



Winston-Salem Chronicle

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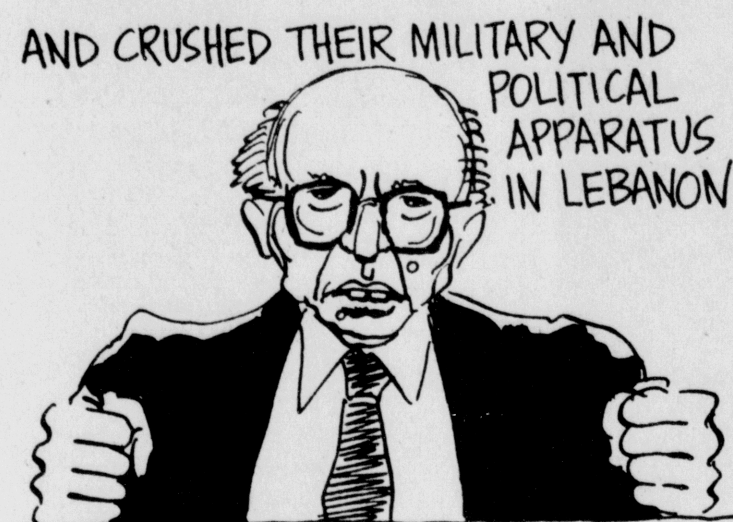
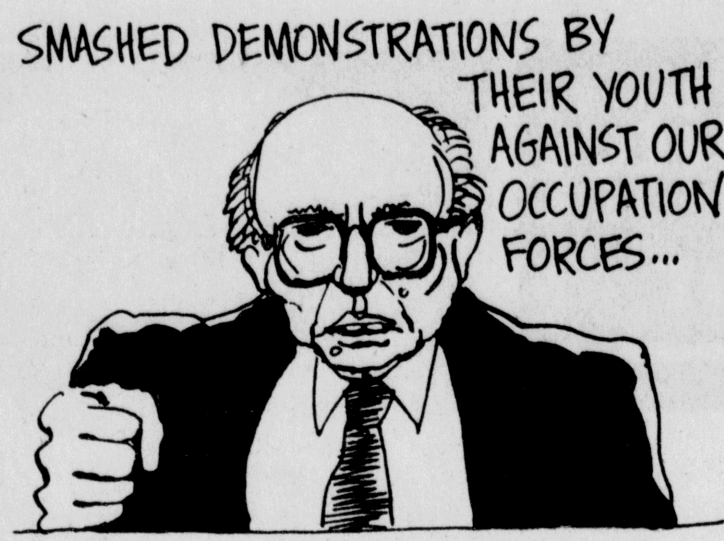
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LDF: Fighting For White Interests

This article is the third in a series.

Because of the confusion in names, the NAACP was consistently blamed for the NAACP Legal Defense and Education Fund's legal strategies and involvement in the so-called desegregation of black colleges. It was good to hear Benjamin Hooks say the two were "not in accord" on that issue. The courtroom behavior of the white-dominated Legal Defense Fund (LDF) has, because of its notion of "Romantic Racism" — a neo-racist application of slavery-time plantation racism — convoluted the meaning of integration. First and foremost, the LDF overlooks the obvious: Integration can take place with either a black or white majority. The intent of integration is not to assure everyone that blacks will always be a minority in every instance and institution — including their own. But it is not integration per se which troubles the predominantly black public colleges. It is the use, or misuse, of the LDF brand of integration which will ultimately destroy them.

The Department of Health, Education and Welfare, under the Carter Administration, goaded by a lawsuit brought 12 years ago by the NAACP Legal Defense and Education Fund Inc., gave us a modern-day nightmare. They say we're being "integrated and "desegregated." If we

and all costs.

By now, you should have realized that "black" and "segregated" are synonymous and that a social policy based on race favors whites. This social policy, called "integration," now threatens to destroy the primary source of black college graduates.

Let's look at "desegregation's" track record:

West Virginia State and Lincoln University in Missouri are textbook examples of what "desegregation" means. Formerly mostly black, they are now "integrated," which means they are predominantly white. Tennessee State University has been merged out of blackness. Norfolk State is under the gun to cease and desist as a training ground for blacks, and Langston University in Oklahoma may be closed outright if it does not become white enough soon.

Thanks to the activities of Black College Day on the last Monday in September of each year, local supporters in each of the endangered "Adams" lawsuit-states have challenged the romantic racialists' notions about making black colleges whiter. The logical extension of in-

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TONY BROWN COMMENTS

TONY BROWN



are, they are the two newest dirty words in the book.

