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**An arrogant disregard**

We are not privy to the inner workings of the Patterson Avenue and Metropolitan YMCA boards, nor should we be -- especially where personnel matters such as what clearly now may be termed as the forced resignation of Patterson Y Director Richard Glover are concerned.

We have, however, seen and heard enough to know that something is wrong here and it needs to be corrected.

The Metro board has apparently taken it upon itself to make decisions such as the attempted ouster of Glover without sufficient consultation with the Patterson YMCA's Board of Management and with arrogant disregard for that board's jurisdiction. What's more, it's not the first time.

The Metro board last spring planned cutbacks in the new Winston Lake YMCA facility, which will replace the Patterson building. Because of shortfalls in funding, it contended, the Metro board determined that it needed to cut corners in the facility, but without discussing the matter with the full Patterson board.

Only once this newspaper made the matter public did the Metro board change its course and suddenly find the means for Winston Lake to be the first-class facility that had been promised during citywide fundraising drives.

Now the Metro board wants to replace Glover and, according to some board members, gave Glover the dubious opportunity to step down or be fired -- again without consulting the Patterson board.

"Richard had no choice," one board member told us.

We can't fairly judge Glover's performance as director of the Patterson Y during his nine-year tenure because we are on the outside looking in. Many things we know about his performance. Many others we don't.

But we fully endorse the Patterson board's decision to draft a letter expressing its outrage at being left out again in the decision-making process and to have it hand-delivered to Metro board President William Clingman.

And we wonder if the Metro board realizes the gravity of what it has done and the possible long-range implications.

Tussles between predominantly black YMCA branches and central governing boards are not new. In fact, black YMCAs in Miami, Portsmouth, Norfolk and Lynchburg, Va., and Mobile, Ala., have severed ties with white branches and become independent entities.

What's more, representatives from the Hayes-Taylor YMCA, a black branch in Greensboro, visited the Patterson Y during its called board meeting Thursday night and have shown more than passing interest in what happens here.

Once again, we cannot make a personnel judgment for or against Richard Glover at this point, nor should we be presumptuous enough to try.

The Patterson board, however, has every right to have input into Glover's future. If that right isn't respected, the Metro board, which has headaches enough with financial problems at the Glade Street YWCA and a pending child molestation case, will be in for a painful lesson in why it ought to respect black people more.

**Crosswinds**

**Apartheid's boosters**

From The Philadelphia Tribune.

Now that the Reagan administration has begun to hear the protests mounting in Washington and elsewhere, a group of conservative friends of the Pretoria regime have decided to attack the protests.

In a statement issued Friday, Dec. 14, Howard Phillips, head of the New Right Conservative Caucus, said that anti-apartheid protests in the United States were "potentially disastrous" and could lead to a communist takeover in South Africa.

Phillips, who admitted that, even for him, the government that allows a small white minority to dominate millions of Black Africans is "imperfect," found it "clearly preferable" to a majority, Black-led government that might be friendly to the Soviet Union.

Larry Pratt, executive director of the Gun Owners of America group, called a press conference to present "evidence" linking Nobel laureate Bishop Desmond Tutu to efforts to violently overthrow the white-minority regime in Pretoria. For Pratt, Bishop Tutu's statements could lead to the establishment of an "Atheist slave state" in South Africa.

Such groups as the conservatives are put into an uncomfortable position indeed, and by their own rhetoric. Phillips, a conservative who would reject encroachments on his right to vote, to speak out and to attempt to convince others of the validity of his positions on government, the law and international affairs, cannot grant such freedoms to another oppressed people.

According to news reports, the Gun Owners themselves  
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**Is another recession looming?**

By MANNING MARABLE  
 Syndicated Columnist

Even before the November elections, President Reagan's advisers perceived the specter of the coming economic recession and they relentlessly and successfully distorted the truth before American voters.

All throughout the campaign, the incumbent affirmed that taxes would be raised only "over my dead body." Administration officials projected the 1986 fiscal year deficit at \$172 billion and denounced Walter Mondale for promising to raise taxes.

Once safely re-elected, Reagan's aides admit that the real federal deficit will be at least \$200 billion and that the 1983-84 economic recovery has begun to go flat. Economists on Wall Street and in Washington agree that the country has slumped into a "growth recession" -- the economy continues to create new jobs, but at a reduced rate, and unemployment levels begin to rise.

In the past six weeks, the signs of the "growth recession" have become undeniably clear. On Nov. 20, Reagan administration aides "revised" the U.S. economy's growth rate in the last quarter from 3.6 percent down to 1.9 percent. Housing starts fell 9.8 percent in October to the



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lowest level since December 1982.

Retail sales throughout November were sluggish, and the U.S. automakers announced a 14.2 percent decline in new car sales in the last 10 days of the month, compared to last year's sales. Unemployment figures declined slightly, but after the Christmas season sales, hundreds of thousands of newly-employed workers will get the axe.

