

Advisor to Library of Congress

--Gwendolyn Brooks Has Finally Made It

Poet Gwendolyn Brooks has made it: Pulitzer Prize, poet laureate of Illinois, 40 honorary degrees.

Today, Brooks 68, starts a new job as poet consultant to the Library of Congress -- a post once held by Robert Frost. She's the first black woman to hold the post.

She grew up in Chicago during the Depression, daughter of a janitor and a schoolteacher. Perhaps that's why she has no pretenses.

"I like to write poems that people will listen to with interest," she says. "Most poets set out to mystify you."

Brooks sees herself as a "super reporter... I believe in a lot of revision. I go over and over each line and I'll say, 'Is this really what I want to say, or am I being too much impressed by (TS) Eliot or William Butler Yeats?'"

Tonight, in a public reading at the library, she'll

recite a poem about a little black boy who has identity problems.

"He looks African, and this is not the best way to be popular in our society," she says.

Brooks is disturbed that many young black girls are straightening their hair.

"A lot of these people are very young and never took part in that self-pride and self-validation, and I can just blame their elders for not carrying the story to them."

But she's "stimulated" by protests against apartheid.

Brooks has written 18 books, including a novel and an autobiography, but she isn't rich. She and her husband, Henry Blakely, live modestly on Chicago's South Side, about 30 blocks from where she grew up. They have two adult children.

She makes her living lecturing at 50 colleges a year. Her one-year stint as poet consultant will pay \$35,000.



By David Hathcock
BROOKS: Prize-winning poet, author says. 'Most poets are not even able to live on what they make.'

Four Indian Springs guards face termination

Four guards at Indian Springs prison face termination for the escape last month of three inmates, the state's prison director confirmed Tuesday.

Reprimands and suspensions also were levied against four supervisors in connection with the Sept. 15 escape from the Southern Desert Correctional Center about 40 miles northwest of Las Vegas.

George Sumner, director of the state Department of Prisons, said one guard still on probation was fired immediately. Termination proceedings must be initiated against four other guards because they are permanent employees.

Sumner also suspended a shift lieutenant for five days. Another lieutenant and two

managers will receive letters of reprimand.

Those terminated include a guard who allegedly was sleeping when the inmates escaped, and another who reportedly miscounted prisoners after the escape was discovered. Because of the miscount, prison officials did not know for several hours that one man was missing.

Three of the guards were patrolling outside the medium-security prison when the nighttime escape occurred. Sumner said such a breakout would have been "impossible if they were doing their jobs."

Prison officials placed the guards on administrative leave shortly after the escape, which was the second summer breakout.

Blacks boycott schools in South Africa

JOHANNESBURG, South Africa -- Tens of thousands of students boycotted Cape Town's mixed-raced schools that reopened today after a nearly monthlong closure because of rioting, and police said three more blacks died in anti-apartheid violence.

Police headquarters in Pretoria reported scattered unrest in Cape Town and seven other areas. Two blacks were burned to death by mobs, and police shot and killed a third man in a rock-throwing crowd, police said.

From Lusaka, Zambia, the outlawed African National Congress guerrilla group claimed responsibility for three bombs that went off in department stores in downtown Durban last Friday. It said they were part

of a campaign "to take the struggle to the white areas."

No one was hurt in the three explosions, which came just after closing time. ANC spokesman Tom Sebina said in reply to a question from The Associated Press that the blasts were part of "the intensification of general struggle throughout the country."

President P.W. Botha won praise from some whites for the conciliatory tone of a speech Monday night in which he pledged some concessions to blacks, including participation in a presidential advisory council.

But others dismissed it as lacking specifics on the central black demand for a genuine share in national power.

CAUTION!!!

The Las Vegas Sentinel-Voice has been receiving reports on certain individuals who are misrepresenting themselves as employees of this newspaper. In particular there are persons who claim to be this newspaper's photographer, a reporter or a show reviewer and as such have sought to gain admission to major promotions, fights, shows, etc. Some have also been misguiding merchants claiming that the Sentinel-Voice is currently gathering material on black merchants for future publication. In this role they set up the merchant for unauthorized sales transactions, collections, etc.

We find it necessary to alert the community on these imposters. We solicit your help in identifying these persons. Call the Las Vegas Sentinel-Voice at 383-4030. Such information will be reported promptly to the proper authorities for whatever action deemed proper.

New Pneumonia Vaccine Available

A new version of the pneumococcal vaccine, which protects against 23 varieties of bacterial pneumonia, is available from private physicians or Clark County Health District clinics.

Pneumococcal disease accounts for nearly one-fourth of all pneumonia in the U.S. each year and occurs in all age groups. Vaccine is recommended for adults 65 years or older and persons with chronic illness such as cardiovascular and pulmonary disease, plus other diseases which would be complicated by respiratory infections. The vaccine is not recommended for children under 2 years

old. Mortality from pneumococcal disease is highest among persons with bacteremia (bacteria in the blood), meningitis, underlying medical conditions, or the elderly.

The new vaccine replaces one that protected against 14 varieties of pneumococcal disease. Persons who have received the 14-valent pneumococcal vaccine should not be revaccinated with the new one. Pneumococcal vaccine is given only once to adults.

The vaccine is given by injection and may be given concurrently with influenza vaccine.

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