

Winston-Salem Chronicle

Founded 1974

NDUBISI EGEMONYE Co-Founder
ERNEST H. PITT, Publisher
ALLEN JOHNSON Executive Editor
ELAINE L. PITT Office Manager
ROBIN ADAMS Assistant Editor
MICHAEL PITT Circulation Manager

Yo' mama

The hot-tempered, high-stakes game of yo' mama rages on. Jesse Helms and Jim Hunt locked horns once again last week in a session that had to frustrate anyone who is interested in the issues.

What we got instead was the governor asking the senator a question, the senator dodging the question with a countercharge, the governor dodging the senator's question with his own countercharge, and so on, ad nauseam.

Helms clearly tried to be ornery this time, trading his "Aw shucks" approach in the first debate for an all-out assault on his adversary. What Helms, in fact, succeeded at the most was sweating a lot, breathing hard and tiring himself plumb out.

Hunt, meanwhile, patronizingly called Helms "Jesse" and was considerably smoother and more controlled in his barbs, though equally vague and evasive when it came to specifics. Helms was the slugger in this boxing match, flailing wildly in search of a knockout. Hunt responded with sleight of hand and calm demeanor. But neither landed the big punch he sought because neither wanted to address directly what the other had to say, choosing to play a white man's version of the dozens and call it a debate.

Hunt did, however, score significantly when Helms used his patented race-baiting techniques to arouse racist fears.

Helms accused Hunt of attempting to inform only black citizens of his support for a Martin Luther King Jr. holiday by advertising that fact in black newspapers. Why, Helms asked, didn't Hunt do the same in white papers?

Was Hunt trying to keep a secret?

The bigger issue, of course, is that Helms opposed the holiday, and led efforts to defeat it by discrediting Dr. King as a communist. But Helms knows the score. If he wins, he'll win with white votes, and all some racist white folk need is to hear that Hunt did something in the interest of civil rights to march to the polls against the governor.

In any event, Hunt took that opportunity to, wonder of wonders, call it as he saw it and remind his opponent, in so many words, that this is 1984, not 1884.

Someone also ought to remind Sen. Helms, and the voters, that the "Prince of Darkness" isn't the shoot-from-the-hip maverick that he purports to be. "Love him or hate him," Helms' allies like to say, "you always know where good of 'ol Jesse stands. Jim Hunt's views might shift with the wind."

But, as Hunt might say, "Now Jesse..."

In a recent editorial, *The Charlotte Observer* pointed out the inconsistencies in Helms' rhetoric and his record, including:

- the fact that Helms will probably spend more money on his senatorial campaign, most of it for television commercials, than anyone in history, yet those spots rarely feature his record.

- Helms' contention that he hadn't proposed to eliminate Social Security during the debate when he actually had last year, in favor of a privately run retirement program.

- Helms' statement during the debate that he didn't favor a "superfund" to clean up hazardous waste because it was \$6 to 7 billion more expensive than the federal budget could stand, when, in actuality, he voted against a fund that only cost \$1.6 billion.

There were other half-truths, distortions and outright lies, but we think our points have been made.

Where do you really stand, Jesse?

Why does Gov. Hunt seem more concerned with what he avoids saying rather than what he says?

And whoever came up with the bright idea for these debates ought to gas up his Edsel and drive to another state.

Crosswinds

Apartheid politics?

From the Fort Lauderdale (Fla.) Westside Gazette.

If mention was made of a political convention in South Africa's apartheid setting being 90 percent-plus white, hardly anyone would be surprised. In America, a national political gathering of 90 percent-plus white indicates, unfortunately, a serious, dangerous trend for now and the future of America.

Many persons across the country and throughout the world may view this latest gathering of an almost entirely white political party as a joke, momentarily. A few seconds later, however, it will likely be realized that it is no joke. It's for real! The gathering represents some frightening symbols. All Americans had better take careful notice.

And most important of all, the gathering is a celebrated rally around the president who is supposed to represent all Americans. Secondly, there are reports that the KKK has recently endorsed the president in his re-election bid. This same president was reported to have been endorsed by the

Please see page A9

IT SAYS HERE THAT UNDER REAGAN THE RICH GOT RICHER AND THE POOR GOT POORER



THAT'S MISLEADING - YOU HAVE TO UNDERSTAND THAT BEING RICH IS RISKY...



SO THE RICH ARE JUST BEING REWARDED FOR TAKING THAT RISK



AND THE POOR? THEY'RE GETTING GREATER INCENTIVES



Don't defend Vanessa's actions

By TONY BROWN
 Syndicated Columnist

"I've hit rock bottom," said Vanessa Williams immediately following the revelation that she had posed in acts of lovemaking with another woman. Not quite.

In the new fall line-up for nude and pornographic dirty pictures of the defrocked Miss America, leather scanties, handcuffs and wrist bracelets have been added to her love arsenal. Vanessa, the un-black, first appeared in the September issue of *Penthouse* in lesbian scenes.

She returns in the November issue with the same white woman, doing heaven knows what, and again in January featured in leather roughwear "in attitudes suggesting S&M," posed in a white photographer's apartment.

There are now, to our knowledge, three nude sessions -- one with sado-masochistic overtones and one with explicit lesbian love. Three separate sessions took place in a space of weeks for two white photographers. It is hard to believe that this is the once-in-a-lifetime mistake that Williams has claimed and blamed on her "curiosity."

That summer, she reveals, "I was feeling like my own



Brown

woman -- free, rebellious, my own person," *The New York Times* reported. *People* said, "At last Vanessa felt free to do whatever she wanted to do, to experiment with her life."

She explains, according to *People*, "How in the summer of '82 she lost her way and wandered into the porn (pornography) field."

