



Winston-Salem Chronicle

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Member North Carolina Black Publishers Association

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N.C. Press Association

The NAACP

What Price Freedom ?

The National Association for the Advancement of Colored People turned 73 this year.

The venerable warrior for civil rights continues to wage an often quiet battle for social justice, a battle which becomes more urgent with each new day of the Reagan presidency.

"The effects of Reaganomics," says NAACP Regional Director Earl T. Shinhoster, "and the potential consequences of the New Federalism will require increased effort and cooperation at the grassroots level. Citizen participation in civic, economic and social affairs is as necessary today as in any period of national emergency."

Participation. That's a key word.

However, local NAACP President Pat Hairston says that participation among black folk in the NAACP nationally and here in Winston is nowhere near where it ought to be.

While only 4,000 Winston-Salem residents were dues-paying NAACP members last year, Hairston says an even more paltry 450,000 black people are members nationwide.

Hairston's membership goal this year, for a campaign which began Feb. 14, is 10,000, more than double the size of

the organization now but not really a whole lot when you consider that 50,000 black folk call Winston home.

Hairston says he also needs volunteers to work on the executive committee, especially youth.

"All they have to do is call the office," he told us last week. "Anybody can qualify."

Although we printed the membership fees in last week's edition, we'll print them again for (1) those of you who missed them and (2) those of you who need to have important facts drilled over and over into your heads before you act.

The yearly fee is \$10, \$15 and \$25, depending upon which you decide you want to pay. A lifetime membership costs \$500 and can be paid in yearly installments of \$50.

Some of you may recall that last year's minimum fee was \$5, and that this year's minimum is double that. Well, inflation hits everybody, including the NAACP, which fights many of its struggles in court.

If you don't think that's expensive, try hiring a lawyer.

Besides, says Hairston, "What price freedom?"

The Assaults Revisited

We reported in the fall that some peculiar force was motivating white students--mostly males--to beat up black students--mostly females--at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill.

We reported also that black students at colleges in the Triad were neither surprised that the incidents occurred, nor convinced that the same kinds of foolishness couldn't happen to them.

We, moreover, editorialized that the events were nothing new in Chapel Hill, even with its facade of liberality and tranquility.

It is, however, troubling that so many such incidents seem to be happening nationwide and with the type of brashness reminiscent of the Jim Crow era.

It appears that the wave of conservatism that has swept the country has created the notion among whites that overt racism is again "chic." The early 80s seem to have brought with them a certain smugness among racists and perhaps the belief that you can abuse

black people physically and have nothing to fear but mild reaction on the part of the legal system.

UNC black students, for instance, questioned the slowness and lack of severity of the administration employed in handling the incidents there. Indeed, Cecilia Walker, a black woman who was assaulted in a gym class, said that both the campus police at UNC and the Chapel Hill police seemed reluctant to act on the situation.

Only after going from one agency to the other, then back to the first, did Walker finally secure a warrant for her assailant's arrest.

More significantly, these weren't poorly educated Nazis or Klansmen assaulting black students. These were intelligent, middle-class college students.

If such events have occurred with some regularity in an educational setting--which theoretically trains future leaders, what in the world is its store for us?

Chronicle Letters

Maya Shouldn't Have Left

To The Editor:

In response to your "Welcome Home, Maya" editorial in the Feb. 11 Chronicle, I find erroneous judgment. I disagree wholeheartedly with your evaluation of Maya Angelou's return to the South. How can you welcome her back to where she considers home when she went elsewhere to make her fame? One of black people's major problems as a race is we do not place sanctions on persons, especially those who can be role models or those whose voice opinions.

she could have aligned herself with black newspapers and written articles and had them syndicated as Tony Brown and Vernon Jordan do. Last month she was a guest on "Hour Magazine," a daily talk program. She emphasized her travels abroad with her son, who is now a personnel analyst and the pompous treatment they received at hotels. Very vaguely she mentioned racism in the South. She knows the South is not "voluptuous, sensuous and passionate," as she eloquently describes it. She could have been honest and said the South has

