

Opinion

Hunt Murder Conviction Just a Setup

To the Editor:

In my opinion, the Darryl E. Hunt murder conviction is just a set-up. I don't think that he killed Deborah B. Sykes, and I feel his innocence will soon shine in the eyes of the beholder. When looking at the heart of the case, her spouse, Mr. Sykes, has really not been concentrated on too much. The short period of time of their marriage and the enormous amount of insurance policy taken out should say something. If both of them would have had a mutual policy with the same amount of coverage, it wouldn't be so obvious. Was that the case here? Did he pay someone (Johnny Gray) to murder her, pay detectives to hush up and have Mr. Hunt set up? Think about it.

I understand Mrs. Sykes practiced martial arts, was very good at it, and could have (in my opinion) easily fended off someone like Mr. Hunt.

Danny E. Lindsey

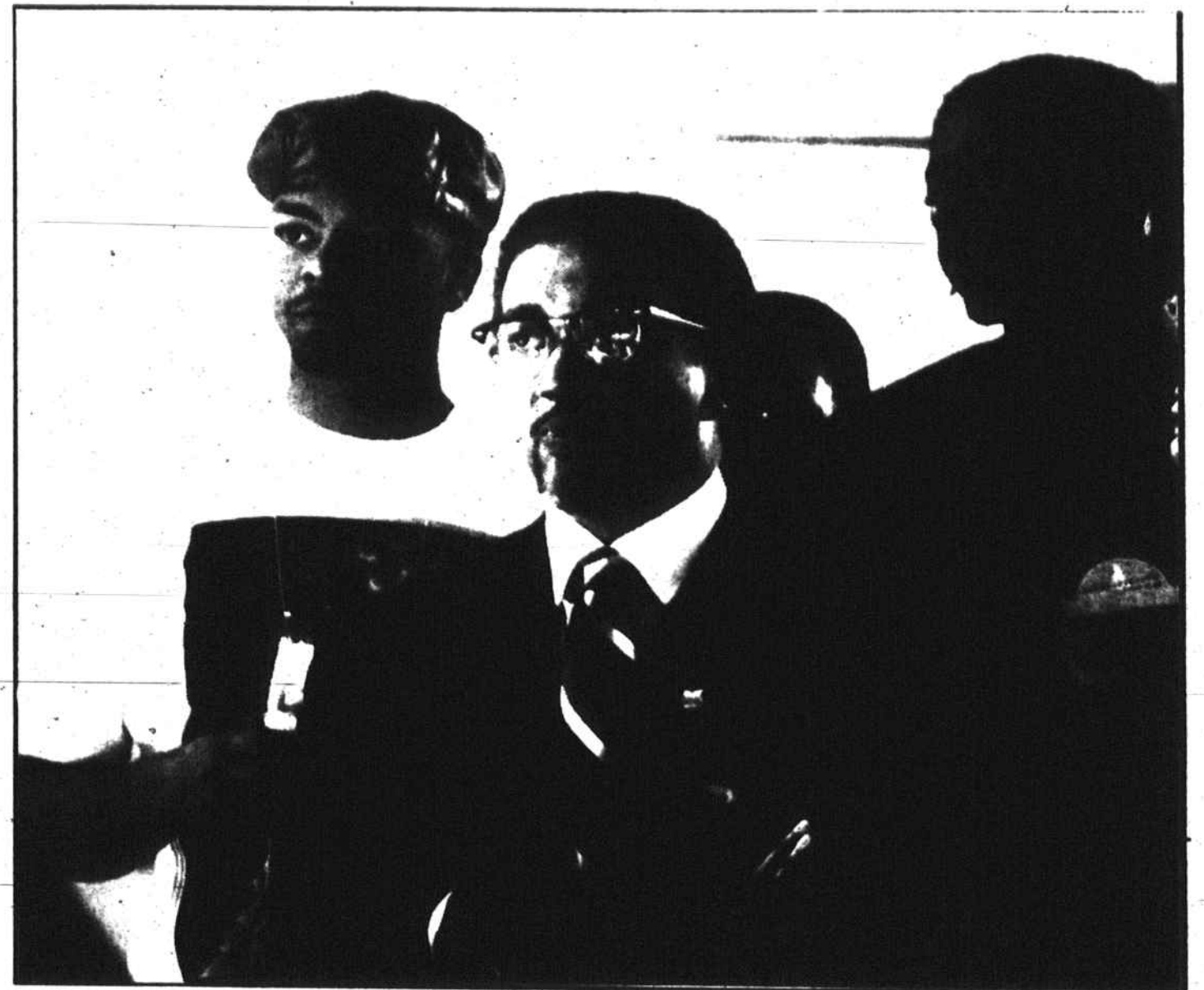
Leave Guns at Home

To the Editor:

I am sure most of you agree that our major concern in the community is how to stop the violence. One suggestion to save lives would be to appeal to every one to, when going out, leave your gun at home.

When some young adults decide to go out casually to a party or night club, they carry a concealed handgun for security. As a result, they go places they would not ordinarily go and say and do things they may not ordinarily do. They may find themselves in a hostile situation, which they feel requires them to remove the gun from concealment. Thus, at that point, they are probably in a no-win situation. If they use their gun first, they will end up in prison. Far too many of our young men have proven this scenario and are in prison or dead.

Emphasize that guns are made



Benjamin F. Chavis Jr., the new executive director of the NAACP, stands among participants of the National Urban Peace and Justice Summit in Kansas City recently. Chavis, a one-time political prisoner, psalm-writer and an activist since he was 13, is traveling the country reaching out to corporate America to help raise a \$100 million endowment for the NAACP.

CHRONICLE MAILBAG Our Readers Speak Out

Dividing the City

To the Editor:

We are an All-American City. There is no doubt in my mind about it! Whether it's an All-American or just a small, country town, each has its shared of problems. There are people working hard to resolve these problems on both sides. Then there are these people who don't

want change or progress in any fashion, shape or form.

