



Rubin Patterson, Ph.D.

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“We at the universities do a good job at educating young people about how to work for corporations and the government, and we should do that, but not to the exclusion of educating young people on how to build up civil society institutions and advance social movements.”

This Strikes Us ...

A Sojourner's Truth Editorial

As if we didn't have enough to worry about in the ongoing national presidential elections, now we have to deal with the matter of super delegates.

OK, so we are down to three candidates: Senators Hillary Clinton and Barack Obama, on the Democratic side, and Republican John McCain.

As always the assessment of the candidates is muddled as we try to separate them based on such frivolous concerns such as experience. But, let's repeat what we have insisted on all along, not one of these candidates has any experience as an executive in any shape or form, and that is precisely the job one of them will have by this time next year. And not just any executive position, by the way, but arguably the most challenging executive position of all time.

That being said, each has more governmental experience than several of our presidents have had, including the greatest of them all - Abraham Lincoln.

Then we take a look at the issues. That's a real muddle. Let's have a little straight talk here - McCain, who can't decide from one year to the next how he feels about tax cuts or the immigration issue, will tell us anything we want to hear about the important issues. Only on abortion, an issue that touches very few, has he been steadfast.

As far as Clinton and Obama are concerned, the only real difference between the two is in their health care plans. Clinton wants to mandate that individuals buy insurance, Obama does not. Some economists say that such a mandate keeps the costs down and is the only feasible way to bring about universal coverage. The evidence from Massachusetts, however, the state that implemented such a program several years ago, shows that such a mandate may not be enforceable.

Both candidates are afraid of mentioning the only feasible and cost-effective way to implement universal health care - a single-payer system - because that means going up against the powerful insurance lobbies.

The contest on the Republican side is pretty much decided. But the Democratic battle is far from over. The winner needs just over 2,000 delegates to win the nomination so here is the looming question: what is going to drive the decision-making process for those 796 super delegates?

The Democratic Party established super delegates some years ago precisely for times like this - close contests that threaten to go to the wire and prevent a candidate from snaring a majority. Super delegates are party officials, elected officials, past dignitaries and so forth.

The problem is, will the super delegates vote, proportionally at least, in the same way that the other delegates have been chosen by popular vote. In other words, let's go right to the worst case scenario for the Democratic Party's chances for success in November.

Let's say that Obama goes into the convention with a mere plurality of delegates, not a majority. Let's say Obama, as he seems to be, is shown by the polls to be the stronger candidate against McCain in the general election. Let's say that the Clinton machine - with a closer ties to the party insiders - gets enough super delegates on its side to put Hillary over the top.

The perception, especially in the African-American community will be that the nomination, and the presidency, was stolen. Add that perception to a long, long, list of grievances (see Toledo circa 2005-2008) that African-American community possess and you see the Democratic Party problem of November 2008.

Will Clinton, with all of her negatives among so much of the populace, be able to win if African-American voters support her candidacy with something less than overwhelming enthusiasm and sit on their hands in November when it comes time to pull the lever for the first woman president in this nation's history?

It won't take much to tilt the scales in McCain's favor.

It doesn't take much for a candidate to win or lose favor with a particular constituency. Just a few short months ago, Clinton held a substantial lead with African-American voters. Obama, however, managed to establish his bona fides and has been getting upwards of 80 percent of the black vote.

Either Democratic candidate has the opportunity to make inroads into groups that form the party's traditional base, but some perceived slights may be just too much to overcome.

Super delegates - both white and black - need to weigh their decisions very carefully.

The Sojourner's Truth

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Community Calendar

January 25-February 20

Maumee Valley Country Day School: Art Gallery featuring MVCDC dads Wade Harrison and Thanasiu Wolfe

January 28-February 28

20 North Gallery's Black History Month 2008: Aaron Bivins, Wil Clay, Wade Harrison, Ramon Tigges, Frank Morrison, Alice Grace, Warren Woodberry, Yolanda Woodberry, John Wade III: 419-241-2400

February 13

Maumee Valley Country Day School: Jamaican Feast catered by Chef Joe Prince and artist reception; 5 to 7 pm

February 14-17

Family Conference Revival of 2008: Singles Ministry and Marriage Support Group of Bethel; Nightly services at the Temple on 14th and 15th at 6 pm; Saturday morning seminars starting at 10 am, Annual Evening of Elegance at 6:30 at the Parke Inn; Sunday noon service and 6 pm drama presentation: 419-473-8933

February 16

Art Around Town: Bridging Cultures from around the World in Celebration of Black History Month; Fundraiser for the Jamil Lewis Multicultural Center; Artists - Odes Roberts, Alice Grace, Navarro Gibson, Bonita Beads; 2:30 to 6 pm - family community fun, story telling, arts and crafts; 8 to 10 pm (adults) - wine and dine, art exhibition sale, ball room dancing demo: 419-867-3331

February 17

Indiana Avenue Baptist: 62nd Church Anniversary; "Standing on the Promise of God;" 4 pm afternoon service; Guests Rev. Donald Perryman and Center of Hope and Rev. Donald Murray and First Baptist: 419-246-3850

Black History Extravaganza and Soul Food Buffet: Presented by the NW District of the Ohio Assoc. of Colored Women's Clubs, Inc and Youth Affiliates; GLADettes Federated Club; DJICE; 2 to 5 pm; Local UAW Hall 5411 Jackman: 419-537-9042 or 419-531-6163

Winter Musical: Presented by the Good News Brotherhood; Good News Chapel; Gospel choirs, gospel groups and a dance expression: 419-244-3142

Men's Day 2008: Beulah Baptist: 11 am - Elder Steve Allen of the Rance Allen Group; 4 pm - Pastor Clayborn Arnett and the Greater Harvest MB Church: 419-283-1028

"100 Women in Red;" Mt. Ararat MBC; There - "Redeemed By His Blood;" Speaker Sr. Frances Crenshaw of Jerusalem: 419-472-8747

22nd Annual Black History Month Musical: Third Baptist Church of Holland; 4 pm

February 18

Dr. Martin Luther King Scholarship Dinner: UT Student Union Auditorium; 7 pm; Keynote speaker Hon. James E. Graves of the Mississippi Supreme Court: 419-530-2508 or 419-383-3438

Southern Missionary Baptist Church: 6 pm Service with the Toledo Interfaith Mass Choir: 419-381-2295

February 21

Urban League Thursdays: Hosted by Greater Toledo Urban League Young Professionals and 5/3 Minority Leadership Council; Networking Forum; 5/3 Center at One Seagate; 5:30 to 7:30 pm: 419-297-3664

February 23

Black History Month at the Toledo Lucas County Public Library: Rudy Barker, renowned living history performer brings King's words to life; Noon to 4 pm; Downtown branch, McMaster Center; Documentary film; Historical photo exhibit: 419-259-5381

"Agape Heritage Gala - An Evening of Jazz;" Erie Street Market; Sponsored by Mt. Zion Church; Affinity Band, Sean Turner, Brooke Campbell; Ballroom dancing and food stations; 7 pm: 419-246-1850

"The Journey;" From Slavery to the Present; Presented by the Board of Christian Education of United Missionary Baptist; 5 pm



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Bridging Cultures From
 Around The World

My View

By Jack Ford



vers one day as well. And I visited the medical triage maneuvers held behind Dana Auditorium on The University of Toledo Health Science Campus.

Big mistake, Carty. I am sure Keith Wilkowski just shakes his head and silently prays: "You go, Carty!"

