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ERNEST H. PITT
Publisher

MICHAEL A. PITT
Assistant to the Publisher

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Co-Founder

ANGELA WRIGHT
Managing Editor

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YVONNE H.B. TRUHOV
Production Manager

Tell us more, Jimmy

DON'T stop now, Jimmy. Tell us more.

Tell us that you don't know why the people at CBS fired you when they feel the same way that you do about Afro-Americans.

Tell us that you have actually heard many other whites make uglier, dumber statements than you did about Afro-Americans.

Tell us that the terrible situation that Afro-Americans face is the result of a deliberate plan by powerful whites to keep Afro-Americans in a second-class position in America (and elsewhere).

Keep talking, Jimmy.

Tell us that, just like other whites, you got your ideas about Afro-Americans from your parents, who got them from their parents, who learned them from their parents and (sorry to tell you this) but you have taught your ideas to your kids, who are teaching them to their kids, who will teach them to their kids ... and on and on and on.

Tell us that in spite of the remarks of former Agriculture Secretary Earl Butz ("one of blacks' main drives is for sex"), Al Campanis (blacks lack intellectual "essentials"), Howard Cosell (see that "monkey" run) and Jimmy the Greek ("blacks are bred to be athletes") nothing has improved for Afro-Americans and nothing probably will.

Tell us that whites actually fear the prospect of competing against the very Afro-Americans whom they label as inferior.

Tell us that what you actually meant was that Afro-Americans want too much.

The next thing you know, they'll be wanting to own a team. Now that's really going too far.

Tell us that Afro-Americans sure are "nice" people (although a little strange) because no matter what ugly remarks whites make about Afro-Americans, there is always an Afro-American "leader" who will forgive them (Bill Cosby, Jesse Jackson).

We're still listening, Jimmy.

Tell us that the football players' strike did not pit the owners against the players.

It really pitted *white owners* (who make most of the money) against *Afro-American players* who bring in the crowds. (You know who won, don't you?)

Tell us that we should praise the Greek instead of burying him because he gave us insight into why Afro-Americans don't get that nice job that they apply for.

Now we know how whites *really* feel about us.

And tell us, Jimmy, that the next time you make a derogatory statement about Afro-Americans, you'll make it in the back room behind closed doors where only your friends can hear you -- just like the other whites do.

-- Dr. Charles W. Faulkner



Yet another sports dust-up

TO BE EQUAL

By JOHN E. JACOB

NEW YORK -- Last spring, it was Al Campanis of the Los Angeles Dodgers who caught flak for remarks that indicated that Afro-Americans don't have the mental equipment for front-office management jobs.

Now, it's "Jimmy the Greek," who was dumped from his CBS Sports job as commentator for a remarkable interview he gave that indicated that Afro-Americans were taking over professional sports and head coach jobs were all whites had left.

So pro sports once again have the spotlight shining on them, with fresh attention to stereotyped myths about alleged black biological superiority in athletics and alleged shortcomings in other attributes.

It's a rerun of last year's story, but with a new twist. To be fair to both Campanis and "Jimmy the Greek," though, both men are advanced in years. They grew up at a time when such racist and ethnic stereotypes were like mother's milk to most Americans.

And for most of their lives, Americans were identified by their ethnic background and carried the baggage of racial and ethnic stereotypes. "Jimmy the Greek's" nickname is an example. People were seen as members of an ethnic group, not as individuals. There was a lot of lip service to brotherhood and equality, but the reality, as reflected in the laws of the land and the way people thought, was very different.

Poor "Jimmy the Greek" was even under the impression that the remarks he made about black athletes were complimentary! That shows you how deeply embedded such attitudes are.

So it's easy to make fun of the "Jimmy the Greeks" and the Al Campanises. And it's easy to make them scapegoats -- fire them from their jobs and deny responsibility for what they said.

But in fact, their statements aren't just boners committed by some old jocks who are out of touch with today's thinking.

Rather, they reflect the world those men move in -- a world in which Afro-Americans are indeed considered to have natural athletic prowess without the smarts to handle the "thinking jobs" -- such as manager, general manager and head coach.

Ironically, as "Jimmy the Greek" was committing his gaffe, Doug Williams was leading the Washington Redskins to a playoff victory -- the first black quarterback to bring a team to the Super Bowl -- and win it.

Williams was hammering another nail into the myth that says black athletes can run faster and jump higher, but they can't think and they can't lead. Quarterbacks are paid to think and to lead -- and Williams has showed himself a master at both.

It's important to counter racist statements, but anyone who thinks that's enough is fooling himself, for the real problem isn't what "Jimmy the Greek" and others like him say, but what the people who control pro sports and the media think -- and how they act.

All those pro football owners and general managers who condemned "Jimmy the Greek" haven't

on sports was also cited.

On justice for Tawana Brawley

NEW YORK -- Tawana Brawley was a 15-year-old honor student. She was on her high school cheerleading squad and even ran track. Today she can barely walk and has become a recluse.

What happened to change Tawana so completely began last Nov. 24 in Wappingers Falls, N.Y. On that day she was abducted by a white man with a badge, a man she identified as a policeman. He took her to a wooded area where, for the next four days, this young girl was repeatedly raped by her abductor and five other white men. As she said, "He showed me his badge and told me to shut up ... I was hit in the head. When I woke up, there were lots of men around."

