



Urban Arts Festival At South Side

Page 2



Women Of Color In Leadership Positions

Page 4



Heather Headley Part Of Change The World Tour

Page 7

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People In The News



Reverend Zan W. Holmes is the keynote speaker for Huston-Tillotson University's Commencement Convocation, which will be held May 13, on the campus at 900 Chicon Street, Austin.

Reverend Holmes served as Senior Pastor of St. Luke Community United Methodist Church in Dallas, where he grew the congregation to 6,000 members during his 28 years as pastor. He was elected to the Texas legislature and served from 1968 to 1972, representing Dallas County, was a district superintendent for the North Texas Conference of the United Methodist Church, and served as an Associate Professor of Preaching at the Perkins School of Theology, SMU. His book credits include: *Reaching for Renewal*, *Encountering Jesus*, and *When Trouble Comes*.

Upon graduating from Huston-Tillotson, he received his Bachelor of Divinity degree in 1959 and a Master of Sacred Theology degree in 1968 from SMU. Huston-Tillotson honored him with a Doctor of Laws degree in 1970 and its humanitarian award in 1992.

Now retired, Holmes will return to his alma mater as a member of the first class to graduate from the merged Huston-Tillotson College in 1956 and will also celebrate his 50-year class reunion.



On Monday, April 17, during the opening day of the special session of the legislature called by Texas Gov. Rick Perry to address public school finance, State Senator Royce West (D-Dallas) was sworn in as President Pro Tempore of the Texas Senate.

As President Pro Tempore, Senator West is second in the line of succession to be Governor of Texas. In instances when Texas Gov. Rick Perry and Texas Lt. Gov. David Dewhurst are out of the state, Senator West assumes the state's top governmental office.

"The legendary Barbara Jordan - a heroic figure among minority politicians in this country - was the first African American and second ever female to serve as President of the Texas Senate. This honor links me with some of the historic names to have served in leadership of this state. As such, I feel blessed," Senator West said.

Senator West has served in the Texas Senate for nearly 13 years since first being elected to represent the citizens of Dallas County in 1993. He has been re-elected four times.

Pictured (foreground) are Texas Lt. Governor David Dewhurst, Mrs. Carol West and Sen. West, Sen. Judith Zaffirini (background).



The Dallas Mavs recently announced a total of \$34,200 will be donated to Gilda's Club North Texas. Credit Union of Texas is matching Mavs Guard Jason Terry's donation of \$17,100 (\$100 for each of the 171 three-point field goals he made during the 2005-06 season).

"Gilda's Club provides support and comfort to those living with cancer and their loved ones," said Terry. "The significance of their outreach is invaluable. It is especially important to me because of personal experiences with cancer in my own family, and I am honored to contribute to the efforts of this wonderful organization."

Lee Ann Rogers, Acting Executive Director of Gilda's Club said "We are overwhelmed by the generosity of Jason Terry and Credit Union of Texas. They are truly making it possible for our members to learn to live with cancer—no matter the outcome."

The mission of Gilda's Club North Texas is to provide a non-residential meeting place, where people with cancer and their families and friends can join with others to build social and emotional support as a supplement to medical care - FREE of charge. For more information, please visit www.gildasclubtx.com.

INSIDE

People In The News	1
Community Calendar	2
Community Spotlight	2
Op-Ed	3
Business Service Directory	5
Education	6
Arts & Entertainment	7
Career Opportunities	8
Sister Tarpley	9
Church Happenings	9
Church Directory	8, 9 & 10

New Orleans Mayoral Vote Split On Racial Lines



New Orleans voters wait in line to cast vote in first election since Hurricane Katrina

Incumbent Nagin, challenger Landrieu set for May 20 runoff

In a complete reversal of support from four years ago, Mayor Ray Nagin scored heavily with black voters and was practically abandoned by whites as he and Lt. Gov. Mitch Landrieu won spots in a mayoral runoff election.

The black incumbent, who received most of his support from white voters in the 2002 elec-

tion, garnered less than 10 percent of the vote Saturday in predominantly white precincts, according to GCR & Associates Inc., a consulting firm analyzing demographic data for the New Orleans Redevelopment Authority.

But Nagin, who offended many white voters in January when he suggested God wanted New Orleans to remain a "chocolate city," saw black voters rush to his defense. He received 65 percent or more of the vote in predominantly black neighborhoods, the consultant found.

Landrieu, who is white, finished with 29 percent of the overall vote to Nagin's 38 per-

Mayoral Vote Split Page 5

Texas Gas Prices Continue To Soar

Texas retail gasoline prices continued to skyrocket last week, according to a weekly survey.

The AAA Texas gasoline price survey released Friday found that regular self-serve gasoline prices average \$2.83 per gallon statewide, 10 cents more than last week and 71 cents more than last year.

Dallas prices remained the state's highest at \$2.92 cents per gallon, 11 cents more than last week, while San Antonio had the cheapest gas at \$2.76 per gallon, 11 cents more than last week, the survey found.

The national average price was \$2.86 per gallon, 14 cents more than last week.

Auto club spokesman Paul Gonzales says the price spike is fueled by speculator concerns over a recent decline in the nation's gasoline inventories.

"Some refineries are switching to a formula of gas that requires ethanol, instead of MTBE, and there have been spot shortages of ethanol,"



Texas Gas Prices Page 9

Plano City Council Meets With District 3 Neighbors

Plano City Councilmembers will meet with citizens in the District 3 area on Thursday, May 25 to discuss issues important to their area of the Plano community. The meeting is from 7 to 9 p.m. in the Program Room of Maribelle M. Davis Library, 7501-B Independence Parkway.

The meeting is part of an ongoing outreach program called "Plano City Council Neighborhood Roundtable." Councilmembers along with city department representatives will answer questions and work with the citizens to find solutions to concerns for the district. Though the meeting is focused on District 3, all Plano citizens are welcome to participate. Light refreshments will be served.

District 3's north boundary is S.H. 121; the south boundary is Spring Creek Parkway; the

east boundary is Alma Road; and the west boundary is Coit Road.

A map with all the districts is available online at www.plano.gov on the Community Outreach department page. For more information call the city offices at (972) 941-7747.

Neighborhood Roundtables are held quarterly, so each of Plano's four districts will have the opportunity to meet with Councilmembers in the convenience of their home neighborhood.

Congresswoman Johnson To Meet Constituents At Town Hall Meeting On Prescription Drug Prices

On April 30th, Congresswoman Johnson will host a town hall meeting to help answer constituents' questions about the Medicare Part D prescription drug plan and help individuals choose and enroll in a plan. The town hall meeting will take place on Sunday, April 30th, at Saint John Missionary Baptist Church (2600 South Marsalis Avenue).



Social Security Administration will be present to answer ques-

Town Hall Meeting Page 3

Denton Transit Authority To Launch Commuter Bus Line



Commuters wanting to cut the cost and hassle of driving from Denton to Dallas will have some relief beginning May 30.

That's when the Denton County Transportation Authority is scheduled to begin its commuter bus line operations. The proposed one-way fare for a Denton-to-Dallas trip is \$5, but riders can save considerable money by buying a multi-ride pass. Forty-five dollars is expected to cover the cost of a 20-ride

pass, said Kelly Doherty, a spokeswoman for the DCTA.

Based on \$3 per gallon gas, the driver of a car that gets 30 miles per gallon pays \$4.29 one-way for fuel to make a 43-mile trip between the two cities. Stops would include Denton, Lewisville and downtown Dallas.

The exact location of the bus line stops and fare prices haven't been ironed out, Doherty said.

Denton Transit Page 4

House Approves New Tax On Business

Legislators also OK separate bill to tap the surplus for small tax cut



The Texas House Monday night approved a sweeping new business tax that is the cornerstone of Gov. Rick Perry's proposal to cut school property taxes

and meet a June 1 court deadline for avoiding a potential shutdown of public schools. The \$3 billion measure will now go to the Senate, with supporters hoping the two chambers will finally be able to agree on a tax overhaul. Four previous efforts in the past two years failed.

"The (tax) system is broken. It's time to fix it. This is a fair bill," said Rep. John Otto, R-Dayton, a co-sponsor of the measure that passed 80-68.

But Democrats attacked it as underfunded and complained that it wouldn't raise any additional funding for the public schools.

"It is the largest tax bill in Texas history, and it doesn't give one penny to the public schools," said Rep. Jim Dunning, D-Waco.

A procedural problem with the proposed \$1 per pack cigarette tax hike caused it to be sent back to the Ways and Means Committee for further consideration.

Perry wants to use the expanded business tax, an increase in the state cigarette tax and a portion of the budgetary surplus to cut school operating taxes by about one-third over the next two years.

The House also approved another bill, a fallback meas-

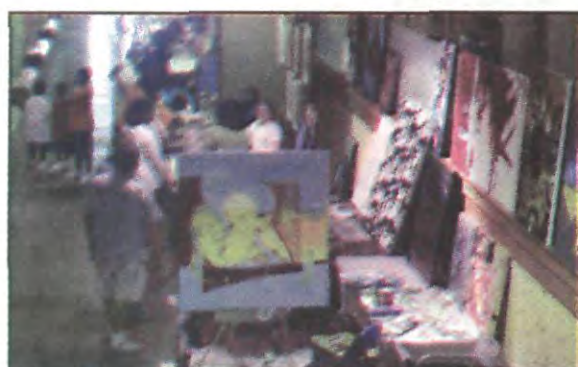
New Tax On Business Page 5

Jesse Jackson, Al Sharpton Lead March To Protest Boot Camp Death



Boot Camp Death Page 6

Urban Arts Festival At South Side



Art displayed at the Southside Lofts at the Urban Street Fest.



Families were treated to making their own arts and crafts out of cigar boxes.



Spoken word artists Brad Jordan "Fallacy", Misty Boldish "Sullen", and Devon Boyd "Lyrical-I" in front of Graffiti Showcase entry.



Artist Constance Y. White displaying her art.



Spoken word artist Alejandro Perez aka "African Personalities-AP".

Photos By: Ronald Coleman
The first Urban Arts Festival was held at the South Side on Lamar Lofts this past weekend. Chaired by Erykah Badu, the festival featured urban art consisting of paintings, sculpture, music, film, theatre, graffiti, spoken word, film and a street fair.



Akin Babatunde gives his performance tribute to Blind Lemon Jefferson.



Myron Butler and Levi give an inspired gospel performance.

The Black Academy of Arts and Letters Presents

SPLIT ENDS



When has your hair betrayed you, saved your life or set you free? Find out in this humorous and fearless show which explores true life accounts of how women of African descent's hair has been and continues to be both burden and liberation, barrier to connection and cross and salvation. A solo performance by VENUS OPAL REESE is a show that'll keep you talking about hair for days!

Friday and Saturday, April 28 & 29, 2006
8:00 p.m.
Clarence Muse Café Theatre
Dallas Convention Center Theatre Complex \$10

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Around The Town

Ongoing

Sankofa Unplugged! Come experience the nation's best Open Mic Experience. Musicians, Poets, Actors, be ready to "Bring the heat" to the Sankofa stage. Sankofa Arts Cafe & Bar 1906-1908 Martin L. King, Jr. Blvd Dallas. Every Saturday 9:00 p.m. 214-421-0013, www.myspace.com/sankofakre

Teen Reaching Teens, Inc. and Teen Graffiti Magazine presents free computer training. Courses offered Wednesday and Friday, 4:30-5:30 p.m. and Saturday 12:30-3:30 p.m. Call 972-496-9457. Through April 30.

Drums Not Guns will hold drumming sessions from 10:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. the second and fourth Saturdays of the month thru mid-May at Old Settlers Park Recreation Center, 1201 E. Louisiana St. Call 214-641-0782 for information.

