People in the News

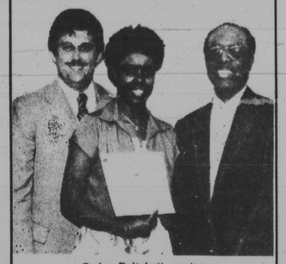
Pritchett gets certificate 7-Up style

ST. LOUIS, Mo — Student speaker Zorina Pritchett of St. Louis is shown with a certificate commemorating the conclusion of the second vashon High School - Seven - Up School Partnership Program under the auspices of the St. Louis School District.

The six - week program was held at The Seven - Up Company's Corporate Training Center in St. Louis.

During the program, 30 students acquired first - hand knowledge of the inner workings of a large corporation — along with the importance of their school studies and how those studies relate to their employment and future.

Pictured with Zorina are, to the left, Guy I. Smith IV, v.p., corporate affairs, the Seven - Up Company and to the right Charles Simms, area III assistant superintendent, St. Louis School System.



Zorina Pritchett, center

Research Group Mgr.

NEW YORK — The Brown and Williamson Tobacco Corporation has appointed Gloria A. Blakely to the position of research group manager of the marketing department.

In her new position, she will be responsible for assisting in the planning, development and evaluation of a variety of consumer research programs.

Before joining B and W, Ms. Blakely was a research group product manager w. h Richardson - Merrell, Inc. in Wilton, Ct.

A native of Pittsburgh, Pa., she graduated from Howard University in Washington, D.C. and attended the M.B.A. program at George Washington University, also in Washington, D.C.

Gloria A. Blakely

Jonestown aide goe on trial

SAN FRANCISCO (UPI) — Attorneys for Larry Layton, a key strategist for Peoples Temple leader Jim Jones; say they will prove he was a victim of mind control and did not conspire to kill a congressman and a U.S. diplomat at a jungle airstrip.

The lawyers said they would try to convince the jury in Layton's trial, scheduled to begin last week in U.S. District Court with jury selection, that Jones brainwashed their client into becoming a submissive servant not even aware of what he was doing.

Layton is charged with plotting the attack that led to the death of California democrat Rep. Leo J. Ryan and the wounding of U.S. Diplomat Richard Dwyer at the Jonestown airfield in Guyana.

Judge Robert Peckman indicated that the jury impaneling could take almost a month.

The fatal shootings of Ryan, three newsmen and a temple defector on the remote airstrip preceded by a day the Nov. 19, 1978, mass suicide - murder of 912 followers of Jones who had moved his flock from San Francisco to Guyana to live communally in the jungle.

Jones, who orchestrated the bizarre ritual, was found shot to death.

The federal trial was the first and possibly the only U.S. Court action in the Peoples Temple tragedy.

Layton was accused of conspiring to murder Ryan and Dwyer as they ended a visit to investigate reports of abuse of followers in the Peoples Temple Jonestown settlement.

Layton, 35, was not charged with outright murder because the evidence shows he was not among the actual triggermen who fired the shots.

In Guyana, Layton was acquitted or had all charges against him dropped, but under American law, he could be charged in the airstrip ambush even though it took place out of the country.

Specifically, he was charged with conspiring to murder a congressman and an internationally protected person.

If found guilty, he could be sentenced to life in prison.

Defense attorneys said they would describe to the jury the intense fervor of the jungle life with Jones. They also said the trial will deal with the death ritual in an attempt to show how Temple members fell under Jones' spell and felt intense paranoia.

Layton and his first wife were recruited into the Peoples Temple by his sister, Debbie, at the Redwood Valley headquarters north of San Francisco.

Jones then became attracted to Layton's wife, told him to divorce her and appointed another woman in the Temple to marry him. Both the wives died in the mass suicide.

Layton, a onetime X ray technician, became a key lieutenant to Jones and helped move the church from Redwood Valley to San Francisco and then on to Guyana.

Black unionists join fight against apartheid

PHILADELPHIA — More than 250 black Philadelphia union members have joined a national campaign to raise money to pay legal fees for imprisoned South African labor leaders, and to protest that country's apartheid policy.

A rally and wine sip, organized by the Philadelphia Chapter of the Coalition of Black Trade Unionists and held at the headquarters of District 33, American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees, drew several local political leaders, including U.S. Senator Arlen Specter, R-Pa., Councilwoman Joan Specter, U. S., Representative William Gray, D-Philadelphia, State Representative David Richardson, D-Germantown, and State Supreme Court Justice Robert N. C. Nix Jr.

"They've got a 71 - year - old labor leader, Oscar Mpetha, founder of the South African Congress of Trade Unions, in jail," said Gabe White, co - chairman of the Phildelphia chapter of the coalition. "We're not just concerned with the trade union movement over there, but the whole system of apartheid in South Africa," he said.

