

Forum

The greatest gift -- Buy Freedom '89

I've been writing a Buy Freedom Christmas Appeal for three years now. My message has essentially been the same during that time. No amount of money from government programs will relieve the Afro-American community of its problems. It is only through supporting Afro-American-owned businesses that we shall overcome.

Tony Brown should be awarded the Medal of Freedom for very effectively selling the idea that if Afro-Americans spend 50 percent of their income with Afro-American-owned businesses instead of the 6 percent we do spend, we would create 1 million jobs in our community. Mr. Brown's bottom line is that if you spend your money with a green business, you create green wealth, stabilize green families and create jobs for green people.

One of the keys to economic growth and prosperity is the number of times a dollar is spent or turns over in a particular community. For example, the average community turns its dollars over five to six times. Asian communities in the United States turn their dollars over 11 to 12 times. The Afro-American community turns its dollars over less than once.

As Tony Brown puts it, "If I am keeping 5 percent of my money and giving you 95 percent, and I'm living

on 5 percent while you are living on 195 percent, how can my house be as nice as yours, how can my car be as new as yours and how can my IQ be as high as yours, because it's all related to income."



ANOTHER VIEW

By VERNON ROBINSON

Do all black merchants do right by their customers? No. Do all whites do right by us? No. But how many people have you heard say that they have done business with Afro-Americans once and will never do it again? Do we hold white merchants to that same standard? No. In fact, though Afro-Americans make more than \$200 billion a year, the ninth-largest gross national product of the free world, we have conducted the most successful boycott of the business in the history of mankind against ourselves.

So I ask my brothers and sisters to begin to throw off this crisis of confidence by spending half of your Christmas dollars with Afro-American-owned businesses.

If you are concerned about get-

ting young relatives to read, give them a reduced-price gift subscription to the *Chronicle* or check out the great selection of books at Special Occasions. On Liberty Street, within two blocks of each other, stop in at

TES Fashions, Ideal Fashions, the Hands of Time and Jane Penny's Gifts and Collectibles. Stop in at my favorite, the Collector's Choice in the Pavilion Mall or while you're in the vicinity, try La Shanda's Boutique on Jonestown Road. Art is also available from James and Ernestine Huff. If you're planning a Christmas party, check out Johan's on Cherry and the Orchestra Pit in the Mercantile Plaza. This is not an exhaustive list, but I think I've made my point.

Regardless of how you celebrate the Christmas holidays, remember to give the gift that keeps on giving, spend your dollar where it creates a job in your community and Buy Our Freedom.

Vernon Robinson is a former candidate for the N.C. Senate.

Chronicle Mailbag

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heart and was trying to mend the fences that had been torn down. When her motion was turned down a second motion was offered and passed -- which to me was the most sensible one -- a few of the blacks objected strenuously.

Because Alderman Vivian H. Burke had the vision to see what had been done was wrong and voted to mend the fences that needed mending then these few black people are asking for a recall on her. This, to me, is ridiculous.

To think that one of our supposedly leading citizens, Dr. J. Raymond Oliver would take a lead in trying to destroy one of our best alderpersons because of the way she voted. That was her right since none of her constituents told her how they wanted her to vote. Her constituents trust her good and sound judgement (sic).

We black people need to use this kind of energy to 'save our children.' They are destroying their minds with drugs and we are trying to destroy our community with trivial matters. Let us pool our resources and get the black community in focus. Dr. Oliver, adopt a child and help it to become a dentist. God knows we need more of them.

What can we tell our children when we are scheming to destroy one another? Let us move on to more important things than to try and recall someone because they did the right thing for the good of our community and city.

Naomi W. Jones
Winston-Salem

Reader supports Barber

To The Editor:

More times than not, I'm very pleased with the *Winston-Salem Chronicle's* coverage of issues that relate to the Afro-American community.

Like any conscious, aware Afro-American, I'm outraged and totally disgusted at the cartoon printed in Glenn High's paper. I know it doesn't portray the activities of the average Afro-American high school student. They're more sophisticated and articulate. I do feel Steve Anthony, adviser to the paper, got off very easily. An open apology was like administering a band-aid for an injury needing 20 stitches! Not only was the cartoon unfair, it was incredulous!

I strongly disagree with comments made by Mr. Palmer Friende concerning the cartoon not being a "deliberate act." I can't even believe he thinks those of us who are outraged are without reason! I am appalled at that insinuation.

I do feel that Nathaniel Barber acted within reason. It hurt to see in

print such an erroneous statement as the one accusing him of being "one who has bought into the idea that their paychecks are more important than the miseducation of our Afro-American students."

