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# Minority Opportunity News

VOLUME 1, NUMBER 8 2730 STEMMONS FRWY • 1100 TOWER WEST • DALLAS, TEXAS 75207 AUGUST 1992

## LOST TRUST?

The South Dallas-Fair Park Trust Fund has had problems for the past several years, but are they over? page 8

*South Dallas-Fair Park Trust Fund chairman Dwaine Caraway (at right): "It's the community's money."*



## Total Recall

Charlotte Mayes, Marvin Crenshaw and Diane Ragsdale face off as District 7 braces for recall election page 8

*(At left, l to r) Dwaine Caraway—Charlotte Mayes spokesman, Judge Mary Ellen Hicks and Marvin Crenshaw.*

## Transit Woes

More of the same from DART, but are we doing all we can? page 9





**From the  
Publisher**  
**Thurman Jones**  
Publisher

## Churches Should be Careful not to Bar Opportunity

**C**learly, one of the greatest assets to the African-American Community is the existence of our churches and religious institutions. They have been served—and continue to serve—a very valued role in addressing a wide array of community needs and issues. In fact, given recent data that suggests there are over 250 churches which serve the African-American community, it also is clear that these churches serve as a vital link to communicate directly with large numbers of African American citizens.

These realities served as a major portion of the fundamental planning which went into the creation of Minority Opportunity News. We felt obligated to keep the African-American community abreast of issues and perspectives that would provide real "opportunity" for improvement both individually and collectively. Our decision to focus primarily on these church congregations for distribution of The Minority Opportunity News has allowed us to record a number of successes in our first few months of publication. There have been a number of individuals who have secured jobs, developed new business opportunities and have suggested that they have gained new insight on issues facing our community from reading our paper. As publisher, I am very happy that has occurred.

Unfortunately though, our experiences in trying to reach out to the church communities have not always been quite as successful. Let me share one example:

Several months ago we approached The First Baptist Church of Hamilton Park regarding the prospect of establishing a paper stand in their facilities for members of their congregation. We were initially told that we would have to speak with the pastor regarding this decision. Further we were informed that he would need to review one of our publications to make sure it was appropriate for the church. We of course agreed and believed these requests to be reasonable. A month or

(continued on page 10)

## In the News...

### Dallas Theater Center Announces Season

The Dallas Theater Center opens its new season with new artistic director Richard Hamburger. Mr. Hamburger's first season as artistic director opens with a modern American classic and closes with an explosion of new American plays and adaptations of rediscovered classics. Mr. Hamburger says, "We are about to embark on a season-long journey that spans cultures and centuries with brilliant writing, humor, music and passion." The season opens on October 27, 1992 at the Kalita Humphrey's Theater at 3636 Turtle Creek.

The six plays of the 92-93 subscription series are: A STEETCAR NAMED DESIRE by Tennessee Williams, ANOTHER TIME by Ronald Harwood, THE MISANTHROPE by Moliere in a new adaption by Neil Bartlett, SPUNK adapted by George C. Wolfe from Zora Neale Hurston, A DOLL HOUSE by Henrik Ibsen and LADY DAY AT EMERSON'S BAR & GRILL by Lanie Robertson. Concurrent with the run of LADY DAY AT EMERSON'S BAR & GRILL will be a festival devoted to NEW PLAYS AND ADAPTIONS in various stages of development, from readings and workshops to a full-scale production, all made possible by a generous grant. Subscribers will be offered early notification of festival events and discount tickets. For information call (214) 522-8499.

### "THE MIGHTY GENTS"

The South Dallas Cultural Center's Theater Season continues with Richard Wesley's "The Mighty Gents" which opens in the center's theater on August 6th and runs through August 29, 1992.

Directed by Willie Minor and starring Arico Evans, Stephanie Starr, Delbert Knight, Bernard Cousin, Charles Grigsby, Lynus Lynell, Calvin Gabriel, and KKDA's "Wolfman" White. The play is about the remaining members of glory gone gang—The Mighty Gents. For more information call (214) 670-0314.

### Nominations For Willow Award being Accepted by Black Chamber

The Dallas Black Chamber of Commerce is currently accepting nominations for the Eight Annual Willow Award to be presented by the Chambers 66th Annual banquet. The banquet, sponsored by the Dallas Black

Chamber of Commerce and Coors/Willow Distributors, Inc., will be held on Friday, October 23, 1992, at the Dallas Convention Center.

The Willow Award traditionally recognizes individuals who have made significant volunteer contributions to the civic enhancement of Dallas' Black Community. In addition to the honor and distinction of receiving the award, Willow Distributors, Inc. will distribute \$10,000 to the recipient's favorite charities. Dealing for nominations is September 8, 1992.

Nominees must be Dallas county residents for at least five years with at least three years of civic involvement in the Black community. The nominee's service to the community must be in a volunteer capacity and the service rendered broad in scope.

The nominee must show dedication to the Dallas Black Community and be an outstanding, actively involved community-minded individual.

To nominate an individual for the award, a nomination form must be completed. Forms are available in the Chamber office located at 2828 Martin Luther King, Jr., Blvd, or may be requested by calling (214) 421-5200.

### Cedar Valley College Sponsors 'Real Estate Career Night'

"Doc" Lenoir Blanchard, Cedar Valley College real estate coordinator, and several area real estate professionals are sponsoring "Real Estate Career Night" Thursday, August 6. The program, which is open to the public, will begin 6pm in the Cedar Valley College Performance Hall.

Credit and non-credit real estate courses as well as part- and full-time careers as loan officers, agents, appraisers, title searchers, brokers and office managers will be discussed. Doc Blanchard will also address the educational requirements established by the Texas Real Estate Commission.

For registration information on the Real Estate Career Night or Cedar Valley's real estate program, contact the Public Information office at (214) 372-8285. Cedar Valley College is a member of the Dallas County Community College District and is located in Lancaster.

### Job Search Skills Workshop

The next KKDA/MHRA employment skills workshop is scheduled for August 29, 1992. The workshop will provide skill building opportunities for approximately 100 workers throughout the metroplex.

The workshop will be held at

The Center for Community Cooperation at 2900 Live Oak from 9am-1pm. If you would like to help with registration or with marketing the workshop, contact Shirley Flinn at (214) 929-1100, ext. 1375.

