

AIDS

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to their wives as well as themselves. "It starts off in Third World poverty. Men have sex with other men for money," said Dr. Laureano Vega, director of the South Florida AIDS Project. "They did not consider themselves gay because it was not something they did for pleasure. They're into heavy denial. "If they are the penetrator, they're not the ones receiving infected semen," he said. "They tend to think there's a lower risk for contracting the disease. That's not the case."

AIDS brochures are being translated into Spanish, but there are subtle dialect differences among Cubans, Puerto Ricans, Mexicans and South Americans. Some sexual acts have no translation in Spanish, such as "fisting," a variation of anal intercourse. That weakens the warning. "Everything has to be less explicit," Vega said. "You have to sterilize the message. We cannot approach these issues as openly as we can in the Anglo community."

Religious conservatism in the black community and its associated homophobia have forced many gay black men to hide their sexual identity, making it difficult to reach them, educators say. "There is a percentage that identify as black first, gay second," said San Francisco AIDS educator Ernest Andrews. "They don't go to gay bars and they don't read gay newspapers. Their sexuality is very private."

Religious beliefs have proved a profound obstacle to AIDS education in very basic ways. With the Roman Catholic Church opposing condom use, it is difficult to persuade Hispanics to use them. "We're asking them to almost walk away from their culture," said Sunny Runsey, AIDS educator for the New York City Health Department. "How do they stay religious and still protect themselves from the virus?"

The church's position has made that impossible, minority social workers say. "We have to cut out this moral judgment. It's not a moral issue. It's not a religious issue. It's a health issue," said Ruth Rodriguez of the Hispanic AIDS Forum in New York. "The shame of it is, people are infected and die in the meantime."

FAMILY

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University of Nebraska program which focuses on six family strengths of commitment, wellness, communication, appreciation, spending time together, and the ability to deal with stress.

People from all walks of life have been trained as family strengthening advocates. These groups include teachers, ministers, social workers, high school students, and military personnel. These advocates, in turn, work with others in their communities to strengthen families. "One of the goals of this seminar is to challenge people to do something positive in their families," Ms. Monroe said.

The seminars are designed to offer solutions to the problems that plague many families such as teen pregnancies, high school dropouts, underachieving students, drug and alcohol abuse, divorce and separation, and a lack of church involvement. Family members must take responsibility in solving these problems, Ms. Monroe says. "Government can only do so much," she said. "But it is the responsibility of each individual in a family to instill hope in himself and each other in order to know that his situation will improve."

Many of these issues will also be addressed at a coming Governor's Commission on the Family Conference to be held Sept. 15-16 at the Radisson Hotel in High Point. The theme of the conference is "North Carolina's Families: A Focus on the Future." The conference, which is open to the public, will host many sessions including topics such as child care and job training. Ms. Monroe will host a panel of civic and church leaders who will discuss the role of the school, the church and the home in strengthening minority families. If anyone is interested in attending the conference, call Victoria Grieco, the executive director of the Governor's Commission for the Family, at 733-4296.

Training sessions on building on the strengths of the family are being planned for several communities in the state as well. Some of the dates and locations of the sessions include Aug. 24 at the YWCA in High Point; Sept. 23 in Charlotte sponsored by the Urban League; the African Methodist Episcopal Zion Church and the Afro-American Cultural Center; Oct. 7 at the First Baptist Church in Kenansville; Oct. 15 at the Agricultural Extension Rural Minority Women's Leadership Development Program in Thomasville, Oct. 21 at the United American Free Will Baptist Church in Kinston; Oct. 24

with the North Carolina Public School Social Workers; and Nov. 9 at the meeting of the North Carolina School Counselors in Raleigh.

UNARMED

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ficer Gary Smith," the report says. Relin said the report contains inaccuracies that could have been avoided had he been interviewed. He said he would resist any attempt to remove him, though under state law only the governor can remove a district attorney.

"It's very disappointing to think that someone will draw conclusions that are totally incorrect and totally false without making the effort to educate themselves about what happened," he said.

The commission, made up of ministers, educators, business people and neighborhood activists, has been meeting in secret since June. It said in its report that it represents "oppressed people."

The report does not name people they interviewed, including five "witnesses" they said were at the scene of the shooting. Smith and two officers were in the room where the shots were fired and are the only witnesses, police have said. Smith also was the only person who could see Green in the crawlspace, according to police.

The report also charged that the grand jury's and police department's investigations were tainted by racism, and that racism is pervasive in Rochester.