"Vanessa Williams was a fraud on the American people -- a fraud certainly on her own people," Bob Guccione of *Penthouse* said. The original photographs had been taken at Vanessa's insistence, *People* reported him as saying.

"She said it would be very sexy to pose with another girl. She was delighted with the pictures. She showed them to

everybody," Guccione added. Her excuse is that she was taken advantage of by the white people she trusted.

As her undraped, nude body is on view in dirty pictures "kissing and caressing -- and being intimately kissed and caressed" by a nude white woman and in bizarre S&M scenes for the rest of this year, mothers are warning their daughters about the lubricious tableaux of "Mess America."

Meanwhile, *Essence* magazine, according to published reports, will present "a written bouquet" to her in the October issue, where the editor argues against the ethics that condemn Williams.

Essence Editor-in-Chief Susan Taylor sent her a bouquet of flattery (Vanessa Williams sent her flowers) after Williams appeared as *Essence's* latest cover girl in men's attire, looking like a man wearing lipstick and long hair. It does nothing for the image of Vanessa Williams on the heels of posing in a simulated lesbian love role.

Taylor blows sisterly kisses in an open letter to Williams in a tribute fit for a champion of black womanhood. The editorial kudos contain gems of a runaway imagination. She

Please see page A5

Old racists are new populists

By MANNING MARABLE
 Syndicated Columnist

On Aug. 19, over 600 delegates attended the first national convention of the Populist Party in 88 years.

Meeting in Nashville, the Populists nominated Bob Richards, an Olympic gold medalist in the 1956 and 1960 Summer games, as their presidential nominee. Richards' name will be on the ballot in 40 states and the Populists already claim to have about 300,000 members. Richards predicts that the Populists could "present a serious challenge to the Democratic and Republican candidates."

The sudden revival of the Populist Party evokes historical reflections on its predecessor. In the 1890s, the Populists nearly overturned the Democratic Party's domination of the South. The party united poor black and white farmers behind a biracial program of economic justice and social reforms. It opposed the powerful planter class and railroad monopolies

and in most states fought Jim Crow laws.

The "new" Populist Party also denounces "international parasitic capitalism" in its program. It calls for tariffs to protect American jobs, federal spending to expand transportation and communication facilities, and parity for small family farmers. These policy positions are well within the old Populist tradition.

But the "heart" of the new party is its emphasis on what it

modify another race's behavior, (and) demands by one race to subsidize it financially or politically as long as it remains on American soil ... The Populist Party will not permit any racial minority, through control of the media, culture distortion or revolutionary political activity, to divide or factionalize the majority of the society-nation in which the majority lives."

In plain English, these Populists are declaring war on

"In plain English, these Populists are declaring war on social welfare programs, desegregation and civil rights behind a partially-veiled rhetoric of anti-Semitism and white supremacy."

terms "respect for racial and cultural diversity." The Populist program declares that "every race" must "pursue its destiny free from interference by another race."

Targeting blacks, Latinos and Jewish-Americans (not by name, but racist innuendo), the program states that Populists oppose "social programs which would radically

social welfare programs, desegregation and civil rights behind the partially-veiled rhetoric of anti-Semitism and white supremacy.

The Summer 1984 edition of the anti-racist publication, *The Hammer*, observes that "the name recognition and wholesome image of

Please see page A5

AS A U.S. CITIZEN, WHY CAN'T I TRAVEL TO CUBA?



BECAUSE YOU'LL SPEND MONEY THERE...

THE MONEY WILL BE USED TO BUY ARMS... THE ARMS WILL BE SENT TO CENTRAL AMERICA...



WHERE THEY'LL BE USED AGAINST U.S. TROOPS...



WHOOOPS! - WRONG EXPLANATION



Recovery doesn't help U.S. blacks

By MARIAN WRIGHT EDELMAN
 Syndicated Columnist

We've heard that the economic recovery is here and good times can roll again.

But the economic recovery has not arrived for black America. In 1982, during the depths of the recession, only 59.3 percent of all black adults over the age of 15 were employed at any time during the year.

During 1983, the first year of the so-called recovery, that figure remained unchanged.

The unemployment rate we usually hear about (between 7.5 and 12 percent) measures the change in the short-term (weekly) count of active job seekers. My figures measure how well a community is able to support its families.

The difference is like the difference between climate and weather. Where jobs are concerned, the weather is getting better, but blacks still live in a very cold place.

During the whole of 1983, one out of every five blacks over the age of 15 was unemployed at least once. Two-and-a-half million of us who were unemployed at least once worked part of the year, but 1.1 million looked for but never found any work during the year. In 1983, 500,000 black men who sought work never found it.

These figures do not count an additional one million black males who are in jails, mental hospitals, the military or were otherwise missed by the Census Bureau. These men are not a part of the so-called stable economy.

Such economic desolation among black men means black women must work. In fact, during the peak of the recession

Please see page A5

Letters

Africans need American food

To The Editor:

Our nation has a surplus of more than 300 million tons of food.

Millions of Africans will starve to death this year unless they receive 3 million tons of food. This 1 percent of our surplus will sustain them for the year and give them a chance to plant, irrigate, enrich the soil and harvest.

If we fail to help our brothers and sisters in Africa, our nation will have the blood of hundreds of millions in 24 African nations on our hands.

Lots of letters demanding we help our African brothers and sisters must be received by the Congress and by the White House before the law that grants the necessary aid will be enacted.

Don't let our brothers and sisters die! Write your Congressional representative, your senator, your president today! Keep the blood from our hands!

Demand laws to use our huge food surplus to prevent starvation and death here at home and abroad.

Martin J. O'Malley
 Passaic, N.J.