Alpha Beta Chapter of Beta Sigma Phi a social service cultural sorority meets the second Monday of each month in members home in Frisco, McKinney, and the Plano area. Call 972-473-9089.

Assistance League of Greater Collin County meets the third Wednesday of each month. Visit www.assistanceleague-gcc.org.

Allen Symphony Chorus is recruiting singers for its April 29 performance. Rehearsals are from 7:30 p.m.-9:00 p.m., Thursdays, Choir Room Erickson Middle School, 450 Tatum Dr. For information call 972-359-0656.

A free legal clinic is offered for residents who meet low income guidelines, 6:00 p.m., second Thursday of each month, First United Methodist Church, 601 S. Greenville Ave. Applicants must be Collin County residents and income eligible. Call 1-800-906-3045.

The Frisco Housing

Authority is offering tenant-based rental assistance to 22 eligible families and individuals for rental housing in Frisco. Call 972-377-3031 for information.

The Women's Museum shows "Apron Chronicles: A Patchwork of American Recollections. Features storytelling, photography and vintage fashion. Call 214-915-0871 for information. Exhibit runs thru May 14

April 27

Estate Planning Seminar Free 90-minute program will be presented by Dallas Estate Planning Attorney, Richard P. Johnson who is Board Certified in Estate Planning and Probate Law by the Texas Board of Legal Specialization. Admissions is FREE

For reservations call: Karen at (972) 497-1010 or email Karen@RichardJohnsonLaw.com

April 28

The Boy Scouts of America Whitney M. Young, Jr. Awards Luncheon. Featured speaker is Lt. Russell Honore. Fairmont Hotel, 12 Noon. Contact David Tyson for additional info at dctyson@sbcglobal.net or 972-644-0454.

26th Annual Denton Arts & Jazz Festival 2006. The Denton Arts & Jazz Festival offers free admission and free entertainment with over 2,000 musicians, dancers, artists and other performers. The festival is located at Denton Civic Center Park, between Withers and McKinney Streets. For more info go to www.dentonjazzfest.com or (940) 565-0931.

HBCU Alumni Happy Hour Mixer. Come out and mix and mingle with your fellow HBCU Alumnus and talk "smack" with those hated rivals, ie... "Jackson State and Southern", this Friday starting at 6 p.m. at Club 5th Avenue, Addison TX.

Tommy Davidson. Tommy Davidson will perform live in Dallas at the Addison Improv, 4980 Beltline Road Suite 250, Addison. For show times and more information, call 972-404-8501.

36th Annual USA Film Festival. Featuring the best new U.S. and foreign

films, special tributes & retrospectives, the 28th Annual National Short Film & Video Competition, and more. April 28 to May 4, 2006, 8687 N. Central Expressway, Ste. 3000, in the NorthPark Center expansion between Foleys and Nordstrom. For more information, visit www.usafilmfestival.com.

April 29

The Brothers of Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc. invites you to the 1st Annual Alpha Merit Scholarship Beautification, D.A. Huely Auditorium, 9339 S. Polk St. Call 214-364-6740 for information.

Leadership U! Sponsored by Plano Republican Women for students in grades 4 to 11 from 2:00-5:30 p.m. Understand the political process, develop leadership skills, meet community and state leaders, make a difference in your community, state and country! Fairview Farms Corral Barn, 3312 N. Central Expy., Plano.

2006 Customer Appreciation Day at Hands of Glory Salon Barber Shop. It's a block party and you're invited. Join the Hands of Glory Salon Barber Shop for food, fun, entertainment, music, and activities for the kids. Located at 13531 Montfort Drive, Dallas 12pm-3pm. Admission is free.

Coppell Relay For Life. Relay For Life® is a fun-filled overnight event designed to celebrate survivorship and raise money to help the American Cancer Society save lives, help those who have been touched by cancer, and empower individuals to fight back against this disease. Relay starts at 5:00pm, for more information call 1-800-ACS-2345.

MosaicSong... With Soul. Join your favorite local girl group as we shake, shimmy and sh-boom. Come on out for an evening of fun with MosaicSong, the Queens of Soul.

Irving North Christian Church, 2901 N MacArthur Blvd in Irving, Texas 75062

MosaicSong, Inc. 7:30pm FREE. For more information call 817-319-9481.

Hoop It Up. Come see amateur basketball at its finest at Fair Park, 1300 Robert B. Cullum Blvd. Dallas. For

more information visit www.3on3basketball.com

Barnes & Noble To Host Leukemia & Lymphoma Society Benefit. Barnes & Noble of Garland will be hosting an all day event which will benefit the Leukemia & Lymphoma Society (LLS) and its drive to find a cure for blood related cancers. For additional information call Joanna at Barnes & Noble (972) 496-2000.

April 30

Blackland Prairie Festival, Plano's 3rd annual event "recreates the character of Plano" as it takes a step back in time for one day. Several stages of live entertainment. Haggard Park, downtown Plano, 11 a.m.-6 p.m. Call 972-423-7809, 972-769-0017 or visit www.blacklandprairiefestival.org for info.

Sisters of Sierra Leone Annual Thanksgiving Service. Commemorating forty five years of independence in Sierra Leone. Spring Valley United Methodist Church, 7700 Spring Valley Road, in Dallas. Service starts at 3:45 p.m. For more information call 972-771-2748.

May 1

3rd Annual Russell Maryland Celebrity Golf Tournament Benefiting National Cowboys of Color Museum and Hall of Fame will be held Monday, May 1, 2006 at the Doral Tesoro Hotel and Golf Club, 3300 Championship Parkway, Fort Worth, TX 76177. To sign up please email info@austincompany.com or call 817-922-9999.

May 3

Women of Visionary Influence, Inc. (WOVI) - Addison Chapter meets Wednesday, May 3, 2006 - 11:15 AM at the Holiday Inn, 4960 Arapaho Road, Addison, TX. Clarice Tinsley, KDFW Fox 4 News Anchor presents "Politics in the Workplace." RSVP to judy@judywomack.com or contact Mary Boyd 972.578.1406. Visit www.wovi.com

May 4

Sheryl Underwood in Concert at the Addison Improv May 4-7on 4980 Beltline Rd, #250 Addison. Call 972-404-8501.

Grandparents Raising Grandchildren Support Group. You are not alone! Join the conversation with other families like yours. Be sure to visit the Grandparents Raising Grandchildren Resource Collection in the library. Audelia Road Branch library at 10045 Audelia Road in North Dallas. For more information call 214-670-1350.

The Plano ISD Education Foundation Board of Honor. The Plano ISD Education Foundation Board of Directors is having a reception to honor 2005-06 major donors at Gleneagles Country Club, 5401 West Park Blvd, Plano.

May 5

U2 singer Bono will speak in Dallas about global AIDS and poverty in Africa 7:30 p.m. at Fair Park Music Hall. About 3,400 tickets will be sold. Tickets start at \$50. For more information call 214-965-8400.

Cinco de Mayo Closing Weekend Fiesta. Celebrate Cinco de Mayo weekend at the Dallas Museum of Art and see the Maya exhibition before it closes. Enjoy concerts, tours, films, family programs, games, and extended hours all weekend, including half-price exhibition admission on Saturday and Sunday before 11:00 a.m. Dallas Museum of Art, 1717 N. Harwood, Dallas. For more information call 214-922-1200.

May 6

The Texas Ski Rangers meeting. The Texas Ski Rangers is a non-profit organization dedicated to promoting, financing, and encourage opportunities for African-Americans in winter sports. Meetings are at 11:00 on the first Saturday of each month at the Fretz Park Rec center in North Dallas.

Texas Outdoor Expo. Camping, fishing, hunting, and a strong focus on adventure sports will be present. Spectators will learn more about biking, kayaking, SCUBA, rock climbing, sailing, wakeboarding, and inline skating. Located at Meadowmere Park (South side of Lake Grapevine near Highway 114 and Kimball Road.) in Grapevine. For more information call 972-741-9169.

Cinco de Mayo in Denton.

Denton's 19th annual Cinco de Mayo Celebration commemorating the historic battle of Puebla with a parade and festivities at Denton Civic Center Park, 321 E. McKinney in Denton 10 am to 6 pm. For more information call 940-349-8733.

Cinco de Mayo in Irving. Lee Park Recreation Center, 3000 Pamela Dr in Irving. 9 am to 2 pm. For more information call 972-742-5982.

Asian American Heritage Festival. Fun activities for whole family with food, Asian music, dancing, calligraphy, face/hand painting, cultural exhibitions and more at Haggard Park in Plano from 12 to 6pm. For more information log on to <http://www.asianamericanheritage.org>.

May 10

Fine Arts Extravaganza at the Black Academy. Black Academy, 650 S. Griffin St. at 6 p.m. For more information call 214-743-2440

May 11

Older Americans Month Program. Learn about nutrition, online health resources, city services from the Office of Senior Affairs and other great resources. Refreshments and giveaways! Audelia Road Branch Library-10045 Audelia Road at 1 p.m. For more information call 214-670-1350.

May 12

Taste Addison. A weekend of food, music and fun featuring more than 50 of Addison's best restaurants and national talent Addison Circle Park in Addison \$5 before 5 pm, \$8 after. For more information call 800-233-4766.

May 13

Black Writers' Guild of Irving. Writers' Critique Session 217 S. Main St in Irving Black Writers' Guild of Irving 10:30 am. For more information call 214-995-4509.

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Paul Hailey

Sometimes it's a good thing to just shut up, sit back and wait.

When I first read of the March 13th alleged rape and sexual assault involving the Duke lacrosse team and a black female student who was hired to dance at a party, I was overwhelmed by the sheer volume of opinions that were in the media. I really didn't know what to think, so I sat back, stayed quiet and took it all in. Little did I know that, three weeks later, there would be enough stupidity slung around for me to fill two or three columns.

The controversy and racial tension surrounding this incident is inherent in everything from how it is being handled by Duke University to the description of the event itself.

As Reverend Jesse Jackson wrote this week, had the initial headline read: "Divorced Mother of Two Working Way Through College, Alleged Raped, Abused by Gang," an entirely different mental picture would have been formed in our collective psyche. However, that's not the way the story was reported. Instead, we heard about a black woman stripper, who may or may not have been intoxicated, being paid \$400 to dance for a group of Duke lacrosse players, alleging that she was gang-raped, sodomized and choked by three white players at the party. The very description of the event has served to make race, class, and gender the central core of the case.

I immediately heard the questions from black folks talking about the incident. What is a 25 year old college student at North Carolina Central University doing stripping for 47 white men at a party? Why wasn't she home watching her two kids? Didn't all the DNA evidence come back negative?

Sometimes It Is About Race

Don't those girls get drunk and high when they strip for men? Black people, who have no problem practicing self-flagellation, started whispering that the woman must have brought it on herself.

"North Carolina is the Bible Belt, and a fair amount of folks in the black community feel the sexual attack was something the young woman brought on herself," said Mark Anthony Neal, a Duke associate professor who teaches black pop culture in the African-American Studies Department. "On a certain level, they're most concerned with the racial epithets. For me, this is not simply a case of sexual violence or just a case of racism. It's a case of racialized sexual violence, meaning if it had been a white woman in that room, it would not have gone down the same way. It's difficult for many folks to understand how race and gender came together in this case. You just can't pull them apart."

I'm not going to even make an attempt at assessing the guilt or innocence of the Duke students or the character of the victim. What I am going to say as loud as I can is that if the woman wasn't abused by the lacrosse team, she is certainly being abused by the right-wing, (read: white male), media machine. Rush Limbaugh, (who may be an idiot, but is an idiot with a large audience), referred to the two women as "hoes", and later apologized saying "I regret you heard me say that." Michael Savage called the young woman a "Durham dirt-bag" and a "dirty, verminous black stripper". What is the source of this hatred and venom toward the young black woman?