### Minority Human Resources Association

Minority Human Resources Association will hold its next meeting Saturday, August 15, 1992 at Burlington Northern Training Center, 600 Six Flags Drive, Arlington, Texas. The meeting will be held from 10am to 1pm. The topic will be "Stress on Human Resources Professionals." Come and explore the impact of stress on you individually, as well as the impact on corporations and organizations. A health fair, featuring trained health care professionals will be included in the activities.

### JWJ Looks for Input on Unemployment

The North Texas Chapter of Jobs with Justice is looking for participation and input on a conference on unemployment that is tentatively scheduled for September 12th at the Carpenter Hall in south Arlington. For information call (214) 942-4236

### DFW Airport to Host Annual DBE Trade Fair

DFW Airport's 1992 Annual Disadvantaged, Business Enterprise (DBE) Trade Fair will be held Thursday, August 6, from 6pm to 9:30pm at the DFW Hyatt Regency. Ross Perot, Jr., chairman of Hillwood Development Corp. will be guest speaker for the event. For information call Tracy Marshall (214) 574-6704.

### Dallas Prairie View Alumni Kicks Off Annual Picnic

The Dallas Prairie View Alumni Association ends the fiscal year

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## Education

with  
Juanita Austin

### How To Study Effectively

August is "back to school" month! The beginning of a new school year brings opportunities to gain valuable knowledge from the subjects to be studied. Many students "study," but fail to perform well on tests. While they may invest time, the results of that time may not be reflected in grades earned.

In addition to specific strategies to follow when preparing for objective and subjective tests, below are some general strategies to follow when preparing for all types of tests. First, set study goals. Decide, in specific terms, what it is you want to learn about the subject. Second, prepare for studying.

You will need to assemble the right "tools"—paper, pen/pencil, dictionary, classroom notes, textbook

and etc. Third have a good study environment. It is important to have a regular time and place for studying. Avoid loud noises and areas where there are other distractions. Last, review often.

Frequent review of notes taken in class is very essential. Review notes as soon as possible after they are taken. Rewriting or typing them is a good practice because it enables you to organize and clarify your notes while you review.

When studying for an objective test (multiple-choice, true-false, fill-in-the-blank), first review the chapter and your notes looking for topics that were emphasized. Ask yourself specific questions about the topic. Make sure that you know the specific answer to questions formulated. Prepare questions to ask the instructor about the topic(s). Practice the answers by writing them down and by stating them orally.

When preparing for a subjective test (essay exam), review notes taken in class and select those topics that were stressed by the teacher. Review the chapter(s) and look for topics that are emphasized by the author (subtitles are a good indicator). Review questions at the end of the chapter(s) and prepare questions you may ask the teacher. It is a good idea to check with students who have taken the course to discover questions that were asked on tests; outline answers to

all of these questions. Review the chapter(s) to discover any terms you should be able to define and practice the definitions orally. Finally, practice writing strong, fact-loaded answers to the sample questions you have developed. Remember, if you are unable to answer questions during your self-test, you will not be able to answer them on the actual exam. Practice is the key.

Always remember it is easier to keep up than to catch up. Study frequently and effectively—the rewards will be reflected in your good grades!

Juanita Austin is the dean of developmental education at Collin County Community College.

in celebrating their accomplishments with graduates and other supporters with its annual picnic. The picnic will take place on Saturday August 22nd at Lake Highlands Park in far North Dallas. The celebration will begin at 3pm with giveaways and prizes for all children. Several Alumni members will be on hand to answer questions regarding memberships and chapter events, along with historical photos and campus reviews for the upcoming fall semester at Prairie View A&M University. Join the members as they end the Summer of '92.

For more information call Gwen Barrett (214) 250-6352.

The Urban League will host its 25th Anniversary Gala Sat. August 22 at the Fairmont Hotel International Ballroom. Reception will be held at 6pm with dinner at 7:15pm.

For information call (214) 528-8038

### Meeting Homeowners Needs through Counseling

The Dallas Urban League is approved by the Dept. of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) to provide free homeownership counseling.

Housing Counseling is a program that provides a full range of services, advice, and assistance to housing consumers to assist them in improving their housing conditions and in meeting the responsibilities of homeownership. The housing counseling includes the following sections:

1. Pre-Occupancy counseling to assist homebuyers and renters.
2. Counseling to assist homeowners and renters in stabilizing the management of the home.
3. Rental delinquency and Mortgage default.
4. Home Improvement and Rehabilitation
5. Housing Consumer Education
6. Displacement and relocation

Contact the Dallas Urban League's housing department at (214) 528-8038.

### An Opportunity to Grow with one of the Area's Fastest Expanding Papers

Minority Opportunity News is seeking experienced sales people to work in the areas of display and classified advertising. We offer an unparalleled opportunity for growth and excellent earnings potential.

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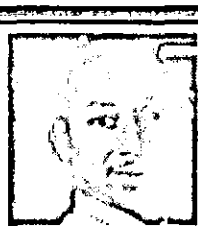
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**Randy Luster**  
Business Editor

## Are M/WBE Contracts Conduits or Obstacles

On Wednesday, 15 July 1992, at the ninth annual Minority Business Opportunity Trade Fair in Orlando, Florida. Government officials and Fortune 500 senior executives, from over 120 companies were present to hear a challenge issued by Fitz Hilaire, Director of External Development at Avon Products Inc. Hilaire challenged corporate America to increase the amount of business it does with minority businesses fivefold before the end of the century.

According to The Orlando Sentinel, Hilaire stated:

"The lessons of Los Angeles are clear, America goes nowhere unless all of its people go."

"...if minority business grow and try to become an integral part of the American system and experience, we in corporate America need to take a very clear position as to what we are going to do."

Minority businesses collectively did about \$78 trillion according to The Orlando Sentinel. This means that minority business is one (1) percent of business in this country. Hilaire said, "I think we can increase that figure to five percent."

Companies nationwide are recognizing the clout of minority groups

and hoping that it will translate into more minority business customers.

Ray M. Rosen, manager of the minority supplier development department at Ford Motor Co. realizes to increase minority suppliers makes good economic sense. "A one percent increase of minority market share translates into about \$20 million annually in profits for Ford."

Executives and government officials are taking steps to assure minority business participation. The Florida Department of Transportation (DOT) is reducing the size of some of its prime figure indicates minority prime contractors did more than \$8.4 million with DOT in the past 12 months.

These are not "SET ASIDE" programs, but efforts to remove barriers and implement changes to make doing business easier for those who have been traditionally overlooked. Executives are realizing the mistakes they have historically made, making business in this country a one-way street. Estimates show that African Americans in this country alone possess a GNP in excess of \$200 billion annually. Corporate American is recognizing the economic power minority groups represent in the business community today and the essential role they will play in

the future.

