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ERNEST H. PITT, Publisher **NDUBISI EGEMONYE**

ELAINE L. PITT Office Manager

ALLEN JOHNSON tresume the

MICHAEL PITT in ulutum Munuze

Know thy enemies

If public figures really are known by the company they keep, it stands to reason that they're judged by enemies they keep, as well.

That being so, you could easily believe Walter Mondale to be a knight in shining armor, pure in every thought and deed, based on arrieles opposing in apartheid South Africa's major newspapers.

Johannesburg's Sunday Times, for example, recently noted that "South Africa will watch the White House race with interest, for candidate Mondale is a known and littleloved quantity.

"As Jimmy Carter's Vice-President, he helped forge four years of sterility in Southern Africa. In 1977, his efforts to prescribe a majority-rule formula to then-Prime Minister John Vorster unleashed a wave of White indignation that swept the Government to its biggest electoral victory.

"The 1984 Mondale is no more temperate, and if, by some remote chance he becomes the next tenant of the White House, he would undoubtedly return us to that unhelpful era of hostility."

Another appraisal of the Democratic presidential nominee in Pretoria's Afrikaans-language daily, Die Transvaler, was no kinder.

"If the Democrats win on November 6," its editorial columns declared, "South Africa will have a rough time in its relations with Washington. The present policy of constructive engagement will be a thing of the past, investment in South Africa will be forbidden and there will be trade boycotts."

In something of a backhanded compliment, the newspaper insisted, "Only Jesse Jackson, with his special hatred of this country, could be worse for it than Walter

The Pretoria News echoed that assessment, stating, "The Mondale-Ferraro show has hit the road amid the usual ballyhoo and armed with a set of policies which bode ill for South Africa -- and indeed Southern Africa -- if this pair is ever allowed to implement them Having satisfied the feminists, the Democrats felt they had to do something for Blacks, and reportedly allowed Mr. Jesse Jackson to write their Southern Africa policy."

Another Afrikaans-language newspaper, the Beeld of Johannesburg, examined the American presidential campaign from a slightly different perspective -- how well South Africa had been treated by President Reagan.

"South Africa knows what it has in the Reagan administration's policy of constructive engagement," it stated. "While we should be under no illusions that this policy is based on any particular love for this country, at least it does benefit us. For what the Reagan administration regards as its interest in Southern Africa coincides remarkably with what the South African Government in turn considers to be its own best interests.

"While South Africa is not exactly in fear and trembling at the prospect of a Democrat president," the editorial continued, "a new term for President Reagan would be preferable all round. At this stage all indications are that what is in our interest is evidently what most Americans regard as being in theirs too."

This we strongly doubt, but a Reagan victory in November undeniably would be perceived as such throughout the world, with detrimental effects upon our relations with much worthier friends.

Crosswinds

Court attacks equity

From The Michigan Chronicle.

The present administration's dedication to bringing affirmative action and equal employment opportunity into line with what white America wants it to be received the sanction of the U.S. Supreme Court recently in what could become one of the most controversial decisions in the nation's history.

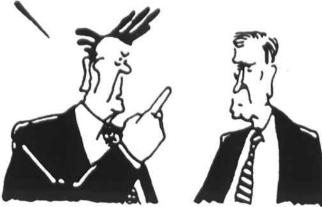
When the court, with Justice Byron White writing the majority opinion, ruled that seniority outranked racial balance in public employment, it sent consternation throughout the ranks of black leadership who knew that such a decision was in the making.

Detroit Mayor Coleman A. Young, one of the leading proponents of bringing racial balance into the municipal personnel system, expressed the views of many of his colleagues in this battle for equal opportunity when he told a local judge that "society is responsible for providing equal opportunities and, failing that, for providing affirmative action. A society that allows slavery can't escape paying. There is no such thing as a free lunch."

NAACP executive director Benjamin Hooks expressed the same point of view, that in order to achieve long overdue equity in the system, someone had to suffer.

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GEORGE - I WANT US TO SPEAK WITH ONE VOICE -







WE HAVE NO PLANS FOR A



Was Vanessa just too naive?

By CLIFTON GRAVES **Chronicle Columnist**

IN FACT, WE HAVE NO

PLANS WHATSOEVER

Dear Sister Vanessa:

I, like millions of your fans across this country, am dismayed and disappointed over the recent events surrounding your relinquishing of the Miss America crown.

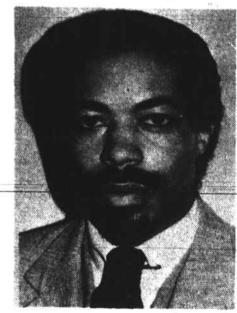
But, unlike some, my disappointment stems not from what you did as much as your naivete in believing that the photographer would not eventually exploit the situation!

Now, to be sure, you had no way of knowing that one year after the photographs were taken, you would be selected as the first black Miss America.

To be sure, one can attribute your willingness to pose in those nude and lewd positions to adventuresome youth and daring.

But Vanessa, baby, this is America, the land where economics for the greedy take precedence over politics for the needy! The land where money talks and bull manure walks! The land where folks would step on their mama's back for a dollar!

Yes, we understand that the Miss America Pageant is at once a farce and hypocritical. Yes, we empathize with your parents, family and friends as



they cope with this traumatizing experience.

Yet, unfortunate as this situation is, Vanessa, it is perhaps better that it happened now than later. It is perhaps better that you -- an intelligent, talented, beautiful, but sheltered woman -- learned the lesson of American greed and exploitation now, so that you can be prepared for its pitfalls and traps in the future.