The source is history, past and present. Whether we like it or not, black women in this country from slavery to today have been viewed by white men as hypersexual, insatiable, and exotic. They have been demonized as beings that are less than respectable, who have bodies that are of little value. The hip-hop culture of today has only served to re-emphasize these

stereotypes by degrading the bodies of black women in songs and rap videos. It would be no surprise that young white men, who have come to embrace hip-hop culture, see black women as little more than bodies to be sexually conquered.

So the venom persists. It is the same venom that caused Neil Boortz to demean Congresswoman Cynthia McKinney. Boortz said on his radio program that McKinney's "new hair-do" makes her look "like a ghetto slut," like "an explosion at a Brillo pad factory," like "Tina Turner peeing on an electric fence," and like "a shih tzu".

This is a US Congresswoman he's talking about. The first black woman elected to congress from Georgia. Notice Boortz didn't comment on her politics, agenda or even her behavior. He talked about how she looked. That tells you all you need to know about the ingrained feelings of white men toward black women—whether an elected congresswoman or a part-time stripper.

It truly saddens me when black people like Earl Ofari Hutchinson write columns that suggest blacks overplay the race card in cases like these. As he put it: "The McKinney Duke episodes were comic public distractions that momentarily took the eyes off the public of that fight (discrimination and poverty). And that's the ultimate danger in overplaying the race card, and worse, keeping silent when it happens."

Huh? If someone doesn't respect my mother, sister, aunt, cousin, girlfriend as a woman, as a human being, then the other fights don't matter. I agree we have a role in how we are perceived in this culture, but accusing anyone of playing the race card in this case is plain ignorant. If the race card is being played in this instance, it is because most issues in this country involving blacks and whites are about race.

Paul Hailey can be reached at editor@MonTheGazette.com

The Immigrant Protests – Refusing To Be Ignored

By: Anthony Asadullah Samad
The massive nationwide protests surrounding the impending immigration bills in Congress have been an impressive demonstration of how to bring attention to one's issue. While most are caught in how African Americans land on the issue, I'm more caught up in how the Latino community, on every level, have crystallized this issue in a way that has members of Congress responding to them on all fronts, Democrats and Republicans, trying to find a compromise on the issue.

At the end of the day, any compromise proposal will have an amnesty component (those who are here ain't goin' nowhere) and a guest worker component for those comin' in the future (before they put the fence up). When is the last time African Americans got Congress to respond to them on anything? The 1965 Civil Rights Act? (The 1968 Fair Housing Act was passed in response to the King assassination after languishing in Congress for two years). The 1983 King Holiday Bill? And when is the last time Black America got Republicans to respond to them on anything? Reconstruction (the 1875 Civil Rights Act)?

My point is, while we're all watching this piece play out and trying to figure out how it is going to impact us (which I really don't think it is), we're missing the point of how coordinated and mobilized the strategy is. The immigrant community and its coalition (labor, students, small business and activists) simply refused to be ignored on this issue. There's something to be said for refusing to be ignored. Sometimes, you have to take things into your own hands—making it happen.

African Americans have damn

near become invisible on America's policy agenda. The Congressional Black Caucus tried to re-introduce poverty eradication as a policy priority after Hurricane Katrina. Not a peep out of Congress, and Republicans just ignored them while talking heads (public affairs commentators and opinion leaders) blasted them. And black America, who was so offended by the racial implications of the federal government's emergency response, has gone back to sleep. The one issue that will impact the black community more than any other in the 21st Century, class politics, continues to be ignored by the nation's policymaking largely because we allow it. The other issue that continues to be ignored is reparations. They ignore reparations because we allow them to ignore reparations. Since January of 1989, when Congressman John Conyers first introduced HR 40: Commission to Study Reparation Proposals For African Americans, this issue has been one the black community has said it wants to address. Now here is a bill that has 34 co-sponsors (not all Black, and has had as many as 65 co-sponsors) but has no political will to move forward because we haven't created it. Congress hasn't done anything to make Congress, so every time Conyers introduces it—it gets referred to the Sun-Committee on the Constitution (whatever that is) and it sits until the session is over. Conyers last introduced it at the beginning of the current session (109th Congress) in January, 2005, where it will continue to sit until the session expires, or we do something about it. Imagine 30 million (or even three million) black people taking to the streets, walking out

of these dysfunctional schools, creating havoc on the system until Congress moves on HR 40 forward to the House Floor. The bill would be ignored no longer and reparations would finally be on the nation's policy agenda. Watching immigration, probably America's most controversial policy proposal, move to the head of the policy agenda let you know that Congress, the President and everybody else is taking the immigrant protest activity seriously. Yet, who's taking black folks seriously? Moreover, why should they take us seriously?

Nobody takes anybody seriously who allows themselves to be easily dismissed. And anyone who can be ignored, will be ignored if you allow folks to ignore you. I've never been one to be dismissed, or ignored. It's a lesson we should teach ourselves and our children. There's a couple of old sayings, "The squeaky wheel gets the grease," and "the closed mouth never gets fed." I'd like to add a third one. "The ignored person is easily dismissed and quickly becomes irrelevant."

The black community could learn something from our fellow Latino brothers and sisters. The most important thing is how we can "refuse to be ignored." It's something I subscribe to. We should never allow ourselves to be dismissed by anybody. We'll never get ahead if we do.

Anthony Asadullah Samad is a national columnist, managing director of the Urban Issues Forum (www.urbanissuesforum.com) and author of 50 Years After Brown: The State of Black Equality In America. He can be reached at www.AnthonySamad.com

The Problem With Scholar's Simple Welfare 'Solution'

By: Clarence Page
Charles Murray, who is the sort of big-thinking, think-tank scholar that Washington's power elite listens to, has a new plan to reduce poverty, encourage work, fortify marriages, insure the uninsured, "replace the welfare state" and save money in the long run.

Unfortunately, his elegantly crafted and richly researched proposal, published by the conservative American Enterprise Institute as In Our Hands: A Plan to Replace the Welfare State, ultimately reminds me of H. L. Mencken's observation: "For every complex problem, there is a solution that is simple, neat and wrong."

In short, one headline called Mr. Murray's plan "The \$10,000 solution." He proposes to replace almost every federal social program - Social Security, Medicare, Medicaid, the earned income tax credit and the rest - with a \$10,000 annual cash grant to every American over 21 and not in prison. Those of us who make more than \$25,000 would have the \$10,000 reduced to \$5,000, but every adult not in prison would be included.

It's an attractive idea, if it worked, because Mr. Murray's plan would simplify the government's enormous menu of social spending in the way that the "flat tax," another conservative fantasy, would simplify the revenue-gathering process that gives us headaches every April 15.

If everybody received \$10,000 under Mr. Murray's plan, much of the money undoubtedly would wind up in the pockets of

lottery ticket vendors, liquor stores, neighborhood drug dealers and other temptations that help make some people poorer.

That's their problem, says Mr. Murray, a self-described libertarian who simply wants to "let people run their own lives." Let the magic of the marketplace, freed from government intrusion, create the incentives that will induce all but a negligible fraction of people to make good choices, he says.

One might ask whether Mr. Murray's free-market approach would put the brakes on health care inflation through competition, as he hopes. Or whether Americans really want to spend time arguing costs with health care insurers when government bureaucrats could do a better job of it.

Even some conservatives have misgivings. In a panel discussion at the American Enterprise Institute, the Heritage Foundation's Robert Rector, who helped author the 1996 welfare reform law, noted that Mr. Murray's plan would wipe away that law's most significant feature: its requirement that able-bodied recipients of government aid provide some minimal work in return, which deters dependency and dysfunctional behavior.

Mr. Murray shrugged off that critique. "I don't want a bureaucrat to deal with dysfunctional behavior," he said.

Nevertheless, I give Mr. Murray credit. Even when I disagree with him, he often breaks the ice, even when he doesn't break new ground. He raises prickly questions that some on

the right and left are too timid to raise in public, even when such questions deserve serious consideration and debate.

Thus, Losing Ground, his 1984 critique of welfare programs, fueled the Reagan-era debate that produced Bill Clinton's 1992 promise to "end welfare as we know it" and the stiff work requirements in the bipartisan welfare reform law of 1996. Combined with the decade's economic boom, welfare reform turned out to be a bigger success than even many of its supporters expected.

In 1994, Mr. Murray's incendiary best seller The Bell Curve, co-authored with Richard Herrnstein, tried to revive the widely discredited notion that differences in income might be determined at birth by inherited human differences. Other scholars shredded the book's almost willful shortchanging of the role played by differences in social environment. Yet, happily, the controversy led to new, long-overdue scholarly inquiry into the true reasons and possible remedies for differences in the academic performance of blacks, whites, Hispanics and Asians.

Similarly, his latest work will do a service if it stirs new efforts to replace cumbersome bureaucracy with something neater and simpler - but not wrong.

Clarence Page is a columnist for the Chicago Tribune. His column appears Tuesdays and Fridays in The Sun. His e-mail is cptime@aol.com.

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Is the sky clearest on the day it is most blue?

While you ponder that thought we would like to announce that Minority Opportunity News, Inc., formerly a Dallas based renaissance community tabloid, founded in 1991, has relocated to Plano, Texas and changed our name to MON-The Gazette. In addition to moving our offices to Plano, our editorial coverage has also shifted to encompass Dallas' Northern Corridor. The Northern Corridor is clearly the fastest growing region in Texas, if not in America. MON-The Gazette believes that the engine to continue this growth is the airport expansion in McKinney, which is the largest and most visible of many area opportunities. As always, and true to tradition, MON-The Gazette will be there carving a world of opportunity for those seeking to provide quality services. Should you dare to expand your quest for economic parity outside the southern region or just want to know what is going on up north-

Think of MON-The Gazette as your paper of opportunity!

MON-The Gazette formerly Minority Opportunity News, was founded July, 1991, by Jim Bochum and Thurman R. Jones



Survey: Women Of Color Could Be More Effective At Leading U.S.



While women are more confident than men that U.S. Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice would be an effective bridge builder among diverse cultures, only about a third of black women hold that opinion, according to a survey released Wednesday by Spelman College.

The historically black school's Center for Leadership and Civic Engagement commissioned the survey of more than 1,100 participants between 25 and 60 years of age from 25 major cities.

The survey, conducted by telephone, included 299 black women, 201 Hispanic women, 259 white women and 215 Asian women. More than 200 men were also surveyed.

The poll inquired about women of color in leadership positions. Nine out of 10 people questioned said they were confident a woman of color could perform as well as or better than a man or white woman as president of the United States.

More than half the respon-

dents surveyed, 54 percent, said building bridges could assist with economic issues, but only a third felt diplomacy could affect the war on Iraq.

Black women were most likely to subscribe to this opinion - with more than two-thirds sharing this belief - but did not believe that woman to be Rice. Only 35 percent believed she could be more effective as a global bridge builder, compared to half of Asian women surveyed.

Center for Leadership and Civic Engagement Executive Director Jane Smith said she believes the difference in opinion is cultural.

"One of the things about Secretary Rice that all people respect is her sense of discipline and her sense of pride in work," Smith said. "That is a cultural value in the Asian community: being prepared, being disciplined. I think they see a woman who reflects a value system."

While black women may also

identify with these positive traits, Rice's ideology may make them hesitant about her leadership abilities. Because of the black community's large identification with liberal thought, Smith said, differences - real or perceived - on issues related to economics, the war and welfare in general may be factors in the low numbers.

