

Up Front

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other Blacks to rob, maim and kill as some expression of self-hatred? Or are there simply criminals, who happen to be Black, out there hurting and exploiting whoever happens to be the closest target?

Crosby says it's the latter. And by raising the whole self-hatred psychology to something more than the vague speculation that it is, Black folks are lying to themselves. Blacks are led to believe that like some tragic magic, self-hatred crops up and compels us to lash out and hurt each other. Don't make people believe there's some self-hatred demon naturally occurring inside of them.

The moral of the debate seemed to be that if the NAACP, Black leaders, journalists (ouch!) and others spent as much time working with people, helping them and fighting for them as they did mouthing off his-sounding, shocking clichés and theories, we'd be in pretty good shape.

Don't treat challenges like they're invincible. To do that is to perform an abortion on the solutions that were ready to rise up and deal with those challenges.

Take that, Mr. Freddy Crosby.

Jackson factor

"In 1984, when Jesse began running for the presidency, most Black politicians ran with Conyers. Conyers lent his name and the gave the campaign the prestige of having a U.S. congressman backing the Jackson bid. The real issue here is one Jesse likes to talk about — reciprocity. Jesse says that Blacks give to the Democratic Party and the Democratic Party must give back. Well, reciprocity must be a part of Jesse's reality just as it is part of the reality of the Democratic-Black relationship."

Already, the campaign of 1989 has seen the web of alliances to Jackson, Young and Conyers become tangled. Joel Ferguson, Jackson's Michigan campaign manager in 1988, actively opposed Mayor Young's candidate (Michael Dukakis) in the Michigan primary. But Ferguson has said he'll back Young in the 1989 mayoral election.

And Greg Mathis, who was Jackson's campaign coordinator for Detroit, is now working as Mayor Young's campaign manager.

Mathis says his role in the Young campaign is only one indication that the Young-Jackson rift is largely a thing of the past.

"I would say that there was never any animosity between Rev. Jackson and Mayor Young," said Mathis. In two presidential campaigns, it was just two political leaders playing practical politics. Mayor Young was having several times as much of a chance for Jesse to win the Democratic nomination, backed Dukakis.

"But the mayor showed good faith by not fighting Jesse Jackson in 1988. I can tell you from personal experience that the mayor really cut loose his troops to work hard for Jesse. Since the election, the mayor and Jesse have had several meetings and whenever Jackson has come to town, the two have been cordial. They have a mutual respect. But several times, including most recently in a joint press conference."

Riddle disagreed, calling the mayor a "major obstructionist in 1984" who was forced by overwhelming grassroots Jackson support to alter his position in 1988.

"It wasn't a matter of Coleman Young magnanimously releasing his forces to work for Jesse," said Riddle. "The mayor was pragmatic enough to know he couldn't stand in the way of a Jackson locomotive. If he hadn't gotten out of the way, he would have been run over."

"When you look at what's happened since this election, the ship between Young and Jackson now — or the fact that Joel Ferguson is supporting Young — you've got to temper that with the longstanding relationship between Conyers and Jackson. Conyers was an early supporter of Jesse because it was the right thing to do — and it is clear that just as Conyers has been the conscience of Congress, Jesse has been the conscience of America."

But Riddle said he can't predict what Jackson will do in the Detroit mayoral election. He contends that Rev. Jackson will be influential but only if he chooses to take the "right side" of the issue. He cites the Detroit school board election as an example of Jackson choosing the wrong side.

"I was working for the HOPE team in the recent school board elections, and Jesse cut a few radio spots for the incumbents," said Riddle. "But Jesse's can't wrangle on some issues. We took all four of those seats in spite of Jesse's support for the incumbents."

"But Jackson can be a major factor in this election. If he didn't do anything but urge people to get out and vote, he'll be a factor. That's because Coleman Young and his people have a vested interest in a low voter turnout."

Bob Berg, Mayor Young's press secretary, says the Jackson-Young relationship has never been as cool as many were led to believe.

"The mayor and Jesse are personal friends," said Berg. "The mayor has had differences with Jackson, but they have not been personal. Sometimes friends disagree on the best way to get to a place they both want to see."

