Black officials barred from S.C. restaurant

NORTH AUGUSTA, S.C. — Legal action will be taken against a restaurant owner who allegedly refused to admit six Black leaders to his eatery because of their color, the director of the state NAACP said Wednesday.

"Racism is alive and well in South Carolina. It will not be wished away. It has to be dealt with," said NAACP executive secretary Nelson Rivers, III, one of six Black officials who found themselves unwelcome at The Buffalo Room.

Bruce Salter, owner of the restaurant and bar, allegedly stopped the contingent on the porch of the establishment Tuesday evening, according to Mr. Rivers.

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"The man started yelling, "You can't come in here. You're not welcome here. I don't want Blacks in here," Mr. Rivers said.

Mr. Rivers was accompanied to The Buffalo Room Tuesday by James Gallman, president of the NAACP chapter in Aiken, S.C.; Aiken County Councilman Willar Hightower; James Jones, a vice president of the Aiken NAACP chapter; Charles White, president of the Youth and College Divison of the state NAACP; and David Walker, first vice president of the Aiken chapter.

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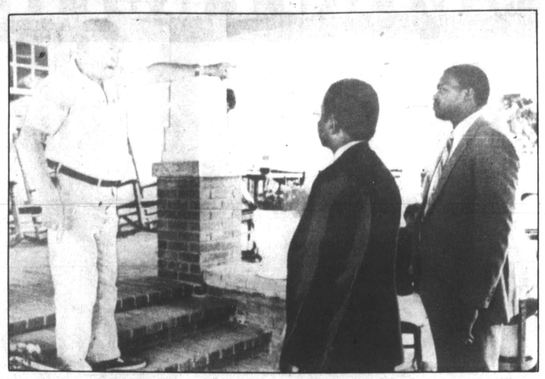
Mr. Rivers said they visited The Buffalo Room after learning that the FBI was investigating a racial discrimination complaint filed a few weeks earlier. When the owner began screaming at them, the men left.

Rick Denton, the agent-in-charge of the FBI in South Carolina, said the agency had completed its investigation of the initial complaint and forwarded the information to the Justice Department.



Bruce Salter, owner of the Buffalo Room tells two local NAACP officials to leave his property after they attempted to enter the restaurant. Salter told reporters that James Callran (left), James Jones (right) and four others were denied entrance because "they're black, that's why."

CLEVELAND — City Council President George Forbes has announced his candidacy for mayor of Cleveland. He becomes the fifth person to officially enter the race.

4th N.Y. teen indicted

NEW YORK — A grand jury Friday indicted a fourth youth on murder charges in the racial killing of a 16-year-old Black teenager shot by a baseball-bat wielding White mob in the city's Bensonhurst section.

Joseph Serrano, 19, already charged with assault in the case, faces second - degree murder, manslaughter and other charges for the Aug. 23 killing of Yusuf Hawkins.

Hawkins and three black friends had gone to the predominately White Brooklyn neighborhood to look at a used car.

They were attacked by a mob of baseball bat - wielding White youths who mistook them for friends of a White neighborhood woman who had reportedly spurned one of the attackers to date Blacks and Hispanics. One of the attackers pulled a gun and shot Hawkins dead.

The Hawkins slaying has been termed the worst case of racial violence in New York City since the December 1986 Howard Beach incident in which a Black man was killed when a White mob chased him onto a highway.

Last week, Joseph Fama, 18, the chief suspect in the slaying and the only one charged with possession of a gun, was indicted on 17 counts, including second-degree murder.

Thousands attend Black Family Reunion

By Hamil Harris
AFRO Staff Writer

WASHINGTON

The images were so powerful: Fathers cradling crying babies, Congressman Walter Fauntroy munching down sweet potato pie, the Rev. Jesse Jackson passing out "keep hope alive" shirts and Jermaine, Jackie, Randy and Rebbie Jackson cramped into camper with both of their parents who were once separated.

This was the scene at the National Black Family Reunion held on the Washington Monument grounds which attracted thousands of people Sept. 9 and 10 including some of the famous Jackson Five who shared a special moment with both of their parents.

