

SOCIAL NEWS
with
A TOUCH OF "GRACE"



by Grace McGlothen

by the eloquent Dr. Cain Felder of Howard University School of Divinity. Dr. Felder's timely and scholarly address was centered around the topic "The Struggle and Rewards for Black Excellence." The following are excerpts from his speech:

Last week in Washington D.C. Howard University's Commencement Speaker was the Black poetess Maya Angelou, who began and ended simply with the words, "You are loved!" Her profound statement was addressed to the large hushed assembly of emerging black professionals and their families. In such a setting, her words were both timely and very well received, for we as a people need constantly to be reminded of the evidence all around us that **WE ARE LOVED**.....Those of you who are being honored here in Las Vegas today have shown earlier signs of being winners. Everybody seems to love a "winner"! In America we tend to place heavy emphasis on "getting ahead" and "winning", so much so that we often forget how easy it is to **LOSE** or how many "losers" there are in our midst, especially among Black Americans. After all, who wants to hear about the

team that lost, the high school student who dropped out, the juvenile delinquent, or the teenage parents who are ruining their lives before they have become adults? No, we tend to push the **LOSERS** into the background and glorify winning so much that "winning by any means necessary" becomes our **ONLY** goal. Thus, all too often today, people will lie, cheat, take short cuts, sabotage the efforts of competitors, misrepresent themselves and pay bribes just in order to "win".....Such so-called winners make us all losers, whenever "getting-over" (expediency) is valued more than **EXCELLENCE** (quality).

"In 1978, the Russian novelist Alexander Solhenitsyn delivered the Commencement Address at Harvard University. He used the occasion to chastise America for our tendency to glorify technological achievements which do not redeem our moral poverty. He referred to America as an "abyss of human decadence", spoke about our "misuse of liberty" and warned us about setting the stage for "the triumph of mediocrity."

"We need to look again at the harsh realities of the Black crisis in America

today. Not long ago, Roland B. Saunders wrote a two-part series for the **PITTSBURGH COURIER**, making a number of observations about aspects of this Black crisis:

"A Black person living in the ghetto has more opportunity and the likelihood is greater of being robbed, raped, mugged, brutalized and assaulted, than (others)....Homicide is the leading cause of death among Black males between the ages of 18 and 35 in which the vast majority of the crimes are being committed by Black males. The national

suicide rate for young Blacks has doubled in the last 10 years....."

"Julius Wilson, a Black urban sociologist, showed that ten years ago, three times the percentage of Blacks, as compared to Whites, was below the low income between the ages of 14 and 34 and have become, in 1976, part of a "non-labor force," an underclass of people not merely unemployed, but unemployable.....If vast numbers of us are not unemployable, they are still unemployed,

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IT'S GRADUATION TIME!

Marching with "Pomp and Circumstance" all over town are the graduating classes of 1985. We wish to congratulate each of you as you take a giant step into the future. May God grant each of you the mental and physical stamina to meet and endure the tests which lie ahead. Stand tall and be strong for this shall be your **DESTINY!**

DR. CAIN FELDER DELIVERS

STIRRING ADDRESS TO B-CON GRADS

B-Con (Black Community Organization network) of Greater Las Vegas observed another successful Baccalaureate and Awards Convocation on last Sunday evening in the spacious True Love Missionary Baptist Church.

A large gathering of local school administrators, parents, teachers and friends of the graduates heard a powerful address delivered

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THIS WEEK'S SPECIALS

RITZ CRACKERS 1 lb. pkg. \$1.69	CHIPS AHOY 19 oz. pkg. \$2.09	TURKEY NECKS 2 lbs. for \$1.00
TURKEY WINGS 2 lbs. for \$1.00	End Cut PORK CHOPS \$1.79 lb.	CHICKEN 59¢ lb. CHICKEN WINGS 59¢ lb.
Louis Meat HOT LINKS \$1.09 lb. (While supply lasts)	Serv-Rite HAM \$1.79 lb.	BUDWEISER 12 pak, cans \$5.49
	Springfield SODA POP 12 oz. can 25¢	7 UP R C COLA SUNKIST ORANGE MUG ROOT BEER 6 pak \$1.89

Effective Thursday thru Monday