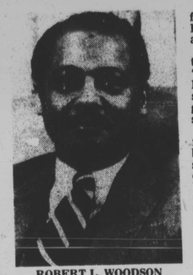
Woodson urges Blacks to form 'strategic alliance' with GOP

By Randolph R. Payton
AFRO Staff Writer

During the inauguration weekend, President Ronald Reagan attacked the Black leadership, accusing them of misleading black voters, just one week after he met with a group calling itself the "Council for a Black Economic Agenda."

Reagan, who met with the Council, apparently has no problems with the group's agenda, which are aligned with some of his conservative views.

In an interview with the AFRO, Robert L. Woodson, chairman of the Council with Republican, Democratic and Independent members said "Blacks should form a relationship with the Reagan administration based on a strategic alliance."


ROBERT L. WOODSON

What Blacks should expect in the next four years Woodson said, "it will be what we make it." Blacks have progressed under slavery and should be able to progress in times that are not as stressful," he added.

Around 16 members of the 22 member Council that include business executives, private school administrators, economists, a former White House advisor met with Reagan and White House aides on the birthday of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.

Reagan's decison to meet with the group was seen by some as an attempt to bridge the gap between blacks and the administration and by others as an attempt to undermine black leadership.

Woodson responded to the charge that Reagan's meeting with his group was an attempt to undermine Black leadership by saying that "Blacks should not just have one voice."

Pointing to what traditional Black leadership has done for Blacks, Woodson said "there is a need to get away from maintenance programs as the primary means to helping Black Americans."

The Council which supports some of Reagan's conservative policies said that they will be pushing for the Enterprise Zone legislation. With the message of that legislation "we will see a tripling of ownership of small businesses in the Black community," said Woodson.

The Council also plans to push for an education, voucher system that will enable poor people to send their children to a school of their choose.

Many of the issues that the Council discussed with Reagan were designed to help make Blacks more economically self reliant, said Woodson.

Woodson charged Blacks in Washington with having too much political power and little economic power. "Blacks in D.C. have a nebulous relationship between political and economic power," he said.

The Council said it plans to hold congressional briefings with members of both parties to share ideas. The Group will also host small conferences that they hope will accumulate into a major conference in the summer called a "Black Economic Summit."

Black women's group files suit over name

Unable to settle a conflict over quite similar names among themselves, the National Black Women's Political Leadership Caucus and the National Black Women's Political Caucus will pursue the battle in court.

Leadership of the NBWPLC has filed suit against the NBWPC in U.S. District Court here for "infringment of our name," according to Juanita Kennedy Morgan, organizational director and executive secretary, NBWPLC, and verified by court records.

The NBWPLC, founded in 1971, is challenging use of the similar name by the NBWPC, founded last August by a group of nationally- prominant black women, including former Rep. Shirley Chisholm.

Chisholm has been named as defendant in the suit, according to the civil action docket. No trial date has yet been set.

"They're using our name, and it's taking away our influence and confusing our members," Morgan said during an interview this week.

Morgan added that since last year's founding of the NBWPC, her organization has been receiving a host of the other group's mail and telephone calls, and that initially she'd sought to work out the conflict through personal contacts, which apparently failed.

Calls to the NBWPC office this week went unanswered.

EEOC encouraged by Supreme Court ruling on age bias

Clarence Thomas, chairman of the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission (EEOC), says that, recent Supreme Court actions regarding age discrimination in employment are encouraging signs of support in the legal community" for the direction the agency is now taking to eliminate age bias."

He cited a ruling by the Court against Trans World Airlines. In this case, the justices found that the airline violated the federal Age Discrimination in Employment Act (ADEA), which protects workers between the ages of 40 and 70.

TWA's policy of forcing 60-year-old pilots to retire rather than being allowed to switch to a nonflying job in the cockpit is "discriminatory on its face," wrote Associate Justice Lewis F. Powell, Jr., for a unanimous Supreme Court.

The lawsuit was filed about six years ago by three pilots who challenged the transfer policy. EEOC intervened in the case on the pilots' behalf in the federal district court in New York. That court ruled for TWA, but its decision was reversed by the Court of Appeals for the Second Circuit. TWA then appealed to the Supreme Court.

The Commission's battle against arbitrary age restrictions in public safety jobs continues as the Supreme Court granted the agency's request to settle whether a city may defend its age 55-and-out policy for firefighters on the grounds that it is consistent with federal civil service policy for such workers.

