

Letter To The Editor

To Be Equal by Vernon E. Jordan Jr.

Carter's Mandate For Activism

To the Winston-Salem Chronicle
I've appreciated reading the news of our and my Black Americans from home. My daughter prescribed this paper for me to be closer to home with the news.

I feel so sad that Mr. Wiseman can't get recognition from more "Blacks" for support to operate Staley's Restaurant in the Northside shopping Center. I feel that he desires the chance to operate at this site. I'm looking forward for more Black support of our fellow man.

Thanking Mr. Issac Carree II, Mr. Charles T. Byrd, and Mr. Ernest H. Pitt to encourage and write more of how our Blacks are still treated in Winston-Salem, North Carolina.

Thank you,
Mrs. B.J. Morgan

Dear Editor:

The Concerned Citizens (on the front line) would like to express their sincere thanks to all of the concerned citizens who cooperated so beautifully doing the "people's" boycott of Northside Shopping Center. Your action and support confirmed our belief that citizens will rally to a just cause.

Our victory was the dawn of a new day, and with your continuing support we will destroy all barriers of prejudice and racism that are preventing the elimination of discriminatory practices, direct and indirect, which now exist. Our initial thrust will be directed toward, but not limited to developing greater job opportunities and encouraging companies to develop

active affirmative action plans that will insure the upward mobility of all persons now employed.

Praise be to Allah and God and may they grant "power to the people" and support to the NAACP. Concerned Citizens

Gentlemen:

This letter is from a group of very concerned residents of the Happy Hill Gardens Community. We would like to bring to your attention the very urgent need of a new recreation center, in our community. It is not a situation where we want a new center simply because other communities have one, it is a situation where it has become a necessity. The old center just cannot accommodate the overflow of children that come to the center.

An example of our situation would be the problem at hand now. We have four basketball teams. We have no where to practice. We have had to get transportation to other gyms in order to practice. And because of the lack of a gym you often see small kids outside playing basketball in the cold.

Now, as concerned residents and parents we have to send our kids to a place where they can go and stay out of trouble. Now don't you as parents want the same for your kids, as we want for ours?

All we are asking is that you provide us with a facility for our kids to go to and enjoy.

We would like very much for someone to come and talk

See Letters, Page 6

President Jimmy Carter enters office with the solid backing of the American people, as measured not only by the election results but also by recent polls. And that backing is largely predicted on the expectation that he will actively take steps to introduce important reforms. A recent Newsweek poll, for example, shows that 60 percent of respondents have a more favorable opinion of President Carter than they did last November, and only ten percent thought less of him.

At the same time, 76 percent expect him to introduce a tax reform bill this year, 69 percent expect a reduction in unemployment this year, and 54 percent expect him to introduce a national health insurance bill in 1977.

Another public opinion survey, this time from Washington-based Potomac Associates suggests that much of the public's backing for then President-elect Carter was due to expectations that he would take risks and be an activist.

The study warns that "a

lack of action, the pursuit of stability for its own sake ... ultimately would lead to political failure."

So Jimmy Carter enters the Presidency basking in more than the usual honeymoon period all new Presidents enjoy; he enters it with the good feeling and support of the citizenry based on their expectations of his leadership and his commitment to change.

And that explains some of the disappointment in the economic package he has proposed. It's a grab-bag of tax cuts, tax rebates and some job-creation programs. Despite the expectations of reform programs within the coming months, his Administration indicates that welfare and health insurance reforms will have to wait for an improved fiscal situation. But at the same time taxes -- the resources needed for the reforms -- will be reduced.

I don't think a tax cut is called for at a time when the budget deficit is so large and the needs for federal programs are so great. A tax cut is not nearly as effective as

job-creation programs in stimulating the economy. It's been estimated that public service employment programs create two to four times more jobs per dollar than a tax cut.

And the job-creation component is limited. Over a two-year period it would create jobs for only about ten percent of the officially unemployed, and by stretching it out there's the probability that any slight movement in the economy will be used as an excuse to cut back the unfulfilled portion of the program.

