

Editorials & Comments

Politics And The Olympics

by Bayard Rustin
Special To The Post

Across the United States hundreds of young athletes, many of them black youngsters, have invested an enormous amount of time, energy and spirit in preparing for the 1980 Summer Olympics. For many of these young people, a good performance in Moscow offers the best possibility of recognition, financial reward and an incomparable sense of personal achievement. If America boycotts the Olympics as now seems likely, dreams will be shattered, and opportunities may be lost forever. But I think that the sacrifices required of our athletes will, I believe, prove to be more than worthwhile in the long run. By their conspicuous absence, our athletes will be demonstrating their solidarity not only with the people of Afghanistan, but also with the principles of human decency, principles which mean so little to Soviet authorities.

Long before the Soviet invasion of Afghanistan, the idea of holding the Olympics in Moscow disturbed me. I could not blot out of my mind the old film clips of the 1936 Olympics held in Berlin under the Hitler regime. Like the Soviet government of today, the Nazis used the international sports festival to exalt and to win world-wide acceptance of their own murderous regime. Hitler, who treated black athletes like Jesse Owens and Ralph Metcalfe with utter disdain, hoped to demonstrate to the world that white "Aryans" were indeed superior in physical, mental and cultural terms when compared with "sub-humans" like blacks, Orientals, and any other human type differing from the Nazi ideal of the superman.

Violates Rights

Although the Soviets are not using the Olympics to prove their racial superiority, they are nevertheless using the games to achieve a key political objective: worldwide recognition of the Communist regime as a humane, modern society where the Olympic ideals of sportsmanship, human fellowship, and free competition are respected and promoted. But it is difficult to understand how these traditional Olympic ideals can be showcased in a host country whose leaders suppress human rights, organize massive invasions of small countries like Afghanistan, and support the international starvation of Cambodia's hapless people.

While the Soviet move into Afghanistan is by itself enough justification for an Olympic boycott, the stepped up campaign against political dissidents, is another powerful illustration of the basic incompatibility of the Soviet political environment with the kind of free and open atmosphere needed for the

Olympics. How can athletes from the United States and other democratic countries participate in the summer games while a fine man like Andrei Sakharov is arrested without warning and hustled off to Gorky, a city completely sealed off from foreigners? And how can international friendship, understanding and goodwill be promoted in the Soviet Union when its government fears and blocks human contact even among some of its own citizens?

Of course, I have no illusions about the ultimate effectiveness of an Olympic boycott. Surely, the Soviets will not opt for American athletes in place of the strategic advantages of an occupied Afghanistan. But as someone who learned about the power of nonviolent witness through the American civil rights movement, I feel confident that the absence of our athletes will produce something worthwhile. First, it will remind the Soviet leaders, as well as other governments which violate human rights, that Americans will not become unwitting accomplices in efforts to distract world attention from injustice and human misery. And second, President Brezhnev and his friends will be forced to explain to their own people why the Americans are absent from the Moscow Olympic parade, the tracks, the pools, the basketball courts and the indoor arenas. As the Soviets offer their explanation perhaps at least a few morsels of truth about Afghanistan will reach the Soviet people. That in itself would be an accomplishment.

Finally, we should not lose sight of the young men and women who have the most to lose in this unfortunate situation. We have an obligation to treat our young Olympians as true heroes. We must make it clear to them and to the world that we value their unselfish and principled defense of human decency even more than we value their speed, strength, agility, or prowess. Whereas a gold medal won in a race or game is forgotten quickly, we will remember the courage, sacrifice and solidarity of our olympic team forever. They are standing up for justice and decency; they deserve our support and admiration.

Something On Your Mind?

"Something on your mind" is the name of a column devoted to you - the young at heart readers of this newspaper - as long as it relates in some way to young people, regardless of age.

Remember, it's your column. Your article should be at least 250 words, type-written and double spaced preferred. Include your name, age, school, and a clear photo, and send it to the Editor, The Charlotte Post Newspaper, P. O. Box 30144, Charlotte, NC 28230.

FIGHT AGAINST CRIME
DELINQUENCY
POLITICAL ORGANIZATION
VOTER REGISTRATION

V-O-T-E!

19
80
PROGRAM



Black's Destiny In Own Hands.....

As I See It

What Should I Do With My Money?

by Gerald O. Johnson

It will take a lot of people by surprise to find out that their life savings is peanuts. With inflation rates ranging from 13 to 15 percent, a 5 percent passbook savings account is costing you money. Let's look at this and review alternatives to savings.

Let's assume you are saving money to purchase an automobile. If you are fortunate enough to accumulate \$500 in a year and you receive a 5 1/4 percent interest compounded daily then you would have earned \$27.17 (assuming the \$500 was on deposit for 365 days). The price of the car would have increased by more than \$1,000 during the same period. Hence, the cost of the car is rising much faster than your earnings from savings. Consequently, you will never be able to save enough to buy that car.

