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Volume 31 No. 20

\$1.00

The Charlotte Post

The Voice of the Black Community

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CORETTA SCOTT KING 1927-2006



ASSOCIATED PRESS PHOTO/RIC FELD

Coretta Scott King, right, embraces Rev. Suzan D. Johnson Cook at the annual Martin Luther King Jr. service in Atlanta in this Jan. 17, 2005 photo. Coretta King died Tuesday at age 78.

She stood alone with the Dream

MLK's widow carried on civil rights agenda

By George E. Curry
NATIONAL NEWSPAPER PUBLISHERS ASSOCIATION

WASHINGTON — On Monday, the Board of Regents of the Smithsonian Institution voted to erect the National Museum of African American History and Culture on the national Mall in Washington, not far from the Lincoln Memorial, where Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. gave his famous "I Have a Dream" speech in 1963.

Less than 24 hours after the vote, Coretta Scott King, the widow of the famous civil rights leader, closed her eyes for the final time and died in her sleep.

King died at Hospital Santa Monica in Rosarito, Mexico, approximately 16 miles south of San Diego. The cause of death was listed on the death certificate as cerebral vascular disease and ovarian cancer.

She was 78, three months shy of her next birthday, and was said to be in Mexico to seek alternative forms of treatment for advanced cancer, which had not been previously disclosed.

See CORETTA/2A

Super Bowl city deals with its homeless

By Bankole Thompson
THE MICHIGAN CITIZEN

DETROIT — As Sunday's Super Bowl draws near, some elected officials and homeless advocates are concerned about the fate of the city's homeless population in the days leading up to the event, which is expected to draw tens of thousands to Detroit.

Detroit city council member Kwame Kenyatta said at a recent council session he was concerned about the announcement that homeless people were being rounded up during the Super Bowl events.

"I hope we don't just round them up so folks don't think there is no homelessness in Detroit," Kenyatta said.

Kandia Milton, Mayor Kwame Kilpatrick's council liaison, said the

See DETROIT/2A

DEBATE OVER UNDOCUMENTED WORKERS



PHOTO/CURTIS WILSON

Anol Hernandez and Gabriel Espinoza were among the protesters at Philip O. Berry Academy in Charlotte Tuesday opposing conservative efforts to toughen U.S. immigration policies. Supporters of U.S. Rep Tom Tancredo (R-Colo.) have criticized President Bush's policy.

Helping hands or economic threat?

Conservative opponents of U.S. immigration policy say illegal aliens threaten African Americans' job security

By Cheri F. Hodges and Eric Bozeman
THE CHARLOTTE POST

Illegal immigration may not be on the agenda of many African Americans, but political conservatives say it very well should be.

On Monday, a town hall meeting at Philip O. Berry Academy addressed guest worker legislation and its impact on African Americans. U.S. Rep. Tom Tancredo (R-Colo.), a critic of President Bush's immigration policies,

was scheduled to speak, but canceled due to a family emergency.

Tancredo has received support from the lobbying group Team America PAC, which funds political candidates who stand up for tougher enforcement of border control, according to a group spokeswoman.

Team America's chairperson is Bay Buchanan, sister of former presidential candidate Pat Buchanan. She was the keynote speaker.

According to a report by The Hill newspaper that covers Congress, "Immigration has deeply divided the GOP base, with some conservative Republicans charging that the president's call to expand guest-worker programs rewards illegal aliens."

Former Winston-Salem alderman and 12th Congressional district candidate Vernon Robinson, who organized the town hall meeting, said the GOP and black

See ECONOMIC/6A

Watt: Too early to discuss impeachment

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

DURHAM — This nation's domestic surveillance program authorized by President Bush likely is illegal, but it's too early to talk about impeachment, the chairman of the Congressional Black Caucus said Monday.

"I haven't ruled out that some of the things that this president is doing are illegal, but I don't think we should rush readily to the impeachment platform every time somebody does something we disagree with," U.S. Rep. Mel Watt, D-N.C., said after a speech

Monday in Durham. "If we did, we'd have an impeachment every four years."

Watt spoke to about 200 people in what he called his alternative State of the Union speech, which came the day before Bush's speech. The 12th District congressman said he would like for Bush to be impeached, but added: "The question is, is there an impeachable standard to employ?"

He later explained that he believes "the spying stuff" was illegal but "has to play itself out."



Watt

Vendor program meeting goals

Working-class blacks stand to lose most, opponents say

By Herbert L. White
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Charlotte's race- and gender-neutral vendor program is meeting expectations without stronger remedies.

The Small Business Opportunity program passed by City Council in 2004 set guidelines that proponents said would provide more opportunities for racial minorities and women.

"In general, the program is working," said Tiffany Capers, director of the city's Small Business Development program. "Asian Americans had the only disparity as a construction subcontractor."

In 2004, council voted to include annual goals for racial and gender subgroups, but not on individual projects. A study of the SBO program showed racial disparities had been wiped out in its first year of implementation, which made stronger remedies a legal liability.

"Right now, race- and gender-neutral is working, so there's no impetus for city council" to add more aggressive rules, Capers said.

For the first quarter of fiscal year 2005-06, \$1.35 million of construction subcontracts went to black-owned businesses, second only to the \$2.39

Please see SMALL/8A

National Mall picked for museum

Facility for African American history

By Derrill Holly
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

WASHINGTON — The National Museum of African American History and Culture will be built on the National Mall near the Washington Monument, the Smithsonian Institution said.

The National Mall features monuments to presidents and several museums that are part of the Smithsonian.

The black history museum "is in the mainstream of American history, and this site is in the mainstream of the other museums," Walter E. Massey, a Smithsonian board member, said Monday.

Chief Justice John Roberts, who serves as chancellor of the Smithsonian Board of Regents, presided over the voice vote choosing the site.

Smithsonian officials said the five-acre (two-hectare) site would likely include a 350,000 square-foot (31,500 square-meter) building. That would be comparable in size to the institu-

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Sanaa Lathan stars in "Something New," a different take on interracial romance 1D



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