

THE INDIANAPOLIS Recorder

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Turn to page A2 to see The Recorder's picks for the Best Pictures of 2003.

Christmas tree recycling program

Indy Parks and Recreation's Christmas tree recycling program is under way now through Saturday, Jan. 31, and includes collection sites at seven Indy Parks.

Last year, Indy Parks recycled approximately 50,000 Christmas trees, which turned the debris into much needed mulch for the city's parks.

The following parks are collection sites for the Christmas trees:

- Krannert Park, 605 S. High School Rd., north parking lot.
- Riverside Park, 2420 N. Riverside Dr., tennis court parking lot.
- Garfield Park, 2450 S. Shelby St., MacAllister Center parking lot.
- Ellenberger Park, 5301 E. St. Clair St., west of pool in main parking lot.
- Perry Park, 451 E. Stop 11 Rd., soccer field parking lot.
- Broad Ripple Park, 1610 Broad Ripple Ave., south lot, behind family center.
- Sahn Park, 6801 E. 91st St., soccer field parking lot.

GEO's 'free tutoring' billboard campaign

The Indianapolis-based Greater Educational Opportunities (GEO) Foundation has unveiled 23 billboards advertising "free tutoring."

The billboards will be found in neighborhoods across Marion County where the state has identified public schools "in need of improvement," a designation by the state indicating that student performance on test scores are not meeting state standards.

The billboard campaign is the first wave of a public awareness campaign sponsored by the GEO Foundation with funding provided by a grant from the U.S. Department of Education. GEO intends to raise public awareness around the new "No Child Left Behind" Act, a law that provides students in low-performing public schools the opportunity to choose to attend a different public school or to receive supplemental educational services such as tutoring. In Marion County, 16 schools have been designated by the state as "in need of improvement."

The GEO Foundation is a not-for-profit educational organization based in Indianapolis supporting improved educational opportunities for all children through its 21st Century Charter School, its charter school services center, and through parent education and empowerment.

County GOP chairman quits

Nearly two months after Republicans lost control of the

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Got a hot news tip?

Want to be heard?

If you would like to report any news or share your comments, call the Recorder News Hotline at (317) 924-5143 ext 300



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INDIANA'S GREATEST WEEKLY NEWSPAPER

Retrospective look at 2003

By SHANNON WILLIAMS
Recorder Editor

The last year has indeed impacted the African-American community in a tremendous way. During 2003, we have fought many battles on a local and international level, we have endured a lot of heartache and pain, as well as experienced many triumphs and joys.

In this first issue of The Recorder in 2004, we take a look over the past 12 months at all the unforgettable things that have transpired. In each section, you will receive a recap on various topics, issues, and instances pertinent to that particular section. In paying homage to those who have passed away, The Recorder's People and Trends page briefly details the significant impact that each individual made during their lifetime.

It is our hope that you enjoy reminiscing on the last year's headliners as much as we did.

Many 2003 events had impact on African-American community

By SHANNON WILLIAMS
Recorder Editor
And ERICKA WHEELER
Staff Writer

Over the last year, there have been many things that have undoubtedly impacted the African-American community - not only in a negative, but also a positive and influential way.

Locally, one of the major accomplishments that Blacks faced was Democratic control of the City-County Council. Last November's election marked the first time that Democrats took control of the Indianapolis City-County Council.

Incumbent Democrat Mayor Bart Peterson also won during the last election; beating his opponent, Greg Jordan in a landslide.

Speaking of politics, some major changes occurred in 2003 with Indiana's voting process. After 50 years of voting with the pull down lever machines, a new voting machine was implemented to provide faster, more accurate service. The M100 Optical Scan Readers were selected by state officials because in addition to counting the ballots electronically, there would also be a paper trail available for back-up.

In addition to the new machines, Indiana residents also had to adapt to a different voting ballot. The new ballot is similar to the scantron form, that many students test on. But with the new ballot came problems. Many Democrats believed the format change of the new ballot was too confusing and misleading compared to that of the previous ballot. Democrats felt that having the Republicans' campaign logo, "the A team" on each ballot was also unfair.

The two parties eventually went to court to settle the dispute. It was ordered that the slogan be removed and all ballots reprinted.

In other political news, the state of Indiana lost a powerful man when Gov. Frank O'Bannon died of a stroke while on a business trip in Chicago. O'Bannon was what many considered to be a "very humble and caring" man. His successor, then Lt. Gov. Joe Kernan, immediately and respectfully filled O'Bannon's shoes. The public was so impressed by Kernan that many state officials rallied for him to run for governor in the 2004 election race. Kernan made the announcement for his candidacy only months before the end of the year.

In April 2003, the Broad Ripple nightclub, J.Y.'s, was accused by other area club owners as catering to hip-hop crowds. The primary prob-

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Dr. Frank Johnson, who delivered Gaither quintuplets, has died

By BRANDON A. PERRY
Staff Writer

Frank Johnson Jr., M.D. an Indianapolis based physician who served as Marion County's first African-American health director and received national acclaim after the successful delivery of the Gaither quintuplets has died at the age of 72.

Johnson collapsed suddenly Christmas Eve morning and never regained consciousness. A memorial service was held for Johnson earlier this week at Light of the World Christian Church. He was laid to rest at Crown Hill Cemetery.

On Aug. 3, 1983 Johnson led a team of medical professionals who delivered the Gaither quintuplets, born to Sidney and Suzanne Gaither, also of Indianapolis. The Gaither children (Rhealyn, Ashlee, Renee, Joshua and Brandon) were the first African-American quintuplets born without the benefit of fertility drugs.

"Our team had to be creative and well-organized with this delivery, which was completed in 32 minutes," Johnson said during an interview with The Recorder earlier this year.

He also likened the experience to making a tie-breaking shot in the last two seconds of a basketball game.

Johnson and the Gaither family remained close, and the children attended his wedding party in 1995.

Johnson served as director of the Marion County Health Department from 1976 to 1992. He is credited with spearheading many of the agency's recent achievements, including the first county-wide response to the HIV/AIDS virus, the Mother and Baby Healthline to inform pregnant women of community resources, the county's first mosquito control program, and the Environmental Court, among others. Johnson also oversaw the expansion of the department's public health laboratory service and the ACTION Center (Adolescent Care Team) in our Neighborhood.

An obstetrician and gynecologist (OB/GYN), Johnson graduated from A&M College in Arkansas with a bachelor of science

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Delta Sigma Beta hosts forum on strengthening marriage, family



In attendance at the faith based community event were (left to right), Tina Gridiron Smith, Dr. Ruth Lambert, Joyce Thomas, Claude Allen, Annie Mayes, Dr. Frances Williams, Rev. Elaine Walters, Stephen DeMougin, and Rev. Robert Harvey.

By ANNETTE L. ANDERSON
Recorder Correspondent

The Indianapolis Chapter of Delta Sigma Beta recently hosted a community forum focused on strengthening family ties through networking. "I think it is so important to do as much as we can to strengthen marriages and family, which in turn will ultimately help our children," said Annie Mayes, president of the chapter.

"This is our goal, and there will be several other forums in the future, as we are committed to public service and improving our community," she said.

The faith-based event included

such local dignitaries as Olgen Williams, Christamore House; Emerson Allen, the faith-based coordinator for the city of Indianapolis; Bishop James Tyson, pastor of Christ Apostolic Church; and Senior Pastor Robert Harvey, Robinson Community A.M.E. Church. Harvey also gave the invocation at the beginning of the program.

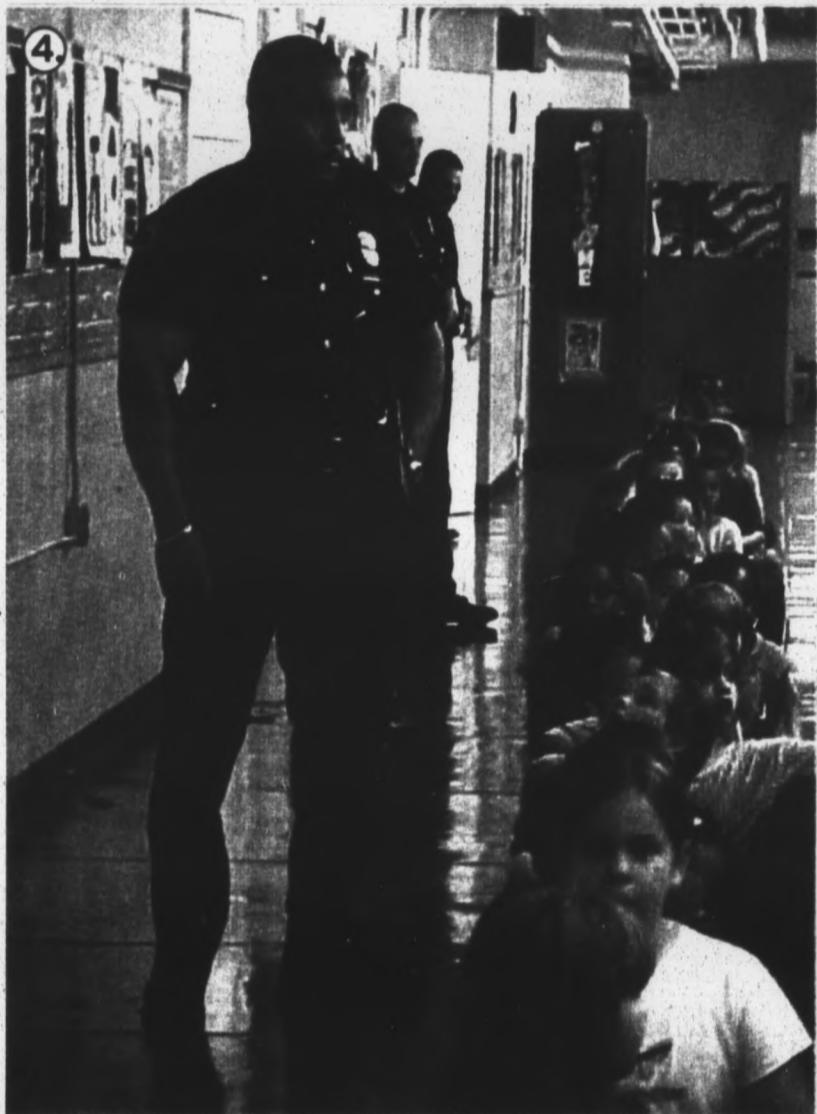
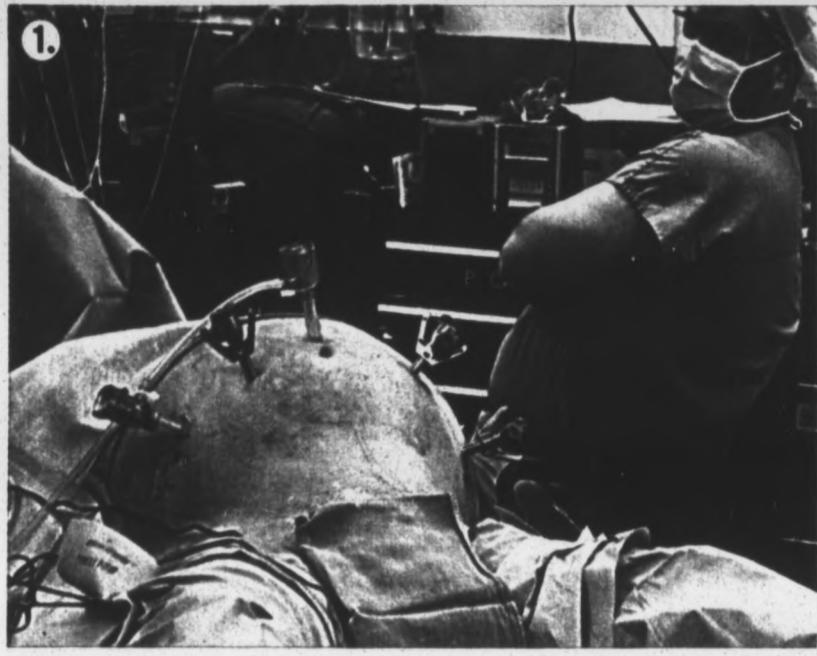
From the nation's capital was Patricia Funderburk Ware, special assistant to the assistant secretary for health, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. Joyce Thomas, regional administrator, Region V, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services,

Administration for Children and Families, out of Chicago, was also in attendance. However, the highlight of the forum was the special guest speaker, Claude Allen, deputy secretary for the Washington-based department.

Ware spoke about her personal interest in the event. "I was a divorced, single mother for 20 years, remarrying only 10 years ago," she noted. "My daughter and I lived in the inner city from when she was 10 years old to the age of 16. So, as a single mother, I knew firsthand what it meant not to have a father in the home. And I

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Best pictures of 2003



1. Clarian Health doctors recently performed over 100 di Vinci robotic surgeries. As the patient's stomach was pumped to prepare for surgery, anesthesiologist Paul Calkins made last minute preparations. (Photo/J. Hurst)

2. De Andre Williams, who attends Bethesda Temple's day care program, plays in water during a field trip to Andrew Ramsey Park. (Photo/J. Hurst)

3. Rikki Harris was a patient at St. Vincent's newly built Children's Hospital in early 2003. (Photo/E. Thompson)

4. Officer Donald Jones of the Indianapolis Police Department, east district, assisted a first grade class at Indianapolis Public School 58. Many officers visited the school to talk to students about safety. (Photo/E. Wheeler)

5. Terry Johnson was recognized by his employer Kroger's Grocery Store, for his continuous dedication and hard work. He began his career at Kroger's in 1990.

6. In 2003 Jermaine O'Neal signed a 7-year contract worth a reported \$126 million. Although he thought that Isiah Thomas was going to remain the head

coach of the Pacers, Thomas was fired and Rick Carlise was hired. (Photo/W. Thomas)

7. During Indiana Black Expo's Summer Celebrations Music Heritage I, R&B group B2K performed at Conseco Fieldhouse. Members of B2K attended many Summer Celebration activities including the Russ Parr Morning show and various Expo exhibits. (Photo/E. Wheeler)

8. Rashaad Bastick (left) and Devashia Garrett ride the kiddie swing during a neighborhood carnival sponsored by Messiah Missionary Baptist Church. (Photo/J. Hurst)

City provides opportunity for property owners to avoid sewer liens

Special to The Recorder

The Department of Public Works (DPW) is notifying private property owners by mail of delinquent sewer bills in an effort to avoid the placement of a lien on their property.

DPW will send 16,487 requests for payment totaling \$864,248.46 in unpaid sewer charges. This will be the last opportunity for property owners to keep a lien from being placed on their property, to prevent their sewer charges from being added to spring tax bills, and to avoid additional administrative fees. The average balance for these potential liens is \$52.42.

Customers who owe less than

\$11 or whose payment is delinquent for less than 60 days will not be sent letters. These charges will automatically be added to property tax bills in the spring if not paid by the end of January 2004.

The Environmental Protection Agency mandated sewer bills in 1977 to cover the cost of operating and maintaining advanced wastewater treatment plants and sewage facilities. Sewer fees are used to pay for both of the city's sewage treatment plants as well as raw sewage overflow capital improvement projects.

Placing a lien on properties is the city's last resort in an effort to receive payment. The courts have

determined that placing a lien on a property is an appropriate collection action for Indianapolis to pursue.

Other collection methods for non-payment of sewer fees that are exercised by the city on a regular basis include water service disconnection and legal action.

All payments should be sent to Indianapolis Water, the city's billing and collection agent, at P.O. Box 1220, Indianapolis, IN 46206.

Customers who would like to pay in person may go to 1220 Waterway Blvd., Monday through Friday, between the hours of 7 a.m. and 7 p.m., and Saturday, from 8 a.m. to noon.

Ray Crowe eulogized as great person and basketball coach



Ray Crowe

Hundreds of people filled the gymnasium at the now-Attucks Middle School to honor Crowe, a member of the Indiana Basketball Hall of Fame who died Dec. 20 at 88.

"He meant so much," said Robertson, who starred on the 1955 and 1956 state championship teams. "When we won games, people were able to go back to their offices and factories and brag about it at a time when Blacks were not really thought well of."

Robertson and others characterized Crowe as a disciplinarian who radiated tough love.

"He commanded respect, and he gave respect," said Hallie Bryant, who played at Attucks in the early 1950s. "He wanted you to be somebody."

Robertson, 65, who now lives in Cincinnati, remembers being the recipient of a Crowe tongue-lashing for dribbling the basketball between his legs and behind his back during practice.

"He would tell me, 'You're not a Harlem Globetrotter,'" said Robertson, who later played at the University of Cincinnati and with the Cincinnati Royals of the NBA. "He preached total discipline."

Crowe's funeral procession included a drive around Monument Circle in downtown Indianapolis, the route traditionally taken by state championship basketball teams after their victories. Attucks' championship teams never took that victory lap because of racial tensions at the time.

After retiring from teaching in 1967, Crowe was elected to the Indiana House of Representatives and later the City-County Council in Indianapolis.

(AP) — Oscar Robertson returned to his hometown last week for the funeral of the high school coach who led him to two state basketball championships.

Robertson and others recalled Ray Crowe as a sage figure who guided the team from all-Black Crispus Attucks High School through the racial tensions in 1950s Indianapolis.



2003 list of prominent people visit to Indy

(Clockwise)

1.Tavis Smiley • 2.Dick Gregory • 3.President George W. Bush • 4.Muhammad Ali • 5.Cornel West

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Rep. Davis presses Bush on Black male commission

By JAMES WRIGHTS
Special to the NNPA
From the Afro Newspapers

WASHINGTON (NNPA) — Rep. Danny Davis, D-Ill., has issued a call for President Bush to launch a national commission to study the problems of the African-American male.

Davis says that a commission is needed because of concerns that were raised at the recent Status of the African American Male Initiative that was held in Washington.

"Based upon statistical data, it is my contention that conditions relating to African-American males are continuing to decline and thereby require intervention," the letter said. "For example, the unemployment rate among African-American males is approximately 31.9 percent, which is triple the national average. African-American males make up 6 percent of the total population and account for 48 percent of the prison population."

"According to the Census Bureau, 30 percent of African-American males under 18 live below the poverty line."

Marc Morial, former mayor of New Orleans, noted at the initiative event that "Black men lead every negative aspect of almost any statistics compiled." Black men earn less, are deeper in debt, save less, are less educated, and tend to lack employable job skills, he said.

Morial's solution was for the government and the private sector to come together to solve these problems.

In the letter, Davis urged Bush to charge the commission to look at disparities in the health system, criminal justice system, school dropout rates, economic opportunities and cultural trends. Davis said, "It is our hope that the commission will identify causes and recommend both short-term and long-range policy and programmatic directions for positive change."

A commission to study the problems of Black men is not new on the state and local level. Washington has a commission to study the problems of Black men and boys in the city that was set up by D.C. Delegate Eleanor Holmes Norton, a Democrat, and is set to issue a report in 2004. Indiana, led by Jose Evans, established a commission several years ago, and has become a model for others to follow.

For example, in Indiana, each major city has a commission of activists and concerned citizens set to monitor the progress of Black men in employment, the criminal justice system and education.

BRIEFS

► Continued from Page 1

County Council for the first time since it was created in 1970, Marion County GOP Chairman John Keeler is stepping down, the Associated Press reported.

Since the Nov. 4 election, Keeler had faced mounting pressure to step aside from conservative Republicans who said he was not aggressive enough in taking on Democrats.

Keeler, whose resignation is effective Jan. 10, said he decided to resign so the party could prepare for a 2004 election season that includes races for president, governor, the General Assembly and several county offices.

With the support of the Congressional Black Caucus, the NAACP, National Urban League, the Association of Black Psychologists, the National Organization of Concerned Black Men and the National Black Chamber of Commerce, Davis has organized a group of cities where discussions will be taking place, at various times, regarding the status of Black men.

The cities are Los Angeles, New York, Chicago, Houston, Memphis, Miami, Detroit and Atlanta.

After the discussions, the CBC will issue a final report on the problems of Black men and urge the government to take steps.

Davis said that this is the only way to make Black males' lives in America more pleasant.

"We are losing far too many African-American males to drugs, gangs, homicides and an overall sense of helplessness and hopelessness. If we are to reverse these trends, special efforts must be put forth and we believe that a national look at these issues and problems could provide realistic problem-solving approaches," said Davis.

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National Urban Fellows program seeks women and minority professionals for masters degree program

Special to the Recorder

The National Urban Fellows (NUF) program is seeking minority professionals for its 34th annual fellowship class.

National Urban Fellows is a rigorous, full-time graduate program comprised of two semesters of academic course work and a nine-month mentorship, leading to a master of public administration (MPA) degree from Bernard M. Baruch College, School of Public Affairs, City University of New York.

Corporations nationwide match the funding for the program as well as offer a mentorship opportunity.

During the mentorship, fellows complete course work via distance learning. A MPA degree is awarded to fellows upon completion of all academic and program requirements.

NUF Fellowship Award and Benefits include:

- \$25,000 stipend over 14 months.
- Full payment of tuition.
- \$500 relocation allowance.
- Reimbursement for pro-

gram travel.

- \$500 book allowance.

General requirements for the program are:

- U.S. citizenship
- Bachelor's degree
- Demonstrated leadership abilities

- Meet admissions requirements of Baruch College
- High standard of integrity and work ethic

- Possess self-discipline, interpersonal and problem solving skills
- 3-5 years work experience
- Willingness to relocate

Local meetings for the National Urban Fellows will be conducted through February 2004. Meetings dates will be continuously scheduled. Applications are due Feb. 27.

Upcoming meetings include:

Jan. 26 - 6:30-8 p.m., Urban League, 777 Indiana Ave.

Feb. 9 - 6-8 p.m., City-County Building, 200 E. Washington St.

For more information on National Urban Fellows, and newly scheduled information sessions, call the Indiana office at (317) 291-6046 or (317) 955-9456 ext 2.

Over 3 million in HUD grants to aid homeless in Indianapolis



Congresswoman Julia Carson

Special to The Recorder

Congresswoman Julia Carson announced the

Department of Housing and Urban Development has awarded \$3,234,786 in federal funding for programs to help the homeless in Indianapolis.

The funds, provided

under the terms of the McKinley-Vento Homeless Assistance Act, consist of \$840,000 for the Indiana Coalition on Housing and Homeless Issues and

\$2,394,786 for the City of Indianapolis, which will, in turn, make them available to diverse projects and programs in support of the Mayor's Blueprint to End Homelessness.

The Supportive Housing

Program assists homeless providers to acquire, build, renovate and operate facilities to serve homeless families and individuals and offer homeless people the housing and supportive services they need to move out of homelessness and achieve independent living.

The \$840,000 granted to the Indiana Coalition on Housing and Homeless Issues is a new grant for supportive housing under this program and the balance of the funding renews previous grants, with the exception of new Shelter Plus Care Program funding.

The Shelter Plus Care Program provides rental assistance to disabled homeless persons through one of the following programs: tenant-based assistance, sponsor-based assistance, project-based assistance, and single room occupancy assistance. Grantees must match the rental assistance with an equal dollar amount of supportive services.

\$738,000 of the money is for new shelter plus care programming while \$41,328 is shelter plus care renewal funding.

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Big money, big names, big changes put new face on Indy education in 2003

By JOSHUA COHEN
Staff Writer

Indianapolis made great strides in improving its education system. The city attracted big names and big money in 2003.

Indianapolis braved the elements to come see Dr. Cornel West, a professor at Princeton University who previously taught at Harvard and Yale, speak at Butler University's Clowes Hall. West spoke on "Race in the New Millennium" and discussed topics like society being "market driven."

Tavis Smiley also appeared at Clowes and discussed the state of education in the country today. The Hoosier native attracted large crowds in freezing weather to hear him speak.

Indiana University named Dr. Adam W. Herbert the first African-American president of the prestigious university. Morris Brown University in Atlanta lost a president when Charles E. Taylor resigned after failing to get the school accredited. Luckily for students attending, radio jock Tom Joyner donated \$1 million to help students who previously received financial aid finish their education.



Dr. Cornel West

Joyner wasn't the only one to donate money. The Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation donated \$11.3 million to the University of Indianapolis, including \$5 million allocated to IPS, to facilitate the building of smaller-populated high schools. Studies have shown that small high schools have a much higher graduation rate than large ones.

Indianapolis reached a milestone in the African-American population attend-

ing the schools. The number of children in Indy schools rose 2.5 percent to 50,272, the first time the number has been over the 50,000 mark.

The dropout rate for these students lowered as well. A study showed the gap between Black and white high school students who drop out early got much smaller in 2003.

Head Start employees almost increased their dropout rate to 100 percent when they went on strike, demanding better wages and more privileges. They settled their contracts in a compromise with the organization.

An Indianapolis family who never finished high school decided to reverse their decision and a mother inspired her children to go back to school and work on their GED to increase their marketability and earning power, and gain lost knowledge.

I-STEP experimented with its format by putting a test online for an evaluation period. A select amount of students were able to take the exam at a computer, instead of the customary No. 2 pencil.

IPS School 27 became the first IPS Blue Ribbon school since 1985 for its vast improvement on student's I-STEP scores.

Purdue increasing housing fees by 5 percent

WEST LAFAYETTE, Ind. (AP) — Purdue University students will face an average 5 percent increase in housing fees next school year under a plan approved by the university trustees.

The standard rate for housing and 15 meals a week will be \$6,324, an increase of about \$300 over the current rate, said John Sautter, Purdue's vice president for housing and food service.

The new fees were approved during a recent Board of Trustees meeting.

Purdue's room-and-board fees rank sixth among Big Ten

universities, behind Northwestern, Michigan, Illinois, Ohio State and Minnesota, Sautter said.

Of the overall 5 percent increase, the university said 1.5 percent was a surcharge for the renovation of Cary Quadrangle that began in 2000, and 0.5 percent supported the plan for the installation of sprinkler systems in all residence halls by 2010.

"Currently West Lafayette remains significantly overbuilt," Sautter said. "The plan will upgrade our housing facilities to meet the expectations of today's students. The plan will expand the range of rate and different types of accommodations. We will continue to guarantee on-campus housing for beginning students."

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EDUCATOR OF THE WEEK

Name:
Rovel Rucker

Hometown:
Gary, Ind.

College attended:
Indiana University

Year of graduation:
2001

Began teaching in:
August, 2002

Current school:
Eastbrook Elementary School

How long:
2 years

Subject:
General studies

Grade level:
3rd grade

Why do you have the desire to teach?

I have an interest in our youth. While I know I can't help everybody, I feel like even if I reach one or two students, I'm still making a difference. I have a genuine interest in the success of students, especially African Americans.



