

Black history month comes to a close

by Rena Mauldin
Special to The Pendulum

Black History Week is an annual observance, held in February, of the past achievements and current status of black Americans. It coincides with the birthday (February 14) of the great black leader Fredrick Douglas.

Black History Week originated in 1926 from the idea of Carter G. Woodson, a Black historian known as the Father of Black History. The week is sponsored by the Associations for the Study of Afro-American Life and History (ASALH), which Woodson founded in 1915.

Special attention has also been paid to the growth of black studies courses at high schools and colleges in most parts of the country.

One of the great contributors to this country is Booker T. Washington. He was the most powerful black American of his time and perhaps of all time. He achieved international prominence in 1895 when he was chosen by white elites to represent blacks because of his prominence and his achievements.

He also had a loyal following in the black community. They were among both ordinary people and the black entrepreneurial elite.

Ida B. Wells-Barnett was another outstanding leader. She was considered to be an important protest leader of the previous half-century and, certainly the most

prominent woman among civil rights champions. She was also a founder of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP).

There was also Mary-McLeod Bethune. She rose from poverty to become one of the nation's most distinguished Afro-American leaders. She pursued three different careers: an educator, an architect of Florida's Bethune-Cockman College and founder and president of the National Council of Negro Women.

Malcolm X was a witness of the growing skepticism about the worth of integrating into the mainstream of white American society. At the height of his career in 1962-64, before he was assassinated, Malcolm X stood as the direct antithesis to the non-violent activism and faith in the integrated society that were the hallmarks of Martin Luther King, Jr.

Martin Luther King, Jr.'s career was directly connected with the continued escalation of Black expectations and the rising tide of Afro-American protests that followed the Second World War and the early 1960's. He captured the imagination of Black Americans and many whites as well. He also paved the way for the temporary ascendancy of militant demonstrations that swept the country in the the early 1960's.



ROTC from pg. 1

of a nearby home. He called to Capt. Bowers of the ROTC program to get his attention. In doing so, cadets ran towards the house to assist in any way possible, while one phoned the Elon College Fire Department.

Cadets had to use force upon entering the house which belongs to B. A. Paige. Once inside, cadets awakened the family and removed valuable possessions for the family's safe keeping.

When firemen arrived at the 7:05 a.m. fire, cadets had borrowed a water hose and were making an effort in putting out the fire.

"Most of the damage was done to the roof of the house particularly the area surrounding the chimney," said Chief Eddie King of the fire department. Since the chimney was being used along with a woodstove, the cause of the fire seems to have stemmed from a crack, allowing sparks to get into the wall and attic of the house.

Illiteracy from pg. 1

Foundation's Trustees approved a three-year adult literacy program to make people aware of the problem and to encourage local newspaper literacy efforts to alleviate the problems.

Community colleges are also doing their part. According to Robert Scott, president of the North Carolina Community College System, all 58 of North Carolina's community colleges offer free Adult Basic Education classes - both on campus and at hundreds of other sites across the state. "We owe a moral obligation to our fellow citizens to provide educational opportunities. The preamble to the Constitution demands that we 'provide for the general welfare' of our citizens. Education and training provide for the general welfare," Scott said.

News recaps

Compiled by Mark Alfieri
from the AP News Wire

Baseball stadium

George Shinn, the owner of the Charlotte Knights baseball team has abandoned his plans to build a baseball stadium next to the new Charlotte Coliseum.

"There were just too many compatibility problems over the plan to build a forty-five thousand seat major-league stadium," said Shinn.

Shinn will soon announce a different location for a ten-million dollar fifteen-thousand seat minor-league stadium. Shinn bought the Double-A class team in October, and is still waiting for two-point seven-million dollars from county property taxes to build the new facility.

Marine Kidnapping

Marine Lieutenant, Colonel William Higgins, was kidnapped in Southern Lebanon this week.

President Reagan has not decided what action to take, but he wants to rescue the U. S. Marine as soon as possible.

A previously unknown moslem group has claimed responsibility for the kidnapping of Higgins.

The Islamic Revolutionary Brigades snatched Higgins because they claimed he worked for the CIA, an anonymous caller told a western news agency.

More bad news hit the Higgins family, the hostage's father died of heart failure this past week at a hospital in Louisville, Kentucky.

Whaling agreements

The Reagan Administration says that Japan is hurting international whaling agreements with the United States by killing minke whales for scientific research purposes.

President Reagan has 60 days to decide whether or not to shut out Japanese fish markets to the United States. This could result in a loss of over one-half of Japanese fishing in the U.S. waters.

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