

# Forum

## March On Washington

On August 28, 1963, more than thirty years ago, over two hundred and fifty thousand people from all over America gathered before the Lincoln Memorial to demand jobs and the ends of segregation, and to listen to Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. deliver his now famous "I Have A Dream" speech. Thirty years later, once again, more than one hundred and fifty thousand people gathered before the Lincoln Memorial to commemorate and celebrate that historic event. Just like before, the demand for jobs, justice and peace was the theme. Many persons like Angie Brown who made the pilgrimage to the first march on Washington was compelled to attend this demonstration and celebration also. Comparing the two, Angie says she went the first time out of conviction and the highlight, of course, was Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. "Given the wave of violence in our communities and the deterioration of race relations and escalation of racial attention across America, I did not want to see Dr. King's dream die, so I went to Washington again to help keep the demand alive."



### GUEST COLUMNIST

By REV. JOHN MENDEZ

Patrice Mitchell, who was too young to attend the first march on Washington but made sure she was present for this one said, "It was a powerful gathering, a lot of energy was concentrated. I really feel motivated. I wish I could have been at the first one, but this one was exciting. To be among historical figures of the Civil Rights Movement was just euphoric. I really feel motivated. I only wish more

young people were present.

Rainer Holcomb of St Annes Episcopal Church and Robert Elliot of Crossing 52 initiative took along with their families six young people. Rainier described the event as being

"great" because "to see different groups with different agendas form a coalition to celebrate the Historic March on Washington was just wonderful. Today shows we have come a long way even though we know we have a long way to go. I was just glad to be there.

One of the objectives of the march was to pass on the torch to the youth, hoping to inspire them to move despair to hope as they listened to speeches by Eartha Kitt, Coretta Scott King, Jesse Jackson, Andrew Young, Joseph Lowery, Ben Chavis, Dorothy Height, labor leaders, politicians, etc.

The highlight of the day for me was when I met a woman from Missouri whose home was demolished by the flood, she was homeless, she had lost everything. But she declared, "I would not have missed this for anything in the world. I had to come. I wanted to be here. No flood could stop me." That was the spirit which characterized the memory of Dr. King/March on Washington, 30 years later. It is another way of saying, "I ain't going to let nobody turn me around, I keep on a marching up the freedom road."

## A Day at Myrtle Beach

If you happened down Martin Luther King Jr. Drive one recent Saturday morning around 6 a.m., you could not help noticing a sea of lights down the side of and wrapped around the back of Kenneth R. Williams Auditorium headed down the hill toward the security office on the Winston-Salem State University campus. The "sea" was 15 forty-seven-passenger buses waiting to load 700 persons and take them to Myrtle Beach, S.C. for the day.

mon: They were all African American.

Who were these persons on this trip? They were mothers, fathers, grandmothers, grandfathers, aunts, uncles, wives, husbands, sisters, brothers, daughters, sons, widows, widowers, single, divorced, employed, retired, underemployed, self-employed, unemployed, homeowners, renters, subsidized renters, consumers, automobile owners, bus riders, college educates, trade school graduates, high school graduates ... In other words, they were a composite of humanity — people who care, share, feel and

It was the 2nd Annual 980 Triple A Goes to the Beach Promotion.

Designed for "singles who wanted to mingle," "couples who wanted to share" and "families who just wanted to enjoy," the outing offered something for everyone, as toddlers to seniors in their eighties boarded the buses in anticipation of a relaxed day with old-fashioned, clean and wholesome fun with family, friends, co-workers, church members and new acquaintances.

They brought their pillows, blankets, beach towels, swimwear, music boxes, walkmans, snacks, coolers, books, cards, cool clothing and comfortable walking shoes. Once en route, they talked, sang, laughed, read, meditated and slept. Why, I even registered some persons to vote.

Once at Myrtle Beach, some headed straight for the beach to wade in the water. For some, it was the first time seeing the ocean, and they just wanted to be engulfed in the breathtaking view. It was a beautiful, bright day — not too hot — with great visibility. Others spent a large portion of the afternoon at the amusement park. Many shopped, and lots just walked around, people-watching and sight-seeing.

