

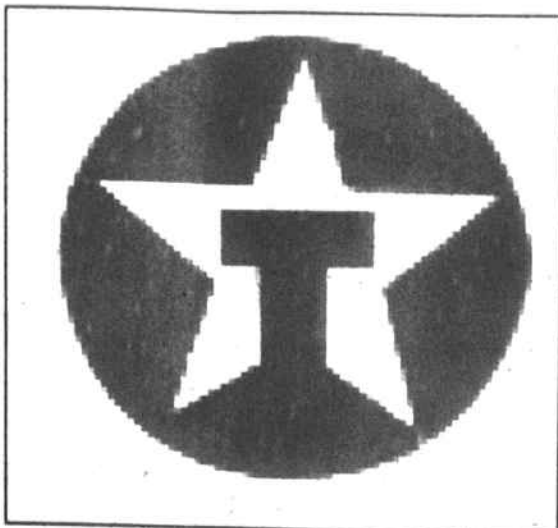
# Texaco tapes reveal executive racism

Described as "savages in gray flannel suits" by Roy Innis, chairman of the Congress of Racial Equality, several Texaco executives are under fire for participating in consistently racist behavior. The controversy was sparked by transcripts of the "Texaco tapes" recently obtained by the New York Times and excerpted in court papers.

The tapes, in which executives are heard referring to black employees as "black jelly beans" and "niggers" raised the stakes in the discrimination suit brought against Texaco by six company employees on behalf of as

many as 1,500 other minority employees. The suit was brought in early 1994 and argues that Texaco systematically discriminates against minority employees in promotions, and has fostered a racially hostile environment.

The Equal Employment Opportunity Commission issued a finding that Texaco had failed to promote Black employees because of their race. The government investigation was conducted at the request of the Federal District Court in White Plains, after the suit was filed. The recently released excerpts from the "Texaco



tapes" offer blatant, and perhaps unprecedented, examples of institutionalized racism and the deliberate insensitivity that is characteristic of it.

The explosive recordings expose Texaco executives plotting their defense against the racial discrimination suit filed by employees in 1994. They were made by Richard Lundwell, who was then senior coordinator for personnel services in Texaco's finance department. Included in the inflammatory conversations were Robert Ulrich, the company's treasurer who retired last year, and J. David Keough, then

Texaco's senior assistant treasurer.

"You know, there is no point in even keeping the restricted version anymore," said Ulrich, who was quoted in the court records in reference to one key document. "All it could do is get us in trouble. That's the way I feel. I would not keep anything."

Lundwell quickly agreed, asking he be given the responsibility to "shred this thing and any other restricted version like it." Keough seemed to advise

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## Winston-Salem Chronicle

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Office for African-American News and Information

THURSDAY, November 7, 1996

Dedicated to the Memory of Clarence E. Nottingham: 1903-1995

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### Clinton's Historic Win, Gantt's Discouragement ▲ Joy and Pain for Democrats

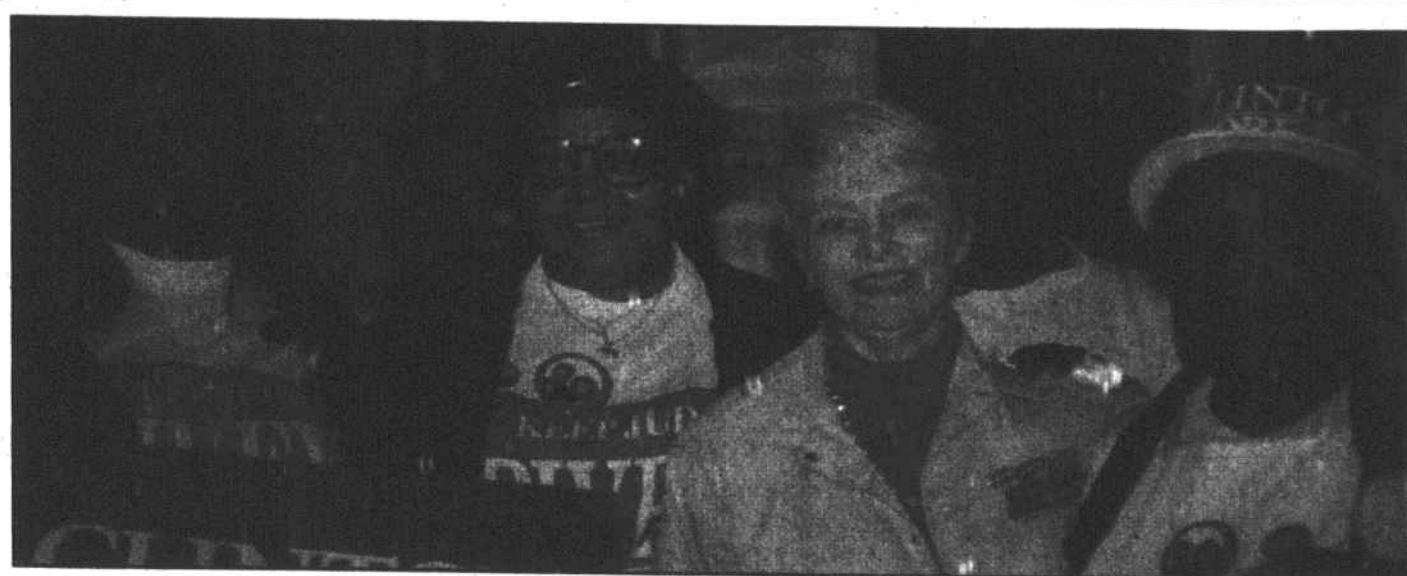
By WILLIAM H. TURNER Ph.D.  
Special to the Chronicle