Dr. Dorothy Height, president of the National Council of Negro Women, said the family reunion — which is also held in Atlanta, Philadelphia, Los Angeles and Cincinnati — "was three times as big this year as it was in 1986," and part of that is because, "people were waiting for something positive."

All day family folks roamed around the back side of the Washington Monument grounds which in many ways resembled resurrection city back during the Sixties.

Each tent was packed full of knowledge as the guest speakers preached the gospel of family values, education and self-help. In the youth pavilion Malcolm-Jamal Warner or Theo on the Cosby show broke it down to hundreds of young people on the importance of doing the right thing.

Instead of Felicia Rashad, people got to see, "Theo's" real mother and business manager Pamela Warner who kept busy protecting her son from excited lady teens, while at the same time keeping him at the task of signing his new book, "Theo and Me."

Pamela Warner also paused long enough to receive recognition from the NCNW for being one of the national honorary chairs of the family reunion.

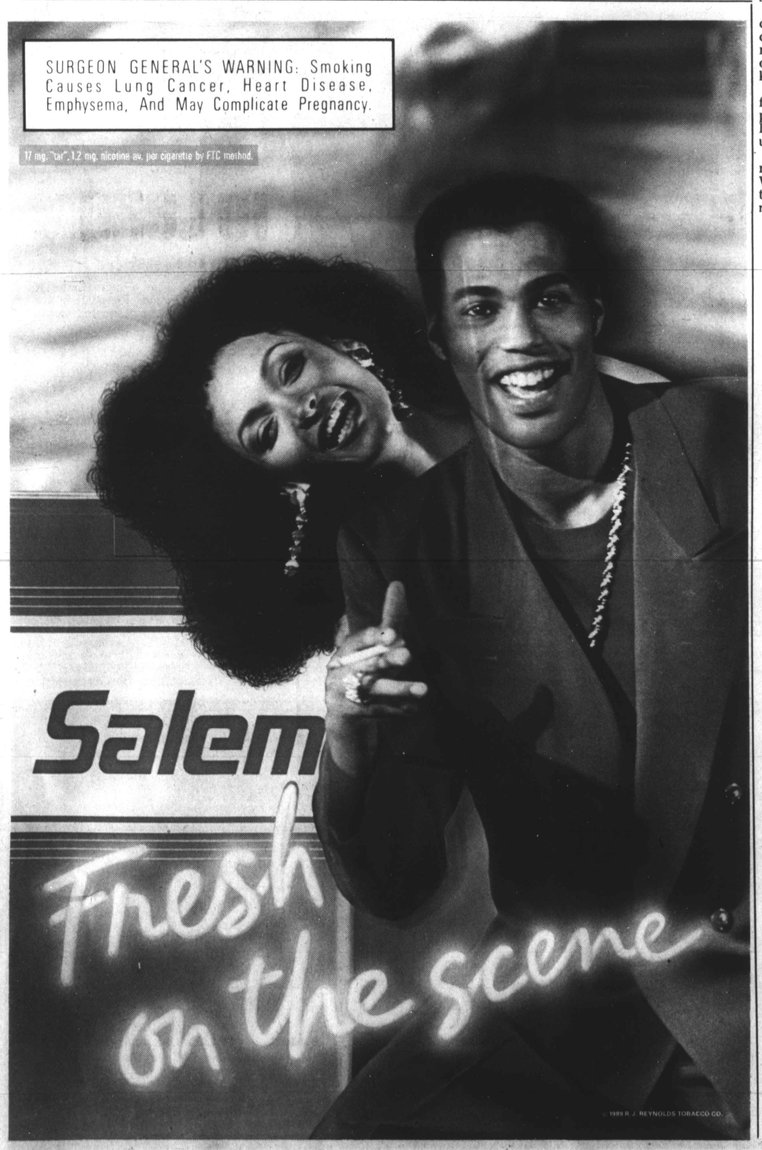
Theo, who sported a high-top fade with a pony-tail had tough words for the parents of the young people and said, "instead of concentrating on me, the parents need to be telling their own children how to live their lives."

The Jacksons — minus Michael, Marlon, Janet and LaToya—dub their latest hit, "2300 Jackson Street." to a crowd, which had expected a full concert.

