

Allen AME on the Move

Determined members of Allen AME Church marched to their new church located on 13th & K Street in Hilltop Community. Many members of the Black community came to participate in the historical event.

"A positive force in the community the church is the strength of the Black community. Though all of our trials and tribulations the Black church has been our Gusion of strenght" said Rev. Vernon S. Burroughs Pastor of Allen AME.

The African Methodist Episcopal Church is 200 years old. Allen AME is 99 years old.

More pictures on page 3



Photos by Leon Hemby

Founder's Day at the Evergreen State College/Tacoma



Maxine Mimms

Outpourings of love and praise for Dr. Maxine Mimms filled the Founder's Day celebration at the Tacoma Campus of The Evergreen State College at S. 12th and "K" Street on Sunday, March 6. Founder's Day has become an annual event for "K" Street's unique college campus designed expressly for adults.

Mr. A.D. Redding and Ms. Sera Wiley, currently enrolled as Evergreen students, co-chaired this event that paid tribute to Dr. Mimms, who conceived and began the Tacoma Program in 1971, holding meetings

around her kitchen table. Since that time the program has grown, moved to its present location on "K" Street and graduated over 200 adults with an earned B.A. degree in liberal arts.

Following the invocation delivered by Rudolph Hill, alumni from previous graduating classes enriched the ceremonies by telling how Dr. Mimms had influenced their lives and what their education at The Evergreen/Tacoma Campus meant to them. Alumni on the program included: Roosevelt Mercer, class of '82; Maria Mercer, class of '83; George Jackson, class of '84; Cleophus Chatman, class of '85; and Cleveland Haynes, class of '86.

June Whitfield and Ron Jarrett, students from "The Bridge" program praised Dr. Mimms in poetry that they had written. "The Bridge" is for adult students who are just starting to earn college credits from Tacoma Community College while attending classes taught at the "K" Street Evergreen campus.

Students in the upperdivision program on the program added their heartfelt sentiments. Speakers included Frances Davis, Paul Perona, A.D. Redding and Sharon Winters.

Dr. Mimms graciously received the flowers, gifts and tributes given her. She spoke, reminding the audience that she must thanks to her parents who gave birth to her. Then Dr. Mimms directed attention to the students of Yves Duverglas's media class who were video taping the proceedings. She also called attention to the art work produced for visiting professor Gail Trembley's class that was on display. Finally, she acknowledged the recent publication of a student anthology of poetry and prose.

Oscar Tillman, recently graduated from the Tacoma program, delivered the benediction. The celebration concluded with a buffet sup-

per. Mamie Breeding and Constance Bryant, students, poured tea and coffee.

Dr. Maxine Mimms is Executive Director for The Evergreen State College/Tacoma Campus at South 12th and "K" Street. The Core Faculty includes Dr. Joye Hardiman, classical literature; Dr. Willie Parson, microbiology and ethnics; Dr. Richard Brian, physics and math; and Dr. Elizabeth Diffendal, anthropology - currently on exchange in Hawaii. Dr. Sally Riewald, writing; Anthony Reynolds, computers, Yves Duverglas, media; and Kay Isbell, Program Coordinator.

Caucus Results

Democrats

- | | |
|------------------|------------------|
| 1. Dukakis 44.2% | 4. Simon 4.5% |
| 2. Jackson 36% | 5. Gephardt 2.2% |
| 3. Gore 6% | 6. Hart 0.2% |

Republicans

- | | |
|------------------|-------------|
| 1. Robertson 39% | 3. Bush 24% |
| 2. Dole 26% | 4. Kemp 8% |

The Northwest
Dispatch has a new
Address
1108 So. 11th St.

Come Join Tacoma's Salt and Pepper Sams

by Bertha Davis



Left to Right:
Mrs. Rivers, Mrs. Pearson, Mr. Pearson (v.
pres.), Mr. Rivers (Pres.)