In its appeal to the Supreme Court, EEOC, on behalf of aggrieved firefighters in Baltimore, claims that public safety personnel should not have arbitrary age limits imposed on them without any showing that the rigid limits are necessary for the safe and efficient performance of their jobs.

The purpose of ADEA, the Commission argues, is to require that persons covered by the law "have their fitness to work determined on a case-by-case basis unless an employer can demonstrate with evidence that age is a BFOQ (bona fide occupational qualification) for a job."

EEOC joined in the lawsuit, which was filed in 1979, at the district court level. A favorable district court decision for the firefighters was reversed by the Fourth Circuit Court of Appeals.

"Stepped up enforcement of ADEA and other laws administered by the Commission is a major goal of the agency. Under the Commission's intensified litigation strategy, every case found to be in violation of one of the agency's statutes will be considered for litigation, if conciliation attempts fail," Chairman Thomas said.

Currently, regional attorneys in EEOC's 22 district offices are prosecuting approximately 537 cases. In fiscal year (FY) 1984, the attorneys filed some 226 lawsuits. Sixty-three were ADEA cases, almost double the 33 filed in FY 83.

Moreover, the Commission approved for litigation 15 other ADEA cases which had not been filed in court by the end of FY 84, more than double the FY 83 carryover.

Approximately 195 cases covering all EEOC enforced statutes were settled in FY 84, resulting in monetary benefits of $38.8 million.

NBL calls for business plan

The president of the National Business League has come out in opposition to plans by the Reagan administration to eliminate the Small Business Administration and the reduction of redevelopment funds such as the Urban Development Action Grants.

In a statement released last Thursday, Arthur E. Teele Jr., NBL president called on Reagan to develop a "Marshall Plan" for minority businesses and urban minorities.

"I strongly believe that the time couldn't be worse than now for the elimination of the Small Business Administration," Teele said. "These actions would have a devastating effect on the entire business sector."

Teele commended Reagan for efforts to reduce the national deficit, but said the reduction of urban and small business spending should be reinforced by the awarding of more federal contracts to urban small businesses.

"The time has come for both Congress and the administration to take a close look at the proposed budget in terms of what will happen to the black American struggling to enter the mainstream," Teele said. "While the National Business League commends the president for his effort to reduce the national deficit, we believe any effort to reduce urban and small business spending must coincide with an increase effort on the part of the Department of Defense to award more federal contracts to businesses concentrated in the urban community and the minority business sector."

Teele added that the NBL will work closely with the president in his second term to formulate proposals related to urban and minority businesses, and further called on the president to ensure that small business programs are not diminished or abolished because of budget reductions.

Theodore Thompson is dead

Funeral services will be held Sunday at 7 p.m. at Southern Baptist Church for Theodore Thompson who died at home on Thursday. He was 77 years and the husband or retired AFRO Switchboard Operator Celestine Thompson.

Southern Baptist Church is located at 1701 N. Chester St. where the Rev. Nathaniel Higgs is the minister.

Mr. Thompson served on the usher board for many, many years until his recent illness. He was born on February 12, 1907 in Chester, S.C.

He was retired from Bethlehem Steel where he worked for 42 years.

Mr. Thompson is survived by his wife, Celestine; daughters, Ms. Dorothy Harris and Mrs. Celestine Grace; Karen Collins, a granddaughter; and April and Tonya Martin, granddaughters; and one sister, Mrs. Roberta Mobley.

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AFRO SPORTS

Norfolk 5 no show for game at Coppin

Norfolk State College failed to show up at Coppin State College Monday night for a basketball game.

The action left Eagles officials and close to 200 fans seething despite the sub - zero temperature they had braved to witness the contest.

It also left Coppin coach John Bates wondering whether the Spartans' no - show was motivated by spite or was due to the bitter cold weather that had gripped the entire East Coast in an icy embrace.

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Bates and Norfolk State officials became involved in a dispute earlier this month when the Coppin players left the floor in protest of the home team's imposition of a 45-second clock.

John Bates puzzled by action

"We were led to believe the game was being played (without the clock) as it always had been. And when the officials penalized us, I could not believe it," said Bates.

"Norfolk and the referees insisted that the time - limit would continue, so I felt no choice but to withdraw even though we were comfortably ahead at the time," the Eagles coach added.

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Norfolk was scheduled to visit Coppin on the home - and - home agreement but — according to Bates — "neither came nor called."

