



World Bantam Weight Champion Kelvin Seabrooks held the rapt attention of the students who were present at the Windsor Park Elementary School Career Day. The event was sponsored by the school's Minority Achievement Committee. See story on page 8A.

Fulani Seeks Stop To League Debates

The League of Women Voters was served notice today that Dr. Lenora Fulani would seek a federal court injunction to bar the organization from holding scheduled presidential primary debates in New York State and California unless she is included on an equal basis with the other presidential candidates.

Dr. Fulani is the first African American woman ever to qualify for federal primary matching funds, and the first independent presidential candidate ever to be certified by the Federal Election Commission at this early stage of the primary process.

In November she will be on the ballot in all 50 states and the District of Columbia. Dr. Fulani is seeking the



Fulani

nomination of the independent New Alliance Party.

Despite the FEC ruling that independents are eligible for primary matching funds because they compete in a process that is analogous to the major party primaries, the League has insisted on excluding Dr. Fulani from its series of nationally televised debates on the grounds that she is not competing with the Republican and Democratic candidates.

Arthur Block, one of the attorneys representing the Fulani campaign, has argued that by refusing to include her the League is acting in a partisan manner which violates its claim to tax exempt status. Dr. Fulani is simultaneously seeking an injunction against the U.S. Treasury and the Internal Revenue Service on the grounds that they have violated her civil rights by failing to take action against the League for abusing its tax exempt status.

"The League is refusing to recognize that a fundamental realignment of political parties has taken place in the United States," commented Dr. Fred Newman, the manager of Dr. Fulani's independent campaign. "It is no longer the case that there are the major parties, the 'fringe' parties, and nothing else. Today, in addition to the Democrats and Republicans and a host of small local parties, there are the New Alliance Party and the Libertarian Party, two independent national parties which have the organizational capacity to run candidates in every state and to be certified for federal primary matching funds."

Says attorney Block, "The League may not like it but legally they can't ignore that new political reality. Doing so is in violation of its own charter, the civil rights laws, and the Internal Revenue Code."

There's Red In The Rainbow Coalition

By Herb White
Post Staff Writer

The emergence of the Rainbow Coalition as a political force is pushing the major parties to make way for voters who previously didn't participate in the election process, an Indian activist says.

Vernon Bellecourt, national spokesman for independent presidential candidate Lenora Fulani, said Rainbow support has grown with the success of its most visible champions, Fulani and Jesse Jackson.

"We have been instrumental in getting thousands to join the political process," Bellecourt said.

Until this election season, Americans were restricted in voting options, Bellecourt said. Ballots were limited to Democrats and Republicans, parties that he contends are out of touch with America.

"They are a two-party monopoly of exclusion," Bellecourt said. "It isn't as though we as Indian people feel that way. Out of 75 democracies that have free elections, America ranks 74th above South Africa. That tells you something when we're ahead of only the racist apartheid regime in South Africa."

Jackson's push to the Democratic nomination gives hope to members of the Rainbow Coalition, but if he doesn't win, Bellecourt believes many supporters will defect to Fulani's campaign in the November election.

"We do not want to broker away the Rainbow vision to the Democratic Party," he said. "Obviously in Jesse Jackson and Dr. Fulani, we have a choice."



Bellecourt

and sound the same."

Bellecourt cites North Carolina as a prime example. The Democratic ticket will be made up exclusively of white men in November, although the state is about one-third black.

"The fact that the Democrats have a slate of white male candidates on the ballot should be an indictment of the party," he said.

To make future elections more democratic, he supports the passage of a congressional bill that eases the restrictions placed on independent parties.

The proposed legislation, sponsored by Rep. John Conyers (D-Mich.), would make it easier for third-party candidates to get on state ballots by making the law apply throughout the country.

"Our campaign is about fair elections," Bellecourt said.

Fair debates is a concern as well, as Fulani's group is suing the League of Women Voters to allow her to debate in its April 16 gathering of candidates.

Fulani, the first black woman to secure federal matching election funds, maintains the LWV is discriminating against her although the Federal Elections Commission recognizes her as a national candidate.

The league maintains that as an independent candidate, Fulani doesn't have to go through a primary campaign and shouldn't be included with candidates who are.

"We're hoping the lawsuit will

be successful," Bellecourt said. "There's no law that says the Republicans and Democrats can be the only viable parties."

Indians are getting fed up with the U.S. government ignoring treaties and moving entire settlements to exploit the land's mineral wealth, Bellecourt said.

"This represents the last final desperate effort" by Indians to prevent losing more land and rights to the government, he said.

Jackson and Fulani have changed the way people vote, Bellecourt believes. He said both have addressed the nation's concerns and their broadening base of support proves people are listening, regardless of color.

"The American people shouldn't allow the press and political analysts to make up their minds," Bellecourt said. "I have a sense that Americans are going to try to prove that they're not racists. We're convinced the rich message of Jesse Jackson and Dr. Fulani is starting to be heard."

Baldwin Challenges Majeed

Continued from page 1A

sue.

Said Baldwin, "When I entered the contest, I came out publicly and stated my feeling about the incident. Mr. Majeed claims he cares, but how can he care when he will not take a stand on the very thing that has made it possible for him to be in this race."

Baldwin says Majeed continues to hedge and waver on the subject.