The Tacoma, Washington Salt and Pepper Good Sam Recreational Vehicle Club began their 2nd month of 1988 with a bang by visiting the Martin Luther King Center. Maureen Howard, the director and some of her staff. Several members of the Salt and Pepper Sams made the tour; president E. Rivers, Mr. & Mrs. M. Turner (he is the treasurer), and the v. president U. Pearson. They were surprised and pleased over the quality and quantity of services the Martin Luther King Center

The Tacoma, Washington Salt & Pepper Good Sam Recreational Vehicle Club began their 2nd month of 1988 with a bang. Maureen Howard, the director and some of her staff visited the Martin Luther King Center. Several members of the Salt & Pepper Sams made the tour. Among them were L. Rivers, president, Mr. & Mrs. Turner (he's treasurer) and U. Pearson, vice president.

The Martin Luther King Center has five major programs that they provide. The Salt & Pepper Sams were so impressed that they are considering the center as one of their yearly projects.

Another of Salt & Pepper Sams charities are the Tacoma Rescue Mission. They try to contribute monthly to this tremendously big hearted multi-faceted organization.

To be able to continue contributions towards helping others, they hold monthly meetings, outings, or both. During April they will have a campout. They will hold a short business meeting prior to the regular outstanding Saturday potluck. Why don't you plan to join them? You'll be pleased, surprised and enjoy yourself in a most relaxing way. If interested, or for more information please call Mr. E. Rivers at 845-8137, Mr. U. Pearson at 637-1834 or Mr. Brown at 272-4524.

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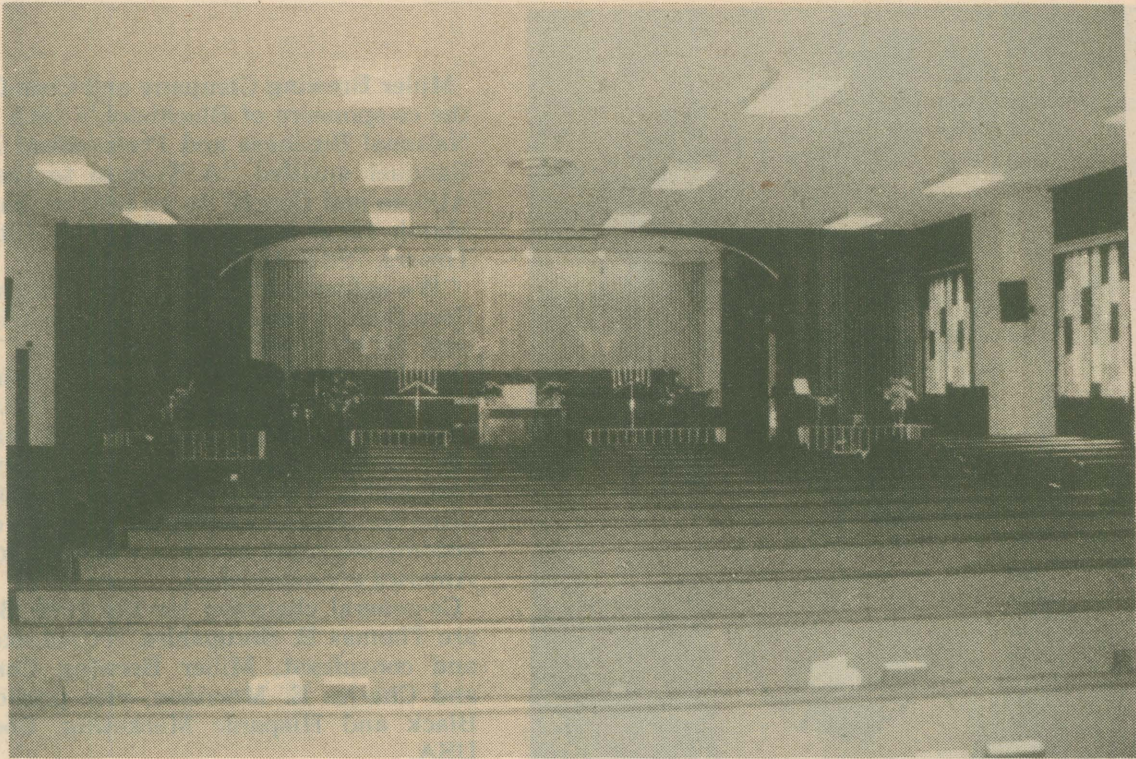
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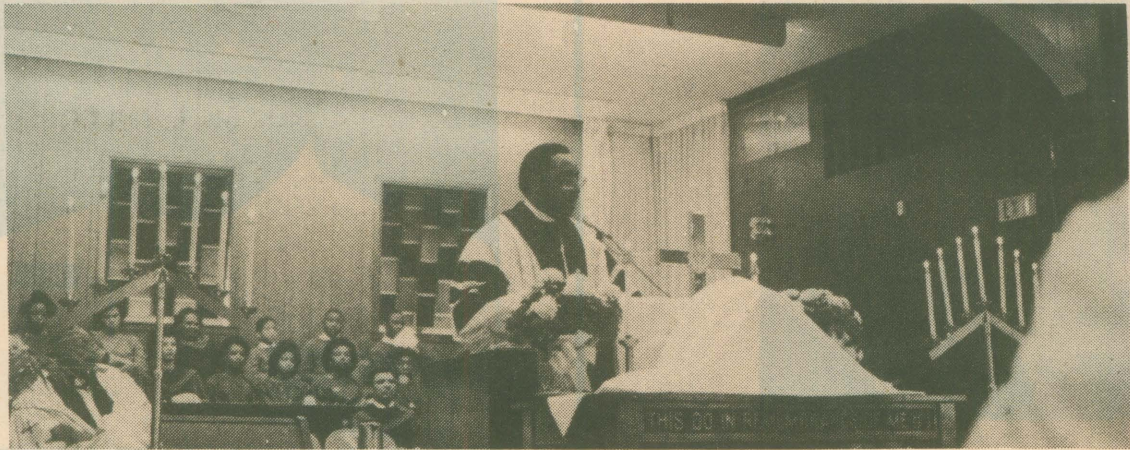
Sanctuary - New Church



