

NEWS*From the
Black Press***SUBMISSION AND
DEFEAT**Amsterdam News
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Most Black Americans are in a state of shock at the outcome of the presidential election of 2004. Nevertheless, not only is there a great deal of controversy, there is outright reason to believe that there was thievery involved in this election process in a number of states, particularly the state that determined the outcome of the presidential election in the Electoral College—Ohio. It is not easy to believe that the exit polls in that state could have been so wrong. It is even more difficult to believe that numbers being promoted after the election on a county-by-county basis should be so inaccurate as to have 12,000 people voting in a county that has only 2,000 registered voters, or in other cases, a county with only 300 people having a report that 6,000 voted, and all for one person, George Bush. Not all the reporting was as flawed as the Ohio reports seem to be. But, there was certainly enough to have us believe that the election was stolen, big time, by election thieves that were not only purely professional, but who obviously had the assurance that no matter what they did, they would not be caught, and if they were caught, there would be no prosecution.

Unless and until we know what is going on in our country; unless and until we know what has happened in this last election; unless and until we know who is in charge in our country, we must accept that the ruling class now headquartered in Texas and Washington will continue what they started four years ago; to bring this country down and to place it to a receivership from which the ordinary citizen will have no say in extricating anyone from the malice which will attend such a circumstance. We have no jurisdiction over such an event, nor do we have any real influence now over what may happen to us—unless we organize the citizens of this country and fight for this land of ours. We do not believe that we have any option now that provides anything for us—except the submission and defeat.

Condi and "W"The Chicago Crusader
Chicago, Illinois

Sometimes race is not the only determinate of what can happen to a person in America. What matters more is what side of the fence you're on in the race that is called life. Colin Powell, the first Black Secretary of State, has just resigned from President George W. Bush's cabinet.

Most people are not surprised about this revelation. Some people, in fact, wonder what took him so long. Rumors swirled throughout Bush's first term in office about the perception that Powell was the odd man out. Apparently, according to pundits, Powell, a retired four-star general, was the moderate who was always embroiled in skirmishes about foreign policy with Bush administration hawks Secretary of Defense Donald Rumsfeld and Vice President Dick Cheney.

Interestingly, President Bush has tapped National Security Advisor Condoleezza Rice to replace Powell. Condi, as she is known in some circles, will become the first African American female Secretary of State. If her nomination is confirmed, President Bush will have consolidated his power. In essence, he will end up girdled by people who will further accelerate the increasing militarization of foreign policy that has been characteristic of his administration.

On the one hand, Dr. Rice's pending ascent to the lofty position of Secretary of State is testimony to the fact that hard work and perseverance can result in significant rewards, and she is a prime example of the notion that race is not the only determinate of what happens to people in America. She was a provost at the prestigious Stanford University. What is getting her over, however, is not just her brilliance or her color—it is her mental accord with President George W. Bush. She really seems to believe in him and his ideas. As such, she is a poster child for the idea that the Black community in America is truly diverse. Condoleezza Rice clearly seems quite at home with President Bush and his cohorts.

Ultimately, history will write the story of her failure or success if she is confirmed in the position. Clearly, sometimes ideology is deeper than skin color.

**Black Radio Station Sold In
East St. Louis**By: Bernie Hayes
The St. Louis American

ST. LOUIS (NNPA)—Simmons Media, owners of 1380 AM, KSLG, have reportedly purchased Radio Station WESL 1490 AM in East St. Louis from Robert Riggins for \$1.15 million.

WESL was the only Black-owned station in the metro region to program urban contemporary and blues artists.

With the sale of the station, Blacks are not losing a media outlet that had provided crucial information, news and analysis on issues to the community, but WESL did provide an outlet for music and artists that is absent from the other area stations—although KDHX (88.1 FM) does offer some blues and R&B music.

WESL played a central role in bringing the region some of the nation's finest personalities and programs.

In the early years, the station's call letters were WTMV, WBBR and WAMV, before changing to WESL in the early 1960s.

The stations' disc jockeys challenged and competed for the audiences of KATZ, KWK, KKSS, Majic 108 (now Majic 105) and KGLD. In its early years, it also programmed heavily to the gospel market, and aired several churches and religious broadcasts.

There was a time when rhythm and blues programs hosted by Black disc jockeys attracted increasing numbers of White listeners.

But, if present trends continue, even more Black-owned stations will become only memories.

Black radio has undergone dramatic changes in recent years, but the genre continues to rely largely upon the music, news and talk programming that popularized the format in its early years.

There are two other Black-owned radio stations in the St. Louis area.

Bill and Virginia White are the owners of St. Charles radio station KIRL-AM, located at 1460 on the AM dial. KIRL is a daytime operation, programming gospel music.

The other Black-owned station is 95.5 WFUN-FM, owned by Kathy Hughes. Its format includes oldies in addition to rap and hip hop.



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