On reporting the news, I always felt that it should be reported fairly and not showing any partiality toward any one side. It's my opinion that the media had better check themselves. You know and I know that the way the media reports on an issue: If it's not fair and impartial, it can divide this city.

Think about it!
Charles L. Thomas Jr.

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Black Politicians and Black Media

Alderman Virginia Newell and Virginia Gov. Douglas Wilder have more in common than being African-American politicians. Within the span of one week, both gave stories to the black media announcing major decisions about their political careers. Gov. Wilder told Black Entertainment Television (BET) on June 24th that he would run for United States Senate, and Virginia Newell last week told the *Chronicle* that she would not seek re-election to the East Ward seat she has held for 16 years. Neither announcement should be taken lightly; both were coups for black media, locally and nationally, respectively.



Virginia Newell



Gov. Douglas Wilder

For years, black politicians have ignored black-owned media, opting instead to give stories first to the white-owned media for a wider audience. Ironically, it's the white media that has destroyed the career of many a black politician, chasing him to black-owned media for soothing and reparation. Black politicians have long thought that by giving white-owned media the "scoop" that they can later depend on endorsements come election time. They also have long thought that in order to be taken seriously, they had to be validated by white media. That's nothing new; a lot of black folks have long sought approval from whites.

Let us hope that the recent actions of Virginia Newell and Douglas Wilder are indications that African Americans are beginning to realize that they do not have to be validated by whites to be taken serious. Whites will never have at heart the best interest of black people. They perceive that as a threat to their livelihood; a threat to their smug assumption of superiority. African Americans must take renewed interest in themselves — not individually but collectively as a people. And one way to do that is to recognize the importance of yourself and African-American-owned media. Blacks must again adhere to the principal upon which the nation's premier African-American newspaper, *Freedom's Journal*, was founded by John B. Russworm and Samuel E. Cornish in 1827: That we cannot depend on the white race to accurately tell of our plight.