Since the Brown decision in 1954, the words "segregation" and "desegregation" have shifted significantly in meaning. We understood "segregation" to mean a policy — often legal to separate children because of race. "Desegregation" was the answer to the cruel and racist policy; it would eliminate all racial distinctions.

"Segregated" schools today, however, mean schools with a black majority and the logic of the NAACP Legal Defense Fund is that college segregation must be eliminated at any

Father: He Dares To Be A Man

Editor's Note: The following column is a reprint of last year's Father's Day tribute by the author.

Dedicated to the memory of my maternal and paternal grandfathers, Oscar Factory and Ed Graves; my daddy, Clifton Sr.; and to all those men in history, my family, and my "extended" family, who have served as role models for this young father.

Black men in America have historically had a hard way to go.

It is a matter of record that white society's fear of the black man was the root cause for the untold number of lynchings, castrations, shootings and beatings of our forefathers and it is a matter of record (as Judge A. Leon Higginbotham ably points out in "A Matter Of Color") that many of the racist laws enacted by the early Americans were aimed primarily at the black man—laws denying him the rights to vote, own property, marry whomever he chose, etc.

Interestingly enough, many feel that same societal attitude is prevalent today. Statistics indicating the grossly disproportionate number of black men incarcerated and on Death Row, unemployed, on drugs, killed in Vietnam, killed on Saturday night, victimized by police brutality, victimized by job discrimination, etc., etc., etc., lend credence to that assertion.

Now some of you may argue that past or present societal wrongs do not justify today's black man stealing from his brother, or deserting his family. I agree. But until we fundamentally comprehend the problem, we cannot hardly begin to formulate a solution. I'm no psychologist, but I submit that within most black men who are alcoholics, dope addicts, thieves, or wife-beaters, there is an underlying frustration with a society that continually represses their ambitions; a society that even today

CLIFTON GRAVES



demands that they be boys.

It is for this reason, as another Father's Day approaches, that we need to pay tribute to black men—victims of, yet victors over America's racism.

Men who, despite the obstacles, built banks and founded colleges, raised churches and reared children, excelled in academics and athletics...men who looked America squarely in the eye and asserted boldly, "Here I stand, For I Am a Man!!!"

Yet, Father's Day is a time to honor "father figures," as well as blood relatives in our history—men like Nat Turner and Benjamin Banneker, W.E.B. DuBois and James

Weldon Johnson, Marcus Garvey and Adam Clayton Powell, Duke Ellington and Langston Hughes, Dr. Charles Drew and Judge William Hastie, A. Philip Randolph and Paul Robeson, Dr. Benjamin Mays and Dr. Carter Woodson, Martin Luther King and Malcolm X -- just a few of the many, who dared to be Men.

And then, of course, we must look to our own families. I, for one, am proud of the legacy of my great-grandfather, Neely Factory, one of the first black deputy United States marshals, appointed by President Taft in the early 1900s to serve in the Oklahoma Territory.

I also bask in the pride of having known and loved my grandfathers, Ed Graves and Oscar Factory, two kindhearted men who not only provided for their families, but who also took no mess from any man, black or white.

Then, there is my father—my namesake—to whom I owe so much. It has been his constant support, his encouragement to be the very best at what I do, that has brought me this far.

Yes, Father's Day is a time to say "Thank You" to Daddy, as well as those who have stood as "Daddy"; the brothers and uncles, preachers and teachers, coaches and counselors who have enriched our lives.

So, as a son, brother and a new father, I say thank you to those men who turned life's stumbling blocks into stepping stones...men who taught the word and led by deed.

May God bless you all this Father's Day.

Chronicle Letters

Still More Reactions To 'Sister'

To The Editor:

The Rev. Donald Wildmon has done the American television audience a service. Many viewers, who would have had little interest in "Sister, Sister," made a special effort to watch NBC Monday night from 9 till 11, to see why the Coalition for Better Television disapproved.

I am certain they found Maya Angelou's drama to be moving, interesting, intense and powerful with true-to-life situations.

The sisters are thrown back together after years and circumstances separated them. Throughout their conflicts, we can see that they are still bound by blood, envy, ambition and love.

The preacher was weak and reprehensible, but any thinking person knows that all ministers do not fall in this category. The dead father was a tyrant as well as the catalyst that motivated the turmoil. The ending was well executed.

Any family, whether black, red, yellow or white, could empathize with the Lovejoy sisters.

I thoroughly disagree with Fred Rothenberg, Associated Press television writer, who said, "The seeds are in place for a cracking drama, but it never comes off." "Sister, Sister" is a vehicle so credible that it moves through three decades with precision.

I wish to thank NBC, WXII, Channel 12, and the sponsors for daring to provide this opportunity to broaden our appreciation of Maya Angelou as a poet, writer, weaver of tales and an artist who paints with words.