City hall's screw up during the previous week was the Ohio Civil Rights Commission report which found "probable cause" that Mayor Finkbeiner acted improperly toward Perlean Griffin, Dwayne Morehead and Gary Daugherty.

The Finkbeiner machine counterpunched by raising implications that the regional director of the OCRC was prejudiced due to her friendship with Griffin and that the investigation was not complete.

Whenever the press goes and checks the files at the OCRC, they may find that the files show repeated attempts by OCRC to interview city hall administrators.

It appears a bit of stonewalling may have occurred. One such staff member reportedly bragged that she would

"never" be interviewed by OCRC. I hope that is not true and that a good faith effort was put forth by both parties. The process does not work unless that occurs on both sides of a dispute resolution.

Two weeks ago I chided city hall (Carty and Co.) and The Blade for their lame attempt at marginalizing the message of protest by Rev. Floyd Rose.

The idea that Rose should be ignored because he now lives in Georgia was ludicrous...

The idea that Rose should be ignored because he now lives in Georgia was ludicrous and blew up in the mayor's face. And it was hypocritical to chastise Rose as an outsider during the very same week in which we celebrate Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. who was famously accused of being an "outsider" even by those in the black community.

But it is the litany of wrongs perpetrated against the black community that have proven to be an insurmountable argument to knock down

for those who would keep things as they are in Toledo.

The message has gotten through and the call by Rose to vote against the .75 tax levy lets the figurative cat out of the bag. I do not think you can stuff it back in even if we wanted to.

It's one thing when the political insiders understand an issue but something far different when the guy on the

street picks up on it. And the guy on the street understands the long list of grievances – the name calling, the firings, diminution of affirmative action, Councilmen Brown and Ashford, Eugene Sanders, the garbage fee, the golden throne, etc.

many grievances and work out some resolutions. But Carty likes a fight and usually survives his battles. So he will not alter his ways. And there is no one close to him who can influence change.

It's one thing when the political insiders understand an issue but something far different when the guy on the street picks up on it. And the guy on the street understands the long list of grievances – the name calling, the firings, diminution of affirmative action, Councilmen Brown and Ashford, Eugene Sanders, the garbage fee, the golden throne, etc.

It's one thing when the political insiders understand an issue but something far different when the guy on the street picks up on it. And the guy on the street understands the long list of grievances – the name calling, the firings, diminution of affirmative action, Councilmen Brown and Ashford, Eugene Sanders, the garbage fee, the golden throne, etc.

House. McClin, a longtime state representative was a real power broker for years. Coincidentally, he helped me back in 1980 get a quick turnaround when I needed some political lifting as we started the Substance Abuse Services, Inc. (SASI).

However you come down on the various candidates and issues on this primary day, I hope you show up at the polls on election day. Bill Clinton said the other day that we have waited a lifetime to vote for an African-American or a woman for president of the United States. And, yes, sometimes we get what we pray for and it's a problem!

Exercise your right to vote and help make history. Ohio has decided the last two presidential elections and come November, it will be close once again. Do not let your anger at anyone keep you from the polls. How you vote is your business, but VOTE!

Well, the mayor did it again!

This time he took on the United States Marine Corps. It is almost as if Carty looks for something new and outlandish each week. Maybe he engages in these kinds of hijinks to make you forget about the previous weeks snafu.

What I think is really going on is our failure to have a senior management team advising the mayor. Someone should have put his hand up and said: "No, no, no, Mr. Mayor. We cannot do this!"

We cannot stiff arm the marines, period. That it was during wartime made it all the worse. By the way, when I was mayor, I watched the maneu-

Challenge the Census Projections

I am disappointed to learn that Finkbeiner's most recent response to the Census' estimate of Toledo's declining population is to support a Toledo Charter Revision Committee that meets to discuss the elimination of council seats.

Here's the problem. First, Finkbeiner's support of this is antithetical to his purported pride in Toledo. If he had pride in the city, the mayor would be aggressively challenging the Census projections. While he initially did, his efforts seemed piecemeal. To be fair, a December 24, 2007 Toledo Blade article, "Mayor wants \$100,000 neighborhood analysis," indicated he tried to rally support for a challenge, but it

was shot down by council. I urge council to reconsider and to use Cincinnati as an archetype.

To date, Finkbeiner appears to favor a reduction of city council seats. But, the immediate effect would be a loss of descriptive, district representation for Toledo's minority groups in a city that is one third minority.

Second, the mayor should look to Cincinnati for an idea of what to do. Comparable in population, Mayor Mallory challenged the Census' projection of decline and commissioned a study, funded by the city and business leaders to gather more accurate data. The result: the city's population actually grew and the neighborhoods were im-

proving financially. Mayor Mallory claims the result netted an increase in pride for residents.

Toledo's mayor should be conducting similar initiatives, not supporting a charter revision committee. He knows the Census makes projections from afar based on less data than is readily available to him. Hence, Finkbeiner should jumpstart his own version of Cincinnati's Shop 52 Drill Down Study and it should be supported by Council and co-funded by business leaders. The Toledo Charter Revision Committee should be disbanded.

Ravi Perry



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Norman Jamison Will Be Greatly Missed



Thank you for the article that Michael Hayes wrote on Bro. Norman Jamison. He was a remarkable man. The article was beautiful and well worded. A special thank you for mentioning Bibleway Church.

Norman Jamison was very active in the church, a great leader and teacher. His presence is missed tremendously. He played many roles. From planner of the church picnic to financial board member. I personally met him when I was 15. His daughter Tracie and I are still friends. Thank you for the wonderful acknowledgement.

Kim Hibbett
Bibleway Church Member

Robert Torres Leaves Toledo for Greener Pastures

By Fletcher Word
Sojourner's Truth Editor



Robert Torres

Robert Torres is leaving his position as manager in the City of Toledo's Department of Development and his post on the Toledo Board of Education later in February, he announced this week. As of February 25, Torres will assume the position of director of economic development for the city of Canton, OH.

Torres, who started his career with the City of Toledo on the Board of Community Relations and has served as director of the Youth Commission and as manager of the Latino Affairs Commission, informed Mayor Carty Finkbeiner of his decision last Thursday.

Torres has served on the Board of Education for just over two years having been elected to the position in November 2005. He has spent the last week lobbying the other four members to support the appointment of Bob Vasquez to the board.

"To ensure consistency, I asked Bob Vasquez to consider this appointment," said Torres at Monday's announcement. "Bob is a

highly qualified individual and successful businessman who happens to be Latino."

Torres predicted that Vasquez could garner a majority, but not a unanimous, vote of approval from the remaining four members. Torres also expressed his satisfaction with the changes within the school district that have been implemented during his tenure on the board.

"Much was accomplished in a short time. We hired a superintendent, and a new treasurer," said Torres. "We introduced zero-based budgeting and gained accountability in the hiring of minority contractors. There's a new sense of transparency and fiscal responsibility. I'm confident that the current momentum we've started in bringing about change will continue. Bob will be a good board member to continue that change. This is not a step backward, it's a step forward."

Vasquez, who appeared with Torres at Monday's

news conference announcing Torres' move, expressed his interest in the appointment.

"I'm interested because I've spent most of my adult life dealing with issues related to children and adults," said Vasquez who is director of special projects for The Twelve, Inc., a non-profit agency in the Toledo area. "Education is the pathway to people's dreams and goals in life."