White, president of the AFSCME local representing corrections officers at Graterford Prison, said it still is difficult to involve most black workers in the fight for equality among black in southern Africa. But, obviously pleased by the turnout Sunday, he added, "Blacks in this country are going to have to take a unanimous stand on all issues."

The Philadelphia rally raised over $1.00, it organizers said.

"This reminds me of how we raised the money for the NAACP in the Mississippi legal support case they had a few years back, it's the same kind of fight," said Lillian Strothers, one of the organizers.

HBC's get more funds

ST. PAUL, Minnesota — Eighteen historically black colleges are among the recipients of grants doled out by the Bush Foundation Board of Directors this year.

The schools, mainly in the southeastern United States, received alumni funds challenge grants totaling approximately $609,000. Money for these grants was provided both by the William and Flora Hewlett Foundation, Menlo Park, California and by the Bush Foundation.

Three historically black colleges also received Bush Foundation challenge grants toward capital campaigns for endowment, new building construction and campus renovation.

These are the first grants under this new Bush program to provide capital matching grants to the private, predominantly black colleges which are members or former members of the United Negro College Fund. This grant program is also financed jointly by the Bush and Hewlett Foundations.

The three schools receiving grants include Tuskegee Institute, Spelman College and Paine College.

Sheriff agrees not to chain prisoners

LITTLE ROCK, Ark. — Frustrated Pulaski County Sheriff Tommy Robinson has promised he will not take any more inmates from his overcrowded jail and chain them in protest outside state prison gates.

During a court hearing last week Chancery Judge Lee Munson warned Robinson not to do it again.

"I'm not going to chain them (any more)," Robinson said after the 3 - hour hearing. "I don't need to; I've defeused my emergency."

Robinson testified that state prisoners had been "agitators" and "troublemakers" who stirred up riots and escapes.

He chained 14 of them to a guard tower at the prison's Pine Bluff unit last week when prison officials refused to accept them because of a ceiling on the prison inmate population.

"Your prisoners almost caused a riot in my jail," Robinson told the state's attorney. "I hated to use the unorthodox methods. But I had a duty to prevent hundreds of people from being killed from inmates running loose."

Munson said he did not think a similar situation would arise, but he warned Robinson will "have to deliver those inmates when the Department of Correction can accept them."

The prison took a total of 49 state prisoners from Robinson's jail during a 30 - day period, but "only after we started making waves about throwing them over the fence," the sheriff said.

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No jobs plague black dropouts

WASHINGTON — While the number of young people in the population and the labor force was virtually unchanged over the year ending in October 1980, there was a sharp rise in the unemployment rate for black dropouts.

This is one of the findings reported in an article in the July "Monthly Labor Review," published by the U.S. Department of Labor's Bureau of Labor Statistics.

According to the article, compared to a year earlier there was a generally higher unemployment rate among young men and women in 1980, reflecting a sluggish economy.

The nation's jobless rate for dropouts was 25.3 percent — 6 points higher than in October 1979 and equal to the previous high reached in 1975.

Among black dropouts, the increase was particularly sharp — 44 percent in October 1980, up from 32 percent a year earlier.

Black youth who had at least a high school diploma had an unemployment rate of 24 percent, compared to 9.6 percent for whites and 9.7 percent for Hispanics.

Among black youth enrolled in elementary and high school, the unemployment rate was 40.5 percent, compared to 16.7 percent for whites and 24 percent for Hispanic origin youth.

Among college students, black youth had an unemployment rate of 23.3 percent compared to 7.9 for whites and 12.8 for Hispanics.

Manhatton to highlight Marcus Garvey day fest

On Tuesday, July 21st, Manhattan Borough President Andrew Stein officially issued the annual proclamation naming August 1st "Marcus Gravey Day" and all of August "Marcus Gravey Month," thus marking the 32nd year that the City has so honored this proud, black leader.

Marcus Garvey was born on August 17th, the date homage is paid to his memory at his shrine in Heroes Park, Jamaica West Indies.

Many members of black American communities will make the pilgrimmage to join Jamaicans and others from around the world in recognizing the man who preached and practiced black economic power.

August 1st is commemorated in the Harlem community as the date, in 1920, that Marcus Garvey convened the First International Convention of African Peoples of the World and forged the first coalition of blacks and their descendants to work for regaining their rightful share of the world's economy.

These ceremonies will feature comments by noted public and private citizens, music, and African dance exhibitions.

It will be highlighted by the crowning of "Miss Africa, 1982," a young woman between the ages of 16 and 22, who will represent the black communities of the nation as the symbol of their ever increasing economic efforts and accomplishments.

The ceremonies will be held Saturday, August 1, 1981, at 7 p.m. at 125th Street and Adam Clayton Powell Boulevard.

Morristown intern president

NASHVILLE, Tenn. (UMNS) — Charles Wade, 58 vice - president of Savannah (Ga.) State College, has been appointed to a six - month term as interim president of Morristown (Tenn.) College, effective August 1.