"But the real issue is not who is going to get what endorsements. It's about who's going to do the best job in running the City of Detroit for the

next four years. Instead of worrying about the endorsements by non-Detroiters, voters will probably think more about who has the qualifications to run a major city."

Mathis agreed: "I would say the best-case scenario is for Jackson to stay out of this election and let the electorate decide. What the Conyers campaign is saying is that its incumbent for Jackson to get involved in a local election. Suppose everyone who supported Jackson in his campaign for the presidency demanded that Jesse, in return, rush to help them get elected in local elections. There wouldn't be much time left for Jesse Jackson to do all the important things nationally that he's doing."

"It's unfair because Jackson is more than just a politician — he's a leader. He's not just a quid pro quo politician who determines what to do based on what somebody did for him. He's a leader who takes a position based on whether or not it's right. I believe that he will decide that he will not help people one of the best big-city mayors this nation has ever seen."

Tots and Teens

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adhered to in order to accommodate and sustain a "close-knit bond" and to "establish an extended family support system."

Although each chapter, according to the Detroit chapter vice president and scholarship chairman, is dedicated to enhancing the development of Black familyhood, each is individualistic in carrying out the national objective.

"The Detroit chapter will not sponsor single parents for membership," Shepherd said. "And the men have traditionally held the position of chapter president."

Some, on first inspection, may be quick to brand the Detroit chapter as exclusive, perhaps even sexist, in its direction. Shepherd contends it would be an unfair conclusion.

"The fact that we do not accept single parents for membership does not make us exclusive," she said. "We're bombarded with reports of diminishing Black families and our chapter stands in direct contradiction to those reports."

The Oakland and Wayne chapters do accept single parents for memberships and one day, perhaps the Detroit chapter will follow suit. Times are changing and, yes, there is a growing number of single-parent households. Personally, I would like to see our sponsorship policy altered. Because they are single does not mean that these parents are any less dedicated and they are, and have been, assets to other chapters."

Youth corp

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and falls in line with the center's philosophy to develop the entire person — the mind as well as the body and soul.

"We were hoping to motivate, stimulate and entice these young people," Coffield said. "But we were stopped in our tracks."

The center's credibility was recently threatened when two former Youth Corps employees charged that Alkebulan, a non-profit organization, was a private business and was performing duties outside of city regulations.

Lacresae Walker, 21, was terminated on grounds of insubordination and Charlene Weathers, 20, failed to return after Walker's dismissal, said Roger Hughes, supervisor of both women.

Walker went to the Detroit News with her version of what happened resulting in a report which escalated into controversy and an investigation by the Internal Revenue Service.

The IRS was asked to determine if Alkebulan was a non-profit organization or a private business. It was verified July 28 that the center maintained its non-profit status.

Because the center had to wait for the IRS verification, Coffield maintains its reputation has been damaged. "Mistakes do happen," he said, "however, hurt us because we were in a situation where our integrity was at stake."

Carver & Curtis

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started his business, the economic and social climates were search for today, Curtis explained.

"There were no opportunities for Blacks, no such thing as recruiting or developing Blacks for prime areas of employment," Curtis said. "As a result of my experience and my association with Dr. Carver, I could offer employment opportunities for my people; it was a motivating force in starting my own business."

The pivotal point in Curtis' career, obviously, was his work with Carver. Following his graduation from Cornell University and teaching tenure at North Carolina A&T, Curtis received a general edition board for leadership to be the assistant to Carver in 1935.

"Dr. Carver had tremendous powers of concentration," recalled Curtis. "I admired his idiosyncrasies and approached the prospect with the attitude it was my fault, not his, if I didn't measure up to his standards." Carver, who had a longstanding reputation as being difficult to work with, soon favored Curtis with his approval and, ultimately, turned the bulk of his research over to him.

Outside of the laboratory, Curtis proved to be instrumental in fundraising for and establishing such projects as the Carver Che-

murgic Research Program, the George Washington Carver Research Foundation, the Carver Museum at Tuskegee Institute and the Carver cabin exhibit at Greenfield Village.