Vasquez is a long-time member of the Democratic Party and has run for Toledo City Council on two recent occasions. In 2005, he narrowly lost a bid for an at-large council seat, and, in 2007, he lost his bid for a seat in District 2.

Torres ran for the school board in 2005 with the support of the Urban Coalition, a school watchdog group. One of his running mates in that election was Darlene Fisher who also won election. In the two years since, Torres and Fisher have been often linked together on a variety of issues facing the school board, often at odds with the other three members.

Most recently the pair has repeatedly taken Board President Steve Steel, Ph.D., to task for his intention to be involved in upcoming union negotiations. Steel's wife, Katherine Hernandez, is a TPS teacher and a former member of the board of the Toledo Federation of Teachers.

The school board will now have 10 days to consider who to appoint to the vacant seat. After that, they will have 20 days to fill the seat. According to Steel, members will seek applications much as they did when Deborah Barnett resigned last spring and the board appointed former Mayor

Jack Ford to sit in. Ford later decided to run for the vacated term and won election in November over several Urban Coalition candidates.

As for Torres, he will be taking up residence in the city that holds the Football Hall of Fame and has a population of about 80,000.

"William Healey [mayor of Canton] is a very progressive mayor with a commitment to diversification" Torres told The Truth on Monday. "He has a deep sense of including the minority community. One of my goals in Canton will be to include the minority community in business start ups."

He spoke of his excitement at being given the opportunity to direct his own cabinet-level department but he also voiced his disappointment that he feels compelled to leave his home town to advance his career.

"It's a position of greater leadership," said Torres. "I would not leave if that opportunity had presented itself here. Canton, OH just got one of Toledo's best and brightest."

Torres Farewell Party Hosted by Playmakers

Robert Torres has been named the new Director of Economic Development for Canton, Ohio. Please join us as we congratulate Mr. Torres and wish him well in his new position.

Wednesday : February 20, 2008 from 5:30-7:30 p.m.

At Playmakers – located at 2600 W. Sylvania Av. (In the same plaza as El Camino).

For additional information contact ; Ms. Lisa Canales – 419-917-5289



Bob Vasquez, Torres and Adam Martinez

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The Rev. Jesse Jackson Bringing a Message to a City Without Hope

By: Vickie Shurelds

"Oh, I hope they give him respect."

"I hope they know how important this is."

Teachers and administrators alike were anxious as the students of Lima Senior High School began arriving in the gym to hear the Reverend Jesse Jackson. The students sat in the bleachers and were soon face-to-face with a multi-dimensional page out of their history books.

For nearly an hour Jackson held the young Spartans in the palm of his hand, offering them wisdom, guidance, direction and most of all—hope.

"Your brain is a pearl. You are somebody. Choose hope, not dope. You are capable. You have responsibility. Every senior should walk across the stage on graduation day with a diploma in one hand and a voter registration card in the other." He spoke it, had them repeat it, believe it, then act on it as he called every 17-year old student who would be 18 by November 4, come forward to register to vote. 200 registrations were readied for delivery to the board

of election.

Imagine it. For the rest of their lives they can say they registered to vote with Rev. Jesse Jackson. Those are opportunities that don't come often to those who feel they are Lost In Middle America. Lima has long accepted the acronym as the current state of affairs. A city without a future, a city without focus, a city without hope.

Jackson arrived in Lima after having spoken to area pastors who came to him for guidance and advice on utilizing the current energy prevalent in the city for the good of the residents. Following the death of Tarika Wilson and the shooting of her son Sincere during a drug raid on January 4, there has been a lot of restlessness as citizens are asked to be patient for findings from an investigation being conducted by the FBI and OBCI&I.

Last week, the Lima Police Department released findings of their own internal search. Out of the many complaints they had received, only three were found to have any merit.

A loud, public outcry has prompted them to hire the Montgomery County Sheriff's office to conduct a search using their internal affairs department.

even one about the injustice that happens when a 26-year old mother of six is killed in front of her children by a SWAT team member, it goes beyond even those issues say many others.

As some local residents continue to say — we don't need this — everything is fine — I don't see a problem, and even "If Jesse Jackson is coming to our school, I'm keeping my child home that day." Those voices also outline the underlying cause of the tremendous tremor of dissonance being displayed by the determined marching that takes place every Saturday afternoon. Being ignored or swept aside is part of the problem.

Jackson explained to the students that the community is their responsibility, too. They will someday lead this city and they must be sure they are ready. "I owe a debt to Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. I owe a debt to John F. Kennedy. I owe a debt to those who gave their lives so

that I may have the chance to learn." The students repeated the acknowledgement of those who paved the way for their freedom. For some, it was the first time they con-

assault weapons, you can have as many as you want and we have people who are on drugs, people who don't think clearly given access to weapons. How many of you know someone who has brought a gun to school? Stand up." The crowd fell silent as the students began to rise to their feet.

At Rhodes State College, Jackson and the Ministerial Alliance spoke with city administrators and members of Lima City Council. Addressing the media afterwards, he spoke in controlled fashion about the events of January 4. "Excessive force was used. The raid was planned and carried out as planned." He called upon city leaders to do what is governed by decency and character. It's not about where you live or the color of your skin, but about doing what is in good character. He emphasized the acts that are already in evidence: kicking down the door and entering with guns blazing was excessive in the situation. "This is not about black or white. It's about wrong or right. What is there to investigate in that? We know she was unarmed, had her baby in her arms, was not the target, yet she was shot twice. Justice must be delivered across the board. The same rules and same laws apply to every person."

He went on to use examples of the Rodney King incident, and others where evidence was without question, yet the officers walked away free. He suggested that should not be the case in Lima. "If that is the case, we will apply pressure where it will be the most effective in order to create justice where none exists. One set of rules for everyone. An even playing field.

The pews of Philipian Missionary Baptist Church are not ever left wanting for

(Continued on Page 12)



even one about the injustice that happens when a 26-year old mother of six is killed in front of her children by a SWAT team member, it goes beyond even those issues say many others.



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Rubin Patterson: Changing the Perceptions of UT's Africana Studies Program

By Fletcher Word
Sojourner's Truth Editor



The University of Toledo's Africana Studies Program "helps students gain a systematic understanding of the problems, prospects and impacts of black people nationally and globally," according to the literature made available by the Africana Studies office.

The challenge, according to Interim Director Rubin Patterson, Ph.D., is to make more students aware of the fact that taking a major or a minor in an undergraduate program which focuses on the culture of black people is a steppingstone to a successful career.

How is that possible?

Very simply, says Patterson, the same elements, or skill sets, that students have to develop in order to have success in any undergraduate course of study are the very same ones required for success in Africana Studies. And a good college, department or program will help a student to develop those skill sets, no matter the course of study.

A students needs to be "well rounded in critical

thinking, in research skills and communication skills," says Patterson, and those skills "can be transferable to any context."

Furthermore, says Patterson, as he surveys the world of employment these days, "consistent bureaucratic employment is not a given in this quickly changing economy, this means that students need to be nimble thinkers."

A degree in Africana Studies is a pre-professional degree "that is not different from any other liberal arts degree," adds Patterson. It's a point that Patterson confidently makes about most undergraduate fields of study, in fact. "You can't do anything with a biology degree," he says. "In order to be a biologist, you have to go to graduate school."

So it is with most undergraduate degrees – they often bear no relation to what a person ends up doing, as Patterson, who majored in physics and electrical engineering during his undergraduate days at the University of Florida State and is now a professor of soci-

ology at UT, knows so well from personal experience.

