

Mystery involves Dylan, university professor and legacy of blackface

CHARLOTTESVILLE, Va. - Did Bob Dylan get the title of his most recent album from a University of Virginia professor's study of blackface minstrel shows?

The answer is blowing in the wind, because the reclusive Dylan's not talking.

Dylan's recently released "Love and Theft" CD has the same title as U.Va. American studies specialist Eric Lott's 1993 book about the complicated racial dynamics surrounding the blackface minstrel shows in the 19th and early 20th centuries.

Lott, who considers "Love and Theft" to be one of Dylan's best recordings, said he is flattered by the singer's apparent admiration for the title.

Lott said there was more to the minstrel shows than racism.

"I think there's a racial lampooning implied there, but there's also a difficult-to-account-for sense of envy of black people, of interest and fascination with black people, with a desire to see what it feels like to be black," Lott said.

David Yaffe, a professor of literature at Sarah Lawrence College who has written an article on the shared "Love and Theft" title, sees a connection between Lott's study of cultural appropriation and Dylan's early career.

Yaffe said the young Dylan had to reinvent himself as something other than "a nice Jewish kid from Minnesota." Dylan, who was born Robert Zimmerman, claimed far humbler roots and caught heat when his stories turned out to be exaggerated.

"When it came out that he had lied about his name and his origin, it was kind of a scandal ... in effect, a kind of minstrelsy," Yaffe said. "This, I think, is the connection to Eric's book."

And then there's the music of "Love and Theft," which Rolling Stone magazine praised as "a full-blown tour of American song in all its burlesque splendor." Dylan blends such genres as country, ragtime, vaudeville and the blues, and at one point even croons like a singer in a cocktail lounge.

By taking the title "Love and Theft," Yaffe said, Dylan seems to recognize that he fits into a long American tradition of borrowing, a tradition that includes imitating styles of music and circulating unauthorized copies of Dylan's own work.



Dylan

Reported hate crimes rise

WASHINGTON - Crimes reported to the FBI as triggered by prejudice against the victim's color, religion, disability, national origin or sexual orientation rose 2 percent in 2000, the bureau announced last week.

In its annual tally of hate crimes, the FBI said local law enforcers reported 8,063 incidents in 2000. The data were supplied by 11,690 local law enforcement agencies in 48 states and the District of Columbia, whose jurisdictions include 84 percent of the population.

The 2000 total was 187 higher than the 7,876 hate crimes reported in 1999, even though the information came from 432 fewer police agencies.

Intimidation was the most frequent of hate crimes, at 35 percent of the total. Vandalism and destruction of property accounted for 29 percent of reported offenses, simple assault for 17 percent and aggravated assault for 13 percent, the FBI said. Those breakdowns were similar to the data in previous years.

As in previous years, most of the 9,430 hate crimes victims - 55 percent in 2000 - were targeted because of their race. Blacks were by far the most frequent victims of hate crimes, totaling 36 percent of all victims.

- From the AP Wire



Robert Clark and Joycelyn Johnson watch returns at the Board of Elections on Election Day. Both won easily and will be sworn in Monday night at City Hall. Clark will represent the West Ward; Johnson represents the East Ward.



Vivian Burke stands with Azzat Amer in front of Carver High School on Election Day. Burke will have more seniority than any other alderman after the swearing-in Monday.

Leaders to be sworn in

FROM STAFF REPORTS

There will be a changing of the guard at City Hall Monday at 7:30 p.m. as two new aldermen and a new mayor join six returning board members for a swearing-in ceremony.



Besse

Democrat Dan Besse will officially become the new representative for the city's Southwest Ward, while Republican Robert Clark will become the new alderman for the West Ward.

Democrat Allen Joines will get his first opportunity to lead a board meeting after he is sworn in as the city's new mayor.

Among the incumbents to be sworn in is Alderwoman Vivian Burke, who, after Monday's ceremony, will become one of the longest serving board members in the city's history.

Pee Wee squad to hold fund-raisers

FROM STAFF REPORTS

The Winston-Salem Falcons Pee Wee Football team needs some help getting to the Pop Warner Football National Tournament in Orlando, Fla., next week. The team is scheduled to depart on Monday, Dec. 3, and some of the players still need of money to cover traveling and lodging expenses. Some fund-raising efforts are scheduled to take place this Saturday at a various locations around town:

- The team will hold car washes from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. at Burger King in the Pavilion Shopping Center on Hanes Mall Boulevard and Burger King on Peter's Creek Parkway near The Marketplace Mall.

- Place your order for a dozen Krispy Kreme Doughnuts by Friday and the team will gladly deliver them to you on Saturday.

- Buy a \$1 raffle ticket for a chance to win a brand new color television.

- Drop by a fish fry at the Frank Myers intersection - at Germantown Road and Patterson Avenue for a plate of fish between 10 a.m. and 3 p.m.

If you are interested in sponsoring the Winston-Salem Falcons Pee Wee football team, you may contact the head coach, Wayne Rousseau, at 788-3671.

To place a doughnut order or purchase a raffle ticket for the Falcons Football Team Fund, call Alicia Massey at 785-2793.

Stockholder

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ity of the money had been spent, leaving only \$67,000.

About \$350,000 was raised by David Capital through stock share purchases and a grant from the federal government.

After the CDC declined to refund his money, he contacted the local Better Business Bureau.

Grace's letter of response to the BBB, dated Aug. 31, 2001, states, "The Board of Directors of the East Winston CDC used discretionary money they held to purchase the stock of several individuals. However, the decision

was made not to purchase more stock because we may be perceived as trying to take control of the project from the community."

Baskin also consulted a local attorney, who was not interested in taking the case.

Baskin also made several calls to the Lawyers Referral Service, but could not get through the phone system to reach anyone.

James Grace did not return a phone call from the Chronicle.

According to a CDC report on the October stockholder meeting, the following new board members were elected then: Irma Jackson, Beatrice Hardee, Charles Flippin and John Raye.

The Chronicle's new e-mail address for news items is news@wschronicle.com

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African Film Festival

The North Carolina School of the Arts School of Filmmaking presents the African Film Festival in the Main Theater of the ACE Exhibition Complex on the NCSA campus.

Saturday, December 1, 7:00 p.m.
Short: *A Girl for Souleymane* (Senegal/France, 2000)
Feature: *Yellow Card* (Zimbabwe, 2000)

Saturday, December 1, 9:30 p.m.
Short: *A Close Up on Bintou* (Burkina Faso, 2000)
Feature: *Temporary Registration* (Guinea, 2001)

Sunday, December 2, 7:00 p.m.
Short: *Smoke in the Eyes* (Cameron/Belgium, 1998)
Feature: *In the Name of Christ* (Ivory Coast, 1993)

Sunday, December 2, 9:30 p.m.
Short: *Watt* (Democratic Republic of Congo, 1999)
Feature: *Dollar* (Gabon, 1999)

Admission is \$5 for each film; students with ID admitted free. For more information, call 336.721.1945.

The African Film Festival Traveling Series has been organized by the African Film Festival, Inc., in association with the Film Society of Lincoln Center. This series has been made possible by the generous support of the National Endowments for the Arts, Rockefeller Foundation and the Ford Foundation.

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