

PARITY GOAL

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"The State of Black America 1989" presents nine papers prepared by experts in the fields of housing, education, politics, religion, economics and social welfare.

In one of those papers, "Critical Issues for Black Families By the Year 2000," research consultant Dr. Robert B. Hill said, "After making unprecedented strides during the 1960s, black families experienced sharp social and economic setbacks during the 1970s and 1980s.

"Not only was the poverty rate for black families higher in 1987 (30 percent) than the rate (28 percent) in 1989, but also there were 700,000 more poor black families. Similarly, not only was the unemployment rate for blacks twice as high in 1988 (12 percent) than it was in 1969 (six percent), but also three times more blacks were unemployed in 1988 (1.7 million) than in 1969 (570,000).

"Such severe economic instability led to family instability. While black unemployment soared from six percent to 20 percent between 1969 and 1983 due to four back-to-back recessions, the proportion of female-headed black families jumped from 28 percent to 42 percent. Each percentage point rise in black unemployment was correlated with a comparable increase in one-parent black families.

"Black families continue to be disproportionately disadvantaged in other aspects as well. Although out-of-wedlock birthrates declined steadily among black teens during the 1970s and 1980s, while rising among white teens, black adolescents are four times more likely than white adolescents to have babies out of wedlock. Over half of all black births today are out-of-wedlock, compared to 13 percent of all white births.

"Unprecedented levels of crime and gang violence have also destabilized many black families. With drug trafficking rampant in most inner-city areas, drug-related homicides among blacks have reached record levels. The disproportionate surge in deaths among blacks has resulted in the first declines in black life expectancy since 1962. While life expectancy from birth rose among whites from 75.3 to 75.4 between 1984 and 1986 (the latest year available), life expectancy among blacks declined from 69.7 in 1984 to 69.5 and 69.4 in 1985 and 1986, respectively.

"Black families have also been disproportionately devastated by the declining stock of affordable housing due to abandonment, urban renewal, commercial development, gentrification and condominium conversions. About half a million low-income units have been disappearing each year. Thus, the number of homeless individuals and families has soared to about two to three million. In addition, there are hundreds of thousands of 'hidden homeless' who 'double up' with relatives and friends for varying periods of time. Blacks are over-represented among the thousands of families and children living in welfare hotels and shelters for the homeless.

"Not only has there been a shrinking in the size of the black middle-class since 1978, but poverty rates among black two-parent families have risen more rapidly than among black single-parent families.

"In order to make significant strides toward parity between blacks and whites by the year 2000, it is important to address the following questions: (1) What will be the demographic characteristics (i.e., size, age composition, family structure and labor force patterns) of the black population by the year 2000? (2) What are the critical issues that will be confronting black families during the 1990s? and (3) What strategies must be adopted by the public and private sectors for black families to achieve equity with white families by the 21st century?"

NEWS BRIEFS

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mation call Dr. Janice Dargan, project coordinator, Department of Music, at St. Augustine's College, 828-4451, Ext. 313, or 1-544-5635.

SAVE OUR SOUNDS

In a rare public appearance, former CBS newsman Walter Cronkite will visit Raleigh March 11 to help promote WRAL-TV 5's "Save Our Sounds" project, and the WRAL-TV Carolina Coastal TV celebration April 8 and 9.

LIBRARY TRANSITION

The Garner Public Library closed its doors on Jan. 24 to prepare for the transition of the Southeast Regional Library. The 5,000-square-foot facility which has served the Town of Garner in its present location for approximately 15 years will become the third regional library in the Wake County Public Library System effective Feb. 29.

BUREAU GIVES BOOKS

Seventeen public libraries in Raleigh and Wake County recently received copies of a new book, "Destination Marketing for Convention and Visitors Bureau," from the Raleigh Convention and Visitors Bureau. The book provides a comprehensive look at the process of selling a city as a convention site or a visitor destination and explains the role of convention and visitors' bureaus.

