

Jackson returned to PUSH a hero

## TRIUMVIRATE HEADS PUSH

There is a triumvirate at the helm of the civil rights organization where the Rev. Jesse Jackson formerly stood.

Executive director Samuel Tidmore, PUSH chairman the Rev. Otis Moss, and PUSH vice president the Rev. George Riddick say they've disproven those who thought the organization would fold after Jackson, PUSH's founder and brightest star, left to mount a bid for the Democratic Presidential nomination.

"We'll still have to look out for the slingshots," said Tidmore, 44. "But we struggled, and prayed and we think we have a victory."

With Jackson on leave from the post of president, there has been scrutiny and public doubt as PUSH — People United to Serve Humanity — has struggled to continue its mandate of reshaping corporate America's relationship with blacks.

The presidency is now vacant. Thomas Todd had been acting president, but he recently joined Jackson's campaign staff.

A soft-spoken but dominating figure, Tidmore is a former linebacker for the Cleveland Browns. He is on leave from his winery and food business — Urban Foods of Ohio — while serving as a full-time volunteer for PUSH.

He shares the reins with the organization's chairman, Moss, 49, a Baptist minister who speaks in measured tones, punctuating his political observations with Biblical references.

A veteran of the 1960s civil rights movement, Moss marched from Selma to Montgomery and was with the Rev. Martin Luther King, Jr. in the early days. He was one of 130 Americans invited to Camp Davis in 1979 to confer with former president Jimmy Carter on an array of issues.

Moss' Olivet Institutional Baptist Church in



Jesse Jackson

Cleveland is considered by many a "must" campaign stop: Presidential hopefuls Sen. Edward Kennedy, Walter Mondale and Jackson have all visited.

Also assuming part of Jackson's role is Riddick, 56, a Baptist minister, long-time PUSH administrator and one of three PUSH vice-presidents. Riddick leads a full-time negotiating team on PUSH's drive for expanded business op-



TIDMORE: "We struggled and we think we have a victory."

portunities for minorities.

Under his charge, PUSH has expanded its focus to include the auto and grocery industries, with whom the group is now negotiating.

Jackson, who founded the civil rights organization in 1971, has become the USA's top black political figure by taking the concerns of millions of poor and minorities to the heart of the political process.

"It's like parents returning from the hospital with not one, but two, three or four newborns," says the Rev. Otis Moss, PUSH chairman.

"At the level of political activity, a new chapter will have been written."

Jackson aide Frank Watkins agrees: "PUSH will be a major beneficiary, since its president was the catalytic agent of this massive political awakening."



MOSS: Baptist minister conferred with President Carter in 1979.



PHOTOS BY BARBARA RIEB, USA TODAY  
RIDDICK: Leads team seeking business opportunities for minorities

In the past six months, PUSH has grown by 8,000 to a total membership of 150,000 compared with 400,000 members in 1,700 chapters of the NAACP

Jesse Jackson came home to Operation PUSH last Thursday with new-found power and prestige — just a taste of what lies ahead for the group when his historic run for the presidency is over.

Jackson discussed the state of the Rainbow Coalition at the group's annual convention.

### House Failed To Approve Head Start Authorization

WASHINGTON — The House refused on Thursday to approve a bill under a speeded-up process to extend Head Start and other human services programs with spending authorizations sponsors said were designed to keep them operating at current levels.

Members voted 261-156 for the legislation, but that was short of the two-thirds necessary to pass it under the expedited procedure that also permits no amendments.

Some Republicans objected to the procedure under which the legislation was taken up, saying it should be done under the regular rules of the House, which would permit amendments and

extensive debate.

Sponsors of the bill indicated they will seek to bring it to the House floor again under regular procedures.

Under the legislation, authorization for the Head Start program, now at \$1 billion, would increase to \$1.3 billion in 1989, said Rep. Carl Perkins, D-Ky., chairman of the House Education and Labor Committee. He said that was sufficient only to maintain current services for the program, which is aimed at helping to educate children from poor homes before they enter first grade.

The legislation also extends for five years the Follow Through program.

## SCOPES

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that no Republican would file this year because Democratic registration in that district is 5 to 1 over Republican registration, and Republicans want to influence the outcome of what is expected to be a fierce battle between Assemblyman Lonie Chaney and Dr. William Pearson in the Democratic primary. Pearson had served a temporary term on the Las Vegas City Commission.

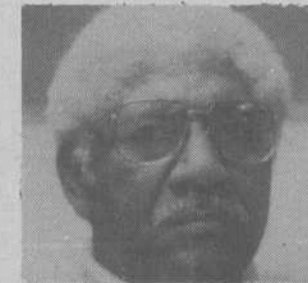
Under state law Gov. Richard Bryan, a Democrat, must make the appointment of someone to fill out Wilson's term which ends Jan. 1 when a newly elected commissioner takes office.

Bryan indicated earlier this year that he had not sought out suggestions from official political groups in choosing a successor to Commissioner Jack Petitti when he resigned after being convicted of a felony. He said he would rely in both cases on suggestions which are transmitted to him.



Bob Bailey

The way the legal process works is this: Wilson must resign on or before Aug. 3 sentencing.



Evan Williams

He must officially notify the Board of County Commissioners of his resignation, by letter.

The County Manager must have sufficient time to place the matter of the resignation upon the next regular agenda of

the Board of Commissioners.

Upon the resignation, the Governor must appoint someone who is a registered Republican to fulfill the term given up by a registered Republican.

Among the few names floated around Monday were construction executives, Evan Williams and Leonard Mason, both of whom have been very active in civic affairs, and groups like the Urban League, and long-time businessman, broadcaster, and entertainer Bob Bailey and Gwen Brown-Coleman, Executive Director of the Nevada Black Chamber of Commerce.

Of the 16,185 voters re-



Gwen Brown-Coleman

gistered to date in Wilson's district, there are 14,170 Democrats and 2,015 Republicans.

Wilson, who repre-



Leonard Mason

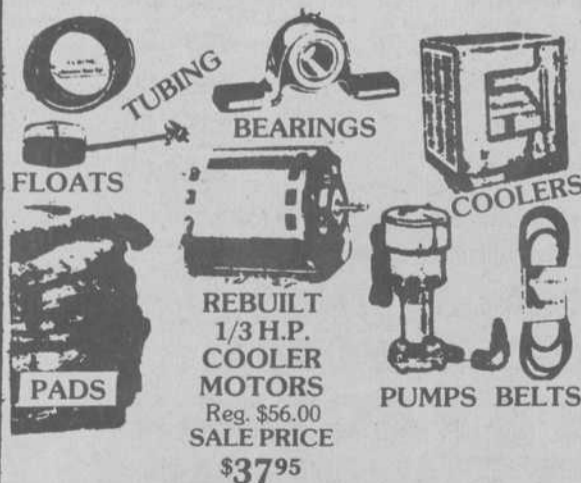
sents District D, is a Republican.

Wilson also sits on the state Equal Rights Commission, a job he was appointed to in April 1979 by former Gov. Robert List.

Bryan re-appointed Wilson, whose three-year term on the state commission expires in October 1984. He is chairman of that board.

The governor's office is researching what impact Wilson's conviction will have on the appointment, according to Bryan spokesman Karen Galatz.

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