



Tough questions for Panthers/1B

Miss JCSU leads homecoming/6A



Beauties and the beat part of dance calendar /8A



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## A matter of trust

### Senator Mosley-Braun criticizes U.S. AIDS testing

By Chinta Strausberg  
THE CHICAGO DEFENDER

U.S. Sen. Carol Moseley-Braun (D-Ill.) is raking the federal government over the coals for continued U.S. funded medical experiments in the treatment of AIDS among poor Third World women that she said violated medical ethics.

The U.S. "hasn't learned its lesson from the Tuskegee Experiment in which penicillin was denied to black men infected with syphilis," the senator said.

Referring to an article in a recent edition of The New England Journal of Medicine titled "The Ethics of Clinical Research in the Third World," the senator agreed that withholding the proven AZT treatment from pregnant women with AIDS, violated World Health Organization guidelines intended to keep researchers from conducting unethical experiments. The Helsinki Agreement and the Nuremberg Code were international guidelines adopted after World War II to prevent the reoccurrence of experiments similar to those carried out in Nazi concentration camps.

The NEJM editorial states that these international agreements mandate that, "Only when there is no known effective treatment is it ethical to compare a potential new treatment with a placebo. "When effective treatment exists, a placebo may not be used. Instead, subjects in the control group of the study must receive the best known treatment."

Moseley-Braun credited the health periodical for helping "shine a spotlight on these extremely questionable experiments. Unfortunately, the ethical lessons we should have learned from the Tuskegee experiment may not have been absorbed."

The senator said that "AZT has proven results in preventing Mother-to-child transmission of HIV."

"Despite that fact, groups of women in the ongoing studies are randomly selected to receive placebos. As a result, at least 1,000 children will suffer and may die unnecessarily from HIV," Moseley-Braun said.

"We must never allow unknowing patients to be abused as they were in the Tuskegee scandal, and we must not put people in harm's way in the name of science when there's clearly no rational excuse to take such risks."

Nonetheless, reports confirm that the Clinton administration is confident that the U.S. funded experiments are ethical and will save five to 10 million

See TESTING on page 7A



Mosley-Braun

## New test for landmark busing decision?



PHOTO/PAUL WILLIAMS III

Several Charlotte groups, including the Black Political Caucus and League of Women Voters are expected to ask the federal courts to reopen Swann v. Charlotte-Mecklenburg Board of Education, the landmark case that paved the way for busing as a tool for desegregating public schools. African American students have historically borne the brunt of busing.

## Swann v. Board case may be reopened

By John Minter  
THE CHARLOTTE POST

The federal courts will be asked to reopen the landmark Swann v. Charlotte-Mecklenburg Board of Education lawsuit which ordered busing to desegregate local schools.

Several local groups, including the Black Political Caucus,

the Swann Fellowship and the League of Women Voters, have asked the Ferguson, Stein law firm to file the request in response to a lawsuit filed last month by a white southeast Charlotte parent.

The Swann court papers are expected to be filed today, with a press conference scheduled in the afternoon.

Ferguson, Stein associate

Anita Hodgkiss said she could not discuss filing details except to say her firm has been in contact with several people who want to attach the Swann case to a lawsuit filed by the father of a white student.

That lawsuit, Capacchione v. Charlotte-Mecklenburg Schools, asks the federal courts to stop local school officials from using race as factor in

school assignments. William Capacchione filed the lawsuit after his daughter failed to win a lottery seat at Olde Providence Elementary, a communications magnet school.

The Charlotte-Mecklenburg system maintains racial balance at its magnet schools by putting whites and blacks into separate lotteries. The target See SWANN on page 2A

## Foundation helps community development



PHOTO/PAUL WILLIAMS III

Enterprise Foundation President Rey Ramsey (middle) discusses plans with Steve Washington and Nancy Berry.