So, having dispensed with the negative attitudes towards the subject, why major in Africana Studies?

"The longtime mantra of Africana Studies is 'academic excellence and social relevance'" responds Patterson. "Africana Studies was designed to be functional and socially relevant." Just as socially relevant, he adds, as are the business school and the agricultural school.

"We at the universities do a good job at educating young people about how to work for corporations and the government, and we should do that, but not to the exclusion of educating young people on how to build up civil society institutions and advance social movements," says Patterson.

That view of civil institutions and social movements is reflected in the various courses offered by the UT Africana Studies program – Foundations of Black Intellectual History, history of Jazz, Hip-Hop, African American Politics, The Black Church, Civil Rights, Economic History of the African American Community, to name a few of the 19 courses that are currently available to UT students.

Nevertheless, the perception that Africana Studies is somewhat less of a legitimate academic field of study than say ... history, is a perception Patterson, who was appointed as interim director at the onset of the 2007-2008 academic

year is working hard to overcome.

One of the ways he is attacking the perception is with a series of guest speakers – "Aspiring Speakers" – who will be extolling the academic virtues of Africana Studies. The first such speaker, in 2007, was Sidney Ribeau, Ph.D., president of Bowling Green State University who has spent much of his career in academia developing and overseeing such programs.

This week's visitor is Mae Jemison, Ph.D., who majored in both chemical engineering and African and Afro-American studies during her undergraduate days and later became the first woman of color to go into space.

Jemison will meet with students on Wednesday in the Student Union and later will give a campus talk as part of both the Africana Studies guest lecture series and the university's Black History Month celebration.

Patterson, as a professor of sociology at UT since 1992, tenured since 1998, is no novice to the Africana Studies program. After earning his undergraduate degree, Patterson headed to George Washington University in Washington, D.C. to study for a master's in engineering management. He worked as an engineer for several years before becoming interested in Africa.

That engineering career was put on hold as Patterson entered Howard University to earn his doctorate that focused on southern Africa. "At the outset, I was interested in foreign aid," explains Patterson about how he became attracted to the continent. That interest would lead to the publication of a book titled *Foreign Aid After the Cold War: The Dynamics of the Multipolar Economic Competition*.

One of Patterson's conclusions was that foreign

aid "is really good for the country that is dispensing that aid." There is a close correspondence, he says, between aid and the trade that develops as a result of that largesse.

The study of foreign aid led Patterson to delve into the impact of information technology and science on Africa and, then, into the issue of what he calls "brain circulation" or the extent to which developing countries benefit from temporary brain drain – the educated class that leaves the country only to send monies home and eventually to return.

So Patterson came to UT when the sociology department turned its attention towards "trying to build an international focus ... specifically Africa." When the college later brought in Patterson's predecessor to run the Africana Studies program, Patterson was part of the committee that reached out to Abdul

(Continued on Page 7)



15
April

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The Sojourner's Truth Education

Black History Month Special Issue • Black History Month Special Issue • Black History Month Special Issue • Black History Month

Rubin Patterson

(Continued from Page 6)

Alkalimat, Ph.D., who has since moved on to Urbana University.

"Abdul did a good job of getting us known nationally," says Patterson. "But we were not well known on campus."

Specifically, the program was greatly challenged in obtaining university resources. "The culture is 'you got to make me do this,'" says Patterson as he addresses the issue that low enrollment in the program dooms it to a certain amount of campus obscurity. The Catch-22 being that a program needs resources to increase enrollment but needs to demonstrate increased enrollment in order to increase its share of resources.

Now follows

Patterson's drive to tackle the issue of enrollment by letting prospective students know that the study of Africana Studies is a "pre-professional degree" similar to any other such pre-professional degree. And, of course, one of the ways to emphasize this similarity is to bring to the campus those associated with such degrees who have gone on to achieve no small measure of success in a great variety of fields.

Patterson's goal for his program is to build it into a department—that is the development of a faculty and staff devoted full-time to the academic field of study that can control its own destiny. At the moment, the Africana Studies program is "vulnerable" says

Patterson, in the sense that other departments control the courses and students with a major or minor in Africana Studies are subject to the whims of the controlling department.

More students are taking the courses offered by the Africana Studies program and more are taking it up as a major or a minor. And why wouldn't they? As the literature of the program says: "An Africana Studies degree and minor convey the message that the graduate has gained an appreciation for the significance of a specialized field of knowledge, the scholarly mechanics of analyzing a specific population holistically and a command of the tools for studying interethnic dynamics in diverse societies."



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OUR HISTORY MONTH

4304

LeRoy Butler: Reversing The Toledo Brain Drain in Style

Sojourner's Truth Staff

LeRoy Butler was born, reared and educated in South Carolina. He began his career there at Furman University where he earned both his bachelor's and master's degrees in education. He earned his doctorate in education administration from the University of South Carolina. He got married there and both of his two young children were born in the Palmetto State.

Then Lourdes College came calling and Butler arrived in northwest Ohio on a cold, wintry morning in early January to start life anew as the institution's director of information technology.

Any second thoughts for the new resident of the blustery Midwest?

Not at all.

"I love the campus and I love the people," says Butler. "I have been impressed with the sincere nature of the people here. This college stands for service, reverence and learning ... they preach that. It feels more like a family than a place to work



and everyone is moving forward to reach a common goal and the only agenda is moving the college forward."

For Butler, Lourdes College represented an opportunity to get back into higher education. He had strayed off that path in his most recent job.

Butler spent his youth in Blythewood, SC, just a few miles from Columbia.

Hematriculated at Furman where, in addition to earning an education degree, he also became director of Multimedia Services. He later became director of technology for the Allendale County School District, district technology coordinator for the Calhoun

County Public Schools and, then, director of technology services for Lexington and Richland Counties.

But upon earning his doctorate last spring, Butler opted to return to higher education as an adjunct professor at South Carolina State University. Then the move to Lourdes.

Butler's mission at Lourdes is threefold, as he explains. He will be helping to diversify learning opportunities for students, conducting research for an e-learning environment and helping to expand administrative capacities.

Northwest Ohio Scholarship Fund Now Accepting Applications for the 2008-2009 School Year

The Northwest Ohio Scholarship Fund, Inc. (NWSOF) is now accepting applications for its annual scholarship lottery. Students from low-income families who reside in Lucas, Wood or Fulton County have an opportunity to be awarded need-based scholarships up to \$1,250 per child so that they can attend private schools for kindergarten through eighth grade.

Families can add their name to the waiting list for the program by contacting the NWSOF office. They will be notified after July 1, 2008, if they are selected. When a family is selected by the lottery they will receive an award letter and be required to demonstrate their financial need as measured by standards similar to the Federal School Lunch program. This will determine the amount of their child's scholarship, 25 percent, 50 percent or 75 percent of the total tuition up to \$1,250. The deadline to apply is Monday, June 2, 2008.

For more information about the program and an application visit

www.nosf.org or contact the Northwest Ohio Scholarship Fund office at (419) 244-6711 x 219.

The Northwest Ohio Scholarship Fund Program began in 1999, and has since grown to include siblings of scholarship recipients. Students can now re-qualify for the program for up to nine years, giving them the opportunity to attend the same elementary school for their entire primary education. The Northwest Ohio Scholarship Fund believes that all children, regardless of their economic circumstances, deserve access to quality educational opportunities.

Owens Gives Woodward Students Free Education

Sojourner's Truth Staff

It didn't sink in right away.