What has been the most challenging aspect of teaching?

I want every day to be productive. Some days, I leave the classroom feeling like I didn't get my point across to my students like I wanted. It is a challenge to come up with new methods of teaching to keep

learning engaging for them.

In the future, what changes would you like to see in schools?

I would like to see educational equality across the board. Every child should have the same resources available for their education.

Vincent Ash going to Washington

Special to The Recorder

Vincent Ash Jr., a seventh-grade student at Calvary Christian School, has been accepted into the People to People World Leadership Forum. Ash will join a select group of other outstanding sixth, seventh and eighth-grade students in Washington, D.C., on March 15-21.

As a delegate, Ash will take part in daily small-group discussions, activities to build knowledge, self-confidence, commun-

cation skills and leadership abilities. He will enter America's centers of justice, legislation and history to witness how successful leaders develop strategies and foster change.

Ash will also earn high school credit while studying leadership and exploring some of the nation's most prominent monuments and institutions.

"This is a great experience for me," said Ash.

The People to People World Leadership Forum helps to prepare promising young people for opportunities and responsibilities in dealing with the nation. Debbie Goddard of Calvary Christian School nomi-

nated Ash for his outstanding scholastic merit, civic involvement and leadership potential.

His participation will rank him among the elite in academic and career pursuits. Ash is a member of Agape Apostolic Faith Assembly where he sings in the choir and serves on the usher board.

Financial contributions to help support Vincent's trip for housing, meals, materials, supervisory personnel, activity transportation and other expenses can be mailed to 2301 Riverside Drive, Indianapolis, Ind., 46208.

You can also call (317) 635-4061.

PLUMBER-STEAMFITTER PIPE TRADES APPRENTICESHIP

The Plumber-Steamfitter J.A.I.C. will accept applications to their apprenticeship program as the Local 440 Union Building, 3747 South High School Road, Indianapolis, Indiana at 1:00 p.m. on the following dates.

Monday thru Friday, Feb. 9 - 13

Monday thru Friday, Feb. 16 - 20

Applicants must be on time to receive program information as a group. Applicants must be 17 years of age or older to apply, and 18 years of age prior to being indentured by J.A.I.C. and be a high school graduate, or have a GED certificate.

Qualified applicants will be required to furnish a copy of their birth certificate and driver's license, copy of their high school diploma or GED certificate, and an official transcript of their high school grades at a later date.

Applications will be taken on the dates listed above, however, there are no immediate openings at this time.

This is an equal opportunity program.

2-9

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Homelessness on rise in U.S.

By HAZEL TRICE EDNEY
NNPA Washington Correspondent

WASHINGTON (NNPA) - Despite recent reports of an improved economy, hunger and homelessness are on the rise, according to a study of 25 major cities by the U.S. Conference of Mayors.

"This survey underscores the impact the economy has had on everyday Americans," says conference president, Mayor James E. Garner of Hempstead, N.Y. "The face of homelessness has changed and now reflects who we least suspect."

For example, 61 percent of people requesting emergency food assistance in the cities surveyed held jobs.

The annual "Hunger and Homelessness Survey," released in late December, reports that requests for emergency food assistance increased by an average of 17 percent over the previous year, and requests for emergency shelter assistance increased by an average of 13 percent.

"It is disheartening and disturbing to learn that so many of our fellow Americans are in desperate need of shelter, food, clothing and the other basic necessities of life," says Richard Macedonia, chief operating officer for Sodexho U.S.A., a leading provider of food and facilities management in the United States. "In nearly every major U.S. city, the problem of hunger and homelessness is steadily growing."

The survey was released only days before the U.S. Department of Commerce released its third and final estimate of the nation's economic performance for the third quarter of 2003. The agency estimated that the gross domestic product (output of goods and services) grew by 8.2 percent in the three-month period that ended Sept. 30, more than doubling the growth rate of the previous three months. The unemployment rate also held steady in

November at 5.9 percent with a 1.3 percent drop in the Black rate from 11.5 to 10.2 percent.

Yet, there was little to cheer for during the holiday season.

Among the most glaring trends was an 11 percent leap in families with children requesting food, from 48 percent in 2002 to 59 percent in 2003; a record 56 percent of cities having to turn people away without help from food assistance programs, up 24 percent over the previous year and the highest percentage since six years ago when 71 percent was recorded; and a record 84 percent of cities having to turn away people from homeless shelters because of lack of space, up 38 percent over 2002 and the largest percentage in seven years.

The conference is the official organization of U.S. cities with populations of 30,000; there are 1,139 cities in that category. The 25 cities that participated in the survey were Boston; Burlington, Vt.; Cedar Rapids, Iowa; Charleston, S.C.; Chicago; Cleveland; Denver; Detroit; Kansas City, Mo.; Los Angeles; Louisville Metro, Ky.; Nashville; New Orleans; Norfolk, Va.; Philadelphia; Phoenix; Portland; Providence, R.I.; Salt Lake City; San Antonio, Texas; San Francisco; Santa Monica, Calif.; Seattle; Trenton, N.J.; and Washington, D.C.

The data was collected from the cities between Nov. 1, 2002 to Oct. 31, 2003. Among other findings:

• Twenty cities reported that unemployment and unemployment-related problems were the leading causes of hunger. Overriding causes of hunger in 13 cities were attributed to low-paying jobs and in 11 cities, rising housing costs.

• More than half of the cities - 56 percent - reported that people in need were turned away with no help because of lack of food and resources. More than 14 percent of the requests for emergency food assistance are estimated to

have gone unmet over the past year.

• Fifty-nine percent of those requesting emergency food assistance were members of families with children.

• Twenty-three cities said the lack of affordable housing contributed to homelessness. Other major causes included low-paying jobs, lack of needed services, mental illness or substance abuse problems.

• Eighty-four percent of the cities reported that emergency shelters have turned away homeless families because of a lack of resources. More than 14 percent of the requests for emergency food assistance are estimated to have gone unmet. Fifteen percent of the requests from families were not met.

• People remained homeless for an average of five months in the survey cities with 60 percent of the cities reporting that the length of homelessness increased over the past year. Single men made up 41 percent of the homeless population, families with children made up 40 percent, single women, 14 percent and independent youth, 5 percent.

Robert Forney, president and CEO of America's Second Harvest, the nation's largest hunger-relief organization, says carrying the load has not been easy.

"We are hopeful that this will spur the president and Congress to renew and strengthen our national fight against child hunger in America," Forney says.

The mayors' conference say that even with an improving economy more than 80 percent of the cities expect that requests for emergency food, assistance and shelter will increase in 2004.

"These are not simply statistics," says Nashville Mayor Bill Purcell, who co-chairs the Conference's Task Force on Hunger and Homelessness. "These are real people who are hungry and homeless in our cities."

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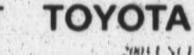
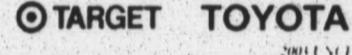
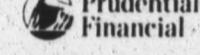
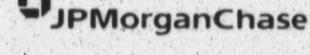
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PRUDENTIAL

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EDITORIAL

African Americans still need to become more united

By SHANNON WILLIAMS
Recorder Editor



In writing this first editorial of 2004, I'm amazed at how quickly the last year has come to a close. I guess time really doesn't wait for anyone.

Over the last 12 months, there have been a lot of accomplishments and disappointments within the African-American community. Blacks across the country have progressed in a lot of ways, yet as a whole, there are many areas that we can improve on significantly.

One of the first things I discussed in my initial editorial of 2003 was how Blacks need to become more united. Unfortunately a year later, this is still something that needs to be addressed.

Our race is one of only a few others that is so divided. It amazes and scares me how we hastily tear one another down without attempting to resolve any conflicts or even discuss compromises. African Americans not only tear each other down on a personal level, but also socially and professionally. It's a shame at how trivial we can be. As a complete entity, we have got to become more united. If not, the results will be even more detrimental than they have been in the past.

Another area Blacks need to improve on is self-motivation. I'm so tired of seeing people not maximizing their full potential. As an adult it is your prerogative to be responsible for yourself and your dependents. There is no reason why anyone who has the mental and physical capabilities should not provide for themselves and their family. Don't get me wrong, I totally understand that different circumstances occur and situations vary from person to person, but generally speaking more Blacks need to become self-sufficient. It is my sincere hope that during the next year, we will all initiate a positive change within our own lives.

The condition of our public school system was a concern of mine in 2003. Although it has been slow, I do recognize some positive changes with our urban schools. Something that will aid in the reconstruction of the public school system is to get more qualified teachers to teach our children. But the responsibility doesn't stop there. Parents need to take more of a proactive role in their child's education. Educating the youth is a joint effort that shouldn't fall on only one pair of shoulders, we all need to collectively contribute to the enhancement of our children.

The number of Black men in prison still surpasses that of any other race. Most of our brothers are incarcerated for selling drugs, robbery or murder. The distribution of drugs along with the robbing and even killing of people is most often done to another Black person. This fact only illustrates what I said previously as far as tearing one another down. We need to stop looking for the easy way out in life. Rather than selling drugs these criminals should have been working a legitimate job. And who gives anyone the right to take the life of another human being? When we stop trying to play God, we'll be much better off.

Other issues of concern that I have, but won't dig too deeply in are the teen-age pregnancy rate, the lack of visible community leaders and the increase in the AIDS epidemic. All of these issues are of major concern and should be further addressed, but since I'm writing an editorial and not a book, I'll leave it for you guys to ponder on. In future editorials, I will address each of these. Hopefully it will impact someone to make smarter decisions for themselves.

Call me the optimist, but I do believe a cohesive change can be made for African Americans. We just need to make it.

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(317) 924-5143
P.O. Box 18499, Indianapolis, IN 46218-0499
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JUST TELLIN' IT

Final look back at a momentous year

By AMOS BROWN III



In 2003, Indianapolis' economy, which had been the state's bulwark, weakened. There was the Iraqi war, a conflict unpopular in our African-American community.

But the biggest event was the power struggle between Democrats and Republicans in Indianapolis as Republicans stretched, strained and broke the law desperately trying to maintain their hegemony over the unified city/county government they created 32 years ago.

The year 2003 began with the Republican-controlled City-County Council trying to implement a partisan council redistricting plan, over Mayor Bart Peterson's veto. In an unprecedented mass trial, all 29 Marion County Superior Court judges tried to decide the issue.

At the trial, Republicans testified that Indianapolis is a heavily segregated city, even though 37 percent of Indianapolis' Blacks live in a white-majority neighborhood; and despite a January 2003 University of Wisconsin/Milwaukee Journal Sentinel study and Milwaukee Journal Sentinel articles documenting that Indianapolis is America's eighth most integrated city.

Instead of applying the law, the Republican majority-judges OK'd their party's redistricting plan. The battle moved to the Indiana Supreme Court, which unanimously reversed the Superior Court's partisan decision. To the politicians' chagrin, the state Supreme Court drew new council districts and ordered elections.

Marion County Clerk Doris Anne Sadler set a new nadir for elected officials. Under her supervision, numerous state election laws were broken as polling places in Black neighborhoods opened hours late; precinct officials refused to let a

The Republican Party, after receiving only 8 percent of the African-American vote in the 2000 presidential election, has established a goal of winning 25 percent of the Black vote in next year's contest.

Instead of making that announcement when most people were preparing to make their New Year's resolutions, the GOP should have delayed that announcement for three months. Then, it would be clear that this was some sort of April Fool's joke.

What has George Bush done to quadruple his Black support? Let's ignore the rhetoric and look at the record.

First, Bush pledged during his 2000 campaign that he would govern as a compassionate conservative. As has been observed, he has been compassionate toward conservatives. For example, most of his tax cuts benefited the wealthy, the majority of whom vote Republican. Meanwhile, Bush did not seek to fully fund his No Child Left Behind education law, he has proposed changes in programs such as Head Start that will be detrimental to Black children, and the president has no significant domestic policy that will uplift African Americans.

Bush had a chance to show some compassion by supporting affirmative action in a pair of University of Michigan cases that came before the Supreme Court in 2003. Instead, Bush ordered his solicitor general to oppose the cases and had the

Black candidate vote and counting absentee ballots took days. But, Sadler's most odious election action was trying to affix the Republicans' fall campaign slogan "the A Team" on every ballot.

Last week, Sadler gave Christmas bonuses to her underpaid employees, though the bonuses could've been larger if Sadler hadn't squandered hundreds of thousands hiring lawyers to defend her illegal election actions.

Despite the Republicans' lying and cheating, Democrats captured the council's majority, garnering nearly 13,000 more council votes than Republicans, with a record 10 African Americans elected to the 29-member council. Mayor Bart Peterson was re-elected in a Hudnut-like landslide while Lawrence elected Deborah Cantwell its first Democratic mayor, humiliating Tom "Jack Cottey's boy" Schneider.

In a direct slap to our community, Republican Neanderthal Councilman James Bradford wanted hip-hop and Black music banned from Broad Ripple nightclubs. Despite Bradford's bluster, Broad Ripple's clubs now regularly feature hip-hop.

President George W. Bush spoke to a virtually all-white crowd at the State Fairgrounds, located in the Black community. The president's visits were part of Republican efforts to win the governor's office and gain legislative control behind the candidacy of Bush's budget czar Mitch Daniels.

Joe Kernan's refusal to run for governor and Daniels' candidacy put Democrats on the defensive. State Sen. Vi Simpson vied to be Indiana's first woman governor while former state and national Democratic Party head Joe Andrew wanted socialite Bren Simon as Indiana's first woman lieutenant governor.

Simpson, Andrew, Simon and Democrats were facing political Armageddon when God intervened.

The sudden death of Gov. Frank O'Bannon, the first in office in 112 years, radically changed Hoosier politics.

Within one month, Simon dumped Andrew at the political

altar and a woman, Kathy Davis, was sworn in as lieutenant governor.

And the man who had said no, said yes.

Moving into the governor's chair with verve and energy, Joe Kernan swiftly united Democrats and enters 2004 ready to stand up to the Daniels' juggernaut; though the dark clouds of scandal and mismanagement will dog Kernan's year.

Last year saw some firsts and new African-American leaders emerged.

Dr. Adam Herbert became the first African American to head namesake Indiana University or any state university.

Former Evan Bayh aide David Lewis became clerk of courts, the first African-American statewide elected official since Attorney General Karen Freeman-Wilson.

Nathaniel Jones became Pike Township's first Black school superintendent, Dr. Patricia Maryland now runs the St. Vincent Hospital system and a former Black college president, Dr. Bernard Franklin is a top NCAA senator vice president.

Larry Bird returned to the Indiana Pacers as head of basketball operations and weeks later coach Isiah Thomas was fired. If Bird had been visible in our community, the firestorm of anger and disappointment by Blacks over Isiah's firing wouldn't have been as pronounced.

Last week, Thomas returned to basketball running the New York Knicks (talk about jumping into fire), while Bird still isn't visible in our Black community.

In media, haughty, insensitive Indianapolis Star Editor Terry "your community didn't grow enough" Eberle was replaced by Dennis Ryerson. While the personable Ryerson's been visible in our Black community, Blacks are becoming invisible in Ryerson's newsroom with sports columnist J. Jemal Horton's departure, top Black editor Leisa Richardson demoted to bureau chief.

In television, only one Black was hired this year for any on air position at Indy's four top TV stations and investigative reporter Sandra Chapman left WISH-TV/

Channel 8.

Indy Jazz Fest was rescued by the American Pianists Association which banned Black-owned radio and TV from the event. The result; record poor jazzfest attendance.

In an insult, the Indianapolis Museum of Art cancelled Africafest on the flimsiest of pretexts, and the Children's Museum is building an ugly four story parking garage in its neighboring Black community.

Besides the beloved Frank O'Bannon, we lost other community lions in 2003.

Just last week, we lost Spurgeon Davenport, who held many "firsts," including the title "first" chief, in a distinguished Indianapolis Police Department career; and Dr. Frank Johnson, the consummate health professional, former Marion County health chief and the Gaither quints' doc.

We also said goodbye to Jim Sears, first African-American Indiana State Police officer; Carl Stubblefield, Indy's first African-American television reporter; community builder Carl Lile; religious leader Dr. F. Benjamin Davis; renowned former Attucks High School basketball coach Ray Crowe and our community's "go to guy" Urban League President Sam Jones.

Changing demographics and lack of African-American interest in inner city institutions killed the Fall Creek YMCA along with indifference from a YMCA system seemingly more concerned with serving suburban whites than inner city Blacks.

Will 2004 be a better year? It will be challenging as the Iraqi war's casualties increase. A bitter, angry election year looms as Indiana's weak economy and anemic tax receipts hampers needed decisions locally and statewide.

Hang on, 2004 will be a wild ride.

See ya next week.

Amos Brown's opinions are not necessarily those of The Indianapolis Recorder. You can contact him at (317) 221-0915 or e-mail him at ACBROWN@AOL.COM.

Republicans are trying to 'fool' Blacks

By GEORGE E. CURRY
NNPA



The Republican Party, after receiving only 8 percent of the African-American vote in the 2000 presidential election, has established a goal of winning 25 percent of the Black vote in next year's contest.

Instead of making that announcement when most people were preparing to make their New Year's resolutions, the GOP should have delayed that announcement for three months. Then, it would be clear that this was some sort of April Fool's joke.

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Bush had a chance to show some compassion by supporting affirmative action in a pair of University of Michigan cases that came before the Supreme Court in 2003. Instead, Bush ordered his solicitor general to oppose the cases and had the

insensitivity to announce his decision on Dr. Martin Luther King's birthday. That's a strange way of showing compassion.

Conservative Supreme Court with seven of its nine members appointed by Republican presidents - upheld the concept of affirmative action in the case involving the University of Michigan's Law School. And true to form, Bush praised the virtues of diversity after the ruling while neglecting to point out that his position would have made that goal more difficult to achieve.

In a move that will make courts of the future more likely to reflect his politics, Bush has packed the federal courts with right-wing judges. One of them, Janice Rogers Brown, is so far out of the mainstream that she is a frequent dissenter on the Republican-controlled California Supreme Court. Bush wants to elevate her to a seat on the U. S. Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia.

The Black conservative is so extreme that the white chief judge in California, also a Republican, says she minimizes the harm of racial discrimination in order to make political points.

Bush has displayed his disdain for Black America by meeting only once with members of the Congressional Black Caucus, despite repeated requests for meetings. Like them or not, Black members of Congress were fairly elected by voters - and that's more than we can say about Bush. When Bush thumbs his nose at them, he thumbs his nose at all African Americans.

By disrespecting authentic Black leaders, Bush seems to be subscribing to the thinking of Newt Gingrich, the former House speaker. In 1983, Gingrich said, "It is in the interest of the Republican Party and Ronald Reagan to invent new Black leaders, so to speak..."

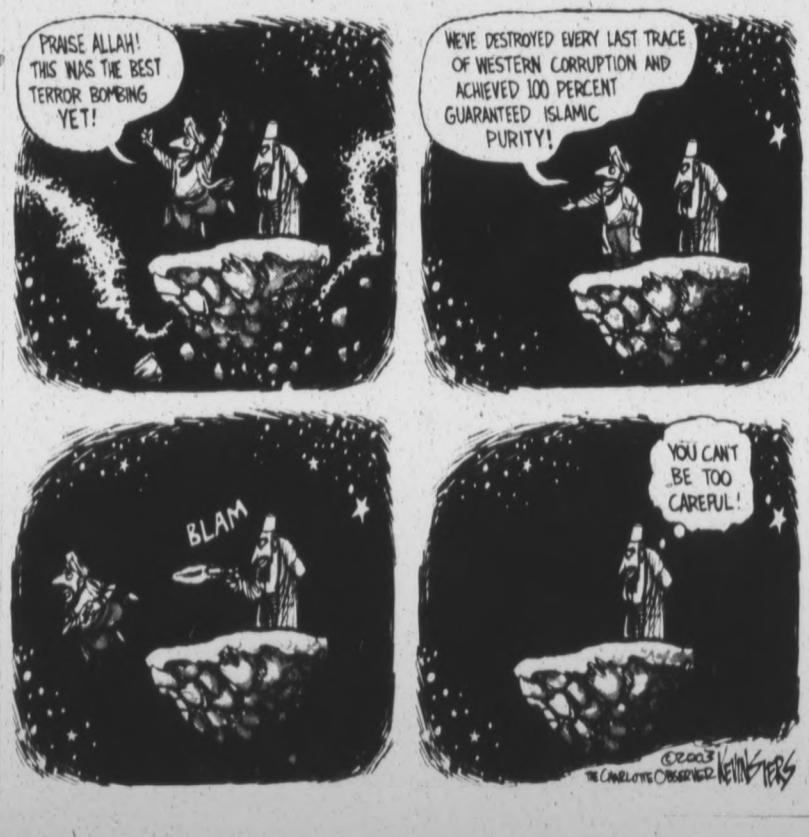
The GOP has "invented" sev-

eral Black front organizations that they are propping up with money. But money can't buy credibility and these groups that oppose affirmative action and favor school vouchers have little, if any, influence on African-American thought.

In one sense, Bush's problem is a GOP problem. Republicans have established a clear record of hostility toward the interests of African Americans, yet they want to dupe us into believing that they are our friends. That's an insult to our intelligence.

One of the best barometers of legislative support for issues important to Black America is the NAACP's annual report card on civil rights. Year after year, it is difficult to find Republicans in the House or Senate who earn a C-grade or higher on civil rights. Most earn Ds and Fs.

But Bush and the GOP don't want us to get confused by the facts. So they are targeting young



YOUR VOICE

What are your New Year's resolutions for 2004?



Denise Hughes



Sam Cox



Minister Brenda Shaw

"In 2004 I hope to find a more fulfilling, better paying job, quit smoking cigarettes and move into a nice house."

- Denise Hughes

"I would like to live a more healthy life and be a better role model to young men in our community."

- Sam Cox

"My goal is to simply conduct personal ministry because I'm always putting out for others. I need to take care of myself spiritually to better take care of others."

- Minister Brenda Shaw

Money down a sinkhole in GOP's ad push for Blacks

By EARL OFARI HUTCHINSON



The Republican National Committee didn't say how much it would spend on its new ad and promo campaign on Black radio stations and newspapers to woo Black voters. But whatever it spends it'll be money wasted. President Bush's efforts to reach Blacks have failed miserably and for good reason. He has repeatedly turned down requests by the Congressional Black Caucus, and civil rights leaders to meet. For the past 30 years, they, and not the Black conservatives that Bush and the Republicans delude themselves speak for Blacks, have fought tough battles in the courts and the streets for voting rights, affirmative action, school integration, an end to housing and job discrimination, and police abuse. They are the ones who accurately capture the mood of fear and hostility the majority of Blacks feel toward Bush.

But Bush has done more than cold shoulder Black leaders and elected officials. He refuses to prod Congress to free up the billions he promised in his State of Union address last January to combat AIDS in Africa. He refuses to support tougher hate crimes legislation, and has been mute on the fight against racial profiling. He backed the white students in their effort to torpedo the University of Michigan's affirmative action program, and he tried to ram rod Congress to confirm a wave of racially insensitive, ultra conservative appointees to the federal appeals court.

His appointments of Colin Powell, Condoleezza Rice, Rod Paige, and Alfonso Jackson to high-ranking administration posts have not resulted in his promised racial remake of the Republican Party. The devil's bargain that GOP presidential contender Barry Goldwater struck with the South in 1964 assured the unshakeable loyalty of white Southerners. Goldwater blasted civil rights demonstrations, opposed the 1964 Civil Rights bill, and promised to slash big government. This open pandering to Southern fury over integration resulted in the wholesale stampede of Southern whites into the Republican Party.

The Democratic Party became the hated symbol of integration, and civil rights.

Republican Presidents Rich-

ard Nixon, Ronald Reagan, and the elder Bush excised Goldwater's naked race-baiting appeals, but railed against welfare, crime in the streets, permissiveness, and quotas. This was racial code speak and Southern whites got the point.

Before Secretary of State Colin Powell mildly dissented from his bosses' opposition to the University of Michigan's race-based affirmative action program, he criticized his former bosses Reagan and the elder Bush for not showing more sensitivity on racial matters. This has resulted in a huge and consistent vote bonanza for the Republicans in the South since the 1960s.

It won't change in 2004. Polls show that white males by big margins favor Bush over any Democratic challenger and that includes North Carolina Sen. John Edwards.

The GOP, however, does not repeatedly fumble on its periodic public relations stab at bagging more Black votes because of a cold, calculated, and obsessive political hunt for white male votes.

Many Republicans still swallow the myth that Blacks are cradle-to-grave Democrats, and believe that no matter what they do it won't change. Though the few places that the GOP has done more than mouth platitudes about diversity and minority outreach and softened its hard line hostility to civil rights and social programs, and made a real effort to reach younger voters most notably in 2002, it has scored some successes.

In 2002, it elected two Black GOP lieutenant governors in Maryland and Ohio. Also, Bush's pet programs of faith based charities, school vouchers, minority business and homeownership, increased funding for historically Black

colleges, and his approval of an African-American Museum could resonate with more than a handful of Blacks. Polls have shown that many younger Blacks are more politically conservative, if not down right indifferent, and hostile to the Democrats, whom they lambaste for tucking the Black vote in their hip pocket and saying and doing as little as possible on racial issues for fear this will stir up white among the NASCAR dads by reinforcing the old perception that Democrats tilt toward minorities.

Despite this slight political window opening for the GOP, not a single Black Democrat or Black critic of the Democrats has yet broken ranks and called on Blacks to back the GOP. And of the nearly 4,000 blacks that the Joint Center for Political and Economic Studies, a Black think tank, lists on its roster of Black elected officials only 50 are Republicans. That number isn't likely to get much bigger in 2004.

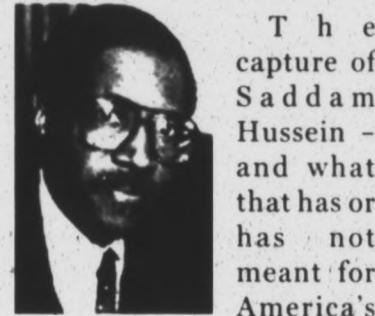
During the 2000 presidential campaign, the Republican Party had a once in a lifetime chance to snatch the political and ideological blinders from the eyes of Republican leaders and bury the notion that the GOP is nothing more than a cozy, good ole' white guys club. Republicans have so far badly squandered that chance. A few splashy ads and promos on Black radio and newspapers won't change that. It's just money down a political sinkhole.

Earl Ofari Hutchinson is a noted author of nine books about the African-American experience in America. He is a radio host and TV commentator. His Web site is thehutchinsonreport.com.



