

Winston-Salem Chronicle

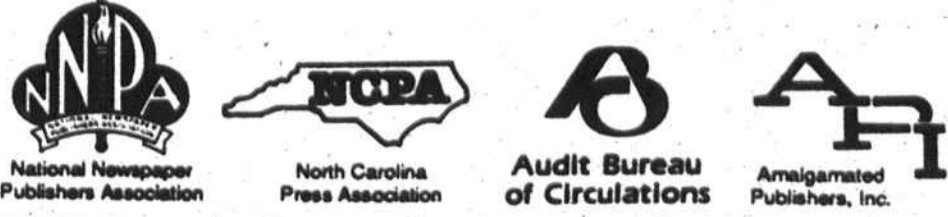
"The Twin City's Award-Winning Weekly"

Established in 1974

Ernest H. Pitt • Ndubisi Egemonye

Editor/Publisher Co-Founder

Member in good standing with:



'Proud of those Rams' – Larry Womble

To the Editor:

Congratulations to the Winston-Salem State University Rams on another successful and productive football season by winning the CIAA Championship. The sportsmanship and fine play for the 1991 season have been great.

The Rams football team, head coach Pete Richardson and staff have done a splendid job in representing the school, community, and our city. We are proud of your winning attitude and spirit. All of you have represented us well and we are very proud of your accomplishments and achievements. Special thanks to the Winston-Salem community for supporting the Rams football team.

Sincerely
Larry W. Womble
Alderman
Southeast Ward



Race relations

Critical need for cultural understanding.

Occasionally, the *Winston-Salem Chronicle* is accused of stirring up trouble between the races.

"There wouldn't be any race problem in Winston-Salem if it weren't for the *Chronicle*," one gentleman said recently. We find this sentiment nearly as amusing as it is disturbing, and we are reminded of the words of a local minister, who was asked why he preached that we must recognize the devil. "Cause if you don't see evil, you can't fight it," he answered.

Our opinion

We must face the reality of racism in our community.

The incident last week at Carver High School is a good example of the problems Winston-Salem thinks it doesn't have. School officials should be the last folks to deny the high level of racial discomfort, since they so often point to the community as the source of problems in schools. It's true that schools can only do so much for the hours they have students, but it's also true that school is one of the many places we can formally address the breakdown between the races. Should we wait until these students are full grown adults with full blown stereotypes and prejudices? If not with children, then with whom? If not now, then when?

The central school administration has a crisis intervention team and emergency procedures in place to deal with tragedies and riots in the schools. Good! But gauze and iodine won't keep Johnny from falling off the cliff in the dark if he's not been given a map to the territory. First-aid is just that: emergency help after the wound has been inflicted.

We applaud the school system for its current pilot program on cultural differences training for teachers. Dr. Eileen Wilson Oyelaran, a respected Winston-Salem State professor, is conducting a pilot program with several schools to explore cultural differences among the races, but we need more trained resource people besides Dr. Oyelaran. We suggest that each school offer cultural differences workshops four times a year for students and for teachers. Give regular doses of vaccine to prevent the disease. Think of the cost in time, money, and the loss in school spirit and confidence when racial incidents erupt. The losses are not justifiable.

We must be proactive in our efforts for understanding between races. We must, as Carver Principal Robert Clemmer did, admit we have a problem and set about the task of working diligently to solve it and put in place the very best, most comprehensive programs possible to be sure this kind of hateful incident never has cause to erupt again.

Removing the basis of hate is infinitely more wise and important than expending our resources on punishment alone. Especially when the punishment is meted out more often and harsher to African-American students.

Long way to go

To the Editor:

My name is Bernard Cheek and I am a twelfth-grade student at Hillside High School in Durham.

As you and your readers may be aware December 18, 1991 will mark the 126th anniversary of the ratification of the 13th amendment to the United States Constitution. This amendment officially ended slavery in this country. It also allowed our African-American ancestors to begin the journey toward full American citizenship. Many miles have been covered on this road toward freedom, but even in 1991, there is still a long way to go.

On December 18, a group of students from my school will sponsor a program that will honor the slaves. This program will be held in the House Chamber of North Carolina's old capital building in

CHRONICLE MAILBAG

Our Readers Speak Out

Raleigh, where actual debates on slavery were waged in the 1860s.