Woodward High School seniors gathered in the school auditorium last Thursday and were introduced to a program that Owens Community College has initiated to help students afford a higher education.

The 2008 Woodward graduating class will serve as the first recipients of the Success Program that is designed to assist students who receive partial state and federal aid attend college.

The program, presented by the Owens Community College Foundation, will offer free tuition for up to three years for students on financial aid.

Christa Adams, Ph.D., president of Owens, addressed the students and explained that a free associates' degree would be made available to them but, quite obviously, her audience did not grasp the significance right away.

"The Owens Success Program will pick up the difference between your scholarships and tuition," said Adams. Her address received a lukewarm reception not due to indifference on the part of the students but clearly due to a lack of understanding of the scope of the financial aid being offered to any qualifying senior in the audience.

Regina Woodson, Woodward graduate who received an associate's degree at Owens and is now on the Alumni Association Board of Directors, further addressed the students to impress upon them the value of an Owens' education.

State Fire Marshall Mike Bell, also a Woodward graduate, spoke to the students on "the importance of the next step."

Bell recalled the assistance he received when he was in a similar situation. "If someone had not reached out, I don't know that I would have finished college and become fire marshal."

Nevertheless, it was obvious that the impact of the news had not sunk in for the majority of the students. So Woodward Principal Emilio Ramirez took the stage again and laid out the program in a manner that left no doubt that what was being discussed was a free educational opportunity.

Finally, the message sunk in and the students broke out in collective gasps and applause at their good fortune. "It's only for Woodward?" one voice rang out.

Indeed, it's only for Woodward, for the moment.

In order to be eligible, Woodward students must graduate, be enrolled in 12 or more credit hours each semester at Owens and complete the free application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) to determine the level of financial aid and federal/state grant funding.

Recipients must enroll at Owens during the first fall semester or spring semester following graduation and will



have three years to complete their associate's degree through the Success Program initiative.

"Toledo Public Schools appreciates the opportunity that Owens Community College has extended to our students at Woodward High School," said John Foley, superintendent for TPS in a statement released prior to the Thursday announcement. "The Success Program provides out students with a chance to pursue an associate's degree and to begin planning for their future. We look forward to working with Owens Community College on other initiatives in the future that will benefit all Toledo Public School students."



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Hillary v. Barack

(Continued from Page 16)

on both sides of the aisles.

I could go on, but the fact that I have to make this case is what is really sickening.

America is treating Hillary as if she's about to become the first black president.

The scrutiny. The all out war against her possible candidacy.

The "anybody but Hillary" attitude.

When in actuality, her experience outweighs Obama's graceful flow on the mic.

From what I've learned in my life so far, we're only gonna get a few years of responsible leadership at a time.

When the Democrats left office in 2001, America was in a good position on the world stage, we had tons of programs in place to help needy members of our society and we had a surplus of cash and cash flow.

When Republicans

leave office, America is always at war, we've lost jobs by the tens of millions and we are so far in debt to ourselves and other countries that calling us "the most



gascitytruth@yahoo.com

corrections from last week's article on U.G.E.'s big show at The Peacock:

Emanipated Souls = Elevated Thinking & Larry Sparks feat. Tai Onstage with Da Basix at the end of the night was Mr. Rite

And thanks to Sherron, Brandy Brown and Hutch Daddy for showing us love.. readers call in request that U.G.E. Fiyah! They've got it now!

(ohyeah, Scott Smoove & Hutch get props for that free joint at Coyote Joe's last Friday... about the turtle-neck tho—LOL blame the day job!)

powerful nation on earth" seems somewhat comedic.

Ask yourself, is your religious value worth the risk of things getting worse?

Is your aversion to women in power, doesn't that make you somewhat behind the times (there are more females running fortune 500 companies than men these days).

Ask yourself, if you were in a car that was swerving out of control... who

Owens Community College Board of Trustees Named to Leadership Positions

Special to The Truth

Owens Community College has named John C. Moore and Diana H. Talmage to serve as the chairman and vice chairman for the College's Board of Trustees. Moore and Talmage were elected to their positions by their fellow colleagues during the recent Owens Board of Trustees meeting and will serve one-year terms.

"Owens Community College has an outstanding group of Board of Trustees who value the importance of providing access to a quality college education," said Christa Adams, Ph.D., president of Owens Community College. "Each individual is passionate about higher education and engaged with the college's employees and students. We are fortunate to have such dedicated leaders devoting their time and energy to furthering Owens' mission and vision."

A graduate of the University of Toledo with a bachelor's degree in Business Administration, Moore spent 30 years in banking and 10 years in higher education at Bowling Green State University. Appointed to the College's Board of Trustees in April 2000, he now serves as a consultant and authored a book on surviving stress. He resides in Holland, OH.

Appointed in November 2002, Talmage, a retired educator and former school board member, has held several leadership positions at the K-12 and higher education levels. Her pro-



John C. Moore

essional and community involvement includes board-level membership for the American Red Cross, Lucas County, Think College Now, TARTA and the Lucas County Children Services. A Toledo resident, Talmage received her master's degree in Guidance and Counseling from the University of Toledo and a bachelor's degree in Education from The Ohio State University.

In addition, both Moore and Talmage are members of the Owens Community College Foundation Board of Directors.

The College's Board of

Trustees is comprised of nine community leaders from Lucas, Wood, Hancock and Sandusky counties who are appointed by the governor of Ohio for six-year terms.

In addition to Moore and Talmage, Owens Board of Trustees members include John G. Ault of Perrysburg, Allan J. Libbe of Perrysburg, Dr. Ronald A. McMaster of Perrysburg, R J Molter of Woodville, Carl R. Patterson of Findlay, H. Richard Rowe of Findlay and Jack T. Sculfort of Perrysburg.

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Alain Locke
Writer, Educator



In addition to his long list of academic honors, Locke is credited with helping to initiate and propel the Harlem Renaissance. Locke, born in Philadelphia, PA, in 1886, graduated from Harvard University in 1907 and became the first black Rhodes scholar. He studied at Oxford from 1907 to 1910 and the University of Berlin from 1910 to 1911, then went on to receive a Ph.D. in philosophy from Harvard in 1918.

Locke developed a strong interest in African culture and began encouraging black artists and musicians in America to explore their African roots through their work. Through his efforts, the Harlem Renaissance movement gained national attention. He edited and wrote numerous magazines, anthologies, and books about black life and culture. Locke taught at Howard University in Washington, D.C., for nearly 40 years.

Mary McLeod Bethune
American Educator



Born in Mayesville, S.C., in 1875; graduated from Moody Bible Institute, Chicago, 1895.

The 17th child of former slaves, she taught (1895-1903) in a series of southern mission schools before settling in Florida to found (1904) the Daytona Normal and Industrial Institute for Negro Girls. From 1904 to 1942 and again from 1946 to 1947, she served as president of the institute, which, after merging with Cookman Institute (1923), became Bethune-Cookman College.

A leader in the American black community, she founded the National Council of Negro Women (1935) and was director (1936-44) of Negro Affairs of the National Youth Adminis-

tration. In addition, she served as special adviser on minority affairs to President Franklin Delano Roosevelt. At the 1945

conference that organized the United Nations, she was a consultant on interracial understanding.

Milestones in African American Education

The Little Rock Nine



1837
 Institute for Colored Youth founded by Richard Humphreys; later became Cheyney University.

1854
 Ashmun Institute, the first school of higher learning for young black men, founded by John Miller Dickey and his wife, Sarah Emlen Cresson; later (1866) renamed Lincoln University (Pa.) after President Abraham Lincoln.

