

**First Miss America, then Miss U.S.A. Now...
First Black Picked as Playmate of the Year**



Renee Tenison

BOISE, Idaho — A 21-year-old woman who achieved her goal of being a Playboy Playmate of the Month last fall, became the first black Playmate of the Year, the magazine announced last Thursday.

"I don't think of myself as black or white," said Renee Tenison, who has a black father and a white mother. She will be featured in the June issue, on Newsstands Wednesday. She was chosen by the Playboy staff, and Playboy founder Hugh Hefner gave her the final nod.

As Playboy's Miss November, the Boise woman was introduced to readers as "the best thing to come out of Idaho since the spud."

Tenison, employed by a Boise electronics company, has done local modeling, including TV commercials and catalog photos, besides posing for Playboy.

Why a Black woman now?

Magazine spokesman Bill Farley said: "The bottom line is, there's no reason not to."

Ray Willis was right a few weeks ago when he said Black beauty would become the next Black stereotype.

**New Political Leaders Warned
'Troubled Waters Lie Ahead'**

By Larry A. Still
NNPA Correspondent

Washington, D.C. -- (NNPA) -- "Troubled waters lie ahead" for African Americans and all Americans, Rep. John Lewis (D - GA) warned the nation's young political leaders unless they exercise their newly won political and economic gains to halt deteriorating conditions in their communities.

Speaking at the latest sessions of the Bethune-DuBois Associates Leadership Forum on Washington's Capitol Hill, the former Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee civil rights leader, Atlanta city councilman and current second term member of Congress told forum participants, "I am sick and tired of hearing too many young black men and women saying 'my vote won't count and it doesn't matter...'"

"The Movement freed and liberated all of us," but African-Americans could lose their Freedom again, Lewis warned as he called upon Democrats to go out and register to vote "like they never registered before."

Lewis challenged civil rights groups, black religious institutions and the academic community to become more involved in the "war against drugs and crime." He reminded forum leaders that "slavery, segregation and racial discrimination" have also played a major historic role in the soaring drug and murder rate among the nation's young black men.

The Bethune-DuBois Associates program is designed to expose young African Americans to the American political power structure, how it functions and the various avenues used to gain access and political involvement, founder C. Delores Tucker explained at the recent monthly meeting.

Mrs. Tucker introduced Lewis as "one of the most courageous persons the civil rights movement ever produced" as she noted that she met him during the 1965 historic Selma to Montgomery, Ala. voter registration march when the SNCC leader was beaten to the ground and trampled by mounted state highway policemen as he led the non-violent demonstrators across the Edmind Pettus bridge. "Now, he is bringing about changes as a member of the United States House of Representatives," Tucker said.

However, participants noted that progressive laws and court actions taken 25 years ago as a result of the protests and demonstrations are being limited and even reversed by new Supreme Court rulings and state political action, pending the outcome of another 1990 Civil Rights Bill now being considered in the Congress but threatened with defeat by a veto of President George Bush.

Oklahoma Reinstates Women's Basketball

NORMAN, Okla. - University of Oklahoma officials, reacting to a public outcry and facing imminent legal action, announced Thursday that they will reinstate the women's basketball program.

The announcement by President Richard Van Horn and Athletic Director Donnie Duncan was greeted by a chorus of cheers from members of the women's basketball team, who attended the news conference. The announcement came a day after attorneys for the players threatened a lawsuit if the program were not reinstated.

Van Horn said the outpouring of public support for the program as well as the state senate's resolution condemning the university for its action were more a factor than the threat of a lawsuit.

He said the lawsuit threat was not a significant issue, but team captain Tammy Rogers said it appeared to be more than coincidence that the program was reinstated on the same day a lawsuit was to have been filed.

"I think it made the decision come a lot quicker than maybe they wanted it to, Rogers said.

"This is an enormous victory for the student athletes, women's sports and everyone who believes in equal opportunity for women," attorney Arthur H. Bryant, executive director of the Trial Lawyers for Public Justice, said.

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in a fresh attack on another individual's honor and motives.

This quick fix, in turn, provides status for us and in the eyes of those who are as regressed as we are, who also believe that it is necessary to maintain our own status at the expense of another. And, of course, the object of an attack is to make yourself feel greater than you are by making others feel bad about who they are. It's all ego, but we think this is resolving our problem.

The problem, in reality, is that this approach to solving the problem is the problem. Has the hateful exchange between Tony Brown and Spike Lee advanced either Tony Brown or Spike Lee or Black people? No. It has only exacerbated the problem for all concerned.

The problem is that we don't love each other enough to work together. And this inability to work together is based on an emotion of fear that there is not enough to go around, that if another African American succeeds, there won't be any left for me. Therefore, our illogic says, let me destroy him/her to make my success possible.

But none of that logic is a part of reality. In reality, we always, 24 hours a day, have the choice of responding to one another with two emotions: fear or love.

With fear we repeat the cycle of anger/hate which tells us everyone else is the problem and must be punished. Fear tells us to at-

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the issue will become a political football, with unnecessary plants and bases being preserved just to keep payrolls intact and local voters happy. And there are indications that old Cold Warriors who want to keep Pentagon budgets high are exploiting legitimate fears.

So the sooner we start planning the transition from a wartime economy to a peacetime economy, the better.

tack. However, this cycle based on fear never ends because more attacks bring us more unhappiness which creates more fear.

Such planning should include assistance and retraining for workers and veterans displaced by defense cuts, incentives for defense industries to convert to civilian production, and a federal infrastructure rebuilding program that utilizes their capabilities.

So far, I haven't seen much evidence that such considerations are getting the attention they need from our policymakers. It's time they did.



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