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NCCU Students Visit Ghana, West Africa — Several NCCU students can back from a trip to Ghana. From left to right are: Bryan Mills, Cheryl Woods, Hope Copeland, Ella Russ and Nathaniel Todd.

Last week's Million Man March Photos were by Ronnie Sturdivant of TQ Business Complex.

Black Lawyers Find Racism In North Carolina

According to the National Bar Association, the North Carolina Association of Black Lawyers (NCABL) successfully petitioned for the removal of a local district attorney for conduct prejudicial to the administration of justice. The lawyers reported that D.A. Gerry L. Spivey directed racial epithets at Ray Jacobs, a defensive player for the Denver Broncos. The NCABL says that after a hearing on the case in August, D.A. Spivey was permanently removed from the office.

Black Lawyers Go With Johnnie Cochran

National Bar Association President Keith Waters appeared on CNN's "Burden of Proof" program during the O. J. Simpson trial and stated his strong support of Johnnie Cochran's closing statements to the jury, saying, "While it is understandable that any discussions of the Holocaust should be handled with sensitivity and dignity, we believe that Johnnie Cochran's linkage of Mark Fuhrman's racist views on burning masses of people with those of Adolph Hitler, are factually accurate, ethically proper, and legally permissible."

Budget Cuts Will Affect All

In searching for ways to balance the budget, the U.S. Congress has proposed substantially reducing the amount of financial aid for college students. Proposed reductions amount to over \$30 million during the next seven years and include elimination of the sixth month post graduation grace period, increases in loan origination fees by 23 percent, and elimination of over 280,000 Pell Grants in 1996. Reports show that unpaid student loans total over \$25 million that could be used to fund new programs, if the U.S. could collect.

Who's Who in Black Corporate America

Miller Brewing Company recently announced that Virgis Colbert has been named senior vice president of worldwide operations. Colbert joined Miller in 1979 and was appointed senior vice president of operations and elected to Miller's Board of Directors and Executive Committee in 1993. He is a member of the Board of Trustees for Fisk University and serves as chairman of the Executive Advisory Committee for the National Urban League's Black Executive Exchange Program.

Denny's: Fading to Black?

Denny's Restaurants recently announced 14 first-time franchise candidates have been selected to participate in the company's new Fast Track program, which offers a unique financing plan. The Fast Track program provides eligible minority candidates with the opportunity to own a Denny's restaurant upon successful completion of a structured program. The program consists of hands-on training covering all phases of a Denny's restaurant's operations and management. Call (803) 597-8000 for information.

7-Eleven Honored for Outstanding Minority Purchasing

The Dallas Together Forum has presented its "Most Advancement Award" for progress made in minority purchasing to The Southland Corporation (7-Eleven). The award is presented for the greatest year-to-year improvement in minority purchasing, hiring or advancement. "We owe this award to the outstanding efforts of our Construction Department," says Jeanne Hitchcock, 7-Eleven's national urban affairs manager. "In 1994, during the renovation of Dallas-area 7-Eleven stores, over 40 percent of our construction dollars went to minority businesses. This award demonstrates that a company can successfully diversify its vendor base," stated Hitchcock. Southland's operations include more than 5,500 7-Eleven and other convenience stores in the U.S. and Canada.

Activist Named to Civil Rights Panel

WASHINGTON (AP) - President Clinton on Monday named veteran Asian-American activist Yvonne Lee to the U.S. Commission on Civil Rights. Lee, a graduate of the University of California at Davis and currently head of her own public relations company, has been an advocate for Chinese immigrants and the elderly for more than 20 years. She is the former executive director of the Chinese American Citizens Alliance, a civil rights advocacy group, and was instrumental in establishing a senior citizens' housing project in San Francisco.



Black Churches To Pressure Clinton

By Darlene Superville
WASHINGTON (AP) - Black leaders from eight religious denominations are planning a national telephone campaign to pressure President Clinton to veto legislation they say would dismantle welfare and Medicaid programs.

The Congress of National Black Churches, concluded a three-day conference last Friday, also released a 10-point program to deal with "deep despair" among black Americans.

Republican measures pending in Congress would hand over to the states much of the responsibility for programs dealing with the health and welfare of poor people. President Clinton has threatened to veto such measures.

Bishop John Hurst Adams of the African Methodist Episcopal Church, founding chairman of the leadership organization, said the programs are "essential to the wholeness and health of the nation." "Nobody objects to a reasonable and rational reform," he said.

"But the absurd, absurd, absurd agenda being promoted now deserves to be vetoed. It furthers the gap as it enriches the rich and devastates the poor and we cannot subscribe to that." The congress' 68,000 congregations, with more than 19 million members, will begin working on the program as soon as possible, said the Rev. W. Franklyn Richardson, pastor of Grace Baptist Church in Mount Vernon, N.Y.

He called the conference, which was said to redefine the focus of the historically black churches, was not timed to coincide with Louis Farrakhan's Million Man March in Washington.

