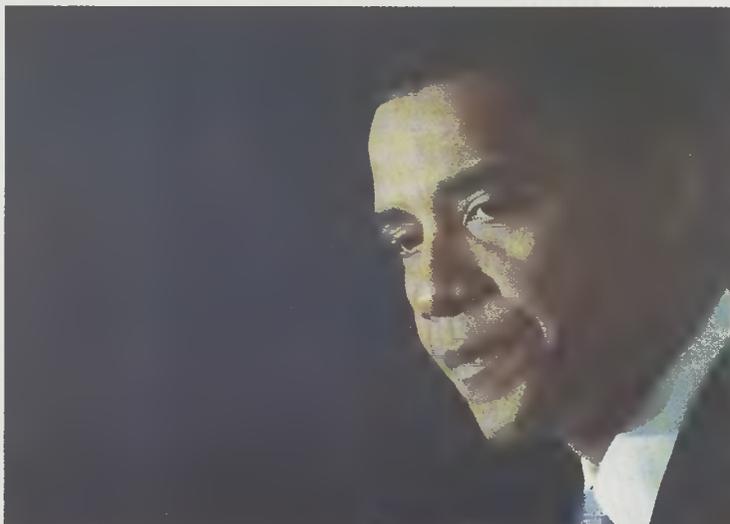


SO WHAT WILL YOU DO NOW?



by John Raye

It is true. Change has indeed come to America. It has also come to the rest of the civilized world. Barack Obama is the 44th president of the United States, the nation's first elected Black president.

He now controls and has taken ownership of the most powerful job in the free world. And it would not be a stretch to state that his is the most

famous face on earth, the Pope notwithstanding.

So what does this have to do with you? What will his election do for you, your household, your friends or extended family?

I believe it will do two fundamental things. First, it will change forever the perception of Black people about themselves.

Secondly, it will change forever the perception of White people about Black people.

As President Obama stated in his inaugural address, "the ground has shifted". This shift can be seen most noticeable in the attitude, mood and character of Black people themselves.

Much of the psychological baggage that has burdened the Black community for centuries is now, and will become, much less of a burden. No, his election does not mean a wholesale end to prejudice and racism.

There will always be a fair share of stupid people who simply are unable or unwilling to realize their condition, which is why they remain in history's stupid corner.

You pray for such people. Leave them alone, and go on about your business.

Obama's elevation to the ultimate power pulpit has given birth to a new and emerging reality; a steep decline in the unconscious viciousness of Black self-hate, and self-destructive behavior, especially among Black youth.

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A Woman who Loves Her Work

by John Raye

Anyone who knows Renee Rogers will tell you one thing that best describes her character; this woman flat out loves to work. And she works extremely hard. She works six days a week, and sometime, it morphs into a seven-day work week. Mind you, these are not your usual nine-to-five work days either.

She works in an industry known for its high burn-out rate and rapid employee turnover; fast foods.

If you drive up or walk into Church's Chicken at 1102 Bessemer avenue in Greensboro, mostly likely you'll see Renee Rogers behind the counter.

She's a busy woman, always it seems, in perpetual motion, doing three or



Renee Rogers

four things at the same time. One moment, she could be serving customers at the busy drive-thru window, ringing up orders from walk-in cus-

tomers or giving sweet smiles to familiar faces.

There is little time to relax or to engage in small talk. Rogers knows she has to be quick and fast on her feet. After all, this is the fast food business. And most people expect to have their food that way...fast and quick.

She does not show or act like it, but this 38 year mother of three, is the boss, the general manager of a store that sold a whole lot of fried chicken last year.

About a million dollars worth to be exact. And Rogers would like to duplicated or top that figure this year.

The fast food business is big business. It's also a hard, tough and demanding business with a high turnover rate.

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The Race for the Title

2009 MEAC Basketball Tournament - March 10-14

Courtesy of the MEAC Media Relations



Expect the unexpected. That has become the rule of thumb for the MEAC basketball tournament, where being the No. 1 seed quite often is the kiss of death.

Ask Morgan State's men and North Carolina A&T's women. The Bears and Lady Aggies each

lost in the championship game on last-second

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