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On Civil Rights

Supreme Court Justice Says Reagan Ranks 'At The Bottom'

WASHINGTON (AP) — President Reagan "ranks at the bottom" among U.S. presidents, while history will eventually view Harry Truman as one of the best, Supreme Court Justice Thurgood Marshall said.

In an interview to be broadcast Monday on WUSA-TV, Marshall said his low opinion of Reagan stems from an erosion of civil liberties under the current administration.

"I don't care whether he's the president, the governor, the

mayor, the sheriff. Whoever calls the shots determines whether we have integration, segregation or decency," Marshall said. "That starts exactly with the president."

Marshall, 79, predicted that "Truman will come out on top" in the judgment of history, but that Reagan ranks with Herbert Hoover and Woodrow Wilson as one of the worst presidents ever.

"Honestly, I think he's down there with Hoover and that group, and Wilson, when we didn't have a chance," said Marshall, the first African American on the Supreme Court.

Marshall also had harsh words for the way Presidents Franklin D. Roosevelt, Dwight D. Eisenhower and John F. Kennedy dealt with civil rights issues.

"I don't think Roosevelt did much for the Negro," Marshall said.

Marshall said he believes Eisenhower's only civil rights concern was to try to undermine the 1954 landmark Supreme Court ruling on school desegregation in *Brown vs. Board of Education*.

Kennedy, often portrayed as a civil rights activist, actually was reluctant to sacrifice votes for civil rights gains, Marshall said.

"Kennedy was held back by the attorney general, his brother (Robert F. Kennedy)," Marshall said. "His brother said, 'Don't do anything for the Negroes

because you won't get re-elected. Wait until you're re-elected, and then do it.'"

Marshall saved some of his highest praise for the president who nominated him, Lyndon B. Johnson.

Calling Johnson the "greatest civil rights president," Marshall said he thinks Johnson's aggressive pursuit of equal rights for all Americans ultimately cost him support.

"His plans were unbelievable, the things he was going to do. But he was too far out," Marshall said. "He wasn't thrown out because of Vietnam. They just used that as an excuse to get rid of him."

Marshall's remarks will air in a one-hour documentary called "Searching for Justice: Three American Stories."



Attorney C.C. Spaulding, Jr., early Thursday afternoon at the University Medical Center. Arrangements, incomplete at press time, are being handled by Fisher Funeral Home.



LT. GOV. JORDAN

Lt. Gov. Robert Jordan To Address Hillside

Promote volunteerism to the participants.

Help the youth develop civic programs for themselves and other young people.

Exposing the participants to role models beyond athletes and entertainers.

Helping to build self-esteem and public speaking skills for the participants.

Providing exposure to public service and administration as careers.

Teach the participants how to use city government resources.

Having fun.

Presentations during each of the Saturday seminars will be made by city council members, city government officials, as well as other educational, business and civic leaders.

During the nine month program, the young people will elect a junior city council and mayor who will be required to present a list of the issues identified and prioritized by program participants to the local city council.

Program participants will be paid a \$100 stipend on Dec. 18, and another \$100 on May 5 upon completing the program.

For more information, contact the city clerk's office at City Hall between 8 a.m. and 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday. The telephone number is 683-4166.

City Council Launches Youth Development Program

By Milton Jordan

According to Durham City Council member Peggy Watson-Borden, Durham's young people need to have a firsthand look at local government decisions made here, and how those decisions affect the lives of people who live here.

"I believe if our young people have a better understanding of the decision making process, how that process affects their lives, and the lives of every person in this community, the young people will be more inclined to hold elected officials accountable," Mrs. Watson-Borden explained.

"In addition, the process will develop leadership skills and community spirit."

Driven by that philosophy, Watson-Borden, who holds a large seat on the Durham City Council, prodded the council and several local businesses to contribute almost \$20,000 to run the program for the nine months, from August until May 1988.

The program is open to 26 high school students who will attend Saturday seminars each week on some area of local government operation, or leadership development.

Other activities planned for the young people who enroll in the program, entitled "Bridging the Gap," include a weekend trip to Washington, D.C. and a weekend trip to Raleigh, to study the legislative process on the national and state levels.

The deadline for applying for the program is Friday, and the weekend Orientation Retreat will be held on Sept. 26. The program will run through May 5.

The ten program objectives, according to Mrs. Watson-Borden, include:

Help the participants develop understanding of the democratic process.

Help foster a commitment to participate in civic affairs and community spirit.

Increase the participants' awareness of the electoral process.



HILLSIDE HIGH Student Council President Tonya Robinson shares plans for film series on the Constitution with Second District U.S. Representative Tim Valentine.

Photo by Mayfield

Hillside Launches Constitution Film Series

In advance of the Sept. 17 observance of the 200th anniversary of the signing of the U.S. Constitution, Congressman Tim Valentine has endorsed a 13-month constitutional project sponsored by the Hillside High School Student Council and the Durham County Library.

The project, which is a film series called, "Congress: We The People", will explore the inner

workings of both Houses of the United States Congress. The films will be shown on the third Tuesday of each month, starting in October of 1987 and ending in October of 1988. The series will be held in the auditorium of the Stanford Warren Branch of the Durham County Library.

