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MOUNT PEACE

Rev. R. M. Young, his wife, Marie Young, and Ella Norman were among those attending the 113th annual session of the Mount Peace Missionary Baptist Association. Rev. Young served as the moderator for the week-long event (September 28-October 2) held at Gethsemane Baptist Church located on Carver Road and pastored by Rev. C. E. Dewberry. (Photo by Jim Black Photographers)

Black Caucus Tells Blacks To "Organize"

J.C. Smith

To Hear

Julian Bond

Georgia State Senator Julian Bond will appear at Johnson C. Smith University Wednesday, October 14, at 8:15 p.m. in the University Church. His topic will be "What's Next?"

A native of Nashville, Tennessee, Bond attended Morehouse College in Atlanta when he became active in civil rights movements in the South. He helped found the Committee on Appeal for Human Rights and the Student Non-Violent Coordinating Committee.

Bond was elected in 1965 to the Georgia House of Representatives, but was barred from taking his seat by legislators who objected to his statements on the war in Vietnam. Despite winning two special elections in 1966, he still did not take his seat until 1967 after a Supreme Court decision that the legislature had erred in refusing him a place. He eventually served four terms in the House and in November of 1974 was elected to the State Senate.



CHERYL MCMILLAN

...1980 JCSU graduate

Gorgeous Cheryl McMillan

Is "Beauty Of The Week"

By Teresa Burns
Post Staff Writer

Who ever deduced that women are not as bright as men in mathematics has not met Cheryl McMillan.

A 1980 accounting graduate from Johnson C. Smith University, Ms. McMillan is now working as an EDP (Electronic Data Processing) operator at Wickes Furniture.

"I like to work with numbers," Ms. McMillan admitted. "This is an advantageous field, especially for black women."

Brains plus energy, multiplied by ambition, equals our beauty. Receiving outstanding academic achievement recognition and making the Dean's List at JCSU are the beginnings of Ms. McMillan's achievements to come.

"I felt that if you see

something in life go after it. Success only comes through hard work, dedication and faith. If you've tried and failed, try again," she insisted.

Ms. McMillan relaxes to gospel and jazz music. She also enjoys Diana Ross, Al Jarreau and Stevie Wonder melodies. Her most impressive public personality is the late Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. for his influence on the U.S. has been extremely positive.

Her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Jimmy McMillan of Charlotte, are her favorite people.

"They've brought me up in a way to show me what life is all about. They've worked hard to see that I succeed. And they put me through school so that I can have some of the better things in life."

The oldest of four children, Ms. McMillan has one brother and two sisters. She also has a son, Demarco, whom she refers to as "...the fulfillment in my life."

H. O. Graham Metropolitan United Presbyterian Church, pastored by Rev. Dr. Reginald Hawkins is our beauty's place of worship Sunday mornings. She is a member of the Beta Phi Burgandy Social Sorority and the National Association of Black Accountants (NABA).

Born under the Libra sign Ms. McMillan has concern for other beings and wishes that harmony instead of dissension could be rampant throughout the world. "I hope for unification between all black people in a melody of love, sisterhood and brotherhood," she professed.

Ms. McMillan's grasp of her skills combined with her humanitarian qualities will continuously push her forward into the top position of Number 1.

Budget Cuts Take From The Elderly

Special To The Post

WASHINGTON, D.C. "Organize" was the dominant theme hammered home during the Eleventh Annual Congressional Black Caucus (CBC) Legislative Weekend, September 25-27, in Washington, D.C. The CBC Committee on Aging, chaired by Congressman Harold Ford (D. Memphis), Congressman George Crockett Jr. (D. Detroit), and Dr. Dolores Davis-Wong, President, National Caucus and Center on Black Aged (NCBA) had a twofold agenda: first, understanding the full impact of the Reagan budget cuts on black elderly; and second, how to change what Dr. Davis-Wong described as "doom and gloom" through organizing.