"A significant number might say, 'I'm so proud of that sister, but I wouldn't elect her to anything,'" Smith said.

Newspaper Diversity Numbers Show Industry Is Going Backwards; NABJ Frustrated Over Lack Of Results

Once again, the U.S. newspaper industry has earned a failing grade when it comes to hiring and retaining black journalists and other journalists of color, and continues to come up short on its own goal of newsroom parity, a look at the recent nationwide newsroom census shows.

While the rate of growth of minorities in America has increased, the rate of change of journalists of color in U.S. newsrooms is slowing down, according to the annual survey released by the American Society of Newspaper Editors. More newspapers than ever employ no journalists of color and those who do are falling even further behind the rapid changes in the diversity of the U.S. population.

The National Association of Black Journalists views the numbers with frustration, worried that the top newspaper editors across

the country "can't seem to match their intentions and platitudes celebrating a diverse workforce with results that fundamentally move the needle."

"At the rate we're going - less than a 1/2 percentage point gain each year - newspapers don't have a chance at reaching their parity goals for at least 40 years," said Bryan Monroe, NABJ president and assistant vice president for news at Knight Ridder. "Despite the words of American newspaper editors, the deeds are just not measuring up."

ASNE had originally set a goal of parity - a newsroom workforce that matches the makeup of America - by 2000. It has since revised that goal, moving the target year to 2025. However, at the current rate of change, the goal of parity nationwide won't be reached until at least 2050, long after most current editors have

retired or died.

Nationwide, in 2006 newspapers employed only 65 more black newsroom professionals - reporters, copy editors, photographers and editors - than they did in 2005. Overall, the percentage of journalists of color working in newsrooms barely changed, moving from 13.42 percent to 13.87 percent.

For instance, in Florida, the South Florida Sun Sentinel has delivered remarkable change over the past few years, showing a dramatic increase in newsroom diversity from 14.9 percent in 1998 to 29 percent in 2006. Meanwhile, The Tampa Tribune, a similar sized paper on the other side of the state, showed barely any change, going from 8.2 percent in 1998 to 8.5 percent in 2006.

In California, the San Jose Mercury News has consistently delivered on a commitment to a

diverse workforce, growing their minority workforce from 25.8 percent in 1998 to 32.7 percent in 2006. During the same period, however, the San Francisco Chronicle, barely 50 miles north with similar demographics, actually went backwards in its newsroom workforce of color, dropping from 20.7 percent in 1998 to 15.2 percent in 2006.

"At the end of the day, it comes down to leadership," said Ernie Suggs, NABJ vice president for print and a reporter at the Atlanta Journal-Constitution. "We can't understand that where one paper can change, others are stuck in the mud. I guess some folks talk, others deliver results."

NABJ will consider these and other issues of newsroom diversity at its 31st Annual Convention and Career Fair, Aug. 16-20 in Indianapolis. For more information go to <http://www.nabj.org>.

Race Activists Finally Pardoned

Alabama has voted to pardon those who protested against race segregation, some 50 years after Rosa Parks refused to give up her bus seat to a white man.

Hundreds of people got arrested records in Alabama during the civil rights struggle galvanized by Ms Parks' act of defiance in Montgomery in 1955.

The "Rosa Parks Act" lets survivors or relatives purge their records of crimes related to opposing racial segregation.

Alabama's governor has 10 days to sign the bill, passed by state lawmakers.

Tribute to courage "It is long overdue," said Thad McClammy, a Democrat who sponsored the bill. "It will bring closure."

Some criticized the law saying the mostly African-American civil rights protesters com-

mited no crimes and needed no pardons.

But many of the protesters had criminal records that haunted them for years and kept them from some jobs.

When Rosa Parks died in October 2005, the nation paid tribute to her courage.

The body of the civil rights icon lay in honour in Montgomery and in Washington before being returned to Detroit, the city she made her home.



Denton Transit Page 1

The authority said last year that it plans to lease 10 to 15 buses that would seat 45 commuters each. The number of buses the agency leases will determine the frequency of departures.

The bus line will run until the DCTA builds its com-

muter train line from Denton to Carrollton, Doherty said. The DCTA hopes to have that train line in operation in five to 10 years. Passengers from the DCTA train line in Carrollton would then connect with a line in the works under the auspices of Dallas Area Rapid Transit to travel farther south.

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Take Charge Of Business At The Texas Business Conference In Dallas

The dynamics of today's fast-paced, ever-changing economy can sometimes make it a challenge for employers to keep up with laws affecting their workers and businesses. That's why the Texas Workforce Commission (TWC) is inviting Dallas-area business owners and managers to the Texas Business Conference (TBC) on Friday, April 28.

Employers will learn how to avoid costly pitfalls when operating a business and learn techniques to more effectively manage employees. TWC Commissioner Representing Employers Ron Lehman and his staff will present practical, up-to-date information and preview new high-tech tools for finding workers.

Agency attorneys and staff will discuss employee handbooks, hiring and retention, firing, workplace investigations, Unemployment Insurance (UI), UI tax credits, wage and hour laws, workers' compensation and more. Participants will receive an invaluable TBC handbook, including the latest edition of the popular publication *Especially for Texas Employers*. The conference also offers general professional credit, as well as six hours of continuing education for participating certified public accountants.

The TBC will be held at the Dallas Convention Center, Ballroom C-Level 2, 650 S. Griffin St., Dallas, from 8:30 a.m. to 4:05 p.m.

"All employers are encour-

aged to attend the conference and familiarize themselves with the laws that affect them and their workers," said Lehman. "While we mailed invitations to employers, anyone who has not received one is welcome to attend."

For more information, visit <http://www.texasworkforce.org/twcinfo/tbcforms/tbcfaq.html> or call (512) 463-6389.

The Texas Workforce Commission is a state agency dedicated to helping Texas employers, workers and communities prosper economically. For details on TWC and the services it offers in unison with its network of local workforce development boards, call (512) 463-8556 or visit www.texasworkforce.org.

Cingular Beefs Up Texas Network

Cingular Wireless says it will spend \$346 million this year to enhance its Texas network.

The company said \$190 million will be spent in North, East and West Texas, as well as the Panhandle. The remainder will be spent in the South Texas region.

Cingular's 2006 investment will bring nearly 130 new cell sites high speed data services,

portable and permanent generators and other enhancements to the network.

Last year, the company spent \$225 million to add 160 new cell sites in the northern part of Texas.

This year's network improvements will include the completion of the integration of the network assets of the former AT&T Wireless.

When the integration is com-

pleted, Cingular said it will have the impact of adding the equivalent of five years of network growth all by itself.

Cingular is a joint venture between San Antonio-based AT&T Inc. (NYSE: T) and Atlanta-based BellSouth Corp. (NYSE: BLS). It has the largest digital voice and data network in the nation and the largest mobile-to-mobile community of any national wireless carrier.

Texas Business Leaders Bullish On State

Business leaders throughout the state believe the Texas economy will outperform the national economy in the second quarter of 2006, according to the Business Leaders Confidence Index.

In addition, business leaders say the Texas economy is strong and has recovered fully from the setbacks and uncertainties associated with hurricanes Katrina and Rita.

"The slight uncertainty last quarter about the late 2005 weather crisis along the Gulf Coast has diminished and Texas business leaders are feeling upbeat about the future of the state's economy and where it is headed," says Dr. John Butler, director of the IC2 Institute at the University of Texas at Austin.

The overall Business Leaders Confidence Index currently stands at 65.4 points, up 3.3 points from last quarter. Leaders' confidence in the state economy rose 2.2 points, to 68.9, up from 66.7 points from the first quarter of the year. Participants' expectations for growth in the national economy increased one point, from 58.3 to 59.3 points.

The index measures how the state is performing relative to industry sales, profits, hiring plans and capital expenditures.

Panelists participating in the survey were most optimistic about sales during the second quarter, with a majority of those

polled expecting moderate to strong increases. However, profit expectations for the second quarter rose 4.4 points, to an index level of 66, the highest level since the second quarter of 2004.

The outlook for hiring and capital expenditures also remains strong for the second quarter. The hiring component index gained 4.3 points, to reach 64.5, an all-time high for the Business Leaders Confidence Index, while the capital expenditure component rose 3 points, to

64.5, which is close to its all-time high in the first quarter 2004.

"A large portion of the strong optimism associated with the state's economy relates to hiring," Butler says. "Texas' job growth of 2.5 percent in 2005 was the fastest in five years and the latest Dallas Federal Reserve Bank 2006 estimates of 2.5 percent to 2.9 percent suggest strong job growth for Texas. The job growth estimate for the U.S. as a whole is only 1.5 percent."

UNT Hails Increase In Jobs And Salaries For MBA Grads

Graduation is fast approaching for students of Master of Business Administration programs nationwide. The University of North Texas College of Business Administration is cheering news that this year's graduating MBA students will have more jobs available to them and higher salaries compared to the class of 2005.

UNT Business Dean Kathleen Cooper says, "MBA graduates from the University of North Texas are reaping the benefits of a strong national economy and robust growth

locally. With more new jobs being created, their options are considerably wider than a few years ago and their starting salaries are on the move as well."

A new study conducted by the Graduate Management Admissions Council shows that recruiters plan to hire 18 percent more MBA's this year compared to 2005. Finance and Marketing are the hottest job fields. Derrick D'Souza, associate dean for graduate programs in the College of Business Administration, says, "Our MBA and Master's programs in Finance are designed to prepare students for successful

careers in the corporate world. Our Marketing and Logistics program has a reputation for providing graduates with a strong, application-oriented foundation."

Recruiters who took part in the study say they're especially eager to find MBAs whose "soft" skills — such as leadership potential and communication expertise — are strong. Nearly four out of 10 recruiters place significant weight on soft skills when judging people they interview. "Our 10-year old Professional Leadership Program (PLP) was designed to meet such a need," D'Souza says. "It takes students from a backpack to a

briefcase with poise and polish," and has established a reputation for delivering on its promise. PLP and is open to all students and allows self-starters and self-motivators something that sets them apart from other job-seeking graduates."

UNT has 50 master's degree candidates scheduled to graduate in ceremonies May 13. Thirty-three students will get an MBA, and 17 will receive other Master's degrees. Of the 33 people graduating with an MBA, 13 are majoring in finance, eight are majoring in accounting, and eight are in marketing.

New Tax On Business Page 1

ure, that would pay for smaller cuts in school taxes by simply using a portion of the budget surplus and not raising state taxes. The sponsor said it would meet the Texas Supreme Court's order for changes in the state's school finance system.

Several dozen amendments, many proposing special tax breaks for an assortment of industries, were offered to the business tax bill. Most were withdrawn or defeated, but one amendment, an accounting provision designed to soften the financial blow for current

payers of the franchise tax, could cost as much as \$40 million in tax collections in the first year.

Altogether, Speaker Tom Craddick said, amendments that were adopted cut \$58 million from the \$3.45 billion that the bill, as approved by the House Ways and Means Committee, would have raised for the governor's proposed property tax buy-down.

The bill would replace the loophole-ridden corporate franchise tax with an expanded tax applying to all corporations and limited liability partnerships with more than \$300,000 in annual revenue.

As such, it would bring many law firms and other professional service providers under the state business tax for the first time.

GOP lawmakers had been under heavy pressure from conservative, limited government groups not to enact new taxes to pay for a property tax cut. And many Democrats were opposed to the business tax because all of the revenue would be dedicated to property tax reductions, rather than providing a new funding source for education.

The House adopted 141-1 an amendment to prohibit companies from deducting the costs of hiring undocumented immi-

grants from their taxable income. The provision also would give the state comptroller the authority to enforce the restriction.

