

Alabama Mayor Praises YMCA's Goals And Accomplishments

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examples.

Ford also reminded his audience that the YMCA is a Christian organization and "... perhaps that is what makes it so strong, ... for Christianity will still be the salvation of our nation.

"You (Patterson Avenue YMCA) are realizing a dream," he said, referring to the Winston Lake facility being built on Waterworks Road to replace the aging Patterson Avenue structure. "This demonstrates that the black community can join forces with the total community as long as good will is the catalyst."

Digressing for a moment from his comments on the YMCA program, Ford said he wanted to take the opportunity to "leave a little message." "There's a train a-coming -- not the North Coast Limited," he said. "...

The train I'm talking about is the the National Conference of Black Mayors Express."

Ford, who was elected president of the National Conference of Black Mayors in April of 1982, said a black

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-- Johnny Ford

mayor in Winston can be a reality. "If you work together and struggle together, the train will pull into Winston-Salem, North Carolina," he said.

He also said he supports a Jesse Jackson candidacy in the 1984 presidential election. A black man would not be seeking the presidency if Jackson runs, Ford said, "but a well-qualified man who happens to be black."

Commenting on today's black youth, Ford said blacks should graduate from high school with a "diploma in one hand and a (voter) registration card in the other. And they should say, 'America, I don't want you to give me anything. Just get out of my way -- I'll get it myself.'"

The Y cited a number of individuals and organizations during the awards portion of the program. Awards of appreciation were presented to state Representative Tom Womble, the Vietnam Veterans Association, the Pepsi-Cola Bottling Co., Marshall Hairston, Mechanics and Farmers Bank City Executive Mel White and Dr.

Hamilton Allen.

William Brandon received a home computer for raising the most money in a walkathon held in October to benefit youth programs at the Patterson Y. Three special awards -- the Thomas Neely Award, H.E. Staplefoote Award and L.D. McClennon Award -- were presented to Marshall Bass, the Top Ladies of Distinction Inc., and Ernest Hairston and Carl Miller, respectively.

And the *Chronicle* received an award of appreciation for its coverage and support of the Patterson Y during the past year.

Mutter Evans, owner, president and manager of radio station WAAA-AM, served as mistress of ceremonies for the event, and Dan Andrews, accompanied by Mrs. Laura Wall, provided musical entertainment.

Ministers Differ On Opinions Of Bond Referendum

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"Generally, I'm leaning in favor of the bonds," he said. "But there need to be some answers concerning the bond for Forsyth Technical Institute (which is requesting \$4.5 million for expansion). I'm just up in the air and I'm still listening and looking for information."

During the poll, only two ministers -- the Rev. Charles Green, who is retired, and Dr. J. Ray Butler, pastor of Shiloh Baptist Church -- expressed their support for the total bond package. "In my personal opinion, all the blacks should endorse it," Green said. "We can't penalize the school board without penalizing the children. And I will be working with the committee (the Citizens' Committee for Jobs and Education Referendum) to see that the bonds pass."

Said Butler: "I am in support of the bond referendum because it's for the betterment of the city. It's progress. The bond referendum will fund progress for our city and school system even though I am not in total accord or in agreement with everything in the bond package. I am in accord with the passage of the bonds and I challenge others to do the same."

"All of the citizens who are of voting age need to go to the polls and vote ... and I hope they will become stimulated, motivated and indoctrinated to vote for all the bonds," he said.

Butler, who also did not attend the ministers' meeting last week, said the conference did not take a stand because many of the ministers were not well-informed on

all the aspects of the bond issue. "Drayton and I are much more informed on the bonds because we have both worked with the city committees. But for some (ministers), this was the first time it had been put before them," Butler said. "In essence, they needed more time to have more information on the bond referendum."

However, one minister said he wonders if some monies in the bond package could be allocated to the black community in return for the black community's support.

"We (black people) need housing more than anything else," said the Rev. Rhodford Anderson, pastor of Union Chapel Baptist Church. "And in order to get it, we need to exercise the vote. Sure, it's a bargaining kind of thing, but politics is like that. They (white people) do

it, so why can't we?"

Of the eight items in the bond package -- six requested by the city for economic development and two by the county for the expansion of Forsyth Technical Institute and the reorganization of the city-county schools -- Anderson said he is bothered by the money the city is requesting for downtown development. "Some of the things earmarked in the bond for downtown growth are not for us (black people)," he said. "The main thing we need is affordable, decent housing."

When asked his stand on the bond package, Anderson said, "I'm against many parts of it and I will have to vote on each one individually."

Bond

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results proved to be immediately successful.

Now Curtis Hairston returns home, triumphantly.

A LASTING BOND

"We've had a good marriage, but there's a part of it that's been hard -- his being away," reflects Alice Bond of her life with Georgia State Sen. Julian Bond. "It's hard to take second place to people, politics or whatever."

Married for 23 years and the parents of five children, the Bonds describe their union as enduring but not easy in an interview with *Esence* magazine's Stephanie Stokes Oliver. The senator amusingly relates in the magazine's November issue how his youngest daughter used to think he lived at the airport. "She thought I went to the airport and stayed there for two or three days and then came back home," he says. Alice Bond comments on having "no vacations for twenty years" but is quick to add "there have been good spaces. He's tried to be there."

Julian Bond is more than a state senator, political activist and lecturer. He's a father and husband whose favorite activities include listening to jazz at home, reading and simply having his family around. He says that he's concentrating on finding a way to earn a living that will keep him closer to home.

With the oldest child now 21 and the youngest 15, Alice is now reevaluating her role as a homemaker. "I wish I had finished school, because now I'm at the point in my life when I really need to know how to do something," she says. "I'm lonely. I can't afford to travel with him."

Yet, the Bonds are survivors. They've managed to face the conflicts common to all relationships. "We'll resolve it," Julian says, smiling at Alice. "One way or the other."

BUILDING ON YOUR ROOTS

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