The growing influence of meetings and travelers in the Raleigh area prompted distribution of the book to local libraries.

MURDER

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Also on Sept. 17, a woman going to her apartment on Avent Ferry Road was attacked by a man in a parking lot. Raleigh police said the man grabbed at her, pulling at her blouse, but she fought him off before he stole her pocketbook and fled.

On Dec. 16, Wake County sheriff's investigators reported a woman was raped in the Creedmoor Road area. A similar rape was reported to Raleigh Police Jan. 2 in the Avent Ferry Road area.

Police and sheriff's investigators believe that all these crimes may have been committed by one person, a white male with a small build in his 20s or 30s, possibly with a mustache.

In related events: Donna M. Deaver, who was engaged to Mathew McClure (the convenience store worker who was killed Sept. 9, 1987) testified that she had seen the man now charged with the murder of McClure, James F. "Jimmie" Pope, III, shortly before the shooting.

Ms. Deaver testified that she had seen two customers in the store when she left about 15 minutes before the shooting and that she had told police about them during interviews.

FOUNDER'S DAY

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committees for various agencies of the federal government, including Health and Human Services and Housing and Urban Development.

Dolph W. von Arx, chairman, president and chief executive officer of Planters Lifesavers Co., an affiliate of RJR Nabisco, Inc., will be the keynote speaker for the 122nd Founders' Day banquet.

Von Arx began his business career in 1959 in sales and marketing at the former Armour Grocery Products Division following four years as a Navy pilot. He became an account executive with Compton Advertising in New York, working on the Procter and Gamble account in 1962. He held senior marketing positions in Ralston Purina Co. and Gillette Co. prior to joining Lipton.

Von Arx is also a member of the board of directors of the Wachovia Bank and Trust Co. and the board of trustees of the Carolina Medicorp, Inc. He is also chairman of the Tobacco Institute Board of Directors.

The final addition to the recently completed Fine Arts Center will be used to house Saint Augustine's College academic communications program, faculty offices, a radio/television laboratory, still photographic and productions laboratory, a technical center and the facilities of the college's commercial radio station (WAUG) and the low-powered television station (WB68TV).

This facility, once completed, will ensure that those students majoring in communications are properly prepared to enter their chosen field. The college will expand and enhance its Communications Department in hopes that the program will provide both practical hands-on experience and instruction in sound communications theory.

Cost of completing the new wing is expected to be \$1.5 million. The school received a \$500,000 matching grant from the Lilly Foundation. The remainder of those funds will be raised through a three-year, \$17 million Renaissance Fund Campaign that will be officially launched soon.

Tuttle Hall renovation was completed in November, allowing the ROTC Falcon Battalion to move back into the ultramodern facilities with

adequate space and equipment.

Tuttle Hall is one of the older structures on the 110-acre campus. The building once served as the senior women's dormitory.

The facility is headquarters for the 270-member ROTC program. The Falcon Battalion is made up of students from St. Augustine's, Shaw University and Wesleyan College in Rocky Mount.

Renovation of the Penick Hall of Science is also nearing completion. This work was made possible largely through a \$775,000 matching grant from the Pew Charitable Trusts. Once completed (in March or April), students majoring in the natural sciences and mathematics will be able to pursue their majors in one of the most modern, fully equipped facilities of any institution the size of the St. Augustine's in the country.

ROOTS

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Lusaka, Zambia, Jackson asserted, "There is no cultural integrity in skin color." He said the African roots of American culture are substantial "if we are going to teach history, Western civilization, we must tell the truth."

"In our history books, there is a tremendous denial of the tragic truth of the slave trade. People tend not to know, to wipe it off. We are living descendants of this massive dislocation of people. There is a grand deletion in our history as Americans, a gaping hole in our culture. Others came to drop their chains; we were issued chains on arrival.

"There is much despair in our children, so much hope, crime, self-destruction, aimlessness. They feel unimportant to themselves. We must attempt to lift our children by power of their culture."

