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Vol. 6, No. 37

THE CHARLOTTE POST - Thursday, April 23, 1981

Price 30 Cents

## Black Americans Provide

## Nation With Key Innovations



MISS TAMMI COLEMAN  
...An eighth-grade beauty

### Tammi Coleman

### Is Beauty Of Week

By Teresa Burns  
Post Staff Writer

Our beauty Tammi Coleman describes herself as a basically shy person. But when it comes to achievements she breaks out of her shell.

"The ambition that I have is very high and if I really try to get there I'll make it."

Our eighth grade beauty would like to become a lawyer and study at Howard University. "I've already written a letter so they can place me on their mailing list," Ms. Coleman injected.

With a lot of forethought Ms. Coleman decided on this career because she feels this is one way to aid people.

"I like to help people out. I believe that many people don't receive the right treatment and many are imprisoned who are not guilty," she continued.

Ms. Coleman feels everyone can achieve in life. "If you really have a dream and you follow it, you can make it true. But if you say that dream is too difficult to achieve then you won't be able to reach your goals."

Pretty extraordinary statements from a 13 year old. But then Ms. Coleman can't be considered an ordinary person.

Born May 23 as a Gemini she is the daughter of Mrs. Myrtle Coleman Coaldwell and Ray Coleman. She has three sisters and one brother. Her favorite person is her mother.

"She helps me through trying times. She has done things that placed her in jeopardy and at the same time helped us. I love her very much."

#### Black Elderly

Thirty-five percent of all black elderly persons lived alone or with unrelated individuals in 1978, compared with 32 percent of white elderly persons.

#### TURTLE-TALK



Good examples have twice the value of good advice.

### NAACP To Fight Budget Cuts

NAACP Executive Director Benjamin L. Hooks announced today that the Association will carry the

fight against the Reagan Administration's budget and fiscal proposals to the home office of the members of congress during the Easter weekend.

"We intend to mobilize our 'Operation Network' established at our Washington Bureau," Hooks declared, "by sending our constituency representing more than 2,100 adult and youth branches to the home offices of their respective senators and congressmen next weekend to seek support for the NAACP's counter budget recommendations for economic growth and combating inflation."

Hooks made the announcement at a press conference held at the William Penn Hotel in Pittsburgh following the National Board of Directors' quarterly meeting (April 10-13). The Board adopted the alternative economic plan developed by the NAACP's Economic Advisory Unit in response to the challenge issued by OMB Budget Director David Stockman who urged groups that disagreed with his economic plan to propose alternatives.

Hooks blasted the Administration's proposed budget calling it a "pitiful excuse for an economic plan. Stockman's budget implements an intentionally restrictive fiscal policy and supports a restrictive monetary policy - a combination that induces high rates of unemployment in 1981 and 1982. This administration spends all of its time simply whacking the budget rather than trying to deal with the real causes of inflation and joblessness."



KFC Pledges support to Atlanta searchers - Kentucky Fried Chicken President William A. Ready (far left) presents Atlanta City Councilman Arthur Langford with a \$15,000 advance on a

\$68,000 pledge by KFC's parent company's Heublein Foundation. The money provides Kentucky Fried Chicken meals for volunteer searchers in Atlanta's missing and murdered children case.

### For Commitment To Weekend Searches

### Mayor Jackson Praises

### Kentucky Fried Chicken

Special To The Post

ATLANTA, GA. - Atlanta Mayor Maynard Jackson today commended Kentucky Fried Chicken for a \$68,000 commitment to feed people who take part in the weekend searches for evidence in the cases of Atlanta's missing and murdered children.

The KFC Corporation, on behalf of its parent corporation's Heublein Foundation, has pledged to provide the United Youth Adult Conference (UYAC) with more than \$68,000 in KFC meals over the next 18 months.

KFC began donating food to the weekend searches last October and so far has contributed 8,500 chicken dinners valued at nearly \$15,000.

At the press conference, KFC Corporation President William A. Ready presented City Councilman Arthur Langford, head of the UYAC organization, with a \$15,000 check to cover the cost of chicken dinners from March through June 30.