By John Minter  
THE CHARLOTTE POST

The arrival of The Enterprise Foundation in Charlotte last year has given neighborhood redevelopment efforts a much needed boost.

The Columbia, Md.-based organization's local office is headed by Steve Washington, a former Charlotte neighborhood redevelopment employee.

"I decided I could do more to help the CDCs by working with the foundation," Washington said. "I had been neighborhood development manager and worked on economic development and housing. I was the contact for the CDCs."

With the foundation's help, a

\$2.5 million grant pool has been established to provide operating and predevelopment capital for neighborhood community development corporations, including the Northwest Corridor CDC.

Six CDCs currently are eligible for The Charlotte Neighborhood Fund Nonprofit Capacity Building Program. The program is funded by The Enterprise Foundation, Fannie Mae, the City of Charlotte and local bank and financial institutions

The CDCs can receive up to three years of operating grants to cover a decreasing percentage of their total budgets. There is also a \$1 million loan fund for project predevelopment costs.

Foundation president Rey See ENTERPRISE on page 3A

## Aid for Africa

By John Minter  
THE CHARLOTTE POST

African children will get some much needed school supplies and clothing thanks to the efforts of Wilbert Jones.

Jones, 33, has collected about 700 pounds of items and wants to ship them next week to an orphanage near Kumasi, Ghana, and a self-help youth project in Eldoret, Kenya.

He gathered the supplies from donations, supplemented by his own funds. Jones will take vacation from his job with the U.S.

Customs office in Charlotte to travel to Africa with the supplies.

"I don't want to do one project and that's it," Jones said. "I would like to make it a biannual kind of event."

Jones is a Statesville native and father of two, was born with a genetic defect and must walk with crutches. But that doesn't deter him.

"Some people were surprised by that," he said of his collection effort. "But I say, 'we are all blessed and we don't realize it.' I decided to be proactive. I want to

See AID on page 3A



PHOTO/PAUL WILLIAMS III

Wilbert Jones and his son, Isaac Davis, prepare clothes for delivery to children in Kumasi, Ghana and Eldoret, Kenya.

## Youth focus on Oct. 16

By Olive Vassell  
NATIONAL NEWSPAPER PUBLISHERS ASSOCIATION

Black America's youth will be the focus of the 1997 Holy Day of Atonement/Day of Absences, Oct. 16.

Dr. Abdul Alim Muhammad, national spokesman for Nation of Islam leader Minister Louis Farrakhan, said young people are key to African American survival.

"Our youth are so important to our future," he said. "We literally have no future, except as it gets carried forward by the younger generation and this...generation that is with us now, is perhaps in some ways, paradoxically the most gifted, but at the same time the most endangered... Special care and attention needs to be paid to this new young generation to see to it that they have the opportunity to move forward in time."

Speaking of the violent deaths of prominent rap stars Tupac Shakur and Notorious B.I.G., Muhammad emphasized that using the eight steps of atonement outlined by Minister Farrakhan at the Million Man March, could have saved them.

"We lost...since the last Holy Day of Atonement both Tupac Shakur and...Notorious B.I.G.," Muhammad said. "They were gunned down in the kind of violence that ends the lives of many of our young men and other young people....If Tupac and those with him had put into practice the eight steps of atonement, if Notorious B.I.G. and those with him had understood the eight step process of atonement, perhaps those two great young stars would still be alive."

With events planned all over the country to mark the second anniversary of the Million Man March, many spearheaded by local mosques and the Local Organizing Committees used for the Million Man March, the NOI is also encouraging communities to organize at a grassroots level.

"During the observance this year, we hope that there will be activities all over the country that involve youth," Dr. Muhammad said, adding that

See ACTIVITIES on page 3A

### Inside

Editorials 4A-5A  
Strictly Business 8A  
Religion 10A  
Health 13A  
Style 14A  
Sports 1B  
A&E 5B  
Regional News 10C  
Classified 12E  
Auto Showcase 1E  
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