Saddam tests Dean's anti-war position

By RON WALTERS
NNPA



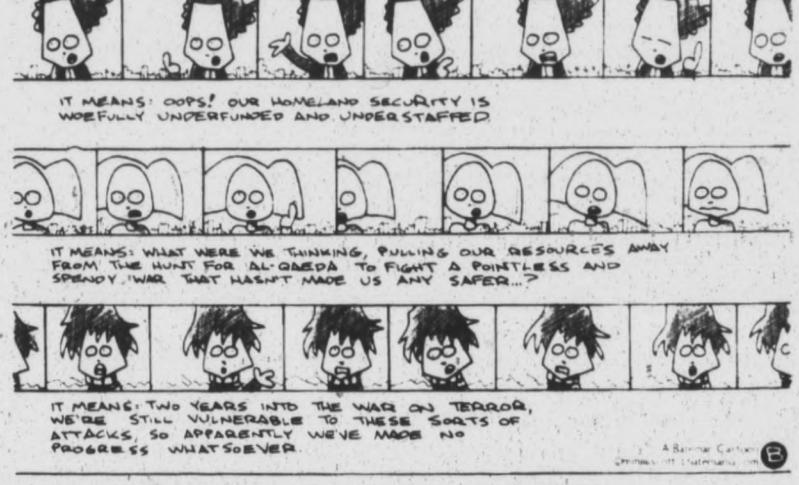
The capture of Saddam Hussein - and what that has or has not meant for America's security -

has highlighted Democratic front-runner Howard Dean's role as the most outspoken major candidate against the war.

He solidified that position by launching a major foreign policy speech on the day after Saddam was found in a hole near his hometown in northern Iraq.

Dean was immediately attacked by candidates John Kerry and Joseph Lieberman, each of whom tried to paint Dean's anti-war position as reflecting a lack of experience. Lieberman was particularly shrill, saying that Dean's position would have left Saddam Hussein in power. So what? It's not like there are not dictators in other countries. Neither Bush nor Lieberman has proved that there was an urgent need to remove Hussein from power, despite the fact that he was a despot.

Let's be candid. Saddam Hussein's actions in his own country were not the real reason that Bush invaded Iraq. Many critics have concluded that the control of Iraqi oil was the primary objective of the invasion. That suspicion has been heightened by the Bush administration's decision award post-war contracts in

ORANGE ALERT:
WHAT DOES IT MEAN?

A Barnes Cullen
Cartoonist in Indianapolis

Iraq only to U.S. companies.

So, the fact that Saddam was a despot - as bad as that was - is beside the point. The crucial issue wasn't that Iraq possessed weapons of mass destruction, if that was really the case. And Bush has yet to convincingly link Hussein to the 9/11 terrorist attacks on the United States.

But Lieberman and Kerry don't get it. Their position is roughly the same as Bush's. And that's been the main problem with the Democratic Party lately on so many issues. With so little difference between Democrats and Republicans on some issues, it's not surprising that some voters are reluctant to embrace the party out of power.

Lieberman chastises Dean for moving away from the Clinton policy of being pro-corporate and pro-military defense establishment. But how can the Democratic Party hold these positions and at the same time support labor and social programs that help the poor and disadvantaged? As much as they hate it, Democrats must make a choice.

During most of the campaign, Democrats have presented a unified front by attacking George W. Bush. Party officials, eager to win next November, had urged can-

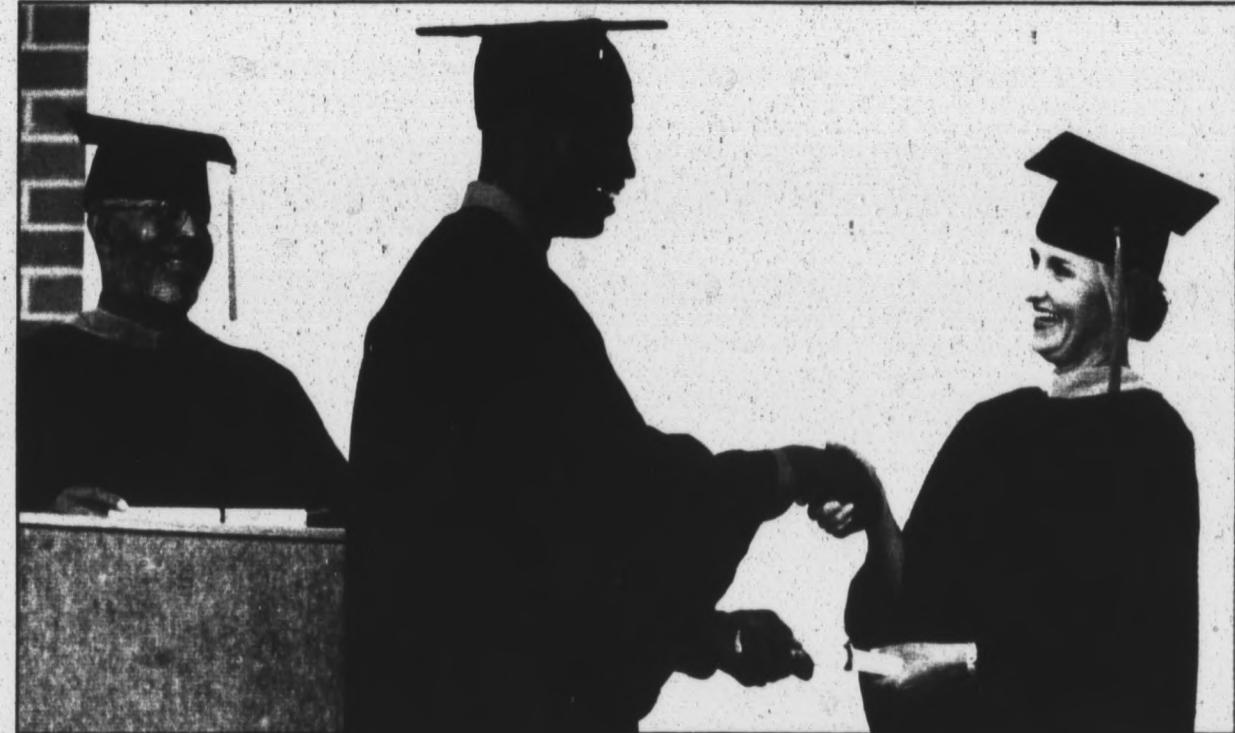
didates not to destroy each other during the process of picking a nominee. But the capture of Saddam Hussein has changed all of that.

In an odd way, an international issue is forcing candidates to reveal what direction they favor on the domestic front.

At this point, the invasion of Iraq is still popular with 60 percent of the American people in general. But slightly more than half of the Black community disapproves, according to a recent Time magazine poll. Bush can campaign on the war and is even getting a bump for the capture of Saddam Hussein.

It is clear to me that the Bush and Karl Rove will try to arrange the timing of Saddam's trial to create the theater to coincide with the peak of the re-election campaign. Democrats, however, will be tested to drive Bush's ratings down by telling the truth to the American people. They should campaign on it, lose on it, if they must, but stand tall as the loyal opposition, rather than as me-too, pandering sycophants.

Ron Walters is the Distinguished Leadership Scholar, director of the African American Leadership Institute in the Academy of Leadership and professor of government and politics at the University of Maryland-College Park.



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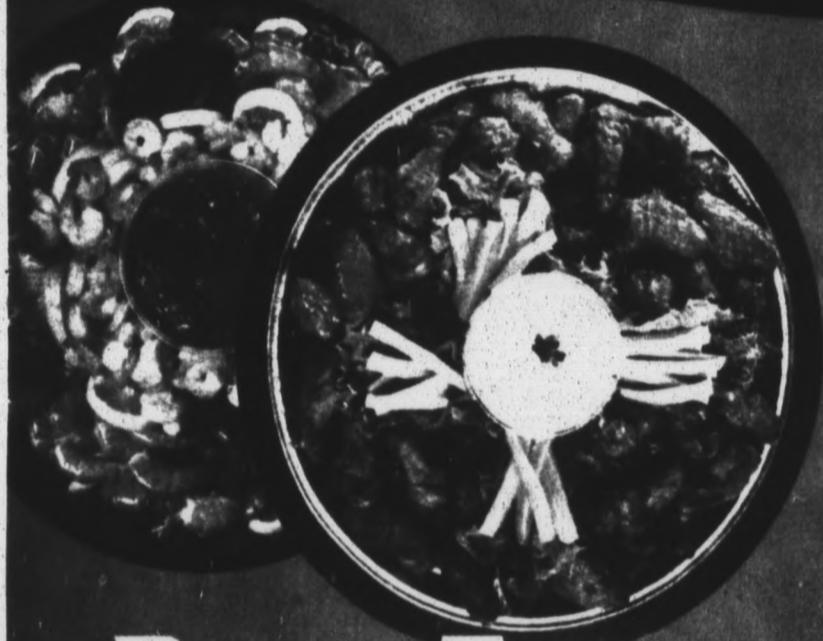
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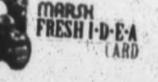


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Smokey Robinson's 1st inspirational CD is 'Food for the Spirit'

Electronic Urban Report

Legendary Grammy winner and Rock & Roll Hall of Fame inducted Smokey Robinson is set to release his first inspirational CD "Food for the Spirit," and its accompanying video on Liquid 8 Records March 30. The album is 40 years in the making.

Michael Catan, CEO of Liquid 8 Records stated, "We are so pleased to have an icon like Smokey Robinson release his first inspirational album as part of the Liquid 8 family."

"He is an immeasurable talent having written over 4,000 songs and produced some of the biggest hits of our time. I have already enjoyed working with Smokey during his Motown days more than two decades ago. I look forward to a long prosperous relationship with him at Liquid 8."

Robinson said, "I have long respected Michael Catan since our days at Motown years ago. I'm so pleased to be reunited."

The "Food for the Soul" CD was produced by Michael Stokes who has crafted hits for the "Godmother of Gospel Music" Shirley Caesar. The collection of nine inspirational gems was composed by Robinson.

Musically they run the gamut from contemporary Christian to traditional gospel. Three videos for "Let Your Light Shine," "Road to Damascus," and "Gang Bangin'" were shot recently in Los Angeles and will imminently be released to a number of national and regional music video outlets covering the gospel, contemporary Christian, and urban formats.

The video contains the video clips and rare performance and interview footage of Robinson.

The message of the album recorded months ago has proved particularly poignant for Robinson in recent weeks having endured the California wildfires coming dangerously close to his Los Angeles area home. It was his faith that brought him and his family through it.

He noted, "I have each one of my homes blessed before I move into it. When the fires got close I knew it was in the hands of God. I kept the faith and we made it through."

Robinson will integrate his inspirational music into all of his upcoming concerts as well as making specialized appearances at television, radio and other media outlets who specialize in the promotion of gospel and contemporary Christian music.

Based in Minneapolis, Liquid 8 Records is the owner of one of the largest traditional Black gospel catalogs. The Gospel Legends Series includes such artists as Shirley Caesar, the Blind Boys of Alabama, Albertina Walker, the Staples Singers, Rev. James Cleveland and many more.

Liquid 8 also covers the pop, rock and R&B genres with an impressive list of artists including Midnight Oil, Daryl Hall, and Jesse Powell. Liquid 8 Records and Entertainment is distributed by Navarre.

Order of Service

Religion

B SECTION

FRIDAY, JANUARY 2, 2004

A year of blessings and milestones for both Muslims and Christians



By BRANDON A. PERRY

Staff Writer

African Americans in the Indianapolis community who are serious about their faith celebrated many accomplishments last year.

Several churches and their pastors celebrated anniversaries of numerical significance. Rev. Walter Williams was honored in August for a whopping 50 years of service to St. Paul A.M.E. Church.

Rev. Johnathan Bailey Jr. of Tabernacle Missionary Baptist Church was not far behind with 30 years of leadership.

Rev. Curtis L. Vance and Rev. Oliver Dewayne Walker, pastor of St. Luke Missionary Baptist Church and Phillips Temple C.M.E. Church, respectively, both celebrated 20 years as shepherds of their congregations.

But the biggest praise parties were held at two of Indianapolis' oldest Black congregations, Bethel A.M.E. Church and Holy Angels Catholic Church, which observed 167 and 100 years as a church family.

Many congregations moved into new facilities, including Eastern Star Church, Light of the

World Christian Church, Westside Church of Christ and Corinthian Missionary Baptist Church.

Two prominent figures in the African-American Christian community, Chaplain Roy S. Black and Rev. Darryl Lynch made appearances in our community to address both theological and social issues. Rev. Black, who was appointed the U.S. Senate's first African-American chaplain, preached at Progressive Baptist Church in October during a revival that also featured Lamar Campbell and the Spirit of Praise.

Rev. Lynch, a community activist who played a key role in resolving the recent race riot in Cincinnati, appeared in early December as a guest of the Indianapolis Neighborhood Resource Center.

Popular gospel artists who came to Indianapolis in concert and delivered uplifting praise music included, among many others, Vickie Winans, Rizen, Evelyn Turrentine-Agee, the Williams Brothers, Juanita Bynum, the Men of Standard, Byron Cage, the Jackson Southernaires, Rev. L.W. Bolton, Bishop Larry Trotter and his Sweet Holy Spirit Mass Choir.

► See REVIEW, Page B3

Karen Clark Sheard keeps momentum going with latest release

By BRANDON A. PERRY
Staff Writer

"Well, I'm about to pull out my weapon and give the devil a run for his money," Karen Clark Sheard says at the beginning of "Praise Up," a track featured on her latest album, "The Heavens Are Telling."

Indeed, the weapons that Clark Sheard uses, her voice and the mighty promises of Jesus, are critical elements in God's arsenal during intense spiritual warfare.

Nearly two years after nearly losing her life during emergency surgery, Clark Sheard returned to the studio last year with her highly anticipated release "Finally: Karen!" She keeps the momentum going with her current CD, "The Heavens Are Telling."

Clark Sheard's soaring,

multi-octave voice is always a pleasure to hear, whether she's singing gospel standards with the Clark Sisters or reciting a version of "Mary Had a Little Lamb." But combining her vocal acrobatics with the slick production skills of gospel great Donald Lawrence of the Tri-City Singers and much-in-demand writer J. Moss is incentive for you to make sure that the rewind button on your CD player is working properly.

Spicy horns and driving percussion on the cool, Latin-flavored "Glorious (Make the Praise)" provide an explosive, energetic form of praise and worship that's very difficult to resist.

On the other hand, "Sometimes" is a majestic ballad that offers reassurance to those who feel like God is "far away" at various times.

The extremely popular gospel duo Mary Mary (Shackles) offer

solid support for Clark Sheard on the beautifully written "We Are Not Ashamed (To Praise the Lord)."

Karen Clark Sheard introduces a new generation of the talented Clark family on "You Loved Me," a Christian recreation of the romantic song sung by neo-soul icon Jill Scott. The duet between Clark Sheard and her daughter, Kiera "Kiki" Sheard reminds me of why I love to hear family harmony. Kiera Sheard also appears on the cute and youth oriented track "Don't Change."

Given the fact that her mother's sincere and "unashamed" style has rubbed off on her, I believe some company is going to release a project for Kiera Sheard very soon, if they haven't already. I'd be almost willing to bet half of my gospel music collection on that.

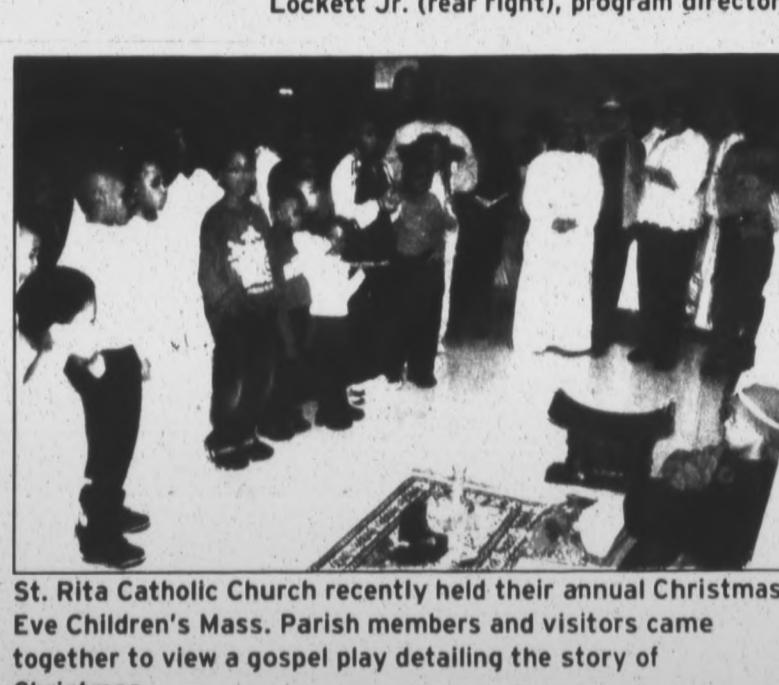


IN THE SPIRIT

Ebenezer scholars

Ebenezer Missionary Baptist Church, in conjunction with the Indianapolis Chapter of Indiana Black Expo, recently held their first annual essay contest, "Increasing Awareness Through the Written Word." The theme for this year's contest focused on the issues surrounding tobacco usage as it relates to God's purpose for humanity.

Ebenezer is also one of the sites that participates in Project S.H.O.U.T. (Students Helping Others Understand Tobacco). Both winners of the essay contest received a \$500 stipend toward the first year of college. Right: This year's winners were Robbie Flippin (front left), a senior at Chatard High and Michael Lockett (front right). They were joined by Rev. Thomas Brown (left rear), senior pastor of Ebenezer Missionary Baptist Church and pastor Jeremiah Lockett Jr. (rear right), program director.



St. Rita Catholic Church recently held their annual Christmas Eve Children's Mass. Parish members and visitors came together to view a gospel play detailing the story of Christmas.



The play, which was put on by St. Rita youth, celebrated the miracle of Jesus' birth. (Photos/C. Guynn)

MOTIVATIONAL NOTE

Your words speak volumes

By WILLIE JOLLEY

Most people do not have to wait for someone else to talk them out of their dreams... they will do it themselves. They use words that limit their vision and keep them from even giving their dreams a fighting chance. You must stop using negative words and start using positive, affirming words.

This poem is one that says it wonderfully:

DID is a word of achievement

WONT is a word of retreat
MIGHT is a word of bereavement

CANT is a word of defeat

OUGHT is a word of duty

TRY is a word of the hour

WILL is a word of beauty

CAN is a word of power.

Taken from "It Only Takes a Minute to Change Your Life" by Willie Jolley

Visit www.williejolley.com for information on the new "Willie Jolley Wake Up And Win" Daily Success Wake Up Call.

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6:00PM
Wed. Bible Study and Prayer Mtg
7:00PM



Rev. J.M. Tunstill, Pastor

Temple of Believers
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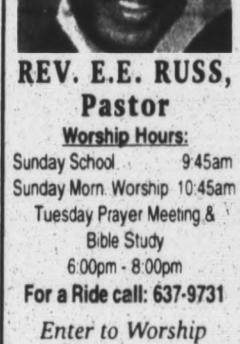
Bishop James Humbert
Pastor
Sunday School 10:00 A.M.
Sunday Morning Worship Service
11:30 A.M.
Tuesday Night Bible Study
7:30 P.M.
In all thy ways acknowledge Him
And He shall direct thy path.
Proverbs 3:6

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Pastor

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Wed. Bible Study 7P-9P
Thur. Marriage Classes 7P-8P
Fri. Drug Classes 7P-8P

Greater Saint
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Mon. Men & Ladies Class

Tues. Bible Study 10:00 a.m.

Wed. Bible Study 7:00 p.m.

Thurs. Home Bible Study

Fri. 2nd & 4th couple to couple session

Sat. Anger Management

Sat. Radio Ministry AM 1310 1:00 p.m.

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Leroy Kincaid, Oscar Middlebrook

Paul Taylor, Bobby Wardlow, Thomas Williams

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7:45 and 10:45 a.m.

9:30 a.m.

Sunday Church School & New Member Equip Class

Wednesday Bible Study

10:30 a.m.

7:00 p.m. Youth & Adults



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Children's Church 11:30 am
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TUESDAY NIGHT
Youth and Young Adult night
6:00pm-8:00pm Youth Bible Study
6:30-7:30pm Boys to Men
Girls to Women

7:00pm-8:00pm Young Adult Study
7:30pm-8:30pm Spirit of the Light Youth Choir Rehearsal
8:00pm-9:00pm New Light Ensemble Young Adult Rehearsal
8:00pm & 9:00pm Exercise Classes

Wednesday
6:30pm-8:00pm Teaching with Tom Benjamin
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Wednesday Prayer Meeting & Bible Study 7:00pm

Saturday Praise & Worship 6:00pm

Rev. Dr. O'Neal Shyne, Jr., Pastor

Sunday Praise Service 8:00am

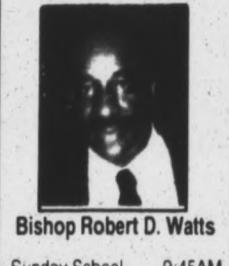
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Sunday Worship 10:45am

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REVIEW

► Continued from Page B1

the Dixie Hummingbirds, Junior Townsend, Chris Jones and Christian opera vocalist Sheila Harris Jackson.

In regard to promotions, Father Stephan Brown became the new pastor of St. Rita Catholic Church, after the Pentecostal Assemblies of the World elevated Dr. Leonard Scott to the rank of suffragan bishop in January.

One of the few downsides of the year arrived in June when New Bethel Baptist Church lost its longtime pastor, Rev. F. Benjamin Davis, who died in June. In addition, Bishop Woodie White, who served as the first Black bishop of the Indiana Methodist Church, announced his retirement after 11 years of service to accept a teaching position at Emory University in Atlanta.

Last year was also a critical year for those in the Islamic community. Members of the American Islamic Society expressed shock at the sudden September resignation of Imam W. Deen Mohammad, the organization's founder and spiritual leader.

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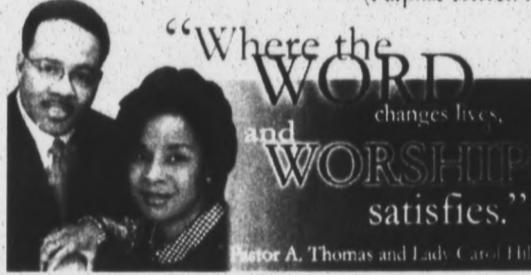
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Protestants turning more attention to Virgin Mary

LOUISVILLE, Ky. (AP) A renewed interest in the Virgin Mary appears to be sweeping through Protestantism.

Articles featured in this month's issues of several Protestant magazines suggest that the mother of Jesus has been neglected as a biblical heroine for too long.

"The Protestant church has thrown the baby out with the bath water," said Joel Green, a Methodist minister. "Protestants have had a knee-jerk reaction as a result of veneration of Mary in the Catholic tradition, and for that reason have not taken seriously enough the resources available to us in the stories of Mary."

Green, dean of the School of Theology at Asbury Theological Seminary in Wilmore, contributed to the book "Blessed One: Protestant Perspectives of Mary." It was published by the Westminster John Knox Press last year.

Beliefs about Mary, the teenage peasant whom the Bible says was chosen by God to give birth to Jesus, have

traditionally divided Protestants and Roman Catholics. Protestants continue to reject two doctrines popes have declared infallible—that Mary was conceived without sin and that God took her body directly to heaven at the end of her life.

Some Protestant scholars say that while they still disagree with elevating Mary to the status of a sinless object of veneration, people should be taking a closer look at her. They describe her as a model who accepted her divine mission without question, urged others to obey Jesus and followed her son to his execution after his male disciples shrank away.

"The fact is, evangelicals often say less about Mary than the New Testament does," writes Timothy George in Christianity Today's cover story titled "The Blessed Evangelical Mary." The former professor at Southern Baptist Theological Seminary in Louisville is now dean of Beeson Divinity School in Alabama.

Articles about Mary are also on the covers of The Lutheran and Good News, a Kentucky-

based publication for Methodists.

At St. Meinard Archabbey in southern Indiana, Protestant visitors have shown more curiosity about Mary, said the Rev. Joseph Cox, a Benedictine monk and the archabbey's librarian. Some even keep statues of Mary in their homes, typically a Catholic practice, he said.

"Rather than passing over the several (biblical) references to the Blessed Mother, they are looking at it and asking, 'What is this saying? How can Mary lead me more and more to her son Jesus Christ?'" Cox said.

Mary Burks Price of Louisville is a Baptist, but visited a retreat run by the Sisters of Loretto in Marion County. At the time, she was angry with God over the death of a friend. Then she encountered a moonlit statue of Mary while taking a walk.

"When I looked into her face, I saw a kind of mercy," she said. "I felt reconnected with God through her outstretched hands and just her presence. It's very

affirming to me to know that God used this woman as a means of coming to Earth in the most profound way."

Charles Wright, a former Catholic who is a member of Christ Church Episcopal Cathedral in Louisville, said he thinks Catholics used to treat Mary too much like a goddess but now have a more balanced view.

His church recently commissioned a painting of Mary for its chapel.

"She is in heaven," Wright said. "I feel she watches over us as her children. I don't feel any more discomfort in asking her to pray for me than I would one of my relatives or one of my fellow church members."

Still, Protestants are careful about the treatment of Mary in their churches.

"We don't worship Mary," said the Rev. William Bowling, pastor of Annunciation Catholic Church in Shelbyville, which has a sizable Hispanic membership accustomed to devotion to Mary. "She is a member of the saints of God. We honor her for her role. But the only one we worship is God."

Pope: 'Misunderstood' sense of rights behind movement for civil

By NICOLE WINFIELD
Associated Press Writer

VATICAN CITY (AP) — Pressing his campaign against gay marriage, Pope John Paul II said Sunday that a "misunderstood" sense of civil rights was altering the true sense of marriage and family.

John Paul said marriage, which the Vatican defines as a sacred union between man and woman, is a "human and divine" gift that should be defended by society.

"In our times, a misunderstood sense of rights has sometimes disturbed the nature of the family institution and conjugal bond itself," he said. "It is necessary that at every level, the efforts of those who believe in the importance of the family based on matrimony unite."

The pope made the comments during his traditional Sunday greeting, reaffirming the Roman Catholic Church's concept of marriage and the family as it celebrates Christmas and the "holy family" of

Jesus, Mary and Joseph.

The pope's comments came after the Vatican launched a global campaign in July to stem the tide of widening legal recognition for same-sex marriages.

