

Your Picture News Weekly

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North Carolina's Leading Weekly

ENTERTAINER OF YEAR



ENTERTAINER OF THE YEAR—Singer Daina Ross displays Cue Magazine's Entertainer of the Year Award which

she received at the annual Awards Ceremonies at the Tavern-on-the Green here late

1/12 for her portrayal of Billie Holiday in "Lady Sings The Blues."

To Much Time Required For Hair May Take Afro Style Out

ALL HAIR IS "GOOD HAIR"

The "Afro," for years the symbol of black rejection of shame and the lagging remnants of the "slave culture," may be on its way out, reports February Ebony. For centuries the outrageous misnomer "good hair" meant the straight, long-flowing tresses of most white folks. "Bad hair," on the other hand, described the short, bristly variety most black people are born with. As a symbol of pride in their racial heritage, black Americans began letting their hair grow freely in its unprocessed state. This practice gave rise to one of the most exciting hairstyles in the history of American coiffure—the "Natural" or "Afro." To blacks, the "Afro" was more significant of a cultural trend than a mere fashion. To many whites, in the beginning, the "Afro" was an object of curiosity and even a symbol to be feared.

The era of the "Afro," ushered in by the "soulful generation," left in its wake a mountain of straightening combs, curling irons, thick pomades and stocking caps. No culturally conscious segment of black society, from penal institutions to the halls of Congress, was left unaffected by the advent of the "freedom cap." What began as a statement of self-awakening was also embraced as an outward protest of centuries of brainwashing.

Now that the noble bush has been around for several seasons, it has come under fire from some style-conscious corners. So widespread is the controversy today that the question is being raised as to whether the "Afro" is on its way out.

Critics of the "Afro" say that too much time is required to maintain it, that it is too impractical or just plain boring. One dermatologist charged that it is damaging to the hair shafts and scalp. As a result, many blacks are seeking new and exciting hairstyles—instead of "beating around the bush" for hours in order to "get it together."

Surprisingly one of the strongest attacks upon the "Afro" has come from Africans who see nothing in the

style to bind black America with them. Many Africans reject the "Afro" as a symbol of imperialistic American decadence purveyed by Western

blacks. The abandonment of the "Afro" does not mean that blacks are returning to the
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JOE TEX ON SPEAKING TOUR—Minister Kenneth Muhammad's Temple No. 34 in Durham and Raleigh and Minister Joseph, formerly rhythm and blues star, Joe Tex, hold the platinum

record plaque for the sale of 2,000,000 copies of "I Gotcha." Minister Joseph is now on a national speaking tour to raise funds for the proposed hospital of the Nation of Islam, under the leader-

Unprecedented CR Gains Made In LBJ Administration -- Wilkins

NEW YORK - The death of former President Lyndon B. Johnson on January 22 "marks the end of an era during which unprecedented progress was made towards elimination" of racial injustice, Roy Wilkins, executive director of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, said in a statement released here on January 23.

President Johnson, Mr. Wilkins said, sought equality for all humanity. "Never before in the history of the United States of America," he concluded, "had this great goal of human equality been championed from the White House."

The full text of Mr. Wilkins' statement follows:

The passing of Lyndon Baines Johnson marks the end of an era during which unprecedented progress was made towards elimination of racial bias, providing for the basic needs of the nation's poor, and lifting the horizon of disadvan-

tagged groups within the American society. Many persons and various social forces contributed to that era of change, but foremost of all was President Johnson. It was his dedication, his uncompromising commitment and his skillful leadership which wrought a revolution of national conscience in regard to race and poverty.

His Voting Rights Act of 1965 restored the ballot to millions of black Americans. His Civil Rights Act of 1964 abolished racial discrimination in public accommodations and tackled the complex bias in employment. His 1968 Fair Housing Act affirmed freedom of residence to Negro citizens.

A man of Southern origin he broke with the traditions of his region and boldly espoused the Great Society in which each person would be valued on his individual merit. Never before in the history of the United States of America had this great goal of human equality been championed from the White House.

Mr. Wilkins was the first civil rights leader whom President Johnson called to the White House during the first week in the office to which he succeeded after the assassination of President John F. Kennedy. Following that conference on Nov. 29, 1963, the NAACP leader told newsmen: "We have very great faith in the President's attitude on civil rights. We have every expectation that out of his own conviction he will do well in the job."

NCCU Receives \$10,000 Grant From Du Pont

North Carolina Central University has received a \$10,000 Du Pont Science Grant from the Du Pont Co.

T. L. Cairns, chairman of the committee on educational aid of E. I. Du Pont de Nemours & Company, told NCCU Chancellor Albert N. Whiting, "The grant reflects the growing importance of your institution to the Du Pont Company."

"We have especially close relationships with your excellent department of chemistry," Cairns said.

The grant is part of Du Pont's 1973 educational aid program, which saw \$2,700,000 go to 150 colleges and universities and to other educational activities.

LBJ Told Nix Rights Battle Must Continue

January 16, six days prior to his death, former President Lyndon B. Johnson wrote Congressman Robert N. Nix, Sr. The letter supported Mr. Nix, in his quest for leadership in the field of Civil Rights. The personal letter reads as follows:

"Dear Congressman Nix: Thank you for your letter I am most grateful to you for your kind and generous remarks, but I am especially happy to know of your own intention for continuing to exercise leadership on the cause of civil rights."

"As I told those who participated in the Civil Rights Symposium at the Library here in December, this is work which must go forward with determination and imagination. Great gains were made for the cause during the decade past. Certainly no fair minded person though, would argue that those achievements represent the sum of what our nation can and must do to overcome the inequities of unequal histories of the races.