Commission members requested but were not allowed to see grand jury minutes or internal police department reports. They did not interview city and county officials or police officers on the scene.

Paul Bringwell, city public safety commissioner, dismissed the commission's charges of racism, saying the report reflected the "frustration of now knowing." He also dismissed the idea of a police department run by an elected citizens' commission, saying it would "unhandcuff the police, giving them more power."

JESSE JACKSON

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or may not make it to the White House, but our children will. And they must."

"The struggle to make America stronger, to make America better continues. We're so close to where we're going and so far from where we started."

Jackson did not mention Democratic nominee Michael Dukakis by name, but he made several references to the recently concluded campaign.

"Politics is not a one-round fight," he said. "It's not an even fight. But you can't have a glass jaw."

PLAN

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ventures, work closely, with local industrial groups, commercial entities and the Chamber of Commerce in stimulating the local economy, identify needs of minority businesses, encourage the use of more effective community organization techniques, formulate public and private investments and stabilizing businesses with expansion potential, and gather, analyze and disseminate economic and business data to the minority community.

Parks revealed recently that M.L. Banner, an official with the U.S. Department of Commerce and a former director of the Reid Street Recreation Center, is being considered for director of ENCCMED.

"We want to grab him, he has a lot of expertise," Parks said. Banner has noted that he has given ENCCMED many hours of help and has a continuing interest in the organization.

"Even if the salary wasn't there and I was in Wilson, I'd still give something back to Wilson. I have an affinity [for Wilson]. I've been in that community annually for the last 25 years," Banner said.

He said that he is currently eligible for retirement from his federal post, but has not yet set a retirement date. The presentation to the Wilson City Council noted nearly \$5.36 million in federal funds the city has received over the past 10 years. The ENCCMED directors stated that monies targeted for poor black residents went to white landlords instead.

"All I'm saying is the city has received \$5.5 million and the problems are still the same," one speaker said.

Mack-McLean Reunion Held In Raleigh

The Mack-McLean reunion was held at the home of Ms. Laura McLean of 441 Fowler St., Raleigh, on Sunday, July 31. Approximately 100 relatives and friends attended from Red Springs, Ramseur, Durham, Lumberton, Maxton, Raleigh, New Jersey and Florida. Everyone enjoyed good food and good fellowship.



TEAMING UP—William Pretty, Jr., operator of five McDonald's (r.) restaurants in Raleigh, Siler City, and Sanford, presents a check for \$3,000 to Isaac Howard of the N. C. Black Leadership Caucus.

WILLIAMSTON WHISTLINGS

BY JOYCE GRAY
WILLIAMSTON—The Hassell Gospel Singers have an engagement on Oct. 2 at West Martin School.

There will be a surprise master of ceremonies at the pre-anniversary celebration of the Spiritual Aires on Saturday, Aug. 27. The host church is Chapel Hill Baptist Church on Hwy. 125. Time is 7:30 p.m.

Getting set for their annual Family Day is Mount Eprew Baptist Church, Roper, on Sunday, Aug. 28. Invitations have been extended to friends within Washington County and all surrounding surrounding counties and service begins at 11 a.m.

Speaker for the St. James Missionary Baptist Church Women's Day program is Ms. Donna Bazemore, community organizer, Center for Women's Economic Alternatives, Ahsokie.

The program will start at 11 a.m. Sunday, Aug. 14, and the church is located between Williamston and Jamesville on Hwy. 64. The public is invited to attend.

Happy birthday to Robert L. Barnes.

Very anxious to visit grandmother in Charlotte is Michael Duggins, Route 1, Williamston. Seems he got busy during the summer out of school session and with some extra school activity in mind for next term, he is now hoping to put aside at least three days with grandmother, Ms. Flowe.

Arriving safely in the United States last week to enjoy some cooler temperatures was Ms. Sylvia Egal and children of Jeddah, Saudi Arabia. First on the agenda is rest—then comes the debate on where to visit and whom.

For the second time in its five-year history the Martin County NAACP Youth Council failed to have a quorum at the August date set. Usually the officers had searched the calendar very carefully for other planned family affairs, church programs, etc. There were not that many known plans at the time the date was set.

It should have been taken into consideration by both parent and youth the importance of having something organized and operated under your own leadership. Motivation begins at home and at an early stage in the child's life.

The youth council is a training program in leadership, respectability, recordkeeping, data compiling, fundraising and commitment to justice for all. In other words, truly committed to the release of unduly suffering from denial of civil rights.