Our program will also pay tribute to the contributions of the Black Press in America from the abolition period to the present time. This tribute will include a portfolio of letters and editorials about the importance of the Black Press in the past, the present, and the future. This portfolio will be presented to the State Archivist and will be permanently housed at the North Carolina Museum of History.

Please help my class by publishing this letter, by writing an editorial, and by encouraging your readers to write letters that we can include in this portfolio. It would be wonderful if we received at least a

dozen letters from the Winston-Salem area by December 10.

Please ask your readers to mail their tributes to the former slaves and/or the Black Press to me at: Room 112, Hillside High School, 1900 Concorde Street, Durham, North Carolina 27707.

Sincerely,
Brad Cheek

Common Vision

To the Editor:

At a recent luncheon presentation by Mayor Martha Wood, the Winston-Salem Section of the American Institute of Architects was provided an overview of the progress to date and goals of the

"Common Vision" program. Hopefully this effort will help to establish a firm direction for the future of Winston-Salem and Forsyth County. As an organization which is heavily involved in shaping the physical environment, we have an obvious interest in the continued development and improvement of our community. By formal action, this organization has sent a letter to Mr. John Holleman, chairman of the Forsyth County Development Council, indicating unanimous support of the goals and strategies articulated in the "Common Vision" program.

Thomas H. Hughes, AIA
President
Winston-Salem Section
AIA/North Carolina

Yahweh followers are acting like cult

They call themselves "The People for Truth," but they are so persistent in their media campaign they take on a cultish air. They are the followers of Yahweh Ben Yahweh, leader of the nation of Yahweh, and their strong belief in the cause of Yahweh stirs up memories of the days of Jim Jones. I have read tons of material from them and tried to make sense of what they call the persecution and unfair incarceration of Yahweh in a federal prison. The campaign to free Yahweh shows no signs of letting up.

On Nov. 7, 1990, federal agents arrested Yahweh and 16 of his followers and accused them of conspiracy to commit murder, arson and extortion, among other things.

Basically, the feds say Yahweh is a crook who built and held on to his quarter billion (with a b) religious empire by anything but humble and lawful means.

The People for Truth, however, have a different story. They say the government is violating Yahweh's

individual and constitutional rights, simply because his religious sect is not mainstream.

They say their "Black Hebrew Israelite Leader" is being "cruci-

I believe strongly in our constitutional right to freedom of worship.

But what is troubling about the campaign of The People for Truth is that they are being myopic and pre-

Again, my argument here is not with The People for Truth and what they believe. In fact, they seem to have some valid points in criticizing the feds for not setting bail for Yahweh, but perhaps they would have more success if they didn't mix church and state.

Their arguments should be logical. They should give their desired audience all the facts and credit for having the sense to make an intelligent decision about Yahweh.

Perhaps they are not aware of it; perhaps their method is deliberate, but they come across like fanatics or zealots. That is not the way to win public support. I anxiously await Yahweh's trial. Maybe then the real truth will come out.

Meanwhile, The People for Truth should acknowledge that the ghosts of Jim Jones, Jim Bakker and Jimmy Swaggart are still out there, and instead of jumping on their Yahweh wagon, many people simply become more skeptical as The People of Truth become more persistent.



AGAINST THE GRAIN

By ROOSEVELT WILSON

Some of their latest literature is titled "The crucifixion of Yahweh Ben Yahweh" and subtitled, "How is the son of Almighty God Yahweh identified? The son of Yahweh is identified by 'Suffering' and 'Persecution.'" Also included is a crucifix with Yahweh Ben Yahweh affixed just as traditional orthodox Christians portray Jesus Christ's crucifixion.

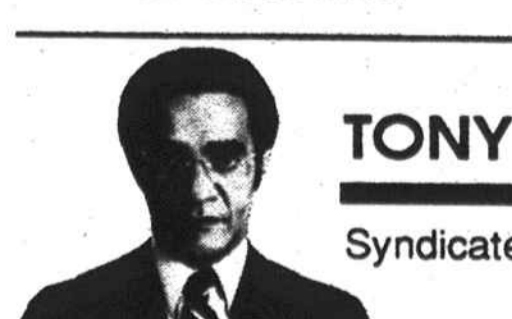
Far be it from me to question anyone's religious beliefs. Certainly,

sumptuous. First, they are being myopic in that they can't see the law for their religion. They talk about the unconstitutionality of Yahweh Ben Yahweh's incarceration, but they act as if the term "probable cause" never existed.

