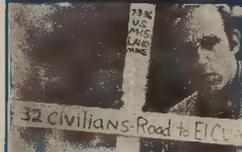


Colored Museum' is just plain good
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Big Four Alumni gathering of black high schools rekindles flames of yesterday
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CITCA crusades for peace
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"My assumption has been that I should serve all of our people. I should do real things, not try to create some image."
--Steve Neal
Fifth District Congressman

Neal admits neglect of black constituents

By ANGELA WRIGHT
Chronicle Managing Editor

Congressman Steve Neal acknowledged Wednesday that he consistently neglected to communicate with his Afro-American constituents about their specific needs and concerns, saying he had resisted doing a lot of that because I always thought it was important to tell everyone the same thing.

During an interview with the Chronicle, Neal defended himself, pointing out that his voting record shows his support for every issue of particular significance to the Afro-American community.

He cited the civil rights restoration bill, the South Africa sanctions bill, the voting rights bill, the defense set-aside legislation and other congressional initiatives pertaining to jobs, education and medical care.

"These are issues of great importance to many people, espe-

cially black people," he said. He admitted that, although he had supported the bills, he had not initiated any civil rights legislation and that he had not communicated with his Afro-American constituents about their preferences for such legislation.

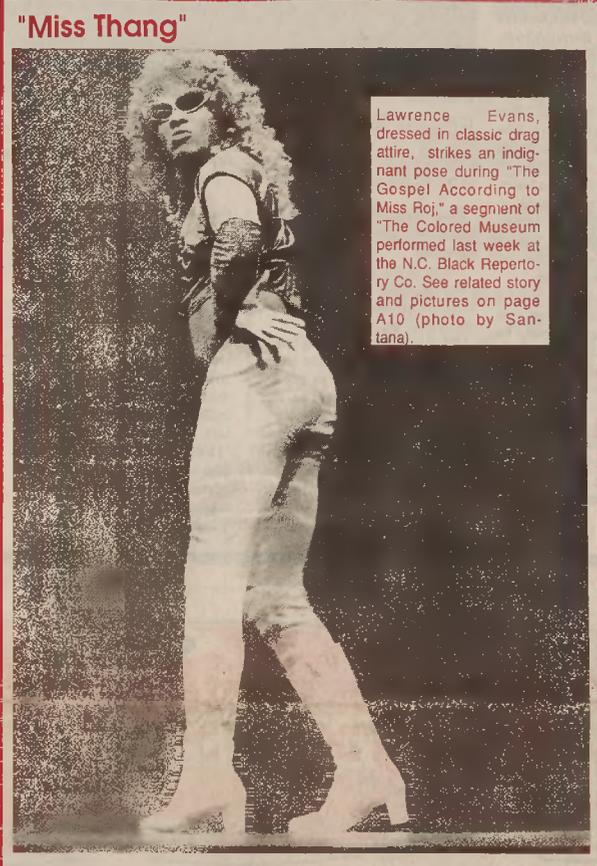
"My assumption has been that I should serve all of our people," he said. "I should do real things, not try to create some image." But Neal acknowledged that his image within his congressional district has been called into question before.

He was questioned about why he had not used his newsletters and press releases to address issues of concern to his Afro-American constituents and to solicit their opinions on federal initiatives affecting them.

"I guess I felt so strongly about this idea that every human being is deserving of dignity and respect — that we are essentially alike in this way, that we're all children of God,"

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"Miss Thang"



Lawrence Evans, dressed in classic drag attire, strikes an indignant pose during "The Gospel According to Miss Roj," a segment of "The Colored Museum" performed last week at the N.C. Black Repertory Co. See related story and pictures on page A10 (photo by Santiana).

Mayor names Task Force for East Winston

Plans for the economic development of East Winston got a new boost Monday as the Board of Aldermen voted to create the East Winston Development Task Force. The task force will facilitate and coordinate the implementation of the economic development aspects of the East Winston Area Plan.

Mayor Wayne A. Corpening recommended the formation of the task force and named J. Allen Joines, director of development for the City of Winston-Salem, to be the city staff to the task force. He also recommended the appointment of 12 persons to serve as members of the task force including Ernest H. Pitt, publisher of the Winston-Salem Chronicle, as chairman.

"We will work with and support the East Winston Community Development Corporation in carrying out its function," said Pitt. He pointed out that one of the primary duties of the task force would be monitoring the progress made on the implementation of the economic aspects of the East Winston Area Plan.

"We will also reach out to the community to find out their perceptions of what should happen and from this we should come up with a decent, comprehensive proposal," Pitt said.

Other members of the task force are Nell Britton, Clark Brown, Geneva Brown, Rev. J. Ray Butler, William B. Cash, James R. Grace, Jocelyn Johnson, Dr. J. Raymond Oliver Jr., Charles G. Reavis Jr., Norma Smith and Evelyn Terry.

Aldermen Vivian H. Burke, Patrick Hairston, Virginia K. Newell and Larry Womble will serve as ex officio members of the task force.

"I believe this is going to be the stimulus that is needed in order to continue with development in this area," said Newell. She noted that little development had occurred in the area other than the East Winston

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THE NATION'S NEWS
Compiled From AP Wire

Nixon: Jackson top choice

WASHINGTON -- Former President Richard M. Nixon says that Jesse Jackson is the best candidate seeking a presidential nomination but that he could not win because of his radical views.