Maybe some parents or older adults are unaware of what their civil rights are and, therefore, cannot explain that subject in their homes. If so, they, too, should not be too ashamed to ask questions, watch certain television programs or attend some workshops.

One thousand dollars richer because he made the effort to stop smoking as requested by a complete stranger is David Duggins, Utica, N.Y., and a native of Williamston. Duggins really thought it a joke when approached by this lady, who took offense to his pipe smoking and merely stated to her, "I don't even think I could do it right away, but will try." He said his desire for the pipe began to wane off with no problem.

Friends reminded him that the lady had not been making small chat or a joke. When he told them he had lost his taste for smoking, they supplied him with the information on how to get in contact with the donor.

The August meeting of the First Congregational District Black Leadership Caucus will be a tour of the business site in Gates County. Traditionally, the meeting is held the second Saturday of each month, rotating throughout the 21 counties and starting at 1 p.m.

Duplin County Branch is preparing for their annual Freedom Fund ban-

quet on Sept. 28. Invitations are being extended to various branches' memberships. For more details, call Reddick E. Wilkins at 1-293-4225.

Sympathy is again expressed to the Manning, Rodgers and Duggins family in the loss of two loved ones last week.

When drinking and driving mix, accidents are subject to happen. On Sunday, July 31, between 9:30 and 10 a.m., such an accident occurred just below No. 90 Station on Hwy. 64 East involving a car and a truck.

On the list of sick and shut-ins: Paul Griffin, Mr. and Mrs. Alton C. Roberts, John H. Lyons, James Ramsey, Jesse Bell, Ms. Armaza C. Roberson, Willie C. Bunch, William Wallace, Ms. Aria L. Moore, and Isaac B. Cordon.

Columbus Brown, co-owner of D&L Furniture Co., was injured in a tractor/trailer accident recently and was confined to bed.

Also injured in an automobile accident during the month of July while driving alone was Ms. Joe H. Gainer. Ms. Gainer lost control of her car while driving alone one morning.

Mr. and Mrs. Frank Scott (Washington, D.C.), Booker T. Lloyd, recovering from surgery; Booker T. Lanier moving about carefully; Ms. Virginia Hunter and Ms. Mariah Walston round out the list.

Not feeling well last week was Ms. Alberta L. Smith, and Ms. Lonnie Smallwood was limited in her movements due to knee problems.

At home recuperating after surgery is Ms. Iris James.

Doing nicely last week was Noah S. Nicholson, Robersonville.

Ms. Julia Beach is scheduled for surgery.

Removing herself from the big-city hustle and bustle lifestyle for a few days to enjoy some time with relatives in Williamston is Ms. Ametia Griffin, Brooklyn, N.Y.

Accompanying Ms. Griffin was a friend and a granddaughter, Eboni, one of her two grandchildren. It was the first trip for both Eboni and the friend to town.

Some technical difficulty kept "Blessing Boulevard" off the airways for 1½ hours on Sunday, July 31. At least one attempted telephone call was made trying to inform Rev. Robert L. Hudson, Sr. that he was not

Teenagers Foresee Black Pexy Within Five Years

In a youth poll of more than 13,000 high school students, two out of three teenagers said they were likely to see a black president in the next five years.

The Burger King Corp. and Scholastic, Inc., sponsored "Teen Attitude Survey" enlisted the political views and personal goals of high school students residing in all demographic regions of the country, including cities, suburbs, small towns and rural areas.

The study, conducted in conjunction with Update magazine, was drawn from a cross-section of American teenagers from various ethnic groups, including blacks, whites, Hispanics, American Indians and Asians.

Among blacks and Hispanics, 65.5 percent of those students polled overwhelmingly agreed that it was "very likely" or "somewhat likely" that a black American could become president during their lifetime. Top-line

findings tallying the views of all students show that 68 percent believe a black American is electable.

While recent media coverage of the presidential nomination has undoubtedly had an impact on American teenagers, the majority of all students polled (62.9 percent) did not feel a Hispanic American would garner the same broad-based support.

However, among 623 Hispanic students who participated in the survey, more than half (51.2 percent) were confident that a Hispanic could be in the White House by 1992, lending credence to the assumption that ethnic heritage can be a factor in the electoral process. In contrast, 67.3 percent of the 1,274 black students polled responded negatively to a Hispanic president, and 71.2 percent of white students felt the same way. Among all students polled, only 29.8 percent believed a Hispanic could be elected during their lifetime.

