

C. Eric Lincoln Was Honored At Three-Day Meet

DURHAM—Duke University professor C. Eric Lincoln and his friend and fellow civil rights activist the late Rev. Martin Luther King, Jr. were honored earlier this month in Boston with a three-day event that included the reading and signing of Lincoln's poetry and hymns by King's family and friends.

Lincoln, professor of religion and culture at Duke and co-author of the highly acclaimed new "The Black Church in the African American Experience," based the program, "This Road Since Freedom," on his collection of poems bearing the same name. In his poems, Lincoln, who has also written hymns, scholarly books and an award-winning novel, relates black history through the eyes of a variety of characters.

During the Jan. 11-13 tributes, Lincoln was awarded an honorary degree of humane letters in a Boston University ceremony attended by the president, 60 university professors, and several hundred friends and former students from across the country. His work was also featured in a Friday colloquium at the university's school of theology.

The highlight of the weekend was the Sunday sold-out program at Boston Symphony Hall, "This Road to Freedom: The Making of a Dream."

Although the program was originally to have featured Lincoln's oratorio, "This Road Since Freedom," the musical score was not ready soon enough for the Jan. 13 performance.

Instead, Lincoln's good friends actors Ruby Dee and Ossie Davis and others read from Lincoln's poetry, King's children, Yolanda King and Martin Luther King, III, presented a reading of Lincoln's "Come Back, Martin Luther King."

Coordinated by former Duke divinity faculty member Jon Michael Spencer, the program also included the singing of Lincoln's hymns, "Prayers of Love," "How Like a Gentle Spirit," from the United Methodist Hymnal; and "Hall, Bethel," the hymn Lincoln wrote for the centennial of the African Methodist Episcopal Church. Also featured was "Kerry's Song," which Lincoln wrote last year for the wedding of Robert Kennedy's daughter and Mario Cuomo's son.

Performers for the program, which received strong reviews in Boston area newspapers, included the All Saints Ashmont Boy Choir, Boston University alumna and award-winning mezzo soprano Pamela Dillard, David Arnold, Yun Jin Kim, Dennis Rodriguez, Yolanda Maria Vasquez, and Steven Salters.

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and sister-in-law of Mrs. Graham-Wheeler. The Best Choice Center is Winston-Salem's only neighborhood community-based drug intervention, education and prevention program. The primary alternative lifestyles to at-risk youth.

Family Awarded 1.2 Million For Their Wrongful-Death Lawsuit

The family of a Queens, N.Y., girl, 13, who died following a botched abortion at a Manhattan clinic was awarded \$1.2 million in their wrongful-death suit, believed to be the largest award in the state.

The family of Dawn Ravenell, an honors student, filed suit against osteopath Allen Kline and nurse Robert Augente, both of whom worked at the clinic after the teenager died in January 1985. Court records show the girl was 21 weeks pregnant and requested confidentiality when he went to the clinic for a second-trimester abortion. General anesthesia was allegedly administered by Augente but halfway through the procedure, the young girl started to awaken, records reveal. When she began vomiting and chok-

ing, Kline and Augente inserted a breathing tube, stopped the procedure and moved her to a recovery area.

While reportedly there unsupervised, the girl began choking again and by the time personnel checked on her she had suffered a heart attack, court

documents stated. When an ambulance arrived she was already in a coma and died three weeks later at a local hospital without regaining consciousness. Parts of the fetus were reported still in the girl's uterus. Attorney Allen Kramer said his client would appeal the decision.

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In Economic Downturn Opportunities Exist

Recent headlines have been gloomy when it comes to the economy: Higher jobless rates. Slower retail sales. Slumping consumer confidence, they say.

But wrapped within all that bad news is a grain of good, one North Carolina State University economist said.

"The predictions I've seen show that, at most, the unemployment rate will rise only 8 percent. That means the majority of consumers will be affected only in a minor way. For them, a recession offers tremendous buying opportunities," said Dr. Michael Walden, a consumer economics specialist with the Agricultural Extension Service at NCSU. "And the more that consumers take advantage of these opportunities, the quicker the recession will end."

Consumers account for two-thirds of spending in the nation's economy. They drive the economy, and when they lose confidence and spend less, firms react by cutting spending and by cutting employment. That, in turn reinforces the slowdown in consumer spending, he said.

"It's a vicious circle," Walden

said. "For it to end, consumers need to spend."

The coming months may be an ideal time to purchase "big ticket" items such as cars and refrigerators, he said. Because these items don't sell well in slow times, their prices are not likely to rise.