In Canada, for example, hundreds of gay couples have been married since courts there ruled earlier this year that the definition of marriage as being between a man and woman is discriminatory.

Belgium and the Netherlands also have legalized gay marriage. Last month, the highest court

in Massachusetts ruled that it was unconstitutional for the state to bar gay couples from marriage. No states have legalized gay marriage.

In July, the Vatican's orthodox watchdog, the Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith, issued a document saying Catholic politicians had a "moral duty" to oppose laws granting legal rights to gay couples, and that non-Catholics should follow their lead since the issue concerns "natural moral law."

Abuse victims begin receiving settlement money from archdiocese

LOUISVILLE, Ky. (AP) — The Archdiocese of Louisville has begun sending checks in a \$25.7 million settlement to 243 people who claimed they were sexually abused by some of its priests and employees.

The abuse settlement is one of the largest in the nation from the Roman Catholic Church.

The archdiocese agreed to the settlement in June. Jefferson County Circuit Judge James M. Shad approved it in August. And

in October, he approved the plan by a Cincinnati attorney that separated the plaintiffs into three tiers based on the severity of the abuse they suffered.

Ross Turner, an attorney for the plaintiffs, said that some received the money about a week ago.

The 77 victims of the most severe forms of abuse — including rape and sodomy — received the largest awards, \$141,000 to \$163,000, Turner said.

The middle category, which included fondling and genital touching, encompassed 160 plaintiffs receiving \$71,000 and \$92,000, Turner said. The six plaintiffs who fell into the third category, which included lewd behavior and non-genital touching, will get \$20,000 to \$30,000.

Twenty-three of the 243 plaintiffs are appealing the sums determined by settlement's court-appointed administrator, Cincinnati attorney Matthew Garretson.

An arbitrator will decide how much those plaintiffs receive, Turner said, adding the relatively small number of appeals is "a testament to the plan that Mr. Garretson put out."

"He had worked a long time," Turner said. "The plan is fair."

Plaintiff James B. Corcoran Jr. declined to talk about the amount of his award but said he won't appeal. The money is "going to help," he said.

AL-ISLAM IN AMERICA

Imam Mustafa Hassain chosen 'Muslim Man of the Year'

By MIKAL SAHIR

CHICAGO — During the Annual Islamic Convention Imam Mustafa Hassain of Pittsburgh was selected as "The Muslim Man of the Year."

Imam Hassain was caught a bit off guard when he first heard that he had been chosen for the honor. "Really, it was surprising to me when the brother mentioned to me about being Man of the Year." Before recounting many of the accomplishments of the Pittsburgh Islamic community, Imam Hassain with laughter in his voice added, "I asked him, 'what does a person have to do to become a Man of the Year?'" He concluded, "I think it is great. I do my best to try and do things that will compensate what the Man of the Year means."

When Imam Hassain, the former Robert Davenport, joined the Nation of Islam in Detroit in 1949 he had already established himself as a man of many accomplishments; however, after hearing the Hon. Elijah

Muhammad speak one time, being an excellent and honorable Muslim became — and has remained — his number one achievement. "One of the greatest things (achievements) is just being a Muslim. That is the main thing I've been looking for all my life, I believe," observed Imam Hassain.

Some of Imam Hassain's accomplishments include retiring from professional boxing undefeated with 17 wins under his belt. He also played drums professionally with a five-piece combo. His Indianapolis connection is that he played professional baseball in the Negro League with the Indianapolis Clowns in the 1940s.

Upon joining the NOI, Imam Hassain, at the time called Robert X, gave up his promising career as a professional boxer and as a musician; however, he continued playing baseball. Although he never again boxed professionally the Imam continued sparring in the gym against pros such as Sugar Ray Robinson. "I used to beat Sugar Ray Robinson." Humbly he added, "I'm not bragging on myself, but they used to call me the uncrowned champion."

Joining NOI may have ended his personal music career, but his

legacy kept him in the company of many who were still in the music business. Every band that came to Pittsburgh would stop by and visit him. His visitors included Kool and the Gang, Grant Green a guitarist from St. Louis, Eddie Jefferson, Joe Tex, and the Three Sounds. "Whenever they came through Pittsburgh they would come by and find me."

Hassain is one of the few remaining rare sources for firsthand information on Malcolm X. "Malcolm came to me in 1952," Hassain explained. "He came to the NOI (Fruit of Islam) class on Monday night and made it known he had no place to stay." Even though Hassain didn't know him; or anything about his background, Hassain took Malcolm X in to live with him without ever charging him rent. The Imam explained, "He lived with me for three years."

Hassain, noting that Malcolm was both articulate and street-smart, kept the younger in his company. "Malcolm would really talk, he could talk street language. Although I was raised in the streets too, I didn't know that language like he did."

In July of 1956 Hassain began establishing the groundwork for a NOI Temple in Pittsburgh. To

maintain his family, Hassain began selling eggs. Not only did his egg business excel as his other endeavors in life had excelled, his egg business allowed for him to build contacts in many neighborhoods.

Imam Hassain has served as the leader of the Islamic community in Pittsburgh without missing a beat for 47 years during which he witnessed the transition of the Nation of Islam from a Black nationalistic expression of Islam to the universal practice of Islam ushered in by Imam W. Deen Mohammed.

The selection of Hassain as the Man of the Year is long over due. He is one of the many unsung pioneer-heroes of the Islamic community in America. He has stood brilliantly, yet quietly as a strong durable believer who has given his all for the growth and development of the proper and best image and reality of true Islamic life.

Prophet Muhammed once said, "Whenever a Muslim endeavors to do a thing, he (or she) seeks to perfect it." Imam Hassain has repeatedly fulfilled that hadith with his stick-to-it-ness, thus earning him the honor of being "The Muslim Man of the Year."

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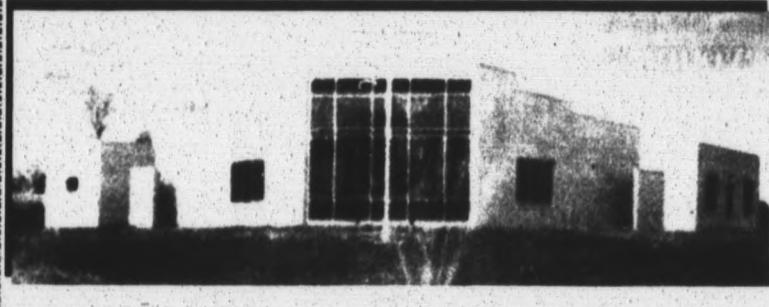


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Riverside Church's charismatic minister speaks with a loving, liberal voice

By JERRY SCHWARTZ

NEW YORK (AP) — Bill Moyers begins his look at the charismatic leader of Manhattan's Riverside Church by setting up a straw Christian — then knocking it down.

He opens with a montage of fundamentalist invective in the wake of the Sept. 11 attacks: the Revs. Jerry Falwell ("the pagans, and the abortionists, and the gays and the lesbians" helped bring on the tragedy); Pat Robertson (Islam is "just not" a peaceful religion); and Jerry Vines ("all religions are not equally true").

But then "Now with Bill Moyers" — which airs Friday night on PBS — shifts to the awe-inspiring confines of Riverside Church, the soaring house of worship built overlooking the Hudson River by John D. Rockefeller Jr.

"Jesus revealed the capacity to affirm your own tradition, and at the same time, to reach out to those of other traditions," the Rev. James Forbes Jr. tells his congregation, five days after the attacks. "His first sermon said, 'Be careful living with nationalistic narrowness. Because that does not discern the broadness of the heart of God.'"

The point is that not all evangelical Christian voices are so angry, that a spiritual leader has

arisen who speaks with a loving, liberal voice for all those devout Christians who are not represented by the Falwells and the Robertsons.

Forbes, says Moyers, has gained "growing influence on the national stage."

Moyers does not offer any evidence of that newfound influence. In fact, earlier this year, when Forbes approached Vice President Dick Cheney with the idea of opening a dialogue to discuss his flock's differences with the administration, the vice president did not respond.

But in a way, Forbes' influence is beside the point of this admiring portrait of a man of faith and the unusual institution he leads.

Moyers follows Forbes' path, from Raleigh, N.C., where his father, a minister, worked as a candy salesman to support his eight kids. The son studied to be a doctor, but he recalls a moment nearly 50 years ago when he was a Howard University student, listening to a recording of Tchaikovsky's Symphony in F Minor.

"I thought I heard, 'Jim Forbes, don't you know I have called you. Jim Forbes don't you know I have called you. Yes, oh, yes, I have called you,'" he says, singing the message to the notes of the symphony.

He took it as a revelation, and

set out to follow in his father's footsteps. But when he started out as a Pentecostal minister he realized that he was at a disadvantage — he did not speak in tongues.

So he embarked on a more ecumenical career. He was teaching at Union Theological Seminary, next door to Riverside, when the church asked him to take its pulpit, succeeding the renowned activist William Sloane Coffin.

Riverside has a long, liberal history, beginning with its first pastor, Harry Emerson Fosdick. Even its design is open-minded — besides carvings of Christ and other biblical figures, it's adorned with sculptures of Mohammed, Buddha, Albert Einstein, Charles Darwin, Abraham Lincoln and Booker T. Washington, among others.

Forbes, Riverside's first Black minister, has extended its social activism over the last 14 years. The church trains welfare recipients in hair cutting in its basement; it offers the homeless an opportunity to take showers and do their laundry; it sanctions gay marriages.

Forbes is a gregarious man, and a fiery preacher. Occasionally, he raps from the pulpit: "Wealthy getting richer, poor getting poorer, with rats and homeless living in the sewer."

There are other ways in which the style of worship at Riverside

has become more like that of some Black churches. Now, the congregation sometimes breaks into applause during the service; to Barbara Butler, a member for 30 years, it was a jarring change.

"The rule of thumb is, if you can go along with around 80 percent of the service, then consider yourself lucky," she says.

Moyers says about 60 percent of the congregation was white when Forbes became its minister, and 40 percent Black; Forbes says it is now nearly 70 percent Black. Forbes is proud that "you still have... white folks in the choir and white folks in the usher board," but Riverside has changed, and Moyers doesn't explore why. Have whites left? Have Blacks flocked there?

Forbes does not shy away from race as an issue, but he insists that economic inequality between the rich and the poor is a more pressing problem — and one he will continue to address from Riverside's pulpit.

"If God were our consultant about economic reality, would God say, 'Well, all I can say is it's just a free enterprise system. Let it work and everything is gonna be all right?'" Forbes asks, and then he answers his own question.

"No," he says. "God would say, 'You gotta look at that again.'"

Pastor says he's frustrated by candidates who 'pimp' black church

PORTSMOUTH, N.H. (AP) The pastor of a Black church said he is frustrated by presidential candidates who use his congregation as a backdrop for campaign photos rather than a sounding board for a serious discussion of issues.

"I'm tired of people coming in here to pimp the church," the Rev. Arthur Hilson of New Hope Baptist Church said during a Sunday sermon in which he also endorsed the presidential candidacy of Carol Moseley Braun, a Democrat who is Black.

"Come because you want to be here," Hilson appealed to the candidates. "Don't come here because you want to use me or our people."

Hilson said Monday his criticism was aimed at presidential candidates whom he feels have taken advantage of the opportunity to visit the church, rather than truly listening to the concerns of the congregation.

Photos taken during those visits can make it appear as if the pastor and his wife, Lady Hilson, endorsed those candidates, he said.

"I get (candidate) calls ... and they say, 'I want to come' ... and they say, 'Can you have your wife at the door, to meet them?'" said Hilson. "That's a photo op, that's really clear."

"When the Dean people came they said, 'Can you be at the door and have your wife with you?'" he said.

Hilson noted that one of the photos taken during that Dean visit appeared in an issue of

Newsweek. The photo showed Dean standing beside Lady Hilson, but the caption did not indicate the picture was taken in New Hampshire, and it was used in a story about Dean seeking the southern African-American vote.

The Dean campaign indicated it was disappointed Hilson took the occasion of their candidate's visit in a way that had not been intended.

"It's very unfortunate that Rev. Hilson feels this way," said Matthew Gardner, Dean's New Hampshire press secretary. "Governor Dean very much enjoys meeting with people throughout New Hampshire, and we felt warmly received by the reverend and other members of the congregation."

Hilson said Braun's visit was different in character.

"At no time did Braun's people ask me to have anybody anywhere," he said. "They simply came into the church and took seats."

Connecticut Sen. Joseph Lieberman and Missouri Congressman Dick Gephardt also have visited Hilson's church.

He said he wants presidential candidates to continue coming to his church.

But, he added, "When you come, come honestly ... come speak to us as you speak to America," he said. "Don't feel that you have to have a special message for us because what is good for America is good for us (African-Americans)."

Coalition of Churches and community organizations sponsor local family forum

Special to the Recorder

The newly formed Indiana Healthy Marriage and Family Coalition and the African American Healthy Marriage and Family Coalition recently host a community awareness and capacity building forum.

The event took place earlier this week at the United Way of Central Indiana Building (3901 North Meridian Street). Admission is free and everyone is welcome. Seating capacity however, is limited to 100 so individuals are advised to come a bit early.

Participants learned about issues affecting families and healthy marriages, the evolution of the Healthy Marriage Initiative, its mission, goals, objectives and major components, in addition to learning about 2004 federal grant eligibility requirements for the Healthy Marriage and African American Healthy Marriage

funding streams.

The keynote speakers for the community forum included Claude A. Allen, who serves as Deputy Secretary for the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. In addition, a message was offered by Patricia Funderburk Ware, Special Assistant to the Assistant Secretary Of Health and Human Services.

Supporters of this forum included Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc (Indianapolis Alumnae Chapter), Indianapolis Family Strengthening Coalition, Girton Ministries, Inc, Robinson Community A.M.E. Church, Eastern Star Church, Light of the World Christian Church, Christ Church Apostolic Inc., the Institute for Family Life and Preservation Inc.

This partnership includes a coalition of forty-three faith-based and community-based organizations throughout Indiana.

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Ministry assists prisoners' children

PAINESVILLE, Ohio (AP) — A northeast Ohio prison ministry group isn't reaching out to inmates, but to children who are without a mother or father because a parent is incarcerated.

Ron Colvin said he founded the nonprofit Freedom Village Prison Ministry because while there are prison ministries that help inmates, there were no agencies or programs to help inmates' children.

"Everyone just assumed another parent or caregiver would step in," Colvin said.

Last year, Colvin helped deliver Christmas presents to about 300 children, all of whom have a parent in prison.

He said one 8-year-old boy's father was in prison and his mother was on drugs. His grandmother, who had little money, cared for the boy.

When the boy opened the door on Christmas Eve to see a man with his arms full of presents, he told the man he had the wrong house.

"When we told him, no, the presents were for him and his brother, he cried," said Colvin,

who also is president of the Lake County Branch of the NAACP.

The U.S. Department of Justice estimates that two percent of children in the United States have a parent in prison. In 1999, about 2 million children had parents incarcerated in either a state or federal prison, federal statistics show.

"These are children who through no fault of their own have been cast aside and stigmatized," Colvin said.

"While a civilized society must punish those who break the law, we must be careful not to confine the children of prisoners to a life of hopelessness," he said.

The ministry gets names of inmates who are parents from the Ohio Department of Rehabilitation and Corrections. The inmates are sent letters asking if they want to participate and to provide the names and addresses of their children.

Colvin said he initially hoped the program could help children all over northeast Ohio, but the list of inmates numbered in the thousands. This year the group

gathered 700 inmate names and nearly 2,000 children's names from Lake County alone.

Ministry volunteers collect donated toys and clothes and spend a weekend wrapping and delivering presents.

The program extends beyond the holiday, providing children with educational meetings and tickets to Indians games. The ministry also gives families rides to prisons so children can maintain parental ties.

The Rev. Gerard Mirbel, chaplain for the ministry program, drove two boys to visit their mother at Ohio State Reformatory for Women and said the boys were reluctant at first to enter the prison to visit her.

"They didn't say much at all on the way down," Mirbel said. "After seeing their mother, they talked all the way home. I could see the sunshine coming from their eyes."

In an effort to expand its services, the group is forming a partnership with Big Brothers Big Sisters of Northeast Ohio to offer mentors for at-risk children.

Stellar Award promises a great line-up



Yolanda Adams



Kirk Franklin



Donnie McClurkin

QC's.

Leading the pack with nominations are Deitrick Haddon and Vicki Winans, vying for the most prestigious award in gospel music.

Hezekiah Walker & The Love Fellowship Choir placed second to Haddon and Winans with six nominations while Mary Mary, Donnie McClurkin, Byron Cage and Lee Williams picked up five nods each. This year's presenters include neo-soul artist Musiq, "American Idol" winner and recording artist Ruben Studdard, Twinkie Clark, Rance Allen, Kim Burrell, Lonnie Hunter, The Kenoly Brothers, Papa San, Ramiyah and Lil Iroce Williams and surprise guests.

A special tribute to gospel legend Pastor Shirley Caesar, recipient of the year's James Cleveland Award, will be a special moment of the show. The James Cleveland Award is given annually to an artist who has made a major impact in the development and advancement of gospel music.

In addition, Kirk Franklin will be inducted into the Stellar Awards Hall of Fame. This

honor is bestowed upon an artist for outstanding achievements and major impact made on the gospel music industry through standout performances, writing and career record sales.

"We are excited about the line-up of talent for this year's show. We have a soul-stirring production that will move, touch and inspire," says Executive Producer Barbara Wilson. The Stellar Gospel Music Award is executive-produced by Barbara Wilson. Terri McCoy will direct this year's show and Jennifer Jackson is the executive in charge of production. Erma Gray Davis is the President of Central City Productions. The 19th Annual Stellar Gospel Music Awards are sponsored by American Airlines, McDonalds, Chevrolet, Merrill Lynch, Pontiac, Sears, Sony State Farm and Toyota.

The 19th Annual Stellar Gospel Music Awards Show will air in syndication from January 26 through Feb. 22.

For further information, contact Jalila Larsuel at JL Media Relations at (626) 398-5028.

What do you have to Celebrate?

By James Clingman

Blackonomics

For nearly 40 years, Black people in the United States have celebrated the seven principles of Kwanzaa. Established by

Maulana Karenga in 1966, Kwanzaa is an African-American and Pan-African holiday cel-

brated by millions throughout the world African community. Kwanzaa brings a cultural message that speaks to the best of what it means to be African and human in the fullest sense.

Our obvious support and celebration of this occasion suggests our commitment, not only to the principles of the Nguzo Saba, but also to their fruition. Thus, we ask you: What Kwanzaa success will you celebrate this year? What have you done during the year that qualifies as a celebratory event during Kwanzaa?

Have achieved Unity among the people in your locale? Are you unified to the point that you love one another more and support one another more? Do you have proof that you have unified around some pertinent issue or cause? If so, then let the celebration begin.

How about Self-Determination? That's one of my favorites. What have you done in your city to demonstrate your commitment to determining the future of your children? Are others still controlling your destiny? Or, have you taken it upon yourself to build and support your own institutions, open and grow new business, and create your own jobs? Maybe you have done other things to determine your future. Congratulations!

A few years ago I worked on the design and execution of an event in Cincinnati called Ujima-Cincibration, which some of you probably attended. The intent of the affair, conducted each year, was to celebrate what we had accomplished during the year vis-à-vis our collective work and our responsibility toward one another. The event survived for four years and failed primarily

because the premise upon which it was founded was ignored by those who subsequently managed it. If we work collectively on community projects such as neighborhood cleanup, elderly assistance, and tutoring, imagine the things we could celebrate every December 28th for Ujima.

Now, here's my favorite: Cooperative Economics. Have you done anything cooperatively in 2003 to increase the economic viability and stability of your community? Have you pooled any of your money to finance a project or to form an investment group to assist micro businesses? Nuff said on that one.

Our obvious support and celebration of this occasion suggests our commitment, not only to the principles of the Nguzo Saba, but also to their fruition.

What have you done to build and develop your community in order to restore our people to their traditional greatness? In other words, what is your purpose, and have you actualized that purpose? If you have, then you definitely have something to celebrate.

Created anything lately? What has been the level of your creativity this past year? Is there anything, not necessarily something material, that you developed in your community? Maybe it was a new financial institution, or maybe it was a new resolve and commitment to do better than you did the previous year. Creativity covers a multitude of endeavors. What did you create? Finally, how much faith do you have in the things you are celebrating? How much faith do

you have in yourself? How much faith do you have in the Creator's ability to carry you through in times of struggle? Are you one of "little faith," or is your faith sufficient to support you in your quest to fulfill the other six principles of Kwanza?

On December 26th of every year, after 40 years of celebrating, we should be able to look back and revel in the things we have accomplished through our celebration of Kwanzaa. What will you see when you look back this year? If nothing is there, but a mere celebration, then you have work to do, so that this time next year you will have some tangible accomplishment to celebrate.

Aren't you tired of mere spoken words? Aren't you just a little weary of empty rhetoric, events based on words followed by little or no action? Wouldn't you like to see us, after 40 years of celebrating Kwanzaa, be able to point to something we built and sustained because of our celebration of values we hold so dear? I know you would.

Here in Cincinnati, we have the Sankofa Educational Development Program, headed by Sister Kimya Moyo. Each year they celebrate the principles of Kwanzaa by recognizing seven individuals who best represent each principle. In 2004, at the organization's annual event, Kenya James, Black Enterprise Magazine's Teenpreneur of the Year, will be the keynote speaker. They also "look back" every New Year's Eve at what they accomplished in relationship to Kwanzaa, and they look forward and plan activities for the coming year.

Please get started now on what you will celebrate during the 2004 Kwanzaa period. And let's celebrate!

James E. Clingman, an adjunct professor at the University of Cincinnati's African-American Studies department, is former editor of the Cincinnati Herald Newspaper and founder of the Greater Cincinnati African American Chamber of Commerce. He hosts the radio program, "Blackonomics," and is the author of the book, "Economic Empowerment or Economic Enslavement—We have a Choice." He can be reached at (513) 489-4132, or by e-mail at jcldingman@blackonomics.com.***

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To Your Health

A look back at health issues in 2003

By ERICKA P. THOMPSON
Staff Writer

In an effort to keep African Americans aware of the major health issues affecting their lives, The Recorder dedicated its health pages to breast and prostate cancer, organ donation, heart disease, sickle cell, AIDS, and many other harmful and deadly diseases in 2003.

To help tackle the issue of prostate cancer, Charles Williams, president of Indiana Black Expo wrote a book titled *That Black Men Might Live* speaking about his personal battle with cancer.

Six-year-old Dasia Muldrow-Abron helped show a new face to organ donations. Diagnosed with kidney failure, Abron is in need of a kidney transplant, but very few African Americans are willing to donate their organs.

October was breast cancer awareness month and many residents in Indiana participated in the Making Strides Against Breast Cancer Walk. In April, over 1,000 people walked in the Susan G. Komen Race for the Cure. The Recorder talked with many breast cancer survivors about their struggles and successes, and health officials to keep readers up to date on the latest medications and strides towards a cure.

Heart disease is one of the most critical diseases affecting the African-American community and is the number one killer among American women.

Celesta Hunt, a survivor of congestive heart failure helped shed the light that women must demand to be tested for heart disease because doctors sometimes either misdiagnose, or do not diagnose at all.

Other health issues such as the West Nile virus and most recently, the flu plagued the city as AIDS and HIV continued to spread wildly throughout the country and



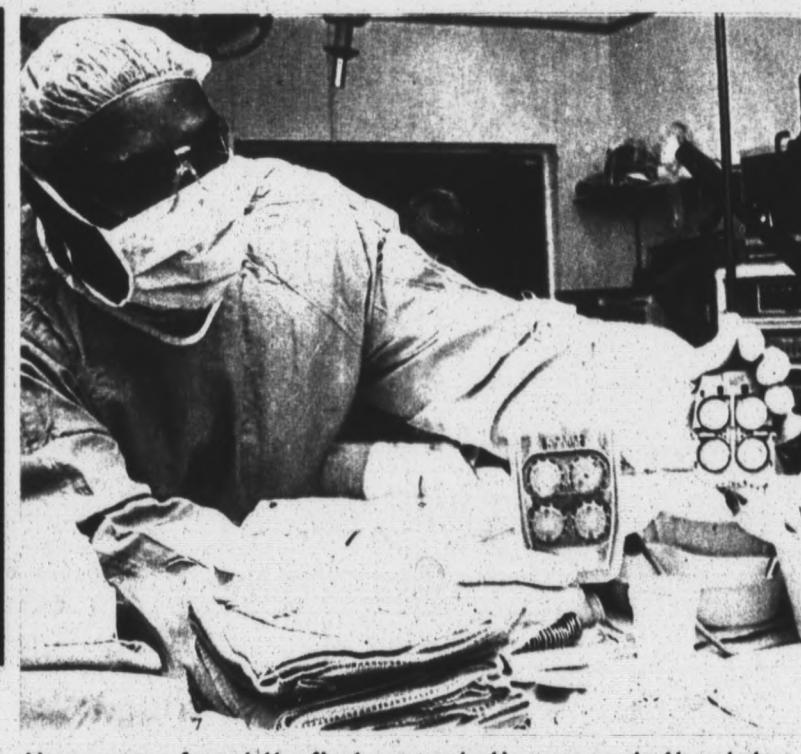
Dana Muldrow with daughter Dasia, who is in need of a kidney/pancreas transplant.



Charles Williams, president of Indiana Black Expo

for the first time in the U.S., mad cow disease was verified and disrupted the nation's meat supply.

As more diseases and viruses are found and as doctors and researchers work endlessly to find cures in 2004, The Recorder will continue to provide the latest information on the issues that affect



How can we forget the first ever robotic surgery in the state being performed by a team of Clarian Health doctors.

the health of African Americans.

Let us also remember the first ever robotic surgery performed in Indiana. The surgery was performed by a team of Clarian Health doctors at Methodist Hos-



Celesta Hunt is a national spokeswoman for WomenHeart after being diagnosed with congestive heart failure.

Price gouging could mean dramatic hike in number of AIDS deaths, advocates say

From BET.com

Yet another key AIDS drug has been boosted to a price so steep that thousands will die because they can't afford it, says the director of a leading AIDS treatment and research center.

Chicago-based Abbott Laboratories has increased the price of Norvir fourfold, upping the cost of monthly treatments from \$54 to \$265.

"More people will die needlessly," says Cornelius Baker, executive director of Washington, D.C.'s Whitman-Walker Clinic, adding that companies are "deliberately gouging the consumer."

"Because of these priced-out-of-reach medicines, we will soon see levels of AIDS victims in the richest country in the world on par with those in underdeveloped Third World countries," Baker says.