Rep. Rafael Anchia, D-Dallas, the amendment's sponsor and the son of immigrants, said he was attempting to crack down on the "thousands and thousands" of Texas businesses that hire illegal workers.

"Without a demand, there's really no supply," he said.

Perry's deeper, proposed cuts are dependent on passage of the business taxes and higher cigarette taxes, which would go up by \$1 a pack.

Mayoral Vote Split Page 1

cent. He finished second in black neighborhoods to Nagin and second in white neighborhoods to third-place finisher Ron Forman, bolstering his claims that he can help bring together diverse groups to help New Orleans emerge from the devastation left by Hurricane Katrina.

Landrieu said Sunday that the number of voters who chose candidates other than Nagin demonstrated that voters want change. "This city, this great city, calls for change," he said.

Nagin, a former cable television executive seeking his second term as mayor, said his overall win is an endorsement of his performance and his plans for the city's future.

"I just feel we're on the right track, and people have verified that to me," he said.

The numbers suggest it will be a serious challenge for Nagin to broaden his support in time for the May 20 runoff.

"His one shot is to get enough of the whites who liked him four years ago to like him again," said political analyst Elliott Stonecipher.

Those votes are all the more important because the city is whiter than it was before Katrina hit Aug. 29: Fewer than half the city's 455,000 residents have returned, most of those displaced are black. Only about 20,000 evacuees participated in Saturday's election by absentee ballot, fax and satellite stations, although an unknown number returned to the city to vote in person.

Nearly half of voters in predominantly white areas turned out, compared with about 30 percent of registered voters in black neighborhoods, which also tended to be the worst hit by flooding.

About 36 percent of the city's 297,000 eligible voters participated in Saturday's election, some traveling hundreds of miles to help decide who will lead one of the biggest urban reconstruction projects in U.S. history.

Nagin and Landrieu led a field of 22 candidates, which included a wide range of other choices, including business leaders, a lawyer and a minister. Yet voters, as they did in several other municipal races Saturday, chose two men already in the political

spotlight.

The large number of displaced residents made the election a tricky experiment in democracy. Campaigning went nationwide and civil rights activists questioned whether the balloting could be fair.

Voter turnout was significantly lower than the 46 percent who took part in the 2002 municipal primary, but it was such an unusual election that political observers said it was difficult to characterize whether turnout was better or worse than expected.

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UNT Dallas Campus To Hold Information Session For New Students

The University of North Texas Dallas Campus, located at 8915 S. Hampton Rd., will hold Bridge to Success: An Information Session for New Students from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. on April 29 (Saturday). The UNT Dallas staff will provide information regarding undergraduate admissions,

graduate admissions, financial aid and scholarships. The fair is also an opportunity for prospective students to speak with professors and recruitment staff to learn about undergraduate and masters degree programs.

Applications will be accepted during this event and everyone

who turns in a completed Texas Common Application and official college transcripts will receive a free T-shirt. Lunch and refreshments will be served.

For more information, contact the Recruitment and Outreach Office at (972) 780-3642 or by email at dallasrecruitment@unt.edu.

CBS 11 And The Texas Rangers Present "Weather School Day"

Wed., May 10 At Ameritrust Field In Arlington

The CBS 11 Storm Team will present a special pre-game weather lesson to area school children attending the May 10 Texas Rangers game at Ameritrust Field in Arlington.

The presentation will begin at 9:30 a.m. with a special appearance by the CBS 11 helicopter, Chopper 11, weather conditions permitting. CBS 11 Meteorologists Kristine Kahanek, Mike Burger, Jeff

Jamison and Charmaine Blanchard will then host a one-hour class, which will consist of:

Lessons on severe weather, including flooding, lightning and tornados, interactive weather trivia, experiments which focus on the cloud-making process, lightning and the force of high winds, a message on the importance of teamwork.

Admission to Weather School Day is free with the purchase of

a ticket to the May 10th Rangers game against the Minnesota Twins (1:05 p.m. first pitch).

Tickets have been discounted to half price for those attending Weather School Day. For additional information regarding educational components of the program or to purchase tickets, contact the Rangers Group Sales office by calling 817-273-5100, ext. 3, or by emailing groupickets@texastrangers.com.

Plano East Theatre Advances To State UIL One-Act Competition

Plano East Theatre, under the direction of Lisa Hale, advanced from the UIL One Act Play Regional Contest at Texas Tech on April 22 and will now be one of the "elite eight" at State.

This will be the second appearance in three years for Plano East at the state meet. The students will perform at the Bass Concert Hall on the

UT Austin campus on Saturday, May 6.

Students captured six individual medals and were named "Most Commendable Company" by the Texas Tech host crew.

Plano East theatre students:

Chris Villalobos
Ozi Akagha
Sarah King
Allan Kahn

Lindsay Coffin
Tatiana Hullender
Pierce Purselley
Thomas Magbee
Bethany Law
Colin Welch
T.J. Adams
David Quintero
Ruchie Fruitwala
Jessica Andrewartha
Brandt Gentry

Boot Camp Death Page 1

Hundreds of college students joined the Revs. Jesse Jackson and Al Sharpton for a march Friday on the Capitol to protest the death of a teenager after he had been repeatedly struck and kned at a juvenile boot camp in Panama City.

The protest came a day after the state's top law enforcement officer resigned amid criticism over the investigation and a joke that Gov. Jeb Bush called "inappropriate."

The Miami Herald reported that Guy Tunnell compared Sen. Barack Obama to al-Qaida leader Osama bin Laden and Jackson to the outlaw Jesse James at a meeting of department heads. The newspaper cited one unnamed source who was at the meeting and another who had spoken to a department head who was there.

Bush said he couldn't confirm details of the joke because he wasn't at the meeting.

"He made a joke that was inappropriate," Bush said. "He apologized to Lt. Gov. (Toni) Jennings. I don't know exactly what he said. It's important that the agency which is a critically important agency for people to have confidence, move forward. I thought it was appropriate to

move on."

Sharpton said the march was about the death of 14-year-old Martin Lee Anderson.

"We've come to Florida because a boy was killed not because somebody called us names," Sharpton said in response to Tunnell's reported comments.

College students held pictures of Anderson and his funeral casket and sang "justice delayed is justice denied" and "this is what democracy looks like."

Sharpton and Jackson held hands with his parents, Gina Jones and Robert Anderson, as they silently walked toward the Capitol. Jones cried when she saw the pictures.

Anderson died in January, a day after guards were videotaped beating, kicking and dragging him at the Panama City boot camp. A medical examiner ruled that the boy died of complications from sickle cell trait, a usually benign blood disorder.

Anderson's parents, the student protesters and the Legislature's black caucus dispute the findings and have called on Bush to revoke the examiner's license. The parents also are seeking the results of a second autopsy, their attorney said.

Tunnell, commissioner of the

state Department of Law Enforcement, started the Panama City boot camp when he was Bay County's sheriff. His agency was investigating the death until it was taken off the case by a special prosecutor appointed by Bush.

During the investigation, Tunnell had forwarded e-mails to the present sheriff that criticized those who questioned the effectiveness of the boot camp concept.

Bush said he did not ask Tunnell to step down.

"I think it was probably a cumulative thing, to be honest with you," Bush said. "The e-mail question as it related in the matter of this young child was inappropriate. He recognized that, and it put the agency in a difficult situation."

The students ended their sit-in Thursday night after Anderson's parents met with Bush for the first time since their son's death in January.

The parents have criticized the governor and state officials for what they say is a cover-up of the events leading to their son's death. They left Thursday's meeting saying they were satisfied at finally being able to express their grief to Bush.

"Hopefully justice will be served soon," Jones said.

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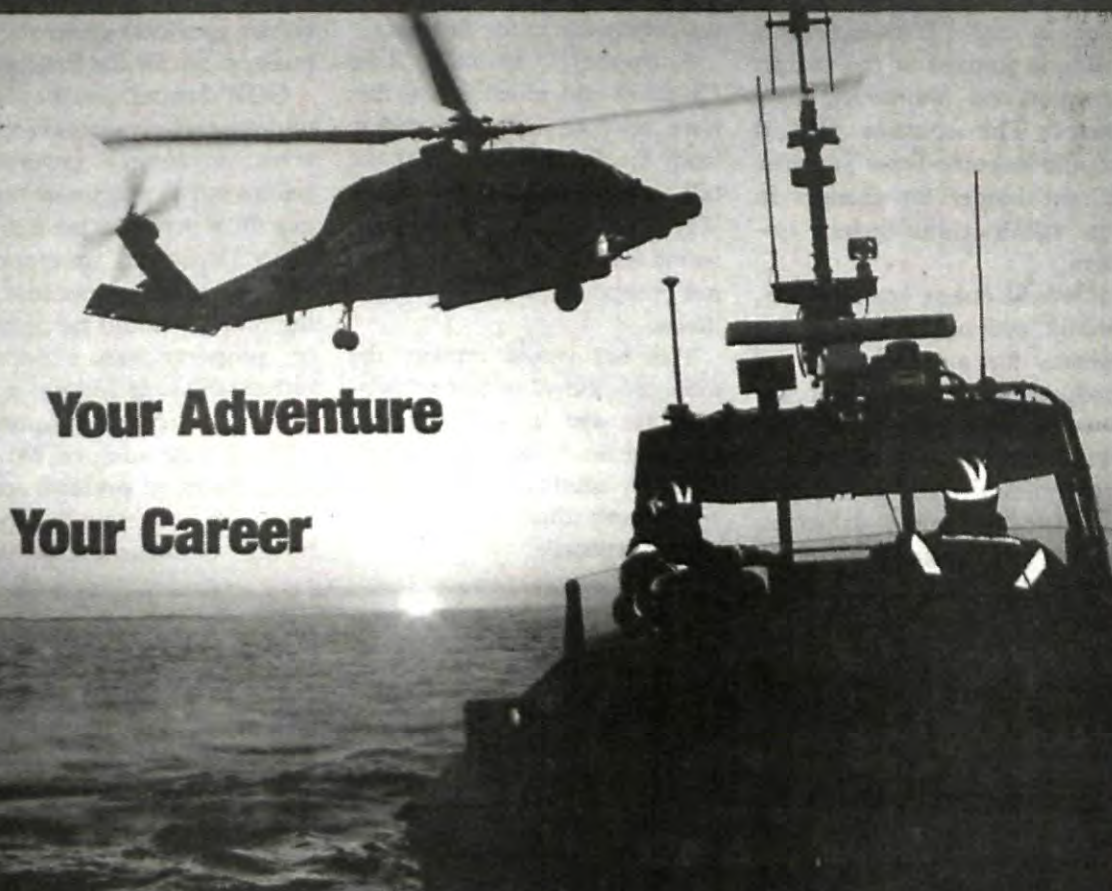
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Fishburne C-L-O-U-T Gets 'Bee' M-A-D-E

When Doug Atchison wrote the script for "Akeelah and the Bee," a touching story about a girl from a poor neighborhood going up against snobby kids from the suburbs in the National Spelling Bee, he knew he'd need to frame it in a certain way in order to sell it to Hollywood.

"I didn't say, 'This is going to be an inspirational drama about a young black girl.' I told people, 'Hey, this is going to be a kick-ass, thrilling sports movie like Rocky or Hoosiers,'" Atchison says about pitching "Akeelah," which opens in theaters on Friday. "Because that's what it is."

It was the same advice Atchison gave to a group of mostly minority high school kids who gathered to watch a special screening of the movie at Metreon in San Francisco earlier this month. Clearly inspired by the story of Akeelah, the students from East Palo Alto, Oakland and Hunters Point said they could relate to the film but weren't so sure how to get their friends interested in seeing it.