Each segment of the series focuses on a different aspect of the Congress. After each film, a

discussion of that segment and other related issues will be led by area constitutional scholars. Staff members from Cong. Valentine's office and Sen. Terry Sanford's office will be present at each segment.

The entire film series will be free and open to the public. Each segment will begin at 7 p.m.

Rainbow Convention Ready For Formal Jackson Announcement

RALEIGH (AP) — The Rainbow Coalition convention next month will give the Rev. Jesse L. Jackson an audience of his key supporters from around the nation when he announces his presidential bid, an organizer said Tuesday.

Jackson, 45, said on Labor Day he would formally announce his candidacy for the Democratic presidential nomination on Oct. 10, the second day of the Rainbow Coalition's three-day convention.

"I think the consideration was that No. 1, here in Raleigh during the convention he will have most of his national supporters, meaning key people from virtually every state in the country," said Bruce E. Lightner, the convention's local coordinator. "Also there will be a much larger forum in terms of media exposure, and he wanted to do it in the South, I think."

Jackson's campaign planners "felt the people in North Carolina were committed enough to do the work," he said.

"If you have a national presence — and clearly he does — it makes a lot more sense to have your convention and announcement where you have people who are willing to commit themselves and work," Lightner said.

Jackson, a South Carolina native and graduate of N.C. A&T State University in Greensboro, has strong support in North Carolina, Lightner said.

"You have to bring into consideration that Reverend Jackson is a guest in the state frequently, he has a lot of friends here, he attended school here — he has strong roots in North Carolina," Lightner said.

He said Jackson earlier planned to announce his candidacy on Labor Day, but decided to wait until the convention.

"I suspect he and his national staff chose Raleigh because it is in the South, and it is a pivotal political state. Raleigh in particular has the physical facilities necessary to host a major convention," he said.

The expected announcement will boost interest in the convention, organizers said. Convention planners had expected about 1,200 for the convention before Jackson's announcement.

"It's a safe bet" that 2,600 to 3,000 people could attend the gathering, Lightner said.

Lightner said Ron Daniels, executive director of Jackson's campaign, had called him Monday morning to inform him of Jackson's intentions.

Although Jackson's announce-

ment will focus national attention on the convention, it won't change the gathering's purpose — "to bring together different leaders from across the country to discuss important issues," Lightner said.

The agenda for the convention has not been completed, Lightner said. But he said he expects the convention participants to discuss unrest in Central America, the Reagan administration's domestic policies, the nation's trade imbalance, and the nomination of Judge Robert H. Bork to the Supreme Court.

The Raleigh convention will be the Rainbow Coalition's second (Continued On Page 7)

Freedom Fund Dinner Is Sat.

The Durham Branch, NAACP, will honor R. Kelly Bryant, Jr. at its Freedom Fund Dinner on Sat., Sept. 19 at the Durham Civic Center.

Bryant is a retired insurance company executive. He is married to Mrs. Arletia T. Bryant and they are parents of two children.

For over 40 years, Bryant has been involved with numerous civic, fraternal and community affairs.

Retired Justice James Gordon Questions Bork's Honesty

WASHINGTON (AP) — The White House Wednesday acknowledged it made "minor mistakes or omissions" in a document supporting Robert Bork's nomination to the Supreme Court and turned aside criticism of Bork from a retired federal judge.

Meanwhile, an American Bar Association committee on judicial selection said Bork is "well qualified" to be on the high court, the ABA's highest rating for a prospective justice. But administration officials conceded the vote of the 15-member

panel was not unanimous.

The ABA declined for now to disclose the committee vote.

At the White House, Presidential spokesman Marlin Fitzwater said there were "some minor typos" and incorrect dates in a report sent to Capitol Hill to promote Bork's nomination. However, he insisted "the major points in there are accurate."

He readily acknowledged the report "was selective" in the information it contained, saying it was an "advocacy" document.

An analysis released last week by the chairman of the Senate

Judiciary Committee said the White House was conducting a transparent effort to make Bork appear as the ideological equivalent of retired Justice Lewis F. Powell, Jr.

The report, prepared at the request of committee chairman Joseph Biden, D-Del., was a broad attack on a White House position paper issued last July that extolled Bork's record as a federal appellate judge.

"There may have been minor mistakes or omissions," in the White House document, Fitzwater said. However, he said that

overall, "it's a fair representation of his views" and that all of Bork's opinions are openly recorded. He did not itemize any mistakes or omissions in the document.

Meanwhile, Fitzwater also brushed aside criticism from a retired federal judge who said Bork once tried to shift the decision of a judicial panel that both men served on to reflect Bork's own differing viewpoint.

"In the judicial process, there are always disagreements," said Fitzwater. "This sort of thing is very normal." He said the federal

judge "has long had disagreements" with Bork.

The *Washington Post* said the criticism of Bork's "basic honesty" came in a letter to the Senate Judiciary Committee from retired U.S. District Judge James F. Gordon about a 1983 case.

Bork served with Gordon and the late Judge Roger Robb on a three-judge federal appeals court panel that heard a lawsuit by Republicans challenging their committee assignments in the Democratic-controlled House.

In writing the panel's decision (Continued On Page 7)