Moreover, it is perhaps fitting -- and further underscores the irony here -- that America's first black Miss America relinquishes her crown to America's second black Miss America. Fitting, because whether or not the photographs ever were published, chances are that there would not be another

black Miss America in our lifetime. And just think, in one year, we've had two!

Certainly, sister, you will be subjected to ridicule and embarrassment for some time to come. The ridicule may be unwarranted, but the embarrassment is well-deserved. (I saw the photographs -- whew!)

But, irrespective of your mistake or naivete, Vanessa, your experience -- just like those of brothers Jesse Jackson and Louis Farrakhan -- has demonstrated that the twin evils of American greed and racism are ever with us.

Sorry you had to learn the hard way. Sorry that your dainty, suburban image had to be tarnished. Learn well the lesson of this humiliating episode in your yet young life. Go out and turn this stumbling block into a stepping stone. Go out and make all the money off of this exposure and notoriety that can be made. Exploit America as America has exploited you!

But, sister, do not forget who you are and where you came from, because black America won't and white America never will ...

Stay strong, keep the faith and keep your clothes on.

> Your brother, Clifton

The campaign's new wild card

people.

By TONY BROWN Syndicated Columnist

STARKVILLE, Miss. --The political fortunes of Jesse Jackson continue on their precarious course. On the same day, he was dealt a double blow: one by his party's nomince and one by his controversial, so-called "surrogate."

Minister Louis Farrakhan moved the black agenda back to the front burner in Democratic politics and proved that Jesse Jackson's rebuke of his support has not dimmed his status as a media star.

He also laid claim to the nationalist segment of Jackson's constituency as perhaps America's first street-corner power-broker by exploiting Jackson's inability to capitalize on the wave of black frustration and anger that propelled him into power and political prominence. Meanwhile, Walter Mondale says that he does not want Jackson

WHEN THE U.S AND U.S.S.R TRADED MORE ACCUSATIONS ABOUT SPACE

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OBSERVERS DECLARED CHANCES OF EARLY NEGOTIATIONS HAD COLLAPSED



as a power-broker for black

Farrakhan, despite Jewish protests and extreme security measures, packed Washington's prestigious National Press Club. The soldyou threatened you would not let him speak at the conven-

"You forced him to apologize to people whom he owes no apology. Your mistreated him and ... left him

"While avoiding direct criticism of his friend and brother,' the message is implicit. Likewise, is his obvious offer of a new leadership and a new direction for Jackson's followers. In short, Farrakhan is asking blacks not to vote in November."

out crowd and jammed-tocapacity press galleries heard Farrakhan repeat his previous assults on Israel, Zionism and alleged Jewish dominance in American politics. That part of his speech was predictable.

But his "Poor Jesse, poor Jesse" litany accused Mondale of exploiting black voters and portrayed Jackson as a pathetic victim. "...You prevailed upon my brother to repudiate me on the basis of your lies. You frightened his staff to urge this upon him or

out in the cold waiting for a signal that they may enthusiastically work for the Democratic ticket." Jackson's expected presence

and those whom he represents

as a head-table guest of Farrakhan helped create an interest in the event. Farrakhan explained his absence by saying Jackson was officiating at Aretha Franklin's father's funeral. Jackson's secretary said, according to press

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BUT SPOKESMEN FOR BOTH SIDES SAID THEY WOULD CONTINUE TO press for talks ... \leq



Letters

Risking a life for NAACP

To The Editor:

As I opened the door of the NAACP office on July 25, Ann Simmons met me on her way out. She said she had just been told over the phone that there was a bomb (inside). She called the police.

While we waited, Ann, still shaking with fear, said Pat (Hairston, Winston-Salem's NAACP president), would be upset that she called the police.

When Pat arrived, he told me that he had already had many death threats, one at 3:30 in the morning. He hadn't bothered to report them.

The purpose of that Wednesday evening meeting was the boycott. Some may doubt the boycott. Pat Hairston does not. Some people are not willing to risk a dollar for what they believe in. Pat Hairston is willing to risk his life for what he believes in. I'm proud to call him my friend.

> F. Mickey Andrews Winston-Salem

Are we safer now?

To The Editor:

As a student at the N.C. Governor's School and a future voting citizen of the United States, I would like to say that I am concerned by the current trend of conservatism in this country.

Many vital social programs have already been cut in the name of national defense, yet are we really safer than we were four years ago? Civil rights have been set back considerably. In the four years since the conservatives came into power, the Supreme Court has ruled that employers may not be forced to protect affirmative action, citizens have no legal right to sue the government over alleged lax enforcement of a policy banning federal tax breaks to racially discriminatory schools, and state officials cannot be sued in federal court on the allegations of state civil right violations.

If the conservatives remain in power through the 1984 elections, President Reagan will have three appointments to the Supreme Court, a move that can be viewed as potentially threatening to all minorities. In a recent survey at the Governor's School, 78 percent of the students polled disagreed with affirmative action, with 75 percent of them calling it 'reverse discrimination."

Men such as Martin Luther King Jr. and Robert Kennedy have been labeled "Communist" by the conservative element and the Voting Rights Act had a relatively tough time being passed in the conservative-controlled Senate. Many conservatives have labeled liberalism as a "faulty, knee-jerking doctrine." It was this faulty doctrine that got our country out of the Depression and allows everyone -- blacks, women, Hispanics -- to aspire to greater heights.

> Monica Parham Laurinburg