"Tell 'em it's a kick-ass sports movie," Atchison urged his crowd of young tastemakers. "And tell 'em the guy from 'The Matrix' is in it."

The guy from "The Matrix," otherwise known as Laurence Fishburne (don't call him Larry), is a big reason many will go see



"Akeelah and the Bee." And the actor who has made a career out of playing tough-guy roles is also one of the biggest reasons the film exists.

"The greatest challenge was just getting the movie made, because getting the financial backing needed for this kind of film is not easy," says Fishburne, who co-produced "Akeelah," and stars as the young girl's sort-of Jedi knight spelling coach. Like the "Karate Kid's" Mr. Miyagi, Fishburne's character spends countless hours training his spellbound apprentice in repetitive wax-on and wax-off word exercises.

With the security of Fishburne's star power, the filmmakers were given the freedom to stay true to the story of a little girl tackling big problems. Raised by an overworked single

mother left widowed after the murder of Akeelah's father, the child slowly trades her fears about what friends at her dilapidated school think of her for fears of what spelling bee opponents from the suburbs see in her.

"I wanted to do the role because it sounded real to me," says 12-year-old Keke Palmer, who plays Akeelah, during a day of interviews at the Four Seasons hotel in San Francisco. "It sounded like a real kid coming from a real neighborhood."

Along with the clout provided by Fishburne's name, financial help in getting the film made was provided by the Starbucks Corp. And while you'll probably be seeing tons of "Akeelah and the Bee" word-of-the-day coasters and cup holders at your local Starbucks, it doesn't mean you'll see any tacky product placement of kids slurping down grande triple mochas in the film.

"I was in Starbucks just the other day, and I saw the word 'elucubrate' (on a coaster)," says Palmer, who was definitely acting in the movie when spelling words like "prestidigitation" without flinching. "I was like elucubrate: e-l-u-c-u-b-r-a-t-e. And then I thought to myself, 'Wow, I can't believe I know how to spell that.'"

Stacie J from "The Apprentice" Launches Jewelry & Accessory Line With Icing By Claire's In Stores Spring 2006

Stacie J announces the launch of her very own jewelry and accessory line at Icing by Claire's stores nationwide.



The exclusive line is slated to be in 200 stores by May 2006. Inspired by Stacie J's eclectic

New York style, the line encompasses a variety of styles: casual, tailored, classic, dressy and sophisticated. The line will include an array of chic and stylish rings, belly chains, necklaces, earrings, bracelets, sunglasses, handbags and belts made from several materials such as shell, crystals and metallics. Stacie's favorite color, canary, is prominent along with rose, gold and silver. The line, with prices ranging from \$7.50 to \$30.00 is hip, funky, edgy and fun. "I wanted something

that reflected my style," said Stacie J. "I love accessories. A wardrobe isn't complete without them."

Gracing the covers of magazines to walking the runways of top designers, Stacie J is always at the forefront of apparel and jewelry fashion. You may know her best from her competitive days on "The Apprentice"; however, Stacie just wrapped production on her upcoming web cast series, "Style and the City." For more info on, Stacie J visit www.staciej.com

Black Eyed Peas Plan Benefit Concert In South Africa

The Black Eyed Peas, inspired by a 2004 trip to South Africa, will headline a benefit concert next month in Johannesburg to raise awareness for their charity foundation in the region.

The Grammy-winning hip-hop group announced Monday it will perform alongside South African artists and dancers on May 28 at Johannesburg Stadium. It is the first major event for the Peapod Foundation, formed by the group in association with the Entertainment Industry Foundation.

"Two years ago we played to commemorate 10 Years of

Freedom in South Africa and I made a promise that we would return to give a free show for the people who may never have the chance to get down and celebrate with the Black Eyed Peas, in the true spirit of the Peapod," group member will.i.am said in a statement Monday.

The Black Eyed Peas are photographed on the roof of Sony Studios in New York on May 2, 2005. They are from left to right; will.i.am, Taboo, Fergie, foreground,

and apl.de.ap. The group will headline a benefit concert next month in Johannesburg, South Africa, to raise awareness for their charity foundation's work in the region, it was announced Monday, April 24, 2006.



Comedy Central Moves Forward With 'Chappelle'

Looks like Comedy Central is making good on its promise to air a third season of "Chappelle's Show" featuring new, unseen sketches that host Dave Chappelle left behind in his sudden departure last year.

According to the New York Post, an invitation-only audi-

ence was on hand as the network staged four tapings of the wraparounds — the monologues used to introduce each sketch — for the show's pieced-together third season due to premiere in July.

On the other hand, audience member Sheldon Sampson of Brooklyn told the Post: "It was all hysterical. I would say they were just as good as anything from the other seasons, even the controversial stuff."

Comedy Central says it actually has enough material to produce four new episodes, but at this point, is only planning three shows. The network believes each new episode will be a ratings winner.

"We wouldn't be putting this stuff on the air if we didn't

believe in it," says Lou Wallach, the network's executive in charge of original programming. "The stakes with this material are just too high."

The wraparounds, filmed at Sony BMG's midtown studios, were performed by the show's co-creator, Neal Brennan, and cast members Charlie Murphy and Donnell Rawlings. Among the new sketches is a parody of MTV's "Cribs," which features a wealthy Chappelle making an omelet using 4 million-year-old dinosaur eggs and sprinkling diamonds on his food instead of salt.

The controversial final sketch Chappelle filmed before walking away will also be included, according to the Post.

Heather Headley And Van Hunt Help Anthony Hamilton Change The World This Spring

When Heather Headley signed on to join Van Hunt and Anthony Hamilton on the "Change Your World" tour, she knew she faced an interesting challenge. The Trinidadian beauty had plenty of stage experience during her successful Broadway run in Aida and had one album under her belt, but this tour would mark the first time she'd actually take her show on the road. "I'm a bit nervous," Headley tells BET.com. "I'm curious to see how going from city to city will affect me. On Broadway, sure, we perform everyday, but it's in one place. That's different from traveling every day."

Although she's currently promoting her album, In My Mind, Headley opted not to tour when her debut album was released. "I did a few dates here and there. We felt it'd be better to wait until I had a catalog of songs to perform on stage. With only one album, I felt that I didn't have enough material to tour with."

Judging by critics' reaction to her stage show so far, Heather's

patience seems to be holding her own. One critic for the Richmond Times-Dispatch said she "sounded just like her compact disc...the Trinidad native is a bona fide singer." However, even with such glowing reviews pouring in about her, Heather reveals that she never puts too much weight in what others say about her. In fact, she chooses not to read the reviews and comments at all. "If you read the good things, then you'd have to read the bad things so I just don't read them at all. If I did, it'd drive me crazy."

Her tour mate, Van Hunt, has a similar take on reading what the media has to say about his music. "Nobody's gonna tell me anything except the good stuff. I haven't heard anything negative and I don't really want to, to be honest," he admits, referring to reviews of his recently released sophomore album, On the Jungle Floor. Fans seem to like the work he's done; the album debuted at No. 1 on Billboard's Heatseekers Chart.

For those that haven't copped the new album yet, Hunt is hopeful that he'll draw some new fans when he opens for Heather and Anthony on the tour, which kicked off in Richmond, Va. on April 6. He



even admits that he crafts his music with his live performances in mind. "The thing that excites me about recording new music is trying to get each song to the point where it excites me to perform it live."

Be sure to check out Van Hunt, Heather Headley and Anthony Hamilton when they come to your city. For tour dates, visit www.ticketmaster.com

Rappers Urge Financial Responsibility

LL Cool J is urging fans to be financially responsible.

The platinum-selling rap star spoke over the weekend at the Hip Hop Summit on Financial Empowerment.

The event, organized by multi-millionaire entrepreneur Russell Simmons, mixed stars like LL Cool J, Alicia Keys, Nas and T.I. with financial experts to provide advice on home ownership, budgets, credit cards and other financial issues.

"The biggest misconception



Nas

probably comes from the hip-hop community itself... that the

money lasts forever," LL Cool J said on Saturday. "You have to do the right thing with it."

Fellow chart-topping rapper Nas said it was important to teach young fans about financial responsibility.

"It's time that we do something to educate our kids," he said. "We've got to think about our future, think about tomorrow. It's beyond the corner, it's beyond the jails. We've got to think about growing old in this game."

Tyler Perry Now Best-Selling Author



First book will debut atop The New York Times' nonfiction best-seller list

Tyler Perry — playwright, producer and performer — may be the unlikely heir to Howard Stern's self-proclaimed throne of "king of all media."

Perry's first book, "Don't Make a Black Woman Take Off Her Earrings: Madea's Uninhibited Commentaries on Love and Life," will debut atop The New York Times' nonfiction best-seller list, it was announced Thursday.

In late February, Perry's movie "Madea's Family Reunion," reigned at the box-office, opening at No. 1 and raking in over \$30 million. It went on to make over \$62 million domestically despite mixed reviews. His previous film, "Diary of a Mad Black Woman,"

also performed well at the box office.

The 36-year-old Perry built his fame touring plays in which he also starred. No matter his medium, Perry's staple character has been the wisecracking, gun-totting grandmother, Madea Simmons.

In the book, which Riverhead Books released in hardcover on April 11, Perry writes in the voice of Madea, sharing observations and advice. It will appear on the April 30 New York Times list of best sellers, the publisher said.

"I'm really happy for the loyalty and continued support of my fans," Perry said in a statement.

Flavor Flav Says 'Yeah Boyeee!' As VH1 Picks Up A Second Season Of Flavor Of Love

VH1's smash hit "Flavor of Love" is coming back for a second season, it was announced today. The network has picked up ten one-hour episodes of the Mindless Entertainment/51 Pictures "celebrity" series. The second season will begin production in Los Angeles next month.

The show is currently searching

for those special women who really want to be Flav's beloved in season two. After Flav and Hoopz (the finalist) realized that their relationship would not work out, Flavor Flav became more determined to find love, leading to a second season of the show that had everyone talking.

"After spending so much time with Flavor Flav on 'Surreal Life' and 'Flavor of Love,' we shared his

frustration at not having found love," said executive producers Mark Cronin and Cris Abrego. "Thankfully, the success of the first season and Flav's popularity enables us to have a second chance at finding him the right woman."

During its first season, "Flavor of Love" was the highest rated series in VH1 history, with three of its ten episodes making VH1's top ten rated commercial telecasts of all time. For its 90-minute season finale, "Flavor of Love" again made VH1 history by becoming the network's top rated telecast of all times (adults 18-49 rating of 3.51).



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"After spending so much time with Flavor Flav on 'Surreal Life' and 'Flavor of Love,' we shared his



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Waco Confronts Its Lynch-Mob Past

Central Texas city scene of 1916 killing.

By Sylvia Moreno

Two memorials stand on the site of one of the most notorious incidents in the history of Waco. One commemorates the 114 lives lost in the tornado of 1953; the other, the 1897 shootout between a newspaper editor and a local judge who offended the journalist's Baptist sensibilities.

But Heritage Square, as the downtown plaza is known, is also where 17-year-old Jesse Washington was tortured and lynched on May 15, 1916. The act of mob violence was so gruesome that it was dubbed the "Waco Horror" in Texas newspapers. National and European periodicals noted the event of a black farmhand dragged through city streets, mutilated, burned alive and lynched outside City Hall before the mayor, the police chief and 15,000 cheering townspeople.

Ninety years later, despite some opposition, a group of Waco residents and the city's white business establishment have decided it is time to make amends not only for Washington's lynching but also for "the history of mob violence in Central Texas."

