

BITS AND PIECES**CHANGING OF THE GUARDS...***By Ramon Savoy*

This past Friday, April 9, 1993, the Rev. Benjamin Chavis, Jr. was voted the newly elected president of the NAACP. As the fifth director of the largest civil rights organization in the world, Rev. Chavis promises to reach out to younger African-Americans and build coalitions with

other African-American leaders. Rev. Chavis, 45, has become the youngest director for the half million membership. His aggressive tactics are being looked upon as a welcomed change from his predecessor, Benjamin Hooks, who had held the position since 1978. For years Rev. Chavis, a syndicated columnist,

has been writing the commentary, "Civil Rights Journal", for African-American publications. A long time member of the NAACP, Rev. Chavis has already put together an agenda for the 85 year old organization. As a supporter of President Clinton's stimulus package, Rev. Chavis plans to lobby congress for passage because "unemployment and the economy are civil rights issues."

Jackie Robinson became the first African-American player in baseball. April 12th 1966 major league baseball got it's first African-American umpire, Emmett Ashford.

DON'T GET ON THE MULE TRAIN... You're making plans to visit an exotic country and a "friend" approaches you to do a favor. It is revealed recently in a 1992 U.S. State Department

Bureau of Consular Affairs report that nearly 1,000 Americans were held on charges of using or processing drugs.

Many of the victims are individuals trying to make some quick money by agreeing to becoming drug couriers for friends and drug dealers. While the first impression of becoming a "mule", as they're called, is easy money, the reality is you will eventually get caught and

spend time in abysmal foreign prisons. Even though drug charges against Americans has decreased from 1991 numbers, from 2,377 to 2,010, a 15.4 percent difference, many Americans still find the instant financial gains inviting. However, what's puzzling bureau officials is the alarming increase of young women becoming mules, many which are welfare mothers.

Do the crime, pay the time.

THE NAACP AND YOU!

Rev. Jesse D. Scott
President
Las Vegas, NAACP



TIME CAPSUL... April 11th marked the 46th anniversary of Jackie Robinson's major-league debut. He signed a professional baseball contract, playing for the Brooklyn Dodgers against the New York Yankees in an exhibition game.

GUEST COMMENTARY**THE BLACK PANTHER PARTY**

*By Kamau Khalfani
Prime Minister of Information*

The very name sends chills up most peoples spines. Kind of like when you go to see a horror movie and this completely non human thing scares you out of your mind...That is something like the reaction that most people have.

The reason for that reaction is simple, most people have no idea what the Black Panther Party was about (including some people that were in the original party).

Just like with Malcolm, folks quick to say... I knew the brother, I heard him speak in person! (by the way, for the folks who didn't know, the Black panthers were developed out of Malcolm X's philosophy of black nationalism, self help, and his ideas of self protection). But when you ask those very same people to explain what those ideas meant, they haven't got a clue. When you ask them how much of his thinking they have adapted as a way of life, they generally stare at you with a glaze that says "didn't you know that this was only for play."

Neither the message nor the messenger were

understood. If they were, we would have all sorts of Co-operative buying and spending programs in the black community, not just the poor but the affluent side of town as well because everyone can benefit from combined buying power.

These are the same people who have assisted in the creation of the boogie man image of our true heroes.

In addition to all of that our people are reluctant to give a group definition of what a black hero is so it's hard for our true heroes to be recognized.

The same holds true for our definition of true leadership, because the role of that leadership is different from what the other people say a true leader is supposed to be.

You may be able to destroy the physical manifestation of that idea's representative, but not the idea.

The Black Panther Party was, and is, a good idea. They were not a group of gun toting thugs as some people would like you to believe. They created such things as the breakfast for kids programs and free health clinics, among other

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ALL OF US TOGETHER

What a wonderful slogan that has been developed by a cross section of community groups; FBI, The Federal Attorney, Police Chief and others, in anticipation of a possible riotous outbreak after the next Rodney King decision in Los Angeles.

Our prayer is that we will be as much together one year after the decision as we are one day after.

Although the theory of the slogan is not new, the lack of it's appreciation is as old as mankind who in their right mind could find fault or possibly be against such a well meant slogan.

The reason I say the meaning of this slogan is not new is because it is the heart and soul of what the Holy Bible is all about, which is the awareness, care, compassion and love that all mankind should have for man.

The Bible teaches us that we should love one another as God loves us.

The sentiment of this slogan is also found in the preamble to the U.S. Constitution which states that, and I quote, "We hold these truths to be self evident that all men are created equal and that they are endowed by their creator with certain rights. Among these are life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness."

Additionally, we have the Pledge of Allegiance to the flag of the United States of America, and to the republic to which it stands, one nation, under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

These two American documents most assuredly say all that we need to say about "All of us Together," yet every one knows that they portray a lot of preaching but a very little practice in their application to Afro American people.

To give reality and real meaning to this slogan we need to know one Afro American who has, or will, become an entrepreneur, a job creator. To give further reality to this slogan we need to encourage all of our children to stay in school and out of trouble.

We must continue to tell every one no matter what the Rodney

King discussion is, that violence begets violence. That all forms of killings, shootings, and maimings are wrong no matter who does it, the citizen or the police.

The NAACP extends an invitation to one and all to a planning meeting after the King verdict on the following issues: 1. What can be done to reduce the number of students who are dropping out of school 2. What can we do about the high number of youth who are caught in the web of the Nevada Criminal Justice System 3. Why large sums of block grant finds due West Las Vegas are not available to Afro Americans.

Our nurses make a difference.

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Dr. Don L. Christensen
General Surgeon

Sunrise Hospital and
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*Joint Commission on Accreditation of Healthcare Organizations