Old Church on Yakima St



Happy Marchers



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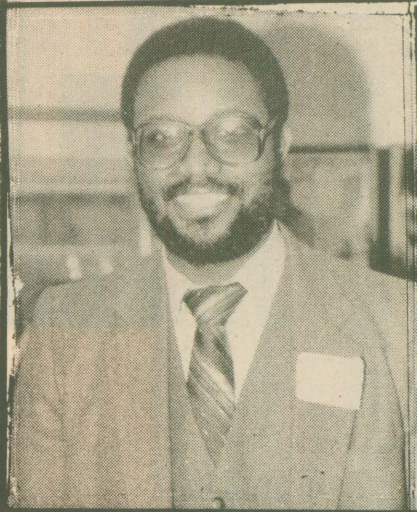
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State Senator George Fleming visited the Tacoma Pierce County Black Collective. He always pay the collective a visit during the legislative session.

Local "Educators for Heck" Set Out to Elect New SPI

A group of more than 40 Pierce County teachers, principals and school administrators who support Denny Heck's candidacy for state superintendent of public instruction has been formed to aid the former House majority leader in his campaign.

Former Tacoma School District Superintendent Angelo Giaudrone, a member of the local group's executive committee, said the group already includes representation from throughout the county's school districts and virtually every part of the education community. He said the depth of support is a sign that "educators are ready for a future-oriented SPI who also knows how to get things done."

"We've been very pleased with the support Denny has received from all parts of the education community," said Janet Detering, the campaign's local chair.

Detering said the local branch of "Educators for Heck" is part of a statewide group of roughly 500 members of the education community. The statewide group is chaired by Louis Bruno, the popular former SPI who has in the past avoided endorsing candidates for the post.

"Louis Bruno and I share the belief that Washington's schools must look ahead—not backward," Heck said. "But schools that are buried under red tape and unneeded restrictions have a difficult time thinking about the needs of tomorrow. They need to be given the flexibility

to meet the unique needs of the local community."

Educators for Heck will provide the campaign with important support throughout the state, Heck said. But he made it clear that the group was more than an ordinary group of campaign volunteers.

"A lot of these people haven't been active in politics before," Heck said. "They're with us because they care about education. I'm gratified that so many prominent members of the education community are willing to declare their support."