In turn, Mayor Jackson and Councilman Langford

thanked the KFC officials, including Ready and KFC Urban Affairs Director Walter J. Simon, and presented them with a resolution commending KFC for its efforts.

Mayor Jackson earlier sent Ready a letter thanking KFC for the weekly donations.

"Being the mayor of a large and complex city like Atlanta is often a tough and demanding job," the mayor wrote. "Our success depends on a good working relationship between city government and the private sector. It is always encouraging to know that we have your support."

Councilman Langford also sent KFC officials a letter expressing his appreciation for the donations, and, at his behest, the Atlanta City Council passed a resolution commending KFC for its contributions.

Ready thanked the mayor and City Council, saying, "Kentucky Fried Chicken and the Heublein Foundation are honored to receive these commenda-

tions from the City of Atlanta. We wish the people of Atlanta Godspeed in ending their appalling crisis. We all continue our support until that day."

KFC is one of a number of corporation supporting different facets of the missing and murdered children's cases. A number of individuals and companies have donated money to further the police investigations of the case, and some have given directly to the families of the victims. Others, like KFC, have made donations to support the work of the volunteers in the weekend searches.

KFC employs 500 Atlantans in its 47 Kentucky Fried Chicken stores here.

#### Students' Workshop

Would you like to volunteer a little of your free time to teach illiterate adults to read and write?

A two-day workshop teaching volunteers how to teach illiterate adults will be held in room 211 of the Rufus Perry Science Hall at Johnson C. Smith University April 24-25.

### Important Innovations Came From Blacks

WASHINGTON, D.C. - What would life be like without electricity, frozen foods, cars and the other conveniences Americans now take for granted?

These and countless other inventions were the ideas of independent small business people, who have been responsible for half the country's innovations since the turn of the century.

During Small Business Week, May 10-16, the U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA) is encouraging all Americans to become more aware of the importance of small business to our economy and our lives.

Many of the important innovations that we depend on today, such as traffic

signals, directions signals on cars and truck refrigeration, have come from Black Americans such as these:

Andrew J. Beard, who worked on the railroads for years, had seen co-workers lose their limbs, and sometimes their lives, trying to link train cars together. He lacked formal training in engineering, but knew there had to be a better way. In 1897 he invented the "Jenny-Coupler," which allowed train cars to be linked mechanically - and safely.

Granville T. Woods, long fascinated by steam and electricity, invented the steam boiler furnace, patented in 1884. That year he also invented a telephone transmitter he sold to the Bell Telephone Company.

A number of Woods' inventions were related to the railroads, no doubt inspired by his years of working as an engineer on the Danville and Southern Railroad. His list of more than 150 patented inventions includes the electric relay switch, an electromagnetic brake for trains, and a galvanic battery. One of his most important inventions was a regulator that increased the efficiency of electric motors. He marketed his inventions through his own firm, The Woods Electric Company of Cincinnati.

At the dawning of the Industrial Age, the new heavy machinery of all types had to be stopped periodically for lubrication - until a Black man named Elijah McCoy of Ypsilanti, Michigan, invented a device that lubricated machinery while it was in motion.

Patented in 1872, McCoy's lubricator was adapted for locomotives, steamers, transatlantic liners, and machinery of all kinds in U.S. factories. His system became known as the "McCoy system," and later the "real McCoy." In 1920, at age 77, this inventor established his own firm the Elijah McCoy Manufacturing Company.

In 1923, a Black man, Garrett A. Morgan, invented the first automatic traffic signal. This device had stop and go arms that were raised and lowered to regulate traffic, and was first installed in Willoughby, Ohio.

Prior to this, Morgan had won honors for a gas mask

he had developed. His invention was put to practical use when workers digging a tunnel beneath Lake Erie were trapped when their shaft sunk. Using the mask, Morgan, his brother and several volunteers were able to rescue several men.