UNDERSTANDING THE CUTS

"The Reagan budget takes from the old and gives to the corporate," Congressman Crockett told the several hundred participants of the Braintrust Workshop. "Can those with the least amount of time left, the older Americans, last through the Reagan years?" he asked.

Congressman Ford pointed out, "They just passed a huge tax cut bill costing the Federal government \$650 billion over the next three years. The President wants to delay the cost-of-living increases for the elderly, but he has no intention of delaying these tax breaks for the wealthy."

Citing recent poverty statistics released by NCBA last month, Dr. Davis-Wong told the Committee, "We seem to be going backwards in our commitments to the elderly. Last month, NCBA issued current figures showing a dreadful increase of poverty among black elderly, with a million, or over one-third of the black elderly, living in dire poverty. These are the highest raw figures and percentages since poverty figures were first compiled over a decade ago."

She went on to say, "This administration plans to cut services and programs in the face of this kind of poverty. Even before the cuts, NCBA's programs are being hurt. Elderly Escort Service in Springfield, Mass., is out of money and begging for funds. Elderly residents in our own housing project a few blocks from our offices in downtown Washington, D.C., do not have the money for rent, health care and food. What will happen after October 1st? In this new distribution of wealth the rich get richer and the poor die! NCBA believes it is time to stop trying to balance the budget on the backs of the elderly and the poor."

Calling many of Reagan's budget programs "sacred cows," Dr. Davis-Wong asked, "How can the administration justify an additional 12 percent cut in social services and a one percent cut in the increases for the bloated military? See Blacks on Page 12"

Senate Majority Leads "Crackdown On Crime"

Special To The Post
WASHINGTON, D.C.

Charging that violent crime "has moved out of the back alleys and into the schools, parks and homes of innocent Americans," Senate Majority Conference Chairman James A. McClure today pledged an all-out effort by Senate Republicans to "stem the rising tide of unchecked lawlessness."

McClure's comments came on the heels of President Reagan's address yesterday to the nation's police chiefs. The President announced he would support legislation aimed at curbing violent street crime and reforming over-lenient bail and parole procedures.

"Permissive judges and lax legislators have, for over a decade, proclaimed a holiday for hoodlums, freeing them from prosecution and punishment," said McClure. "The people want Congress to get tough on crime. And that's just what this new majority is

Greenville To Host NAACP Convention

The 38th Annual NAACP State Convention will be held this weekend in Greenville, N.C., at the Ramada Inn on 264 By-Pass.

The Youth Sessions will begin Saturday. The theme of the Youth Sessions is "Awareness Is The Key To Progress." The focus will be on Career Guidance, Self Awareness and Career Alternatives.

Young people interested in becoming more aware of career opportunities should attend the workshops which will begin at 9:30 a.m. until 5:30 p.m.

For more information, contact T. Dianne Bellamy-Small, N.C. State Youth Advisor, 919-855-1847; or Willie Mae Carney, 919-825-5371.

Senior Citizens

Senior Citizens United will host a program on lowering ambulance fees for the handicapped, blind and elderly on Monday, October 12, at 1 p.m. in the Red Carpet Inn on East Morehead.

doing.

McClure noted that under the leadership of Judiciary Chairman Strom Thurmond, Senate Republicans have recently introduced legislation to provide mandatory sentences for violent crimes, strengthen drug enforcement laws, assist prosecutors in obtaining convictions for serious crimes, and re-establish the death penalty for murder in a federal jurisdiction.

STREET CRIME

According to the Uniform Crime Report released early this month by FBI Director William H. Webster, during the 1970's, crime in the United States increased a staggering 50 percent.

And the trend is continuing into the present decade, with murder for the year 1980 up 7.4 percent since 1979; forcible rape up 8 percent; aggravated assault up 6 percent; burglary up 13 percent; and robbery up 17 percent.

At present a violent crime occurs in America every 24 seconds and a property crime every 3 seconds, according to FBI researchers. Murder takes place at the rate of one every 23 minutes; robbery, one every 58 seconds; and aggravated assault, one every 48 seconds.

