

Barbara Chase-Riboud's Novel Outraged Scholars

Barbara Chase-Riboud, who accepted the prestigious Janet Heidinger Kafka Prize for Excellence in Fiction by an American Woman Monday, September 29, at the New York Public Library, has an interview in the October issue of *Ms. Magazine*. The literary award goes to Ms. Chase-Riboud's first novel, *Sally Hemings*, the controversial "fictional portrait of the slave who became the most publicized woman of color in post-revolutionary America — amid speculation about her master, Thomas Jefferson, and the paternity of her seven children."

In her article, *Ms.* editor, Susan McHenry, reports that what makes *Sally Hemings* so controversial is that the book explores the tragic 38-year affair that most Jeffersonian scholars have tried to discount — until historian Fran Brodie wrote *Thomas Jefferson: An Intimate History*. It is a matter of record that Jefferson abhorred slavery; his first draft of the Declaration of Independence contained a clause condemning slavery but the representatives of the southern slave holding colonies forced its removal. "America perceives itself as a white man's country, and this has nothing to do with

reality," observes Ms. Chase-Riboud. "When Thomas Jefferson was drafting the Declaration of Independence, this country was already multi-racial. In 1776, one third of the population was black."

And yet, last year, when CBS television optioned the rights to *Sally Hemings* for a projected mini-series, the plan was abandoned when a small group of all white, male Jeffersonian scholars "protested that such a series would give credence to a 'scandalous rumor' that implicated a Founding Father in miscegenation." But, Ms. McHenry reports that Ms. Chase-Riboud is "philosophical about the network abandonment of the project" and she is pursuing her plans to make prime time with an independent producer.

"Chase-Riboud portrays this story of miscegenation with sensitivity and restraint that removes it from the pulp tradition of Mandingo and places it in its rightful realm of serious complexity," says Ms. McHenry.

Barbara Chase-Riboud has already earned an international reputation as a sculptor. Born in Philadelphia, Ms. Chase-Riboud won *Seventeen Magazine's* national art competition and sold a

print to New York's Museum of Modern Art before beginning her undergraduate studies at The Tyler Art School (Temple University). In her senior year, she became the first black woman to win a *Mademoiselle* guest editorship. A John Hay Whitney Fellowship in Rome and a graduate degree from the Yale School of Art and Architecture followed. Her marriage to French journalistic photographer, Marc Riboud took her to China in 1961, making her the first American woman to go to Peking after the revolution. Since then, (and since the birth of her two children) Ms. Chase-Riboud has had numerous showings of her drawings and sculptures, and a volume of poetry published. Her future plans include a sculpture project; "a series of monuments to the nine million Africans who died in the Middle Passage, the voyage that carried them in slave ships to the New World," a second volume of poetry to be published after her second novel, and of course, the TV version of *Sally Hemings*. In addition, Ms. Chase-Riboud will serve as associate publisher and international vice president of the Doric Publishing Company in New York.



Campaigning

BALTIMORE—Former U.N. Ambassador Andrew Young (r), jokes with city CETA workers during tree-planting ceremonies at Freedom Park, while he was in town campaigning for President Carter. Young was complementing the workers on the job they did building the recently finished park. UPI Photo

Ali Still The People's Choice In Las Vegas Survey

LAS VEGAS — If a vote that Muhammad Ali took after a workout at Caesars Palace is any indication, the popular former Heavyweight Champion is still the people's choice.

Ali asked the crowd of about a thousand spectators if he would win his fight with Heavyweight Champion Larry Holmes on October 2 and regain the title.

About one-third of the fans raised their hands. A frowning Ali then asked if Holmes would win the match, billed as Ali's Last Hurrah. Only one fan raised his hand.

The fight, which will be on closed circuit television throughout the nation, could begin a new career for the ex-champ or bring down the curtain on one of the greatest records in boxing history.

In addition to hanging on to his fans, Ali is also as confident as ever.

