



From 'School Daze' to Malcolm X' our list of the best SPIKE LEE joints/1D



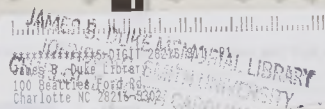
Carolina Panthers DE JASON HALL makes mark in NFL Europa

# The Charlotte Post

The Voice of the Black Community

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WEEK OF JUNE 7-13, 2007



## Will anyone listen to us now?

Black issues yet to resonate with candidates

By Amber English  
NATIONAL NEWSPAPER PUBLISHERS ASSOCIATION

WASHINGTON - The war in Iraq and the issue of immigration took center stage during the second 2008 presidential debate in New Hampshire Sunday night.

These are issues that African-Americans care about, political observers say, but, what about the low quality education in city schools, the violent crime rates that are up for the second year in a row, the unemployment rate among African-Americans that consistently doubles that of whites and the mandatory minimum sentences that keeps blacks crowding prisons across the nation?

Though African-Americans are adamantly against the war and immigration is on America's front burner, political observers say Democratic candidates have yet to tackle the bread and butter domestic issues that disproportionately relate to black people.

"With the Democrat Party, when the candidates get to the issues, they make us a part of the omnibus," says Thomas Todd, a political commentator who is a former federal prosecutor and former leader of Operation PUSH in Chicago. "But being the most loyal and the largest voting block in the Democratic Party, you would think that they would deal with issues that specifically address the problems facing black people or African-Americans. It's not being done."

Health care, education, and other domestic issues were touched upon briefly, but mostly within the last 10 minutes of the debate. The two-hour debate

See ANYBODY/6A



PHOTO/MADE NASH

Johnson C. Smith University President Dorothy Cowser Yancy, who has announced her retirement in 2008, says fundraising "is 80 to 90 percent of the portfolio of being a president." Tapping into revenue streams is especially important to private, historically black colleges.

## Selling the mission

Prolific fundraisers like JCSU's Yancy a collegiate necessity

By Herbert L. White  
herb.white@thecharlottepost.com

In a simpler time, college presidents were learned elder statesmen.

Today, they're professional salespeople, expert practitioners of major-league wheeling and dealing.

Faced with increased competition for students and funds, college presidents have to be adept at pumping revenue onto

their campuses. Leaders at historically black colleges also have to cope with chronic underfunding that their mainstream counterparts don't have to deal with.

"In the '50s, a president was considered to be sort of a statesman and they were supposed to speak out on certain types of issues," Johnson C. Smith University President Dorothy Cowser Yancy said.

"But fundraising became a major part of the portfolio before I became president and now it is 80 or 90 percent of the portfolio of being a president."

Private schools, which rely primarily on non-government money for survival, generally have higher tuitions and fees than public colleges. That disparity in costs puts smaller schools in a perpetual chase for funding.

"The roles have changed significantly," said Livingstone College President Jimmy Jenkins. "Private colleges are competing with public schools that are perceived as institutions funded by the state. That puts pressure on private college presidents to compete." Please see FUNDRAISING/6A

Tuition and fees at five N.C. colleges	
	Johnson C. Smith University \$20,844
	N.C. A&T State University \$3,872 (in-state)
	Greensboro College \$28,150
	UNC Charlotte \$1,949 (in-state)
	Livingstone College \$18,115

PRIVATE SCHOOLS IN BLUE; SOURCE: COLLEGE WEBSITES

## Fats of life: Black teens more obese

By Shari Logan  
NATIONAL NEWSPAPER PUBLISHERS ASSOCIATION

WASHINGTON - Colletta Washington, an 18-year-old from Oxon Hills, Md., is feeling good about herself.

She just graduated from Potomac High School even though she struggled to maintain good grades throughout the four years. One semester her report card had mostly Cs and some As. But in the fall she will attend Howard University with her tuition paid.

Many teenagers like her would be proud as well. But some of her peers who look like her are suffering inside. Washington is 5 feet, 190 pounds and considered obese.