"For millions of Americans, these are not remote statistics dealing with an abstract or absent problem. They represent a daily—and nightly—terror," said McClure.

CRIME CONTROL

The Senate Judiciary Committee is now considering a number of bills by Republican Majority members to curb rising street crime. Senators Roger Jepsen (R-IA) and Charles Grassley (R-IA) have introduced legislation that would extend federal protection to pharmacies now the target of drug syndicate holdup men.

Senator Nancy Kassebaum (R-KS) and Senator James McClure (R-ID) have offered bills providing more stringent penalties for federal crimes committed with firearms and explosives. A bill introduced by Senator Orrin Hatch (R-UT) seeks to curb the abuse of insanity pleas by murderers seeking to avoid prosecution. And Judiciary Chairman Strom Thurmond (R-SC) has proposed legislation to restore capital punishment for murder in the District of Columbia.

Commenting upon the anti-crime initiatives, Senate Judiciary Committee Chairman Strom Thurmond said the new Senate Majority "is clearly committed to handcuffing criminals instead of the police; putting felons and not citizens behind locked doors."

Added Conference Chairman McClure, "This Congress is declaring war on street criminals. We intend to make it clear to the courts that in this war, to quote General MacArthur, 'there will be no substitute for victory.'"

Local Ministers Disagree

Is The Black Church Losing Its Influence?

By Nancy Anderson
Post Staff Writer

The black church, the most influential institution in the black community has endured a variation of changes over the years. A religious sanctuary of typical authoritarian structure, under the domination of a strong male figure, has served for centuries as the principle form of organized life for the black individual.

From the end of the 18th century the black church has been perhaps the most important single agency in the social and cultural development of blacks. It's a place of sacred worship and a source to finding thorough tranquility within one's self.

After centuries of having exerted such influential contact among blacks, could the black church be losing its influence? According to Lutheran official Rev. Richard Perry of Charlotte, "Black people now can buy mansions, boats, and condos. They now can play golf on Sunday mornings. The church has become a marginal



Rev. Robert "Bob" Walton
...Doesn't think so

part of some people's lives." This is a recent comment made by Perry, published by THE CHARLOTTE OBSERVER on the declining influence of the black church in North Carolina.

Subsequently, a poll was conducted by the Charlotte Post with some of the most distinguished black community leaders who revealed their opinions on such a delicate and significant matter.



Rev. Norman E. Kerry
...Says: "Not at all!"

Rev. Norman Kerry, pastor of Greater Mt. Sinai Baptist Church commented, "Not at all." I feel that the black church is the most influential institution in the community among blacks." Kerry added, "I think that such an accusation is entirely unorthodox."

As observed by Dr. Reginald Hawkins, D.D.S., P.A., "The church is not losing its influence, it has already lost it. I believe that the church lost its



Dr. Reginald A. Hawkins
...Believes it has

influence years ago. The attempts to regain this influence is solely left up to the black ministry." He concluded, "Therefore, they are the ones (ministers) who can bring the church back as a major importance in the black community."

The black church itself is an institution, that has been the pattern for nearly every other organization in the lives of blacks: mutual assistance and insurance companies, fraternal or-

ganizations, and Greek letter societies. In the mid 20th century it extended its activities to the political and economic spheres, realizing increasingly that these contained the most potent instruments of social change.

St. Paul Presbyterian Church, pastor Rev. Bob Walton, revealed his opinion on the same concept. "At this point I would say the black church has not lost its influence," he implied. "However, I do feel that the church needs to become more involved with its people as a whole and not just cater to spiritual needs. There is more involvement needed in areas of social and economic affairs," Walton explained.

The poll revealed that with the urbanization and fragmentation of American life, the black church has by far become the dominant shrine in the lives of blacks. Though doubted by some, the church has met many challenges with vigor and dedication.

TURTLE-TALK

As a rule, the man who knows what he is talking about has little to say.