In addition to Giaudrone and Detering, the local group's executive committee is made up of Del Cross, Cherry Goudeau, Jerry Hosmah, Joe Lassoie, Lee Thoren and Raddi Barton.

Other local educators actively supporting Heck's candidacy include the following: Tina Aguilar, Tom Knutson, Shannon Baker, Howard Kreps, Bill Barton, Frances Kruse, Cecily Best, Marsha Leffler, Donna Card, Dave Lorenz, Bridget Cullerton, Carolyn Lorenzen, Betty Drost, J. Magin, Bob Duke, Oliver Magnuson, Jerry and Maren Dunlap, Sharen Marsall, Brad Graham, Nancy Martel, Diane Olson, Virginia Paul, Archelle Reynolds, Carl Rhoades, Jenni Shoup, Vickie Tarbet, Judy Templeman, laudia Thomas, Virginia Thoren, Leslie Tollefson, Tricia Turner, Holly Twedt, Rena Warner and Arnold Wright.

WALKER'S SERVICE



1422 South K

627-9903

Bill to Restrict Use of Insanity Plea Moves to Senate

The Senate Law & Justice Committee will debate a measure (HB 1432) this week designed to restrict the use of the insanity plea, said Senator Ken Madsen (D-Roy), member of the committee.

Under the bill, if a defendant is successful in using the insanity plea, he or she would be found guilty BUT insane, and would have to get treatment and serve a sentence, too. Current state law allows for some defendants to be set free if found guilty by reason of insanity.

Madsen sponsored the Senate version of the bill, but it was killed in committee by the Republican majority.

"This bill does the same thing mine would have done" Madsen said. The Roy Democrat added that the measure puts an end to game playing with the justice system by preventing perfectly sane people from using the insanity defense.

"I'm fully supporting the House bill," Madsen said. "I don't care whose name the bill has on it. I'm more concerned with results than credit."

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BIDS

Kitsap Transit Request for Proposals Uniforms for Transit Operators

Kitsap Transit is requesting bids for UNIFORMS FOR TRANSIT Operators services. A detailed specification may be obtained by contacting Annette Balera at Kitsap Transit, 234 South Wycoff, Bremerton, WA 98312, 2069-479-6962. Sealed bids will be accepted until the bid opening which will be at 2:00 p.m. Tuesday, March 22, 1988 at Kitsap Transit, 234 South Wycoff, Bremerton, WA.

Bidders will be required to comply with all applicable FDOT laws and regulations and will cooperate with Kitsap Transit in meeting its commitments with respect to disadvantaged and women business enterprises. DBE and WBE percentages are 10 and 3 respectively. In addition, bidders will be required to certify that they are not on the Comptroller General's list of ineligible contractors.

3/10

Pierce Transit Callfor Bids Security Guard Service for Pierce Transit Headquarters Specification No. PT-11-88

PIERCE TRANSIT is a municipal corporation with administrative offices located at 3701 96th St. S.W., Tacoma, Washington. Bid proposals are being solicited from bidders for furnish Security Guard Service for Pierce Transit Headquarters.

Plans, specifications, proposal, contract, bond and affidavit forms may be inspected and obtained by prospective bidders by contacting the Agency Buyer, PIERCE TRANSIT 3701 96th St. S.W., P.O. Box 99070, Tacoma, Washington 98499.

Prospective bidders are required to abide by PIERCE TRANSIT's general instructions to bidders. Failure of bidders to comply with the general instructions may result in disqualification of their bid. Sealed bid proposals will be accepted by the Agency Buyer at the PIERCE TRANSIT Headquarters until 2:00 p.m., March 30, 1988. All bids will be opened and read at a public meeting in the Conference Room of PIERCE TRANSIT at 2:00 p.m. on March 30, 1988.

Equal Employment Opportunity:

Contractor will be required to comply with all applicable Equal Employment Opportunity laws and regulations.

Ineligible Contractors:

The successful bidder will be required to certify that he is not on the Comptroller General's list of ineligible contractors.

Disadvantaged Business Enterprises:

The Contractor will cooperate with PIERCE TRANSIT in meeting its commitments and goals with respect to disadvantaged business enterprises.

