

# BLACK INK

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The essence of freedom is understanding.

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## Political pawns

Black voters have traditionally been pawns in white peoples' games of political chess.

In the nineteenth century, our forefathers flocked to the Republican Party in the hope that it would provide a political panacea to their problems.

In the twentieth century we're still flocking, this time to the Democratic Party.

In both cases, we were enticed by promises and sugar-coated platforms, only to wind up disillusioned, with few gains and the sneaky suspicion that we'd been used.

The Democratic Party (particularly in Jimmy Carter's case) owes much to the support it has received from Black voters, yet has done little to reward our loyalty. It, in fact, appears to be generally assumed that Blacks will vote Democratic and that's that.

Rev. Jesse Jackson apparently believes it's about time for Blacks to dictate some terms and, in essence, show the Democrats that there's more than one big white fish in the political sea.

Jackson, a democrat, told the Republican National Committee last week that both Blacks and Republicans could use each other to mutually profitable ends.

"The Republican Party needs Black people if it is ever to compete for national office or, in fact, to keep it from becoming an extinct party," Jackson said. "Hands that picked cotton in 1966 did pick the President in 1976."

Thus, if the Democratic Party continues to be fickle and aloof to its Black supporters, we might do well to take a ride on the elephant and see where HE leads us—or perhaps where WE lead him.

David White

# The Bakke debates

This article is the second in a three-part series

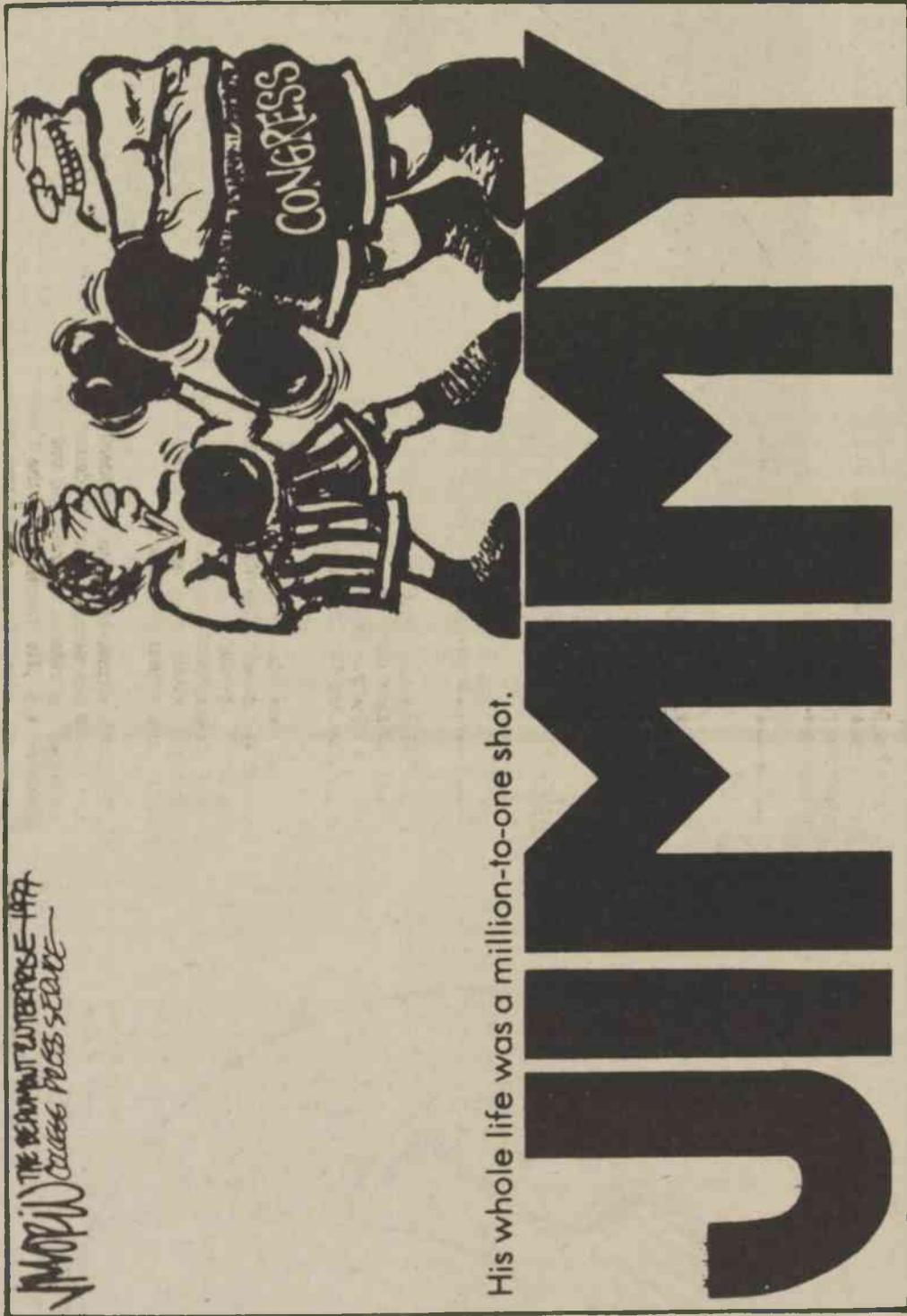
The procedural, legal and social arguments advanced by all interested parties in the Bakke case are too numerous to recount fully; however, comparison of the University's brief and an Amicus brief submitted by the Black Law Students Association at the University of California, Berkeley School of Law (which this author helped prepare) will highlight the difference in approaches taken by different parties. More importantly, the difference in viewpoints expressed in these two statements indicated why Bakke is such a watershed for American race relations.