1856
 Wilberforce University, the first black school of higher learning owned and operated by African Americans, founded by the African Methodist Episcopal Church. Its president, Daniel A. Payne, became the first African American University president in the country.

1869
 Howard University's law school becomes the country's first black law school.

1876
 Meharry Medical College, the first black medical school in the U.S., founded by the Freedman's Aid Society of the Methodist Episcopal Church.

1881
 Spelman College, the first college for black women in the U.S., founded by Sophia B. Packard and Harriet E. Giles.

1881
 Booker T. Washington founds the Tuskegee Normal and Industrial Institute in Alabama. The school became one of the leading schools of higher learning for African Americans, and stressed the practical application of knowledge. In 1896, George Washington Carver began teaching there as director of the department of agricultural research, gaining an international reputation for his agricultural advances.

1922
 William Leo Hansberry teaches the first course in African civilization at an American university, at Howard University.

Edward Alexander Bouchet
Physicist, Chemist



Born in New Haven, Connecticut in 1852, Bouchet was the first African-American to graduate (1874) from Yale College. In 1876, upon receiving his Ph.D. in physics from Yale, he became the first African-American to earn a doctorate. Bouchet spent his career teaching college chemistry and physics.

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(Continued on Page 14)

Hillary Clinton vs. Barack Obama

Two Perspectives from Two Young Black American Men.

By Michael Hayes
Minister of Culture



What's up, everyone?
I've been grinding for my career heavily lately, but that doesn't mean I've forgotten about my responsibility to my readers to address things that you deal with.

When I was "sworn in" as "minister of culture" (not an elected position, but Fletcher did make me take an oath of sorts) I was charged with the duty of speaking to Toledo... but squarely MY Toledo.

Generation Y Toledo (those born 1976 - 1994). Black and educated Toledo.

Politically apathetic/politically who gives a what, Toledo.

I'm thankful so many different people read my article, but my primary purpose here

was to give you all an invite into that place you claim is so mysterious...

I am here to guide you through the hearts, minds and concerns of young African-Americans. As we were growing up, adults acted as if they wanted to know how we felt... well, here it is.

The upcoming presidential election, I've purposely held back on commenting thus far because I am still undecided. Not on whom to vote for, but honestly if I'll even vote. YEAH, I SAID IT!

In a society where stolen elections, missing ballots, etc. etc., hell, you get the picture.

The democratic process of picking the next Flavor of Love girl seems more reliable than all this bull about delegates, blue/red states and electoral votes.

But, when it comes down to the race ... Hillary vs. Obama.... I do have my opinions.

But just so I could be fair, I've invited A SPECIAL GUEST COLUMNIST

to explain how he feels. So here you'll have two pos-

sibly divergent viewpoints that represent some of the ways people seem to be leaning on this issue.

The dealio on my guest columnist:

Black American male
Never married/no dependents

Educated
Religious/Christian
Active/highly informed on politics Voted for Bush in the last two elections

By Our Special Guest Columnist

Okay first full disclosure I'm a black American male not totally immune to the economic hurdles of black America but did not grow up in the hood so I don't have that medal so to speak.

That is to say that I can't claim the recent celebrated identity of the "hood figga" that our popular market culture has deemed the "real" black man. I have to admit I'm bothered by the idea that a popular market culture comprised mostly of white suburban teenagers decides that ... stand by, I'll get back to that.

I am not a party member, I'm independent. I am not

ashamed to say that. I first think of the promotion of Christian values in presidential politics. It is the most predominate part of my upbringing. Now I'm pragmatic enough to know that the candidate needs to show an ability to perform in the role of an executive, have experienced advisors, be able to articulate well (as a former Bush voter I'm thinkin two out of three) so

So when I'm approached with the possibility of voting for a black male for president of the United States, as expected, it gives me an indescribable pause. Is this really happening in the United States of America? I can't vote for him just because he's black, that wouldn't be responsible. Though we live in an American Idol culture, novelty is not appropriate for the office of president. What can he offer? I think, "man he's doing this too early!" I mean he does not have the proven executive experience....

But has Hillary offered? I'm not a Clinton basher but, seriously, what official office has she held? Senator of

New York for six years due to name recognition? What Obama has offered is real work in Chicago's community dealing with real day-to-day people. Not the rolodex of bureaucratic elite handed to him by a spouse....

But, like I said, I first think Christian values on the enormous stage of a presidential election season. What I can also say is for Obama is that he is the first Democrat of recent times to tell the Democratic Party that you cannot completely marginalize the ideas of Christian values and continue to win national elections in America.

I like the idea of not having to continue to be inextricably linked to a stereotypical Christian demographic who thinks, as a local insightful pastor laments, "God eats hot dogs and drives Chevy pickup." Jesus is about a little more than war against militant Muslims...

Finally, I go back to my opening idea. The idea of a black president with the qualifications he does have will no doubt have a positive effect on popular American culture, overly titillated and

entertained by the image of the "hood figga," with a relief for those limited by these popular culture forces - black males.

Since birth, we are approached with the idea that you're either a "hood figga" or your not a real black man. Imagine an America with a "President Obama." The effect on that insidious element of American Popular culture....

So, I'm thinking McCain or Obama, not Hillary. I'll be watching....

By The Minister of Culture

The dealio on me:
Black American male
Never married/no dependents

Educated
Non-religious/spiritual
Moderately informed in politics

Voted for Al Gore/John Kerry in last two elections

One thing we MUST have understood is this:

Having a president that is a black person doesn't mean a damn thing.

Having a president that is actively addressing what

(Continued on Page 16)

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Gene Walker: Sharing the Heart of a Musician

By Vickie Shurelds
Sojourner's Truth Reporter



He's a jazz saxophonist, composer, bandleader and studio recording artist but first and foremost, he's an educator. Gene Walker lives in Columbus performing with his own groups: Gene Walker's Generations and The Cotton Club Orchestra.

His legendary music journey began in 1958 when he was on tour with such groups as Sam Cooke, Jackie Wilson and The Chris Columbus Quintet. In January of 2008 he became a 'grandfather' figure for the Arts Magnet students of Lima West Middle School. As Jazz & Blues Artist in residence he told students of his time on the road fascinating them with details of 1965 when he toured with the Beatles, playing in Shea Stadium along with King Curtis.

In the schools, as he does on his television show that airs on WXXX TV, he gives a living history lesson focusing on the educational tools he developed to cope with the good and bad times of his professional life.

He spoke of one of his favorite performances that happened in Switzerland: "The audience knew me, they knew my music, and even though there was a bunch of different languages being spoken in that audience, they all understood the music. Music is a language that is universal – unmistakably so. Music is the biggest letter that we have. You can communicate with Germans, the French... every-

one connects with music. It oversteps all boundaries; all obstacles."

Coming to Lima was nothing new to Walker – he has visited many times, most often coming in to perform for the inmates at both Lima and Allen Correctional Facilities, he plans to return in March for the Pickles Blues Extravaganza to raise money for artist in the schools programs.



Working with the students of Lima City schools was a wonderful experience according to this seasoned musician. He says he was impressed by the understanding they seemed to possess regarding the natural rules of music. "Their ability to learn advanced programs in music was amazing. This week we took them through how to write a song, they picked up on it without missing a beat. The kids have sense of the strength of using music to communicate far beyond their years, we

presented it to them, and they took it in and learned.