The following outlines the contract area with the appropriate DBE annual percentages:

CONTRACT AREA	DBE
Services	5%
PIERCE TRANSIT	

Invitation for Bids

Bids are being received for rehabilitation work in the Neighborhood Preservation Program. For additional information see the Tacoma Daily Index **March 4, 1988** or contact the Community Development Department, 740 St. Helens Ave., 10th Floor, Tacoma, Wash. 98402, phone 591-5238. Bid opening **March 14, 1988.**

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Notice to Contractors Department of Transportation Olympia, Washington 98504 February 22, 1988

Sealed bids will be received in the Bid (Commission) Room of the Department of Transportation located on the first floor of the Transportation Building, Olympia, Washington, until 10:00 A.M., or at P.O. Box 7667 Olympia, Washington 98507 until 9:00 A.M., on the dates shown.

The right is reserved to reject any and all bids and to waive informalities in the bidding.

Informational copies of plans are on file with the WSDOT DMWBE Support Services & Plan Center in Seattle; the Office of the County Engineer of the County in which the work is situated; the Chapter offices of the Associated General Contractors of America in Seattle, Spokane, Tacoma and the offices of the District Administrators of the Department of Transportation where they may be inspected.

Bids and Sub-Bids from Minority and Women Contractors are Solicited.

To order Plans & Specifications please call (206) 753-9664.

Plans, specifications and proposals may be obtained upon payment of the fee set forth:

Fee	Project Estimate
\$ 5.00	\$0 - \$1,000,000
\$10.00	Over \$1,000,000

The improvements for which bids will be received follow:

Bid Opening for Wednesday, March 23, 1988

(KING) 180th Avenue SE Grade Separation (Class 1, 1 & 6, \$1,000,000 - \$1,250,000) Contains MBE and/or WBE Goal. A State Project on SR 18, MP 12.40 to MP 12.70; and SR 516, MP 11.37 to MP 12.10. Requires: Grading, draining, surfacing and paving with ACP. Constructing a prestressed concrete girder bridge, extruded and precast concrete curbs, concrete slope protection, and rock wall. Installing guardrail, pavement markers and monuments, delineators, illumination, traffic signals, and signing. 180 Working Days. Involves 86 items. (L-8565) (1 of 4)

DUANE BERENTSON
Secretary of Transportation

3/4, 3/11

Notice to Contractors State of Washington, Department of Transportation District #3 5720 Capitol Blvd., Tumwater, WA. 98501 P.O. Box 9327 Olympia, Washington 98504

Bid Opening March 17, 1988

Sealed bids will be received by the State of Washington, Department of Transportation, at District #3, Tumwater, Washington until Thursday, March 17, 1988, at 3:00 p.m. and will then and there be opened and publicly read for the construction of the improvement listed below. This is a District 3 contract.

Performance and bid bonds are not required on this project so that small businesses and minority contractors may compete; however, all interested firms are encouraged to submit bids.

Special Prequalification will be required for those bidders not currently prequalified under the Department's standard prequalification procedures.

Plans with contract provisions and special prequalification forms may be obtained from the District 3 Plans Office upon written request to the above address, or by telephoning (206) 586-6101. The plan fee for this project is \$5.00 per copy, non-refundable, made payable to the State Treasurer, Department of Transportation.

A copy of the plans and contract provisions may be inspected in the Pierce and Thurston County Engineer's office or the Chapter offices of the Associated General Contractors of America in Seattle and Tacoma.

The improvement for which the bids will be received follows:

SR 5, MEDIAN SHOULDER SWEEPING - TUMWATER TO TACOMA VICINITIES This project provides for the improvement of SR 5 in Pierce and Thurston Counties from MP 101.03 to MP 135.54 by median shoulder sweeping and other work.

The primary class of work on this project is Class 1.

(Estimate Range: \$7,500 to \$50,000)

ARTHUR T. SMELSER, P.E.

District Administrator

3/2 3/9

Madsen to Help Prevent Convicts from Profitting from Crimes

Senator Ken Madsen (D-Roy) wants to make sure that crime doesn't pay. Madsen wants to prevent convicts from collecting full royalties from the sale of books or movies about their crimes, and has proposed an amendment to do just that.