Politically, he became acutely aware of this need during the past election campaign when he conducted a strong drive for the Democratic presidential nomination. TV profiles of the candidates traced them back to the villages of their forebears—Ronald Reagan's in Ireland, George Bush's to England, Michael Dukakis' in Greece. Said Jackson, ironically, "With me, it was just to South Carolina, as though we started there."

Politically, he also sees the link to Africa as key to America's relations with the Third World, which is comprised of "seven eighths of the human race." If blacks had this strong cultural identity with Africa, they would have exerted a much stronger influence on America's foreign policy in which, for example, more than \$700 per citizen is given each year to Israel in foreign aid, and by contrast, about \$2 per year for every African in the Mother Country.

Also, President George Bush would never have made his first foreign policy move by declaring continued U.S. support to Jonas Savimbi, the black knife terrorist South Africa continues to hold to the jugular of Angola despite the so-called Cuban/South African/Angolan agreement that ostensibly ends the war in Angola, removes Cuban troops and sets Namibia free.

"When Reagan and Gorbachev meet, they represent only one-eighth of humanity," Jackson says. He pointed out that it was Dr. W.E.B. DuBois, founder of the NAACP, who helped give vision to the founding 70 years ago of the African National Congress. "It is the main moral dilemma of our society's existence, the number one threat—this inability of ours to come to grips with the question of race," Jackson says.

Jackson might have added that in early years (slave and beyond to the Reconstruction era), blacks called many of their institutions "African." African Methodist Episcopal Church, African Methodist Church, and had African-American societies for almost every social, religious and cultural endeavor.

Many African leaders heartily agree with Jackson. A poll in Chicago shows more than half the blacks favor calling themselves African-Americans.

Luc-Adolphus Tiso, of Burkino Faso, formerly Southwest Africa, who is the editor of that country's only newspaper, Sidwaysa, was in this country visiting on Capitol Hill recently. Although he speaks six languages—five African dialects and French—he speaks no English. Through an interpreter, however, he told NNPA, "I think it is good that black Americans now call themselves African-American."

JUDGES' BENCH

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of dereliction of duty in the death of Lance Cpl. Jason Rother. The basis for the new jury selection came because the government prosecutor improperly participated in the jury selection.

Capt. William Fisher, who is representing Sgt. Christopher P. Clyde in the court-martial, presented testimony in a hearing that it was unusual to have a lieutenant colonel and two majors on a 10-member jury at Camp Lejeune.

PLEADS GUILTY TO KIDNAP CHARGES

James N. Appleton, 46, of 163 Dark Oak Drive, Cary, a former assistant principal at Forsyth-Vanina High School, has pleaded guilty to a federal charge of receiving a sexually explicit videotape involving minors. Ap-



HEALTH BENEFIT GALA—Dr. Dolores M. Harris, of Glassboro, New Jersey, president of the National Association of Colored Women's Clubs, Inc. which covers 37 states in the nation including North Carolina; and Mrs. Johnnie Code Stewart of Spartanburg, SC, president of the Southeastern Association of Colored Women's Clubs, Inc., which covers 8 southeastern states including North Carolina, to attend their affiliate clubs, The North Carolina Federation of Negro Women's Clubs, Inc., statewide Health and Education "Benefit Gala" at the Mission Valley Expo Center, 2110 Avent Ferry Road, Raleigh, North Carolina, on Saturday Jan. 28th at 8:00 p.m. Also attending the "Gala" is Mrs. Bettye Baldwin of Chicago, Ill. The chairman of the executive council of the National Association of Colored Women's Clubs, Inc.



Prestige Club Hears Special Meeting Guest

The Prestige Club met Thursday, Jan. 19, at 1 p.m. at the home of Ms. Ruth Woodson, 901 Glascock St.

The meeting opened with welcoming remarks by President Margaret Capehart. Ms. Minnie Howard led the devotional period with an inspirational message on how God directed and led Moses and Joshua and that He will lead us through this new year if we believe and trust in Him. She closed with a prayer.