President Reagan's dilemma is of his own making. For six solid months, the aging actor pilloried Mondale as the prophet of "defeat, decline and despair." He promised that there would be no cuts in Social Security or public housing and he declared that Americans were in the midst

of "the best economic recovery in almost 30 years." The fact that unemployment rates exceeded 7.5 percent and that the number of poor people had soared by more than six million during his first term were conveniently ignored.

After the Gipper's votes were safely counted, the evasions and outright lies were abruptly halted. Administration functionaries, led by Budget Director David Stockman, unleashed a massive offensive to demand that Americans tighten their belts.

Proposals included a five percent pay cut for all federal employees, numbering over two million; reductions in farm subsidies and college loan programs; and cuts in health benefits to the elderly, military veterans and the poor. Under the cover of a modified "flat tax," corporate taxes in most instances would be reduced. The bloated Pentagon budget, which creates the fewest number of jobs for the capital expended, is allowed to grow even fatter.

The aggressiveness of Reagan's economic campaign contrasts so sharply with his "good news" platitudes of several weeks ago that even hardline conservatives in Congress are being nonplussed.

Georgia Republican Rep. Newt Gingrich declared bluntly:  
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**Party must stick to principles**

By WILLIAM MARTIN  
 Special to the Chronicle

(The following is an open letter to the N.C. Democratic Party by the black state senator from Guilford County.)

I am uneasy about discussions related to the future course and "reformation" of the Democratic Party.

I am concerned that there is a trend toward further obliteration of any substantial differences in the positions of the two major parties.

We need lines of definition that clearly portray those things in which we believe and for which we must fight within and outside the party structure. We must make our views known, understood, accepted and promoted. This requires principled commitment and dedication; this requires a willingness to be out on a limb.

If we are not strong in this conviction, regardless of what we say, in substance there will really be only one party having two subdivisions for reasons

that are purely political. This, in my opinion, is undesirable and contrary to the purposes for which separate parties have emerged in the United States and throughout the world.

Although persons develop loyalty to parties because of tradition or for opportunistic reasons, it is my firm belief that primary loyalty should be to the principles, philosophies

being able to present and accentuate clear lines of demarcation between the parties. If one cannot stand up for that which he believes to be right when his viewpoint is not the prevailing one, then he lacks commitment or his convictions are not firm.

The N.C. Democratic Party has exhibited a knee-jerk reaction to the recent campaign period and elections. There

*"If one cannot stand up for that which he believes to be right when his viewpoint is not the prevailing one, then he lacks commitment or his convictions are not firm."*

and goals that are pronounced and put into effect. If there are not significant differences between the parties with regard to principles, philosophies and goals, there are not compelling reasons (except for purely political and opportunistic ones) for persons to develop or nurture any party loyalties, because then, there is no need for the parties to even exist as separate entities.

There is nothing wrong with

have been many statements made to the effect that the party is "perceived" as being too liberal, and that we must "become" or "be perceived as becoming" more conservative, because that is the direction in which America and North Carolina are headed.

If our commitment to principle, philosophy and goals is clear and sound, there is no reason for us to be disturbed  
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**Was 1984 really a bad year?**

By JOHN E. JACOB  
 Syndicated Columnist

The year started with another federal budget planning cuts in lifeline programs for the poor and it is ending up the same way.

I saw an economic recovery that largely excluded black workers and an election in which blacks were solidly in the loser's camp.

And it ended as it began, with Washington officials floating budget plans for more cuts in programs that serve the poor. There is general agreement that domestic programs have already been cut to the bone and that further cuts are not feasible. They amount to peanuts in a trillion-dollar budget.

But cuts have been proposed in many crucial programs. That list includes food stamps, Head Start, welfare, rent subsidies for the poor and nutrition programs for poor children. And the Job Corps, a proven success, would be eliminated altogether.

Hopefully, cooler and wiser heads in Congress will prevail and beat back these unfair budget measures. But the very fact that the administration would seriously consider compounding its past callousness in this area adds gloom to the holiday season.

Despite all this, 1984 saw some developments that make it not a year of despair, but a year of hope for minorities.

One such event was Jesse Jackson's candidacy for the presidency.

Few thought he had a chance to win his party's nomination. But the Jackson campaign galvanized the black community into political action. It helped boost black voter registration and participation in the democratic political process. Its full effects may not be known for years, as those who got their first taste of political action in his campaign run for local and then state and national offices.

The Jackson campaign, followed by the sweeping reelection victory of President Reagan, also helped foster a new sense of political realism among many black citizens.

The realities of the rough-and-tumble world of politics demands realism, compromise and coalition building. At each year's end, there is a stronger sense of the need to forge alliances across racial, class and political lines that may have been absent earlier.

A second sign of hope in 1984 was the black community's coming together to deal with the internal problems of the community. A major national conference on the black family brought together representatives of national organizations to map out strategies to place our endangered families on firmer footing.

And on the local level, a multitude of community organizations increased their voluntary activities to combat crime, help troubled youngsters and improve educational opportunities. A reawakened and active community is essential to black progress and 1984 was a year in which that cornerstone of  
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