

JONI'S
CORNERSubmit a letter to
the editor!E-mail sadlerc@
meredith.edu

Powell should be applauded for stance on affirmative action

JONI SMITH
Foreign Correspondent

A big round of applause is in order for Colin Powell, the only person in the White House who is able to think for himself. He announced this weekend that he disagreed with President Bush's attack on the University of Michigan's admissions policy toward minorities.

It might seem obvious that Powell would back Michigan's affirmative action policy since he is also black. However, one of his co-workers, National Security Adviser Condoleezza Rice, put her political loyalties ahead of her moral obligation to her heritage and quietly conferred with the president on this issue. Rice walked the moderate line on this issue, saying that she backed the president in this case, but

also slipped in that she thought race could be a factor in the admissions process. How politically safe of her to assert this moderate, inconsistent viewpoint.

"Condy," as she invites her friends to call her, seems to have forgotten

where she comes from, who she is, and what she could do in her powerful political position for minorities by taking a real stand on this sensitive issue.

Powell, on the other hand, the only person in the Bush administration whom I can stomach, is publicly disagreeing with his boss. This is something that many of his political rivals are harping on. One outspoken representative to the U.S. Senate actually said in the *Washington Post* that

Powell's recent remarks are the product of his jealousy because Bush is supposedly listening more to Donald Rumsfeld about the Iraq saga than to Powell.

Had this politician been present at the Republican convention in 2000, he

the world to nuclear war during the Bay of Pigs Crisis was because most of the people in his cabinet agreed with his policies and those who disagreed chose not to openly criticize them because they cared more for their own political

future than that of their country.

I can only imagine where our country would be today if there were no one around to criticize this president in particular.

Since the Democratic

Party is running low on decent candidates for president, maybe they should invite Colin Powell to join their party- at least he will stand up to his obviously misinformed boss.

President Bush should be strongly supportive of any minority. After all, it was a

minority of the popular vote that got him into office in the first place.

“ President Bush should be strongly supportive of any minority. After all, it was a minority of the popular vote that got him into office in the first place. ”

would have heard Powell criticize the GOP for its attacks on affirmative action.

I think it's important for the president's cabinet to not always agree with everything the president says. One reason why Kennedy almost brought

**What do
you think
of
affirmative
action?
E-mail your
comments
to the
editor!**

Reinventing *Hillbillies* an insult to the South

LADONNA
LOGUE
News Editor

The News & Observer printed an article on September 2, 2002 announcing CBS's idea for a new reality show. The idea was for an "unprivileged" family to be moved to Beverly Hills, live in a million dollar mansion and lose their privacy all for "The Real Beverly Hillbillies." The requirements are for the family to be multi-generational (grandparents, parents, children)

and without the luxuries of fancy cars, spending cash or anything beyond a necessity.

The real catch is that the casting was coming to the South to find this family for the show. The primary states up for casting possibilities included West Virginia, Kentucky, Virginia, Tennessee, Georgia, and North and South Carolina.

They obviously believe that all southerners are deprived of luxuries and do not know the benefits of living in Beverly Hills.

We, as southerners,

unfortunately miss out on the increased crime rate, the oh-so wonderful celebrities who are entirely too arrogant for myself, and of course the shops that no one can afford unless their income is at least \$1 million per year. Sorry, but count me out.

The show was offering its chosen family a year of extravagant money to buy cars, servants, clothes and nights out on the town.

Finally, on Jan. 15, a follow-up was printed stating that CBS is backing away from the show. This does not mean that the idea is

completely vetoed, only that a schedule has not been finalized if the show is accepted.

Apparently, the Center for Rural Strategies has been protesting the series in newspapers. Good for them!

Unfortunately the show is getting support. Most likely from all of the "upper-class" or "west coast" people who will no doubt enjoy having one of our southern families to ridicule.

According to the article, CBS President Leslie Moonves said, "When

you're dealing with reality... ideas come from all over the place, and sometimes you're pushing the envelope, and sometimes... it may appear you're pushing it too far."

I think that CBS has definitely pushed my envelope too far. I do not appreciate being stereotyped as unprivileged and naïve to the luxuries of the world solely on my choice of a home.

**See Hillbillies
Page 8**