Hostess Woodson then invited everyone into the dining area where the table was laden with delicacies, including turnip greens, soufflé potatoes, vegetable-bean salad, smothered chicken, ham, croissants, apple and potato pie, ice cream and cake.

The minutes of the last meeting in November were read and approved. Committee reports were given and received. The president thanked the Social Committee, chaired by Ms. Dorothy Goodson, for their cooperation and planning for the Christmas party, which was held at the Hargett Street YWCA. They were asked to serve for another term.

After the business session concluded, the hostess asked Ms. Dorothy Goodson to take charge of the recreation session. The game played was Bare Your Pocketbook. Each person was asked to take from her purse and place in front of her the following items: a comb, an aspirin, a canceled check, a coupon, rubber band, mirror, bank statement, postage stamp, lipstick, powder puff, picture of her husband, major bank credit card, an envelope, a Bible and several other things. After counting 21 and 20 articles, Ms. Mary G. Carter and Ms. Minetta G. Eaton were declared first- and second-place winners, respectively.

At this point, the special guest, Ms. Lulu Robinson, was introduced. She gave an inclusive travelogue of her experiences recently in Greece; Cairo, Egypt; to Aswan. She stressed the black heritage and contributions from early Egyptian times showing many educational artifacts. Ms. Capehart thanked Ms. Robinson for taking time out and sharing this information. The president also thanked Ms. Woodson, the hostess, for an enjoyable afternoon.

Members present were Ms. Mamie Bailey, Ms. Rosia Butler, Ms. Margaret Capehart, Ms. Mary G. Carter, Ms. Dorothy Goodson, Ms. Nellie Harris, Ms. Minnie Howard, Ms. Mildred James, Ms. Hope Jones, Ms. Nora Lockhart, Ms. Frances Massenburg, Ms. Ruby S. McKinney, Ms. J. Ross Mebane, Ms. Katie Poole, Ms. Ernestine Saunders, Ms. Nettie Thompson, Ms. Ruth Woodson and Ms. Erdena Young. Ms. Mamie Bailey will host the February meeting.

This Week In History

THURSDAY 26 JANUARY

Playwright Victor Sejour was born in New Orleans in 1817. Between 1844 and 1870, he wrote 21 plays which were staged at the Paris Theater, where Sejour had a loyal and enthusiastic following.

FRIDAY 27 JANUARY

Although Charles White won the 1977 Heisman Trophy, he never fully realized his promise in the NFL. In 1984 he rushed for only 64 yards. But in 1987, White put his emotional problems behind him and rushed for 1,300 yards with the Los Angeles Rams, winning the NFL's rushing title.

SATURDAY 28 JANUARY

On this morning in 1968, Ronald E. McNair, the black astronaut, died on the space shuttle Challenger with his fellow crewmembers.

SUNDAY 29 JANUARY

Alonso F. Herndon, born a slave in 1862, founded the Atlanta Life Insurance Co., the nation's largest black-owned stock company. In 1986 he opened a barbershop at 66 Peachtree St. His fancy new business, which became famous, had 23 chairs, mahogany doors, bath facilities, white marble walls, and bronze electric chandeliers.

MONDAY 30 JANUARY

In 1934, opera great Madame Evanti performed for Franklin and Eleanor Roosevelt at the White House. Fluent in five languages, she was the first African-American ever to sing at Milan's La Scala Opera House. She died in 1967.

TUESDAY 31 JANUARY

Singer Josephine Baker first appeared in Paris in 1925 with the show, "Le Revue Negre." But she did not appear at Harlem's Apollo Theater until 1951. At age 45, she came with a wardrobe that filled three dressing rooms, and during her one-hour show the flamboyant singer changed costumes after every number.

WEDNESDAY 1 FEBRUARY

John Hope Franklin, professor emeritus of history at Duke University, received the Black History Makers Award from the Associated Black Charities at Carnegie Hall in 1988. He is the author of the landmark study, "From Slavery to Freedom: A History of Negro Americans," which since its appearance 40 years ago has gone through six printings.