On Nov. 28, Tawana was found covered behind an apartment building, encased in a plastic bag. Her hair and body were covered with feces, and the words "nigger" and "KKK" had been scrawled on her body.

Since then, Tawana has spoken very little. She lies huddled under a blanket at her home, cuddling a doll. She is getting the necessary professional help. But, equally important, she has been surrounded by the healing and strengthening love of her family and her community. As she says, "It's getting better."

Her lawyer, activist attorney Alton Maddox, has called for the

appointment of a special prosecutor to investigate and prosecute the case. It was he, along with attorney C. Vernon Mason, whose valiant insistence

police who are under suspicion. When local white police officers entered Tawana's hospital room to question her shortly after the attack,



CIVIL RIGHTS JOURNAL

By BENJAMIN CHAVIS JR.

resulted in the appointment of a special prosecutor in the Howard Beach trial. The wisdom of that demand was borne out by the recent 10- to 30-year sentence handed down against the first defendant sentenced in that case. It is also borne out by the escalating incidence of racially motivated violence throughout New York state.

It has become clear, with the rise of racially motivated violence throughout the nation, that a permanent special prosecutor should be appointed to prosecute these cases in every state, not just New York. Local district attorneys are simply too influenced by the attitudes and biases of the local police, their neighbors and their communities to rise above them when their areas become polarized by racial turmoil.

It should also be remembered that in Tawana's case, it is the local

they were forced to leave. Said Tawana's mother: "She shook with fear ... She was terrified. I had to ask them to leave. It was too much for Tawana to handle."

Recently District Attorney William Grady, whose office was handling the grand jury investigation of Tawana's case, abruptly withdrew, admitting to "a potential conflict of interest." He said: "... Evidence was developed that could create an appearance of impropriety on the part of the district attorney."

The demand for a permanent state special prosecutor is based on the same rationale as was used by activists during the civil rights movement of the '60s when they called for Justice Department investigators. It was clear even then that local law enforcement officials who lived in

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Black History Month is here again

NEW YORK -- It's Black History Month time once again. My television theme for the entire month of February is called: "The Ethnic History of Black America: Questions and Answers." Looking at us from the vantage point of an ethnic group in a culturally pluralistic society, rather than a "minority" in a white-majority sea, makes Afro-Americans an economic and political powerhouse -- like all other ethnic groups.

My Black History Month special issue of *Tony Brown's Journal* magazine will also carry the same theme and information. Of course, free issues are available (first-come-first-served until they run out), as usual, to readers of this column. You can receive 200 per box for the cost of shipping (\$20 for each box). You can order at 1501 Broadway, Suite 2014, New York, N.Y. 10036. Send check or money order.

On television with a live audi-

ence (and our audiences are "live" -- and in living color) we will use experts on various aspects of our past to teach and quiz (if you want to join our live television audience, write us). That's right, we're going

(3) Who chopped down the cherry tree and could not tell a lie?

If you only got No. 3 correct, you need to watch our series on public television during February and read our Black History Month



TONY BROWN

Syndicated Columnist

to conduct a four-part quiz on national television to see how much of the country knows about the impact of the Afro-American experience on America and the world.

Let's see where you are. Try these:

(1) Why did hundreds of thousands of Afro-Americans migrate from the South to the North between 1915 and 1940?

(2) Name America's five Afro-American presidents.

special magazine.

The first of four topics dealt with on national television and in the magazine is "Field to Factory." It covers the exodus of Afro-Americans from the rural South to the urban North between 1915 and 1940 and tours the Smithsonian Institution's National Museum of American History's exhibition. You

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CHRONICLE CAMERA

Carver High students discuss discipline problems

A recent study conducted by the Fullerton, Calif., police department and the California department of education compared the leading school discipline problems of the 1980s with the problems that existed in the 1940s. The study listed

the leading discipline problems of the 1940s as: talking, chewing gum, making noise, running in the hallways, getting out of place in line, wearing improper clothing and not putting paper in wastebaskets. The leading discipline problems of the 1980s were: drug

abuse, alcohol abuse, pregnancy, suicide, rape, robbery, assault, burglary, arson and bombings.

Chronicle Camera decided to check with local students to get their views on this issue as it pertains to their immediate environment. We spoke with teacher Hal

Tise's journalism class. The students cited several discipline problems such as guns, knives and drugs in school. Several students felt that there was a general lack of respect on the part of students for their teachers and their peers. One student noted that students were

not afraid of teachers and did not respect authority. Teachers and parents were not held blameless. Some students commented that parents tended to close their eyes to discipline problems and that some teachers were too easy on disruptive students. Another stu-

dent commented that teachers lacked sufficient authority to deal with problematic students. Some students cited problems of racial intolerance, Nazism, alienation and a general attitude of rebellion. In one instance, too much emphasis on sports was also cited.



"Teachers don't have enough power to take care of drug-related discipline problems"

Jill Doss
12th Grade



"There is a lot of prejudice towards school mates that students learn at home from their parents."

Traci Brewer
10th Grade



"Students have no discipline and no respect for their elders, their peers and for school property."

Jermain Sumler
11th Grade



"Kids don't have the right attitude about schools and teachers. They give teachers a hard time."

Tremona Cornelius
12th Grade



"Drugs in school are a problem because during open lunch students can do anything they want to."

Sam Puryear
12th Grade