Also, says Baker, drug companies "lie" when they cite research expenses as the reason for jacking up prices.

"Public and private funds are used for AIDS drug research and development efforts, (and) the companies save their money for marketing their product nationwide to make the maximum profit possible," asserts Baker.

The drug's increase, says a company spokeswoman, represents the "costs for im-

proving Norvir's formulation."

According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, African Americans, while making up 12 percent of the nation's population, accounted for 38 percent of all AIDS cases diagnosed since the beginning of the epidemic in the 1980s.

Long waiting lists for Norvir are in evidence at community clinics and government programs such as Medicare and Medicaid.

Baker worries that federal and state budget cuts, coupled with new restrictions on Medicare and AIDS drug price hikes, are all coming together to form a "perfect storm" of medical catastrophe for all indigent, low-income and working poor HIV-positive patients.

The rise in Norvir's cost comes on the heels of a dramatic price increase for Fuzeon, another new AIDS drug manufactured by Roche Pharmaceuticals. Cost for Fuzeon recently rose to \$20,409 per year.

"Adding a highly expensive drug is problematic," says Michael Montgomery, director of California's State Office of AIDS, which has an active HIV-positive roster of 25,759 clients.

Most state-run drug assistance programs have price discounts and freezes with Norvir that run through 2005. At that time, says the company, all existing arrangements will be renegotiated.

Make a lasting resolution for good health in 2004!

Submitted by the Health Education, Promotion and Training Department of the Marion County Health Department

Every twelve months, as the New Year comes around, we all brag about our New Year's resolutions. Every year we resolve to lose weight, focus on exercising more, and concentrate more on work. For most of us, getting the annual New Year's resolution urge is routine. We want to imagine ourselves as thinner, healthier and more productive people. Sure, last year's resolutions didn't make it past the fifth of January, but this year is going to be different, right?

One of the main difficulties we face when making resolutions for better health is making them reasonable. Unrealistic expectations are why most of us fail to keep the resolutions we make. We set incredibly high goals for ourselves, and then wonder why we never attain them. This year is the perfect time to try making more "attainable" health and wellness goals. This year try following these suggestions when setting your goals:

■ **Don't try everything at once.** You'll have better luck fulfilling a list of two or three goals than a list of 50. Remember: You can always add resolutions to your list later.

■ **Find a "buddy."** You are more likely to keep working at your resolution if you have someone else who can share your successes. Use the buddy system for resolutions such as quitting smoking, exercising and weight loss programs.

■ **Make a plan.** Once you identify what your resolutions will be, break them down into a plan of action. It doesn't have to be complicated, just brainstorm ideas to help keep you focused and on track.

■ **Write it down and post it.** Write your resolution down and post it in an area that you are sure to see it and be reminded. Also use notes to inspire yourself.

■ **Be realistic.** For example in the area of exercise, many well-intentioned people set overly ambitious exercise goals at the start of a new year. Once they get sore or injured, they quit exercising all together. A more moderate approach would keep them on the road to improving their health.

According to the Indianapolis Medical Society's "150 Steps to Good Health", the

top ten causes of death in Indiana are: heart disease, cancer, stroke, chronic lung disease, pneumonia and influenza, accidents, diabetes, arteriosclerosis, homicide and AIDS. All of these conditions can be prevented with lifestyle changes. The following are some simple recommendations for individuals wishing to improve their health and overall wellness in the coming year. Each idea represents a goal or expectation to strive for in 2004, whether it is as simple as limiting caffeine intake or more challenging like decreasing your total cholesterol.

Overall

■ Know your cholesterol. More than 200 indicates a need for exercise, diet and medication.

■ Wear your seatbelt every time you ride in a vehicle. The link between traffic deaths and failure to use safety belts is overwhelming.

■ Eat three well-balanced meals a day with five servings of fruits and vegetables. People who eat more than five servings of fruits and vegetables each day have half the risk of developing cancer as those who eat only one or two servings.

■ Brush teeth and floss at least twice a day. Have your teeth professionally cleaned at least twice a year.

■ Get regular physical check-ups.

■ Exercise daily. Even a simple walking program can produce incredible results.

■ Limit your intake of refined sugars, fat, caffeine and alcohol.

■ Manage your stress. Stress management programs are an effective way of learning strategies and behaviors to achieve happier, healthier lives.

■ Resolve to quit smoking. There are benefits to quitting even if you have smoked for a long period of time.

Seniors

■ Monitor your blood pressure and know what your doctor considers normal for you.

■ Remove throw rugs to prevent falls.

■ Stay active and involved in your community. Volunteering helps prevent loneliness and isolation.

■ Make sure your doctors and pharmacists know every drug you take to avoid unwanted side effects and reactions.

■ It's never too late to enjoy walking. The Marion County Health Department sponsors the Silver Striders walking program for those wishing to record their mileage and join other walkers. For more information, call (317) 221-2086.

■ Get annual flu and pneumonia vaccinations.

■ Have routine eye exams and include a glaucoma test.

Men

■ Have a regular prostate exam and regular colon screening.

■ Familiarize yourself with the symptoms of diabetes and other chronic diseases.

■ Learn how to do a monthly testicular exam and do it without fail.

■ Keep up-to-date with adult vaccinations like flu and tetanus shots.

■ If you own a gun, keep it unloaded and use a trigger lock. You can obtain a free trigger lock from the Health Education, Promotion and Training Department at the Marion County Health Department (3838 N. Rural Street).

Women

■ Learn to do a monthly breast exam and resolve to do it at the same time every month, without fail.

■ Schedule an annual check-up and PAP smear.

■ Avoid traditional "crash dieting." Try to lose one to two pounds per week with diet moderation and exercise.

■ Add an extra 1000-1500 milligrams of calcium to your diet to prevent osteoporosis later in life.

■ See your health care provider regularly for prenatal care, preferably before becoming pregnant.

■ Talk to your doctor about scheduling regular colon cancer screenings.

Adolescents

■ Say NO to tobacco, alcohol and other drugs.

■ Use helmets and protective gear to prevent injuries during recreational activity.

■ Tell an adult if there is abuse or family violence in your home.

■ Start out the day with a good breakfast. Many studies have shown a relationship between eating breakfast and attention span, learning ability and general well-being.

Children

■ Make sure children are fully immunized.

■ Teach children to dial 911 in case of an emergency and post the number to the Indiana Poison Control (800-382-9097) by the phone.

■ Practice fire drills in your home and work out a safety plan in case of an emergency.

■ Keep small toys and objects that could be swallowed out of reach. Always lock up cleaning products and toiletries.

■ Ensure that your child's car seat is the proper size and installed correctly. For help call the Marion County Health Department's Permanent Fitting Station at (317) 221-2045.

For more information about any of the services available through the Marion County Health Department, please call (317) 221-2000, or log on to www.mchd.com. Most of all have a safe and prosperous new year!

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Most of all, have a safe and prosperous new year!



www.mchd.com

*Some recommendations taken from 150 Steps to Good Health, Indianapolis Medical Society.

Indiana fines Anthem \$50,000 over claims handling

Special to The Recorder

Indiana regulators said Anthem Inc. has agreed to pay \$50,000 to settle findings that it violated fair-practices standards for paying medical claims, a fine that comes as the health insurer seeks regulatory clearance for a \$14.3 billion merger with WellPoint Health Networks Inc.

While the year-and-a-half-long Department of Insurance review found violations in two areas, it also determined Anthem complied with an Indiana law requiring prompt payment of claims, according to findings obtained by the Associated Press. That was a key

issue in doctors' complaints that led to the investigation.

Anthem agreed in a consent order to pay the fine and take steps to ensure proper calculation of interest on claims and improve communications with doctors, among other things.

The investigation involved only Indianapolis-based Anthem's operations in Indiana, where the Blue Cross Blue Shield licensee has more than 1.7 million of its nearly 12 million members.

Anthem announced plans in October to buy Thousand Oaks, Calif.-based WellPoint in a cash-and-stock deal that would combine the nation's two biggest Blue

Cross Blue Shield companies, both of which have fueled conversion of traditionally nonprofit Blue plans to for-profit status.

Critics, including some members of Congress, have expressed concern that the deal would limit consumer choice and lead to higher premiums. Anthem and WellPoint say the deal would benefit consumers, as the companies become more efficient.

Regulatory reviews are pending in several states, and federal regulators are expected to examine the deal for possible antitrust implications.

The findings in Indiana follow the state Department of

Insurance's release in October of a report showing the number of Indiana complaints filed against Anthem last year had doubled compared with 2001.

The findings came in a review begun in May 2002 in response to doctors who complained Anthem reimbursed them slowly or inadequately for many claims. The state hired a consultant to investigate.

"The department was very thorough and very fair, as we agreed with the findings," Anthem spokeswoman Deborah New said. "We've accepted responsibility for two mistakes identified in the report. We fixed those things while the exam was in progress,

and we recognize we can continue to do a better job."

One violation involved failure to update claims processing systems to comply with Anthem's October 2001 decision to extend coverage to a certain eye procedure previously considered experimental. The other violation involved failure to pay the proper amount of interest while switching to a new processing system.

The review found Anthem complied with a 2001 state law requiring insurers to pay provider claims within 30 days for those filed electronically and 45 days for paper claims. Insurers must meet those standards 95 percent

of the time to comply, and Anthem came in at 99 percent.

Anthem also met standards for accurate payment of claims, response to telephone inquiries and handling of appeals.

Over the past decade, Anthem has grown beyond Indiana to become the Blues licensee in eight other states: Kentucky, Ohio, Connecticut, New Hampshire, Colorado, Nevada, Maine and part of Virginia.

Anthem's merger with WellPoint would create an Indianapolis-based company under the WellPoint name that would cover nearly 26 million people and operate in 13 states.

State's flu cases have already exceeded last year's peak

Special to The Recorder

The number of flu cases reported this season in Indiana has already exceeded last year's peak, suggesting that this year's outbreak is substantially worse than in the past and not just hype, health officials said.

Nearly 10 percent of all patients visiting some doctors' offices are seeking treatment for flu-related symptoms, said state Department of Health spokesman Andy Zirkle.

That percentage is much higher than the peak of last year's flu season and is nearly double the average peak during the past five years.

"It's certainly more widespread than in prior years," Zirkle said. "More people are being affected."

The Department of Health tracks flu visits at 28 hospitals and clinics around the state.

Over the past five years, the peak of the flu season occurred when about five percent of visits to those hospitals were people seeking relief from the flu. Last year, the season peaked at 5.5 percent of office visits.

Children and young people are being hit hard especially. Patients made more than 64 percent of visits for the flu between the ages of 5 and 24. Over the last five years, that number averaged around 49

percent, Zirkle said.

"The highest it's been in the last five years is 55 percent," Zirkle said. "So for it to be 64 percent this year is an indication this year that the younger population is being affected at a higher than normal rate."

The Welborn Clinic in Evansville has had a lot more patients, especially children, than usual in the past few weeks, Chief of Medicine Donald Lurye said.

He said most people he sees have similar symptoms: respiratory infection, fever, sore throats, vomiting and muscle aches.

Some of the visits by children may be attributed to parents who became worried af-

ter reports of deaths from the flu, Zirkle said.

A 13-year-old girl from Mitchell, about 80 miles south of Indianapolis, died last week from organ failure that was consistent with damage caused by the flu.

"People may be more cautious this year and not wanting to take chances," Zirkle said. "The psychological factor is almost impossible to measure."

Older people are also susceptible, officials said.

At Evansville's Deaconess Hospital, Medical Director Peter Stevenson said older people sometimes get the flu first and later develop pneumonia or bronchitis.

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it difficult to fit into some shoes. Contrary to popular belief, bunions are aggravated, not caused, by tight shoes. Bunions usually are due to inherited faulty foot mechanics which put abnormal pressure on the front of the foot; pain is the primary reason patients seek medical attention. A majority of bunion surgeries are performed on women because they wear tight-fitting, high-heeled shoes that worsen the underlying problem and cause abnormal stress to the joint.

Sometimes, those who can benefit from the surgery avoid it and continue to endure pain because they have heard that surgery doesn't work and is excessively painful," said Kimberly Eickmeier, DPM, FACFAS, a podiatric foot and ankle surgeon with Christie Clinic in Champaign, Ill. "The truth is that advanced surgical techniques have allowed us to effectively correct bunion deformities with excellent outcomes in terms of pain relief and improved quality of life."

Ninety-six percent of the survey respondents identified pain relief as a desired outcome of the surgery, and 86 percent also said they hoped to improve their walking and increase their physical activity following surgery. Ninety-two percent said they were able to increase their physical activity and 90 percent said they would recommend bunion surgery to others.

A bunion is the result of undue stress on the big toe joint, which causes a protuberance of bone or tissue around that joint. Bunions can be very painful, inhibit normal walking and make

a complimentary brochure, "Bunion Deformities and Treatment" is available by calling the 888-THE-FEET, or on the Web at www.acfas.org.

Arts & Entertainment

C SECTION

FRIDAY, JANUARY 2, 2004

BOOKMARK

Major spices up family affairs

New novel hits bookshelves this month

By ERICKA P. THOMPSON
Staff Writer

When I heard that Marcus Major was bringing back the characters from his Blackboard best selling debut novel, *Good Peoples*, I became overly excited. My excitement didn't last long as disappointment set in.

I expected to read about the now married couple, Myles and Marisa and the on-goings of their life.

Instead, the novel centers around Myles' parents, Peggy and Leonard who have been married for over 40 years and the trouble that surrounds their relationship.

Major introduces a new nuisance to the Moore's family, 16-year-old Jasmine. Jasmine's mother is Peggy's drug addicted sister who is in jail, which forces her daughter to live by new rules and punishment in Peggy's household.

The story begins on a Sunday afternoon after the family has finished a soul food style dinner at Peggy and Leonard's. As Myles and his older brother Amir joke with their father before a football game starts, Peggy, Marisa, Amir's wife, Kenya and their twin girls are out in the backyard enjoying the weather.

The story doesn't begin to unfold until Amir's best friend, Carlos, spots Leonard creeping into a motel room with a much younger woman and Jasmine hooks up with 18-year-old trouble maker Darius who recently moved out of a group home run by Kenya and Carlos' wife, Jackie.

The story hits the fan when Peggy eavesdrops on Leonard's conversation and hears him recounting his sexual escapades of the night before and when Jasmine runs away into the arms of Darius after she and Peggy exchange words and Peggy tries to knock some sense into her with her fist.

Although I was a little disappointed that the story didn't revolve around Myles and Marisa, the novel is called *A Family Affair*, not "Myles and Marisa."

Major skillfully touches on sensitive subjects and makes you laugh in the process. If he titles his next book, "More Family Affairs," I wouldn't hesitate to pick it up, too.

By JOSHUA COHEN
Staff Writer

A whole new year is upon us, and before we move forward to what lies ahead, it is customary to look back at what has already transpired and review the stories and issues The Recorder covered in 2003.

Indianapolis had its fair share of celebrity visitors including musicians the Four Tops, Al Green and the Dells, Morris Day and the Time, jazz legend Wayne Shorter, B2K, comedians George Wallace and Tommy Davidson, actors Lisa Raye, LeVar Burton, Boris Kodjoe and A.J. of BET's "106 and Park."

Walter Mosley headlined the "Meet the Artist" Gala in Indy and spoke on the state of Blacks in America.

The Legacy Theater at the Indianapolis State Museum hosted the documentary "For Gold and Glory" on Charlie Wiggins, the "Negro speed king" racer of the '20s and '30s. The theater also put on an exhibit about the Hoosier Renaissance which included short plays based on the experiences of Blacks who moved to Indianapolis to pursue a better life.

Michael Jackson made a trip to Indianapolis, but it wasn't to entertain. Indiana natives Elvy and Ivan Woodard sued Jackson for not receiving credit



on music they claimed to have written during the Jackson 5 era on the album "Pre-History: The Lost Steeltown Recordings." Jackson claimed to have nothing to do with the album's song selection.

A hip-hop forum to discuss the impact of the music on Black culture took place at Glendale Mall. "Behind the Music: Hip-hop and Our Community...A Public Conversation" hosted many community leaders voicing their views on the subject.

Two Indianapolis natives made national news when songwriters Will Baker and Pete Woodruff were nominated for the Songwriter of the Year Grammy for their song "Good Man," performed by artist India.Arie.

In other national news, Spike Lee criticized BET for its lack of what he called "serious entertainment." Lee felt the abundance of rap music being played on the channel promotes ignorance in today's youth.

Michael Jackson found himself in trouble again, facing accusations of molesting a child. He was arrested and made to pay a \$3 million bail.

Oprah Winfrey, in an effort to promote AIDS awareness and begin her initiative to help bring better schooling traveled to Africa and met with hundreds of children, as well as South Africa's Ministry of Education.

Indy poet passes down tradition to others

By JOSHUA COHEN
Staff Writer

The spot was packed with standing room only available, and there was still a line at the door. Was this a Colts game? Was this a Jay-Z concert? No, it was Blue Moon's poetry and jazz at The Cozy on a Sunday - that's right, Sunday.

The featured artist, Mijiza Soyini was on hand to speak, sing, flow and shout her writings to the full house.

Mijiza did not start out performing in front of a crowd. Inspired by her father, a former Indianapolis artist who used to read the likes of African-American poets Claude McKay and Countee Cullen to her, Mijiza would write poetry for just her mother.

Today, she writes for a much larger audience and has focused a lot of her poetry on political issues.

"I felt compelled to write because of injustices," she said. "I want

people to understand they are not alone. There's always someone feeling and going through what they have. We must pass on knowledge to each other."

To Mijiza, poetry is a vehicle for healing. It is also an oral tradition passed down through the generations.

"In ancient African kingdoms, there was a trained poet who would talk about the king's accomplishments," said Mijiza.

A large aspect of her poetry is audience participation. She likes for her show to be interactive and to get people involved.

"I'm competing with the media," she explained.

She tries to inspire in many of her current poems such as "I dig you brother" and "Brother live on," a poem about Black men where she asks the questions, "Why are you killing? Where's the anger coming

► See POET, Page C4

CD REVIEW

New album by the Manhattans is refreshing

By BRANDON A. PERRY
Staff Writer

The year 2003 was marked by fresh albums from classic R&B artists such as the Chi-Lites, Aretha Franklin, Jeffrey Osborne, the Isley Brothers, Al Green, the Dells, the Average White Band, Mother's Finest and many others.

It also highlighted a decade since the Manhattans reunited and to the joy of those longing for "real" music, resumed their recording career. Fans have even more to celebrate with the release of "Even Now," their first CD of new material in six years.

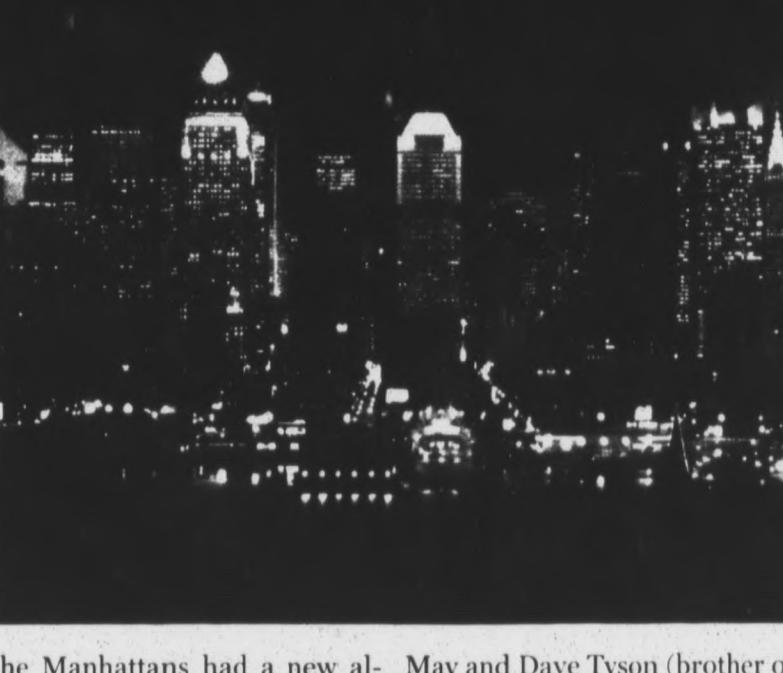
For those who might be uninhibited or don't remember, the Manhattans are one of the ultimate smooth harmony groups of the 1970s and early '80s, an era full of plush male vocal groups such as Enchantment, the O'Jays and Ray, Goodman and Brown. Between 1973 and 1983 the Grammy Award winning quartet gave us such soulful hits as "Kiss and Say Goodbye" (1976), "Shining Star" (1980) "There's No Me Without You," and my favorite, the passionate "We Never Danced to a Love Song."

I was excited to discover that

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...even now...



the Manhattans had a new album, but was somewhat apprehensive as to whether they would be able to keep their exquisite sound in the 21st century. My concerns quickly dissipated after I turned the player on and listened to the latest lineup, which includes Gerald Alston, Blue Lovett, Troy

May and Dave Tyson (brother of current Temptations member Ron Tyson).

Honorable guests featured on "Even Now" include jazz saxophonist Gerald Albright, keyboardist Billy Preston (of "Will

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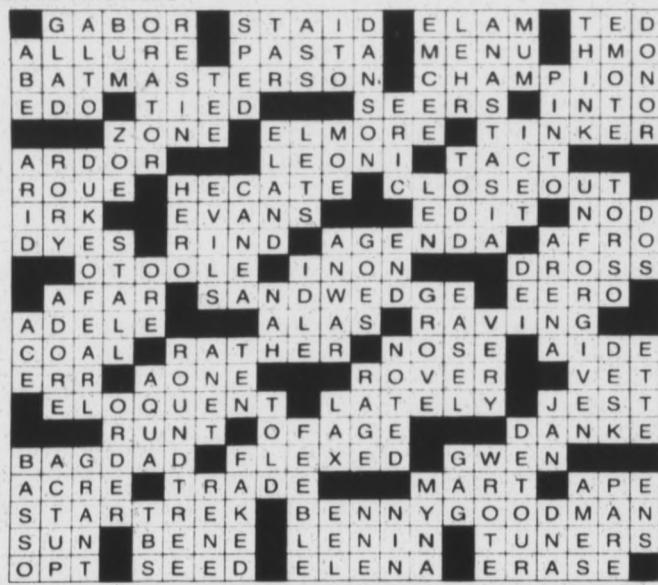
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This film is rated "R" for strong sexuality, violence, language and some drug use.
A limited number of passes are available on a first come, first served basis. While supplies last. Limit one (admit two) pass per person. Seating is available on a first come, first served basis. No purchase necessary.

OPENING IN INDIANAPOLIS JANUARY 16!

Tavis Smiley gets back into TV game on PBS

LOS ANGELES (AP) — A sign that Tavis Smiley's new PBS talk show is not standard-issue for public television: The set was created by tennis star and aspiring designer Venus Williams.

That's just the start. Smiley, returning to TV less than two years after he was canned by BET, says his daily late-night series debuting this month will be more than visually striking.

"Tavis Smiley," PBS' first West Coast-based talk show, will be fast-paced and aimed at drawing a younger, more ethnically diverse audience than typically watches public TV, its host said.

Smiley, a native of Indiana, whose punchy, baritone delivery and pointed questions are familiar to his growing National Public Radio audience, is ready to get back on the tube. (His radio program will continue.)

Bill Cosby, Democratic presidential contender Wesley Clark, Newt Gingrich and Magic Johnson are among the first week's scheduled guests. The series begins Jan. 5.

It will be paired in many markets with Charlie Rose's talk show but audiences will quickly see the difference, Smiley said. While Rose tends to devote his hour-long show to one or two guests, "Tavis Smiley" will offer three segments in half the time.

Smiley said he intends his program to be the same kind of forum he's created on NPR's "The Tavis Smiley Show," one that challenges its audience to consider issues from new viewpoints and addresses overlooked issues.

KELIS

► Continued from Page C3

to use their gifts - I'm not going to look this good in 30 years, so I may as well work with what I got while I still got it. But there is a fine line between being raunchy and being sexy.

You had huge success overseas, are you hoping this CD will bring you the same kind of success in the states?

I don't think about it, honestly. I just do the work. I sing the songs and hope people like it but I don't worry too much if I'm going to be crazy popular or any-



"I want to use this show, as I try to do on my NPR show, to introduce Americans to each other. In many ways, we still live in a very segregated country," he said.

Recently, Smiley examined heavy opposition by Black Americans to the war in Iraq.

"The reason is that Black people, disproportionately, make up the armed forces... so folks are concerned about those lives," he said. "It's not just what many people describe as dislike or disdain of George Bush. It's deeper."

The sharply different reception given former prisoners of war Jessica Lynch, who is white, and Shoshana Johnson, who is Black, on their return from Iraq was discussed by Smiley and his guests.

But race-related matters are

not the radio show's sole province

and won't be on his PBS program,

Smiley said, adding, "Most of the

issues that matter to white Americans matter to Black Americans."

For example, he recently took on what he contends has been a slighted story: the work of the federal commission investigating the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks.

"So many families of victims are concerned about the secrecy shrouding the investigations, documents labeled top secret not being released," Smiley said.

His TV show also will have a lighter side. Taping at a later hour will allow him to book more of the celebrities who balk at getting up for the early morning taping of his radio show, he said.

His eclectic radio guest roster includes prominent figures such as Senate Majority Leader Bill Frist and other voices that are less frequently given regular air time, including scholar Cornel West and former Congressman J.C. Watts.

"Left and right. And I've got my own opinions, obviously, but I believe each of us needs to have our assumptions reexamined," Smiley said.

Not everyone is impressed by his ecumenical efforts. Last year, National Review managing editor Jay Nordlinger referred unadmiringly to Smiley as "the Black leftist radio personality."

His reach is increasing. His NPR show, which started with 16

stations in January 2002, has enjoyed one of the fastest NPR expansions ever to major markets and now is carried on more than 80 stations and reaches an audience of more than 1 million.

He has brought in a somewhat younger crowd and definitely attracted more Black listeners - 30 percent of his audience, compared to about 5 percent for most other NPR shows.

Not bad for a man dumped from his previous gig.

BET founder Robert L. Johnson, slammed by criticism after the popular Smiley was dismissed, said he acted because Smiley offered an exclusive interview with former fugitive Sara Jane Olson to ABC instead of BET.

Viewers were suspicious that executives at new BET owner Viacom Inc. ordered Smiley fired because they were angry the Olson interview aired on ABC instead of Viacom-owned CBS.