It's evident that the writer of the article titled "Apology not accepted" does not know Nathaniel Barber, whom I've called since meeting him in August 1977. Mr. Barber. I was 15 years old, a 10th-grader at Anderson High School. Mr. Barber was my English teacher.

He was the only teacher to ever show a genuine interest in me as a little black girl. I recall staying after school, receiving pep talks, being scorned for talking too much, and pre-warned of the realities of the "real world."

Mr. Barber cared about the quality of education not only I received, but the total black student body; it was no secret to me, neither do I believe it was to any other student!

Anyone who knows me knows I am pro-black, and wrong is wrong! Nathaniel Barber acted within reason; if we're to discredit or criticize anyone, it should be Steve Anthony!

Veronica Bitting
Winston-Salem

Cartoon evokes outrage

To The Editor:

The recent events surrounding the cartoon featured in the Glenn High School newspaper have concerned and offended a large segment of the Winston-Salem community. This is not an isolated occurrence that affects only the Glenn High School students and faculty.

In light of continuing incidents demonstrating racial insensitivity, this issue needs to be addressed forthrightly and directly by the school administration.

Principal Carl L. Clark's statement, "But this was a little incident that is over as far as everyone at this school is concerned. Everyone understood that it was an error in judgment," is an example of the prevalent attitude regarding race relations in the community as well as in the country at large. This statement also suggests his indifference to the feelings of the black students, their families and the community.

"We feel that the adviser, Mr. Anthony, should not only be reprimanded, but suspended from his duties as faculty adviser of the school newspaper. The lack of action on the part of the principal and the school administration signals that this behavior is acceptable and condoned in our public schools. We feel that the administration and faculty of the

Forsyth County school system should be sensitized to racial issues and concerns.

If Mr. Anthony is an example of the teachers who are shaping the minds of our future leaders, then we are in a state of regression and polarization. If we had children who attended Glenn High School, we would seriously consider alternative educational resources.

Marilyn T. Odum
Von D. Corbett
Winston-Salem

Thanks from BSA

To The Editor:

On behalf of the Old Hickory Council of the Boy Scouts of America, I would like to thank the many volunteers, the media, businesses and residents of the community for the tremendous support given to the Scouting for Food Campaign on Nov. 18.

Food is still coming in; however, at this time we have collected approximately 110,000 pounds of food that will be distributed to the hungry.

Thanks again for all the help and support from so many caring people. The Boy Scouts of America are again proud to have participated in such a "Good Turn."

Mickey R. Love, Chair
Scouting for Food Committee
Old Hickory Council, BSA

Appeal from ministers

To The Editor:

We, the members of the Winston-Salem Ministers Conference, view with profound concern the bitterness and divisiveness that exist today in the Afro-American community.

