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TELEPHONE (919) 682-2913

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Ground Broken For New Hillside High School

General ground breaking ceremony for the new Hillside High School was held Sunday afternoon, September 20. The site is located south of Beechwood Parkway on the east side of Hillside Road.

The Hillside Band opened the ceremony with the "Star Spangled Banner" and welcoming remarks given by Principal Richard [Name]. Other remarks were heard from C. Owen Phillips, Independent, Durham Public Schools; Ms. Kathryn Moyers, Chairman, Board of Education; H. Lucas, vice chairman, Board of Education; William B. [Name], Durham County Chairman, Durham County Board of Commissioners; Ms. [Name], Durham County Board of Commissioners; Julius [Name], chancellor, North Carolina Central University and co-chair of the Hillside Model High School Task Force; Mrs. Josephine [Name], former member of the

Durham County Board of Commissioners and co-chair of the Hillside Model High School Task Force; and Robert O'Neal, Hillside student who will be a member of the first class to graduate from the new facility.

After Supt. Phillips presented plaques, the Hillside High School Chorus concluded the event.

A printed program for the ground breaking includes a brief history of Hillside. It follows:

"For over a century, Hillside High School has symbolized all that is best in public education. From its beginning in 1887 as a small frame building housing six grades and more than one hundred students to its present and future forms as a model of exemplary education, Hillside has served as an integral part of our community.

"Named for its first principal, James A. Whitted, Whitted High School was opened in 1887. In 1921, after the Whitted School had burned or been destroyed three

times, John Spunt Hill donated land for a new building on Pine and Umstead Streets. Out of appreciation for this generous gift, the new school (which was located on a hillside) was named Hillside Park High School. In 1950, because of overcrowding, the high school was moved into its present building on Concord Street.

"Through the years, the Hillside family — administrators, teachers, students and community — even in difficult times, has always risen to provide a haven for the best and the brightest. Hillside was named "All-American High School" in 1980 by United Press International and has produced many national, state and local community leaders.

"It is fitting that we celebrate this afternoon the ground-breaking for a new Hillside facility. In this new school building, students will continue to experience spirit of community, quality education and pride at Hillside High School."



GROUND BREAKING



MISS KIMBERLY CLARICE AIKEN IS MISS AMERICA 1994

Black Students in State Post Gains, Still Behind Whites

RALEIGH (AP) — White students in North Carolina public schools are allowed to coast from grade to the next, a practice that retards their progress, a state official said.

National test results show that North Carolina's white students are well behind other whites in the nation. The test results show that black students are competitive with white students nationwide.

In effect, it means we tend to let the grades of white students rise and don't challenge them as we should. That makes it very difficult for them to compete nationally," said Suzanne Triplett, the assistant state superintendent who oversees North Carolina's testing program.

Triplett believes teachers inflate grades of those who are given A's and B's on their report card — a group that is predominantly white. When those students take a national test, they find it difficult to keep pace with students in other states who had to work harder for their top grades, she said.

The second reason is the effect of state and federal programs during the past two decades. Most have focused primarily on the lowest performing students — a group that contains a large percentage of the state's blacks.

As their basic skills improved, they became more competitive at the national level.

In math and reading exams, for example, North Carolina black students easily reach the national average for blacks. White students' (Continued On Page 2)

South Carolina Queen Wins Miss America Crown

By Nancy Plevin
 ATLANTIC CITY, N.J. (AP) — It may be pursuing a new image, but the Miss America pageant hasn't left all of its beauty contest traditions behind.

Newly crowned Miss America Kimberly Clarice Aiken took a customary seaside frolic in front of a pack of photographers on Sunday. And, unlike her predecessor, Leanza Cornett, the 18-year-old Aiken said she likes to wear the rhinestone crown.

One of the youngest women to hold the title, Aiken — Miss South Carolina — best of 49 women to win the 1994 title Saturday night. "This has all been very overwhelming for me," she told reporters Sunday. "I am willing to accept the responsibilities."

Looking composed despite little sleep and a bad cold, Aiken said she wants to spend the next year working to help the homeless. "My main goal is to get homeless people off the streets and get

people who may become homeless not to be in that situation," she said. "I'd like to make the greatest difference."

Aiken is founder and president of the Homeless Education and Resource Organization in her hometown of Columbia, S.C. She said she has worked with children who live in homeless shelters and transitional housing.

She has an uncle who was homeless, but Aiken said that was (Continued On Page 2)

At The Black Caucus

Historic Unity: How It Happened

By Sonya Ross

WASHINGTON (AP) — The grassroots, spiritual, middle-class and political standard-bearers of black America overcame their longtime differences and came together last week.

During the annual meeting of the Congressional Black Caucus, Jesse Jackson, Louis Farrakhan, NAACP Executive Director Benjamin Chavis and Rep. Kwesi Mfume shared the spotlight without rancor or criticism. "That was something very impressive," said Percy Chapman, a 22-year-old paper called Tragedy who had the type of childhood that would earn such a name. "I'm tired of seeing us flip on each other, and slander-assaninate each other in public." Yet Tragedy found faith before his eyes, the black political figures who say they represent the like him actually sat down and hashed out the differences that kept them apart.

Chapman, a member of a panel on rap music at the caucus, eventually had stayed away from the leaders' session, believing it would deteriorate into a public black family feud. He watched it on television in his hotel room and saw what seemed to him a dream come

Thursday morning, Chavis and Jackson stood in a holding room. Both seemed edgy and skeptical, while the usually smooth Jackson, a

two-time presidential candidate, looked like he wanted to bolt.

The source of their anxiety was Farrakhan, leader of the Nation of Islam. He had come to claim his place alongside mainstream black power brokers.

But Farrakhan and Jackson were on the outs, over anti-Semitic comments and political differences of opinion. And Chavis was sore at Farrakhan for news articles condemning him and others for denying the Muslim minister a chance to speak at the 30th anniversary March on Washington last month.

"It's time to have a full airing, now," Chavis said. "Hopefully, there will be greater clarity on the renewed importance of challenging racial injustice." At one point, Farrakhan started, then cut off, an attack on Jackson, who said black Americans have been winning the battle against racism since passage of the 1964 Civil Rights Act, which struck down legal segregation.

"Reverend Jackson, I submit on one hand we're winning," Farrakhan said. "Ignorance is the worst enemy of the rise of our people. That ignorance is fed by corrupt leadership. ... We've got to unite at the top to develop strategies to free our people." Then Farrakhan glowingly praised Jackson as a brave man, a loyal friend and someone he loves. "The media does not want a united Farrakhan and Jackson," he said.

Jackson sat quietly through Farrakhan's praise and the wild applause it brought. Then he said: "That's precisely why leaders, knowing the nature of media, must speak to policy and direction." Rep. Maxine Waters, D-Calif., fought her way onto the panel dominated by men. "I'm a black woman. I'm a sister," Waters said.

"There is a concentrated, organized effort to keep our voices down on the discussion of race," Chavis apologized to Farrakhan for the march mishap — and asked for an apology in return. They decided to work it out in private.

"The question is, Will we have mutual respect for our different perspectives?" Chavis asked. "We need to work together more than we've ever worked together." "I just do not want the forces we must fight to get off the hook cheap," Jackson said. "Oppressors do not have a retirement plan. The oppressed must change their minds. We must stop the fratricide." "Only in unity can we end racism from a power perspective," Farrakhan added. "We don't have to sit around begging white people to do for us what we can do for ourselves." Mfume, a Democratic congressman from Maryland who heads the black caucus, capped the day by declaring his 40-member group would work jointly with Farrakhan on legislative matters. "This is a new day in many respects," he said.