"I say, if Mr. Majeed hedges on something as degrading as what has happened to Mr. Walton, then he will waver on a lot of other important issues concerning the black community. Or should I say he's going to take the path of least resistance on other subjects concerning the total black community."

Baldwin says the challenged has gone unanswered but he is seeking to engage Majeed in a

Walton's Office

Democratic Mecklenburg County Commission candidate Bob Walton will open his campaign headquarters Saturday.

The incumbent District 2 commissioner will be on hand for the noon opening of his office at 1116 Beatties Ford Road in the Cousar Real Estate and Insurance building.

Walton, who will be at the open house gathering until 4 p.m., will meet with the public in addition to making a statement regarding his re-election bid.

The public is invited.

Jackson Leads In Delegate Totals

Continued from page 1A

said the Michigan win could translate into victories in other high-stakes contests, including the New York primary on April 19.

"I don't believe Dukakis can stop him," said David Garth, a New York media consultant who is working for Tennessee Sen. Albert Gore Jr.'s campaign, "unless something different happens."

New York, which has 255 delegates at stake, represents a serious challenge for Dukakis, who has failed in the major industrial states of Illinois and Michigan.

"The stakes could not be more critical," said Paul Maslin, pollster for Illinois Sen. Paul Simon's campaign. "He can't just finish second to Jesse Jackson. He can't say I'm the leading white candidate. It's not going to work this year."

"Dukakis has got to win big to even say 'This is the guy the party wants,'" Garth said.

A New York Daily News poll published Sunday showed Dukakis favored by 45 percent of the 528 Democrats surveyed to 29 percent for Jackson. The poll, conducted between Monday, March 21 and Thursday, March 24, had a margin for error of plus or minus 4.5 percentage points.

However, New York Gov. Mario Cuomo has said that if two or three candidates are left in the Democratic race prior to the primary, Jackson has a chance of

NAACP Meets

Continued from page 1A

chance their accomplishments will be ignored.

The Derek Barnes case is a good example, Fisher-Brown said.

Barnes, a student at McClintock Junior High, was denied membership into the National Junior Honor Society although he met or exceeded entrance requirements.

Barnes's parents, Richard and Marie, went to the NAACP in hopes of forcing the Charlotte-Mecklenburg school system to admit their son. The school board refused to intervene in the matter, and the NAACP is looking into the possibility of a lawsuit.

"It can come at any time," Fisher-Brown said. The NAACP, she said, "will not go away until there is relief."

Fisher-Brown accused the school board of "stonewalling." They think it's going to go away."

The NAACP plans to keep an eye on school systems that are believed to show discriminatory practices in honor society practices.

"We're still monitoring the system to see what's going on" regarding black students seeking membership, Fisher-Brown said. "The system needs to redress discriminatory practices as related to the case."

Schools in black communities are the victims of discriminatory practices, Fisher-Brown charges. Black teachers are offered better salaries and benefits at schools in white areas, leaving the black-area schools to less experienced replacements.

"The incentives are greater in schools in white areas," she said. "But some incentives need to be made for teachers to come to black areas."

Delegate Totals

Current Rankings For Democratic Presidential Candidates:

Needed to nominate: 2,082

1. Jesse Jackson.....623.65
2. Michael Dukakis.....613.55
3. Albert Gore Jr.....359.55
4. Paul Simon.....165.50
5. Uncommitted.....517.76

winning.

A poll by the Marist College Institute for Public Opinion found that 57 percent of 459 Democratic voters surveyed in New York earlier this month gave Jackson a favorable rating, to 30 percent unfavorable. In a survey by the same group in January, only 44 percent had given Jackson a favorable rating while 41 percent rated him unfavorably.

"New York is a fairly volatile state," Garth said. He noted that the state has a large Jewish vote, a group that has been skeptical of Jackson in the past.

In the most recent Marist College survey, 36 percent of the Jewish voters gave Jackson a favorable rating, an increase from 17 percent in January. Forty-three percent gave Jackson an unfavorable rating compared to 62 percent in January. The results had a margin of error of 5 percentage points.

The numbers suggest Jackson is mending fences with Jews whom he offended in 1984.

"There are still some in the political establishment who think 1988 is an inevitable replay of 1984," Lewis said. But, she added, "The day after Michigan a new world has dawned."

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 - J.W. Walters Company
- Huntersville
- American Cooling & Heating
- Lake Wylie
- River Hills Mechanical
- Matthews
- Dependable Heating & Air Conditioning
 - Lewis Air Conditioning
 - Miller Refrigeration & Air Conditioning
 - Pickler Heating & Air Conditioning
- Mint Hill
- Andersen Heating & Cooling
- Paw Creek
- Air Control Heating & Air Conditioning

Cotman Crusades In Southeast

Continued from page 1A

It was the seven states of the Alpha's Southern Region that convened in Charlotte last week. They are: North Carolina, South Carolina, Tennessee, Georgia, Mississippi, Florida and Alabama.

Cotman is running against

Henry Ponder of Nashville, Tenn., current President of Fisk University.

Charles Teamer, after serving two consecutive terms, is stepping down as Alpha Phi Alpha President. Teamer has been cited in Ebony Magazine as one of the "100 Most Influential" black persons in the country.

The Charlotte Post

Newspaper, Inc

Published Every Thursday

Yearly Rate: \$21.00

USPS No. 965500

For information call:

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