The Eagles coach declared that Coppin has never played with the clock, although games have been contested with Bowie State, Hampton and Virginia Union, all members of the CIAA, as is Norfolk.

"There's never been a question with those schools," said Bates.

"The thing that puzzles me is that Norfolk didn't bother to telephone to say they were not coming. I think, no matter the cause of their decision, it was the least they could do."

CAN THEY DO IT AGAIN? — Hank Allen is gunning for his fourth straight stakes Saturday at Laurel in the Virginia Belle Stakes. The former major league baseball player turned trainer sends Sheltered Princess and jockey Wayne Barnett in the $25,000-added event.

"Princess" won the cameo Stakes in November. Since then Allen saddled Sparrowvren to capture a division of the E. Palmer Heagerty at Bowie and Island Champ for a winning effort in last Saturday's Goss L. Stryker Stakes.

NBA salaries skyrocket

By Barry Cooper

News item: Magic Johnson's contract up to $3.5 million a year.

The NBA players' Association has revealed the salaries of nearly every NBA player, and the information provides stunning insight into the backrolls of America's tallest athletes.

Thanks to the players' association, we know that Magic Johnson commands $3.5 million a year for doing his mystical act for the Los Angeles Lakers. He is the highest-paid player in the game, and easily the highest-paid guard. The next highest salary among guards is the $1.07 million paid to the New Jersey Nets' Otis Birdsong.

The figures reveal a few surprises regarding how NBA teams distribute their money. For example, the best players are not always the highest paid. New York Knicks' center Pat Cummings is of marginal talent, yet he earns $800,000 a year, more than Houston's Akeem Olajuwon ($780,000), New Jersey's Darryl Dawkins ($765,000) or Boston's Robert Parish ($700,000).

For the most part, at least judging by the salaries, teams get what they pay for. The teams that pay the most money — the Lakers, 76ers and Celtics — are the only teams to have won the NBA title during the 1980s.

The list of salaries also show that:

— Some players are performing for what would appear to be woefully low wages, at least when compared to the opposition. Utah's 7-foot-4 center, Mark Eaton, is an example. He leads the league in blocked shots and is a key to Utah's success. Yet he makes just $133,000 a year.

— Eleven players make at least $1 million a year, among them the Lakers' Johnson, the Nets' Birdsong, Philadelphia center Moses Malong ($2.12 million), Boston forward Larry Bird ($1.8), Lakers' center Kareem Abdul-Jabbar ($1.55), Los Angeles Clippers' center Bill Walton ($1.36) and Houston forward Ralph Sampson ($1.3).

— In most cases, the highest-paid players are worth their salary if not more. Where would the Knicks be without Bernard King ($874,000)? How effective would Milwaukee be without Sidney Moncrief ($884,000)?

NBA salaries remain high despite a recent salary cap that supposedly limits the money teams can pay. However, teams have found a way to circumvent the cap and even NBA officials admit that it could be another 10 years before they can really be enforced.

The lowest salary, according to the list, is $80,000, earned by several players.

Former black college players in the NBA appear to be doing well. The Sixers' Clemon Johnson, who played at Florida A&M, makes $406,000; Golden State's Purvis Short (Jackson State) and Larry Smith (Alcorn), earn $495,000 and $300,000, respectively. The Bullets' Rick Mahorn (Hampton Institute) is paid $361,000 and the Lakers' Larry Spriggs (Howard) earns $90,000.

The fact that the NBA salaries have been made public can only lead to further escalating rates of pay. Now, players armed with the details of what their peers make, are sure to be able to drive harder bargains during contract talks. The feeling here is that players like Utah's Eaton can hardly wait.

INTRODUCING — No Gino Marchetti, but Bubba Smith maybe? That's the way local fans are expected to regard Don Fielder, defensive end for the USFL's Baltimore Stars, headed, for Memorial Stadium in 1986 after a season beginning March 17, at College Park.

Moses denies cop's charges

LOS ANGELES (UPI) — Edwin Moses, the two - time Olympic gold medalist whose arrest on a charge of soliciting a prostitute has threatened his sterling image and lucrative endorsement career, has pleaded innocent.

The track star, who did not attend Tuesday's court proceeding, entered his plea through his attorney, Edward Medvene. Municipal Court Judge David Doi scheduled a trial for Feb. 8 and a pretrial hearing for Jan. 28.

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Moses was charged last week with a misdemeanor count of soliciting an act of prostitution. If convicted, he could face up to six months in jail and a $1,000 fine.