Bernice Howard Davenport Winston-Salem

Displeased With Chronicle, And Angelou

To The Editor:

You owe me an apology! You had no right to print my personal letter to the publisher/owner. The letter was not sent to the editorial department. The first letter was, although you decided not to publish it. Mr. Pitt's title is listed above the editorial column as editor/publisher. When my letter was directed specifically to another person, what was it doing in your hands? You erred and I deserve an apology.

Moreover, it is unfair to publish part of a story. You know the black community will harangue me for attacking its only mouthpiece via print media. Clarify your misrepresentation of me and I will not waste my time, paper and energy writing you anymore.

According to the way you set up my personal letter to Mr. Pitt (in huge bold type, larger than any headline on the page), it is obvious that you want to generate response, thus sales. Well, here is some criticism of your raving review of "Sister, Sister." Whether you like it or not, Donald Forrester, the president of the Winston-Salem Bible College, has an important point about "Sister, Sister."

If one chooses to present the reality of a situation, particularly when it is destructive criticism of such a vital institution as the church is to black life, one must replace it with something else to give life meaning.

As a poet, Ms. Angelou's duty is to present life's reality, but also to weave stories for the culture. "Sister, Sister" is not positive for the culture. Had she ended the minister's role less negatively, the tele-drama would have been successful. She could have

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The Non-Candidates

In an attempt to acquaint our readers with candidates and issues, the Chronicle began recently to publish synopses of who's running for what and why.

Due to space and time limitations, the synopses are brief, to be sure, but they do provide a handy, informative scorecard for those of you (which we hope includes most of you) who intend to vote in the June 29 primaries.

Unfortunately, some candidates have not been as cooperative as we had envisioned. Despite repeated requests, several have neglected to provide our reporters with their platforms — although they consented to do so when initially contacted.

Others have made themselves extremely difficult to find, much less to talk to.

And still others have shrugged when approached, noting, without a hint of the embarrassment that they ought to feel, "Well, I really haven't gotten around to coming up with a platform yet."

Amazingly, these people expect somebody, somewhere to vote them into office.

We have tried to be as even-handed and ethical in our campaign coverage as possible. Even when a candidate has not bothered to submit his platform, we've invited him to do so at a later date. So far the takers among that group have at least been consistent — they still haven't contacted us.

Frankly, we thought this would be one of our easier projects. "Surely," we figured, "no political hopeful in his right mind would neglect an opportunity for a free, widely distributed, printed forum."

We were wrong.

But we thought you'd like to know that there are some candidates who care what the black community thinks about them and the issues — and there are some who very obviously don't.

We invite you to think about that before you vote.

Editor's Notebook

Single--As In Unmarried

Entries in the editor's notebook:

•As we have mentioned before, our bachelors and bachelorettes of the week have elicited far more response than we expected.

Most of that response has been from readers who would like to be included in the feature and who have called to ask for guidelines and criteria.

Well, the foremost guideline is that you be single — and that doesn't mean separated, "almost divorced" or having a serious argument with your spouse.

That means single as defined by a court of law.

The rest of the criteria are vague at best.

Thus, we've commissioned Community Affairs Editor Floria Oates to come up with more specifically defined requirements.

Upon receiving that assignment, Ms. Oates whimpered weakly for help, so, if you've got ideas, please help Floria by calling them in or writing her care of the Chronicle. We hate to hear her whimper.

•Winston-Salem State English instructor Dolan Hubbard will be leaving later this summer to study for his doctorate at the University of Illinois at Champaigne.

Hubbard, an outspoken activist who cares much more about issues than egos, will be missed sorely, a message strongly conveyed in a surprise roast sponsored by his friends and co-workers last Friday.

The legacy we hope that Dolan leaves behind is that academics and activism, by their own nature, should mix.

And we hope that Dolan takes with him our respect and best wishes.

Crosswinds

Daily Dose Of Trouble

From The Chicago Defender

We have a theory — not a bad one — that people read the disasters each morning as the newspaper arrives for entertainment. We suspect that people become conditioned to hearing, just before breakfast, the latest accounts of disasters, avalanches, rapes, murders, corruption, invasions, explosions — you name it.

The same goes for the mass interest in television. We turn on the news — usually at the dinner table — and watch the latest massacres, border disputes, car crashes, suicides. And that's for an entree.

We don't know who is "guilty" of perpetrating this. But we do suspect that the means of communication that have been invented in this country, making it possible for us to learn of the world's distress the minute it happens, haven't improved things — and have made us receptive to a daily dose of tragedy and trouble. Too bad we never came down out of the trees.

