



◀ Panthers try to bag another win/1B

▶ Play is therapeutic for minister/10A



Recording artist Aaliyah 'Hot Like Fire'/5A



The Charlotte Post

http://www.thepost.mindspring.com
THE VOICE OF THE BLACK COMMUNITY

THE WEEK OF OCTOBER 23, 1997
VOLUME 23 NO. 6

75 CENTS
ALSO SERVING CABARRUS, CHESTER, ROWAN AND YORK COUNTIES

Separate and unequal in North Carolina



PHOTO/WADE NASH

Blacks and whites often gather at public events such as Ericsson Stadium to watch the Carolina Panthers, but the underlying suspicion among races has increased in recent years. To stem the tide, Gov. Jim Hunt will convene a Conference on Racial Reconciliation Monday in Charlotte.

Charlotte conference focuses on race

By John Minter
THE CHARLOTTE POST

When a jury decided last month that an African American man was more likely to be the murderer of a white woman than her husband, a doctor, few blacks were surprised.

Marion Anthony Gales lost a civil suit brought against him by Dr. Ed Friedland though police investigators found no evidence he had been in the Friedland home and the incision which killed Friedland's wife Kim Thomas was "surgical" in nature, according to Gales' attorneys.

Within a year of his wife's death, Friedland married the woman with whom he had been having an affair, but the district attorney dropped the murder charges filed against him.

It seemed business as usual to many blacks.

While many blacks applauded

O.J. Simpson's acquittal of criminal charges for the murder of his white ex-wife, many whites cheered as hard when a civil jury said Simpson was likely the killer.

Such high profile cases and others - from Susan Smith's bogus black carjacker and child

See RACE on page 2A

nig-ger ('ni-gər) n [alter. of earlier *neger*, fr. *M negro*, fr. *negro* black, fr. *L niger*] (1700) 1: a taken to be offensive 2: a member of any dark taken to be offensive 3: a member of a socially persons (it's time for somebody to lead all of Ar people who feel left out of the political process — usage *Nigger* in senses 1 and 2 can be found writers of the past as Joseph Conrad, Mark Twain, but it now ranks as the most offensive racial slur in English. Its use by and among bl tended or taken as offensive, but, except in ser word expressive of racial hatred and bigotry.

Slur pits civil rights group against dictionary publisher

By Herbert L. White
THE CHARLOTTE POST

What is a "nigger?" According to the NAACP, it could mean trouble for the publisher of a dictionary.

The civil rights organization has criticized Merriam-Webster's Collegiate Dictionary's of a "nigger" as a "black person" or "member

of a dark-skinned race." The NAACP plans a national letter-writing campaign to pressure Merriam-Webster to either drop or change the definition.

Merriam-Webster stands by the definition, saying the term has become acceptable for usage among African

See SLUR on page 3A

Presidential panel leader keynotes Tuesday program

By Herbert L. White
THE CHARLOTTE POST

Historian John Hope Franklin will deliver the keynote address at the Governor's Conference on Racial Reconciliation Tuesday.

The conference at the Adam's Mark Hotel will bring together law enforcement, business and political leaders from across the state for two days discussing community-based programs across the state and country and race relations partnerships.

"Building the kind of future we want for North Carolina's children and grandchildren means living up to our responsibilities to build stronger understanding and respect among our people," Gov. Jim Hunt said. "And it starts with our communities - law enforcement, government and business leaders, churches and schools. We need

See FRANKLIN on page 3A



Franklin

School race injects life into election season

By John Minter
THE CHARLOTTE POST

What's become a tight Charlotte-Mecklenburg School Board race between longtime educator Vilma Leake and incumbent Sam Reid in District 2 tops the list of what has been an otherwise ho-hum election campaign.

Some analysts say Leake, a longtime teacher, may beat Reid, a political activist elected two years ago without opposition.

"It's going to be a name identification race," said Elections Supervisor Bill Culp. "Who wins depends on who has the highest name recognition. With her education background, that puts Leake on an even field with Reid."