Can you imagine driving and having to use hand signals when turning? Neither could Richard Spikes, and his love of motor vehicles and some spare time resulted in auto directional signals in 1913. He went on to invent the automatic gear shift and other devices related to automobiles, but he was most proud of his tail-safe brake for motor vehicles, which was patented just before he died in 1962.

In 1878, Jan Matzeliger was working in a shoe factory in Lynn, Mass. Watching the lasting being done by hand, he wondered if it could be done faster and more efficiently by machine. He decided to try. During the day he watched the lasters at work, and at night using scrap pieces of material, he tried to duplicate their motions. In six months Matzeliger had a working model, but he had to work another four years to refine the prototype. His machine manufactured an entire shoe in one minute and revolutionized the shoe industry.

#### Vote "No" Tuesday

#### Post Endorses District Representation

Vote "NO" for no change the billboards read. That is what The Charlotte Post is advising you to do. The Post is endorsing district representation in the April 28th referendum, which will determine if Charlotte will keep its current system or return to an all-at-large City Council.

The vote is confusing. A vote for district representation is a vote against the at-large seats. Currently, Charlotte has seven district seats and four at-large ones. Voting "yes" on this referendum would return Charlotte to a situation where all council members would be chosen at-large from the community instead of from each district as they are now.

Although the present system has not been without controversy, more has been achieved for the individual districts by having council members from each of those districts speaking out for their area's needs.

An entirely at-large council may once again draw together a majority of people from the south-east community as it has done in the past.

While their opinions and priorities may be more similar, the chances increase for some district's needs to become favored over others. Since the individual district spokesmen would emphasize their area's needs, the present system brings about a more equitable distribution of funds for services and protection of interests.

## Efforts To Desegregate Public

## Schools Have Caused Major Problems

Special To The Post  
Atlanta, GA. - The Voter Education Project, Inc. (VEP) has released the results of a survey of black school board members in 10 southern states.

The survey, done by VEP's Research Department, showed that although black school board members make up the second largest number of black elected officials in the South, blacks are underrepresented (in proportion to the black student population) on 73 percent of the school boards.

VEP Research Associate, Richard Hudlin, commented, "Of those responding to the survey, a majority saw themselves as instrumental in fighting racism in their school district." He continued, "The respondents expressed concern over the discriminatory treatment of black teachers and students



Phillip Berry

...School Board chairman which manifests itself in black teachers not being promoted according to merit and the higher rate of suspensions and expulsions of black students as compared to white."

Fifty-eight percent of the respondents to the survey said that the effort to desegregate schools in their community had caused

major problems. These problems include the establishment by whites of private academies, "white flight" to segregated school districts, and an increased rate of expulsion of black students.

A small number of those surveyed said desegregation was occurring within desegregated schools. This is accomplished by such means as classifying many black students as "educably mentally retarded" and placing them in predominantly black special education classes.

On issues other than those related to race, it appears that most black school board members are ideologically compatible with their white counterparts, with 63 percent voting generally with the majority. While 90 percent felt that voting took place

along racial lines, 66.7 percent saw this as a rare occurrence.

The majority of those responding to the VEP survey were males, reflecting the preponderance of black males over black females sitting on school boards; also, they were 46 years old and older, had a history of active involvement in education or civic affairs, were well educated, and had annual incomes of \$15,000 or above.

Commenting on the Research Department study, Sherrill Marcus, VEP's executive director, said, "This survey reveals the vital service rendered by black officials on school boards. Their commitment to quality education for all and their representation of the black student population is important if desegregated schools are to function at their peak

level. The Voter Education Project is a non-profit, nonpartisan, tax-exempt organization working to increase minority political participation in the 11 southern states.

#### JCSU Workshop

A workshop for students interested in finding out more about opportunities available in the media will be held at Johnson C. Smith University April 25 from 10 a.m. - 12 noon.

The workshop, sponsored by the Black Media Association, will be held in room 107 of the Rufus Perry Science Hall on campus. General session speaker will be George Miles, station manager at WPCQ, Channel 36.

Following the speech, workshop conductors will divide into four groups: newspaper, radio, television and public relations.