One would have thought the Rev. Jesse Jackson was related to the other Jacksons as he spent a good amount of time in the trailer of the popular singing group passing out his "keep hope alive" tee shirts.

The best part of the family reunion were the families and people themselves, most of whom came out to have a good time.

With both legs amputated, one might think that Mr. Anthony Mitchell would be bitter, but he was not, even though U.S. Park Police would not let him get close to the stage to see Rev. Jesse Jackson.



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Ethiopia talks underway

ATLANTA (UPI) — Representatives of the Ethiopian government and Eritrean rebels said Thursday they are ready to forge a lasting peace in the embattled region but did not indicate how their 28-year-old civil war could be settled.

Delegations from the Ethiopian government and Eritrean People's Liberation Front arrived at the Carter Center at Emory University in separate buses Thursday morning to convene peace negotiations arranged by former President Jimmy Carter.

Members of both delegations have been described as mid - and lower - level officials — not the principle players Carter originally expected — but U.S. diplomats said the development would not jeopardize the budding peace process because the talks are preliminary.

Eritrea rebels, who are fighting to establish the independence of their coastal region of 4 million, have met with Ethiopian government officials before without success.

Eritrea, roughly the size of Pennsylvania and stretched along the Red Sea, is a former Italian colony made semi - autonomous under Ethiopia after World War II by a U.N. agreement. Rebels have been fighting for independence since 1961 but the Ethiopian government is reluctant to lose its only access to the coast.

The civil war has left about 1 million dead and been exacerbated in recent years by crippling droughts and widespread famine. Both sides have accused the other of sabotaging international aid to famine victims as a war tactic.

Ethiopian Prime Minister Fikre Selassie Wagderess, who had been expected to attend the meeting, has said he will arrive later if the talks are making progress.

Alamin Mohamed Saiyed (left), head of a delegation of Eritrean rebels, and Ashegre Yigletu (2nd from right), head of the Ethiopian government delegation prepare for peace talks with former President Jimmy Carter (right) serving as mediator during the meeting in Atlanta.

Violence mars S. Africa elections

PRETORIA, South Africa — The ruling National Party was re-elected Thursday by the slimmest margin in 35 years, stung by White voters divided over whether to grant greater rights to the Black majority or retreat behind the repressive policies of apartheid.

Seven hours after polls closed Wednesday, it was certain the National Party would form the next government and rule for another five years.

Archbishop Desmond Tutu said at least 23 people were killed by police in election day violence, but police said seven people were killed and 100 wounded. Only three of the deaths could be attributed to police action.

Mr. Tutu said the seat of acting president Frederik De Klerk was "dripping blood."

Law and Order spokesman Brigadier Leon Mellet said four people were killed in Black against Black fraction fighting in Khayalitsha east of Cape Town and another three from townships in the area had died since being admitted to hospital.

Hospital spokesmen said at least 90 people were admitted to hospitals in the Cape Town area with birdshot wounds and two were dead on arrival.

Police fought running battles in mixed - race townships on the outskirts of the city, using tear gas, whips, rubber bullets and birdshot to disperse crowds demonstrating against the elections, a police unrest report said.

Despite a voter swing to the left and right, Mr. de Klerk declared a "clear mandate" to implement his party's agenda for reform in the racially divided country.

BP ends housing plan

CAPE TOWN, South Africa — BP Southern Africa, an oil company, has dropped controversial plans for a non-racial housing development in the center of Cape Town unless the government changes its racially based residential laws.

The development plan was intended to rebuild a village leveled by bulldozers in the 1970s, when the government removed thousands of mixed - race South Africans from the heart of the country's oldest city. The sprawling tract of land has remained vacant ever since.

BP Southern Africa Chairman Ian Sims acknowledged in a statement Wednesday widespread community opposition to redeveloping the barren landscape until the government abolishes the Group Areas Act defining where people may live on the basis of race.

He said the company's offer to help remained open, pending the changing of the legislation to the satisfaction of the community.

The area was razed to "whiten" the city center and was not used for 10 years, with only a half dozen Christian and Muslim places of worship remaining as painful reminders of its former liveliness.