"In fact, when dealers are nervous, they are more willing to make concessions to move these items. Consumers may see deep price cuts on these items," he said.

The latter part of the recession also could be a good time to buy a house, Walden added. Historically, this period has seen lower mortgage rates and lower house prices.

Recessions also have historically been the best time to invest in the stock market, Walden said. Traditionally, the stock market bottoms out and begins rising six months before the end of a recession. "Look to invest in the stock market in the spring or summer," he said.

"Recessions bring much gloom and doom," Walden said. "What's often forgotten is that they present buying opportunities for most people."

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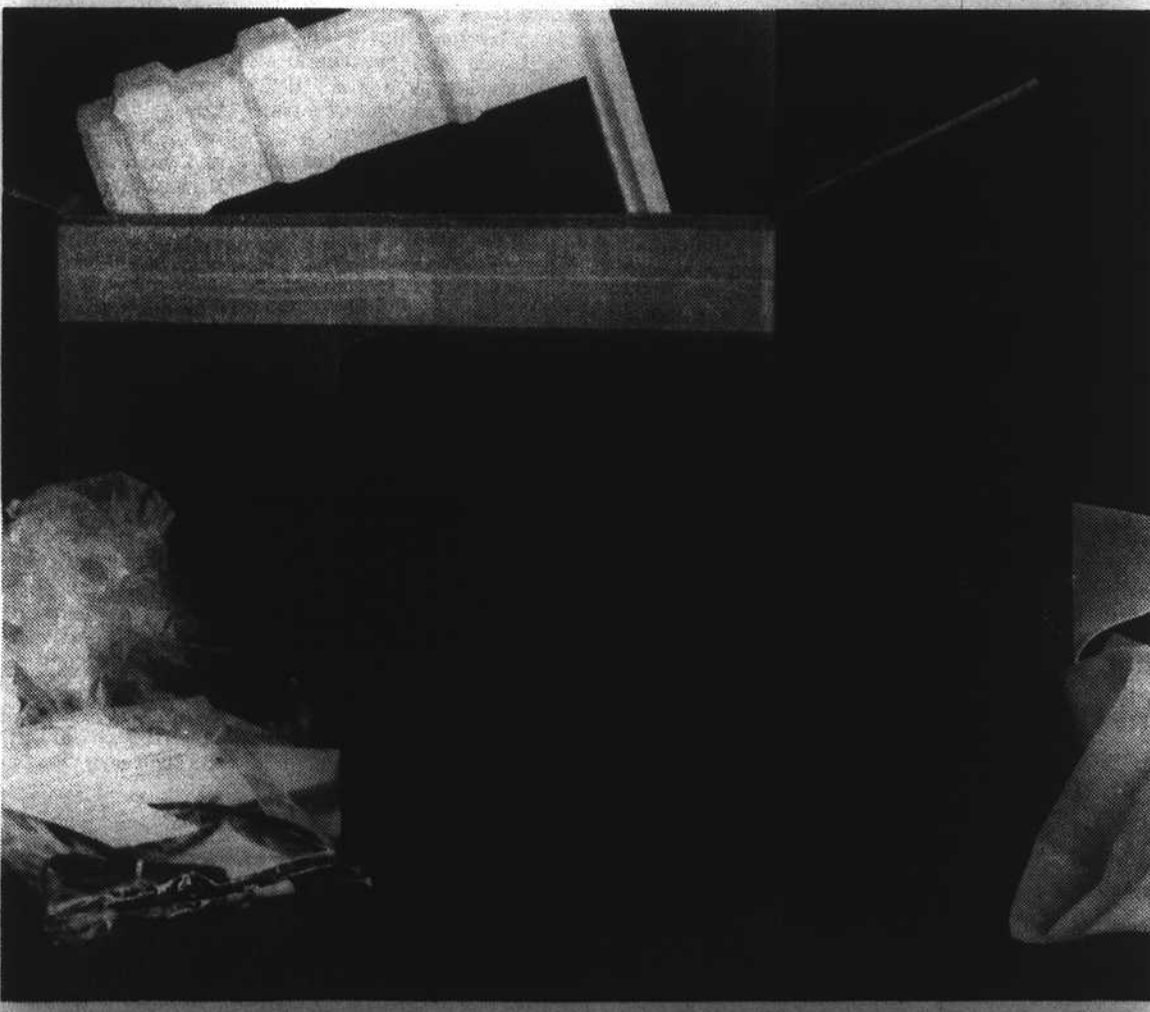
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