recouping the money over time when new child suffering becomes apparent as it did after the Reagan cuts and as it will this time as pending cuts are many times worse. But longer-term, and perhaps irreparable damage, will be inflicted on children if you permit to be destroyed the fundamental moral principle that an American child, regardless of the state or parents they chanced to draw, is entitled to protection of last resort by their national government. If any piece of the framework or cornerstone of the laws—AFDC, Medicaid, family and child nutrition—is dismantled, we may not

get them back in our lifetime or our children's. It is nonsense for Congressional leaders to argue that they are protecting children from a future debt children did not create by destroying the vital laws and investments children need to live, learn, and grow today. That is the domestic equivalent of bombing Vietnamese villages in order to save them. It is moral hypocrisy for our nation to slash income, health, and nutrition assistance for poor children while leaving untouched hundreds of billions in corporate welfare, giving new tax breaks of over \$200 billion for non-needy citizens, and giving the Pentagon almost \$7 billion they did not request.

The Children's Defense Fund wants welfare reform. But we want fair reform that does not pick on and hurt children and that provides parents jobs and safe child care. We want reform that prepares our children for the new millennium—not reform that pushes them back to past inequities within and among states.

We want to "end welfare as we know it." But we do not want to replace it with welfare as we do not want to know it. We do not want to codify a policy of national child abandonment.

Franklin Delano Roosevelt correctly said: "Better the occasional faults of a government that lives in a spirit of charity than the constant omissions of a government frozen in the ice of its own indifference." Every president since FDR—Truman, Eisenhower, Kennedy, Johnson, Nixon, Ford, Carter, Reagan, and Bush—preserved the minimal national guarantee of income assistance for poor children. It is a precedent I hope and trust you will uphold. What was right and compassionate in FDR's day is right today and will be right tomorrow.

There is an even higher precedent that we profess to follow in our Judeo-Christian nation. The Old Testament prophets and the New Testament Messiah made plain God's mandate to protect the poor and the weak and the young. The Senate and House welfare bills do not meet this test.

Marian Wright Edelman is president of the Children's Defense Fund and author of Guide My Feet: Prayers and Meditations on Loving and Working for Children.

EDUCATION



At least 20 high school graduates will receive scholarships this year from Land O'Lakes.

Company to Offer Student Scholarships for 75 in 1996

(NU) - Seventy-five students from around the nation will become recipients of \$1,000 scholarships in 1996, thanks to a special program announced recently by the Minnesota-based food and agricultural cooperative Land O'Lakes.

The program celebrates the company's 75th anniversary and will award students who are pursuing advanced training in the field of agriculture, food science or food production.

Land O'Lakes President and CEO John B. Gherty said "We strongly believe food and agriculture represent growth industries in our rapidly changing global economy and thus offer abundant career opportunities for today's students. As a grassroots, member-owned business, Land O'Lakes has a rich heritage in these industries and a clearly defined vision of what it will take to succeed in the future.

building a stronger United States agricultural sector to serve a world market."

How to Apply
Applicants must be enrolled or planning to enroll in an undergraduate program at an accredited college, university or vocational school. Scholarship awards, to be made in May 1996, will be based largely on the applicant's response to an essay question. At least 20 of the 75 scholarships will be awarded to graduating high school seniors.

For scholarship applications, send a self-addressed, stamped envelope to: Land O'Lakes 75th Anniversary Scholarship Program, P.O. Box 39104, Chicago, IL 60639. Completed applications must be postmarked by March 15, 1996, and received by March 31, 1996.

Organized in 1921, Land O'Lakes, Inc., began marketing its revolutionary new "sweet cream butter" in 1924. Today, it is a leading national marketer of high quality dairy food products, as well as a provider of agricultural supplies to farmers, ranchers and member cooperatives across the Midwest and the Pacific Northwest.

BACK TO BASICS COOKING



(DM)—Swap the ground beef in a Sloppy Joe for the black-eyed peas in a Hopping John; serve it over toasted bread instead of rice or corn bread and you've created Sloppy Johns. This quick-fix vegetarian entree gets its savory flavor from Kikkoman Teriyaki Baste & Glaze augmented with cayenne. You'll appreciate the great taste and convenience of bottled teriyaki baste & glaze. It has just the right flavor balance to transform this economical everyday meal into a specialty. Serve with mugs of steaming hot soup and enjoy a satisfying dinner that can be on the table in less than 30 minutes.

SLOPPY JOHNS

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| 2 cans (15 oz. each) black-eyed peas | 3 slices bacon, diced |
| 1/2 cup Kikkoman Teriyaki Baste & Glaze | 1 cup finely chopped onion |
| 4 teaspoons brown sugar, packed | 1/2 cup finely chopped celery |
| 1/2 teaspoon ground red pepper (cayenne) | 8 slices (each about 1/2 inch thick) Italian or French bread, toasted |

Reserving 2 Tbsp. liquid, drain, rinse and drain black-eyed peas; set aside. Combine teriyaki baste & glaze, brown sugar, red pepper, reserved bean liquid and 1/4 cup water; set aside. Cook bacon in skillet over medium heat until crisp; remove and drain. Reserving 1 Tbsp., drain off excess drippings. Return reserved drippings to pan. Add onion and celery; stir-fry 2 minutes. Gently stir in teriyaki baste & glaze mixture and black-eyed peas; bring to boil. Reduce heat; cover and simmer 8 minutes, stirring occasionally. Remove from heat; stir in bacon. For each serving, spoon black-eyed-pea mixture over 2 toasted bread slices.

Each serving: 389 calories, 5g fat, 4mg chol., 1257mg sodium, 74g carb., 17g protein.