Smiley came close to landing a late-night talk show deal at ABC but, caught up in network machinations, was passed over in favor of Jimmy Kimmel's fluffier program. He was disappointed, Smiley acknowledges, but ended up with the advantage of owning his PBS show, which is produced by KCET Los Angeles.

When he looks back on his BET experience, he savors the outcome.

"It's a good feeling because it's rare in this business that you have a network that tries to bury you and you resurrect, as it were, and resurrect in a situation better than the one you came out of."

ents a lot and ended up leaving home. Has your relationship improved?

Absolutely. My mom is great. She's very supportive.

What do you want listeners to take away from the CD?

An intimate moment. Boundaries shifting and that reality is all relative. I wanted it to be palatable, too. That's why I called it "Tasty" - I want it to be something they can enjoy.

school - with better outfits and longer days.

How did you meet Nas?

At a party. But really by the grace of God. I don't really want to get into any more than that.

Do you worry about Nas and groupies? Does he worry about you?

I'm not worried about him at all. And he thinks it's great, he's not worried either. Those people don't really know you. You're just a fantasy to them.

You rebelled against your par-

ents the mood by using a veteran group who has a proven track record of helping us create environments that are conducive for a couple to celebrate their admiration for each other.

This album is not suitable for superficial individuals who enjoy one night stands and fly-by-night encounters. On the contrary, it is designed for grown men and women or mature young adults who have an idea of what true, lasting love is really all about.

"Even Now" will make a great Valentine's Day gift, but buy it now so that it will be available on that special day for that special someone.

"Even Now" can be purchased at Wherehouse Music, with locations in Indianapolis at 4120 E. 82nd St. (578-8226), and 4935 W. 38th St. (297-8550). Fans can also buy it directly from the Manhattans' Web page at www.kissandsaygoodbye.com.

POET

► Continued from Page C3

from?

Mijiza also addresses social issues such as apathy, an affliction that plagues many Americans.

She offers advice to those who would write poetry, either for themselves or for an audience. "First you have to heal yourself. Write about your immediate situations, it teaches you honesty." Mijiza goes on to explain that a writer should always edit their work. Everything isn't supposed to be read to the world, some poetry should be kept.

In addition to writing poetry, Mijiza is also directing a show at the Indianapolis Artsgarden Feb. 24 at noon; and Feb. 28 at 1 p.m. She has a DVD documentary called "Inspiration: An Artist's Story." She is also the founder of "Moetry," a poetry experience with invited guests that houses a cappella, choreography, music and everything required to take poetry to the next level.

MANHATTANS

► Continued from Page C3

It Go Round In Circles" fame musicians from the crossover pop band Chicago, and singer Peggy Blu, who duets with Alston on "Let's Try Love".

"Even Now" hits the ground running with "Just Love Me Right," which features the Manhattans' trademark harmony along with an introduction by longtime members Gerald Alston and Winfred "Blue" Lovett. The song is very infectious with a memorable hook that stays in your mind and starts the album off strong.

"Can You Take It" rates extremely high on the Richter scale of sensuality with its steady percussion and sexy shades of guitar. The powerful, soaring baritone vocals of 52-year-old lead singer Alston has definitely not diminished with age. As with most of the Manhattans' classics, bass vocalist Lovett launches the song with his bedroom, Barry White-

"Even Now" does have just a few flaws, however, and I hesitate to say anything about them because the Manhattans are such nice gentlemen. But with weak drum programming and produc-



The Source wins one over Eminem



Electronic Urban Report

The ongoing saga of Eminem and The Source continues. And this time, you can score one for The Source. That's because the judge who blocked the release of an early Eminem recording featuring allegedly racist lyrics has now reversed himself and given the magazine the go-ahead for limited extracts to be heard.

Manhattan federal Judge Gerald E. Lynch had issued a temporary injunction against The Source which wanted to include a CD of the old Eminem rap with its February issue.

Now the magazine is cleared to use up to 20 seconds of the recording.

In November, The Source, in what's seen as ongoing attack against the Detroit rapper, unveiled the recording, in which Eminem can be heard making offensive comments about Black women.

In papers filed on Dec. 15, Em's legal reps argued The Source's desire to distribute the recording amounted to copyright infringement.

Eminem has apologized for making the recording after splitting up with a Black girlfriend as a 16-year-old. However, The Source asserts that the recording was made after the rapper became a legal adult.

Usher's new album is his most personal to date

Since everybody else's business seems to be out in the streets we figured it was about time for some dirt on Usher to surface.

No, it's not on a police report or in the issues of some tabloid; the revelations will take place on Usher's upcoming CD "Confessions."

For this selection he has teamed up with the likes of Jermaine Dupri and R. Kelly for production purposes.

"It's just a conglomerate of good energy for a good record," Usher told MTV about the LP. "Hopefully it'll be a little bit of what everybody wants to hear right now; a little bit of R&B, a little bit

of hip-hop/R&B-feeling type records. But this is definitely a classic R&B album."

The singer has selected "Burn" as the first official single. He's currently going through video treatments and hopes to start production on that clip soon.

"Confessions" is set to be released in March.

Trick Daddy avoids jail time

Florida-based rapper Trick Daddy avoided a jail sentence by pleading guilty to cocaine and gun charges. But he was sentenced to make 24 appearances to speak to children about the dangers of weapons and illegal drugs ... i.e., the dangers of becoming just like him.

Assistant State Attorney Stacy Glick said that Trick Daddy, 29, whose real name is Maurice Young, will speak at high schools in troubled neighborhoods.

"I hope that these youngsters will learn lessons from his life that they don't want to happen in their own lives," she said.

Glick said under a plea bargain, the most serious felony charge, aggravated assault with a firearm, was reduced to a misdemeanor, improper display of a deadly weapon or firearm.

Trick Daddy also pleaded guilty to two felonies: possession of a firearm by a felon and possession of cocaine.

Carl Lewis has to do 200 hours of community work

Since it seems fashionable for celebrities to hang out at the police station, why not make room for one of the greatest Olympians of all time?

Carl Lewis has pleaded no contest to a charge related to an accident in which he crashed his Maserati eight months ago. Lewis was also ordered to perform 200 hours of community work and attend close to two dozen alcoholics anonymous meetings.

Lewis was arrested by the California Highway Patrol on April 21, after he lost control of his car on a freeway south of downtown Los Angeles.

Lewis was not injured, but he allegedly failed a series of sobriety tests, officer Joseph Pace said at the time. The drunk driving charges were eventually dismissed.

The 41-year-old had a career that spanned two decades and included Olympic gold medals in the 1984, 1988, 1992 and 1996 Olympics.

Kanye West is well on his way

Once upon a time Chicago native Kanye West was producing beats for underground cats that most people have never heard of.

Now West is producing beats

as a member of the Roc-A-Fella camp and is a solo artist on the rise.

Funny how things change. His current radio blazer is "Through the Wire." More than a dozen media outlets have named his "College Dropout" CD, which is due Feb. 3, as one of the most anticipated albums of 2004.

In addition to "Through the Wire," he's also featured on Twista's "Slow Jamz," giving him the two hottest singles on the Nielsen SoundScan national radio chart last month.

The album features appearances by several of West's past collaborators including Jay-Z, Mos Def, Freeway, Ludacris and Twista.

More P.Diddy and Farnsworth on television

"Making the Band" is single handedly responsible for Bad Boy's Da Band, becoming a household name and for the debut album attaining the number one spot on the Billboard charts.

Now, after a lot of televised fussing and fighting, MTV is picking up the third season of "Making the Band."

The new season will feature Sean "P.Diddy" Combs and of course, the wily wild ones he put together, Da Band. The show started taping in Atlanta in November. By the way, Da Band's debut album, "Too Hot for TV," has moved 460,385 units to date.

Viewers have been enjoying watching the behind-the-scenes machinations of P.Diddy doing what he does best, as well as seeing the band struggle to become a cohesive unit," said MTV's Carol Eng, senior vice president of original programming. "We anticipate another compelling season as we find out what P.Diddy has in store for the group living and working under his wing."

Outkast and Rosa Parks close to agreement

Rosa Parks may have her day in court. She is close to reaching a settlement with Outkast over the song "Rosa Parks." The settlement would end a five-year battle between the two parties.

Under terms of the settlement, Outkast's record label, Arista, will produce CDs and DVDs aimed at educating hip-hop fans about Parks and the struggle for civil rights in Montgomery, Ala.

Arista attempted to settle the suit by holding a benefit concert to honor Parks, with the proceeds going to charity, but Parks rejected the offer.

Parks' lawyers are also trying to determine a financial settlement relating to damages Outkast's song may have done to "A Tribute to Rosa Parks," a project which has sold over 1 million copies.

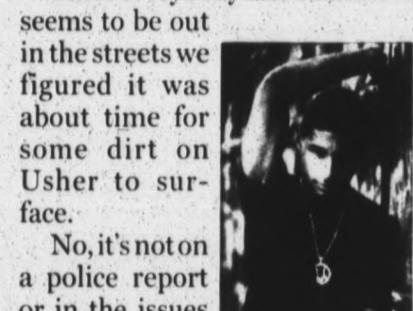


Photo by: J. M. HARRIS

Photo by

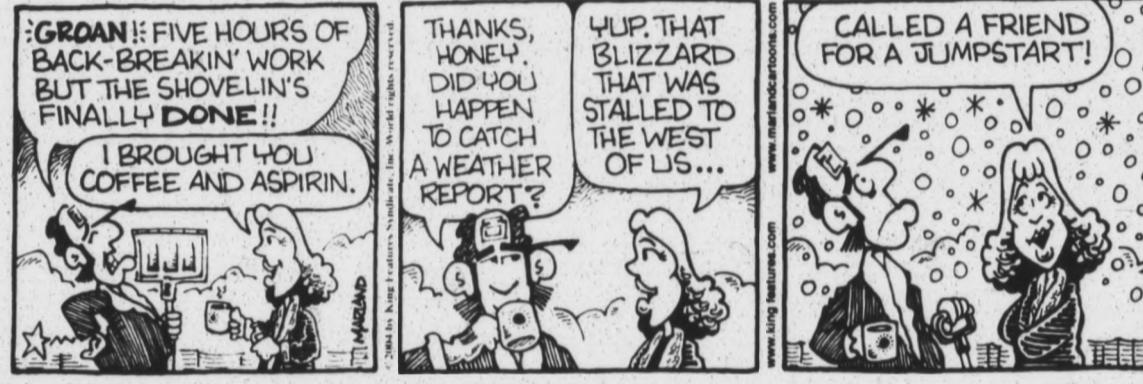
MAMA'S BOYZ by JERRY CRAFT



THE SPATS by JEFF PICKERING



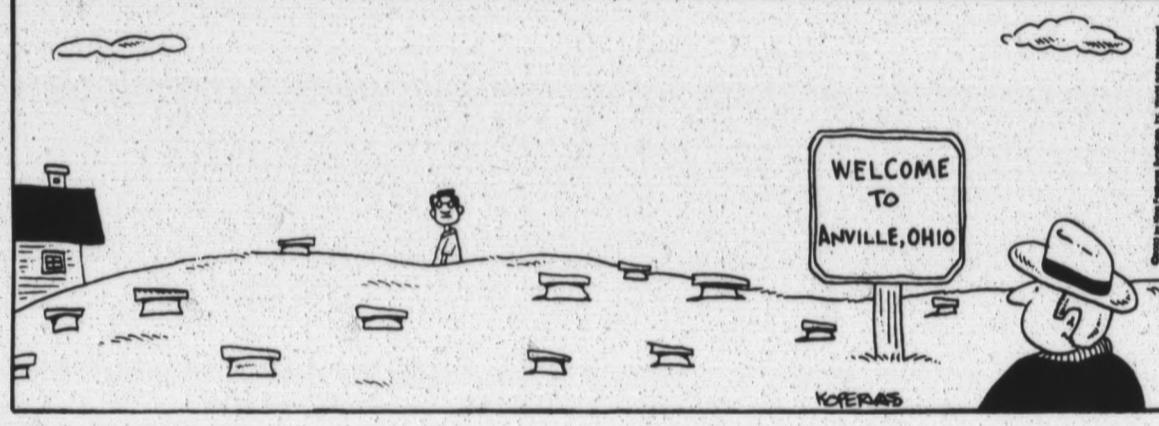
R.F.D. by MIKE MARLAND



AMBER WAVES by DAVE T. PHIPPS



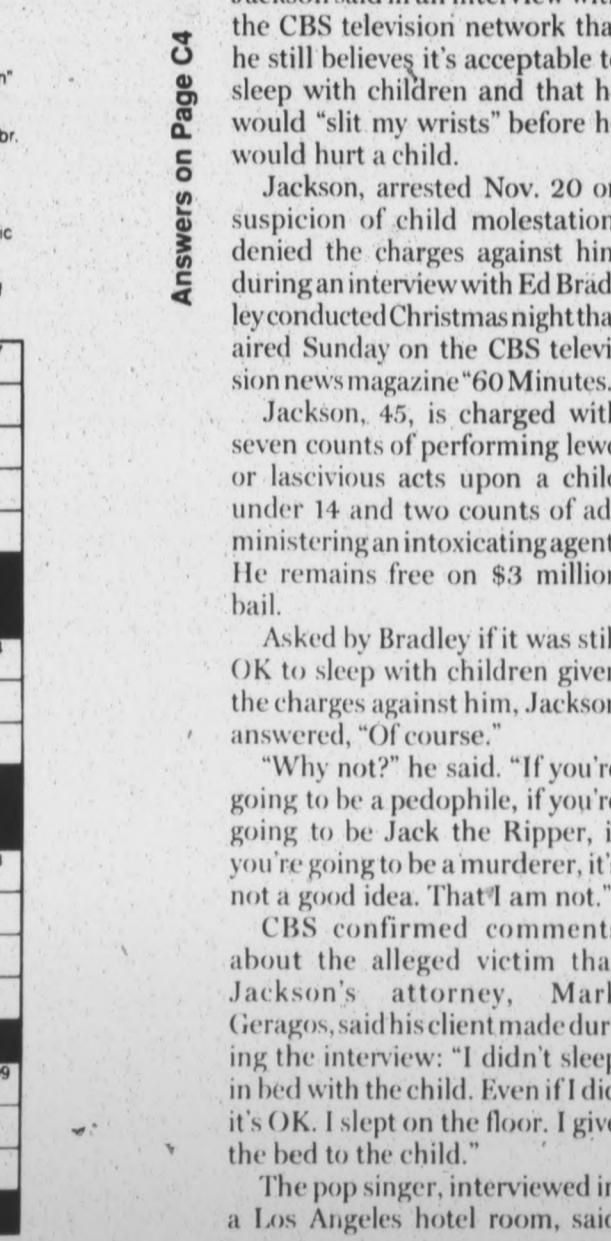
OUT ON A LIMB by GARY KOPERVAS



Super Crossword GENE POOL

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121										118				123

Answers on Page C4



PARENTING TIPS
FROM THE DESK
OF JADA10 tips for smooth
move with children

(NAPSI) — When considering a move, a recent survey found, a parent's top concern is how that move will affect their family.

Fortunately, guidance is now available on how to make the move easier for children. Here are 10 tips from the real estate professionals at Century 21:

(1) Make a positive goodbye to the old home and community. Before you move, host a get-together with close friends and neighbors to say goodbye. Visit special places your family loves.

When your home is empty, walk through the rooms and see how empty they are without your possessions.

(2) Plan a welcoming ritual for your new home. Walk through it together. Gather to hang a family photograph or find a place for an object that is special to your family.

(3) Have survival necessities that you can find immediately in your new home. This includes the "blankie" for baby, toys for kids, favorite pajamas for your preschooler, essential CD for your teen and the coffee pot for you.

(4) Re-establish family routines right away. Once you've moved in, get back to your normal schedule as quickly as possible.

(5) Prioritize the unpacking process. Make your first priority setting up the kids' rooms. Take time to enjoy getting to know your new home.

(6) Allow the kids some say in setting up their bedrooms. Let them claim their new space.

(7) Help your children feel comfortable in their new rooms. Some children have problems sleeping in a new bedroom. Take time to talk about how this room is similar to the child's old room and how it's different. Pay special attention to things that were in the old room to encourage a sense of familiarity.

(8) Get familiar with the new neighborhood. Talk to your kids about where they can go and where they can't. To make a game of it, print out the Scavenger Hunt on www.C21SmoothMoves.com.

(9) Help your pets settle in. Kids will feel more comfortable when they see that their four-legged friends are doing OK. Cats do best when you confine them to one room in the new home. Keep dogs on a leash until they get to know the new neighborhood.

(10) Make new friends but keep the old. Help your children make friends in the new community by finding activities for them, including clubs, lessons and classes. At the same time, support their need to hold on to their old friends.

For more tips, visit the Web site at www.C21SmoothMoves.com.



With a move, there's a certain amount of disruption to normal schedules. Try to get back to them as quickly as possible.

People & Trends

C SECTION

FRIDAY, JANUARY 2, 2004

Celebrating the principles of Kwanzaa



A group of children make a train of numbers during the annual Kwanzaa Celebration at Crispus Attucks Middle School.



Kamau Jywanza and Mashariki Jywanza open a gift at their table as they enjoy a conversation between one another.



Artist Achebe Turner shows off some of his paintings.



Edwina Wright displays a gift basket containing products from her company Aromatic Pleasures. (Photos/C. Guynn)

NCNW benefit breakfast



(Left) During the National Council of Negro Women's (NCNW) United Negro-College Fund Benefit Breakfast, liturgical dancer, Shaila Strayhorn from Light of the World Christian Church performs for those in attendance. (Above) Martha Bonds, NCNW member and health fair director for the Marion County Health Department speaks to the women about the NCNW pledge "to cherish and enrich her heritage of freedom and progress by working for the integration of all her people regardless of race." (Photos/C. Guynn)

Remembering
Indianapolis
Legends

(Right) Louis G. Hill takes one last look at his lifetime friend, Spurgeon D. Davenport. Davenport, a retired police officer and the first Black deputy chief of the Indianapolis Police Department died Dec. 21. He was a member of the first graduating class of Crispus Attucks High School in 1928 and also a member of Mt. Paran Missionary Baptist Church for over 50 years. (Photo/C. Guynn)



(Left) Elwood Black explores a table containing Ray P. Crowe's many coaching accomplishments during his years as head coach at Crispus Attucks High School from 1950-1957. Crowe won two consecutive state championships. Under his direction, Attucks became the first team from Indianapolis to win the State Title and the first Black team in the country to win a state title.



(Left to right) Larry R. Crowe, Linda Crow-Knight and Lloyd E. Crow, coach Crowe's children, look at a painting of their father at his wake. Crowe was a member of the Indiana Basketball Hall of Fame, served as an Indiana State Representative as well as director of the Indianapolis Parks Department. (Photos/C. Guynn)



Business

Business underwent highs and lows last year

By ERICKA C. WHEELER
Staff Writer

The year 2003 was a year for highs and lows in business.

For those who are old enough to remember - you can recall when downtown Indianapolis was nothing but just downtown. Earlier this year, Indianapolis downtown celebrated 10 years of revitalization.

Not only do Hoosiers go downtown now to just watch a Pacers or Colts game, all generations visit downtown more frequently to shop at Circle Centre mall or even a walk on the canal. Younger generations find themselves often visiting nightclubs and movie theaters that have been added to the list of retailers flocking downtown.

But that's not the only high for the city. More recently, Indianapolis was honored with being the sixth most cost effective meeting space in the country. Making it a win-win for both the city and those companies who work hard to ensure that downtown Indianapolis is a top city to visit.

Speaking of recognition, Hyatt Regency Indianapolis was recognized for its continuous hiring of African Americans. The Recorder spoke with the Hyatt's general manager in the middle of the year, as he explained his reason for keeping a diverse workforce.

The Coca-Cola Circle City Classic received the highest amount of promotional dollars in its 20 years of Classic games. Receiving \$850,000 in cash sponsorships that amount was up from last year by \$165,000 and Circle City Classic organizers expect to receive an even bigger amount next year.

With the loss of longtime Urban League President Sam Jones, Joseph Slash was elected as the second president of the Indianapolis Urban League.

The city as a whole also lost a veteran investigative reporter, Sandra Chapman left WISH and has not spoken on her new location.

Let's talk national highs. Famed attorney Johnnie Cochran conquered his largest case ever and the largest environmental case ever filed by settling a \$700 million lawsuit for Anniston, Ala.

► See BUSINESS, Page D2

NATIONAL

Cochran makes history with environmental case victory



Johnnie Cochran Jr.



Pop star Michael Jackson presented James Brown with an award during the third annual BET Awards. About 5.5 million people watched the premier. (Photo/E. Wheeler)



Hyatt Regency Indianapolis received the Partners in Diversity Award. Glenda Wilson, senior sales manager and General Manager Dave Jacobs accepted the award. (Photo/E. Wheeler)



Joe Slash became the second president of the Indianapolis Urban League after the death of long time President Sam Jones. Slash was elected during the summer of 2003. (Photo/J. Hurst)



Members of the Florida A&M band performed during the 20th annual Circle City Classic game. Last year's Classic generated its highest revenue in history. (Photo/J. Hurst)

2003 most memorable Black Business Profiles



James Campbell, owner of Cambi Supreme Natural Mineral Water, stands in front of his delivery truck as he speaks with a potential buyer. (Photo/J. Hurst)

(1) Cambi Supreme Natural Mineral Water
Owner: James Campbell
Service: Natural Mineral Water
Phone: (317) 539-5332

(2) Adult Primary Care Medicine
Owner: Louis Wright M.D.
Service: Adult medical treatment
Phone: (317) 355-2700

(3) Bud's Dog House
Owner: Nicko Bryant
Service: Pet grooming
Phone: (317) 920-8270

(4) Moe's Functional Fitness
Owner: Mosi Barnes
Service: Fitness
Phone: (317) 847-3603

(5) Lady A's Personal Chef Service
Owner: James Bryant
Service: Healthy food
Phone: (317) 841-8581

NO. 1 COLLEGE FOR BLACK STUDENTS Morehouse continues

By ERICKA C. WHEELER
Staff Writer

It's time again, to crank out the list of top colleges and universities for African Americans.

Usually the top 10 colleges stay in the top 10 - they tend to shift positions but never fall too far below. But 2003 ranks shifted a little pushing some of the most prominent colleges down to the lower end of the totem pole.

"While many Black schools are thriving, several are in crisis and need more support from the Black community," said Black Enterprise publisher Earl Graves who recently released their top 50 colleges for Blacks.

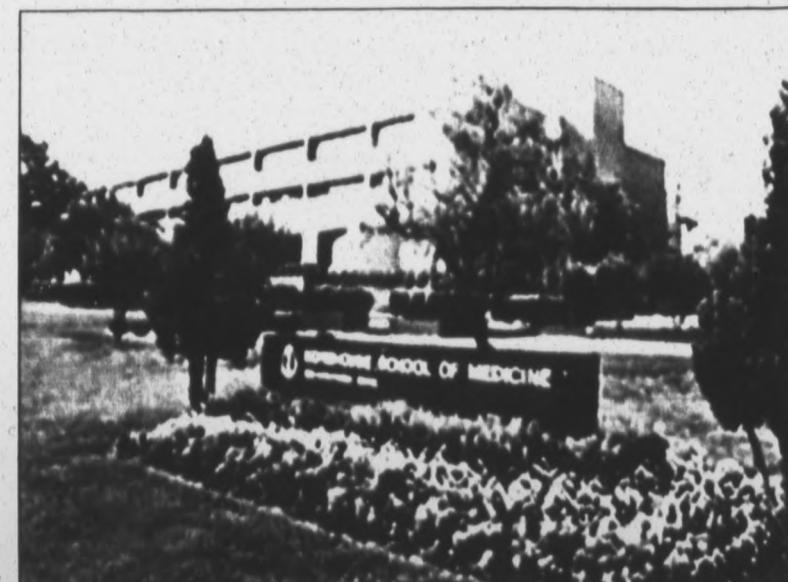
Let's start with No. 10

Atlanta's own Clark University. Dropping down two spots from 2001's ranking. With 3,923 students attending, these students are averaging \$12,862 in tuition.

Known for its popular sports program Georgetown University came in the No. 9 place. If you have a child that is considering attending Georgetown be sure to take into consideration the \$25,152 cost of tuition.

An Ivy League school tops the charts for Black college students. Columbia University jumped up to the No. 8 spot from No. 10 in 2001. Based in New York, this university has only 681 Black students out of the 6,867 total population. Yes this school talks about their top 50 colleges for Blacks.

► See COLLEGE, Page D2



Black Business Profile

Full name of business:
Access Realty Group Inc.

Address:
7140 E. 46th St., Ste. 100
Indianapolis, IN 46226

Phone:
(317) 547-8514

Fax:
(317) 547-8513

Year opened:
2002

Owner:
Frederick S. Hyche



Frederick S. Hyche

Number of paid employees:
4 (Commission sales)

Product/services:

Licensed real estate brokerage - specializing in residential and commercial real estate service. We also have expertise in new residential construction and church real estate.

Significant business advances/achievements:

Recently relocated to a new office location. Strong "client focused" and commitment to every client we serve.

Future goals:

Our mission is not to be the largest, but the best real estate company in the city of Indianapolis. In addition, we would like to increase our staff by two additional real estate professionals over the next six to nine months.

Why did you start the business and how has it grown?

After spending a 16-year career in the banking/finance industry, I always had a passion for the real estate business. I have always worked with the public and have a reputation for providing the expertise, knowledge and level of client service that has earned numerous awards. The company has had steady growth since its inception. The current staff consists of two realtors, a client specialist and officer manager.

What are some of the obstacles you faced and how did you overcome them?

Since our company is not a nationally recognized real estate franchise we must distinguish ourselves from the competition by rendering unsurpassed client service. I preach to our staff that the only thing that separates us from the competition is them. We are basically a referral-based company and therefore guard our relationships carefully.

Who does your business best serve and why?

Our business does not try to serve the masses but those clients that want a company that will represent their best interests and will genuinely treat them in a way we would want to be treated. We work with many first time homebuyers who need someone to go the extra mile from start to finish.

How has your experience helped to meet the needs of your clients?

My past experience has well equipped me to understand and meet the needs of my clients. Each and every client has a different set of needs and expectations. My job is to understand their needs and objectives and exceed their expectations. The realtors and associates in our office also have worked in various high-level customer service positions and this professional experience flows over to our clients.

Where did you get the name of your company and does it have any significant meaning?

