MIMPIPILAN ONDER

Reasons to smile despite life of setbacks

Alice Jackson started out to be a pre-school teacher. But things didn't go the way she planned. Soon after graduating from the University of Nevada-Reno in 1977, Jackson contracted lupus. She also began losing her eyesight. Now, legally blind, the 31-year-old single mother has had to redefine her goals.

Alice Jackson

People tell me I should write about myself - they think my life is facinating for some reason. They don't understand how I can cope with not being able to see real good, and having this illness, and trying to raise a son and keep a house. How can you do it? They just don't understand that it's nothing, really - if you want to do it.

When my eyesight started going, I had to learn how to adapt to it in different ways. I thought instead of working directly with kids, I could run a business.

That's when I went to Truckee Meadows Community College and got a business degree. I'm still trying to find the resources and finances to open a preschool for handicapped and disabled kids.

It's kind of hard right now to get finances. I've learned being a woman it's-hard to get people to back you, and then being black is hard and with my so-called handicap, it's awfully hard

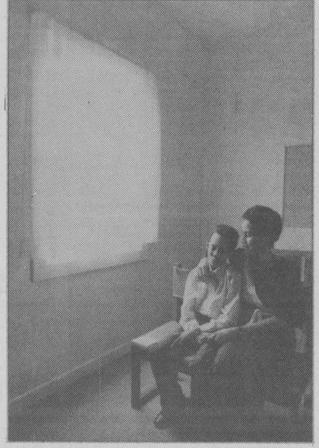
prove myself. I can do this and not let people put limitations on me that I don't need.

My goals? They've slowed down somewhat. It seems like I'll get to one branch of the road and it stops because of an attack. Then I start all over again. But I don't mind starting over again if eventually I get to where I want to

What are you doing with the rest of your life?

At this time, what I'd like to do is just be the best person I can possibly be, the best mother I could possible be, and, just, you know, take one day at a time to achieve where I want to get

don't regret anything that's happened to me. God has put me in this position for a reason. I may not understand it, but I've learned to accept it. I just smile and go on - I know I got his strength.



Toni Spitz/Gazette-Journal

FAMILY: Alice shares a quiet moment with her son, Brian.

CHILD From Page 2

black men for every 100 young black women.

Young women who cannot earn enough to support a family, or find a partner who can, are at high risk of living in poverty. And for young black women, that risk is

now a vertual certainty. Fully 86 percent of black families headed by a single women under twenty-five are poor today.

Contrary to widely-held myths, these families will not find an "easy" life on welfare. Aid to Families with Dependent Children (AFDC) payments neither lift them out of poverty nor routinely

offer young mothers the training they need to make it on their own.

We can do concrete things to improve the odds facing teen mothers. We can give them the child care and other support they need to finish school or learn a job skill. We can provide jobs for more teen fathers and mothers so they can contribute to their family's support. But most important of all, we can help all of our teens by urging them to defer parenthood until they are ready to shoulder its responsibilities.

BUSINESS IN THE BLACK

By Charles E. Belle **NNPA Business Editor**

Slow Growth in Smoke Stacks, Stable Service Industry

1987 Part-Time Job is Outlook

The three Ds of U.S. economy will determine its direction for the New Year. The first "D" for deficit is the essential drag on the economy -- the federal deficit which has become bigger not smaller during the Ronald Reagan years. You might ask how? What with more homeless and needy people going without adequate social services in America. Defense spending. A stupid but correct answer if not smart. Second greatest drain on the economy is the Trade debt, it too has grown astronomically under the asinine leadership of Ronald Reagan. And if that is not enough to sink the U.S. economic ship, add the final faux pas for the Reagan wrecked U.S. economy Day Federal Tax Reform Act of 1986." "Dey all" spell a downward drain for the U.S. economy for 1987. Seems consumers have already sensed the shift from fulltime factory employment to just part-time service jobs in such industries as health care, media and various retailers as the new wave in the New Year. The Conference Board, big

businesses eye on the economy, index of consumer confidence dropped in 1986 to its lowest level in more than three years. Consumer confidence which is reflected in the economic resurrection of the economy traditionally

in consumer spending is expected to continue down. Those who depend on the continued credit spending of the consumer to keep the U.S. economy buoyant had best look elsewhere for help.

Fiighly capitalized companies in commercial construction, aluminum, automobiles, chemicals, forest products, metals, machinery, oil services, rubber and steel shall find it tough going with "De" changes in the tax law. dropping investment tax credits in spite of lower interest rates. This is because interest rates are not playing a dominant role in decisions for plant expansions. The real interest rate, the difference between the cost of borrowing and the inflation rate is relatively still high. The inflation rate dropping faster than the prime or borrowing rate for big and small corporations.

Companies of course still must make a better mousetrap than the foreign product or they can put to rest any hopes of having greater domestic or foreign sales. The U.S. dollar has dropped against several foreign currencies, but U.S. products are still not cheap enough on a value per item basis to bring the United States more export sales needed to decrease the trade See JOBS, Page 5

Lizzie R. Hatcher, Esq. ATTORNEY IN NEVADA AND LOUISIANA



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