Christy Gallagher sat across the room from Queen Black Tuesday night at Forsyth County Democratic Party Headquarters downtown. These two women — one white and the other black —

lous response to a brutal beating and rape, said through her friend and assistant, Melanie Steibich, a Republican. "The very sound of Helms' name gives me a gurgling reflux." Black, who is a resident counselor at Piedmont Park, a black public housing community, droned that Helms' triumph over Gantt was born of "cheatin' and lyin'!"

State Rep. Larry Womble, unopposed in his race, was in his usual upbeat mood. When asked about the mixed messages of the election outcomes, Womble noted, "Harvey fought the good fight. He didn't stoop low, like Jesse Helms. President Clinton, in victory, lost in our state, too, like

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▲ Awaiting results at Democratic Party headquarters were (left to right) Katrina Dockery, Queen Black, Martha Wood, Eva Hagood and Belle LeViner.

▶ Chénita Johnson stands with her mother, Jackie Barber. Johnson is a Democratic Party precinct captain.

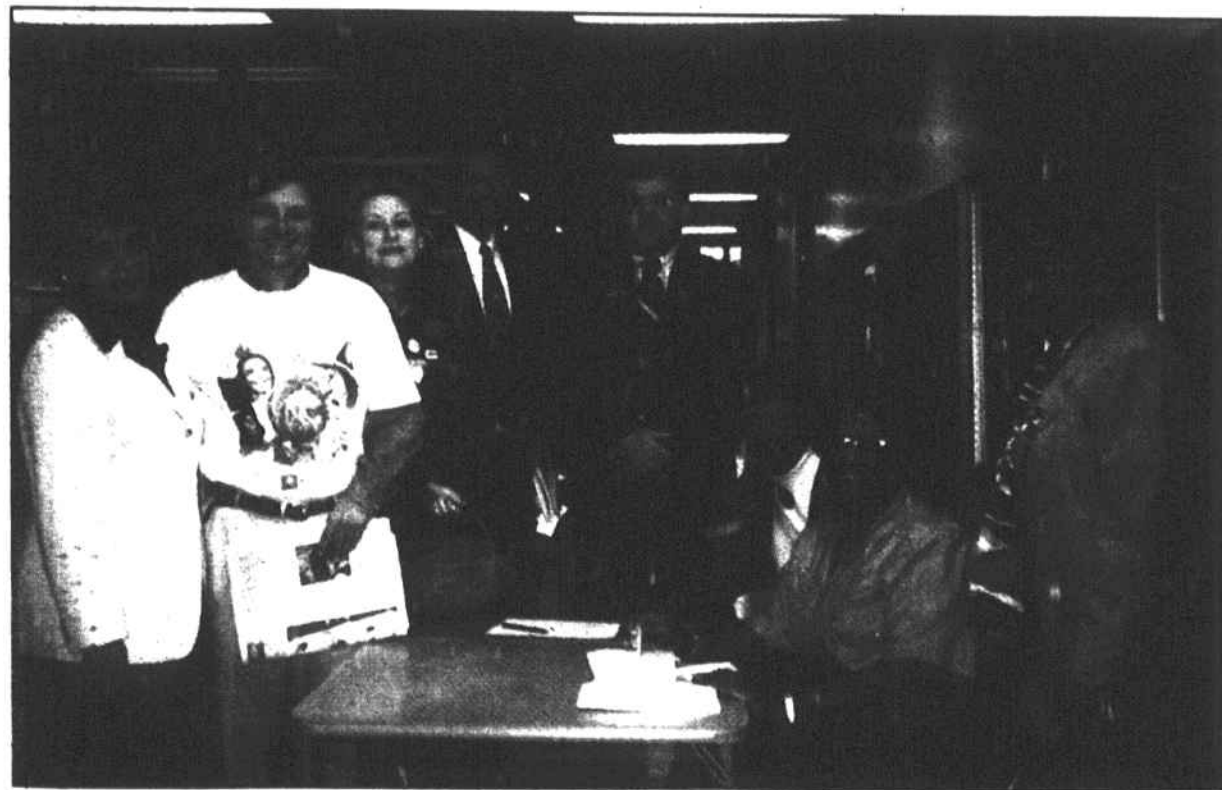


#### Political Analysis

are worlds apart in most ways, but they are together on three issues: joy for the FDR-like Clinton victory and the constitutional amendment for the rights of crime victims, and their bafflement over Harvey Gantt's loss to Jesse Helms.

Gallagher, renowned locally for her miracu-

## BPAL brings families, candidates together



By FELECIA P. MCMILLAN  
Special to the Chronicle

"When we all see Tuesday, what a day of rejoicing that will be!"  
"When we all get the vote out, we'll sing and shout the victory!"

Alderman Joycelyn Johnson received a standing ovation when she led the audience in a revised version of the hymn "When We All Get to Heaven" called "When We All See Tuesday."

More than 300 voters and their families came to the annual breakfast sponsored by the Black Political Awareness League (BPAL) at the Carl H. Russell Center on Saturday, Nov. 2. Alderman Vivian Burke, who organized the group nearly 20 years ago at

Shiloh Baptist Church, said, "We have had excellent cooperation with the candidates, elected officials and the citizens." Burke is the advisor of BPAL. She started the group a year after she became alderman.

BPAL is one of the oldest bipartisan groups that has survived. It continues to make the public aware of issues that will affect the community. The group addresses such concerns as education, health and housing, in the present and in the future.

President Naomi Jones said, "I am pleased that people realize that this is a critical time in our history. We also have a critical situation with the Supreme Court seats. We need to get out to the polls and vote for the people who will help us."