"The practice of lynching profoundly dehumanized not only victims of lynching, but also its perpetrators and acquiescent bystanders," reads a resolution adopted this week by the city's Lynching Issue Task Force. "Whereas by healing the wounds of our shameful legacy through acknowledgment and apology, Waco and McLennan County can end our documented history of silence," it continues, in part.

A city of 125,000 whose neighbor to the west is President Bush's ranch in Crawford, Waco has a current population that is half white and about a quarter black. It now joins communities across the United States that are confronting traumatic racial histories. With legacies of lynchings, deadly race riots or killings of civil rights workers gone unpunished, these cities are trying to comprehend and assuage the lingering impact of such violence.

lence. "This is something that's hung over my family for years," said Nona Baker, the 60-year-old



Waco's Heritage Square Plaza

great-niece of Sank Majors, a 20-year-old black man who was hanged by a white lynch mob from one of Waco's bridges in 1905. "I would like to have had a little memorial service down at that bridge and maybe a plaque. But most of all, I would like an apology."

The lynching of Washington is one of 500 recorded in Texas from 1880 to 1930, a period with almost 4,700 lynchings nationwide. The Washington case began with the murder of Lucy Fryer, a white woman living with her farmer husband in Robinson, a small community on Waco's southern edge. She was found bludgeoned and Washington, who worked the Fryers' cotton farm, allegedly confessed to the killing. Illiterate and believed to be mentally retarded, the 17-year-old signed a confession with an X and led authorities to the presumed weapon, a blacksmith's hammer.

To stave off an angry mob that gathered when the teenager was arrested, authorities promised a quick resolution to the case. Washington was indicted in 30 minutes. Four days later, he received an hour-long trial in the McLennan County Courthouse. The jury deliberated four minutes and found him guilty of murder.

Just as the judge was to pronounce a death sentence, about 1,500 angry spectators jamming the courtroom pounced on Washington. They dragged him outside, where the crowd ripped off his clothes, pulled him through the streets and delivered him to a big tree outside City Hall. He was hanged by a chain, mutilated, doused with coal oil and lowered several times into a caldron of flames as

the police chief and mayor watched from the third floor of City Hall. Thousands of white men -- reportedly half the city's population of 30,000 -- cheered.

The event was well documented in print and photographs, including by W.E.B. DuBois in a special July 1916 supplement to the Crisis, an NAACP magazine. That article and the subsequent crusade by the NAACP led to the passage of federal anti-lynching legislation.

"If we had to make a halfhearted apology and not really, truly mean it, that wouldn't mean anything to me,"

said County Commissioner Ray Meadows, who is white. "Quite honestly, it'd be hard for me to do that, not having had a hand in it or knowing anything about it. And what is that saying to [the Fryer] family? That it was okay to rape and murder that lady?"

The Lynching Issue Task Force will present the resolution adopted this week to Waco's mayor and City Council and to the McLennan County Commission next month and ask each official to sign it. On May 15, 90 years to the day Washington was dragged to his death, task force members will read the resolution on the courthouse steps.

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fax to 972-881-1646, leave message at 972-606-3891.

Prairie View Alumni Help Hurricane Evacuees



(L to R): Alumni Club members with care packages for local evacuees: James Atkins, George Standley, Shirley Demus Tarpley, Ernest Burke, Netra Heath, and Walter Gerard. Not shown is Bill Heath, President of NDDC.



Gwen Barrett Jackson, Shirley Demus Tarpley, James Atkins, and Walter Gerard filling care packages for evacuees.

In addition to raising funds for mentoring high school students and awarding scholarships to graduating seniors that will attend Prairie View A & M University, the Northern Dallas, Denton, & Collin Counties Alumni Chapter of

Prairie View A & M University also reached out hurricane evacuees. The Alumni Chapter presented care packages which included personal grooming items to evacuees living at the Forest Green Manor, 9730 Shepherd Road, Dallas.

Church News



Sister Tarpley

Pastor Derrick, Sr. & First Lady Diane Bowman will be honored by their church members, family and friends for a job well done at the conclusion of their 4th Annual Pastor's & Wife's Appreciation Services this Sunday, April 30th. The theme: Chosen, Equipped & Committed.

The Anniversary Committee reported that Pastors Dr. Gregory Foster and Rev. Anthony Foster, Pastors of First Baptist Church of Hamilton Park, welcomed the Holy Spirit in opening the service last weekend, and said that God will continue to bless the Anniversary with anointed preaching and spirit-filled worship with guest pastors, Pastor Larry D. Pruitt, Christian Faith Baptist Church in Ft. Worth; Pastor J. E. Curtis, New Jerusalem Baptist Church in Tyler; and Pastor E.A. Anderson, Mt. Zion Baptist Church in Fairfield along with their congregations.

Pastor Bowman accepted Christ at an early age and surrendered to the call of preaching the gospel of Jesus Christ at the age of 18. He started his ministry in 1979 at the Peoples' MBC under the leadership of the late Dr./Rev. S. M. Wright, Sr. With prayer and guidance, he moved his membership to First Baptist Church of Hamilton Park (FBCHP) in Dallas, at the time, under the leadership of the late Dr./Rev. J.

Servants To The People Of God

Lee Foster.

During his many years of service at FBCHP, Pastor Bowman's ministry began to grow in the direction that God had ordained for him. He served as Youth Pastor, ministering to the needs of young people and their families; Pastor Bowman was also an instructor in Christian Education, having served as Director of Inreach/Outreach, and he was a Ministerial Advisor.



Picture of The Week
Pastor Derrick & First Lady Diane Bowman, Sr. from Faithway Fellowship Baptist Church in Hamilton Park, celebrating four great years of Ministry.

In 1994 he was called to serve as Pastor of the Resurrection Community Baptist Church where he served until God gave him the vision for Faithway Fellowship Baptist Church that was organized in August 2002. It is now located in Hamilton Park, where he grew up and attended school. As Pastor of Faithway, his continued efforts are evangelizing and kingdom building for God; and to be of ministerial service to God's people.

Pastor Bowman has a 1992 Certificate of Theology from Southern Bible Institute. He serves on the Advisory Board of the Fruitdale Community in Dallas. He is a graduate of Criswell Bible College; Treasurer of African

American Pastors Fellowship (Dallas Baptist Association) and is an Oak Cliff Network Board Member. He and First Lady Diane are the proud parents of four children: Jeremy, Derrick II, Nikiria, and Britney.

ONLY WAIT! For the vision is yet for an appointed time... wait for it; because it will surely come, it will not tarry. (Habakkuk 2:3)

Chinese bamboo is famous for its fast growth. Yet a farmer can water and fertilize a plant for four years but see very little growth. Then in a period of five weeks a sprout can grow 90 feet! Actually it takes five years for the plant to grow 90 feet. If during the first four years the worker were to stop taking care of the sprout, the plant would die. Instead, after years of hard work with almost no visible results, the farmer receives a reward for being persistent.

We receive God's promises through perseverance. Sometimes our situation even gets worse, and we are tempted to give up. At these times, count your blessings and be reminded that God is faithful... (Hebrew 11:6) God's power is at work in our lives even when we cannot see it.— The Upper Room

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Office: 972-516-4191
Voice Mail: 972-606-3878
Fax: 972-516-4197

Let **MON-The Gazette** help your church accomplish the Prayer of Jabez, "Enlarge our territory to expand opportunities that may impact in such a way that we touch more lives for God's glory. Let us do more for Him."

Texas Gas Prices Page 1

he said. "Within 3-4 weeks, refineries completing their transition should be at full production, and as many as 1 million additional barrels of gasoline per day will enter the nation's supply stream and prices should decline."

Here's a look at the latest gas

prices from AAA Texas:

- The nationwide average is \$2.86 per gallon. We are inching toward \$3 a gallon
- Here, in Dallas, it's even higher at \$2.92 a gallon
- Last year at this time we were paying \$2.15.
- So what does that mean to Dallas-area drivers?

• Last year: we paid about \$32 to fill a 15 gallon tank

• Today: the price to fill a 15 gallon tank has skyrocketed to about \$43.

• One year ago: if you filled up four times, gas costs probably took \$129 out of your monthly budget.

• This year: it will cost you up to \$175 for the same four tank-fills.

Church Happenings

AHMADIYYA MUSLIM COMMUNITY DALLAS

May 6, 5:00 pm - 7:00 pm

We invite you, your family and friends to "Jalsa Seerat-un-Nabi (saw), a conference on the life of Prophet, Hadhrat Muhammad (saw)", and an Exhibition about Islam (an introduction to the basis of Islam and its followers.) Refreshments will be provided.

For more information, please contact Mosque @ 972-727-1522; Akram Chaudhry @ 972-929-4444; Mansoor Malik @ 972-680-0686; or Abdul Latif @ 972-390-7877

Ahmadiyya Muslim Association
Abdul Latif, Event Coordinator
1850 Hedgecove Road
Allen, TX 75013
972-727-1522

ALL NATIONS UMC, PLANO

May 6, 12:00 pm - 4:00 pm

Cinco de Mayo Celebration with family fun, food and music. There will be church-related and helpful community information, a bounce-house for kids and other activities. Boy Scouts will make a presentation.

Project Transformation registration is underway; an affordable Summer Day Camp that provides lower-income families with a quality program that helps kids with reading. Snacks and lunch are provided. The fee is just \$5.00 for the entire session from June 5th to July 26th.

For more information call 972-424-8500

All Nations UMC, Plano
Dr. Clara M. Reed, Senior Pastor
3415 East 14th Street
Plano, TX 75074
972-424-8500

BETHANY MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH

April 30, 10:00 am & 3:30 pm

Annual Women's Day with guests, Dr. Beverly Mitchell-Brooks, President and CEO, Dallas Urban League and Rev. Lelious Johnson, Senior Pastor of St. Paul Baptist Church in Dallas. Theme: "Prayerful Women Build Women," Ephesians 4:11-15

For additional information call 214-352-3552.

Bethany Missionary Baptist Church
Rev. Albert K. Haynes, Senior Pastor
6710 Webster Street
Dallas, TX 75209
214-352-3552

FAITH & POWER MINISTRIES

May 1-5, 7:30 pm

Life Changers Fellowship Conference 2006, theme: "A Change is Coming" with speaker Tim Lynch

May 6, 2006

The conclusion of Life Changers Fellowship Conference 2006 with a banquet at Paul Quinn College in the Isabel and Comer Cottrell Grand Lounge, 3837 Simpson Stuart Road in Dallas.

For more information and direction to the church or Paul Quinn College, call 214-664-9201.

Faith & Power Ministries,
Apostle James Turknett, Pastor
2120 N. St. Augustine Road, #126
Dallas, TX 75227
972-329-1358

FAITHWAY FELLOWSHIP BAPTIST CHURCH OF HAMILTON PARK

This Sunday, April 30, 4:00 pm

Please join us in honoring Pastor Derrick & First Lady Diane Bowman, Sr. @ their 4th Annual Pastor's and wife's Anniversary Service. Our theme: Chosen, Equipped & Committed.

Guest speakers: Pastor Larry D. Pruitt from Christian Faith Baptist Church in Ft. Worth; Pastor J. E. Curtis from New Jerusalem Baptist Church in Tyler; and Pastor E.A. Anderson from Mt. Zion Baptist Church in Fairfield and their congregations. For additional information, please call 972-792-0239 or 972-792-0240.