County-wide, supporters of Democratic candidates and the \$500 million education and jail bond packages are worrying about black voter turnout in Nov. 4 balloting.

The election that will not only have a major impact on the future of local education (\$415 million of the bonds are for schools), but on whether Democrats retain control of Charlotte City Council.

On social and moral issues, Republicans already control the Mecklenburg County Board of Commissioners with the help of maverick Democrat Hoyle Martin.

But the District 2 school board contest between Leake and Reid has been the talk of the town. The fiery Leake and the quiet Reid are a stark contrast, though both have long records of involvement in the community.

See SCHOOL on page 6A



Leake



Reid

Civil service board backs officer's firing after fatal shooting

By John Minter
THE CHARLOTTE POST

Charlotte's civil service board has upheld Police Chief Dennis Nowicki's firing of an officer involved in a fatal shooting earlier this year.

Nowicki recommended in August that officer Shannon Jordan be fired and officer Donn Belz suspended for 30 days without pay for the April shooting of Carolyn Sue Boetticher.

The civil service board made its ruling Friday, after a four-day hearing. The board found Jordan put himself in danger when he stepped in front of a car which did not stop at a police license checkpoint in west Charlotte.

Jordan can appeal the ruling to District Court.

Boetticher, 48, was an unarmed passenger April 8 when Jordan and Belz fired 22 bullets into the car. A bullet from Jordan's service weapon was identified as the one which struck Boetticher in the neck, killing her.

Boetticher, who was black, was a hotel housekeeper who grew up in Concord and lived much of her adult life in New Jersey.

The majority of bullets entered the side and back of the car as it passed the officers, who said they thought it was trying to run them down.

The car's driver was Robert G. Lundy Sr., a former West Columbia, S.C. businessman. He was uninjured. Lundy, who is white, was charged with possession of a stolen auto and possession of cocaine, in addition to assault on a police officer.

An internal police department review resulted in the disciplinary

See BOARD on page 6A

Inside

- Editorials 4A-5A
- Strictly Business 8A
- Religion 10A
- Health 13A
- Style 6A
- Sports 1B
- A&E 5B
- Regional News 10B
- Classified 12B
- Auto Showcase 16B

To subscribe, call (704) 376-0496 or FAX (704) 342-2160.
© 1997 The Charlotte Post
Comments? Our e-mail address is: charpost@clt.mindspring.com
World Wide Web page address: http://www.thepost.mindspring.com



Charlotte women ready for march

By Jeri Young
THE CHARLOTTE POST

Charlotte Allen is tired. Organizer of Charlotte's Million Woman March effort, Allen, 47, has worked since June to reserve buses to take hundreds of local women to the rally Saturday in Philadelphia. First, she had to find a bus company that is black-owned. Houston Transportation, an African American-owned company in Statesville, is supplying drivers and buses to take almost 300 people to Philadelphia.

Then, she had to drum up

enough women to fill them. "Originally, I wanted to fill 10 buses and 260 hotel rooms," Allen said. "But you know how people are. We got to wait til the last minute. But you know, I had a plan and God had a plan. You know God's plan is always going to be the one carried out."

While local organizers are gearing up for the 10-hour drive, Philadelphia officials are preparing for the estimated 500,000 to 600,000 women who will converge on the Benjamin Franklin Parkway to hear South African activist Winnie Mandela and Rep.

Maxine Waters, D-Calif. Also scheduled to speak is Khadijah Muhammad, wife of Nation of Islam leader Louis Farrakhan.

Parking spaces are being set aside for 6,000 cars and 2,200 buses in and around the downtown area. The Southeastern Pennsylvania Transportation Authority plans to run extra subway trains and buses. Hundreds of police officers, many on overtime, will help with traffic and crowd control.

Back in May, the women calling for a million black women to

See RALLY on page 3A



PHOTO/SUE ANN JOHNSON

Kendra Feaster, Mischelle Massey and Angel Whiteside (left to right) are among the Charlotte women headed to Philadelphia.