Madsen successfully added the amendment to a House bill being heard on the Senate floor this week.

Payments would be reduced to the convicted person by half and given to a fund for assisting victims and witnesses. The Victims' Compensation Fund supports comprehensive programs to encourage and facilitate testimony by the victims of crimes and witnesses of crimes.

"It's simply ridiculous to think that we allow crime to pay!" Madsen said. "Who would have thought our state's criminal justice system grants convicted killers and rapists to cash-in on the stories of their crimes, and the suffering of their victims. That's an insult to anyone who's ever been a victim of a crime. It's time to stop this abuse in our justice system."

The amended bill passed the Senate unanimously, but must now go back to the House for final approval before it can get the Governor's signature.

Registration Underway Through March 30 at TCC

Registration for spring quarter Tacoma Community College Classes is under way and will continue through March 30. The college's Admissions Office is now making advising and registration appointments. Spring quarter begins March 28.

The college is offering continuing registration for new and returning students through March 22. Late registration will be held during the first three days of class, March 28-30. New students enrolling for credit classes may obtain appointments for placement and advising by contacting the Admissions Office, Building 18.

Full and part-time students may register early and defer tuition payment until March 17. Those interested in non-credit, lifelong education classes may register at any time during office hours at the Registration Center, Building 18.

Registration Center hours are 8 a.m.-8 p.m. Monday-Thursday, and 8 a.m.-5 p.m. Friday. For information, contact the college at 566-5000.

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Ban on Political Activity Most Sweeping in Decade

By David Crary

SOUTH AFRICA — The government's crackdown on militant Black political groups is intended to reassure ultraconservative whites and convince Blacks that tough opposition tactics will not work.

The government banned political activity by 18 opposition groups, including South Africa's largest anti-apartheid organization and its biggest union federation. It was the most sweeping crackdown in a decade.

crackdown in a decade.

Organizations affected by the ban have been unwavering in their rejection of President P.W. Botha's efforts to install cooperative Black local officials and to draw moderate Blacks into power-sharing negotiations aimed at preserving white political power.

Now the groups cannot, for example, campaign for Black-majority rule or organize a boycott of Black municipal elections planned for October.

"Every single peaceful action we can take has now been criminalized," said the Rev. Allan Boesak, a co-founder of the United Democratic Front, a coalition of more than 600 groups.

The front, with more than 2 million members the largest Black political organization, and 16 other groups are forbidden from any activity except book-keeping and court action.

Boesak said the restrictions were part of a bid "to lure a certain section of the Black community into the government camp" before the municipal elections.

He said the government "wanted to create conditions in which, with no boycott, it would appear that its plans and its candidates had generally been accepted."

By imposing the regulations a week before two parliamentary by-elections, Botha also appeared to be trying to blunt criticism from the extreme-right Conservative Party.

The Conservatives are favored to win both contests over candidates from Botha's National Party and have campaigned on a platform accusing the government of caving in to Black pressure.

served with notices barring them from further work with their organization.

The Conservatives complained that the restrictions, which anti-apartheid groups termed a "declaration of war," were not enough.

The restrictions follow a series of tough government statements and act against politically hostile neighboring countries. Among those actions are South Africa's military intervention in the Angolan civil war and threats of "hot pursuit" raids into Zimbabwe against guerrillas who cross the border to stage attacks in South Africa.

Anglican Archbishop Desmond Tutu said the regulations were "a vicious and provocative act by a government which has become a serious threat to southern Africa."

"Where do we go from here?" asked the Black Sash civil rights group in a statement. "Into absolute totalitarianism, with the government and its right wing competing for the spoils."

If the ban proves effective, the ranks of opposition groups could be thinned drastically. Among the survivors, for the moment, are white-led groups such as the Black Sash and church-related groups such as the South African Council of Churches.

The government's orders allow the militant Congress of South African Trade Unions, the main Black labor federation, to remain in operation but bar it from political activity. The general-secretary of the congress, Jay Naidoo, said the regulations, plus pending legislation to curtail strikes, would be tantamount to an outright ban of the group's existence.