Faithway Fellowship Baptist Church Of Hamilton Park
Rev. Derrick Bowman, Sr.
Senior Pastor
8219 Bunche Drive
Dallas, TX 75243
972-792-0239

FELLOWSHIP OF BELIEVERS MINISTRIES (FORCC)

May 5-6, 2006

FOBCC and Waxahachie Bible Church (WBC) presents, "Waxahachie Youth Crusade" @ 621 N. Grand Avenue, Waxahachie, TX, Rev. Bruce Zimmerman, Pastor, the theme: "Passing The Mantle To The Next Generation." Friday at 7 pm and Saturday, 1 pm to 4 pm. After prayer in the parking lot of WBC there will be games, entertainment, and a pie eating contest. Saturday night @ 7 pm, Bishop Crawford will be the speaker.

Singers and musicians will perform each night. Vendors are welcome.

May 7, 3:30 pm
Bishop Crawford will host "50 Men in Black & Red" @ Holiness COGIC, 2026 Calypso St. in Dallas with Pastor Danny Choise, 214-747-0193.

Speakers will be Allen Abrone, Allen Abrone Ministries, Dallas and Minister Harry Neal, Outreach Deliverance Ministry, New Port, AR

For more information call Minister Dana Blair @ 214-575-8224

Fellowship of Believers Ministries
Bishop Gregory Crawford
Founder and Senior Pastor
3911 S. Lancaster Road
Dallas, TX 75216
214-372-3624

FRIENDSHIP BAPTIST CHURCH, THE COLONY

April 29, 9:00 am

Our Annual Health Fair starts with a Red Cross Blood Drive in the C. Paul McBride Family Life Center located adjacent to the church. There will be FREE health screenings, exhibits, entertainment and speakers discussing

health topics.

For additional questions, call 972-625-8186

Friendship Baptist Church
Dr. C. Paul McBride,
Senior Pastor
4396 Main Street
The Colony, TX 75056
972-625-8186

GREENVILLE AVENUE CHURCH OF CHRIST

May 6, 8:00 am - 1:30 pm

We are hosting our 21st Annual 2006 Adolescent and Ladies Symposium for all preteens and ladies, ages 9 and up; to help participants increase their skills in dealing effectively with the issues of today's society from a Biblical perspective

For more information, please call 972-644-2335, or FayLisa Jones @ 214-649-0358 (day) or 469-366-8563 (evenings).

Greenville Avenue COTC
Brother S.T.W. Gibbs, III, Minister
1013 S. Greenville Avenue
Richardson, TX 75081
972-644-2335

HAMILTON PARK UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

April 27 - 29, 2006

Our Annual Prayer Summit with spiritual leaders from all over the country. Theme: "Working the Good in You; Living a Successful Life through Prayer."

For more information, call our Response Line @ 972-235-4623, Ext. 32.

Hamilton Park UMC
Rev. Harold Dangerfield, Pastor
11881 Schroeder Road
Dallas, TX 75243
972-235-4633

SHILOH MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH

May 4, 7:00 pm

Join us for National Day of Prayer Service. Theme: "America, Honor God" 1 Samuel 2:30, with speaker Pastor Clarence J. Ford, Jr. from Hill Chapel CME, Plano.

Shiloh Missionary Baptist Church
Rev. Isiah Joshua, Jr., Senior Pastor
920 East 14th Street
Plano, TX 75074
972-423-6695

ST. LUKE "COMMUNITY" UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

April 29, 10:00 am to 4:00 pm

Our 15th Annual SOKO African Marketplace is a unique opportunity to support Black businesses and to "teach our dollars some sense!" Vendors will sell a variety of items including clothing, jewelry, cultural items, food, arts and crafts, face painting, and prize giveaways.

For detail information, call 214-821-2970. Rain location will be in the Zan W. Holmes Community Life Center, 6211 E. Grand Avenue, Dallas, TX 75223

St. Luke "Community" UMC
Rev. Tyrone Gordon, Senior Pastor
5710 E. R. L. Thornton Freeway
Dallas, TX 75223
214-821-2970

Church Directory

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templeoffaith_cme@sbcglobal.net (Email)

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7:30 am & 10:30 am
9:00 am Sunday School

Wednesday Service
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Brotherhood 7:00 pm
Missions 7:00 pm
Singles Group 7:00 pm
Bible Study 7:45 pm

Dr. Robert E. Price, Senior Pastor

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Tuesday 7PM Bible Study & Men's Choir
Wednesday 7PM Mid-Week Service
Thursday 7PM Mass Choir

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www.shilohbaptistchurch.org

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www.enterthekingdom.org

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Duke Rape Scandal Reopens Old Wounds For Black Women

By: Erin Teixeira

The young black women can almost finish each other's stories. They go to a party, a concert, a nightclub. Twenty-somethings of all colors are flirting and dancing. And then it happens.

Inevitably, a woman says, a white man asks her to dance erotically while he watches. Or he grabs her rear end. Or asks for sex, in graphic detail, without bothering to ask her name.

"We can sort of count on it happening. My friends from California and New York and Boston all tell the same stories,"

said 22-year-old Danielle Terrazas Williams, a graduate student at Duke University. "They're watching you as if you're performing for them, and it's disgusting. You just sort of feel like, 'Is this all we're good for?'"

Black women have been talking about this for a long time now, but the conversation has heated up since accusations surfaced that white Duke lacrosse players raped a black student they had hired as a stripper and shouted racial slurs at her.

Loose talk about the case has fed the stereotype that black women are hyper-sexual and readily available. Rush

Limbaugh, for example, called the black student a "ho" on the radio. He later apologized.

The stereotype is everywhere, said Rebecca Hall, a lecturer at University of California, Berkeley who studies images of black women.

"Turn on a music video. A black woman is somebody who has excess sexuality spilling out all over the place. It's excess sexuality that white men are entitled to," she said.

Black women stew about the narrow, negative ways they are nearly always portrayed. They are either quick-tempered and full of attitude like Tyler Perry's Medea character or the comedian Mo'Nique, or they are barely dressed and brazenly sexual like the women mimicking strippers in so many music videos.

Black women cheered when Halle Berry won an Academy Award in

2002 for "Monster's Ball." But why, they grumbled, did a black woman have to take off her clothes and perform sex scenes with a white man to win acting's highest honor? Why are black women so rarely portrayed as flirty or romantic without being slutty?

So when the Duke case erupted, it hit a nerve. The facts remain in doubt, but the image of a black woman stripping for a

room full of white athletes shouting racial epithets is painful to many black women.

This woman may be a stripper, but that is not all she is, black woman say. She is also a student and a working mother.

"If she's a stripper, she becomes part of a seedy under-

world,"

Williams said. "What would the story look like if the headline had said, 'Lacrosse team allegedly gang-raped and strangled a mother of two?'"



Formal discussions of the case have been held at Duke, North Carolina Central University, the alleged victim's school, and at such institutions as Vanderbilt University in Tennessee and Spelman College in Atlanta. The discussions start with the Duke

who were walking in front of dorms and white guys would come up and grab them."

It happens so often that campus police even have a name for it.

They call it "forcible fondling."

Santina White, a black senior at the University of Texas at San Antonio, was enjoying a Dave Matthews Band concert when a white male student struck up a conversation. "The first thing

he wanted to talk about is how sizable his manhood is compared to black men," she said. "We are always being looked upon as if that (sex) is all I like to do _ that's all I want."

Again and again, women say pop culture reinforces the stereotypes.

"The way the media portrays black women, there are very few roles for black women that aren't hyper-sexual," Williams said.

"Music videos are an obvious source. As benign as we think they may be, for some people music videos and movies are the only glimpse into black life that they will ever have."

Hip-hop music videos routinely show black women nearly nude simulating sex acts and dancing erotically.

Rapper Remy Ma wears a sheer lace bustier, thigh-high boots and little else in the video for her latest single, "Conceited." She says it is unfair to point the finger at hip-hop.

"Is that a rapper's fault that that's the way society is portrayed?" she asks. "Sex sells everywhere. Every commercial you look at, it's all based around sex."

Of course, it is complicated. No one forces black women to disrobe on screen. And many of

these images of black women accompany music produced and performed by black men. The raciest hip-hop videos play on "Uncut," a Black Entertainment Television program starting at 3 a.m.

"The message that men get about black women is these are women that are available to them, that they have easy access and their sole purpose is to serve their pleasure," said Mark Anthony Neal, a professor at Duke.

"The history of white men and black women, and the special fantasies and exploitation, is old and ancient," the Rev. Jesse Jackson said when asked about the case. "The historical pattern of this behavior arouses so many fears and conjures up so many bad memories."

Joan Morgan, author of "When Chickenheads Come Home to Roost: A Hip-Hop Feminist Breaks It Down," said hyper-sexualized images of black women have "been here since slavery," when white men owned black women and used them sexually. "But when you can look at a music video and see the same images acted out by white folks in the early 19th century, you've got to connect the dots there."

Legendary Boxer Sugar Ray Robinson Honored With A Commemorative Postage Stamp

Revered by Muhammad Ali as "the King, the master, my idol"; and by The Ring magazine as "pound for pound, the greatest boxer of all time"; six-time world champion boxer Sugar Ray Robinson was immortalized today at Madison Square Garden with a commemorative postage stamp. The dedication ceremony took place during the Daily News Golden Gloves Amateur Boxing Tournament finals.

"When Sugar Ray retired in 1965 at the old Garden, up on Eighth Avenue, he received a tro-

phy," explained Thomas Day, U.S. Postal Service Senior Vice President, Government Relations,



while dedicating the stamp. "Its inscription read simply: 'The World's Greatest Fighter.' Years

later he was named the 'Fighter of the Century.' That is the man we are honoring today. The United States Postal Service is pleased to delight many of Robinson's fans, and commemorate Robinson's legacy with a postage stamp."

The Postal Service receives approximately 50 thousand stamp subject suggestions annually, yet only 20 to 25 make the cut. The only other boxer placed on a U.S. stamp was

Robinson's hero and close friend, Joe Louis.

In his prime, Robinson (1921-1989) was virtually unbeatable in the ring. He launched his career with a second-round knockout of Joe Escheverria on Oct. 4, 1940, at Madison Square Garden. Sugar Ray would go on to lose only once in his first 132 fights — a ten-round loss to Jake LaMotta, a decision he would reverse five times.

To see the Sugar Ray Robinson stamp visit this link: http://www.usps.com/communications/news/stamps/2005/sr05_054.htm

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9:45 a.m. Sunday School	7:00 p.m. Prayer Hour
6:00 p.m. Baptist Training Union	7:30 p.m. Bible Study

Friendship Baptist Church

Dr. C. Paul McBride, Pastor

Schedule of Services:
Sunday
Early Morning Worship 8:00 a.m.
Sunday School Classes 9:30 a.m.
Morning Worship 11:00 a.m.
Evening Worship (1st Sunday) 6:00 p.m.

Tuesday
Early Bird Bible Study 6:00 p.m.

Wednesday
Morning Bible Study 9:30 a.m.
Prayer Meeting and Evening Bible Study 7:30 p.m.

4396 Main Street
The Colony, Texas 75056
(972) 625-8186

website: www.fbc-online.net

"The Church with a Vision"

Faithway Fellowship Baptist Church
Of Hamilton Park
8219 Bunche Dr. Dallas, TX 75243
Church Office: (972) 792-0239
Pastor's Office: (972) 792-0240

Service Times
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Morning Worship: 11:00AM
Wednesday Bible Study: 7:00PM

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Overseer Craig L. Cobb (First Lady - Melkel Cobb)
Pastor Mancil Carroll, II (First Lady - Maxine Carroll)

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Bishop Miller E. Johnson Jr., Senior Pastor

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972-671-1096 (Church)

A Place of New Beginnings... II Corinthians 5:17

Sunday Life Bible School: 9:00 a.m.
Sunday Life Worship Service: 10:00 a.m.
Life In The Word Prayer and Bible Study (Wednesdays): 7:00 p.m.