The name of our company actually has a biblical underlying meaning. In the story of Noah's Ark God instructs Noah how to build an ark with a window on the upper deck. This window, which I refer to as the "Access Point" will be used by Noah to release a dove upon the earth to see if the flood waters have receded. The significance of this is that the window represents "access." The olive leaf represents the dry land or "real estate" and the dove represents the "group" realtor of messengers of good news.



(Left to right) Vera Hyche, office manager, conducts a meeting with staffers Johnnie Lewis and Joyce Rogers. (Photos/E. Wheeler)

If you would like to be featured in the Recorder's Black Business Profile, call 924-5143.

BUSINESS

► Continued from Page 1

residents who underwent medical injuries from a toxic chemical called polychlorinated biphenyls.

In 2003 a new TV network, TVOne, announced that it would challenge long time network BET, claiming that BET failed to cater to the 25-54 crowd. The network said that it would be up and running at the turn of the New Year and will be carried by Comcast Cable channel.

But BET can gloat about their recent accomplishment of the highest ratings in the history of their programming. During the 2003 BET awards, the Black geared station witness 5.5 million viewers for the program.

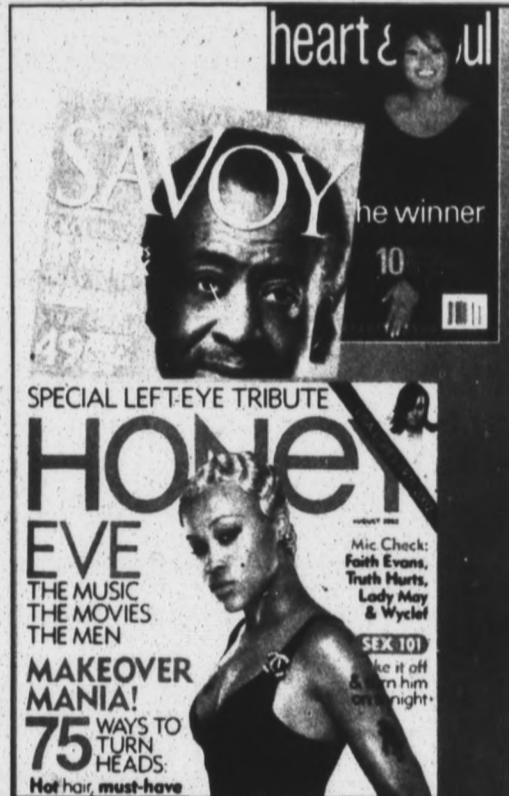
In February rap artist Ludacris and Pepsi reached an agreement after Pepsi dropped the rap artist. Pepsi agreed to help distribute millions of dollars in charitable contributions through the Ludacris Foundation.

Vanguard Media recently shut its doors, putting over 75 full time employees out of work and shutting down three Black magazines including Savoy. The company recently filed for bankruptcy.

With all of the gloating for many companies the country is still faced with a jobless market, but the stock market is still up.

Like other states around the country Indiana witnessed many layoffs in the city. United Airlines laid off 1,500 workers after being forced to close the Indianapolis maintenance center to filing for a Chapter 11.

Let us not forget earlier this year long time optometrist Gloria Jennings retired after serving as an entrepreneur for 22 years. She decided to pursue her current goals of receiving a higher education.



Rap artist Ludacris, (above) reached a mutual agreement with Pepsi last year. The Ludacris Foundation and Pepsi joined together to donate money to various charities.

Savoy, Honey and Heart & Soul magazines were all forced to shut down after the parent company, Vanguard Media closed its doors in early December.

109th Year

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Offer Expires February 29, 2004

Consider options when choosing a mortgage

By LT. GOV. KATHY DAVIS

If you're shopping for a mortgage, you know that there are several different options available. Each of these options has its advantages and disadvantages.

A mortgage is often the biggest financial commitment in a person's life. It is important that homebuyers determine which mortgage best fits their situation.

There are several factors to consider when shopping for a mortgage including: the type, interest rate, repayment time, and whether there are points or fees to be paid.

The types of loans available today generally fall into three categories: fixed-rate, adjustable rate and balloon mortgages.

The following information describes the three categories for loans.

Fixed-Rate Mortgage: A mortgage with an interest rate and monthly payment that do not change over the term of the loan. A fixed rate may be best if interest rates are low or you need predictable monthly payments.

Adjustable-Rate Mortgage (ARM): Also known as a variable-rate loan, the interest rate on these loans can go up or down depending on how national interest rates move. ARMs usually offer a lower ini-

trial rate than fixed-rate loans. But, the rate is only good for a certain period of time and there's a risk that your rate could go up. You should budget for the higher monthly payment in case interest rates rise. ARMs may be a good choice when interest rates are high. People who opt for ARMs often plan to sell or refinance their home before the end of the initial rate period.

Balloon Mortgage: You can get a relatively low rate and low monthly payments by agreeing to repay most of your loan in one large balloon payment after a specified period of time, usually five or seven years.

Mortgage interest rates vary frequently and a lower rate can result in considerable savings over the life of the loan. While low interest rates are certainly a factor in selecting a mortgage, it's important to consider the other costs associated with the loan. These costs can include such factors as origination fees, and discount and origination points.

Some lenders might offer a low introductory rate for the first few months of your loan. While an introductory interest rate can save you money, make sure that you know exactly how much your interest rate will increase and what your monthly payment will be once the introductory rate period ends. Most importantly, plan your budget around what your payment will be once the introductory rate expires. You can also get a lower rate by agreeing to pay the

lender a prepayment penalty if you pay off the loan early.

Before you agree to loan conditions, make sure that you completely understand them and are comfortable with what you're doing. You should fully understand what is being quoted and ask for the annual percentage rate (APR), which includes the interest rate and fees.

One of the most useful tools in comparing mortgages is a mortgage calculator. This will allow you to see the long-term effect of different rates and mortgage types. Mortgage calculators can be found on most real estate and lender Web sites. A credit counselor can also help you to sift through the options.

If you are in the market for a mortgage, the Indiana Housing Finance Authority (IHFA) has mortgage programs that are targeted to low- and moderate-income first-time homebuyers. These mortgages offer a 30-year fixed interest rate that is generally one-half to 1 percent below the market rate. The current rate is 5.5 percent. Fixed rate mortgages can be beneficial for low- and moderate-income buyers because as their income rises, their mortgage payment stays the same and they can keep more of their income.

For information on the IHFA and its programs, visit our Web site at www.indianahousing.org or call toll-free in Indiana, 800-872-0371.

Seven business leaders join housing nonprofit board of directors

Special to The Recorder

African Americans have suffered another month of double-digit unemployment.

According to a government report released by the Bureau of Labor Statistics, 10.2 percent of African Americans were unemployed in November compared with 11.5 percent the month before.

The national unemployment rate in November was 5.9 percent. "For those Americans without jobs, the term 'jobless recovery' is a cruel joke, Congressional Black Caucus (CBC) Chair Elijah E. Cummings, D-Md., said.

The new data also showed that job loss continued during the month of November in the manufacturing sector. According to current data, in November, the economy lost an additional 17,000 manufacturing jobs.

The country has lost manufacturing jobs every month for the last three years, for a total loss of 2.6 million manufacturing jobs since President Bush took office.

Alghani is a special assistant to the president at the Health & Hospital Corp. McCarthy is the president of Pepper Construction. Pribble is an attorney with Baker & Daniels. Wize is the executive director of the Indiana Housing Finance Authority. Carolyn M. Coleman, deputy mayor for neighborhoods, is re-appointed to the board and will serve another three-year term.

Balmas is a senior vice president at Fifth Third Bank. Keitch is the Indiana regional president at Huntington National Bank. Thiems is an executive vice president at Union Planters Bank.

"The broad representation of our board will bring diverse perspectives to the table, allowing us to build better communities through homeownership," INHP President Moira Carlstedt said. "We're very excited about the potential it has for the city of Indianapolis and its residents."

The INHP board consists of 24 members, who serve three-year terms. The new board members' terms will expire on March 30, 2006.

INHP is a nonprofit organization established in 1988 to improve the availability of safe, decent and affordable housing opportunities for residents of Indianapolis, particularly low-to moderate-income residents.

COLLEGE

► Continued from Page 1

Spelman College President Beverly Daniel Tatum said, "because we know that we are doing good work, and it is great to be recognized for it. Many of the other schools in the top 100 have resources that exceed our own. We are proud of the accomplishments that we have made in spite of limited resources."

Known for its beautiful lake view and historical dormitories. Hampton University in Hampton, Va., took the No. 2 spot from Spelman.

The No. 1 university for African American students is once again Morehouse College, another Atlanta school. The all men's school averages \$11,332 annually, but spending the dollars at this school seems to work since Morehouse continues to return to the No. 1 spot. This is the school where legendary Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. attended and longtime filmmaker Spike Lee.

Findings were compiled by Black Business Enterprise magazine.

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LEGALS ■ LEGALS ■ CLASSIFIEDS

PUBLIC NOTICE

19 ADVERTISEMENT FOR BIDS

The Trustees of Purdue University will receive sealed bids for the following projects until 3:00 p.m. Eastern Standard Time on **Thursday, the 16th day of January 2004** in the **Parking Facilities Office, Visitor Information Center, 504 Northwestern Avenue, West Lafayette, IN 47902**.

1 West Lafayette Campus - Athletic Maintenance Facility - 2004
2 West Lafayette Campus - Recreational Sports Center Reroof
Sections U, V, W and Y - 2004
3 West Lafayette Campus - Campus-Wide Single-Mode Fiber Plant Upgrade Phase IV - 2004
4 West Lafayette Campus - Young Hall New Handicap Ramp - 2004
5 West Lafayette Campus - Earhart Residence Hall West Wing Exterior Masonry Repairs (Earhart Residence Hall Install Sprinklers and Student Room A/C) - 2004
6 West Lafayette Campus - Purdue Memorial Union Install Sprinkler System Phase III - 2004

Bids will then be publicly opened and read aloud in the **Visitor Information Center Conference Room** in the **Visitor Information Center, 504 Northwestern Avenue, West Lafayette, IN 47902**.

Bids received after such time will be rejected unopened. Bids may be withdrawn prior to such time, but no bids shall be withdrawn for a period of sixty (60) days thereafter. Bids for the **Purdue Memorial Union** install Sprinkler System Phase III project shall not be withdrawn for period of one hundred eighty (180) days thereafter. The Principal Subcontractor Questionnaire listing the names of the bidder's principal subcontractors shall be submitted with the bid. The remainder of the Questionnaires and Material Lists shall be submitted prior to **3:00 p.m. Eastern Standard Time on Thursday, the 22nd day of January 2004**.

Physical Facilities Construction Department
401 S. Grant Street
Purdue University
West Lafayette, IN 47907-2024

Bids shall be for complete construction only, property executed and submitted on Form 96, accompanied by executed Form 96A (as presented by the State Board of Accounts) giving financial data as recent as possible, and a Non-Confidential Affidavit together with other documents as required by the instructions to Bidders and addressed to the Trustees of Purdue University, clearly marked with the project and the bid opening date.

Each bid must be accompanied by a Contractor's Combination Bid Bond and Bond for Construction in the form included in the specifications made payable to The Trustees of Purdue University in an amount equal to the maximum total of the base bid and any alternate bids, guaranteeing the execution and faithful performance of the contract for the work if awarded.

With the exception of Project No. 4, wage rates shall be not less than the common construction wage as determined pursuant to IC 5-16-7-1, et seq., as amended.

The instructions to Bidders contained in the specifications are by this reference made a part hereof, and all bidders shall be deemed advised of the provisions thereof, and of the General Conditions of the contract specifications, plans and drawings for each project.

A Mandatory Pre-Bid Meeting for the Campus-Wide Single-Mode Fiber Plant Upgrade Phase IV project will be held on **Monday, January 5, 2004** in **Freeholder Hall Conference Room, 2-1, 401 S. Grant Street, West Lafayette, Indiana, from 10:00 a.m. until 12:00 noon**. There will be a walkthrough from 1:00 until 3:00 p.m. for those interested.

A Mandatory Pre-Bid Meeting for the Earhart Residence Hall West Wing Exterior Masonry Repair project is scheduled for **Tuesday, January 6, 2004**, at 10:00 a.m. (local time). All bidders of this project are required to attend the pre-bid site visit. The site visit is a required condition for the contract award to the successful bidder. The tour will begin in the main lobby of Earhart Residence Hall, corner of First Street and MacArthur Street, West Lafayette, Indiana.

Architect/Engineering firms for projects are:

Project No. 1 HNTB
715 Kirk Drive
Kansas City, MO 64105
Phone 816-472-1201
Fax 816-471-1934

Project No. 2 DLZ Indiana LLC
360 Century Building
36 South Pennsylvania Street
Indianapolis, IN 46204-3628
Phone 317-633-4120

Project No. 3 Butler Telecom Inc
401 S. Grant Street
West Lafayette, IN 47907-2024
Phone 765-494-7062

Project No. 4 The Schneider Corporation
3725 Home Drive Park 26
Lafayette, IN 47905
Phone 765-448-6661

Project No. 5 Arsee Engineers Inc
9715 Kinrad Drive Street, Suite 100
Fishers, IN 46038-9459
Phone 317-594-5152

Project No. 6 Gibraltar Design, Inc
9102 N. Meridian Street, Suite 300
Indianapolis, IN 46208-1809
Phone 317-580-5777

Bidding Documents are to be obtained from

Purdue University Printing Services
(front door on Nimitz off S. Russell Drive)
250 S. Intramural Drive
Purdue University
West Lafayette, Indiana 47907-2023
Phone 765-494-2006 or 496-1629

to order a set of plans or obtain bidder's list, please call 765-484-2006. A \$100.00 deposit will be required for each set of Bidding Documents which will be refunded when returned promptly and in good condition. Checks should be made payable to Purdue University Printing Services and mailed to the above address.

Bidding Documents for all projects are on file in the office of Vice President for Physical Facilities
401 S. Grant Street
Purdue University
West Lafayette, IN 47907-2024
Phone 765-494-7242

The Board of Trustees of the Trustees of Purdue University reserves the right to reject any and all bids and to waive to the extent permitted by law any of the terms, conditions and provisions contained in this advertisement for bids or the instructions to bidders or any informality or irregularity of omission in any bid, provided that such waiver shall in the discretion of the Board of Trustees be to the advantage of the Trustees of Purdue University.

TRUSTEES OF PURDUE UNIVERSITY

Wayne Jonas

Vice President for Physical Facilities

12/19/03 PT

You can now find your weekly horoscope on the Recorder's website at

www.indianapolisrecorder.com

While you're there, check out our other features and leave a message on the Recorder message board!

Director of Residence Life

Franklin College

Franklin College, founded in 1834 is a small private liberal arts college located 25 minutes south of Indianapolis in the suburban community of Franklin. "For Leaders For Life" best describes the mission of this 1,000 student institution known for the integration of the Leadership and Professional Development Programs within the content area curriculum.

The Director of Residence Life is a full time, 12 month position within the Student Affairs division reporting to the Dean of Students. The Director is responsible for all administrative, educational and supervisory responsibilities of residence life and for the safety and welfare of all residents including 4-area residence areas housing 680 students, supervising 4 hall coordinators and through them, 12 G5 resident assistants. Responsibilities include establishing and maintaining a system for student room and roommate selection, coordinating housing assignments, developing annual recruitment, selection and training programs and in-service training for Residence Hall Coordinators and Resident Assistants, administering department budget and participating in crisis response team for campus. The director also serves as a judicial officer and maintains the records and statistics for all campus judicial cases. Participation in College committees and other assignments as needed.

Requirements: Master's degree in related field and experience in higher education residence life administration required.

Please send a letter of application, resume, plus names, titles and home numbers of three professional references. Materials received by **February 15, 2004** will be given full consideration. Application materials should be directed to **Franklin College, c/o Carmen Rosengarten, 501 East Monroe Street, Franklin, Indiana 46131**.

Franklin College, an AA/EO employer, is committed to diversity and equality in education and employment.

THE INDIANAPOLIS RECORDER

STATE OF INDIANA

#3 The State of Indiana seeks responses to Request for Proposals RFP 4-24 from qualified respondents for **Indiana Department for Environmental Management for Evaluation of Air Compliance and Enforcement System**. Proposals will be received until **3 p.m. EST on January 26, 2004**, at the IDOA office in Room W468 of the Indiana Government Center South, 402 W Washington St, Indianapolis, IN 46204. Specifications may be obtained by contacting **James Osborne, Purchasing Administrator** at the above address, at (317) 232-3034, or by visiting the IDOA Procurement Division's **Electronic Solicitation Posting (ESP)** on the State of Indiana's site on the World Wide Web <http://www.ind.gov/doa/proc> 12/26/03 21

#4 The State of Indiana seeks responses to Request for Proposals RFP 4-21 from qualified respondents for **Indiana Department of Insurance for Evaluation of Geological Engineering Consultant**. Proposals will be received until **3 p.m. EST on January 14, 2004**, at the IDOA office in Room W468 of the Indiana Government Center South, 402 W Washington St, Indianapolis, IN 46204. Specifications may be obtained by contacting **James Osborne, Purchasing Administrator** at the above address, at (317) 232-3034, or by visiting the IDOA Procurement Division's **Electronic Solicitation Posting (ESP)** on the State of Indiana's site on the World Wide Web <http://www.ind.gov/doa/proc> 12/26/03 21

#5 The State of Indiana seeks responses to Request for Proposals RFP 4-28 from qualified respondents for **Indiana Family and Social Services Administration for Evaluation of IT Services for ISETS**. Proposals will be received until **3 p.m. EST on January 30, 2004**, at the IDOA office in Room W468 of the Indiana Government Center South, 402 W Washington St, Indianapolis, IN 46204. Specifications may be obtained by contacting **Shelley Harris, Manager** at the above address, at (317) 232-3034, or by visiting the IDOA Procurement Division's **Electronic Solicitation Posting (ESP)** on the State of Indiana's site on the World Wide Web <http://www.ind.gov/doa/proc> 12/26/03 21

#6 The State of Indiana seeks responses to Request for Proposals RFP 4-29 from qualified respondents for **Indiana Family and Social Services Administration for Evaluation of IT Services for ISETS**. Proposals will be received until **3 p.m. EST on January 30, 2004**, at the IDOA office in Room W468 of the Indiana Government Center South, 402 W Washington St, Indianapolis, IN 46204. Specifications may be obtained by contacting **Shelley Harris, Manager** at the above address, at (317) 232-3034, or by visiting the IDOA Procurement Division's **Electronic Solicitation Posting (ESP)** on the State of Indiana's site on the World Wide Web <http://www.ind.gov/doa/proc> 12/26/03 21

#7 The State of Indiana seeks responses to Request for Proposals RFP 4-20 from qualified respondents for **Indiana Family and Social Services Administration for Evaluation of IT Services for ISETS**. Proposals will be received until **3 p.m. EST on January 30, 2004**, at the IDOA office in Room W468 of the Indiana Government Center South, 402 W Washington St, Indianapolis, IN 46204. Specifications may be obtained by contacting **Shelley Harris, Manager** at the above address, at (317) 232-3034, or by visiting the IDOA Procurement Division's **Electronic Solicitation Posting (ESP)** on the State of Indiana's site on the World Wide Web <http://www.ind.gov/doa/proc> 12/26/03 21

#8 The State of Indiana seeks responses to Request for Proposals RFP 4-21 from qualified respondents for **Indiana Family and Social Services Administration for Evaluation of IT Services for ISETS**. Proposals will be received until **3 p.m. EST on January 30, 2004**, at the IDOA office in Room W468 of the Indiana Government Center South, 402 W Washington St, Indianapolis, IN 46204. Specifications may be obtained by contacting **Shelley Harris, Manager** at the above address, at (317) 232-3034, or by visiting the IDOA Procurement Division's **Electronic Solicitation Posting (ESP)** on the State of Indiana's site on the World Wide Web <http://www.ind.gov/doa/proc> 12/26/03 21

#9 The State of Indiana seeks responses to Request for Proposals RFP 4-22 from qualified respondents for **Indiana Family and Social Services Administration for Evaluation of IT Services for ISETS**. Proposals will be received until **3 p.m. EST on January 30, 2004**, at the IDOA office in Room W468 of the Indiana Government Center South, 402 W Washington St, Indianapolis, IN 46204. Specifications may be obtained by contacting **Shelley Harris, Manager** at the above address, at (317) 232-3034, or by visiting the IDOA Procurement Division's **Electronic Solicitation Posting (ESP)** on the State of Indiana's site on the World Wide Web <http://www.ind.gov/doa/proc> 12/26/03 21

#10 The State of Indiana seeks responses to Request for Proposals RFP 4-23 from qualified respondents for **Indiana Family and Social Services Administration for Evaluation of IT Services for ISETS**. Proposals will be received until **3 p.m. EST on January 30, 2004**, at the IDOA office in Room W468 of the Indiana Government Center South, 402 W Washington St, Indianapolis, IN 46204. Specifications may be obtained by contacting **Shelley Harris, Manager** at the above address, at (317) 232-3034, or by visiting the IDOA Procurement Division's **Electronic Solicitation Posting (ESP)** on the State of Indiana's site on the World Wide Web <http://www.ind.gov/doa/proc> 12/26/03 21

#11 The State of Indiana seeks responses to Request for Proposals RFP 4-24 from qualified respondents for **Indiana Family and Social Services Administration for Evaluation of IT Services for ISETS**. Proposals will be received until **3 p.m. EST on January 30, 2004**, at the IDOA office in Room W468 of the Indiana Government Center South, 402 W Washington St, Indianapolis, IN 46204. Specifications may be obtained by contacting **Shelley Harris, Manager** at the above address, at (317) 232-3034, or by visiting the IDOA Procurement Division's **Electronic Solicitation Posting (ESP)** on the State of Indiana's site on the World Wide Web <http://www.ind.gov/doa/proc> 12/26/03 21

#12 The State of Indiana seeks responses to Request for Proposals RFP 4-25 from qualified respondents for **Indiana Family and Social Services Administration for Evaluation of IT Services for ISETS**. Proposals will be received until **3 p.m. EST on January 30, 2004**, at the IDOA office in Room W468 of the Indiana Government Center South, 402 W Washington St, Indianapolis, IN 46204. Specifications may be obtained by contacting **Shelley Harris, Manager** at the above address, at (317) 232-3034, or by visiting the IDOA Procurement Division's **Electronic Solicitation Posting (ESP)** on the State of Indiana's site on the World Wide Web <http://www.ind.gov/doa/proc> 12/26/03 21

#13 The State of Indiana seeks responses to Request for Proposals RFP 4-26 from qualified respondents for **Indiana Family and Social Services Administration for Evaluation of IT Services for ISETS**. Proposals will be received until **3 p.m. EST on January 30, 2004**, at the IDOA office in Room W468 of the Indiana Government Center South, 402 W Washington St, Indianapolis, IN 46204. Specifications may be obtained by contacting **Shelley Harris, Manager** at the above address, at (317) 232-3034, or by visiting the IDOA Procurement Division's **Electronic Solicitation Posting (ESP)** on the State of Indiana's site on the World Wide Web <http://www.ind.gov/doa/proc> 12/26/03 21

#14 The State of Indiana seeks responses to Request for Proposals RFP 4-27 from qualified respondents for **Indiana Family and Social Services Administration for Evaluation of IT Services for ISETS**. Proposals will be received until **3 p.m. EST on January 30, 2004**, at the IDOA office in Room W468 of the Indiana Government Center South, 402 W Washington St, Indianapolis, IN 46204. Specifications may be obtained by contacting **Shelley Harris, Manager** at the above address, at (317) 232-3034, or by visiting the IDOA Procurement Division's **Electronic Solicitation Posting (ESP)** on the State of Indiana's site on the World Wide Web <http://www.ind.gov/doa/proc> 12/26/03 21

#15 The State of Indiana seeks responses to Request for Proposals RFP 4-28 from qualified respondents for **Indiana Family and Social Services Administration for Evaluation of IT Services for ISETS**. Proposals will be received until **3 p.m. EST on January 30, 2004**, at the IDOA office in Room W468 of the Indiana Government Center South, 402 W Washington St, Indianapolis, IN 46204. Specifications may be obtained by contacting **Shelley Harris, Manager** at the above address, at (317) 232-3034, or by visiting the IDOA Procurement Division's **Electronic Solicitation Posting (ESP)** on the State of Indiana's site on the World Wide Web <http://www.ind.gov/doa/proc> 12/26/03 21

#16 The State of Indiana seeks responses to Request for Proposals RFP 4-29 from qualified respondents for **Indiana Family and Social Services Administration for Evaluation of IT Services for ISETS**. Proposals will be received until **3 p.m. EST on January 30, 2004**, at the IDOA office in Room W468 of the Indiana Government Center South, 402 W Washington St, Indianapolis, IN 46204. Specifications may be obtained by contacting **Shelley Harris, Manager** at the above address, at (317) 232-3034, or by visiting the IDOA Procurement Division's **Electronic Solicitation Posting (ESP)** on the State of Indiana's site on the World Wide Web <http://www.ind.gov/doa/proc> 12/26/03 21

#17 The State of Indiana seeks responses to Request for Proposals RFP 4-30 from qualified respondents for **Indiana Family and Social Services Administration for Evaluation of IT Services for ISETS**. Proposals will be received until **3 p.m. EST on January 30, 2004**, at the IDOA office in Room W468 of the Indiana Government Center South, 402 W Washington St, Indianapolis, IN 46204. Specifications may be obtained by contacting **Shelley Harris, Manager** at the above address, at (317) 232-3034, or by visiting the IDOA Procurement Division's **Electronic Solicitation Posting (ESP)** on the State of Indiana's site on the World Wide Web <http://www.ind.gov/doa/proc> 12/26/03 21

#18 The State of Indiana seeks responses to Request for Proposals RFP 4-31 from qualified respondents for **Indiana Family and Social Services Administration for Evaluation of IT Services for ISETS**. Proposals will be received until **3 p.m. EST on January 30, 2004**, at the IDOA office in Room W468 of the Indiana Government Center South, 402 W Washington St, Indianapolis, IN 46204. Specifications may be obtained by contacting **Shelley Harris, Manager** at the above address, at (317) 232-3034, or by visiting the IDOA Procurement Division's **Electronic Solicitation Posting (ESP)** on the State of Indiana's site on the World Wide Web <http://www.ind.gov/doa/proc> 12/26/03 21

#19 The State of Indiana seeks responses to Request for Proposals RFP 4-32 from qualified respondents for **Indiana Family and Social Services Administration for Evaluation of IT Services for ISETS**. Proposals will be received until **3 p.m. EST on January 30, 2004**, at the IDOA office in Room W468 of the Indiana Government Center South, 402 W Washington St, Indianapolis, IN 46204. Specifications may be obtained by contacting **Shelley Harris, Manager** at the above address, at (317) 232-3034, or by visiting the IDOA Procurement Division's **Electronic Solicitation Posting (ESP)** on the State of Indiana's site on the World Wide

BRONCOS WAITING

Colts end regular season as division champs

By BARATO BRITT
Recorder Correspondent

Now the fun begins.