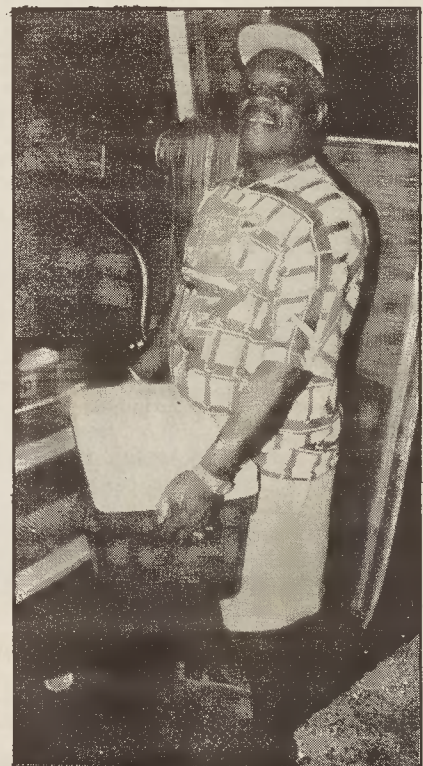
By early evening, looks of satisfaction coupled with fatigue had crept on just about everyone's face. It had been a great day without incident, and when the buses returned at 9:30 p.m., 700 persons were ready to reboard and start the trip back to Winston-Salem. For quite a few, that would only be the first destination — as they originated from Charlotte, Kannapolis, Asheville, Lynchburg, Va., and as far away as Atlanta, Philadelphia and Maryland to be with family and friends for a few high-quality and significantly well-spent hours.

For some it was the first and only excursion of the summer; for others it was the third and fourth time to the beach. But this time it was far less expensive and required less effort in preparation. And for the school-aged kids, it was the "last hurrah" before the 1993-94 school year would begin the next Monday.

The day had been everything that the organizers and planners (WAAA radio station, "980 Triple A," and specifically program director, Mark Raymond, and owner and general manager, Mutter D. Evans) had hoped, because except for a couple of mechanical problems, the day had been perfect — a fitting tribute to very loyal and diverse listeners; just plain ole good folks who happened to have one thing in com-

mon: They were all African American. They were one-third male and two-thirds female. Fifty percent were in WAAA's target demographics of 25-54; 33 percent were minors; 9 percent were young adults between 19-24; and 8 percent were senior citizens with six of them being in their eighties. They were a lot like you and me.

When the last bus had returned and every person had been seen off safely, the organizers would eventually crash from exhaustion, but it was an exhilarating and satisfying fatigue, because all the planning and hard work had proven to give us exactly what we had hoped: A flawless day!



Whit Lowery, cooler in hand, climbs bus headed for Myrtle Beach, S.C.

**Panel 1 (9-13):** BIDDLEMAN, THIS IS THE LAST STRAW! IT'S BAD ENOUGH THAT THE STUDENTS ARE LIVING, EATING AND STUDYING IN ETHNIC ENCLAVES— NOW THEY WANT SEPARATE DRINKING FOUNTAINS!

**Panel 2 (9-13):** I DIDN'T SPEND YEARS IN THE CIVIL RIGHTS MOVEMENT TO PRESIDE OVER RESEGREGATION! I WANT YOU TO ASSEMBLE THE FRESHMEN! I'M GIVING A MATRICULATION SPEECH!

**Panel 3 (9-13):** MATRICULATION SPEECH? BUT WE DON'T HAVE THEM, SIR.

**Panel 4 (9-13):** WELL, WE DO NOW! I'M GOING TO DISMANTLE THE CULTURE OF CAMPUS SEPARATISM RIGHT BEFORE THEIR STILL IMPRESSIONABLE EYES!

**Panel 5 (9-13):** WOW... GREAT CONCEPT, SIR!

**Panel 6 (9-13):** CHECK I.D.'S AT THE DOOR, I DON'T WANT ANY SOPHOMORES SNEAKING IN!

**Panel 7 (9-14):** CLASS OF 1997: MAY I OFFICIALLY WELCOME YOU TO THE FELLOWSHIP OF THIS COLLEGE...

**Panel 8 (9-14):** WHEN I USE THE WORD "FELLOWSHIP" OF COURSE, I SPEAK OF AN IDEAL, AN IDEAL THAT IN RECENT YEARS HAS INCREASINGLY COME UNDER FIRE...

**Panel 9 (9-14):** I SPEAK TO YOU FRESHMEN WITH RENEWED HOPE—HOPE THAT YOUR YOUTHFUL IDEALISM HAS NOT YET BEEN OVERWHELMED BY THE INTOLERANCE AND RESENTMENT SO COMMON ON CAMPUS TODAY...

**Panel 10 (9-14):** HEY, YO, ...RECOGNIZING, OF COURSE, THAT I MAY BE TOO LATE.

**Panel 11 (9-15):** AS INCOMING FRESHMEN, SOME OF YOU MAY BE STUNNED TO FIND HOW FRACTIOUS CAMPUS LIFE HAS BECOME. DIFFERENT STUDENT GROUPS EAT APART, STUDY APART, PARTY APART, LIVE APART...

**Panel 12 (9-15):** DIVERSITY, A WORTHY GOAL, HAS DEGENERATED INTO HOSTILE SEPARATISM—A STATE OF AFFAIRS NO UNIVERSITY SHOULD TOLERATE!

