

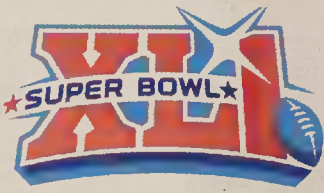
# The Charlotte Post

The Voice of the Black Community

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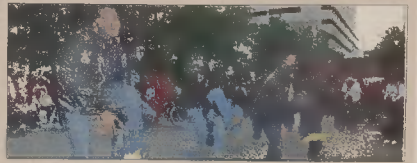
WEEK OF FEBRUARY 17, 2007

Meet the coaches who make Sunday's Super Bowl a game of historic proportions/1C



### STEP LIVELY

Sure-footed routines made popular by Greek-letter groups translate to big screen in "Stomp the Yard"/1B



## No lock on black voters for Obama

Rivals Edwards, Clinton will stump, too

By Beth Fouhy and Erin Teixeira  
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

NEW YORK - Being black doesn't necessarily mean White House hopeful Sen. Barack Obama has a lock on black voters.

In wooing a faithful Democratic constituency, Obama faces two-term New York Sen. Hillary Rodham Clinton, the party front-runner who enjoys strong support in the black community. She also is married to former President

Clinton, so wildly popular among black voters that novelist Toni Morrison dubbed him "the first black president" in a 1998 essay.

Obama also must contend with John Edwards, the 2004 vice presidential nominee who has won praise from black leaders for his commitment to fighting poverty. It was Edwards who recently addressed a high-profile

New York commemoration of Martin Luther King Jr. - at the invitation of the slain civil rights leader's son.

"It will be a challenge because (Obama) will be competing against people who have relationships in the black community," said the Rev. Jesse Jackson, who ran for the Democratic presidential nomination twice in the 1980s.

Jackson, who won 13 pri-  
See OBAMA/3A



Obama



Edwards



H. Clinton



PHOTO: BRANDI WOODSON

Darnelle Rice stocks shelves at a Family Dollar store in Charlotte Tuesday. Congress is considering a federal minimum wage increase to \$7.25 by 2009.

## Hike would help make ends meet

Millions would benefit from federal minimum wage boost

By Brandi Woodson  
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Everything is on the rise: gasoline, taxes, and rent.

But a raise in the minimum wage would provide some light at the end of that expensive tunnel of life. Congress is considering bills that would boost the federal minimum wage from \$5.15 an hour to \$7.25. It's estimated that more than 2 million African Americans would benefit from an increase, according

to the Joint Center for Political and Economic Studies, a Washington, D.C., think tank.

"They need to raise the minimum wage anyway," said Darnelle Rice, who works at Family Dollar in Charlotte. "You can't raise a family and support children off of that."

The federal wage hasn't changed since 1997.

A study published last week by the Joint Center found that black workers make up 16 percent those who would see

an increase in their wages due to the Fair Minimum Wage Act of 2007.

The U.S. House of Representatives passed a bill last month that would raise the minimum \$2.10 by 2009. The Senate version is bogged down over a Republican amendment that includes tax relief for small businesses. If the GOP version passes the Senate, a compromise bill would be negotiated before  
Please see MINIMUM/2A

## Pursuit of murder suspect leads to N.C.

By Allen G. Breed  
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

RALEIGH - As a deacon at Bunkley Baptist Church, Charles Marcus Edwards was responsible for opening up for Sunday school. And so on that sultry Mississippi morning, he and his wife were the first to arrive at the tiny brick chapel.

A minivan pulled into the gravel drive behind them. A black man got out and approached, followed by a younger white man carrying a video camera.

"Mr. Edwards," the black man said, extending a hand with a

### Dead man's kin, filmmaker track alleged killer

sealed envelope. "I have something for you, sir."

"What is this?" Edwards asked.

Inside were pages from an unfinished story.

The nine sheets, copied from a 42-year-old FBI file, told of Ku Klux Klansmen and secret codes and terror. They told of the kidnap, torture and killing of two black men - Henry Hezekiah Dee and Charles

Eddie Moore.

Edwards limped quickly toward the church and climbed the three steps, stopped and turned.

"What's your name, fella?" the 72-year-old white man asked.

"My name is Moore," the stranger replied. "Thomas James Moore."

The reputed former Klansman moved to enter the sanctuary, then paused and turned again.

"I'm going to tell you, fella," he said. "I DID NOT kill your

Please see PURSUIT/6A

## Western banks skimming from Africa

Untaxed profits bilking billions from continent

GLOBAL INFORMATION NETWORK

Giant corporations are skimming billions of dollars out of Africa by avoiding taxes and exploiting tax havens, said a new pan-African organization at a meeting of tax experts held this month in Nairobi, Kenya.

Despite the global commodity boom over the past three years, the group found, African governments lost more than \$150 billion in unpaid tax and royalties, and in some cases actually received less revenue from mining companies than before.

In Tanzania, for example, as production of copper, gold, nickel and platinum soared, the British anti-poverty group Christian Aid found, revenue from gold fell by nearly a third. In Zambia, revenues from copper have been cut in half. Pressure from the IMF to sell off industries on advantageous terms to mining firms is responsible for the shortfall, say campaigners: "The myth that tax rates have to be slashed to attract overseas investment needs to be challenged," said Anna Thomas, Christian Aid's policy manager.

The missing tax receipts widely surpass the pledges of aid made by leaders of the world's richest nations in a summit of the Group of 8

Please see BILLIONS/3A

### the box

NEWS, NOTES & TRENDS

## Kenyan wins mutilation reprieve

A U.S. appeals court has granted a temporary reprieve to a Kenyan woman who feared traditional genital mutilation by relatives if forced to return home.

The 8th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals in St. Louis sent the case back for rehearing by the Board of Immigration Appeals.

Olivia Chebet Kipkemboi, 34, and her husband had asked for asylum, claiming that the practice of female circumcision would be carried out on her and eventually on her 3-year-old daughter if she were deported. Her daughter is a U.S. citizen.

## Charlotte campaign's a many-splendored thing

WTVI-sponsored project encourages communication of love and forgiveness

By Brandi Woodson  
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

How deep is your love? Do you have the capacity to forgive?

WTVI (channel 42) is looking for people who are willing to talk about the power of both during the a three-year Campaign for Love and Forgiveness. The Charlotte PBS affiliate will use three films as conversation

starters of the depth of love and forgiveness on a personal and community level.

The campaign, funded by the Fitzer Institute, researched the energetic force of love, the unfailing power of forgiveness and how they can effect change. Fitzer is also working with existing organizations to help individuals and communities discover the transformative power

of love and forgiveness on a spectrum of issues.

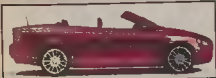
The campaign kicked off last month at the West Boulevard Library with the unveiling of a campaign symbol, the Red Bench of Love. The bench can be found engraved with three compelling symbols: a dove, a heart, and a man and woman representing the ultimate power of love and forgiveness.

"This campaign will allow those in the Charlotte area community to speak about their experiences, listen and respond to one another with encouragement and compassion as it relates to the diversity and inherent mystery of love," said Beverly Dorn-Steele, WTVI director of education and outreach services.  
Please see PROJECT/3A



PHOTO: CALVIN FERLUSON

WTVI education and outreach director Beverly Dorn-Steele sits on The Red Bench of Love at the West Boulevard Library.



Impressive Volvo C70 at its best going topless/3C

### INSIDE

Life 1B  
Religion 5B

Sports 1C  
Business 6C

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