



At a Glance

News briefs compiled from the Associated Press



(AP Photo/Rob Schoenbaum)

Poet dons chef's hat for benefit

Writer Maya Angelou sautes some onions and peppers in the kitchen of the Sugar Bar restaurant Monday, Sept. 29, in New York, where she spent the day cooking a meal as a guest chef for a benefit dinner later in the evening. Proceeds from the five-course dinner she prepared were to be donated to the Betty Shabazz Foundation. Mfume speaks at AFL-CIO convention



(AP Photo/Karin Cooper)

Mfume speaks at AFL-CIO

Kweisi Mfume, president of the NAACP, addresses the AFL-CIO Convention in Pittsburgh Wednesday, Sept. 24.



(AP Photo/Wilfredo Lee)

Clintons recognize jazz legend

President and Mrs. Clinton present jazz vocalist Berry Carter of Brooklyn, N.Y., with a 1997 National Medal of Arts award, Monday, Sept. 29, during a ceremony on the South Lawn of the White House.

Boxer sues Tyson for assault

Heavyweight boxer Mike Tyson leaves Manhattan's State Supreme Court Monday, Sept. 29. Heavyweight boxer Mitch Green, 39, is suing Mike Tyson for \$25 million in connection with a 1988 civil assault charge.



(AP Photo/Doug Kanter)

Jackson: Boycott racist teacher



(AP Photo/Harry Caluck)

Mariana Jemi-Alade, from Houston, a senior economics major at the University of Texas at Austin, holds a sign at a rally at the school Tuesday, Sept. 16, in Austin, Texas. Students gathered to hear Jesse Jackson urge them to boycott classes of a law professor who said black and Mexican American students aren't academically competitive.



City recognizes couple's service to community

Minnie J. and Jakay W. Ervin were presented a resolution Sept. 2 by the Vivian Burke (left) on behalf of the Board of Aldermen of the City of Winston-Salem in appreciation for their work in developing minority-owned businesses in the community and providing jobs. The board further recognized and honored Ervin's Beauty Services and Beauty Mart Inc. "for their continuing contribution to the economic health and quality of life of Winston-Salem."

Visit to Gandhi's home reminds Colin Powell of civil rights movement

BOMBAY, India (AP) — Black and white photographs of India's independence struggle framed in Mohandas Gandhi's home in Bombay reminded former U.S. General Colin Powell, of the civil rights protests in his country.

Powell, who was the chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff during the Persian Gulf war, spent more than one hour in a building where Gandhi lived from 1917 to 1934.

"As a 10-year-old in New York city, a brown boy, I watched this great man show the world what leadership was all about," Powell told Usha Mehta, who had participated in Gandhi's movement that led to India's independence in 1947. Powell was on a two-day visit to Bombay to address business executives.

"Gandhi's nonviolent struggle was picked up by Martin Luther in my own country. His inspiration is simply indispensable to all Americans, especially African Americans," Powell said.

Powell was greeted at the building by two freedom fighters with a garland made from the homespun cotton that Gandhi made popular. The late leader asked Indians to spin and wear the cotton as a sign of defiance of British colonialism.



(AP Photo/Sherwin Cristof)

Former chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff of the United States General Colin Powell, right, is greeted by women from a slum colony in Bombay, Monday, Sept. 29. Powell is on a two-day visit to extend his support to NGO's working for the upliftment of poor people.

FARRAKHAN

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Farrakhan said that no money should be spent. No one should work or play, and the Day of Atonement should be a time of reconciliation among family members with visitation to churches, mosques, temples or other houses of worship.

Farrakhan also requested that all pastors preach a sermon on atonement, reconciliation and responsibility on Sunday, Oct. 12, in preparation for the holy day.

For ministers of the Nation of Islam and others, Farrakhan has asked them to encourage the atonement process by holding an afternoon rally during which youth from each racial group can address their elders.

"I am warning America, we are either going to come back to God and repent, or God will destroy America as he did those before her and left them as a sign so that America might be guided and warned by their failure to accept guidance and warning attacks and repent," Farrakhan said, adding that he is not wor-

ried about critics' opinion of the Holy Day of Atonement.

"Even if we don't do all that we intended to do or desire to do, we've made a start," he said.

"When we called for a million men to be in Washington, God helped to make it a reality, and all the naysayers who said it couldn't happen were there, and they saw it happen."

Meanwhile, during Farrakhan's current 90-city Million Man March revival tour, a death threat was made against the minister in Indianapolis by a

37-year-old man. Ronald A. Dearmin was arrested and charged with possession of cocaine, and police confiscated a cache of weapons, explosives and ammunition.

"I am waiting to see what Indianapolis does," Farrakhan said. "The man is out on \$1,500 bond. I don't understand that, but we'll watch and see. But I would say to America, 'be very careful how you handle me. If I am from God and you plot against my life, that will quicken the destruction of America.'"

HOMESTEAD

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entered a verbal agreement in April 1996 to purchase and rent out two limousines, a 1988 Lincoln Town Car and a 1990 Lincoln Town Car Double Super Stretch. The nonprofit put up the money, and Bledsoe stored and rented the vehicles.

The agreement provided that 60 percent of the profits generated from the cars would go to Project Homestead, and allowed Project Homestead use of the cars so long as no profits were generated.

Bledsoe said that Lawson, who drove for both himself and Project Homestead, had entered an agreement with King. The 1988 and 1990 limos were advertised in the Yellow Pages under a company separate from Bledsoe's business; Lawson was listed as the contact name for the advertisement.

Now Bledsoe and Lawson are fighting over an arrangement involving a 1995 Mercedes limousine.

If Project Homestead backed Lawson's \$86,000 claim and delivery bond, no public money was used to do so, said city housing

director Andy Scott. But the validity of the bond may still be in question.

As a nonprofit, Project Homestead has no assets that could be used to back a bond issued for a third party.

King denied last week that he signed for a claim and delivery bond to back Lawson's limousine, or that Lawson is his business partner. King did not mention if the bond was going to be used for housing contracts. He is out of the office on vacation this week.

Gabrielle Beard, planning and development coordinator for

Project Homestead, called the situation "a misunderstanding." She added that she was not familiar with the arrangement or court case between Bledsoe and King.

Bledsoe turned over the Mercedes to the Greensboro Police Department on Monday, but not before staging a one-man protest. He covered the limousine with signs and parked in front of Project Homestead's office on Martin Luther King Jr. Drive.

The signs accused the nonprofit of gambling with public or privately donated money to back the bond.

UNITY

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the maximum opportunity to realize the potential that is theirs," Roberts said. He said the nine were united in their support for integrated schools.

"In this national dialogue about the importance of whether desegregation was still important, the Little

Rock Nine stand firmly committed to the desegregation of schools," he said. Clinton said there were too many other challenges facing Americans than having to consider racial issues.

"What we owe the Little Rock Nine is to do our part in this time ... to make sure that at least our kids have something else to worry about," he said.

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