

## GOP Chairman Says Committee Winning Blacks

BY CHESTER A. HIGGINS, SR.  
NNPA News Editor

WASHINGTON, D.C.—Incumbent NNPA President Patricia O'Flynn Thomas, president/publisher of the Milwaukee Community Journal, was unanimously elected to a three-year second term of office in balloting at the recent 49th annual NNPA convention in New Orleans.

In other balloting action: Dorothy Leavell, publisher of the Gary (Ind.) Crusader newspapers, was elected to the office of NNPA treasurer.

Acting Philadelphia Tribune president/publisher Robert Bogle was elected to the board of directors; Dr. Carlton Goodlett, publisher of the San Francisco Sun Reporter, and Christopher Bennett, publisher of the Seattle Medium, were re-elected to two-year terms on the board of directors.

Bogle assumed the presidency (and the position of publisher that his predecessor, former president/publisher Waverly L.

Easley's resignation from the Tribune positions with the nation's oldest (more than 100 years old) black newspaper, became official. Easley has been the publication's president since 1980, but has served in various executive positions with the newspaper for 30 years.

Ms. Leavell also succeeds Easley in the treasurer's position.

In other board movements, second vice president Thomas Watkins, publisher of the Daily Challenge, Brooklyn, N.Y., was elected first vice president replacing Levi Henry, publisher of the Westside Gazette, Ft. Lauderdale, Fla.; and Ernest Pitt, publisher of the Winston-Salem Chronicle, was elected second vice president.

Meanwhile, in crowded chambers, the City Council of Philadelphia passed a resolution congratulating Easley for 30 years of "selfless, conscientious and dedicated service..." and "for taking the Philadelphia Tribune to new heights of achievement and expansion in the name and for the sake of the African-American community in this city."

## Pvt. Completes Basic Training

Army Pvt. Melvin E. Hagans has completed basic training at Fort Sill, Okla.

During the training, students received instruction in drill and ceremonies, weapons, map reading, tactics, military courtesy, military justice, first aid, and Army history and traditions.

He is the son of Hattie R. Hagans of Zebulon.

The private is a 1988 graduate of East Wake High School. Wendell



**RAPSTAKES WINNERS**—Al Cummings (far left), King Cobra brand manager, and Diana Gregory (far right), King Cobra product manager, congratulate the members of N Effect, a St. Louis "rap" trio that recently won the King Cobra Rapstakes competition. The King Cobra Rapstakes

contest was held nationwide to determine the best "undiscovered" rap group in the country. As winners, N Effect received the grand prize of \$5,000. Group members are (l. to r.) Tyrone Brooks, Bridgette Wells and Brandon Wells. King Cobra Premium Malt Liquor is a product of Anheuser-Busch, Inc., St. Louis, MO.

## Think-Tank Says Safety Net For Poor Can Be Created With Plan

WASHINGTON, D.C.—A health-care safety net for poor Americans can be created without the present system's runaway inflation, layers of bureaucracy, and inadequacies that have left an estimated 37 million Americans with no health insurance at all, according to a new study by an ultra-conservative Washington-based think tank.

The study, recently published by the Heritage Foundation, proposes replacing the present system of employer-provided health insurance with one in which government would continue providing medical care and health insurance for those who can't afford them, but would require all other Americans to buy basic, low-cost insurance covering catastrophic medical expenses. Furthermore, middle- and upper-income Americans would be encouraged through new tax credits to buy additional insurance directly and pay for their own routine health care.

These and other steps would control inflation in health-care costs, freeing more government funds to help poor Americans get health care, contends the 127-page study. Another proposed step would allow middle- and upper-income individuals to take their new tax credits for helping with the health-care costs of needy relatives, encouraging families "to become the second line of defense against high medical costs—behind insurance but ahead of government," the study says.

Unless the current system is fundamentally reformed, the Heritage Foundation study warns, only huge increases in payroll and income

taxes, which would unfairly burden low-income workers and slow down the economy, can save the Medicare and Medicaid programs from eventual bankruptcy. From 1978 to 1988, the study notes, the cost of the Medicaid program, which was created to provide basic medical care for the non-elderly poor, rose from \$18.9 billion to \$54.7 billion. Today, a third of the Medicaid budget goes for long-term nursing-home care for the elderly.

Medicaid should be returned to its original function, and a separate program created to provide nursing-home care for the elderly poor, says Terree Wasley, author of the chapter "Health Care for the Poor, Unemployed, and High-Risk." Medicaid would continue covering the poor elderly's acute-care costs not covered by Medicare.

The new national health system proposed by the think tank study would eliminate the tax exclusion fueling the present system of employer-provided health insurance, which, it says, offers no incentives for consumers to be cost-conscious. By using tax incentives to encourage those who can afford it to pay directly for routine medical services and in-

urance against major illnesses, the Heritage plan would give hospitals, doctors and medical laboratories incentives to control costs and improve quality.

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## Angry Parents Demand Recall Of School Annual.

WOODSTOWN, N.J. (AP)—Nearly all the yearbooks distributed to Woodstown Middle School students have been collected after angry parents called hand-drawn portraits of 17 students "offensive and demeaning," a school official said last Thursday.

The books contained black-and-white sketches of 17 students, who were not able to have their pictures taken. Five of the sketches were of white students and the rest were of black students.

Superintendent of Schools Ronald Udy said pictures have been taken for most of the students whose pictures were not initially taken and a new yearbook will be mailed to the 380-member student population. He said about 95 percent of the yearbooks had been collected.

The yearbooks were recalled after angry parents, in a letter to the school board, said they were "appalled and

upset at the blatant lack of sensitivity and obvious racism displayed by the school's staff in allowing the printing of the 1989 yearbook."

The head and shoulder drawings, which appeared in place of student photos, depicted the black students as black-faced students with white-colored lips and eyes and curly hair. A sketch of a white female student showed a white face with a black ponytail.

#### TEMPERANCE

Temperance is moderation in the things that are good and total abstinence from the things that are foul.

—Frances Willard

#### PLEASANTEST THINGS

The pleasantest things in the world are pleasant thoughts and the great art of life is to have as many of them as possible.

—Michael Montague



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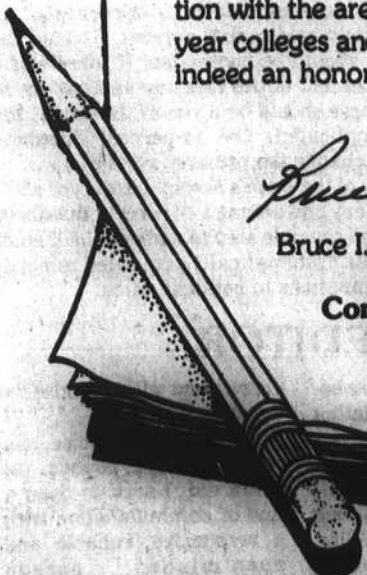
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Bruce I. Howell, President  
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## A driven woman.

Deena Daggett doesn't give up. An honor student at Cornell University, Deena has overcome major obstacles to be able to get an education. Today she's well on her way to earning her degree in Operations Research/Industrial Engineering.

General Motors has a lot of respect for people with drive. That's why we assisted Deena financially toward completing her education and gave her a challenging summer assignment with our Advanced Engineering Staff at the General Motors Technical

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