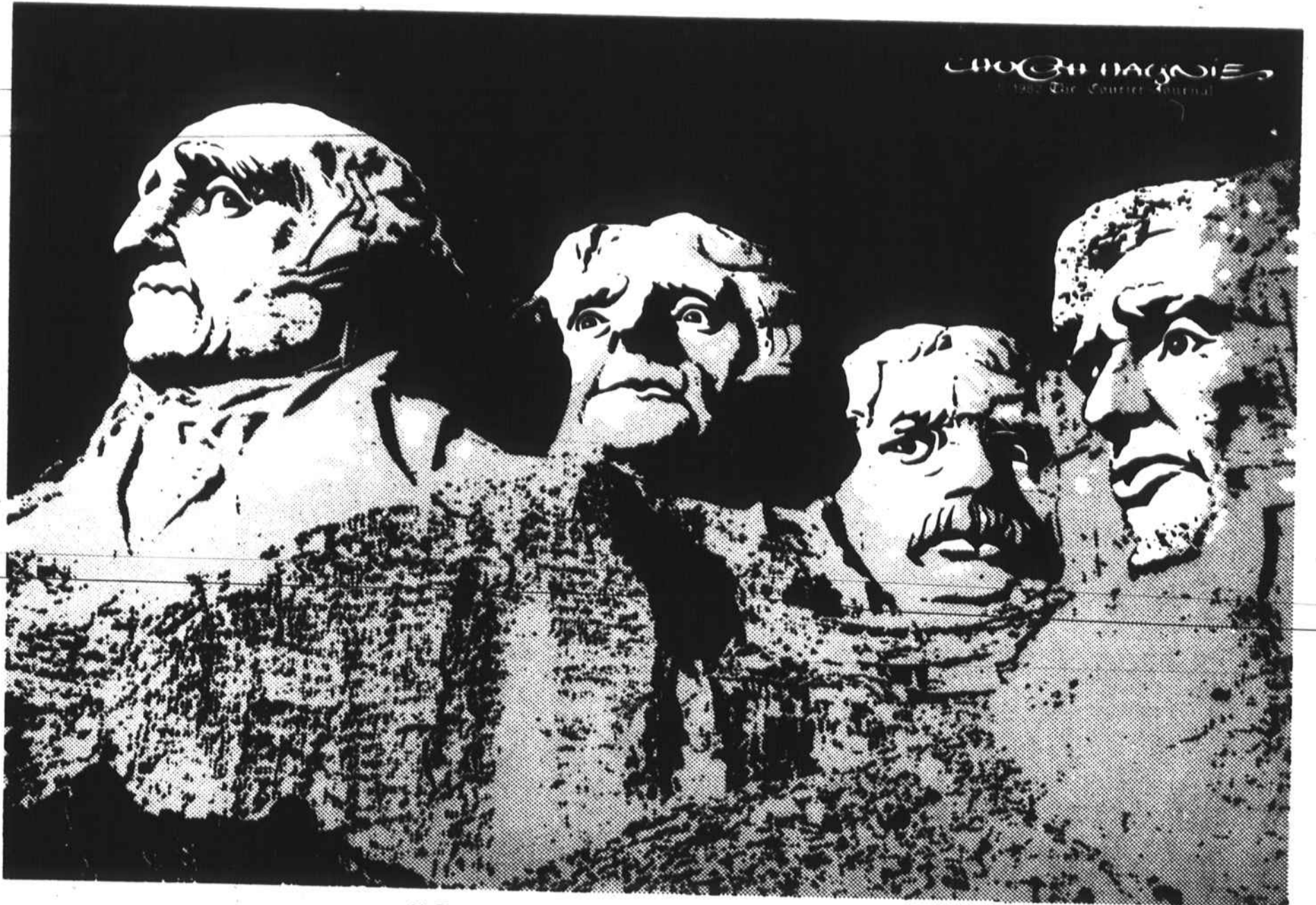
Maya Angelou is here and apparently plans to reap the rewards from other people's struggles.

Now she returns "home" after reaching a certain status that enables her to live a certain lifestyle and says she will "join a church and add my energy to the positive movement..."

You incense me when you welcome her back and so warmly at that. You could have said we are glad you now see the light, Maya, but you chose to glorify her when the Chronicle always states and discusses fairly and fully issues that concern black life.

If you will, please address the issue of many black people who leave "home" and return in the latter years of life.

Leila Dolby
Winston-Salem



"Good grief, George! You bugged the Oval Office, too?"

THE L.A. TIMES SYNDICATE

Did Too Much Trust Cause Africa's Woes?

Africa, the second largest continent, is an area of 12,000,000 square miles in size. It is comprised of 53 independent countries, and populated by over 350,000,000 inhabitants who speak over 3,000 languages and dialects.

Although concentrated primarily on the African continent itself, African sons and daughters and their descendants are dispersed over the planet--a scattering that is commonly referred to as the African Diaspora. For centuries, and wherever the journey led, blacks have found themselves, almost without exception, at the bottom of the economic and social order, struggling at odds against man and nature for survival.

Africans were the first builders of civilization in Africa, the cradle of world civilization. They discovered mathematics, invented writing, developed

kinship with every human being that ever lived. How, then, did they become so exploited, oppressed, hated and despised?

Moreover, if Africans

4500 B.C. To 2000 A.D." published by Third World Press and written by Black historian Dr. Chancellor Williams.

If most white scholarship on Africa is to be believed, early Africans were primitive savages with no notable past. Being innately inferior, they slept through the millenia, built no monuments and developed no worthwhile civilizations. The facts, however, tell quite a different story.

Williams explains that early Africans excelled in many areas. They were builders in every sense of an advanced civilization; scientists, mathematicians, astronomers, engineers, architects, inventors and so on. Their greatness flowed from their superior ability

to produce -- out-produce -- the competition with enough surplus beyond their needs to be able to engage in international commerce and structure a sound economy.

For eons the resources of Africa have been a magnet that has attracted the entire world. And since man's greed has always taken precedence over all humane considerations, Africa has been plundered by the world for her human wealth in the form of slaves, and her art and artifacts which Western artist have attempted to copy.

