

HISTORY OF CIVIL RIGHTS

(Continued from Page 4)

hard work. Bruce was born into slavery in Virginia and escaped to get an education. Bruce helped set up a school for freed men in Missouri. Bruce was the first African American to serve a full term in the United States Senate.

1847-African American, Dred Scott filed a law suit for his freedom, when the Supreme Court handed down the Dred Scott decision. No one criticized the ruling more powerfully than black abolitionist Fredrick Douglass.

The Supreme Court stated that all slaves are property, and Dred Scott could not even file a suit for his freedom, for as a black, he was not a citizen.

1859-African American abolitionist John Brown carried his campaign against slavery to the east. Brown planned to give slaves weapons and then lead a slave revolt. Most people, in the North and in the South, thought that Brown's plan to lead a slave revolt was insane. Brown was captured and then executed on December 2, 1859.

1869-Republicans in congress proposed another amendment to the constitution. The fifteenth Amendment forbade any state from denying African Americans the right to vote because of their race.

1892-Three African Americans were lynched in a crowd by a group of white men, who beat them and shot them. Their crime? The color of their skin. When Ida B. Wells-Barnett heard about this she then became a champion of rights.

This event marked the be-

ginning of an out spoken anti lynching campaign. Armed with facts and statistics, she made speeches and wrote articles apposed to lynching. Wells-Barnett's anti lynching campaign met stiff opposition, including burning of her presses and threats on her life.

1930-The first U.S. president to seek African American Mary Mcloed Bethune's counsel was Herbert Hoover. He asked her to serve on a White House conference on child death. For the next twenty-two years she was a

frequent visitor to the seat of the nations power.

1963-Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., was one of the organizers of the Civil Rights march on Washington, D.C. on August 28. This was known as the "Freedom March." A year later King won the Nobel Peace Prize.

1964-James Meridith, an African American seeking admission to a previously all white University of Mississippi, is turned away by Lt. Gov. Paul D. Johnson, Jr., on September 26.

1965-Black militant leader Malcolm X was assassinated in New York City, New York in the Audobon Ballroom. Twenty-eight years later the movie biography, Malcolm X, was produced by Spike Lee.

1968-Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., was assassinated in Memphis Tennessee. Twenty-one years later the Civil Rights Memorial is dedicated in Montgomery, Alabama.

As you can see there are many attributes to the Civil Rights Movement. There are many people who spent all their life striving for their aspirations to make the world a better place.

Jewed Oliver was one of two first place winners in the Senior High School Division of the 1993 Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., Committee essay contest.

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POET'S CORNER

Where There Is Life....

By Keith A Brantley

Front the earliest days of the Black mans landing we have been the subject of pale misunderstanding.

Their narrow vision has brought false conclusions and left science and religion in a state of confusion.

They saw brother David

Kneel before trees and decided without knowing what the brother believes.

(Where there are trees, there is life.

Where there is life, there is God.)

The sons of Osirus before the morning rise saw the coming of Rah before worshipping eyes

(Where there is Sunlight, there is life.

Where there is life, there is God.)

Blue eyes of narrow vision still confuse the spiritual and religion.

They are stubborn of heart and narrow of mind and this they ignore the sensuous shrine.

The woman, the mother,

the sweet savior, the lover.

She is the God-chosen window of life;

yet pale misunderstanding his given her strife.

(Where there is woman, there is life.

Where there is life, there is God.)

Passion Fruit

By Kamau Khalfani

Like a common criminal I want to steal your love, like a junkie craves a fix,

I need your hugs,

The way a fish needs water I need your sweet lips, the Way a baby needs affection I need your fingertips.

Tonight I enjoyed your company under a full and sweet moon,

But suddenly you had to go, it was all too soon.

I shall not try to make a complete fool of myself by keeping My feeling on a neat little shelf,

but if I fail and become Part of your roots...

I'll be yet another connoisseur of your Passion fruit.

Soulmate

By Assata

I look into your eyes and I see passion, fiery passion... burning, engulfing, consuming.

When I touch your skin, I feel softness - velvety smooth with controlled strength beneath the surface... strong, powerful, and sure.

When I close my eyes, I can smell your manliness.

The sensual scent of earth mingling with spices... provocative, tantalizing, erotic.

When I taste you, my tongue dances in jubilee for there is no taste

sweeter. You are an aphrodisiac... delicious, fulfilling, intoxicating.

The sound of your voice wraps itself around me. Your laugh is music to my ears. It soothes, relaxes, comforts.

When you are close to me, I see your inner beauty, I feel your energy,

and I know that you are my... soulmate!

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AFRICAN-AMERICAN HISTORY

ROBERTA FLACK

(Singer, Pianist)

By Gwen Walker

Roberta Flack was born in Asheville, North Carolina to musical parents. Later the family moved to Virginia where Roberta studied classical music to be a concert pianist. At age 15, she entered Howard University on a music scholarship eventually earning a B.A. in music. Roberta started her graduates study, but went into teaching English in North Carolina and later taught in Washington, D.C. During that time she also took a part-time job accompanying opera singers. Ms. Flack left teaching and began her singing career in May 1967 at Mr. Henry's Pub in Washington, D.C. Her soft delicate style soon attracted Jazz pianist, Les McCann, who introduced her to Atlantic Records.



GWEN WALKER

Ms. Flack won a Grammy for "The First Time Ever I Saw Your Face," and "Where Is The Love."

In 1974 she released "Killing Me Softly" with his song." She was voted No. 1 Female Vocalist by Down Bet Poll in 1972. She sang in Yugoslavia, Venezuela, Japan, and New Zealand in 1980.

Read more about her at the West Las Vegas Library.