The corporate world must diversify and relationships must be reciprocal. Steps must be taken to get all minority groups involved in the business process. First, we must overcome our fears and start respecting each other. Barriers that hinder the business process must be eliminated. Certification processes that increase administrative costs to minority businesses must be revised. Delay tactics and waiting for minority businesses to go out of business must be eliminated.

Companies must evaluate their minority/women business programs and implement a PLAN OF CONTINUOUS IMPROVEMENT that focuses on the customers' (minority businesses) needs. Eliminate non-value added steps and obstacles that hinder the business process. I appeal to all M/WBE's coordinators to state your company's policy and stop wasting time.

Our readers want to know the role your company is playing in their communities and MON would like to make that information available to the public. I am requesting that M/WBEs, DBEs, and all community affairs liaison personnel contact us so we can keep our readers informed. Please contact me at (214) 905-0944.

### Conditional Grant Program By Darryl C. Stratten

The conditional Grant Program was given birth in January 1992 as a result of senate bill 352 by the 72nd legislature which created the program to stimulate American-Indian, Asian, Black, and Hispanic interest in engineering. A potential recipient must meet the following prerequisites:

- A graduating high school student must have an overall high school GPA of 3.0 on a 4.0 scale.
- The student must plan to attend an accredited, four-year state college or university.
- The student must have an interest in math or science.
- The student must have an aptitude for engineering.
- The student must desire to major in civil engineering.
- or
- A college or university student must meet the requirements listed above and have an overall GPA of 2.5 on a 4.0 scale.
- The student must be attending an accredited, four-year state college or university.
- The student must maintain a minimum of twelve hours per semester.
- The student must declare or intend to declare a major in civil engineering.
- and
- The student must be a Texas resident.
- The student must be an American-Indian, Asian, Black or Hispanic.

The amount of the conditional grant is the sum of the certified tuition and fees for each semester plus a stipend.  
(continued on next page)

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pend based upon the student's documented financial need. If a student is accepted into the program and receives a Bachelors Degree in civil engineering, he or she must work for the Texas Department of Transportation for a minimum of two years immediately following graduation.

Failure to receive a civil engineering degree or work for the department for two years after graduation will result in the student required to repay the department for the entire Conditional Grant amount expended.

Mrs. Faye Bomar, Division of Civil Rights, who plays a significant role in administering the Conditional Grant program, said, "It is a fantastic opportunity for a minority student desiring career development and long term career advancement in engineering in terms of planning for the future." Bomar also mentioned that the application form and brochure will be revised and distribution made in late Summer 1992.

Curtis Pruitt who attends David W. Carter high school was selected to receive a TXDOT conditional grant. He will be attending Prairie View A&M University in September 1992. "I

feel privileged that my hard work has paid off," said Pruitt. Christopher Robinson was also selected to receive a grant. He too attends Carter high school and will be continuing his education at Prairie View. "I feel honored. I was very happy to have been selected," Robinson said.

The Texas Department of Transportation is an equal opportunity/affirmative action employer. Innovative programs like the TDXOT Conditional Grant program lends credence to this phrase. It is evident that TXDOT is serious about continuing to create a viable and harmonious work environment consisting of a diverse workforce. TXDOT is a virtual melting pot of employees dedicated to serving the public in various capacities.

"The Conditional Grant program will become extremely beneficial to the department in that it will allow the department to assist in providing various minorities an education in civil engineering, thereby insuring qualified minorities are available to the department for future employment," said district engineer James Huffman.

For information call Darryl Stratten (214) 320-6138.

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## Accounting for Themselves

*Bank One Looks Toward Promising Future At New Location*

By Katrina Oden

Use to be, residents of South Dallas had a long way to travel to get to a full service bank. For some that meant banking close to where they worked and for others it meant an arduous bus trip or car ride just to "take care of business."

Fortunately, there's a new kid on the block.

Referring to themselves as the "community bank," Bank One has just opened a new branch in the South Dallas community, and looks forward to promising activities with the community in the future.

Cynthia Campbell, manager of the new branch, is optimistic about the positive impact Bank One will have on the community. Campbell states the community's response has been positive. Campbell eases into a seat of confidence by the fact that not only has the



Cynthia Campbell (above) is the new manager of Bank One's South Dallas branch.

branch gained business from other branches, but has gained new customers from the community. A large portion of their business comes from minority businesses.

Mrs. Campbell says the bank's goals for the community include enhancing economic development, inspiring businesses to relocate in South Dallas, and staying involved in the community.

Although Mrs. Campbell looks forward to Bank One becoming more involved in the community, she states Bank One has been involved with South Dallas even before the new branch opened.

For the past few years John Henry Brown Elementary School has been the adopted school of the Bank One with the bank providing funds to purchase new playground equipment for the school.

In the Fall, the

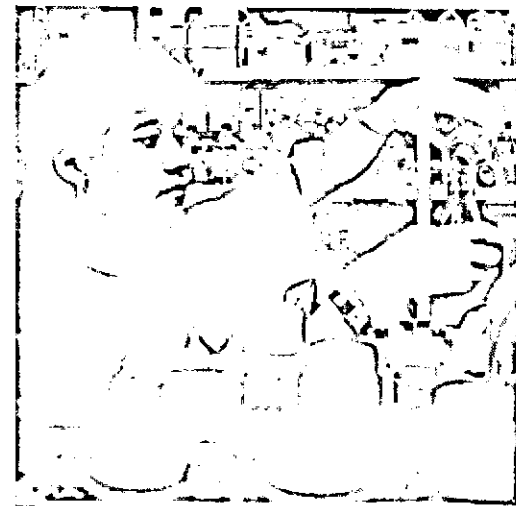
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## Science of the Times

*Southwestern Med School teaches minority students research science is valuable, career wise*

By Sonia Jordan

The University of Texas Southwestern Medical Center at Dallas has been presenting a summer research program for minority students since 1983. It is sponsored by Dr. Joel Goodman who is an associate professor of pharmacology.



Ebony Cooksey (above) is a recent graduate of Carter high school.

When Dr. Goodman first sponsored the program in 1983, there were only three students involved. In 1991, the program had grown to nine students. Dr. Goodman is very pleased with this expansion. "It gives kids and understanding of the lifestyle and commitment level of a scientist."