Prosecutors declined to charge the athlete with possession of marijuana because the amount allegedly found in his car when he was arrested Jan. 13 in Hollywood was so small.

Moses, 29, was apprehended after he allegedly offered a female undercover officer money in return for sex. He has denied the allegation, saying he had only a casual conversation with the woman and never agreed to or planned to have a sexual encounter.

REBOUND REMISS—Georgetown's Billy Martin (24) beats Connecticut's Jeff King to rebound but then loses control of ball in Hoyas' 79-66 win over the UCons Wednesday at Capital Centre. Martin hit 19 points and Baltimoreans Reggie Williams and David Wingate 18 and 13 respectively as Georgetown scored its 29th in a row.

Basketball

College scores

BASKETBALL

Bowie State 91, St. Paul's 85
Hampton 62, U of DC 61
Radford 61, Md., E. Shore 58
Coppin St. 2, Norfolk St. 0 (forfeit)
St. Paul's 65, Bowie St. 36 (women)
Va. Union 81, UDC 53 (women)
Elizabeth City 90, NC Central 80
Md., E. Shore 75, Loyola 70 (women)
W. Salem 73, Fayetteville 61
Central St. 76, Cameron 66
S.C. State - Bethune (postponed)
Morehouse 108, Benedict 97
Morris Brown 91, Albany St. 79
Valdosta St. 92, Livingstone 55
West Ky. 86, Tenn. State 56
Ft. Valley 83, Tuskegee 73
Limestone 96, Claflin 86
Montebello 97, Talladega 94 (OT)
Ala. A and M 80, Morris Brown 79
Alcorn 79, Ala. State 77
Jackson State 95, Southern 78
Grambling 73, Prairie View 59

COLLEGE WEEKEND

Thursday

Virginia Union at Hampton
Norfolk State at St. Paul's
Johnson C. Smith at St. Augustine's
Livingstone at Barber Scotia
Fayetteville at Frances Marion
Miss. Valley at Tougaloo
Grambling at N.W. Louisiana

Saturday

Virginia Union at Bowie State
Virginia State at Elizabeth City
N.C. Central at Livingstone
St. Paul's at Norfolk State
Johnson C. Smith at W. Salem
Shaw at St. Augustine's
Alabama State at Grambling
Alcorn at Texas Southern
Southern at Prairie View
Miss. Valley at Jackson State

Monday

Norfolk State at Bowie State
Winston-Salem at St. Paul's
Fayetteville at Livingstone
Ala. State at Miss. Valley
Alcorn at Prairie View
Jackson State at Grambling
Southern at Texas Southern

NBA SCHEDULE

Thursday

Dallas at Washington
Golden State at Detroit
Milwaukee at Kansas City
New Jersey at Denver
Cleveland at Utah

Friday

Indiana at Boston
Seattle at Chicago
San Antonio at Houston
Philadelphia at L.A. Lakers

Saturday

Indiana at New York
Phoenix at Washington
Seattle at Detroit
Atlanta at Chicago
New Jersey at Dallas
Milwaukee at Houston
Golden State at Kansas City
Cleveland at Denver
L.A. Lakers at Utah
Philadelphia at L.A. Clippers

Sunday

Portland at Boston
Milwaukee at San Antonio
Washington at Detroit

Colleges learning 'poetry'

Week after week in college basketball, the quality of Dunbar High School's program under Bob Wade is broadening in reputation.

David Wingate and Reggie Williams are fixtures on the championship Georgetown University five.

Tyrone Bogues is currently player-of-the week in the Atlantic Coast Conference for his work as point guard at Wake Forest.

And Reggie Lewis scored 31 points with 8 rebounds Tuesday night in leading Northeastern to a 92—67 runaway over Fairfield for Northeastern's 21st straight home victory.

Wingate, Williams, Bogues and Lewis are all ex-Poets.

Morgan wrestlers on roll

The Morgan State University wrestling team, seemingly bent on compensating for the poor performances of the football and basketball varsities, has been rolling up victories since the opening loss to NCAA champion Iowa last month.

The Bear grapplers swept a 3-game series on a recent tour of New England, in two of them routing teams that had soundly trounced their gridiron counterparts.

The two were Boston University, which Morgan blanked (44-0), on the mat, and Yale, which was victimized, 35-11.

The junket was concluded with a 53-0 shutout of the New York University wrestling squad.

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