Jones joined Burke in recognizing

the candidates and special guests. One such guest was Ernest G. Green, one of the original Arkansas Nine who helped to integrate Central Little Rock High School. Attorney Garry Whitaker introduced him as a "true American Hero." Green is now the managing director for Lehman Brothers in Washington, D.C.

Green said, "I never thought that 40 years later, I'd still be talking about high school education." He pointed out that there has not been an African-American senator from the South since Reconstruction, and Jesse Helms needs to be retired. He knew Harvey Gantt personally, and he hopes that N.C. can send a message through the vote that will "resonate not only in

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## Sixth-grader punched, choked by Philo teacher

By MAURICE CROCKER  
Community News Reporter

An 11-year-old student was taken to the hospital after being assaulted by an assistant teacher at Philo Middle School last week.

Stephanie Sherill took her son Anthony Johnson to the emergency room after he was punched in the jaw and choked by Kenneth Lanier, an assistant teacher.

The incident occurred on the school's playground, where the students were playing.

According to Sherill, her son was running from another student, when he

accidentally bumped into Lanier, who in response, turned around and punched Johnson in the face, with a closed fist.

Sherill said Lanier then threw her son on the ground, where he began choking him.

"Anthony struggled and told the teacher to get off of him," she said. "Once Mr. Lanier let Anthony up, he told him 'Don't be running around here you little dummy!'"

"When he (Anthony) came from school, he told me his head and face were hurting, and there was

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Anthony Johnson

### Black males in middle school suspended twice as often

According to a report recently released to the school board, the number of in- and out-of-school suspensions are on the rise for middle school students.

During the first 20 days of school this year, the number of out-of-school suspensions from all 14 middle schools totaled 434. This year's total is an increase of 214, compared to the number of suspensions during last

year's first 20 days of the school year.

The number of in-school suspensions (at-school isolation) also increased during the first month of school, from 411 last year to 422 this year.

School officials attribute the increase of suspension to tougher policies on fighting, rudeness, and

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