Ms. Ebony Cooksey, a Carter High School graduate, agrees with Dr. Goodman. "The program has given me a better perspective of the field of research. It has given me a chance to work

with more advanced equipment and increased my knowledge in the scientific field. Especially in the areas concerning chemicals and safety techniques." Ms. Cooksey will be entering the University of Miami this fall.

Another student involved

with the program is Kimberly Lyons, a senior at Booker T. Washington High School for the Performing and Visual Arts. "I have always been interested in the sciences and this program has broadened my scientific perspective," Lyons says. "In college I will pursue a career in either chemistry or chemical engineering."

The NIH-sponsored program provides the opportunity for minority students and their teachers to work in

(continued on page 10)



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## Health Focus

with  
Marsha D. Prophet, Ph.D

### Allergies? Don't Just Sneeze and Bear Them

Exposure to irritants can be devastating to allergy sufferers. Allergy symptoms such as sneezing, sniffing, headaches, and scratchy eyes can be very uncomfortable. Jenssen Pharmaceutica and McNeil Pharmaceutical Company suggests ten simple steps to minimize your exposure to the irritants.

1. Vacuum frequently, particularly in the bedroom. And don't forget your mattress. It's a common place for dust to collect.
2. Eliminate your exposure to cigarette or cigar smoke. Ask visitors to your home to refrain from smoking; avoid smoke-filled public places.
3. Use your air conditioner and make sure the filter is clean. Also, a room air filter is helpful in keeping the air clean.
4. Use Dacron or foam pillows instead of goose down, and wash them frequently.
5. Leave plants in the backyard. If you must have house plants, keep them out of the bedroom, and keep the leaves clean.
6. Regularly wash damp areas of your home such as shower stalls, basements, and window sills. This will reduce growth of molds.
7. Use a humidifier to keep the humidity in your home between 35-50 percent, which is the ideal for allergy sufferers.
8. Remove "dust collectors" such as rugs, drapes, stuffed furniture, stored blankets, and woolens from your bedroom.
9. If you are allergic to dogs or cats, remove them from your home. Avoid these animals as much as possible when visiting friends or relatives.
10. Talk to your doctor or pharmacist about medicines that may alleviate they symptoms of your allergies. Both nonprescription and prescription medicines have been found to be effective.

So the next time you feel irritants tickling your nose, don't just sneeze and bear them...  
Do something!

(BANK continued from previous page)  
new branch will be working with James Madison High School in a student training program to benefit underachieving students who will receive business training and even receive course credit while participating. Bank One hopes the program will motivate the students to improve in school. It will place students "at risk" in positions within the bank for six months to learn all phases of banking and deal with other people.

"If they work closely with a professional role model there is a higher tendency for them to go that route," says Campbell. "We're giving them the chance that they would not otherwise have."

To buttress their plans to be user-friendly to the community, the branch has a First Time Borrower program. To qualify for up to \$2,000 applicants must attend a four hour seminar explaining what credit is, and what bad credit is. They must have been on a job for at least one year, meet residency requirements and have no credit at all.

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## LOST TRUST ?

*Politics, Poor Judgement and Even Apathy have added up to what has become a dis-trust fund for South Dallas-Fair Park*

By Jason D. Webster

**It's** a quarter 'til eight on Monday morning and the glassed front of 2838 Martin Luther King, Jr., Blvd affords a glimpse of activity as employees brace for another long, hot workweek. Soon, the building—Bank One's new South Dallas branch—will unlock its doors for yet another day of financial opportunity.

Just behind the sparkling new edifice, among the hodge-podge irregularity of houses, open lots and dilapidated tenements, there's also activity: people rushing to catch the bus, the odd one or two working on cars, and of course the pervasive clumps of men hanging out on doorsteps or streetcorners, a number already clutching a "forty" of beer or malt-liquor. Just down the street the clean brick facade of NationsBank is set against a similar backdrop of apparent disenfranchisement.

For the residents and small business owners of South Dallas, the banks are certainly attractive and hint at a possibility of some economic hope for the blighted area. But for most the financial opportunity the banks offer is as far removed as if the branches were located in North Dallas.

Ironically enough the financial hope for many of these residents, and for the whole South Dallas/Fair Park community, is in fact there for the asking. The South Dallas-Fair Park Trust Fund—\$700,000 dollars of the community's money—represents what could be a powerful step toward revitalizing the area.

That is if it ever gets dispersed.

Since its inception three years ago the trust fund has been mired in controversy, allegations and bureaucratic red tape. Supposedly, the money in the trust fund—gleaned from taking a percentage of every ticket sold to many Fair Park events—is available to anyone with interests in the area. Businesses, small business and even would-be businesses were invited to get a slice of the free pie in order to stimulate commerce in the area. After all, business equals jobs which equate to money



Dwaine Caraway (pictured above) is the chairman of the board for the South Dallas-Fair Park trust fund.

staying in the area.

The problem has been that even though there's been adequate money in the fund few people prior to this year have made application for it. According to Dwaine Caraway, present chairman of the trust fund's board, the shortcoming was due to many key community leaders "dropping the ball." He contends it was a lack of dialogue that has kept the trust's funds from making it out to the community where they belong.

"Everybody from the inception of [the trust fund]—the past administration, the board, the city manager's office, elected officials [like] Diane, John Wiley Price, Al Lipscomb—they all should have said something to this tangible community during economic stress that these funds were available," said Caraway.

Caraway insists one has only to compare the track records of his nascent administration with the past one's to conclude what went wrong. Previous to Caraway's taking over, the trust had awarded five contracts out of 28 applications over a three year period. In contrast, the new board has received over 400 applications since the beginning of the year, funding 16 of those and hop-

ing to disperse funds to 30 or 40 more before the trust's money is exhausted for the year.

The money has been there and, obviously, there's been no shortage of people ready to apply, so what's been the holdup? Caraway has a simple answer: the past administration (he uses that term to encompass everyone from the Mayor's office to past board members) didn't let the people know. At least not as forcefully as was merited.

"Not that they didn't," says Caraway, careful not to brand his predecessors as wholly inept, "but they did it with such a whisper."

There can be little argument that the new trust fund board has come in and pulled a "Desert Storm," tearing through the bureaucratic process like a cyclone. In short order they have effectively gotten the word out—almost begging to give the money away—and dispersed it to applicants.

But for all the good intentions and amazing out-of-the-gate start, the trust fund has once again been hamstrung. After such a prolific beginning the new board is sitting dead in the water, unable to finish its noble mission

(continued on page 12)

## Total Recall

District 7 set for city's first election recall

By Angela D. Ransome

The stage is set for one of the biggest rematches in Dallas' political history.