Moving to Detroit in 1946, Curtis used his knowledge to manufacture hair care, skin care and health-related products with a peanut base marketed as the African American community.

"Detroit, in the 1940s, probably led the country in developing and thriving Black businesses," he said. "We had four hotels here, maybe insurance agencies and so forth. It was the time and the place for a Black person to start a business."

"However, when integration came, we deserted our business community rather than renewing the process it took to build it," Curtis continued. "We are very thankful for our customers — it was through hard work, determination and providing quality products that we were able to get their support."

He noted that it is imperative for African Americans to build an economic base through building business. "If we could corral the spending of our dollars, if we could show the same enthusiasm for essential things as we show for our sports teams, we could return to our roots and unification to our community."

Defying drugs

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and users have occurred. While a general consensus among many public officials toward vigilante actions has been favorable, a line is being drawn by some as to the degree these actions serve as adjuncts to law enforcement efforts.

Often noted, too, is the fact that most of these citizens are working class folk with families and cannot commit an inordinate amount of time to volunteer law enforcement.

That criticism, however, is tempered in large part by the fact that well respected clergymen

are making up a growing number of these groups. Chicago II's Father George Clements successfully lobbied for state legislation banning the sale and purchase of drug paraphernalia by local merchants.

In Detroit, a non-profit community development arm of 12th Street Baptist Church — REACH Inc. — has successfully curbed drug activity and begun redeveloping westside neighborhoods. The church is pastored by the Rev. Lee Earl.

On the city's eastside — an area two years ago that saw residents burn down one crack house — Rev. Keith Butler has been preaching and teaching economic revitalization and a more tangible City Council response to the drug problem.

Butler, who filed last week to be put on the ballot of the Sept. 12 City Council race, said more force to eliminate the abandoned housing problem are needed.

Many of these houses are reportedly used by drug dealers and users.

Butler said he supported the actions of fellow clergymen such as Chicago's Clements because they chose to follow the political process.

"There's a lot of frustration out there but the response to that doesn't have to overstep the boundaries of the law," said Butler. "That's the difference between a Clemente Barfield and what can happen here in Washington. Barfield, mother of a teen who was shot to death, is the founder of Save Our Sons and Daughters (SOSAD)."

Madam Irene West dies

By Robbie McCoy

When Madam Irene West and Mahalia Jackson were young, both lived Hillery Street in New Orleans. They were friends and talked about eventually becoming noted gospel singers.

Both did.

Hundreds are expected to attend a memorial service on Friday, Aug. 4 and funeral on Saturday, Aug. 5 for Madam West. Both services will be held at the New Galilee Spiritual Church, 8025 Harper. Viewing of the body will be from 4 p.m. Thursday at the Swanson Eastside Chapel.

The funeral will be at 11 a.m. on Saturday. Bishop M.J. Moore, pastor, will officiate at the services.

Madam West, 77, died Saturday July 29 at the New Grace Hospital, three days after she was transferred from New Grace to the Carver Center, where she had been confined.

Madam West, daughter of a New Orleans Baptist minister and wife, the Rev. and Mrs. Andrew Watson, moved to Detroit 37 years ago. It was here that her singing career bloomed along with her missionary work.

The Universal Liberty in Christ Church, pastored by Rev. Ralph J. Boyd, was organized when she was 44 years ago, and she served faithfully in the Church of our Prayer until she decided to return to the Baptist Church, joining Oakland Avenue Baptist Church, under the leadership of the late Rev. William Wilson.

Madam West was closely associated with Dr. Thomas M. Brown, who organized the 10,000-member Gospel Chorus and Chorus Union. She and Rev. James Cleveland once sang together in the Gospel Hummingbirds when.

When the Rev. C.C. Chapman, known as the "Traveling Shoe Man," would come on the air

each Sunday some 20 years ago, Madam West was with the choir many times, and she was a loyal supporter of Mother Waddles' early start with the Perpetual Prayer on Adams and St. Antoine Street.

Madam West started singing when she was seven years old and she and Mahalia Jackson continued to be lifelong friends and colleagues in their careers.