Credo of the Black Press

The Black Press believes that America can best lead the world away from antagonisms when it accords to every person — regardless of race or creed — full human and legal rights. Having no person, the Black Press strives to help every person, in the firm belief that all are hurt as long as anyone is held back.

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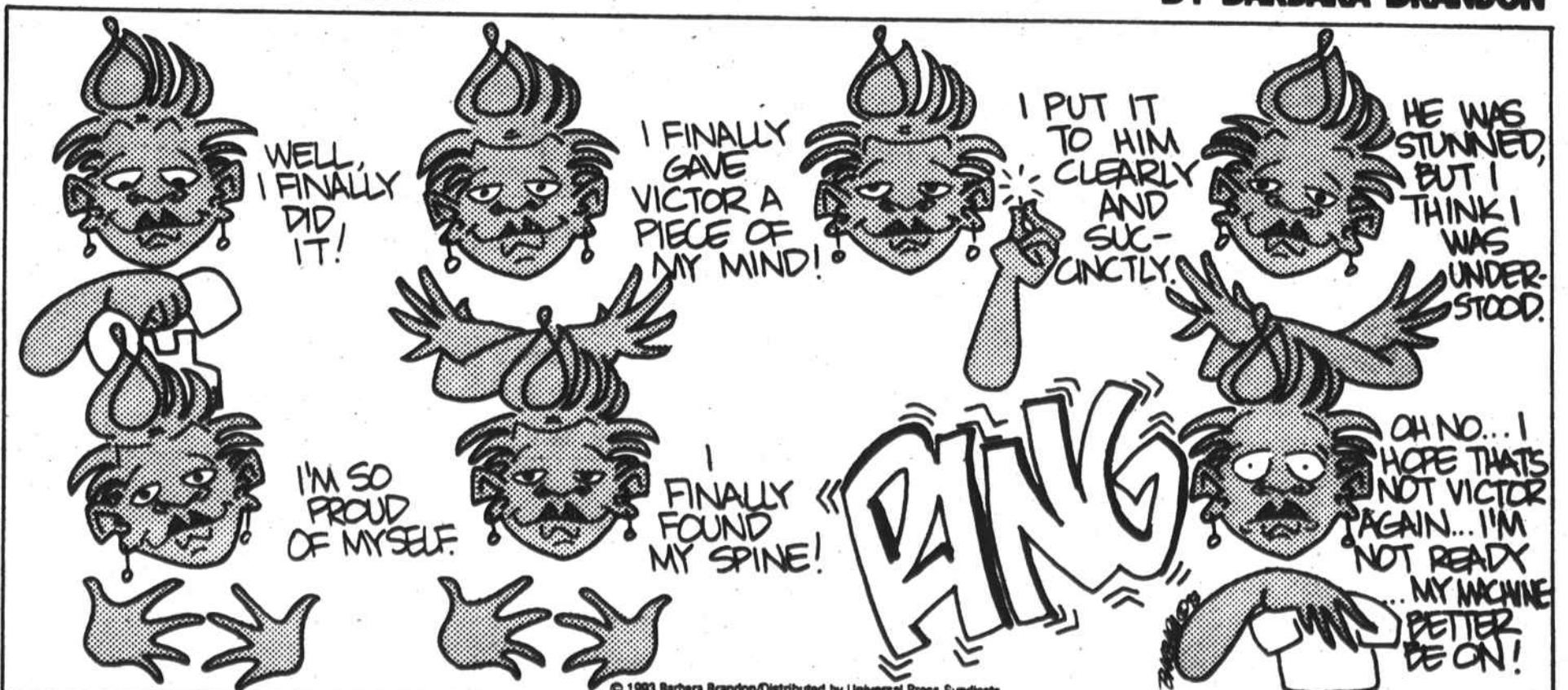
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