

# LETTERS/OPINIONS

## Winston-Salem Chronicle

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## Paper Credits Wrong Source for Turnaround at Easton

To the Editor:

During the past several decades there appears to be a continuing effort by those in position of power, and the media to not publish or acknowledge the contributions made by an important segment of the leadership of the public school system.

The latest "reminder" of this effort was a news article on the turnaround that has taken place at Easton Elementary School. After many years of toil, sweat, and love for the students at Easton Elementary School by Mr. Norman King, the recently retired principal, feature article in the Sunday's edition of the Winston-Salem Journal, gives, all the credit to the present administration has only been in place since July of this year, and had nothing to do with the changes that have taken place. Nor need I say that the present administration is made up of a black female and principal and a white male as an assistant principal.

The many years of work to get the support and resources in place for a change in achievement levels by the students, the change in how the school was perceived by the parents and neighborhood, and the nurturing and inspiring that caused students to view themselves as students who could learn, and development of an innovative educational program all came about under the leadership of Mr. Norman King, the principal there for eleven years. Need I say he is a black male.

It is good to know that things are continuing to go well at this school and it is the hope of this community that somehow and



Diana Ross, left, with Regis Philbin and Kathie Lee Gifford during the "Live with Regis and Kathie Lee" show. She discussed her 30 years in show business and her newly-released memoirs "Secrets of a Sparrow."

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### Leaving the Legislature

We were surprised when Rep. Annie Brown Kennedy announced to the *Chronicle* this week that she will not seek re-election to a sixth uninterrupted term to the state legislature. Mrs. Kennedy has walked the halls of the Legislative Building on Jones Street in Raleigh since 1982.



Rep. Annie Brown Kennedy

She has not treaded lightly. Over the years, she has valiantly fought many wars, always thoughtful of how best to serve all of her constituents. She has many victories to show for her effort.

To wit, she spearheaded efforts to bring racial diversity to many of Forsyth County governmental body's, recognizing that all segments of the city should have a voice that can accurately express their concerns.

She was co-sponsor of legislation that created an additional district that added two more members to the Forsyth County board of commissioners. Two African Americans now fill those seats. Her action, in part, brought much-needed diversity to a board that was overwhelmingly dominated by white men. Similarly, two African Americans now claim seats on the city/county school board in essence due to her legislation.

Mrs. Kennedy has also made an impact on Raleigh politics.

Among many other things, she was instrumental in getting members of the General Assembly to elect its first ever African American as House Speaker in Dan Blue.

We are sorry that after December 1994, she will no longer be in Raleigh fighting battles. But we are pleased that Forsyth County will have her full time. True, there is no quick fix to many of the problems in Winston-Salem. But if Mrs. Kennedy continues to have here the type of impact she's had during her tour of duty in Raleigh, Winston-Salem will be much better off than it would be with her on a part-time basis.

### Illogical Options

If most people had their choice of a bullet from a .38-caliber semiautomatic revolver or a jet stream of pepper spray, most would opt for the latter. That is the option Police Chief George Sweat says is available when law-enforcement officers go to apprehend some suspects.

Those options that were outlined by Chief Sweat recently at a public forum on the use of pepper spray suggests that pepper spray and bullets have replaced civility and common courtesy. Community policing, which Winston-Salem seems to want to have, works only if law-enforcement officers are committed to resolving disputes without allowing them to turn into violent confrontations. It will not work if a person suspected of shoplifting or trespassing turns belligerent, and the officer responds in kind.

Law-enforcement officers should be trained to be peace-keepers not conflict escalators. Until they work toward that aim, there is likely to be more violent conflicts than peaceful resolutions.

## CHRONICLE MAILBAG Our Readers Speak Out

somewhere the creative ability of black males be used to address the problems of the schools and community, and whatever measures exist for not making full use of this valuable resource be placed under the microscope of rational thinking and radical surgery be performed and remove this bias so that this community can be healed and restored.

Peyton T. Hairston  
 Retired Principal

### About letters . . .

The *Chronicle* welcomes letters as well as guest columns from its readers. Letters should be as concise as possible and should be typed or legibly printed. The letter must also include the name, address and telephone number of the writer to ensure the authenticity of the letter. Columns must follow the same guidelines and will be published if they are of interest to our general readership. The *Chronicle* will not publish any letters or columns that arrive without this information. We reserve the right to edit letters and columns for brevity and clarity. Submit letters and columns to

Chronicle Mailbag  
 P.O. Box 1636  
 Winston-Salem, N.C. 27102.

### The Michael Jackson Story

The Michael Jackson story has been on every tabloid, talk-show, newspaper and radio station through the world. This story seems to be never ending.

The allegations that he molested a 13-year-old has caused the news media to have a field day with this story.

I feel that enough is enough! What about a person being innocent until proven guilty in court of law?

Jackson has been very generous with his Jackson Foundation and many charitable organizations. These measures in itself show that he is a true humanitarian.

The King of Pop has thrilled us all with his videos, world tours and numerous No. 1 albums.

He has fans world wide that continue to support him through

this incredible barrage of negative press reports.

We should all have unwavering and unconditional support for this sensitive mega star.

April A. Jeter  
 Greensboro



Michael Jackson

## Immigration Policy is For Whites Only

Blacks called George Bush a racist for his Haitian immigration policy. Bill Clinton made massive campaign promises that as president he would give Haitians the same treatment we give other immigrants and implied that Bush was racist for not doing so.

Since Clinton's campaign strategy of sucking up to the white middle class with lies about no taxes and intimidating black (the Jesse Jackson-Sister Souljah ethnic spanking) succeeded in getting him into the White House, no further pretense is necessary.

Clinton has openly and lamely adopted the very same immigration policy (keep blacks out) that Bush advocated. The policy under Clinton, in fact, has grown an even uglier racist dimension.

For example, Clinton's immigration pattern allows Cuban refugees (3,000 this year already) to enter the U.S. for economic reasons and refuses to admit Haitians who are clearly fleeing political persecution.

If you recall, U.S. policy is designed to provide sanctuary for those fleeing political persecu-

tion in their native land, but not to allow immigration to become an economic jobs programs.

That policy was strongly defended as long as the politically persecuted were white and the economically deprived were black. Clinton's white-only policy is just another of his deceptive acts.

A recent episode is an example of this stark contrast. Thirteen Cubans stole a plane to get to Miami. They received a hero's welcome. A group of Haitians who came by boat were immediately hustled away to a Florida detention camp.

This is bad enough, but an independence study reported that thousands of Haitians, especially babies, are dying as the result of the U.S.-led trade embargo.

Not only is our foreign policy a blatant double standard based on race, it is genocidal in its effect.

Where are the black in Congress and the "black leaders" during this crisis? Helping Clinton plan an invasion that will murder more Haitians.



TONY BROWN

Syndicated Columnist

These black politicians resisted the Gulf War where the threat to American was clear and imminent. But they want a war against penniless, starving people who are Black.

Tony Brown's Journal TV series can be seen on your local public television station, (PBS.)

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BY BARBARA BRANDON



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