In one corner of the ring is a newcomer to the scene whose victory in November was a political upset. In the other corner, anxiously awaiting, is a pioneer of the business—determined to be a true contender in the heavyweight world of Dallas politics.

Still, pacing frantically on the ring apron, gloved up and waiting to enter is yet another opponent—a last minute hat in the ring, but a just-as-determined one.

It's less than a week away from the first recall election in Dallas history but none of the candidates are talking. What started out as what many have called a grudge match, or a "sour grapes" contest between City Councilwoman Charlotte Mayes and former councilwoman Diane Ragsdale, has taken on a new direction with the addition of long-time community organizer, Marvin Crenshaw, to the race for the District 7 seat.



(l to r) Judge Mary Ellen Hicks, Dwaine Caraway and Marvin Crenshaw. Diane Ragsdale not pictured.

After a bitter election last November in which Mayes captured 51.5 percent of the votes, beating Ragsdale's 48.45 percent, a group of Ragsdale's supporters calling themselves the "Fight Back, Take Back District 7" committee rallied around their political favorite in an effort to hoist her back into the District 7 seat. Together, they gathered 6,709 signatures of registered voters in the district.

Many of Ragsdale's supporters do not believe that Mayes supports the interests of the residents of District 7, which is predominantly African-American. The district includes the areas of South Dallas and Fair Park as well as the neighborhoods of East Dallas and Buckner Terrace. Prior to 1991, this

(continued on page 13)





## DART: Recasting the Die?

By Donita Marston

By now anybody who knows somebody at DART has heard about the much rumored "reorganization." After five years of the inept, unproductive, non-leadership of former executive director Chuck Anderson, it only stands to reason that some changes need to be made.

Many in the business community have hailed the selection of former Dallas mayor and successful businessman Jack Evans as being just what the doctor ordered to cure DART's ailments. Based on his political experience and success at building Tom Thumb, most people would have to agree that Evans has the potential to clean up DART's act.

However, a word of caution is necessary. The business community's endorsement is tied to their vested interest in potential economic gains. As a result, the tremendous capital investment represented by DART's planned light rail line currently under construction has become the chief concern. The provision of a high-quality service to riders and maintenance of existing bus service is at best second priority.

Minorities need to be just as vigilant, vocal and influential in assuring that minority business people share in these benefits through contract awards.

However, in hot pursuit of contracts, let us not lose sight of the fact that we also need to monitor and influence other DART decisions affecting the quality of current bus service and the utility of the proposed rail service. The reaction from various aspects of the minority community has been mixed. Some feel Mr. Evans was selected to "buy DART time to get it together before it is destroyed by its critics and enemies." Others have expressed concern that his previous EEO/Affirmative Action record as well as his prominent place as a "Dallas City Father" and entrenched member of the "Good Ol' Boys Network" could prove detrimental to the advancement of minority efforts to get a piece of the DART pie or even maintain a certain quality of bus service which many minorities are solely de-

pendent on for transportation.

While still others who know and have worked with Mr. Evans over the years are cautiously hopeful he will make DART better in a fair and equitable way. Time will tell, and the results of his actions need to be carefully assessed.

Now is not the time for falling away or slacking off. Minorities need to be more adamant and persistent in monitoring DART to make sure the new DART community as well as board meetings are followed.

Community leaders, residents and bus riders need to write letters to their board representatives and Mr. Evans expressing their concerns and expectations. No DART issue affecting minorities should be decided without formal, organized input from us. We have to be willing to devote the time and effort necessary to make DART deliver what we pay for every time we put money in the farebox or pay the penny sales tax. This means that DART staff, management and board members need to be held responsible for providing those things they were established and financed to deliver.

Unless we start making them accountable through our persistent and effective efforts, we are just as responsible as the board and DART staff for not receiving what we are paying for.

Recent DART decisions about bus service do not indicate things are changing for the better or that the "New DART" will be any different from the old DART. I am specifically referring to DART's decision to run Sunday service—its most limited service—on Friday, July 3rd.

For many this was not a holiday but many of us were left stranded in the hot sun, unable to get to work. Many called the 979-1111 number to complain. Several employers also complained via the so called customer service lines.

Yet there was no public outcry by DART board members or stranded bus riders or their employers. There was no clip on the six o'clock news and

(continued on page 13)



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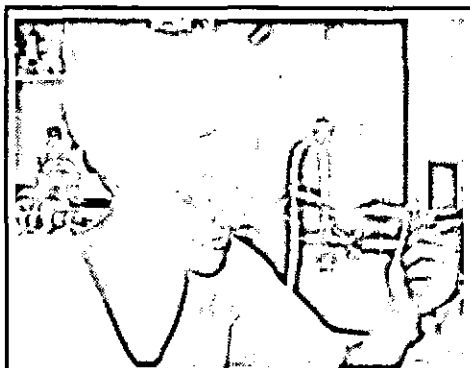
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(SCIENCE from page 6)  
the same environment as research scientists. They work in laboratories and gain the knowledge of what it takes in the field of research. The purpose of the program is to broaden the students knowledge about basic research and basic medical science encouraging them to look at science as a career.

Each student is provided with a mentor who provides direction, coaching and overall evaluation of how the students are doing in the program. The mentors also help to introduce the student to more sophisticated equipment than they may have used in high school for research.



Kimberly Lyons (above) is a student at Booker T. Washington High School for the visual and performing arts.



Patsy Metter (above) is a biology and chemistry teacher at W.T. White high school.

The students said the program helped them better understand the basic sciences. Some of the students had already chosen science majors in areas such as marine biology and believed the program had given them a better perspective on how to combine their knowledge learned from research with their chosen fields.

If you would be interested in more information, just contact your student's science instructor at his or her high school. So, if you are interested don't hesitate to start gathering information as soon as possible. Don't miss this excellent opportunity.

(PUBLISHER continued from page 2)  
so later we were told that the publication seemed to be quite good and that we would be allowed to distribute it in the church. We set up a stand and, per our routine, provided several hundred papers for the church.

A week or so later we went back to the church to restock papers in the stand and found both the stand and the papers had disappeared. To make a long story short, we found that contrary to the commitment we were given, the papers were not allowed to be distributed within the church.