"I'm going to shock all of you who don't believe in me," he says.

MEAC FOOTBALL QUICK FACTS

The Alcorn State game against South Carolina State scheduled for 1:30 p.m. Saturday in Orangeburg, S.C., will be regionally televised by ABC-TV in an announcement made by that network Monday morning. Black Entertainment Television (BET) will also televise the game for a delayed showing on Cable TV Friday night October 10. Going into the game, Alcorn is 2-0-0, S.C. State is 4-0-0, and they are ranked number one and three, respectively, in three different football polls.

"Larry Holmes has called me 'Porky Pig' and I've got to beat him. People forget too easily. I've performed all kinds of miracles, just like Moses, the 'Thrilla in Manila,' the big fight in Zaire and this will be another one.

"George Foreman was supposed to be invincible. He was supposed to be Super Man. I was supposed to be slaughtered. Now they say that Holmes will slaughter me. But, I beat George Foreman and I'll beat Holmes.

"Still writers keep writing all that crazy stuff about me getting hurt in the ring," Ali adds.

"I'm tired of Holmes stealing my poems, too. Everything I've done or

did, he tries to do. He tries to dance like me and throw the left jab like I do in the ring.

"When he meets me, though, he will be meeting his master, the lord of the ring.

"I will destroy Larry Holmes."

MEAC Roundup

N.C. A&T 29, Bethune-Cookman 22 — Quarterback William Watson ran for one N.C. A&T touchdown, and threw for two more, as the Aggies evened its conference record at 1-1-0, and dropped the Wildcats to 0-1-1.

S.C. State 30, Howard 17 — The Bison ignored a 17-0 deficit and tied S.C. State late in the third

period, only to have Chris Ragland run his second touchdown of the night, and Rocky Cunningham score on a 66-yard punt return in the final quarter. The Bulldogs are now 3-0-0 in the conference, while Howard is 0-1-1.

Grambling 27, Florida A&M 10 — The score was only 13-10 with three minutes to play, but Grambling got two quick touchdowns passes to put the contest out of reach. FAMU had beaten the Tigers two years in a row. FAMU plays its first conference game next week against Howard.

University of Massachusetts 39, Delaware St. 0 — Delaware St. had to go with its third string quarterback, Massachusetts put up sixteen points in each of the first two periods. The Hornets, 0-1-0 in the MEAC, plays its second league contest next week against Bethune-Cookman.

MEAC PLAYER OF THE WEEK

The Office of the Mid-Eastern Athletic Conference has announced that its Offensive Player of the Week is N.C. A&T State's William Watson (QB), the Offensive Lineman is Ben Williams (TE) of S.C. State and the Defensive Player is Angelo King (LB) also of S.C. State.

In a 29-22 conference win over Bethune-Cookman, Watson threw seventeen yards and one yard for touchdowns, and ran twelve yards for another score. The 6-2 185-pound senior from Detroit was 6-11-0 in passing for 67 yards, and rushed fourteen times for 56.

Ben Williams, a 6-3, 190-pound senior from Hollywood, S.C., spearheaded the Bulldog blocking, grading over

90% on the game film as the offense collected 349 yards rushing and a 30-17 conference victory over stubborn Howard.

Team-mate Angelo King (6-1, 220) had nine solo tackles, including a quarterback sack and two other stops behind the line, and recorded three assists. The senior from Columbia S.C. was an All-MEAC performer last season.



President Chats With Students

Dr. Stanley H. Smith, President of Shaw University, is shown conversing with students recently at the entrance of the Institutions Student Union Building. Dr. Smith has continually maintained a philosophy that the primary mission of any University is to meet the needs of its students while simultaneously preparing them for the future.

ACCESS Intensifies Campaign Protest South Africa's Tourney Participation

ACCESS, the American Coordinating Committee for Equality in Sport and Society, has announced intensification of its campaign to protest South Africa's participation in the Eisenhower Cup Golf Tournament, scheduled for October 8-11 in Pinehurst.