"He's the best candidate and one of the very best of the entire century for either party," Nixon said. "Jackson's problem is not the messenger, it's the message."

Mecham's ousting cheered

ATLANTA -- Civil rights figures applauded the impeachment of Arizona Gov. Evan Mecham -- on the 20th anniversary of the death of Martin Luther King Jr. The audience at a SCLC awards dinner cheered when SCLC President Joseph Lowery announced Mecham's impeachment.

Race relations worsening

NEW YORK -- Most blacks in New York City think race relations are poor and an increasing number think they've gotten much worse in recent months, according to a newspaper poll.

New York Newsday reported that blacks consider race relations the biggest problem facing blacks in the city, ahead of joblessness, drugs and housing.

Bobby Seale talks economics

NEWARK, Del. -- Black Panther Party founder Bobby Seale said he focuses his efforts on economic and political issues and advocates the violent overthrow of the South African government.

He said students should learn to "peacefully render their grievances" to the government.

*****NEWS BULLETIN*****
Clarence Cox Jr., a law enforcement agent with the city's ABC Board, who resides at 6638 Spanish Oak Drive, has resigned from his position. ABC officials would not comment except to say Cox is under investigation

Large crowd attends King memorial vigil at WFU

By KENNETH RAYMOND
Chronicle Staff Writer

The Black Law Students Association of Wake Forest University held a candlelight vigil Monday night in commemoration of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. It was the 20th Anniversary of his assassination.

The event was held on campus in front of the Law School. Faculty and students gathered in a cheerful atmosphere as BLSA members passed out candles before the ceremony started.

Following the welcome address by BLSA president DeAnna Leeper and a heart-felt selection by the Wake Forest Gospel Choir, which helped draw a crowd of over a 100 students, Dr. Ernest Wade stepped behind the podium as the guest speaker.

Wade, who is the director of Minority Affairs at Wake Forest, opened by reminding everyone that

they did not gather to mourn Dr. King's assassination, but to celebrate the life he had lived and his accomplishments.

"We haven't come to grieve over Dr. King. We've come to celebrate his achievements and his commitment to racial justice and harmony," he said. "We're honoring a man who's life has created more opportunities, opened more doors, and made more lives better than probably any man in history."

Wade, who graduated from Johnson C. Smith University, said that if it were not for Dr. King's commitment, it would not be likely that they'd be standing there together.

"The black and white college students here would never have been able to receive their education together or stand as peacefully as we are doing tonight 20 years ago," he said. "This was all made possible by Dr. King and his com-

mitment."

Wade also said that for Dr. King's dream to be fully achieved, everyone must try to acquire more like Dr. King and take on the characteristics which enabled him to accomplish what he had.

"If the dream is to live and flourish, we all must take on some of the qualities of Dr. King. We all must keep God in everything we do, have the courage to stand up against what we know is wrong, and stand up and be counted," he said. "We must put aside our petty differences and work towards bringing Dr. King's vision to pass."

Wade said he believes that everyone must try to acquire qualities of Dr. King because there may never be another one like him.

"Jesse Jackson displays much of Dr. King's spirit, but we all must have those things," he said. "We all must love men enough to give our

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A youngster at Monday night's candlelight vigil puts his heartfelt emotions into the service (photo by David Admundson).

March planned for King becomes Pierce memorial

By ERICA JOHNSTON
Associate Press Writer

LUMBERTON -- Organizers of the second annual Unity March had intended to commemorate the 20th anniversary of the assassination of Martin Luther King Jr., but the march took on a local tone after the shooting of Indian judicial candidate Julian Pierce 11 days ago.

"We know from history a bullet may slay the dreamer, but the bullet can never slay the dream," the Rev. Ben Chavis told about 600 marchers after a 20-minute walk through the rain Monday. "The dream of Julian Pierce is the dream of Martin Luther King Jr. And that dream lives.

"We must keep the faith. We must not let tragedy keep us down. We must press on," said Chavis, a former member of the Wilmington 10 who is now an official of the United Church of Christ.

"You keep on marching," Chavis, an Oxford native, told the crowd that quietly walked several blocks from the Robeson County Courthouse to the Bill Sapp Recreation Center.

Chavis was among the nine black men and one white woman convicted in 1972 on charges stemming from the 1971 firebombing of a white-owned grocery store in a black neighborhood during a period of racial unrest in Wilmington.

The marchers sang "Amazing Grace"

and "We Shall Not Be Moved," and carried signs reading "Register And Vote In Memory" and "Justice for All."

Pierce was shot to death at his home in what authorities said was a domestic dispute. One Lumbee Indian was charged with murder and another suspect committed suicide.

Many Lumbees and blacks in the county say they are discriminated against, and that they are not represented adequately in local political offices. The county's population is 37 percent Indian, 37 percent white and 26 percent black.

Speaker after speaker at the rally following the march called on members of the crowd to register their displeasure with elected officials by voting.

"Don't let them take us for granted," said Lonnie Revels, head of the state Commission on Indian Affairs. "It's time to let them know that if they don't join you, you can't join them at the polls."

Christine Griffin, acting co-director of the legal-services office that Pierce headed until January, said many Lumbees historically have stayed out of the electoral process.

"My grandparents believed it was a sin to take part in politics," she said, sobbing. "To my knowledge, they never cast a vote. They thought it was the devil's work. But I believe it's God's will ... to use these laws we have."

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