Low self-esteem, loss of confidence, and depression are just some of the pains experienced by obese teens, says Dr. Robin E. Drucker, a pediatrician at the Palo Alto Medical Clinic in California.

"There is a negativity associated with obesity in America," says Drucker. "Some children

are perceived to be lazy or unintelligent."

Washington says her weight does not bother her as much as some teens. "I grew up around big women and they always looked good when they stepped out," she says.

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention reports that at least 21 percent of black teens between 12 and 19 are obese, increasing the chances of obesity-related diseases such as heart disease, high blood pres-

Please see AFRICAN/3A

## Under indictment, Jefferson defiant

By Hazel Trice Edney  
NATIONAL NEWSPAPER PUBLISHERS ASSOCIATION

WASHINGTON - U. S. Rep. Bill Jefferson (D-La.), who last year told the NNPA News Service in an exclusive interview that he was baffled about why the FBI raided his congressional office, has been indicted with 16 counts of alleged bribery, racketeering, using his office to solicit bribes and obstruction of justice.

The charges were handed down from the U.S. attorney's office in Alexandria on Tuesday, a year after FBI agents launched a controversial raid on his Capitol Hill office. They have prompted his lawyer as well as leading members of the Congressional Black

Please see JEFFERSON/2A



Jefferson



PHOTO/MADE NASH

URBAN YOUTH GRAD: Jason Palmer (second from right) is all smiles after he was named best all-around student at the Urban Youth Education Program last week. Palmer, who earned his high school equivalency from the Urban League program, plans to enroll at Johnson C. Smith University. Celebrating his achievement are from left: Rick Furrell, the Urban League's GED program director; administrative assistant Phyllis White and life skills instructor Johnny Worthy.

## Tool to extend voting rights

N.C. bill would offer state's ex-offenders registration upon release from prison

By Herbert L. White  
herb.white@thecharlottepost.com

N.C. lawmakers are considering a bill that would alert ex-convicts of their right to register to vote upon release from prison.

HB 1020 would mandate the state offer voter registration information to ex-offenders upon restoration of their rights as citizens. The bill has passed the House of Representatives 99-12 and awaits hearing in the Senate.

"The bill is important because so many people are trying to restore their lives and part of being a good citizen is having the right to vote," said Rep. Alma Adams, D-Guilford, chair of the Legislative Black Caucus and co-sponsor of the bill.

"Sometimes people don't participate because they don't know they can; others don't participate because they don't want to. We want them to know this is available to them."

Ex-offenders must petition the state for their voting rights without state aid. If the bill Please see BILL/3A



Adams

## New drug offers promise for STD treatment

By Hazel Trice Edney  
NATIONAL NEWSPAPER PUBLISHERS ASSOCIATION

DURHAM - A new treatment for a bothersome vaginal infection that disproportionately affects black women has been discovered.

The Food and Drug Administration recently approved Tindamax for the treatment of BV (Bacterial Vaginosis.)

"Tindamax is the first new oral therapy to be approved for the treatment of BV in a decade, and provides a shorter course of oral treatment with fewer doses per day and a better tolerability profile than the current standard of care," Mission Pharmaceutical announced in a statement.

BV happens when the normal balance of bacteria in the vagina is disrupted and replaced by an overgrowth of certain bacteria. Symptoms may include a foul or fishy odor in varying degrees and a milk-like vaginal discharge.

BV is the most common cause of vaginitis, an inflammation of the vagina. Others are trichomoniasis and yeast infections.

## Defense fund honors spirit of local activism

By Herbert L. White  
herb.white@thecharlottepost.com

The N.C. NAACP Legal Defense Fund will honor Charlotte-area activism and leadership at its annual fund raising banquet June 9.

The banquet, at the Marriott hotel at 5700 Westpark Drive, will start at 6 p.m. with a reception, followed by the program at 6:45. Tickets are \$75; call Franklin McCain at (704) 598-7737 for information.

Among the honorees are:

- Charlotte Coalition for Social Justice, a

Please see BANQUET/6A



Honeybees may be the best barometer of where Earth's inhabitants are headed/4A

INSIDE

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Religion 5B

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