

# SCLC chapters complain about leaders

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

ATLANTA - Louisiana is one of nine chapters of the Southern Christian Leadership Conference accusing the group's national office of catering to corporate donors, misusing member dues and ignoring the needs of the black community.

Hundreds of the disgruntled members are coming to Atlanta Aug. 27 to spotlight their allegations at SCLC's Atlanta headquarters, said David Preston, president of the Fort Walton Beach, Fla., chapter.

"We have paid dues to the national office, and we have receipts and checks to sustain what we are saying," Preston said. "Yet we have not received charters, membership cards or anything from the national office. It's ridiculous that you can't get any-

thing done in this association."

"It's probably time for new blood to come in," said the Rev. John Moore of the SCLC's New Orleans chapter.

But the Rev. Joseph E. Lowery, national president of the SCLC, dismissed the allegations as sour grapes from chapter members who didn't meet the organization's requirements. He said he was unaware of the protest plans.

"These people are dishonest and some of their accusations are entirely off base," Lowery said. "You always have people who will picket about anything. If these people were interested in protecting black folks' rights, they ought to be working in their communities. They don't have to be affiliated with the SCLC to do that."

The organization, which met last week in Detroit, is doing well and won't be distracted

by individuals pressing their own agendas, Lowery said.

But Moore charged that the SCLC is not dealing with the issues of homelessness, drug abuse and poverty within the black community.

"In essence, they are complacent. They're not doing anything," he said.

Corporate donors, and not members, dictate the interests of the group's national office, Moore said.

"In a sense, it's like sleeping with the enemy and we're out to bring attention to that," he said. "They are receiving donations that are making them beholden to corporations more so than they are to the people."

Moore would not name the corporations.

Chapters involved in the dispute include those in Florida, Tennessee, North Carolina, Louisiana, South Carolina,

Mississippi, Alabama and New Mexico, Moore said.

Raymond Fauntroy, president of the Miami chapter, said Lowery's lack of leadership has caused division within many chapters.

"(Lowery) can say what he wants about us; the fact is we have been effective," Fauntroy said. "We can show membership. This would not be happening if there were not a lot of people concerned about the direction of the organization."

Lowery said he's willing to discuss the allegations, but none of the chapters has requested a meeting.

Preston said he hated to air the organization's dirty laundry publicly but felt that it was a last resort.

"We left messages, we called; they have ignored us," Preston said. "We are using the tactics SCLC taught us to use when you are ignored."

# Dole's "Village" remarks angers blacks

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

DETROIT - Bob Dole's remarks at the Republican convention about Hillary Rodham Clinton's book has upset some blacks.

During the convention, Dole took issue with Mrs. Clinton's book on child rearing, "It Takes a Village."

"It doesn't take a village to raise a child," Dole said. "It takes a family to raise a

child."

But some blacks wonder whether Dole knew the title of Mrs. Clinton's book comes from an African proverb. Radio station WCHB-AM in Detroit got numerous calls about Dole's comments.

"That was out of line, uncalled for and an attack on Hillary Rodham Clinton," host Robin Hardin told The Detroit Free Press.

Local education activist

Marie Thornton questioned why black Republican delegates didn't walk out of the convention at the remark and Dole's statement that "old values endure."

Cliff Russell, WCHB program director, said from what he's heard, he does not believe many blacks will be voting Republican.

"The only speeches we heard compliments about were Colin Powell and Elizabeth Dole's,"

said Russell, a former press secretary for Detroit Mayor Dennis Archer, a Democrat.

"Powell was articulate but didn't advance ideas of particular interest to African Americans. He was lockstep with the rest of the Republican crowd."

# WPEG for sale? No. Maybe so.

By Winfred B Cross  
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

WPEG FM 98's rising popularity may have placed it on the market again.

For the second time in nearly as many years that station may be up for sale. Dallas-based Evergreen Media, which bought the company from Broadcast Partners Inc., is selling off its Charlotte stations to Boston-based American Radio Systems Corp, according to an article in the Aug. 19 edition of The Business Journal.

Evergreen Media's other Charlotte stations include WBAV AM/FM, WFNR AM, WEDJ FM and WRFX The Fox FM.

An employee for American Radio wasn't aware of the rumor.

"If that was the case we would immediately have to do a press release announcing the move, said Anna Kordan, a receptionist for the company. When asked if someone else was available to make a comment, Kordan said: "No, but they would tell exactly what I just told you."

Kordan would only speak of the company's merger with EZ Communications, which gives it ownership of WSOC. That deal is pending Federal Communications Commission approval. If the rumored Evergreen acquisition goes through, American radio will rule Charlotte airways.

Wayne Brown, WPEG's general manager was surprised by the story.

"I haven't gotten any communications from the corporate office. Until then, it business as usual," Brown said. "You can't be productive if you worry about stuff like that. Hopefully, if it's true, all it will mean is a different name on our checks."

Joe Jaffoni of Jaffoni & Collins, the public relations firm representing Evergreen Media, neither confirmed nor denied the rumor.

"We don't comment on rumors," he said. "We can't go on record until it's time to make a formal announcement."

# Northwest CDC's new house...



PHOTO/PAUL WILLIAMS III

The Northwest Corridor Community Development Corporation will proudly show off its first newly built home Saturday, from noon to 4 p.m. The three bedroom, two bath house is at 2221 Booker Ave. The home is priced for potential buyers with household incomes between \$18,000-\$20,000. Special mortgage financing assistance may be available. The CDC has also renovated several homes in the area. For more information, call 378-1272.

**CORRECTIONS**  
In last week's edition, Alma Blake, niece of former West Charlotte High principal C.L. Blake, was incorrectly identified in a story about the Museum of the New South.

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