## ALONG THE COLOR LINE

(Continued from Page 2) conservative credo. Powell warns blacks not to let racism "drag them down. Don't use it as an excuse for your own shortcomings." Powell embodies solid, white middle-class values; faith in family, religion, patriotism, personal responsibility, and political independence. White conservatives can point to Powell's stellar career as an example that African-Americans don't need affirmative action or liberal social programs to

promote their advancement. Evidence of Powell's hostility toward social liberalism was also illustrated last year when the general bitterly opposed Clinton's efforts to end the ban against homosexuals in the

Speculation now exists that Powell may follow the strategy of Texas billionaire Ross Perot, by running as an independent in the 1996 general election. By establishing a platform which is pro-military yet moderate enough to attract so-called "New Democrats," Powell privately believes that he can capture the centrist high ground between the ideological policies of the two majorparties. He recognized that despite his popularity, the Republican Party has moved sharply to the right since 1980, and would be unlikely to find his views sufficiently conservative. Watching the Republican Party Convention in 1992, Powell was shocked and disgusted by the extremist tactics and polarized polemics of leaders like Patrick Buchanan. By running as an independent, Powell might attract the same following as Perot, plus a sizable share of African-American votes. The Newsweek poll confirms this analysis.

Forty-seven percent of Americans polled stated that electing an "independent president" would be a "good way" to make changes in Washington. Can Colin Powell become the next president of the United

States? As a public leader, Powell is certainly far more impressive than any serious contender the Republicans have for the presidency. Politically, he would bring a degree of experience in international affairs that Clinton sorely lacks as chief executive.

I have serious questions and criticisms about Powell's positions on public policy issues. But I believe that there are two fundamental barriers which Powell will have to overcome in order to be a serious prospect for the presidency.

The first barrier is the "racial ceiling" in American politics. Simply put, the majority of white voters will not vote for a black, first-time candidate for public office. Even African-American officials who made strenuous attempts to reach out to the white electorate by moderate, nonthreatening gestures never fully succeed in winning the trust of most whites. Los Angeles mayor Tom Bradley, for example, was defeated twice in his bid for governor of California largely due to the racial antipathy of a segment of the white electorate. David Dinkins, former New York mayor, received less than onefourth of the white vote last year in a city with a five to one ratio of registered Democrats over Republicans.

Powell's other significant difficulty is ideological and strategic. The present crisis in American politics is expressed on the edges, not the center, of public discourse. The Radical Right, led by the extremist Christian Coalition, is pursuing an activist agenda through purging moderate conservatives like Powell out of the GOP's ranks. Powell is trying to revive an Eisenhower-style strategy of moderate Republicanism in an environment of extreme cynicism, hostility toward government and reaction. Unless Perot bankrolls Powell's effort, it appears unlikely that Powell will have the resources or state-to-state network of volunteers and paid staff necessary to run a national campaign. Colin Powell's centrist, patriotic and middleclass orientation may not be enough to mobilize millions of voters who are simultaneously alienated and apathetic toward

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## **EBONY ETCHINGS**

(Continued from Page 23) to their cars didn't seem to help some of his customers feel any safer in the area, or encourage them to hang out at "Charlie's Live" like they used to do, prior to the neighborhood going down.

As a businessman fighting to hang on to the remains of his business plus survive in a neighborhood in need of revitalization, or as father who still grieves over the tragic loss of a son, and as a citizen who's tired of seeing policeman hanging tags on the toes of shooting victims on Florence Avenue, he knew he had to try

and do something to salvage his business and help make the community a better place.

He became a self appointed committee of one, and started reaching out to others. He directed his one man campaign at other business owners on Florence Avenue, encouraging them to stay and help rebuild the community. His fatherly conversations with youngsters in the community is aimed at getting them to do something positive in the neighborhood instead of being a part of the destructive forces wrecking the community; and seemingly his

medical students

program, benefits in several

to reinforce the things that we

have learned. We are able to

know the highs school students,

and we are able to teach them

hands-on material that they don't

see often. We encourage them

and serve as tangible resources."

in the partnership program this

fall, of whom 85 percent are

minorities and 78 percent are

women. Because of it's success,

Yale has added a new program

for 15 advanced biology students to learn with cell biology and

Forty students are enrolled

"It is an exciting opportunity

one man campaign is catching

However, he is keenly aware that it's definitely going to take much more than his one on one campaign and convincing conversations with other African American business owners and neighborhood gang members to completely turn neighborhood around. He also points out the need for neighborhood youngsters to have jobs that pay them decent salaries, build or provide gyms and recreation centers that youngsters can go to, instead of hanging out on street corners

where the temptation to do something wrong is ever present.

He is also hoping that he can encourage other African American businessmen and women, community organizations and civic leaders to come togetherand take a serious stand to promote the preservation and support of black owned community businesses, plus develop solutions to increase the safety and welfare of community life in inner-city communities of Los Angeles.

He strongly believes that if enough seriously concerned African American people in any given neighborhood got together to initiate a working community program aimed at making things in their own neighborhoods better, they would certainly be in a much\_stronger position to demand and receive federal, state and city funding, support and assistance, to bring about positive and productive changes in any given inner city neighborhood.

Let's hearit for Edwin "Lucius" Bell, who is really trying hard to make thing better in his part of the hood...and that's Hollywood this time!!

Until the next time Lanier.

## AAMC FORUA

(Continued from Page 17) partnership program. "These students .. can touch, feel, and look at the cadevers, but they don't actively dissect [them]," he said. He and Mrs. Neighbors, along with Maxine Whitehead, director of the medical school's Office for Minority Affairs, organized the course to parallel the medical curriculum somewhat.

"One of the program's strongest points ... is the role modeling which occurs," Dr. Stewart said. "The 15 first-and second-year medical students, many of whom are minorities themselves, volunteer as mentors and tutors in the laboratory. They are, on average, only five years older ... so they are excellent role models."

neuroanatomy laboratories. NAARPR REPO

(Continued from Page 3) not suggest that with the idea that we all remove ineffective people and put in effective people and expand our vision to look into running in areas were we do not hold the majority, but where we can put someone with honesty, integrity, and courage,

(traits recognized by the greater Las Vegas community) in office so that people of the Las Vegas Valley can begin to control their own destiny and not have it controlled by the Plantation

La Lucha Continua! The Struggle Continues!

**CAMPAIGN 2000** 

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million. "If America is going to be competitive in the 21st century, we have to give these institutions the capabilities," said UNCF President and CEO, William H. Gray, III. "It gives me great pleasure to acknowledge Lotus as an investment partner in a most critical endeavor."

UNCF, which celebrates it's 50th Anniversary this year, is one of the leading higher education support organizations in the country, having raised nearly \$1 billion. It has been ranked among the leading U.S. charities by Money, Forbes, and The Non Profit Times.

Heather Lync, a second-year Fourteen of these students completed the anatomy program coordinates the medical student last year. volunteers in the anatomy

The Association of American Medical Colleges represents all Administration medical centers; 91 academic and professional societies representing 70,000 faculty members; and the nation's medical students and

126 accredited U.S. medical schools, the 16 accredited Canadian medical schools; some 400 major teaching hospitals, including 74 Veterans

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## FOR THE LADIES

(Continued from Page 19)

merchants to put at least some of their profits back into the community providing help to churches, schools, food programs, homeless shelters, etc. Merchants are expected to help clean up the areas that need help and provide community service when needed.

This road to financial stability and economic independence for the Westside is a two-way street. Merchants and residents have to work together to bring West Las Vegas to the level of development that it is capable of achieving. Let's all do our part.