**Panel 13 (9-15):** WHAT TO DO? AFTER ABSOLUTELY NO CONSULTATION WITH ANY OF THE WARRING FACTIONS, I HAVE DECIDED TO OFFICIALLY DESEGREGATE THIS CAMPUS!

**Panel 14 (9-15):** BOOO!

**Panel 15 (9-15):** I REALIZE THIS MAY TAKE SOME GETTING USED TO...

**Panel 16 (9-16):** SO WHAT EXACTLY DO I MEAN BY "DESEGREGATION"? WHAT DOES IT MEAN FOR YOU AS STUDENTS HERE?

**Panel 17 (9-16):** WELL, IT MEANS INTEGRATING THE DORMS AND THE DINING ROOM TABLES. IT MEANS OPENING THE ETHNIC CENTERS AND FRATERNITIES, MAKING THEIR CULTURAL AND SOCIAL OPPORTUNITIES AVAILABLE TO ALL!

**Panel 18 (9-16):** IT MEANS LETTING 1,000 FLOWERS BLOOM, CELEBRATING OUR MULTI-CULTURAL DIVERSITY, INSTEAD OF LETTING IT DRIVE US INTO ISOLATED, HOSTILE CAMPS!

**Panel 19 (9-16):** BUT I'VE ALREADY GOT MY ENCLAVE ASSIGNMENT!

**Panel 20 (9-16):** SIT TIGHT, WE'LL GET YOU ALL SQUARED AWAY.

**Panel 21 (9-16):** ME TOO!

**Panel 22 (9-16):** ME TOO!

**Panel 23 (9-17):** AS RADICAL A CONCEPT AS DESEGREGATION MAY SEEM TO SOME OF YOU, I SEE NO OTHER WAY TO RESTORE THE UNIVERSITY'S TRADITIONAL MISSION...

**Panel 24 (9-17):** IF WE ARE TO STUDY AND HONOR THE VARIETY OF HERITAGES WE REPRESENT, WE CANNOT SEAL OURSELVES OFF FROM ONE ANOTHER!

**Panel 25 (9-17):** HEY, WOMEN HERE DON'T HAVE ANY OTHER CHOICE!

**Panel 26 (9-17):** HOW'S THAT, MISS?

**Panel 27 (9-17):** THE CATALOG SAYS THIS IS THE DATE RAPE CAPITAL OF THE WORLD!

**Panel 28 (9-17):** LAST YEAR'S CATALOG, I'VE APPOINTED A NEW EDITOR.

**Panel 29 (9-18):** TODAY, IN A BLOW AGAINST POLITICAL CORRECTNESS, THE PRESIDENT OF WALDEN UNIVERSITY ORDERED THE DESEGREGATION OF HIS CAMPUS...

**Panel 30 (9-18):** THE HIGHLY CONTROVERSIAL SHIFT IN UNIVERSITY POLICY WAS BROUGHT ABOUT BY PRESIDENT KING'S DESIRE TO END "ETHNIC ENCLAVES" ON HIS CAMPUS...

**Panel 31 (9-18):** MOST EDUCATIONAL EXPERTS AGREE, HOWEVER, THAT HOWEVER WELL-INTENDED, PRESIDENT KING WILL FACE GRAVE DIFFICULTIES TRYING TO ACTUALLY IMPLEMENT THE CHANGES.

**Panel 32 (9-18):** OKAY, OKAY, BREAK IT UP! I'M DESEGREGATING THIS TABLE!

**Panel 33 (9-18):** YOU AND WHAT NATIONAL GUARD, MAN?

### VOICES FROM THE COMMUNITY

The state legislature has removed the possibility of a mother getting charged with indecent exposure for breast-feeding her child in public. The Chronicle asked residents if they thought a woman should be permitted to breast-feed in public. Here are their responses:



Eugenia Bennett, 26 unemployed

"Yes — if she has a cover over her chest so it cannot be seen in public. The baby's got to eat. It's a natural part of life. If the child is hungry, the woman has to feed him. Everyone should acknowledge that it's a baby and it's perfectly normal. A baby has to be fed one way or another."



Demothanese Brannon, 44 city employee

"I think if the kid needs nourishment he should be fed. A lot of people may say it's indecent exposure. In the case of an emergency I think it would be all right, but if she's just doing it ordinarily, I don't think it would look right in public."



Tiffany Tatum, 22 Forsyth Tech

"I think a woman should be allowed to breast-feed her child in public because there are not enough private accommodations. . . . It's natural. . . and we need to start going back to traditional ways to have a healthy and happy close bond with the child."



Jeremy Cason, 19 warehouse technician

"Yes - if that's what she needs to do to take care of her baby if it's hungry. It may offend some people, but she has to do what she needs to do."