From this oversimplified (somewhat stupid) example it is easy to see that in order to effectively save you must get a higher interest rate than the rate of inflation. This is next to impossible in these times.

Therefore, savings should not be a part of your capital appreciation plans. You should only save money to prepare for emergencies. Most experts use the "three month's salary" rule of thumb. This means that you need only accumulate three months of your annual salary in a savings account. A person earning \$15,000 annually should only have about \$3,750 saved. Anything over this should be invested in higher yielding investment instruments.



Gerald O. Johnson

If you don't own your home then this is the first investment you should make. Homeowners have seen the value of their property double in 5 years. Property values historically outpace inflation. Consequently, it is the best hedge against inflation. Moreover, home ownership allows substantial tax benefits which is another topic.

But, suppose you already own a home and you still have a lot of money saved. What then? I thought you would never ask.

There are a number of alternatives that are available. But before discussing them, you must realize that investments should be viewed as capital preservation and not capital appreciation. You are investing to preserve the value of your money against inflation and not to get rich. If you become rich, fine, but it is not the primary objective. I state this because it is the key ingredient for building the correct temperament for investing. Without the right temperament you could lose your shirt.

I, personally, prefer the

stock market over other types of investments. The stock market is the only mechanism that will allow you to invest to meet any objective that you might have. However, the risks are greater. So before attempting to play the market, decide if you are willing to accept the possible risk against the potential rewards.

There are several stocks that currently pay over 10 percent in dividends and have the potential for substantial price appreciation. For instance, Ford Motors is selling for approximately \$32.40 a share. The stock pays \$4.00 per share in dividends. A person purchasing 100 shares of Ford Motor would pay \$3,240 (excluding commissions). The stock within two years should be selling in the \$50's, meaning your investment would be worth more than \$5,000. Also, during the two year period you would have received 800 in dividends. Hence, your gross earnings would be over \$2,560 (excluding commission) or a 79 percent increase.

Real estate is still a good investment. Purchasing land or property for income is quite sound. But that, too, is another article. Remember fortunes aren't made overnight, legally; so, to invest requires patience and sound advice.

Don't be deterred by Mark Twain's famous quote, "October is not a good month to invest. Other bad months are June, September, April, January, December, February, May, July, November, March, August."

From Capitol Hill

Black Caucus Bounces On The President's Budget

by Alfreda L. Madison
Special To The Post

The Congressional Black caucus has strongly denounced President Carter's 1981 budget as an "unmitigated disaster" for the poor, the unemployed and minorities. This budget is deceptive and misleading to the American people. Mr. Carter would have the citizens believe that the current domestic programs are continued, and that it contains a modest defense increase. Nothing is further from the truth.

The locked-in military budget which requires a defense increase for the next five years will have increased to a trillion dollars by 1985. In referring to the around \$20 billion military proposal, included in it is a 13.2 percent increase for research, development, test and evaluation; a 9.6 percent increase in procurement programs and 32 percent increase in military construction.

The CBC challenges the President's defense budget as being predicated on the claims that the Soviet in-



Alfreda L. Madison

vasion of Afghanistan poses the most serious threat to world peace since world War II. This budget was planned before the Iran hostage-taking and the Afghanistan invasion. This was really done to placate those in Congress who yelled for a huge defense spending before they could vote for SALT II. Now that Mr. Carter has abandoned SALT II, the astronomical military budget appears here for at least 5 years.

Mr. Carter's \$2 billion

youth employment program has an outlay of only \$300 million for youth employment in fiscal year 1981 and only 9.8 percent above the current outlay will actually be spent in fiscal 1981. \$900 million of the entire youth program budget will be spent for training through the same public schools which have failed to train too many minority youth in past years. Under this program, youth unemployment will actually increase, and being void of safeguards to really target these funds to the disadvantaged the gap can be expected to continually widen between the black and white youths.

The CBC said that the President, instead of using the Humphrey-Hawkins and Balanced Growth Act to reach the stated goals of price stability and full employment, he illegally suspended the Act because his deficient policies are moving in the opposite direction. The Caucus, says Mr. Carter, is using OPEC as a scapegoat for his sorry unemployment and inflat-

ion performance. Low economic growth, administered prices, climbing interest rates and domestic oil decontrol are the real causes of the country's economic problems.

The present inflation, excluding energy related items is over three times as high as it should be and will become worse under President Carter's budget programs.

The Congressional Black

continued from page 1
ing a grocery store. Chavis was considered the real target of the state, and many believe he was imprisoned in an effort to suppress black activists.