ACCESS is now planning

for demonstrations at the site in Pinehurst if the South Africans do participate. New targets for the campaign include ABC-TV, which plans to televise the event, as well as local officials in Pinehurst.

Efforts began on July 11 with a letter-writing campaign to the U.S. Golf Association, the sponsor, and to President Carter. In spite of a sizeable international response to this call, USGA Executive Director, P.J. Boatwright, answered that as sponsor and in "view of U.S. government policy and of its obligation as a member of the WAGC (World Amateur Golf Team Championship)," The USGA was "not in a position to take any action with respect to the position of a team from South Africa."

Dr. John Domisse, the Secretary-General of ACCESS, called the responses of the USGA and the Carter Administration completely contradictory. He pointed out that the Administration said, "With regard to our sports policy toward South Africa, the U.S. Government will not promote, sponsor or facilitate sports exchanges involving South African teams or individuals... many of these (sports) organizations are aware of the Government's sports policy toward South Africa and choose to adopt it."

The USGA not only does not choose to adopt the sports policy, but claims it is acting "in view of U.S. Government policy" after the USGA General Counsel consulted with the State Department and found that, "all member organizations, including South Africa, would be allowed to have their teams visit the United States and compete in the championships without any restriction whatsoever."

ACCESS has called President Carter to point out this major discrepancy and called on his Administration to clarify its position in this crucial area of race relations.

As far as the obligation of the USGA as a member of the WAGC, ACCESS pointed out that the International Golf Association, also a traditionally staunch supporter of South Africa, decided in July that it would no longer insist on host nations accepting South Africa as a participant. This took place two weeks after ACCESS announced its plans to work for the

exclusion of South Africa from the World Cup in Columbia in December. In addition, Fiji, the host of last year's Eisenhower Cup, did exclude South Africa. Domisse said this showed sufficient precedent for such an action, "even in golf, one of the very few sports where South Africa competes with impunity."

Domisse called ABC's telecast of the matches "the vehicle South Africa needs to sell its propaganda to the American people. While you can almost bet that South Africa will send an 'integrated team' to try to convince the viewing audience that it is an increasingly integrated society, golf remains one of the most segregated sports in South Africa. It is a country where 84 percent of its people are black and yet there is not a single eighteen hole golf course for blacks in all of South Africa in spite of fifty years of appeals by black golfers for equal facilities and opportunities."

He added that "by insisting on South Africa's participation, the USGA is clearly supporting racism. By neither actively intervening nor even clarifying its real position in public, the Carter Administration has raised the question of its own sincerity on human rights questions overseas. ABC-TV has become the servant of the South African Government by publicizing South Africa's venerated racial laws."

In addition to continuing to target the USGA, the Carter Administration, and ABC-TV, ACCESS has called on its thirty coalition member organizations to use their influence on the mayor of Pinehurst and the president of the board of the Pinehurst Country Club to exert pressure on the USGA.

If they are unable to do this on the basis of the immorality of racism, then perhaps the spectre of demonstrations on their hallowed lawns and in front of their cameras will provoke these officials to exclude the representatives of racist apartheid South Africa from the Eisenhower Cup, ACCESS contends.

CITY COUNCIL TO HEAR COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT PROPOSALS

On October 20, 1980, the City Council will hold a Public Hearing to receive proposals and comments on the 1981-82 Community Development Program. The City expects to receive about \$2.3 million for community improvements during that year.

City residents and especially those living the St. Theresa, N. Albright/Calvin St., and Edgemont neighborhoods are encouraged to attend and voice their community needs.

The Public Hearing will begin at 7:30 P.M. in the City Council Chamber at City Hall.

For more information, contact Evelyn Tice in the City Planning Department at 683-4137.

By order of the City Council, this the 4 day of October, 1980.

Margaret W. Rollins, CMC
City Clerk

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