Second, they are being presumptuous in that they flood the media's fax machines with their literature as if we are waiting for it, and address us in a tone that suggest we agree with them.

Ways to help your body fight AIDS

My earlier column, "Magic, See Dr. Duesberg Before It's Too Late," included Dr. Peter Duesberg' warning that "all growing cells are killed" by the drug AZT, the so-called "treatment" for AIDS.



TONY BROWN

Syndicated Columnist

A leading virologist, Dr. Duesberg also maintains that there is no evidence that HIV, the so-called AIDS virus, causes the disease called AIDS.

Chemotherapy targets growing cells. AZT was developed to kill cancer cells, but all normal cells growing at the same time will also be killed, Dr. Duesberg explained. That's why John Lauritsen, author of "Poison By Prescription" (26 St. Mark's Place, N.Y. 10003), says that most of the AIDS fatalities are "iatrogenic" — that means death is caused by medical treatments rather than by AIDS itself. After three weeks of taking AZT, Magic Johnson was reported to be too ill to

travel. Of course, that didn't surprise Dr. Duesberg or Lauritsen. Johnson's reaction to AZT will also fit into the theory of Dr. Robert Root-Bernstein, professor of physiology

at Michigan State University, who is writing a book called "Rethinking AIDS."

He says that Magic should know that "HIV may be a necessary ingredient for AIDS, but it is not sufficient to cause AIDS by itself. This is a scientific fact."

If Magic Johnson's immune system has not declared civil war on itself (autoimmunity) and is still able to defend the body against infection, then, with care, he may never lose his immunity and may stay healthy, Dr. Root-Bernstein believes. "Long-term survivors" of AIDS, Lauritsen writes, "almost without exception, have avoided toxic chemotherapy (like AZT) and

have opted for strengthening their bodies through healthy lifestyle: exercise, good nutrition, rest" and avoiding cigarettes, alcohol and especially drugs.

Everyone seems to agree that a healthy immune system is the key to keeping your health or restoring your health if you lose it.

Dr. Root-Bernstein's advice to Magic Johnson and others with HIV infections who have not developed AIDS is to get vaccinated against many infectious diseases — such as pneumonia, tuberculosis and hepatitis — now while their immune system is still healthy. If you have a herpes virus, get treatment (Foscarnet or Gancyclovir), "Herpes viruses can trigger HIV infection," Dr. Root-Bernstein adds.

Get off and stay off any drug, intravenous use or "recreational" use. Drugs themselves suppress your immune system and can trigger HIV. And, in addition to using condoms, the professor strongly urges the use of vitamins and minerals that "are essential to peak immune function."

Ron and Lexie Whitfield (404/435-0141) have been preaching the gospel of good health through a strong immune system as

preventive medicine for years.

Their self-help business will be one of 500 listed when the Buy Freedom 900 Network (1-900-976-6670) starts on Martin Luther King's birthday. In the meantime, they promote their "Diamite" line of health products from their home in Atlanta. Although my immune system was in good shape the last time I checked, I use several products I get from Ron and Lexie to keep it that way.

One is a herbal drink called Aloe Vera Plus that combines Aloe Vera, the medicinal plant suggested for everything from allergies to AIDS, and Ginseng (claims say it has curative and restorative effects). The chamomile and passion flower herbs that are added give it a fruit-drink taste.

I use their fiber tablets and Night Trimming system (amino acid supplement) that promise that you lose weight while you sleep because the fat cells shrink in size.

I can't prove that, but I can prove that the state of health in this country is in a sad state and strengthening the body's ability to fight back is the only defense we have. And, for God's sake, don't use drugs.

About letters . . .

The *Winston-Salem Chronicle* welcomes letters from its readers, as well as columns.

Letters should be as concise as possible and should be typed for printed legibility.

They also should include the name, address, and telephone number of the writer.

Columns should follow the same guidelines and will be published if we feel they are of interest to our general readership.

We reserve the right to edit letters and columns for brevity and grammar.

Submit your letters and columns to:

Chronicle Mailbag
P.O. Box 1636

Winston-Salem, N.C. 27102