There is really no issue that church policy would have president in terms of what does and does not get disseminated within their facilities. However, there are two areas that do raise concerns as it relates to this one example. One is the fact that members of this church will not have the chance to take advantage of the employment and business opportunities provided in Minority Opportunity News. Given the state of the current local economy, I find it difficult to believe that this type of information would not be beneficial. Secondly and equally as important is the fact that a commitment once made

was not fulfilled. The implications in this situation go beyond just the paper, and further speak to how potential benefits to our citizens can be arbitrarily restricted.

Yes, our churches or religious institutions truly do play a very important role in the growth and development of our community. But along with this tremendous role comes significant responsibilities. We should at minimum be able to expect our churches and their leaders to advocate the free and open distribution of assistance to help African-Americans. I don't want to give the impression that First Baptist of Hamilton Park was the only church that we had issue with. Quite honestly, there were others that, after agreeing to do so, restricted the availability of this information. Fortunately, the majority of churches were very receptive and followed through on their commitments.

I hope my comments are not perceived as an opportunity to share "sour grapes." Hopefully, they will be interpreted as a sincere effort to remind our church leadership of the implications of what may seem to be very small decisions.

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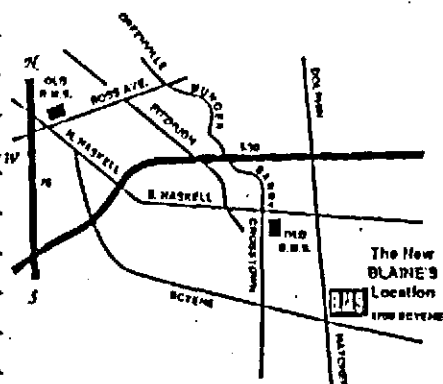
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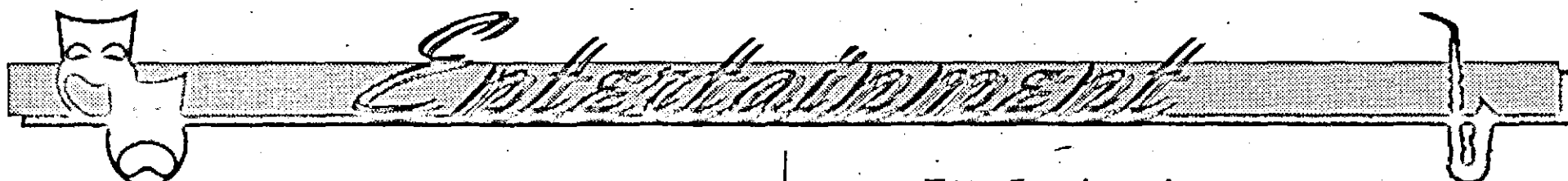
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"Sophisticated Ladies" cast (l to r) Theresa Hayes, Harold Nicholas and Freda Payne will be performing July 28-Aug. 9.

## A Panoramic Overview of the Arts in Dallas

By Sonia Jordan

Dallas is a city that offers many forms of entertaining arts. From sunny South Dallas to the western border of our sister city Fort Worth, we can find enriching, entertaining and educational activities for everyone's enjoyment. If you are looking for entertainment with an Afrocentric flair, just read on.

We are familiar with the Junior Black Academy of Arts and Letters under the fine direction of Mr. Curtis King (MON 6/92). Their season will open in September. If you want more information or would like to be on their mailing list, call (214) 658-7144.

Akin Babatunda, along with the Vivid Theater Ensemble, just completed their presentation "Reveal..A Dream Tale with Music." The acting and the singing was wonderful, of course. The play...well, it was very imaginative. Mr. Babatunda is a man with many hats: playwright, actor and even director. Rumor has it that soon we will be able to view "To Kill a Mock-

ingbird" which Mr. Babatunda will direct. For further information call (214) 526-8210.

The Dallas Summer Musicals are outdoing themselves this summer season. There are two wonderful Broadway plays being performed at the State Fair Music Hall. The wonderful music of Duke Ellington will be heard from July 28 to August 9, during the award winning performance of "Sophisticated Ladies." Harold Nicholas—of the Nicholas brothers, and Freda Payne recently featured in the HBO special, "Legendary Ladies of Rock," will both perform in this wonderful Broadway show. And please don't miss Stephanie Mills in "The Wiz" from August 11 through the 23rd. For information about any of the DSM shows, call (214) 373-8000.

Hidden away in beautiful South Dallas we can find the Deidra (continued on page 14)

## Etta Jamison is a prayer answered for young dancers

by Sonia Jordan

For over 10 years Dallas has been graced with the talents and teachings of Ms. Etta Piper Jamison. Mrs. Jamison attended Hope College in Michigan, majoring in communications and minored in dance. Yet, it seems quite obvious which area took precedence in her life. On college breaks, Etta returned to Houston to teach dance at the local YWCA. After graduating from college she held various jobs, danced with the Phillip Stewart Company, now disbanded, and even taught dance at a modeling school. While attending Southern Methodist University, working on her Masters degree, Etta learned of a position with the city of Dallas for a dance instructor. Through this position she developed programs for various centers. Her husband convinced her that what she was doing for the city she could do on her own. And on her own she started the dance company now known as the Piper Jamison Movements. This group originated in 1984 with four young ladies—Kenya Wilson, Tia Simmons, Hattie Bolds, LaToya Turner-Wilson and Tara Woods.

At the suggestion of a parent, Etta decided to expand the dance company by including the children from the schools. The suggestion proved to be very helpful. The company dances to Broadway tunes such as "Take the A Train." Mrs. Jamison is very proud of her company of young dancers and believes the children are sometimes different...maybe they are not quite in tune to that natural part of our culture. That artistic part of our cultural that is

both inherent and nurtured in us as a people. As African American parents we need to reach out and pull our children back in.

Etta Jamison, a lady who know what she wants, when asked of her plans for expansion did not hesitate to expound on a colorful future for this company of young dancers. Her future plans include opening a school here and in Houston, making the Piper Jamison movements more visible; establishing a touring schedule and setting up dance workshops with guest dancers. Mrs. Jamison also wants to expose the company to a history of Black dance here and throughout the world and even provide scholarships for company members to attend college. "Whether they go into dance or not, because of our history as a people we need the arts in one form or another because it helps us to become disciplined. If you have had music, dance or theater, if you never use it your life, it's going to help you become a better doctor, a better lawyer, a better engineer.

(continued on page 12)



Etta Jamison's dance company performances are "poetry in motion."