The fatal flaw of many Afro-Americans, ironically, has been "the fact that believing so strongly in brotherhood, they were

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TONY BROWN COMMENTS

TONY BROWN



sciences, engineering, medicine, religion, fine arts, and built the great pyramids, an architectural achievement which still baffles modern science.

If life truly began in Africa, and the best evidence indicates that it did, then blacks, by the very nature of that fact, share

built the first civilization, discovered science, mathematics and developed writing, how did they fall from grace and end up on the bottom? For the answer to this question you must read the phenomenal book -- "The Destruction Of Black Civilization: Great Issues Of A Race From

individual and collective contributions to Afro-American political progress, none are more deserving of our respect than our own Carl Russell Jr. Mr. Russell served this

those who preceded him to the aldermanic board (e.g. the Rev. Kenneth Williams, the first black elected in the 1950s), and many who succeeded him, few in that number can match the commitment and dedication to the betterment of our people that Mr. Russell exemplifies.

His ability to play "hardball" politics was reknown. His concern for the young, the elderly and the disadvantaged was unique among his peers. His views on black empowerment were clearly ahead of his time.

Mr. Russell served on the Winston-Salem Board of Aldermen longer than any black in history. And while

longevity (i.e. the ability to get re-elected) is the lifeline of politicians--indicating to a large degree public approval of one's performance--that factor alone is an inadequate barometer to measure the contributions of one like Carl Russell.

For, when it was unpopular, indeed even dangerous to do so, Mr. Russell fought within the chambers of City Hall, and championed the cause of justice for his black constituents. Surely, he must have known that such outspokenness would cost him recognition, and perhaps even hurt his business. Yet, he persisted.

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A Bouquet Of Gratitude To Russell

When one reflects upon the numerous "politicians" in African-American history who made or are making an impact on the way we live today, names like Blanche K. Bruce (the first Black U.S. Senator), or George White (North Carolina's first black Congressman) perhaps come to mind. Other notables might include former U.S. Senator Edward Brooke (Mass.); Congresspersons William Dawson (Ill.), Adam Clayton Powell Jr. (N.Y.), Shirley Chisholm (N.Y.), Barbara Jordan (Texas), Parren Mitchell (Md.), and Ron Dellums (Calif.); Mayors Carl Stokes (Cleveland), Maynard Jackson

(Atlanta), Tom Bradley (Los Angeles), Marion Berry (Washington), Richard Hatcher (Gary) and Kenneth Gibson (Newark); and State Representatives Willie

community for many years as a member of the Board of Aldermen and continues to serve us as a prominent businessman (founder/director of Russell's Funeral Home). And though there were

CLIFTON GRAVES



Brown (California) and Julian Bond (Georgia).

While most of the aforementioned, and countless of their colleagues at the national, state and local levels, are worthy of some recognition for their

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me under all these rules and requirements and that therefore I'm involved in the necessity of installing elevator shafts and enforcing the dress-code regulations and doing all the federal reporting that can easily run to \$50,000-\$60,000 a year."

Moreover, he notes, Grove City has not been accused of violating anyone's civil rights--only failure to file assurances that it will not do so. Absent a complaint, Bell would leave Grove City in peace. Common sense.

But there's another side of the coin. If you leave Grove City alone, on the basis that it gets no direct governmental aid, what do you do about openly segregationist institutions that decide to circumvent civil-rights re-

quirements by forgoing direct federal aid?

Perhaps surprisingly for a member of the Reagan cabinet, Bell responds:

"If the school was not complying with the Civil Rights Act, if it was discriminating, then, by golly, I would not want to excuse anybody. I'd want everyone covered who could be covered."

As so frequently happens, common sense turns out to be an unreliable guide. In the case of a Grove City, Bell resents the notion that "the student is just the funnel through which you send aid to an institution" and "far-out" legal interpretations that try to drag everybody under the federal tent. But in the case of Bob

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Common Sense Takes A Back Seat Here

WASHINGTON -- Education Secretary Terrel Bell is the kind of official you think you'd be if you were crazy enough to go into government service: unpretentious, unambitious, unstuff and unwilling to let common sense take a back seat to bureaucratic rigidity.

He is also the sort of official you'd probably turn out to be: frustrated when common sense turns out to be an unreliable basis for making policy.

Take the obscure little case of Grove City vs. Bell, now in the Third U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals. Grove City is a small, private college in Pennsylvania, whose quaint notion is that it wants to be left free of federal control. The

government has a requirement that all schools receiving federal financial assistance have to file assurance of compliance with the civil-rights law, which can mean anything

guaranteed loans--even though the money goes directly to the students and not, as more typically happens, to the school--and that, say government lawyers, makes them subject

from nondiscrimination to to the compliance requirements. Terrel Bell's recourse would be to common sense: "I'm inclined to believe that the Congress didn't intend to say that the fact that a student who is recipient of a guaranteed student loan comes to my campus, if I'm the college president, brings

me under all these rules and requirements and that therefore I'm involved in the necessity of installing elevator shafts and enforcing the dress-code regulations and doing all the federal reporting that can easily run to \$50,000-\$60,000 a year."

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WILLIAM RASPBERRY