"I learned that they could be challenged and learn some advanced ideas. It was an exciting week; I can't wait to come back!"

In the meantime, Walker will continue performing with Columbus Jazz Orchestra that he says is a "Fine, fine outfit." Led by Byron Stripply – first trumpet player with Count Basie – Walker is using his talent to take the band to a new level. He's also working on the second leg of a world tour. For more about that, you can visit <http://www.genewalker.com>.

The Jazz & Blues in the schools program has a benefit for the entire community. Walker says he has a strong belief that older people should talk to younger people, to keep them from banging their heads against the wall, bend back and talk with them. Talk and listen to them, because we can learn something, too.

He believes there is still room for improvement in the program. "I wish that they had more of the technical end of music, (even providing) instruments to play; lot of kids can't afford instruments and lessons, they need that. Then recording equipment in the schools just to learn how to do it, it would be so helpful to have a studio in each school. Another missing aspect is the business side of entertainment. None of the schools that we've been to have actual business courses, except Toledo Schools for the Arts. That business end is important to learn."

As part of the Pickles Blues Extravaganza, Gene Walker will return to Lima City Schools once more to revisit these students who have a strong connection with him. On his last day he spent time with each one saying goodbye and accepting lingering hugs and waves as they looked back before leaving the gym.

"These are good kids with great opportunities ahead because of this program. I've had a wonderful time in Lima! A wonderful time!"

City Without Hope

(Continued from Page 5)

worshippers. The members of this church have put themselves in a situation to receive constant renewal. But, once again its doors opened to a community ready for healing and wanting to hear the words of a man who has experienced great joy and great pain in the fight for civil rights all over the world. When the Rev. Jesse Jackson walks into a situation anywhere on this earth he is ready to bring the factors of each separate community into a solid fraction poised for the action of change. He has expressed the same opportunities for the members of the Lima community. He began with his signature responsive speaking: "I can learn, I must learn, stop the violence, save the children, down with dope, up with Hope. Keep Hope Alive."

He expressed his dealings with the people of Lima have led him to believe there is a desire for decency and fairness. "Unearned suffering is redemptive. Something about the death of Tarika Wilson has made us bold. We will not rest until those who killed her face justice. Those who planned it, those who executed it must face justice. Justice serves to deter certain kinds of behavior. I challenge you who have come to this church to prepare to work for the long haul. It is not just enough to go by the gravesite on Easter. Tarika's death is a call to justice. A call to common ground. Some say this issue has divided the community... it should unite the community. If we except the proposition do unto others – we know this is not black and white it's wrong and right. It is the chance for Lima to find common ground. The madness has to stop. We must demand a higher standard of justice for our citizens. It is time to rally people of conscious to end years of separation, years of division, and find common ground, so we may move to higher ground."

Jackson brought the gift for which he is most famous: hope. He called to the audience to dream beyond their circumstance and promised to help Lima through the upcoming "Color Shock." "There is power in Tarika's blood. We will use that power to change Lima and we shall become the change we seek."

The ministers have resolved to join together to create a Lima Rainbow/Push Coalition to create economic, employment, and contract opportunities for minorities. He asked for a pledge from every parent to do 6 things that will help create a stronger city beginning with the youth:

- 1.) Take your child to school
- 2.) Meet your child's teachers
- 3.) Exchange phone numbers – ask teachers to first call the parents, not the police
- 4.) Turn off the TV three hours a night
- 5.) Pick up your child's report card every nine weeks
- 6.) Take your child to church; if a child doesn't love the Creator, he cannot love the creatures

Rev. Jackson then promised that "Hope Comes in the Morning. Lima! It's Morning Time!"

Vickie Shurelds

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The Lima Truth

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The Sojourner's Truth

February 13, 2008

It's Been A Long Time Comin' But, A Change Is Gonna Come

By Vickie Shurelds
Sojourner's Truth Reporter

"It's a matter of perception" a local paper quoted Chief Greg Garlock as saying regarding the recent community meeting hosted by the Lima Unit of the NAACP. Residents were encouraged to come to the Bradfield Community Center for an opportunity to voice their stories to a panel of representatives committed to setting mechanisms in place for the safety of Lima residents.

"I heard stories when I attended the Marc Dann forum and I thought, these people don't feel safe in their own homes! They are afraid of their own police department!" said WilliAnn Moore, District I Coordinator for the Ohio Conference of NAACP. "I was on the phone right away to our state president, Sybil Edwards-McNabb, and I told her what I was hearing and we decided we were going to pool every resource to help the people in this community."

"This is not a new problem," said 5th Ward City Councilman Tommy Pitts who addressed those who attended the meeting on January 31. "We've been pointing out this problem for years! For years! But nothing has been done, and we didn't know the proper procedures, and we didn't have the strength of all the people that showed up today – but now we do. And from this day forward, it's a new place in time."

Pitts has stated numerous times that his complaints were dismissed because his sons were sent to prison on drug charges. "It's not just

about my boys. It's about all our sons and daughters that can have their lives permanently altered by a system that allows them to rack up charges against them so their prison terms are three times as long as the white kids that are arrested. I'm not saying they shouldn't go to jail if they are dealing drugs; I'm saying every person should

be highly trained and qualified to be in those positions. It was later released that the officer identified as having killed Tarika Wilson, Joe Chavalia, was the person who developed the procedures for safety during search warrant service and the criteria for "do not shoot" situations.

During the aftermath of the death of Tarika Wilson,

view that is upfront and personal. I found myself facing a weapon in the hands of an officer simply because I was sitting in a parking lot, talking on my cell phone and watching as they were conducting an arrest. Out of nowhere, the officer was screaming at me with his weapon drawn about why I was there and what I had in

detail you can remember. Make a copy of the form for yourself, make a copy for the NAACP and take the original back to the law enforcement office for filing. If you don't do this – your complaint does not exist. If you make a phone call, write a letter or go in and sit face to face with officers or even the Chief – if you do not fill out

over the records he has from the past five years. "Five years, over 200,000 calls, and we've had 42 complaints. That's pretty good."

Videotapes, DVD's, detailed "formal" complaints and investigative materials are being assembled to place in the hands of the legal evaluators of the National NAACP. Victor Goode is the assistant general counsel for the national office in Baltimore, MD; he was a panelist at the community meeting.

"I felt as if I was in the old South, as I heard these stories tonight. But, I'm here to let the people of Lima know that they are being heard," said Goode. "I was sent here tonight to represent Interim President Dennis Courtland Hayes and Chairman of the Board, the Honorable Julian Bond to let them know we are committed to standing with Lima and getting mechanisms in place that will even out the playing field and ultimately make Lima safer for its residents and its law officers."

"Uniting the people of Lima is a problem we have had as long as I can remember, but now we are all working together, the ministers, city government, NAACP and all the residents here – we're going to get this done – and with the help of the state, regional and national NAACP guiding us – we can't fail," said Glenn who has been working with groups to form a leadership with focus for a long, long time. "It feels good to know it's finally happening."

With stories now running in the New York Times and other newspapers across the country as well as national radio talk shows planning trips to Lima within the next week, the pressure continues to build on making changes that bring justice to every resident of Lima.

"If we do this right, make changes on this scale it can begin to filter out across the state and eventually across the nation," said State NAACP President Sybil Edwards-McNabb who agrees with the Attorney General. "Lima can be the place where we begin to set things right; and we are determined, we are committed to making a change in this place."



Photo: nytimes.com

be arrested using the same criteria – across the board."