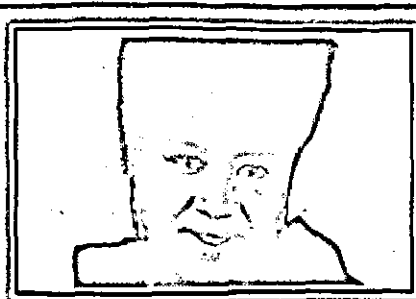


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(TRUST continued from page 8)

due to factors both inside and outside the trust fund.

Caraway attributes the present lack of progress to politics. While he's quick to point fingers at the city manager's office and even toward his own board members, it is difficult to separate the wheat from the chaff.

Following a meeting of the trust fund board where members Denise Sharpton and Henry Trejilio walked out leaving the board without sufficient power to vote on the set agenda, Caraway was convinced the move was part of a calculated effort to hold up the funds. "A very astute political move that the community is suffering with at this point," Caraway says in summation.

But Sharpton differs on the account: "We were there to review applications and there began to be some things happening. It wasn't that I turned my back on the community, I turned my back on unethical political maneuvering that would not have served the community well."

Sharpton says Caraway was trying to "piggyback" other issues onto the agenda in order to get them through when the meeting was supposed to be strictly for reviewing applications. "They were trying to throw in matters about consulting and other items," said Sharpton. "I would not be a part of maneuvers to sidetrack, to try force another issue down our throat when we were there for another reason."

This of course hints at the possibility that board members and perhaps Caraway himself have certain agendas not directly related to the trust fund itself. And with Caraway constantly trumpeting the virtues of Mayor Steve Bartlett and Charlotte Mayes (and the fact he heads Mayes' re-election campaign in whose district the trust fund effects), it's virtually impossible to separate the non-partisan trust fund from the politics which surround it.

Caraway also intimates—but stops short of making charges—that the District 7 re-election August 8 has conspired to stagnate the trust fund's dispersal. According to Caraway, the city manager's office has tried to prevent the trust fund board from meeting

(where the board would once again review applications) until the City Council returns from vacation in August, citing policy. But Caraway feels otherwise. "I personally think that it is due to the election, to the recall," he says, further linking the ties to political drama.

Mudslinging aside, Caraway insists the show must go on. "Let the election be the election, let the procedures of the Fair Park trust fund go on. Lets move the trust fund forward because these people's light bills and phone bills and air conditioners and the things they're applying for should not be held politically hostage to wait and see who's going to be in [office], and the dogfight can go on."

The drama behind the trust fund is as complicated and confusing as a script from "Mission Impossible"—who's backing whom, who's doing what—but one thing is clear: there are still some "wrenches in the works." For all the accolades and lip service brouhaha that followed the first dispersal of funds earlier this year, to the people who need the funds that are there, the further delays, excuses and fingerpointing are just more of the same, not a but-this-time-it's-different situation.

All that can really be said is that, yes, the money is there. And yes, you can access it. But what it's going to take is even more proactive pressure from the community on the "administration" to get those funds on the street where they belong.

**Get Busy**

For interested parties, the South Dallas-Fair Park Trust Fund is available to a wide array of applicants—\$10,000 per applicant and in special situations up to \$20,000.

To obtain information on how to apply call Charlotte Mayes' office at 670-4689, or write that office care of city hall.

For questions, concerns and complaints, the above number and mailing address are also good.

MON encourages everyone in the community to let their voice be heard on this issue whether positive or negative.

(DANCE from page 11)

But most of all if you do decide to pursue the arts, you will be great at what you do because it is an inherited trait. "On a more personal level, Mrs. Jamison wants to expand her company and make it a "true business."

In July, the company, along with Dance Expressions, Ms. Jamison's school of young dancers, travelled to Albuquerque, N.M. and Kansas City to compete in various competitions. In August she hopes to take them to Atlanta to the Black Arts Festival for another competition.

Etta also gives a lot of credit

and thanks to Kenya Wilson, the student/teacher choreographer, and Eric Anderson the artistic director. Both work with the young members.

If you have never been to one of the Piper Jamison Movements recitals, you have missed a treat. From the kids to the young adults, it is a visual pleasure. My personal favorite is "A Change"—a beautiful spiritual piece executed so eloquently, one may forget that they aren't actually watching a Broadway performance.

Mrs. Jamison, Good luck to all of you from all of us at MON.

For further information (214) 530-8226.

(RECALL continued from page 8)  
district was 90 percent African-American, that is until city-wide redistricting added the "mixed" neighborhoods of East Dallas and Buckner Terrace.

The new District 7 is now 59.08 percent African-American, 32.32 percent white and 8.61 percent Hispanic. Ironically, the 14-1 redistricting which diluted Ragsdale's core of influence was staunchly advocated by Ragsdale herself.

But once it became apparent Mayes was gaining a strong foothold in last year's race, Ragsdale began charging Mayes with pandering to the new-formed white influence in the district.

"Race-baiting" is one of the terms Ragsdale used to describe Mayes' capturing the white vote in District 7 in last November's race, turning the event into one of heated confrontation.

Mayes insists the issue is not a Black or a white one, while Ragsdale intimates Mayes insensitivity to South Dallas residents might defer any economic gains in that area—an area suffering the ravages of long-term economic neglect—instead diluting the power of the seat to impact South Dallas.

One issue that will have South Dallas and Fair Park residents concerned in upcoming weeks is that of

the South Dallas/ Fair Park Trust Fund, designed to benefit economically depressed areas of Fair Park and South Dallas.

As part of the Trust Fund program, \$10,000 in grants will be dispersed to 20 businesses in the South Dallas and Fair Park areas. The money comes from a portion of Fair Park ticket sales and other city contributions. More than 400 people have applied for the grant money in recent weeks but have yet to receive it.

The funny thing is with so much at stake, the tight-lipped candidates are leaving their constituents to try and figure out for themselves the answers to district issues. A safe plan, but healthy for the district?

Hardly.

One can only figure for himself if the candidates' agendas are truly in the people's interest or are merely a thin veneer masking self-service.

With less than a week left until the final bell, where only one hand will be raised in victory, District 7 residents are left to ponder the question: Who's best for us? Unfortunately—largely due to the seeming personal nature of this contest—residents won't have the answer for another year or so.

Ultimately, it's a positive track record and not play-it-safe politicking that will impact the people and communities of the district.

(DART continued from page 9)

no coverage by the print media—yet another DART insult to paying customers.