FAA Testing Personnel Using Unique Concept

The Federal Aviation Administration and the Office of Personnel Management will test a new employment concept to qualify and process applicants for employment as air traffic control specialists in Raleigh Feb. 11.

pleton entered his plea Monday in federal court in Wilmington to one count of knowingly receiving and causing to be received in the mails a videocassette tape labeled "7 Lolita Movies." The U.S. attorney's office said in a statement that three other similar charges were dropped as part of a plea agreement.

APPEALING SUSPENSION

Reginald Frazier, a New Bern lawyer whom the N.C. State Bar Association suspended for two years, is still practicing law and is appealing the suspension. Frazier said the suspension order became effective Jan. 6, but had not been certified and he is still able to practice law. After a Dec. 21, 1988 hearing, Frazier was suspended for tampering with a witness, according to a deputy counsel for the N.C. State Bar.

LOTTERY TICKETS

A bill allowing the possession of out-of-state lottery tickets won a state Senate committee's endorsement Tuesday despite claims that it was a back-door attempt to bring a lottery to North Carolina.

Supporters said the bill would aid law enforcement officers who are too busy to enforce the current law banning the possession of out-of-state lottery tickets. But Sen. Daniel R. Simpson, R-Burke, said the bill might soften opposition to the lottery in North Carolina.

The Judiciary I Committee amended the bill to make it clear that tickets bought elsewhere could not be sold for profit in North Carolina.

PRISON CONSTRUCTION

In an attempt to alleviate prison overcrowding in the state, an emergency measure to spend \$79.1 million over the next two years on prison construction and alternative punishment programs cleared a key state Senate hurdle Tuesday.

The new personnel employment process, called MATES, will greatly reduce the time it takes applicants to receive their notice of results on the examination from its current six to eight weeks to less than three hours.

Under this concept, applicants compete on the air traffic control specialist examination in the morning and receive their results after lunch. Those applicants receiving scores equal to or higher than the scores on the certificate from which applicants are currently being hired will enter the pre-employment process immediately, i.e., interview, medical examination, psychological testing, and security.

The FAA's goal is to reduce the process to less than 45 days from the date of the test until the applicant is hired and an academy class date is assigned. According to an FAA program specialist on the regional recruiting staff in Atlanta, the present time of six to 12 months to pre-employment process applicants for hire will be a thing of the past.

The specific site for the air traffic control specialist examination will be the Army Reserve Center, 2017 W. Garner Road, at 9 a.m. Applicants wishing to compete for air traffic control specialist positions should not have reached their 31st birthday, be U.S. citizens with three years of general work experience or four years of college, or any combination of education and experience equaling three years. General experience is any responsible, progressive work experience in a full-time capacity.

The examination will be open to regularly scheduled applicants by the Office of Personnel Management and walk-in candidates meeting the criteria specified above. For further information, call Ms. Martha Buck at the Office of Personnel Management at 790-2817.

Most women experience menopause between the ages of 45 and 55. Each year, three million American women enter menopause. The nearly 40 million women now past menopause make up one-sixth of the population.

Health Cited For Pope's Resignation

North Carolina Commerce Secretary Claude E. Pope will resign his position effective Feb. 10, Gov. Jim Martin announced this week. The governor former U.S. Sen. James T. Broyhill as Secretary Pope's successor.

"I deeply regret Secretary Pope's decision to leave the Department of Commerce just at the pinnacle of the department's success," Gov. Martin said. "He has done a masterful task directing the Commerce Department and turning it into the best in the nation."

Secretary Pope cited health reasons for leaving the Department of Commerce.

"For reasons of my personal health, I foresee future difficulties continuing the rigorous duties and opportunities of this great office. It is therefore with deep regret that I must resign as secretary of commerce," Pope said. "I will greatly miss the challenge of this office and the professional staff of the department."

"The staff of the department is by far the best and most dedicated group of men and women in the country."

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