North Carolina Senators Block Charles Becton Nomination

WASHINGTON (AP) - North Carolina's Republican senators may have scuttled a Raleigh lawyer's chance to become the first black judge on the 4th Circuit Court of Appeals.

The Clinton administration has decided not to move forward with the nomination of Charles Becton following opposition from Sens.

Jesse Helms and Lauch Faircloth, administration and congressional officials said.

Democrats and Republican describe Becton as exceptionally well qualified for the court and, over the past year, dozens of lawyers and judges of both parties have written to the White House urging his appointment. Becton has been to Washington and passed an initial vetting.

But a power struggle over judicial appointments between Helms and the Clinton administration may have doomed Becton's chances of

even being formally named. President Clinton, smarting from such disastrous nominations as Zoe Baird for attorney general, doesn't like to put forward names that won't get Senate confirmation.

In an interview, Helms said his main reason for opposing Becton was in retaliation for an action by Sen. Joseph Biden, D-Del., a former chairman of the Senate Judiciary Committee.

As Colin Powell Looks More Like A Candidate, Other Republicans Adjust

By John King

WASHINGTON (AP) - To Pat Buchanan it would be a "godsend," to Bob Dole another headache. As they wait for Colin Powell to decide whether he will run for president, the declared Republican candidates can't wait to reassess their strategies.

On virtually a daily basis, Powell now factors into the GOP campaign debate: The candidates and their allies look to blunt his chances and more neutral observers assess how a Powell candidacy would change the race.

"A huge change," is GOP contender Dick Lugar's safe guess. "I just can't describe the displacement of water that comes if you sort of drop a skyscraper into the harbor." Some candidates aren't waiting for the splash. Just last Thursday, Buchanan said it would be unthinkable for the Republican Party to abandon its principles and turn to Powell, given his support of abortion rights, gun control, affirmative action and "New Deal and Great Society programs." "There really is no argument for the nomination of General Powell other than the fact he is running high in the polls," Buchanan said.

At the other Republican campaigns, public reaction to Powell has been more muted. Candidates discuss him only when asked.

Texas Sen. Phil Gramm, for example, says Powell's views make him a better fit in the Democratic Party, former Tennessee Gov. Lamar Alexander labels Powell "too liberal to be nominated" by the GOP.

Dole, the GOP front-runner, predicts Powell's popularity would be hard to maintain if he became a candidate and spelled out his views in more detail.

Privately, Dole aides suggest a Powell candidacy would force some activists now aligned with Buchanan and Gramm to decide whether to stay put, which could help Powell by splintering the conservative vote, or strike an alliance with Dole.

Buchanan predicted his supporters would not waver. "I think conservatives will respond to someone who does not modify or dilute his positions - like a Powell or Dole - but someone who states them out clearly and boldly," Buchanan said.

"I think the entrance of Colin Powell into the race would be a godsend," Powell, whose book tour ended last Friday, promises to make a decision by Thanksgiving.

At a book-signing last Thursday in Duluth, Ga., he told reporters that when the tour is over, "I then go into seclusion for a couple of weeks with my family and advisers and then will come to a conclusion and announce it in due course, some time in November." Earlier in the week, Powell said he would have to be "brain dead" not to be moved by encouragement received during his book tour. But he also said he realizes "your enemies don't come out to buy a book and have you sign it." Powell added that his "popularity rating does not really compare to the political ratings" of President Clinton, Dole and others engaged in daily debate. "I don't confuse the two," he said, adding that some of those urging him to run might miss the distinction.

That comment reflects the caution that some Republicans ultimately believe will convince Powell not to run. He also agreed in recent days to deliver several paid speeches next spring, in the heat of the nominating season.

But every sign that Powell might not run is matched by one suggesting he wants to.

Last Wednesday, for example, he poked fun at those in the Republican field who suggest he couldn't win. "The answer I give to them is, well, find your revolutionary who gets more than 8 or 9 percent of the vote and let me know when you get it," Powell said.

And while in New York on last Monday, Powell met with two financiers who have raised money for GOP candidates, according to a GOP source who spoke on condition he not be identified further.

GOP insider and close Powell friend Kenneth Duberstein also has had conversations with Republican operatives who are not already involved in the presidential race, although most of these have been initiated by strategists eager to work for any Powell campaign.

Duberstein also met recently with GOP pollster Ed Goetas and reviewed recent surveys assessing Powell's prospects. Goetas, who initiated the meeting, said last Thursday he had no concrete evidence but guessed Powell would run.

That is increasingly the view in GOP circles.

"I wouldn't be surprised if he didn't announce sometime around Thanksgiving," House Speaker Newt Gingrich said on ABC's "Good Morning America." Alexander spokesman Mark Merritt said a Powell entry would underscore Dole's weakness. Over time, he predicted, Powell would fade and another candidate would have an opening.

Others, however, share Gingrich's view that with a dramatic Powell entry "it would immediately become a Powell-Dole race." Just the talk of a Powell run "has frozen the other candidates in place," said Goetas. "They would just like for this to be over."