This is even more insulting when you realize DART made this decision with full knowledge and documented evidence from its customer assistance center where over half of its riders and employers pass program participants were polled and stated they needed regular service on July 3rd!

It's good to know elected officials and their DART board appointees are vocal about the level of minority participation in DART contracts. But it is equally discouraging to know these "leaders" did not express any concern for the large portion of the minority population they represent (who were left stranded in the hot sun Friday, July 3rd!).

For our minority leaders to solely focus on defending the interests of business people and go silent about July 3 leaves a large portion of the minority community unrepresented and unserved. We should not stand for it. If the existing leadership is not representing us we need to let them know. If they still don't protect the interests of all groups they represent, then they need to be removed. In any case, minorities need to speak out and have their concerns addressed and respected.

If we let DART re-dye the same old sweater—giving us more of the same in a new package—and accept it, we deserve what we get and should not complain or blame anyone else for our non-action. We need to make a decision and energize it. We have the power; we need to use it or we'll continue to be disrespected and mistreated by DART.

Minorities can ill afford to lose the efforts of anyone. If you can't speak out at a meeting, write a letter. If you can't write a letter, tell your neighbor. If you can't tell your neighbor, talk to your council representatives or your DART board member. Make a phone call; demand responsible representation and lend your time and money to organizations that will energize your concerns. No one can or should sit around idle. To do so says, in essence, you don't care how you are treated and are powerless to do anything about it.

To accept this condition is to admit you are informally enslaved. The bad part about it is that you enslaved yourself. If DART is not truly recasted or emerges with a new attitude reflecting respect for the minority community we have missed an opportunity to make ourselves and our communities better. How many more missed opportunities will be tolerated? Participate in efforts to make DART what it needs to be or continue to suffer the consequences.

The bad part is that we will have paid to be mistreated.

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## Employment

By Susan Lee

### Women — Re-entering the Workplace

The majority of women re-entering the workforce do so for several reasons. Listed below are a few:

#### I. Boredom—Needing new outlets

If you are in this category and looking for new challenges you may first give some consideration to your motives. If you are seeking challenges that will offer you a sense of direction rather than something temporary that will provide you with a little extra spending money, then a job isn't the answer for you. Usually someone in this position should be looking for a career, not just a job, because your needs are more than monetary.

#### II. Financial Needs, Personal or Family

Many American families have found it difficult or impossible to exist on one income. Buying a home is only one of the reasons wives have returned to the workplace. Just a few others are:

- The husband has been laid off for a long period of time.
- The husband's income is not sufficient
- The husband's income is sufficient

but not enough desired luxuries.

d. More income is needed for the children's educational costs.

#### III. Crisis or Traumatic Reason: Divorce, Death, Illness

In situations involving crisis, the decision to return to the workplace is completely involuntary. This decision was made for you because you needed to eat, have a roof over your head and pay your bills.

Divorce is by far the most prevalent. The impact of divorce on the woman's ability to cope with finding employment depends largely on the amount of warning she had that the marriage was failing. Under any circumstances divorce will result in emotions that will affect the preparations to re-enter the workplace. The only difference between one person and another will be a question of degree.

Whatever the reasons you might have for re-entering the workplace, it is imperative that you take some time out and consider your options, to avoid any costly mistakes.

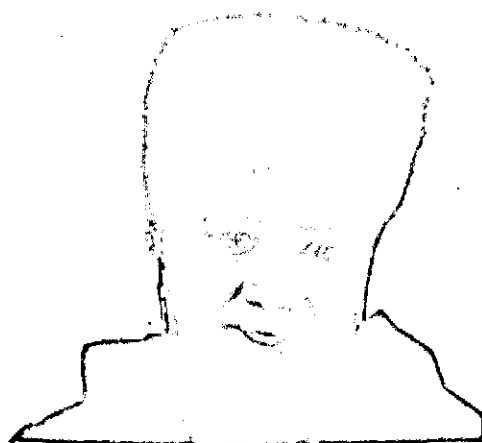
phone (214) 343-3223

(continued from page 11)

Lynn Woods Theater under the artistic direction of Mr. Robert Helm. This month Mr. Helm is presenting "Double Standards"—a play about young people and drug abuse based on the age old cliché "Do as I say, not as I do." This performance should be very interesting, I'm told that Mr. Helm writes from the heart. For more information call (214) 565-1710.

Oh, by the way, ask Mr. Helm about Monday night jazz.

Since reading can be as entertaining as plays and musical revues not to mention educational, I



Author Pearlle Jones speaks out on the Black woman in a male dominated world.

know you'll rush to your nearest African American bookstore and pick up a copy of "Who Loves the Black Woman," a three part literary work by Pearlle M. Jones. Need material that will generate serious discussion, then search no further. This book is full of what you need. Don't believe me? Well, read the following excerpt and decide for yourself.

*masculine, they feed into the deception by pretending that the man is in control when in fact he is not...*

*- Black women who are tired of the deception attempt to deal with Black men with honesty and to hold them responsible for their actions, or lack of, are criticized and often left alone. So if the Black woman wants to have male companionship, she is often forced to go along with the program while she suffers in silence her frustrations.*

See what I mean?

Denise Sharpton of Sharp/PR is handling the marketing and public relations for Ms. Jones. Last month there was a book release party hosted by Sharp/PR and Tony's Wine Warehouse & Bistro.

If you missed the book signing or any of the plays I have mentioned, then be sure to pick up the issue of MON. We promise to keep you informed, updated and in-the-know on the ARTS.

Pearlle Jones book can be purchased at Black Images (214) 943-0142 and Pan Africa (214) 943-8262.

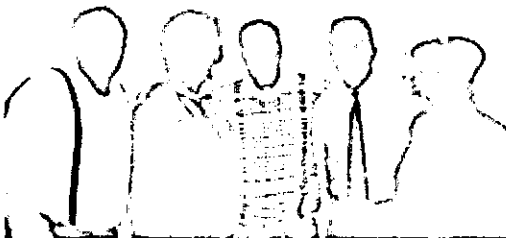
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Requires: 2 years of college plus 1 year experience as a secretary; skill in composing and editing correspondence; ability to perform statistical and technical typing; PC experience utilizing word processing, spreadsheet and graphics software preferred; experience with accounting and financial reporting helpful; must type 60 wpm.

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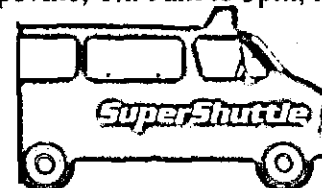
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