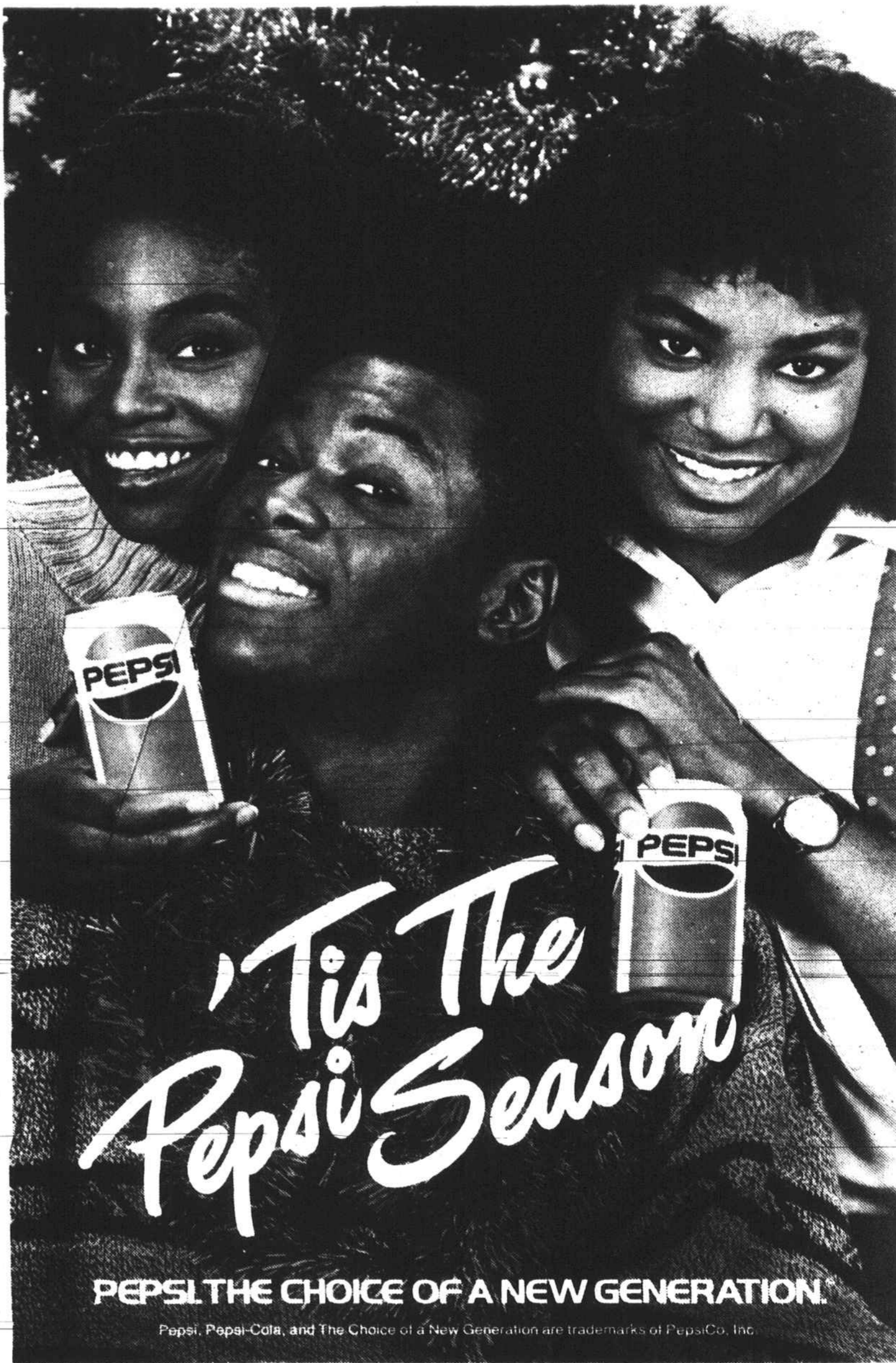
Therefore, we appeal to the black leaders to come together and work out a mechanism that will bring about healing and unity rather than to engage in an approach that will further deepen the bitterness and divisiveness that now prevail.

Our community is in desperate need of economic development and the recruitment of industries to provide more jobs. Businesses will not locate in a community that is torn by strife and confusion.

There are now other vital issues facing the black community that demand our undivided attention and our unity.

The officials that the citizens elected to govern and to serve our community should be permitted to do so in an atmosphere of unity. We offer our services toward this end.

Jerry Drayton, Chair
Political Action Committee



An Open Letter to Mrs. Vivian H. Burke, Alderman, Northeast Ward:

As black women we decry your tactics at the December 4th aldermanic meeting. We are insulted that you would think that black women would feel proud and approve of such antics. Our pride rests in the fact that Virginia K. Newell, a black woman, chaired the city finance committee. The most powerful city committee. Our pride rests in the fact that Larry W. Womble, a black man, chaired the city public works committee. Our shame rests in the fact that a black woman, who for her own selfish reasons, would vote to deny Mrs. Newell and Mr. Womble their committee chairmanships. Our shame rests in the fact that a black woman could possibly believe that her being named Mayor Pro Tempore would be a cause for pride among black women. Our shame rests in the fact that a black woman would care so little for the struggle of other black women and men that she would give away so much for so little. Our shame, Mrs. Burke, is you. Our pride would be your resignation.

From the Following Black Women:

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|----------------------|----------------------|------------------------|----------------------|
| Marie H. Roseboro | Atty. Willie Kennedy | Annie Alexander | Nancy Allen |
| Dorothy Jones | Gayle Bullock | Dorothy Graham-Wheeler | Brenda Brim |
| Beatrice Stafford | Ruth Carter | Denise Adams | Glenda Little |
| Constance J. Johnson | Linda Coaxum | Wanda K. Stafford | Ruby Wharton |
| | Naomi Fuller | Earline W. Parmon | Denise Berry |
| | Jackie Teal | Evelyn A. Terry | Beverly Berrouet |
| Doris W. Mack | Dorine Young | Rickey Wilson | Eleanora Johnson |
| Geneva C. Hill | Betty Little | Doris Davis | Sarah Lou Davis |
| Yolanda Baker | Ora Lee Ingram | Frances G. White | Constance Washington |
| Katrina Reid | Sophonra Cathcart | Marie Burney | Elaine P. King |
| Joanne G. White | Nettie S. Manning | | Teresa Dulin |