SWAPO founder returns to Namibia

WINDHOEK, Namibia (UPI) — Sam Nujoma, founder of the rebel South West African Peoples Organization, will go home to Namibia this week after 30 years in exile, an official of the movement said Wednesday.

Mr. Nujoma, 60, whose movement waged a 23-year guerrilla war against South African rule in the former German colony, is widely favored to be the first president of the southwest African territory, which is heading for independence under U.N. stewardship.

SWAPO officials said popular support for the movement's war against colonial rule ensures a solid victory in U.N. - supervised elections set for November.

Hage Geingob, Windhoek - based director of SWAPO's election campaign, said Wednesday that Mr. Nujoma would arrive in the territory's capital on September 14 aboard a chartered Ethiopian airliner.

"If anything happens, I am afraid the consequences would be too ghastly to contemplate for the future of Namibia," Mr. Geingob said.

Mr. Nujoma's homecoming is set one day before a deadline for Namibians to register to vote for the Nov. 6-10 elections.

"We invite the entire Namibian nation to declare this a national holiday and to be at the airport to meet (Nujoma) in a manner befitting a conquering hero," said Mr. Geingob.

In 1979, Mr. Nujoma, a former railroad worker, fled the territory then known as South West Africa.

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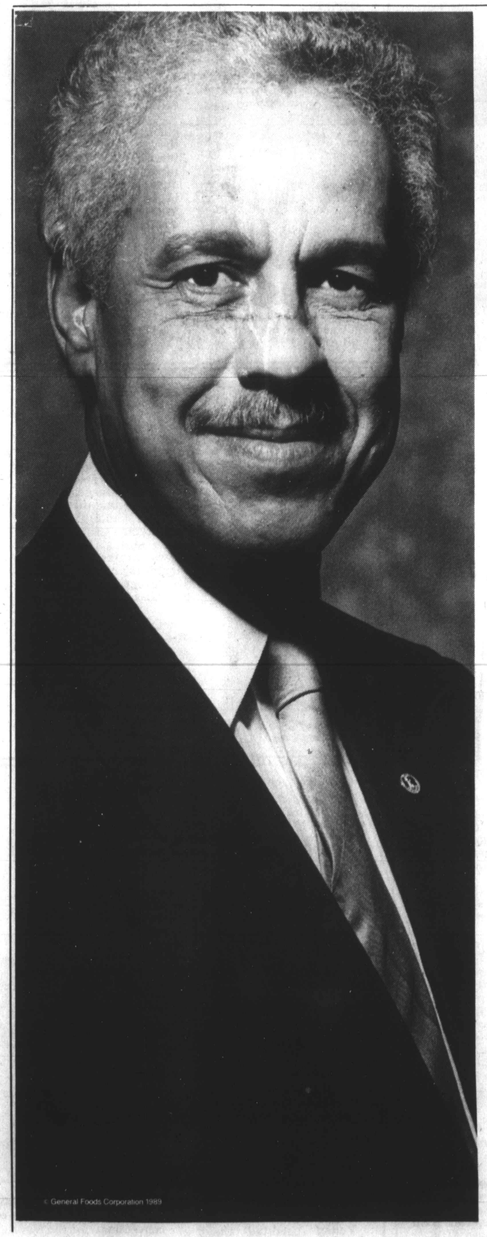

Where Doug Learned To Lead

"There was a common bond," says Lt. Governor Lawrence Douglas Wilder of Virginia, speaking of his college experience. "We all knew who we were and where we needed to go, and what we needed to do to get there." Wilder, the nation's highest-ranking Black elected state official, attributes that world-beating attitude to the inspiring role models he found at Virginia Union University, one of America's Black colleges.

In an atmosphere of high intellectual quality, young Douglas Wilder discovered what he calls, "the high possibility of the individual." And following in a tradition that has produced outstanding scholars, professionals and public servants, he went on to a brillant career as an attorney, state senator and civic activist. Is it any wonder that, though they enroll only 20% of Black college students, Black colleges produce 40% of Black college graduates?

When you're considering colleges, doesn't it make sense to consider the ones that educated achievers like Lawrence Douglas Wilder? Attending one could lead to a great future.

America's Black Colleges
Are You Smart Enough To Go?

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