When Chavis returns to Charlotte this weekend he will find the struggle for social justice is still going on. People United for Justice plans to announce a Unity March for March 30 and a new campaign to free black prisoners John McCombs, Jr.
"We will be building a

by Vernon E. Jordan, Jr.

TO BE EQUAL



Affirmative Action Decision Due

The Supreme Court will rule on the constitution of an important federal affirmative action program.

The case, FULLILOVE vs. KREPS, deals with a provision of the 1977 Public Works Employment Act that set aside ten percent of the \$4 billion in the Act for minority businesses. That provision made good sense at the time, and similar setaside programs make sense today.

The Act was designed to get the sluggish economy moving again by infusing federal works projects into communities suffering high unemployment. Because previous federal efforts resulted in a freezeout of minority contractors and had little effect on high black jobless figures, it was wise to ensure full minority participation.

As in the BAKKE and WEBER cases, many people are fighting affirmative action. They're trotting out a lot of arguments we've heard so often.

But, as the brief filed in the FULLILOVE case by several civil rights and black business and professional groups makes clear, those old arguments are the same ones we heard back in Reconstruction days.

When the Congress set up the Freedmen's Bureau in 1865, and passed other post-war measures aimed specifically at blacks, it came under criticism for racial favoritism.

Opponents charged that Congress didn't pass comparable aid for whites, that it was "unfair," and that it gave blacks a competitive advantage over whites. Those arguments were ridiculous in the context of the 1860's, when blacks were fresh from centuries of slavery, without a decent chance to make their way in a hostile society.

And they are ridiculous today, when the black community is comparably disadvantaged in relation to the white majority.

Blacks lag far behind whites in every category or measurement of well-being. The only advantages blacks have are negative ones - they are "favored" by being more likely to be poor, to be jobless, to be in bad health, or to be poorly educated.

In fact, affirmative action today is designed to complete the unfinished job of the Reconstruction, to bring parity between the races.

Both Congress and the Courts have consistently made the distinction between "invidious discrimination" and "benign discrimination." The aim of the latter is to make up for past discrimination, to eliminate its continuing effects, and to help its victims catch up with other Americans who never had to compete with blacks in a discriminatory society.

Just as contemporary opponents of affirmative action claim such programs will actually harm blacks, Reconstruction era critics charged that it would hurt blacks by making them dependent or by arousing white resentment.

In other words, blacks were being advised to starve quietly rather than take advantage of affirmative programs or risk angering whites.

Such concern for black people is touching, but then as now, it was motivated by the desire to retain white advantage and to suppress black competition.

Caucus stated that, "we must not over react to international crises and commit ourselves to a military budget 5 years from now based on today's crisis." This is exactly what President Carter is doing in his yearly military budget increase for the next five years.

These black congress persons say they cannot support a budget that projects 15 percent black un-

employment and 40 percent black teenage unemployment, and provides no proper increase which addresses this problem. They say the poor are the victims of deficit politics, manipulation and misallocation of monetary priorities.

In this budget President Carter appears to have stolen the most conservative elements and war-hawks platforms.

Service And Rally Set

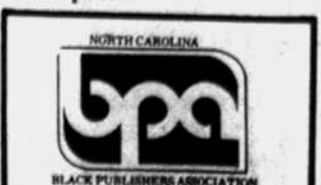
march for racial justice. We believe in acting and organizing, before the Klan comes here," said Rev. James Barnett, head of PUJ.

Barnett, who went to see Gov. Jim Hunt 4 times to ask for a pardon of innocence for the Wilmington 10, says it was a combination of marches, letters, petitions, delegations and international pressure that finally got the 10 out of prison.

tioned Barnett. "We didn't win exactly, but we didn't lose either."

Canvas Shoes

To clean rope-trimmed canvas shoes, rub with a toothbrush dipped in rug shampoo.



THE CHARLOTTE POST
Second Class Postage No. 965500
"THE PEOPLES NEWSPAPER"
Established 1918
Published Every Thursday
By The Charlotte Post Publishing Co., Inc.
1524 West Blv. - Charlotte, N.C. 28208
Telephone (704) 376-0496
Circulation, 9,915

61 Years Of Continuous Service

BILL JOHNSON...Editor Publisher
BERNARD REEVES...General Manager

Second Class Postage No. 965500 Paid At
Charlotte, N.C. under the Act of March 3, 1878

Member National Newspaper Publishers
Association

North Carolina Black Publishers Association

Deadline for all news copy and photos is 5 p.m.
Monday. All photos and copy submitted
become the property of the POST, and will
not be returned.

National Advertising
Representative
Amalgamated Publishers, Inc.
45 W. 5th Suite 1403 2400 S. Michigan Ave.
New York, N.Y. 10036 Chicago, Ill. 60616
(212) 489-1220 Calumet 5-0200