The economic package is clearly less than what President Carter's supporters expected and less than the economy needs. The most disturbing aspect of this is that President Carter seems to be trimming his sails needlessly, spending undue energy and care on reassuring his political opponents that he is not too radical, instead of meeting the needs and high expectations of his supporters.

Seeking consensus and taking the middle ground is often advisable, but a new


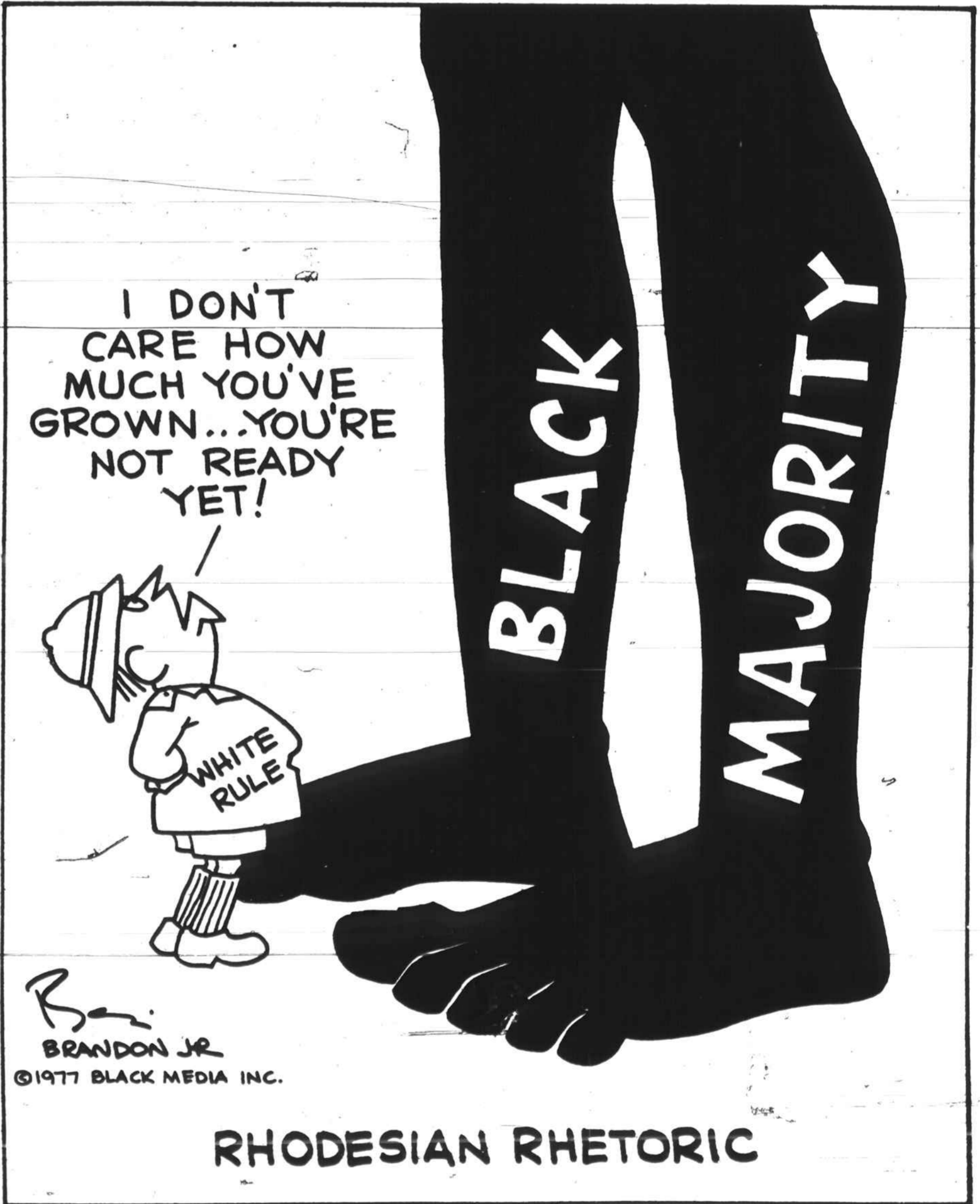
See Charter, Page 18

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Daphney Jeffries

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