Nearly 60 percent of all students believed a female would serve as president, while they had less confidence in seeing a handicapped or Jewish individual in the Oval Office.

The survey found that 57.9 percent of all students polled would not commit to either the Republican or Democratic parties when they register to vote. However, study results show that 25.6 percent of black students and 16.9 percent of Hispanic students would "very likely" register as Democrats, compared to 12 percent of white students. And 8.3 percent of students polled would "very likely" register as Republicans, compared to 12.2 percent for Hispanics and 18.7 percent for whites.

Social issues of particular concern to minority groups, such as food for the hungry and shelter for the poor, were on the minds of all teenagers, regardless of ethnic origin. More than half the students (55.1 percent) believed they could personally help alleviate these national problems, and 52.3 percent felt they could help reduce the crime rate as well.

On the subject of improving public education, the majority of black and Hispanic students polled (45.2 percent) felt this issue should be of primary concern for the next president. Only one-third of those white students surveyed (33.6 percent) felt strongly about this subject.

When asked if they would go to war to protect the freedom of U.S. citizens if they were president, students responded positively, on the average. However, 67.9 percent of white students responded yes, compared to 49.3 percent of black students and 57.8 percent of Hispanic students who answered the four-page questionnaire in April.

Minority students were on par with the national averages regarding knowledge of current events (54.4 percent), community service (46 percent), sports participation (37.3 percent) and the amount of effort they put forward in school (57 percent).

While a high school diploma, their future and education were top priority issues in the minds of teenagers, health matters also rated high. In fact, the survey found that 43 percent of black teenagers were very concerned about the AIDS crisis. Hispanics also felt strongly (37.4 percent), while only 29 percent of whites were as deeply concerned about AIDS.

Demonstrators For Brawley Jailed

ALBANY, N.Y. (AP)—One day in jail hasn't silenced the ever-active tongue of New York City civil rights activist Al Sharpton.

He and 11 others, including folk singer Pete Seeger, were found guilty of disorderly conduct during a racially charge protest over the alleged rape of Tawana Brawley.

Before his conviction, Sharpton said the April 4 demonstrators were "on trial like murderers."

"We will have our supporters here with a demonstration unlike anything they've ever seen," he promised of what would happen if he were convicted by Albany County Police Court Judge Thomas Keegan.

Nonetheless, Keegan sentenced 12 of the 14 protesters to 15 days at the Albany County Jail for blocking traffic in downtown Albany. They were to begin serving their sentences immediately. Two other defendants were acquitted after the three-day, non-jury trial.

That was last Friday afternoon.

On Saturday night, all 12 of the demonstrators were released from the suburban Albany jail, each on \$100 bond pending appeal, after New York State Supreme Court Judge Paul Cheeseman met with their attorneys and Albany County District Attorney Sol Greenberg.

Lawyers Alton Maddox, Jr., C. Vernon Mason and Sharpton have been acting as advisers for Ms. Brawley, the black Wappingers Falls teenager who claims she was abducted and sexually assaulted by six white men last November.

They have advised the Brawley family not to cooperate with an investigation headed by state Attorney General Robert Abrams, the special prosecutor appointed by Gov. Mario Cuomo.

Seeger appeared relieved as he stood outside the jail.

"I wanted to express my unity with people I considered my brothers and sisters," Seeger said. "I am very happy to have done so."

As Sharpton strolled from behind the iron bars Saturday night, the New York City minister some of his supporters nickname "The Rev.," called out to guards and inmates. "I'll be back, but I might be late for basketball tomorrow."

He said he spent the day playing a little basketball, listening to complaints from fellow inmates—complaints he had documented and intended to pursue with his attorneys—and had even lost a couple of pounds.

He also commended his lawyers for his speedy release.

"I think my attorneys scored a victory today because they were able to appeal to a sober judge," Sharpton said Saturday, referring to Cheeseman.

Maddox, on the other hand, refused to call the release a victory.

"In a case that did not measure up to a criminal conviction," Maddox said he was surprised at Keegan's decision "to put everybody away immediately."

"It caused some hardships," Maddox said, adding that two of the

women in the group had left their young children at home unsupervised. "There was no gap between conviction and sentence."

Sharpton later described Keegan as "a drunk" who made a hasty decision on the lives of 14 people "because he couldn't wait to get to the bar."

THINK SAFETY!

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