The AFC South champion Indianapolis Colts ended the regular season as they hoped to, with a division crown and a home play-off game this weekend.

The only problem is that their fate was in doubt until the final second of their season finale.

Trailing late Sunday against the division rival Houston Texans, the Colts capitalized on a late interception by David Carr to tie the game with a little over three minutes remaining in the game.

In the end, kicker Mike Vanderjagt's record-breaking 41st consecutive field goal proved to be his most important yet, sinking a 43-yarder to end the game and give the Colts their first AFC South title.

Had not for another Houston late-game collapse, the Colts could have very well been heading to Baltimore to face the Ravens and standout running back Jamal Lewis, who gained 2,066 rushing yards this season, 39 yards from the single season record set by Eric Dickerson 19 years ago.

Instead, the 12-4 Colts achieved their season goal, and have only to deal with a Denver Broncos team that trounced them at home



Denver Bronco strong safety Nick Ferguson (No. 25) bats the ball out of the way of Colts wide receiver Marvin Harrison during the Colts 31-17 loss two weeks ago.



Corner back Nick Harper (No. 25) tackles Bronco running back Quentin Griffin. This season, Harper has had 84 tackles and four interceptions. (Photos/W. Thomas)

two weeks ago without arguably their best weapon in running back, Clinton Portis.

The 31-17 loss showcased the Broncos' athleticism and speed on defense and deep running attack, while exposing the Colts' inability to shut down the run.

Portis, along with quarterback Jake Plummer will be rested and ready for Sunday's showdown, both having sat out against the playoff-bound Green Bay Packers Sunday.

While the week 16 debacle has to be on their minds, the Colts must avoid the same complacency and confusion that led to such a demoralizing defeat. Now that the real season has begun, however, the regular season's mishaps and triumphs are all thrown out. What matters now is simply survival. And on paper,

the Colts still have what it takes to gain that elusive playoff victory.

Each component of the Colts high-powered offensive attack looks to be clicking on all cylinders at the right time. Running back Edgerrin James is looking more and more like his old self, with a season best 171 rushing yards on 27 carries Sunday. Marvin Harrison had a sub par year by his standards, but 94 receptions and 10 touchdowns is still pro-bowl worthy, and better than most receivers in the League.

Manning, one of the front-runners for MVP honors, will enter Sunday's playoff game ready to exorcise the playoff demon that continues to be the biggest knock on the pro-bowl QB. Throughout the season, Manning displayed poise late in games, and utilized his weapons to the tune of another 4,000-yard season, highlighted by 29 touchdown strikes.

The Colts' offense, however, remains the least of their worries this playoff season.

The defense can only be described as inconsistent, showing both an ability to completely shut down foes like Michael Vick, only to get busted up by the likes of rookie Quentin Griffin. At times, the defense looks worth its new hip-hop moniker; but too many times, that defense appears to get opposing offenses "crunk." But there is little doubt the Colts defense will be up for this weekend's battle, knowing what to expect from a team they failed to contain only two weeks ago.

With retribution on their minds, and having seen what not to do against Denver, the Colts remain in the best position to advance as they have been in the Dungy/Manning era. They begin this year's playoffs exactly where they wanted, in the RCA Dome with one of the league's most boisterous crowds.

This coming Sunday afternoon, the Colts will be ill served to leave doubt of the outcome as they did late to end the regular season. At this time of the year, doubt only gives way to defeat.

Kickoff for Sunday's playoff game is 4:30.

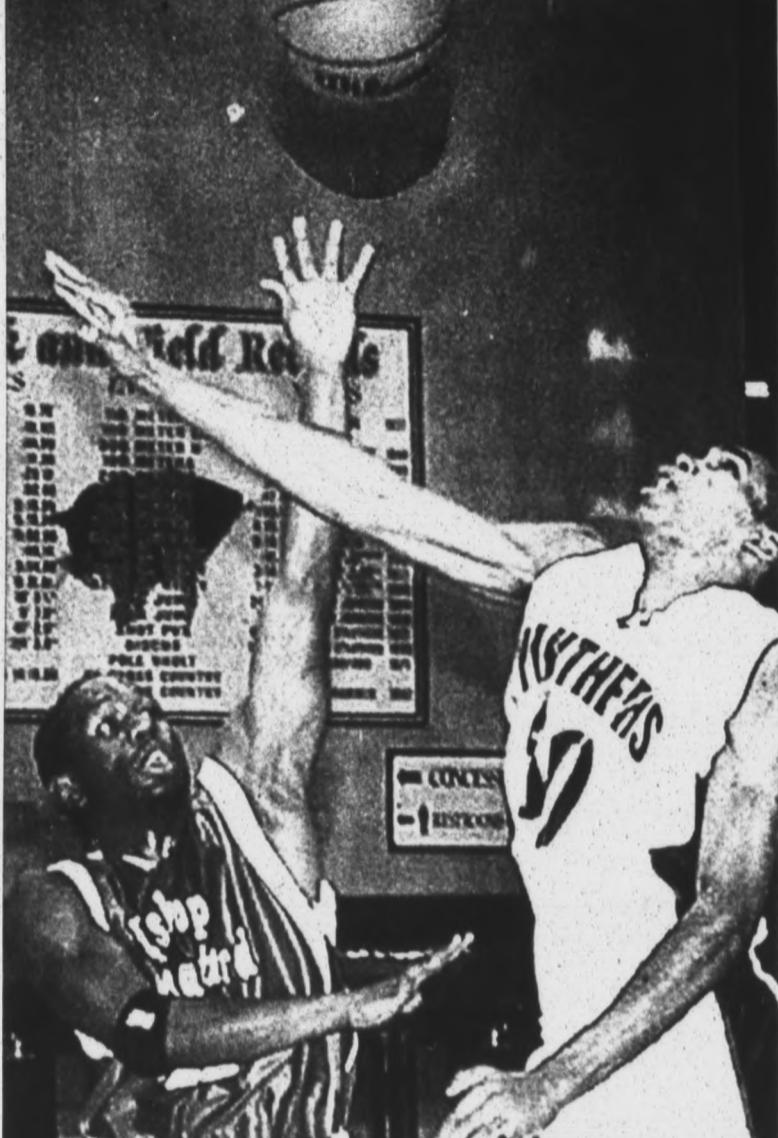
HIGH SCHOOL ACTION



During the North Central Holiday Basketball Tournament, North Central's Amber Harris (No. 42) was double-teamed by Chatard's Sarah Weber (No. 32) and Kelly Gardner (No. 12).



Harris smiles as she cuts down the net after North Central beat Chatard 63-36.



During the boys game at the holiday tournament, North Central's A.J. Ratliff fails to block Chatard's Dray Mason's shot. N.C. won 72-61 and Ratliff had a game high 26 points. (Photos/J. Hurst)

MANNING

► Continued from Page 6

"I'm pretty excited and the records and the recognition feels pretty good," he said.

Manning has been so excited about the playing in the Cactus Bowl and the possibilities of playing among the best in the NFL that he's done research to find 25 athletes from the Cactus Bowl have been drafted, two from U of I.

The senior majoring in graphic design says his mom Betsy constantly checked on his grades and his father George

was like another coach. He credits them to being his two biggest fans.

"Ces'are knows that his education is very important and with that education he will always have something to fall back on," said Betsy. "I'm very proud of him. We knew he was very good and he set goals and has proceeded to reach them."

Although as a child Manning was called "Little Randy Moss" soon some little leaguer may be nicknamed, "Little Ces'are."

Black golfer one step away from making PGA Tour

By VAUGHN WILSON
Special to the NNPA
From the Capital Outlook

TALLAHASSEE, Fla. (NNPA) — One would imagine that if a man could hit 300-yard drives, soft middle irons and wedges into greens and putt with touch and precision, he would be a lock to get a shot at the Professional Golfers Association Tour.

Unfortunately, that is not all it takes, and with a highly skilled player such as Tallahassee's Kris Hannah still taking his shots, it becomes obvious that the PGA Tour is made up of quite a select group.

Hannah has all of the accolades of an accomplished golfer. He was chosen Big Bend player of the year in 1996 and 1997 as a junior and senior at Leon High School. During that same year he won four of the five junior golf tournaments he entered.

He accepted a full golf scholarship to Florida State University and competed in the Atlantic Coast Conference and against the nation's best college players. He

traveled and participated as a freshman and lettered four years.

He won six events as an amateur since attending FSU and won two events after turning professional.

Recently, Hannah participated in his first PGA Qualifying Tournament. He started off with an 8-under-par 64, but stumbled at the final two holes on the fourth and final day to miss the cut by one stroke.

If he had gotten to the second level of Q-School he would have assured himself badly-needed atention and separated himself from the crowd. Playing without a caddie, it's a wonder he excelled at the level he achieved at Q-School.

Hannah was not always into golf. He started playing at the age of 12.

"My father taught me basketball and baseball when I was young," he said.

Born in Atlanta, Hannah was reared there until his family relocated to Tallahassee. While he was in Atlanta, his Smyrna community basketball league chose him to compete on the all-star

team which played some international teams, including some from Barcelona, Spain.

"I broke my ankle while playing in that league and that's when I started concentrating on less strenuous, lifetime sports," Hannah said. That's when he got serious about golf.

"The man," is how Hannah describes his father and the influence on his life and success in golf. "Without his moral and financial support none of this would be possible," he added. "Sometimes it's rough out there and you need that model who you can always count on to say the right thing at the right time," he said.

"The game now is all mental for me," Hannah said. Plainly put, he feels he has the necessary physical skills to compete at the PGA Tour level, but it is the access and focus that are his biggest inhibitors.

"People just don't know what a financial drain it can be attempting to get on this tour," he said. "Q-School costs \$4,000 to enter," he said. "Once the money

is gone, it's gone. The main reason I didn't have a caddie was because it did not fit financially with what I had to work with."

Hannah has been getting financial help from various sources in order to pursue his tour card. "I have had some very good support, but in order to continue, I need at least that support again," he said.

Hannah feels it's just a matter of time before he becomes a full-time tour player. "There are plenty of opportunities for minorities to go to school on golf scholarships, but there is nothing in place to help them pursue the next level," he said. "I hope that there can be a situation where at some point I don't have to raise money for my entry fees to Q-School and the tournaments as well, but just concentrate on playing as do my counterparts."

Hannah plans to earn his full-time status in the next few years.

"Through Q-School, Monday qualifying or sponsors exemption I will make it," he said. "I want to get where all I have to concentrate on is golf."

Zina Garrison named captain of Fed Cup Team

BlackAthlete.com

WHITE PLAINS, N.Y. — USTA President Alan Schwartz selected Zina Garrison as captain of the 2004 United States Fed Cup team. Garrison, who has served as the squad's coach since 1999, succeeds captain Billie Jean King, who will continue her long-standing Fed Cup involvement as U.S. Fed Cup team coach.

Garrison becomes the first African-American captain in the 40-year history of the women's international team competition and the 18th U.S. Fed Cup captain. She will make her debut as cap-

tain when the United States faces Slovenia in the 2004 World Group First Round April 24-25 in Slovenia.

Garrison, 40, represented the U.S. on eight Fed Cup teams from 1984 through 1994, helping the United States win three titles during that period.

An active supporter of grassroots tennis and education programs for children, Garrison also serves as a volunteer consultant to the Washington Tennis and Education Foundation and the Southeast Tennis and Learning Center in the nation's capital.

A long-time activist for inner-

city youth, Garrison achieved a lifelong dream in 1991 with the opening of the Zina Garrison All-Court Tennis Academy in her hometown of Houston; the program continues to be one of the leading youth programs of its kind.

Her community outreach efforts have been recognized by the International Tennis Federation and the State of Texas, including induction into the Texas Women's Hall of Fame and the Texas Tennis Hall of Fame in 1996-97. Garrison also was the inaugural recipient of the Family Circle Magazine "Player Who Makes A Difference Award" in 1992.

The USTA is the national governing body for the sport of tennis in the U.S. It owns and operates the US Open, the largest annually attended sporting event in the world. In addition, it owns the 96 Pro Circuit events throughout the U.S., and selects the teams for the Davis Cup, Fed Cup, Olympic and Paralympic Games. A not-for-profit organization with more than 670,000 members, it invests 100 percent of its proceeds to promote and develop the growth of tennis, from the grass roots to the professional levels. For more information on the USTA, log on to usta.com.

MANNING

► Continued from Page 6

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Sports

D SECTION

FRIDAY, JANUARY 2, 2004

The other Manning looks to shine in Cactus Bowl

Ces'are Manning star wide receiver from U of I

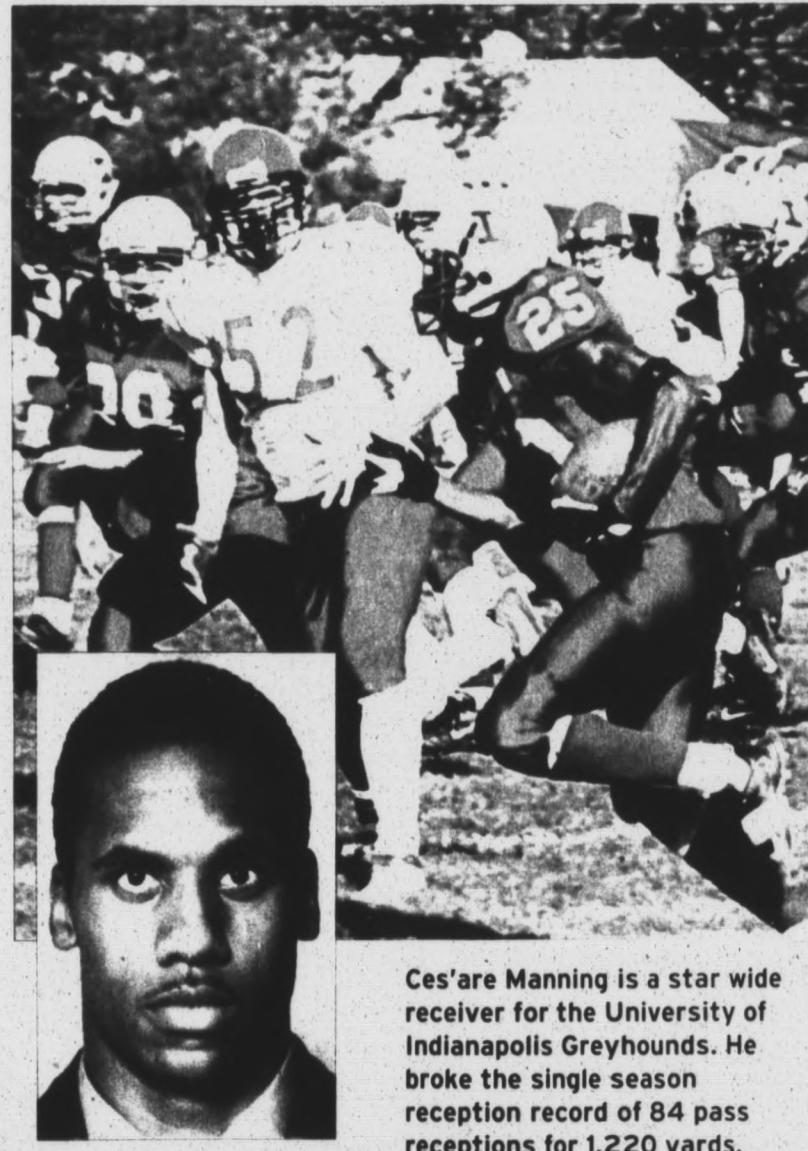
By ERICKA P. THOMPSON
Staff Writer

If Indianapolis Colts fans thought Marvin Harrison was the best receiver in the state, they better watch out for Ces'are Manning, the University of Indianapolis' (U of I) star wide receiver.

A standout and 3A champion at Chatard High School, Manning has been invited to play in the Whataburger Cactus Bowl to be played Jan. 9 at Javelina Stadium in Kingsville, Texas. He becomes only the third Greyhound to play in the Division II All-Star game.

"I'm honored and I feel blessed that I did so well this year and that the hard work paid off," said Manning. "I've been practicing since March up to this season and it has been worth it."

While in 2003, Harrison had 94 pass receptions for 1,272 yards and 10 touchdowns; Manning was on his tiptoes breaking a Greyhound season record for 84 pass receptions for 1,220 yards and nine touchdowns. He also broke individual game records with 14 receptions for 246 yards against



Ces'are Manning is a star wide receiver for the University of Indianapolis Greyhounds. He broke the single season reception record of 84 pass receptions for 1,220 yards.



Michigan Tech. And more impressively, Manning ranks fifth in Division II with 7.6 receptions per game, seventh in the country in receiving yards per game (110.9) and 24th in all-purpose yards (145.6).

"Ces'are is a fantastic young man," said Joe Polizzi, head coach. "He has added so much to our program. His hard work ethic, talent level and leadership abilities has had a positive impact on our program for the last four years."

Only the best players in the Intercollegiate Athletic Conference are voted to play in the Cactus Bowl and Polizzi thinks Manning is the perfect man.

"He has been a great example for our younger players to follow and he has had a huge impact on everything we've done," he said. "It is awesome for me to have a very talented, skillful athlete such as Ces'are who is also the hardest worker on the team. That combination has been spectacular for us."

Although Manning has set Greyhound football records and that's why they are my top pick for the greatest sports moment of 2003.

► See PMANNING, Page D5



The Spurs bucked them all

By ERICKA P. THOMPSON
Staff Writer

Fundamentals. That is how the San Antonio Spurs won the championship last year and that's why they are my top pick for the greatest sports moment of 2003.

As I tried to recount all of the great things that happened this year in sports, the Spurs' ride to the crown continued to pop into my head.

To me, the best thing about the Spurs' 60-22 season was how they won, quietly.

There was no fancy passing from point guard Tony Parker, when MVP Tim Duncan dunked he made no funny faces or noises (unless he was playing Kevin Garnett). David Robinson graciously allowed Duncan to be the franchise player, and Emanuel Ginobili added just the right spark at just the right time, all of the time.

As the Spurs continued to win game after game, there was still doubt because the Lakers had won the past three years and the Nets, Mavericks and Kings were playing just as well. It seemed as if only a few wanted to put their money on the Spurs.

Even though they had the best record practically all season, because they played with fundamentals and not flash, the championship was given prematurely to the teams mentioned above.

Duncan and his cowboys didn't have an easy ride in the playoffs, but they bucked Phoenix, L.A. and New Jersey, each four games to two.

Now let me ride my point home.

In the championship game Duncan scored 21 points, grabbed 20 rebounds, dished out 10 assists and blocked eight shots, he also took home the Finals MVP Award while David Robinson bid a farewell with 13 points and 17 rebounds. The Spurs bench outscored the Nets, 31-17 and they out rebounded the Nets 55-35.

In each playoff game Duncan was either the high point man or the leading rebounder, in the team's eight playoff losses they averaged a deficit of 4.8 points while they won by a margin of 11 points. I'm telling you these boys were ruthless last season.

I loved the fact that the Spurs waited to celebrate until the end, when it counted.

While teams were celebrating their overtime losses and one-point wins, the Spurs celebrated their wins quietly and won the championship with a lot of noise.

All hail the new King

By JOSHUA COHEN
Staff Writer

The year 2003 was a great year for sports, but then in my opinion every year is a great year for sports. But like in sports, there can only be one winner. This year's winner of the single greatest moment in sports was the signing of the No. 1 draft pick straight from high school to the pros - LeBron James.

James is No. 1 not only because of what he has done so far in the league, but what he means to the future of the NBA. Ever since Michael Jordan retired for the second time after winning his 6th NBA title, Commissioner David Stern has been looking for a player to replace him. Especially now, since the league's attendance and viewer ship is on the decline.

It was once thought that Kobe Bryant was the successor to Jordan's throne; with his recent rape charges he doesn't have the clean image Stern needs to be the face of the league, regardless if he's innocent or guilty. In this world, unfortunately all you need is an accusation.

Vince Carter, the most fantastic dunker since the days of Jordan and Dominique Wilkins, does not have the heart of a champion. As great as his play might be, it is too obvious he doesn't have the competitive desire to take his team to the next level. A recent plague of injuries has also given him a reputation for being soft.

Enter LeBron. He even has the perfect nickname: King James. I was skeptical when James came into the league. There were many question marks whether he'd be able to not only handle the level of play in the pros, but could he handle the extraordinary amount of hype behind him? The answer to both is yes.

I can't imagine being able to be as level headed and focused as James seems to be with all of the talk surrounding him. In a recent commercial for his new shoes, James is depicted as a "messiah" of sorts with a star studded cast, including Bernie Mac playing a reverend in the church of King James.

On ESPN.com, there's even a page called The LeBron Line, where James' progress is compared to other great player's rookie seasons in the past.

So get ready for the new era. All hail King James, your future NBA poster-boy supreme!

The world of sports in 2003

By ERICKA P. THOMPSON
Staff Writer

In a year when the Pacers fired Isiah, and the Knicks rehired him as president, and LeBron and Carmelo gave new excitement to the NBA, this year in sports was unbelievable.

Also, who can forget how the Falcons lost almost every game due to Michael Vick's injury, the Cubs were an inch away from the World Series, and the Mailman along with the Glove joined the Lakers? Who put money on Syracuse winning the NCAA Tournament, who thought IUPUI, would make it? This year in sports was also unpredictable.

Throughout 2003, sports fans have witnessed the many ups and downs of their favorite players from the Kobe Bryant scandal to Zo's kidney transplant to Dontrelle Willis' pitching in the World Series to Jamal Lewis rushing for 2,066 yards.

Even in Indiana there were surprises such as both the Pacers and the Fever hiring new head coaches and no one from an Indiana school getting drafted in the NBA (although Notre Dame's Matt Carroll was signed as a free agent to Portland).

The surprise most fans could have done without was the Pacers trading Brad Miller to Sacramento for Scot Pollard. While Brad Miller is playing 38 minutes and averaging 15.7 points, 10.50 rebounds and 5.0 assists, Pollard is playing 10.8 minutes and averaging 1.6 points, 2.50 rebounds and 0.2 assists.

While the Pacers couldn't make it to the second round of the playoffs, the Fever didn't even play in the playoffs. The Colts are on their way as Peyton Manning is having a MVP season, but they haven't had good luck in the post season since they made it to the AFC Championship game in 1995 against the Steelers.

The Warren Central Warriors football team will never forget 2003 as they ran over most of their opponents and captured the 5A-state championship as their quarterback, Desmond Tardy was named Mr. Football.

It was no surprise that the Pike Red Devils would once again win another 4A-state championship in basketball as their leading rebounder, Justin Cage was named Mr. Basketball.

And we can't forget to mention the craziness of March Madness. While Carmelo Anthony led Syracuse to the title and Odell Bradley led IUPUI to their first ever visit to the tournament, Indy's own, Jason Gardner along with Channing Frye helped Arizona to a double overtime win against Gonzaga during the second round. The game was voted the best in college basketball in the 2002-03 season.

In a year when Bush sent our troops to war and Gov. Frank O'Bannon passed, fans could always count on the world of sports to provide excitement, distractions, enjoyment and of course, game points.



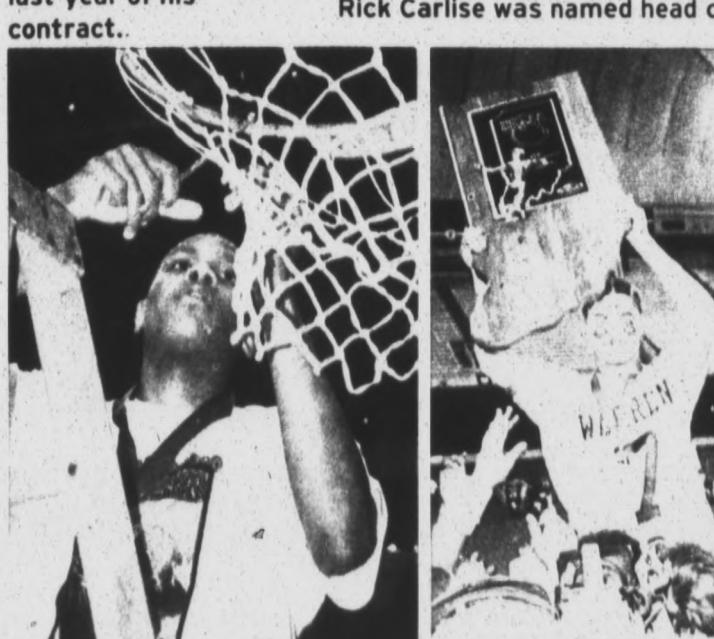
Isiah Thomas is the new president of the New York Knicks



Kobe Bryant is in the last year of his contract.



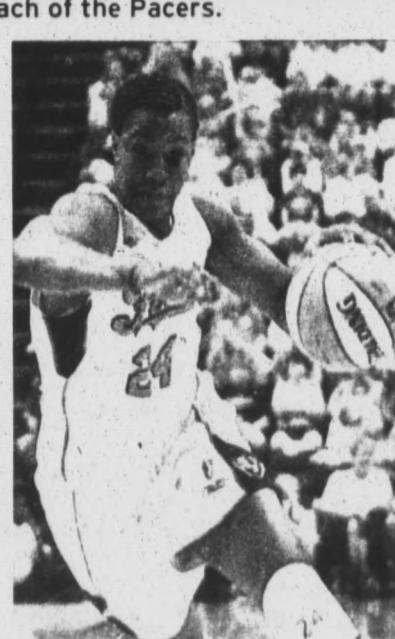
Rick Carlisle was named head coach of the Pacers.



Former Pike Red Devil, Justin Cage was named Mr. Basketball.



Desmond Tardy of Warren Central was named Mr. Football.



Tamika Catchings led the Fever in points, rebounds and assists.



Carmelo Anthony led the Orangemen to the NCAA title. He was also the No. 3 in the NBA Draft.



Indy's own Jason Gardner.

Have you been enjoying Game Points?

Let The Recorder know who you think has had the best predictions and opinions: Ericka Thompson or Joshua Cohen? You can either send an e-mail to newsroom@indyrecorder.com or call 924-5143 ext. 324.