Inkatha, with 1.5 million members the second-largest Black political group after the United Democratic Front, was not affected by the new regulations. The president of the organization, Zulu leader Mangosuthu Buthelezi, considers himself a foe of apartheid but opposes the militant strategies espoused by the front.

More than 400 people have been killed in the past year in a power struggle between the front and Inkatha in Natal province. Several United Democratic Front leaders involved in efforts to begin peace talks were

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*The standard \$1,000 earnest money deposit is still required and regular closing costs will apply.

Bid Opening Wednesday, March 16, 1988
(Subject to Availability)

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Puyallup 2707 Cherokee Blvd 3Bd., 1Ba., 952 Sq.Ft.	\$49500
Puyallup 7211 126th St E 3Bd., 1 1/2 Ba., 1212 Sq.Ft.	\$60150
Puyallup 7624 146th St Ct E 3Bd., 2Ba., 1172 Sq.Ft.	\$61050
Spanaway 127 169th St E 3Bd., 1 1/2 Ba., 1315 Sq.Ft.	\$51750
Spanaway 16806 5th Ave Ct E 4Bd., 2Ba., 1456 Sq.Ft.	\$54750
Sumner 6129 189th Ave Ct E 4Bd., 2Ba., 1357 Sq.Ft.	\$59150
Tacoma 8809 S Fawcett 4Bd., 2Ba., 1373 Sq.Ft.	\$54100

GROUP II - ALL CASH "AS IS"

Spanaway 17022 6th Ave Ct E 3Bd., 1Ba., 880 Sq.Ft.	\$32850
Tacoma 603 E Harrison 2Bd., 1Ba., 863 Sq.Ft.	\$24950*
Tacoma 836 E 48th 3Bd., 1Ba., 1057 Sq.Ft.	\$28000*
Tacoma 1730 S "M" St 4Bd., 2Ba., 1645 Sq.Ft.	\$24000*
Tacoma 3113 N Cheyenne St 2Bd., 1Ba., 928 Sq.Ft.	\$48000
Tacoma 5205 68th St W 2Bd., 1Ba., 1811 Sq.Ft.	\$40000*
Tacoma 6102 S Thompson 3Bd., 1Ba., 1409 Sq.Ft.	\$29000*

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It's Our Job to Tell the Full Story of Jesse's Campaign



by Chester A. Higgins, Jr.

Early, and in fact, during much of his campaign for the Democratic nomination for the Presidency of the United States, the Rev. Jesse L. Jackson has been noticeably absent from the daily news accounts of the primary campaigns.

Indeed, excluding the USA Today's most recently expose and several articles in monthly or weekly magazines, among them Vanity Fair's lengthy January cover story on Jackson (this story ending negatively by saying Jackson did not want the power -- in short did not want to win -- the office he was seeking; he only wanted the glory of running for the office) little has been said by any local or national publication about his campaign without the accompanying geremaid concerning his inability to win the office. And television coverage has been inequitably void.

Recently, however, this trend has been somewhat lessened. Jesse's impressive showings in state primaries where there were less than one percent Black population have compelled the newspapers to sit up and take notice. And last week a Washington Post-ABC News Poll found that Jackson, and Michael Dukakis, also a Democratic hopeful, and George Bush, the Republican, were the

commanding leaders in virtually all of the 16 states holding primaries on March 8--Super Tuesday.

However, the Black Press should not lament when the white press fails to be less than forthcoming in respect to the relevancy of Jackson's presidential campaign. We should not weep and gnash out teeth when television fails to take note of the patronizing and condescending treatment Jesse receives from other Democratic candidates on a debate panel.

For it is the job of the Black Press -- our mandate, indeed--to do what we have done for so long and at times so well--tell our people what is going on--and tell it like it is.