The law enforcement agencies of Lima have come under scrutiny following the January 4 shooting of Tarika Wilson and her infant son, Sincere. Wilson's death is being investigated by the FBI and BCI&I under the Attorney General's direction. As of yet, there has been no information released regarding the investigation.

At a press conference on January 5 held at the Lima Police Department, both Garlock and Lima Mayor David Berger assured residents that the officers of the PACE unit and SWAT teams

the Lima City Council, Attorney General Marc Dann and now the distinguished panel assembled by the NAACP heard story after story from Lima residents of their encounters with a police department that they perceive is out of control. When the Attorney General asked to see the formal complaints that had been submitted, none of the stories he had heard were represented.

Even the Lima NAACP President Jason Upthegrove realized he had made the same mistake as the people whose stories he was recording. "My encounter on Christmas Eve gave me a

the Macy's shopping bag on my front seat. Another officer came and whispered something in his ear and he immediately began to apologize and explain why the other gentleman was being arrested. I asked him what he saw when he shined his flashlight into my car from a block away that would lead him to believe he should approach my car with his gun drawn. Before he answered I said, "Let me help you with that – you saw a black face." Upthegrove made a call to Garlock to talk about the incident. He expressed a desire to sit down and talk about how the officers are trained and how they conduct themselves in certain situations. The talk lasted several hours, but in the end nothing actually happened because he didn't know he had not filed a formal complaint.

6th Ward City Councilman Derry Glenn gave information at the January NAACP meeting – Self Help 101. If you feel you have been treated unfairly or that your rights were violated by an officer of the law, you have to go to the police station or the sheriff's office or the State Highway Patrol post where that officer works and ask to file a formal complaint.

They must give you an official form to fill out. Take the form home and fill it out as best you can with every

the proper form – you never filed a complaint.

Out of all the people who have come forward since January 4 to speak of their situations, not one had filed a formal complaint. They had no idea this is the procedure. The local paper touted a headline on February 4: **MOST OFFICERS CLEARED IN COMPLAINTS** explaining how senior officers investigate complaints lodged against the department and out of 51 allegations in 42 complaints only three were found to have merit.

The article went on to say that in some instances faulty recording devices made it impossible to do an accurate investigation, so interviews with the parties involved were conducted and it was their evaluation that determined the officers did exactly as they should have in most cases. The data released by LPD showed 47 percent of the time, supervisors exonerate officers of allegations, meaning the allegation may be true, but the action taken by the officer is considered justifiable.

Upthegrove's reaction to the report was only to note "If I was investigating myself and there was a question of conduct or the way I do my job, guess what rating I would give myself?"

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Milestones in African American Education (Continued from Page 10)

1944
Frederick Douglass Patterson establishes the United Negro College Fund to help support black colleges and black students.

1954
In the landmark case *Brown v. Board of Education of Topeka, Kans.*, the Supreme Court rules unanimously that segregation in public schools is unconstitutional.

1957
President Dwight D. Eisenhower sends federal troops to ensure integration of the all-white Central High School in Little Rock, Ark. The Little Rock Nine were the first black students to attend the school.

1960

Black and white students form the Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee (SNCC), dedicated to working against segregation and discrimination.

1962
James Meredith is the first black student to enroll at the University of Mississippi; on the day he enters the university, he is escorted by U.S.

marshals.

1963
Despite Governor George Wallace physically blocking their way, Vivian Malone and James Hood register for classes at the University of Alabama.

1968
San Francisco State University becomes the first four-year college to estab-

lish a black studies department.

1969
The Ford Foundation gives \$1 million to Morgan State University, Howard University, and Yale University to help prepare faculty members to teach courses in African American studies.

2003
In *Grutter v. Bollinger*,

the Supreme Court (5-4) upholds the University of Michigan Law School's affirmative action policy, ruling that race can be one of many factors considered by colleges when selecting their students because it furthers "a compelling interest in obtaining the educational benefits that flow from a diverse student body."

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Please mail resume to Human Resources, P.O. Box 346, Toledo, Ohio 43697-0346 or email to ppnw.hr@ppnw.org or fax to (419) 255-5216. EOE.

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This full-time position requires 1000 hours training as a Student Account Specialist 1 (or 12 months experience); ability to calculate fractions, decimals and percentages and to read and write common vocabulary plus 6 courses in public relations (or 6 months experience) and 600 hours training in lending account recordkeeping (or 6 months experience); or equivalent. Hourly Rate \$13.11. Work hours include some nights and weekends that are required during peak periods.

To apply, submit a cover letter (include position title and job #), a resume, as well as the names and contact information for three professional references to: The University of Toledo, Human Resources Department, Toledo, Ohio 43606-3390; Fax (419) 530-1490; or email recruit@utoledo.edu, which is preferred. Use only one method of application. **Resumes must be received by February 15, 2008.**

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Hillary Clinton vs. Barack Obama

(Continued from Page 11)

blights black people does.

Would you really sleep better at night knowing one of our own holds the highest political position in the western world? Maybe.

But consider this ... for the last seven years, one of our own has held the third highest political position in the western world

(Condi ...ohh, Condi, remember us?) – So black people, have you been giving each other dap because Condoleeza Rice (and before her, Colin Powell) is Secretary of State. NO.

Obama's skin is black, and actually ... I think he might do an okay job of *trying* to address issues that affect black people. But watching him on the cam-

paign trail, I just feel like I'm hearing all of the pretty words without much to back it up.

He's charismatic, he's hood enough to engage with the disengaged.

He's eloquent and universal enough to connect with working class and upper class.

I mean just think about this, it is kinda wild that

millions and millions of white Americans are chanting a name like Barack Obama with the cheesiest of grins.

I mean, Kraft cheesiest grins!

These people LOVE THISDUDE.

But why? Is it really him? Really?

No, its not.

Most of Barack Obama's momentum is due to the Hillary Clinton effect.

This entire race is about Hillary and you are in denial if you can't see that.

□ FACT – Republicans support Obama simply because it weakens Hillary

(they have endorsed him, they have made websites such as "stopher.com

stophillarynow.com and anythingbuthillary.com")

□ FACT – John Edwards and Barack Obama routinely ganged up on Hillary during the debate. What should have been a verbal "free for all" turned into the "he man woman haters club" many times and I think it's deplorable.

Now the right wing headline editors hint to a need to pull away from a so called

"Clinton Dynasty". No such thing as a Clinton Dynasty.

There is a Bush dynasty though.

I'm sick of people acting as if electing Hillary would be a step backward.

I think Obama would do a great job, but he's not experienced enough. As Hillary always says, you've got to be prepared to make a difference on day one!

Not get in there and let all the butterflies in your stomach get the best of you.

The Bush administration has doomed us all, our next president needs to be familiar with how the White House runs... needs to have the connections to get things done. We don't need a new driver taking the wheel right now.

We need experience. And then we still only have a shot in hell of turning things around honestly.

Hillary has navigated these waters before.

She was not a "Bush first lady" who sat around all day doing God knows what.

She was a model for today's woman, having an agenda of her own.

They laughed at her Universal Healthcare Proposal back in the day, but that was something she pushed her first year she was first lady!!

When it comes to policy, she's all business.

When it comes to dealing with foreign governments, she's all business.

She's the best of all worlds. Republicans usually have money and influence.

Hillary has both.

Democrats usually have middle class American values. Hillary has always had that.

She's stronger than Obama in her tenacity against Republicans, but she's wise enough to know she will need allies



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(Continued on Page 9)