## The University Case

The University's brief harks back to 1954 when Brown was decided. In that decision, segregated schooling was declared unconstitutional because "separate but equal" school systems produced "inherently inferior" education for Black children.

Despite "massive resistance" to the decision in many parts of the nation, the Supreme Court remained committed to ensuring that Black and white students attend integrated schools. Bakke, according to the University, is merely an extension of that principle and requires that "Special Admission" programs be upheld in order to integrate medical schools and, ultimately, the medical profession. "Without such programs, the promise of Brown v. Board of Education rings hollow in professional education, for our time, and perhaps, for a very long time to come."

An important difference between Brown and the University's view of Bakke intrudes at this juncture, however. Segregated school systems excluded Blacks from white schools because they were Black. Nominally integrated medical schools, in contrast, have excluded Black minority students from admission because they were "less qualified." The problem for the Supreme Court, then, is whether to



His whole life was a million-to-one shot.

This cartoon depicting the President taking his lumps at the hands of Congress, might well include a Black boxer pummeling Mr. Carter because of his paradoxical human rights stance.

Allen Johnson

## You haven't done nothin'

Critics have lambasted Jimmy Carter concerning his campaign for human rights time and time again.

Yet, the President's hypocrisy is so obvious and downright insulting to everybody's intelligence that he deserves every syllable of skepticism we can muster.

Carter's philosophy is painfully simple: humans do not reside within the territorial confines of the United States, "Humans" reside in Russia or Chile or some other

he does what for him is politically expedient. With increased public pressure he'd quickly shelve his "state's matter" excuse and even pardon the Wilmington Ten—for his political self-preservation, of course. Unfortunately there appears to be more concern for the plight of the Wilmington Ten on the international front than right here in the United States, and particularly in North Carolina.

And lagging public support needs to arise if the Grinning Crusader is to even budge from his "hands off" stance because Case in point No. 1: The president has not even looked at a transcript of the Wilmington Ten trial. Case in Point No. 2: His own record in his home state concerning human rights is not encouraging. When governor of Georgia in 1974, Carter refused to pardon an 18-year-old co-ed who was given the somewhat harsh sentence of two years for stealing a rocking chair from a farmhouse porch. It was her first offense.

Still Jimmy Carter continues to masquerade behind a paper mache facade of human rights. Stevie Wonder musically put

'While Reverend Ben Chavis and the other convicted members of the Wilmington 10 languish in jail, the Grinning Crusader for Human Rights continues to campaign for human rights abroad.'

foreign nation. Thus, when rights are blatantly violated in the land of the free and home of the brave, they don't count in Mr. Carter's book.

Now, it's fine and dandy for the President to report to uncover Jimmy Carter's

Carter went on to add that "In the past year, human rights has become an issue that no government on earth can now afford to ignore."

It clearly takes no great job of investigation