We must tell the complete, thorough and very remarkable story of the unique campaign that Jackson is waging with limited resources and a dearth of fair and equitable major media coverage. We must inform our readers of Jackson's campaign initiatives -- of his being the lonely voice in this campaign. On the home front we must tell of Jackson's call for just treatment of the poor, the homeless, the threatened farmers and blue collar workers who are losing their industrial jobs to "outsourcing" to cheap foreign labor, and on the foreign policy front, his consistent cry against the brutal, nazi oppression of South African Blacks and the thuggish treatment of young Palestinian protestors at the hands of Israeli soldiers. Herein, then, lies an opportunity for the Black newspapers --the Black media-- to take the lead in getting out the full and accurate story on Jackson's campaign to all Americans, regardless of race, color or creed.

Jackson's campaign is entirely too important to us all to be left to the whims or prejudices of a majority media which may have other agendas or is just indifferent to its thrusts. Nor can we be less fervent in our delineation because the Jackson campaign funds happen to be limited. We delineation

We must urge all candidates to advertise in the Black Press just as they do in the white media, but a candidate's lack of funds or limited resources should not deter us in presenting a fair and factual story or editorial.

Black publishers, particularly, those in the South, can insure increased coverage of the Jackson campaign not only by writing accurate and complete stories and editorials of its progress, but above all by urging our readerships to get off their duffs, to go to the polls and cast their ballots for Jesse L. Jackson. That way they will insure that Jesse Jackson can win.

Hooks Urges Board Support for Commission on Racial Violence

Citing the growing number of racially motivated incidents of violence and the danger they pose to racial harmony in this nation, Dr. Benjamin L. Hooks, Executive Director of the NAACP, has called for massive public support of a bill now before Congress (H.R. 3914), that would establish a Commission on Racially Motivated Violence.

The bill was introduced in February by Representatives Peter Rodino (D. NJ) and Hamilton Fish (R. NY), and was in response to a call issued last year by the NAACP for Congressional leadership to conduct a series of hearings into the present wave of racial violence, seeking to pinpoint its causes and to develop recommendations to help prevent further occurrences.

Dr. Hooks issued his call on the occasion of the 20th anniversary of the report by the National Advisory Commission on Civil Disorders which made an in-depth and far reaching investigation into the causes of the racial riots during the summer of 1967 that resulted in 83 deaths and millions of dollars in property damages. The Commission, which became known as the Kerner Commission, concluded:

"Our nation is moving toward two societies, one black, one white--separate and unequal."

"This prophecy, I am relieved to say, has not been fulfilled in its fullest possible dimensions. There has, however, been a significant increase in the width of the gulf that separates whites from blacks, and the haves from the have-nots." Dr. Hooks said.

"As we needed the Kerner Commission then, we need this Commission on Racial Violence now. Something very wrong is happening in our society and matters are not going to get any better unless we take a hard look at this phenomena," he added.

Under the provisions of the bill, the Commission would investigate and make recommendations regarding issues related to racially motivated violence including:

*Whether the incidence of racially motivated violence is increasing in the United States.

*The causes and factors leading to such incidents and the influence, if any, of specific groups or organizations in causing such violence.

*Methods and techniques to avert and eliminate racially motivated violence.

The commission would be composed of 12 persons--six to be appointed by the President, three by the Speaker of the House, and three by the Senate Majority Leader. It would be empowered to hold hearings and would make its report no later than one year after its initial meeting.

Dr. Hooks' endorsement of the legislation came as the NAACP's Board of Directors concluded its meeting on Saturday, February 20, 1988. Actions taken by the board included the following.

*The establishment of a Commission on Higher Education charged with investigating the numerous problems associated with higher education for blacks including student recruitment and retention, violence against blacks on white college campuses, tenure for black faculty members, and equal employment opportunity at all levels.

Commission members will be drawn from a wide spectrum of disciplines. They will produce a final report with recommendations.

*The establishment of a NAACP leadership University as an appropriate college or university for the training of NAACP branch leaders. Through the training, NAACP leadership will be provided the modern informational tools needed to motivate and stimulate a cadre of volunteer workers.

*Opposition to the sale, manufacture and distribution of plastic guns and armour piercing bullets.

*Appointment of a task force, to be named by the Chairman of the NAACP Board, to investigate the problem of homelessness with the objective of presenting specific recommendations to the Resolution Committee for consideration at the 1988 Annual Convention. This problem has reached epidemic proportions and a disproportionate number of blacks have become "street people".

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