Madam West once hosted her own regular broadcast show over WJLB, and she won many admirers singing her favorite song, "Move on Up A Little Higher," which was a favorite of Mahalia's.

She was known throughout the community as a Good Samaritan, helping those who called upon her

all hours of the day, and she was regularly encouraged by the Rev. C. Franklin via the New Bethel Baptist broadcast.

According to daughter Hollistene Leslie, Madam West kept a constant vigil over the Detroit and Robert Lee Lenox of Los Angeles; grandchildren, Laura Huguley, Aaron and Antonio Rivers, Jenise Leslie, Victor Jackson, LaCrens and Iahia Lenox; three great grand-children, and a sister, Willie Mae Foe, of Detroit.

Madam West's survivors include her husband, Hollis West; two daughters, Hollistene Leslie and Robert Lee Lenox; three granddaughters; grandchildren, Laura Huguley, Aaron and Antonio Rivers, Jenise Leslie, Victor Jackson, LaCrens and Iahia Lenox; three great grand-children, and a sister, Willie Mae Foe, of Detroit.

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Warren harassment

(Con't. from Page 1-A)

knew spotted them and stopped to pass the time of day with them for a few minutes, McCrary said. Shortly after the officer left, according to McCrary, "seven Warren police cars piled into lot, one of them hit us officers on."

McCrary said the officers got out of their cars shouting racial obscenities and told them there had been a radio call received that two Blacks were in the K-Mart parking either selling or using drugs and had a gun.

"They made us get out and searched us both," McCrary said. "They searched me, they searched Rosalyn in a way that had no business doing — putting their hands on her breasts and between her legs."

"They told us we don't want no niggers in Warren" even after they learned we lived in the city and a check on me came up clear," McCrary said.

McCrary said the officers then made them get back into their van and drive across Eight Mile to Detroit where "we were told not to come back into War-

ren. One of the cars stayed parked on Dequindre near our apartment and every time I tried to get out of the car, they would come to light that way."

McCrary said that after driving around for a few hours not knowing what to do, at about 5:15 a.m., they spotted a Michigan State Police officer driving in a marked car near the Eight Mile/75 topside area and halted him.

"We told him what had happened and he escorted us home, even though he said the matter was out going to the State Police's jurisdiction," said McCrary. "The Warren police car was still there when we arrived but they didn't bother us."

L. Eric Humphrey, assistant post commander for Detroit's State Police unit, was checking Monday to determine the identity of the officer whom McCrary said was Black.

"It would be unusual for them to find an officer topside," Humphrey said. "We're usually on the freeways."

freeways." McCrary and Turk said that since the incident they have been plagued by the same tactics such as Warren police officers questioning their neighbors about them and being followed.

"I've found the wheels on (the U-Haul truck) loosened and popped in the gas tank," McCrary added.

Dalpra said that while the couple's allegations seemed dubious to him, "if they come in and talk to me and their claims prove valid, I promise I'll be thoroughly investigated."

Earlier this year a Black female prisoner filed a Civil Rights Commission complaint against Warren police claiming she was wrongly detained, noted Dalpra.

"The commission ruled in the department's favor, he said.

"Warren's population is mixed with many ethnic backgrounds," Dalpra said. "We don't have an inordinate race-related problem here."

Panelists at a Black E.P.M. of Public Ed Smith of EPM

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"This is Bl point of view "For the first New York can bid from Los A gotta understate and rap music information," headline news

He called rap TV, a n America n sive

The 101st Air Association will bring "eagles" to the reunion at the M in Milwaukee. News reunion will be Maxwell D. Taylor chapter.

More than 52 the association w Screaming Eagle World War II in Fort Campbell, renew friendships, troops with in combat and training.

Headquarters/ borne Division, Sweetwater, TN (615) 387-4103, of all members

From to pion

New TUSCALOOSA Richard Arrington as Birmingham mayor in 1979 w as a turning i remembered fo callousness tow rights in the 196

Arrington and have shaped shaveroperc's second term. Alabama's larg filed in a new recently by the Alabama Press.

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