"Some, I know, are dispirited and demoralized, believing that the obstacles present in the current climate are insurmountable. I do not and cannot share this mood. A decade ago the that progress through this decade and decades to come.

"I think it especially appropriate that you, representing the city which cradled our country at its beginning, should undertake a role of leadership now obstacles were much greater, yet we made more progress in ten years than had been possible over the 100 preceding years. With leadership, with compassion, with patience and persistence, we can continue Three years hence, when we celebrate the nation's Bicentennial, no work will more appropriately honor the deeds of our Founding Fathers than for Americans to be active in pursuing for all citizens those rights and liberties to which we were committed at Philadelphia in 1776.

"I wish best and high regards,
Sincerely
L.B.J.

RECEIVES CERTIFICATE



LIFE MEMBER - Roy Wilkins executive director of the NAACP (left) presents Charles Wilson with a certificate of life membership in the NAACP. Wilson, employed in the Public Affairs Department of East-

man Kodak Company, is one of some 54,000 life members of the NAACP (total membership is about 450,000). He has been a member of the NAACP since 1936. Wilson came to Kodak in August, 1971. He served as

regional director of the New York State Division of Human Rights for over two years after retiring from the Army Corps of Engineers with 25 years of service.

Black Liberation Committee Continues March Held May 27

The Black Liberation Committee (BLC) grew out of the African Liberation Day March held in Washington, D. C. on May 27, 1972. The purpose of the march was to support the struggles of all African people. The Durham group decided to continue the efforts sought by the march and formed the Black Liberation Committee of Durham. The committee's co-chairmen are Joan Burton and Dwight Womble.

The group has taken on programs dealing with the needs of Black people, such as sponsoring a WAFR Support Week for the only black-owned educational radio station in the country and working with prison problems.

For the past few months the committee has been involved with the problems and conditions of the Penal System throughout the State. The group has organized into six committees: (1) the Release Subcommittee, (2) the Facilities Subcommittee, (3) the Educational Subcommittee, (4) the Political Prisoners Subcommittee, (5) the Talent Search Subcommittee and (6) the Correspondence Subcommittee.

1. The Release Subcommittee will deal with finding employment for inmates eligible for work release and find

suitable housing and employment for parolees.

2. The Facilities Subcommittee will work to investigate the units, living conditions, recreational areas, educational provisions and the

segregated units (i. e. solitary confinement units), and report their findings to BLC with recommendations.

3. The Educational Subcommittee will initiate programs

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N. C. Central Univ. Choir Adds Wisc. Campuses to Annual Tour

Charles Gilchrist, instructor of choral music and director of North Carolina Central University's two choirs, will visit six campuses of the University of Wisconsin during the coming week to complete plans for a tour of that state.

A Wisconsin leg, from Mar. 24 to 30, will be added to the touring choirs annual swing through the North Atlantic states.

The appearances at the six Wisconsin campuses are part of the exchange program between the two universities, funded under Title III of the Higher Education Act.

Full-scale concerts by the choir, which has achieved national acclaim under the leadership of Gilchrist and his predecessors, are scheduled at five of the campuses of the University of Wisconsin. They are those at Madison, Kenosha (Parkside), La

Crosse, Menominee, and Superior.

The choir will also stop at and present a short daytime concert at the University of Wisconsin—Waukesha.

Conferences with the music departments of the various campuses will highlight Gilchrist's advance tour of Wisconsin. Mrs. Annie Nakamura, the University of Wisconsin's Administrative Secretary for the Committee on Cooperation with Developing Universities, has made many of the arrangements for the visit.

The touring choir will begin its travels on March 15. Appearances are scheduled in Brooklyn, Norwalk, Conn., Philadelphia, Baltimore, and Washington on the east coast. The choir will also stop in Cleveland and Detroit enroute to Wisconsin.

Black Mayors To Meet In Fayette

For the first time in American history, Black mayors of Southern cities and towns will take part in a conference to examine their common problems. Scheduled for February 9th and 10th in Fayette, Mississippi the two-day conference has been called by Mayor Charles Evers of Fayette and Mayor Howard N. Lee of Chapel Hill, North Carolina.

A total of 35 black mayors and four vice mayors have been invited from Alabama, Arkansas, Florida, Georgia, Louisiana, Mississippi, North Carolina, South Carolina, Tennessee and Virginia. (As of January, more than half had accepted invita-

tions to attend.)

Mayor Richard Hatcher of Gary, Indiana, is the featured speaker February 10th session of the conference. Mayor Hatcher was re-elected to a second term as Gary's mayor last year.

The theme of the conference is the responsibility of Black mayors "to lead the way towards full economic advancement and the achievement of equal justice under law for all segments of the community." The conference agenda will include discussions on ways and means of advancing economic development, on establishment of meaningful public services by municipalities and on techniques for improving police treatment and correction.

"Fayette was chosen as the site of the initial conference," Mayor Evers said, "because of the strides our town has made economically and socially since our administration was elected almost four years ago. We hope that those Black mayors who attend can gain from Fayette's experience and knowledge and apply them to the problems of their own communities. We are convinced that what we have experienced in Fayette has transfer value elsewhere in the South, especially in rural areas," Mayor Evers noted.

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PRESENTS CHECK TO DR. CHEEK



UNRESTRICTED GRANT—J. Rauscher (second from left), district manager of the American Oil Company, presents Dr. King V. Cheek, president of Morgan State College, with an unrestricted grant from the American Oil

Foundation. The grant of \$2,500 was one of 115 unrestricted grants to college and universities by the American Oil Foundation. According to Morgan Spokesman, the funds will be used for educational purposes.

Looking on are Dr. Haywood Harrison (extreme left), vice president of institutional planning and development, and Tony J. Cutrina (extreme right), assistant to the district manager of the American Oil Company.