The two - year, historically black school related to the United Methodist Church has experienced serious financial difficultues in recent years.

According to a release issued by the board, Dr. Wade has expressed a desire to serve in a permanent capacity with the school and that possibility is being pursued.

Dr. Wade succeeds the Rev. Raymon E. White who resigned in April to become a district superintendent in the Holston Conference. He was nominated by the staff of the Division of Higher Education of the Board of Higher Education and Ministry after an extensive search.

For several years Morristown has concentrated on developmental studies for high - risk students. Its enrollment in 1980-81 was 114, a total which the division is hoping to increase to 165 for the approaching academic year.

S. African rugby team visit protested in N.Y.

NEW YORK, New York — Phelps -Stokes Fund, through its President, Franklin H. Williams, has called upon the city of New York to prohibit the use of "any public facilities" by the South African rugby team, the Springboks, which is scheduled to play in New York City in September.

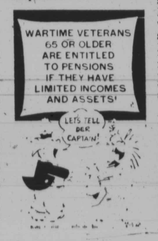
In a telegram to the Honorable Gordon Davis, Commissioner of Parks and Recreation, Williams said "we understand the South African rugby team, Springboks is scheduled to play at Randalls Stadium in New York city in September.

Such an event will clearly identify New York city as a jurisdiction violating OAU and U.N. resolutions and probably triggering an African boycott of the 1984 olympics."

"We urge you to publicly announce that our city will not permit any South African national teams to utilize public facilities in this city until apartheid has been eliminated from the national policy, laws and practices of that racist South African state."

In addition the Phelps - Stokes Fund protested the granting of visas to the South African rugby team by the State Department in a communication to Secretary of State Alexander Haig.

The Fund appealed to the Department to use its influence to discourage private or public groups from competing against the South African team in violation of the U.N. and O.A.U. resolutions and for fear that such competition would "endanger the success of the 1984 Los Angeles olympics" by probably triggering a boycott by African and other anti - apartheid states.



African diaspora studies

More than 100 educators from Africa, Brazil, the Caribbean and the United States are expected to gather for the African Diaspora Studies Institute II in Nairobi, Kenya Aug. 24-28 to discuss historical, ideological, legal, literary and political perspectives of blacks in the African diaspora.

The Departments of history at Howard University and the University of Nairobi are sponsoring the conference which will be held at the Kenyatta Conference Centre in Nairobi.

Included in the conference activities are two concurrent roundtable discussions on teaching and curriculum development, and research possibilities in Africa.

Jim Beckwourth, a Black man, discovered a pass through the Sierra Nevada mountains to California and the Pacific Ocean in 1844.

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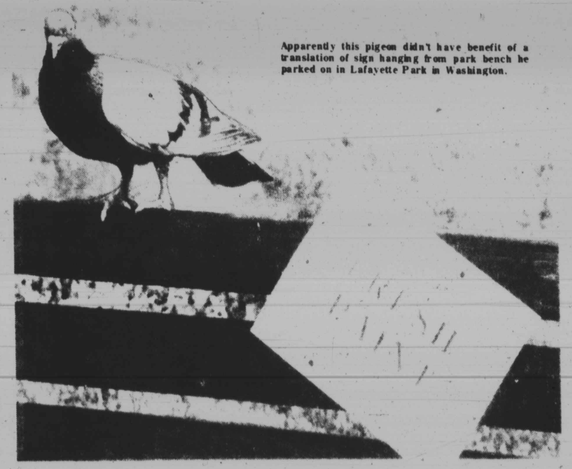
A beautiful group of Miss Universe contestants graced steps of City Hall in New York to hear Mayor Koch proclaim July "Miss Universe Month." This stunning assortment includes Miss U.S. Virgin Islands, Marise C. James; Miss Bahamas, Linda Smith; Miss Thailand, Massupa Karprapun; Miss British Virgin Islands, Carmen Nibbe and Miss St. Kitts, Marva Warner.

Robert "Say" McIntosh hangs on white cross in front of state capitol in Little Rock, Ark. to draw Governor's attention to plight of Arkansas blacks. McIntosh collapsed in heat after two and half hours. Painted above his head on cross are words: "Must the poor and the black bear the cross alone?"

A stunned Jim Walker of Baltimore finds his car half - buried in dirt and gravel after returning from shift at local seafood restaurant. Irate construction workers left note admitting deed because Walker parked in construction zone.



Apparently this pigeon didn't have benefit of a translation of sign hanging from park bench he parked on in Lafayette Park in Washington.

The sounds of summer highlighting the day as these young buglers march down hot streets of Baltimore during recent Masonic Temple parade.

The hand of USDA entomologist at Med fly headquarters, Los Gatos, Calif., holds an apricot from Los Altos infected by the Mediterranean fruit fly.

AUG