

## This Week in History

### SEPTEMBER 16

#### Independence Day - Papua New Guinea

1893 - The Oklahoma land rush into the territory's Cherokee strip begins. Among the participants is E.P. McCabe, who will establish the all-African-American town of Liberty a few days later. McCabe was also involved in the earlier establishment of the African-American town of Langston, Okla., named for John Mercer Langston, Virginia's first African-American congressman.

1921 - Jon Carl Hendricks, who will become an influential singer in the jazz group Lambert, Hendricks and Ross, is born in Newark, Ohio.

1925 - Blues great B.B. King is born in Indianola, Miss. Playing his guitar, nicknamed Lucille, King will have over 50 hit blues albums and win a 1970 Grammy for *The Thrill Is Gone*.

1933 - Emperor Jones, starring Paul Robeson as Brutus Jones, is released by United Artists. It is Robeson's first starring movie role and the first major Hollywood production starring an African-American with whites in supporting roles.

1989 - Debye Turner, a senior at the University of Missouri Veterinary School, is crowned Miss America. She is the third African-American to win the crown since the pageant began in 1921.

1990 - Keenen Ivory Wayans' *In Living Color* wins an Emmy for Outstanding Comedy Series.

### SEPTEMBER 17

1879 - Andrew "Rube" Foster, father of Negro League baseball, is born in Galveston, Tex.

1968 - Julia premieres on NBC with Diahann Carroll in the title role. It is the first modern television show to star an African-American woman since Beulah in the 1950's.

1970 - The Flip Wilson Show premieres on NBC. Starring the New Jersey comedian born as Clerow Wilson, it is the first prime-time variety show starring an African-American male since the Nat King Cole Show.

1973 - Illinois becomes the first state to honor Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.'s birthday as a holiday.

1983 - Vanessa Williams, Miss New York State, is named Miss America in Atlantic City, N.J., the first African-American winner in the history of the pageant. Williams will relinquish her crown after a 1984 scandal and later stage a remarkable comeback through a stellar recording career, which includes her multimillion-selling album, *The Right Stuff*.

1990 - *The Content of Our Character* is published by San Jose State University professor Shelby Steele. The book will attract controversy because of its provocative positions on affirmative action and race relations and win a 1992 National Book Award.

1991 - Ground is broken for the Harold Washington wing of the DuSable Museum in Chicago, Ill. Founded by artist and poet Margaret T. Burroughs in 1961, the DuSable is one of the oldest African-American museums in the U.S.

### SEPTEMBER 18

1850 - Congress passes the Fugitive Slave Act, a part of the Compromise of 1850. The act offers federal officers a fee for captured slaves.

1895 - Booker T. Washington makes a speech at the Cotton States and International Exposition in Atlanta, Ga. Known as the "Atlanta Compromise" speech, Washington advocates acceptance of a subordinate role for African-Americans, espouses peaceful coexistence with white Southerners, and calls agitation over the question of social equality "the extremist folly." The speech, which reportedly leaves some African-American listeners in tears and will incur the wrath of W.E.B. Du Bois and others, secures Washington's reputation among whites as a successor to Frederick Douglass.

1951 - Dr. Benjamin Solomon Carson, Sr., neurosurgeon, is born in Detroit, Mich.

1980 - Cosmonaut Arnold Tamayo, a Cuban, becomes the first black sent on a mission in space.

1990 - Atlanta, Ga., is selected as the site of the XXV Olympiad Summer Games. Mayor Maynard H. Jackson says the 1996 Summer Games will be the "single biggest continuous infusion of economic development to Atlanta in the history of the city under any circumstances." It is the second time the city hosting the games is led by an African-American mayor. (See History, Page 20)

## Sisters

(Continued from Page 1)

fresh, especially after sister Serena beat Hingis for the championship.

And winning the doubles crown 4-6, 6-1, 6-4 over Chanda Rubin and Sandrine Testud was small consolation.

"It doesn't help at all," Venus said of the doubles title. "It never helps. I'll never forget. I'm bitter."

She sat there, poker-faced, as sister Serena talked about how popular she has become at age 17.

"It's actually impossible for me to go out now," she said. "I can't go anywhere. From the beginning of the tournament, I just can't walk down the street."

"It's the same (at home). You're driving, people honk their horns. It's actually kind of annoying. You can get in a major accident."

Now, Venus offered some advice.

"I don't respond to any honks of the horn," she said. "I don't look. Honking is not good."

## Williams

(Continued from Page 1)

do it is one thing and to say it is another."

Moments later, Williams received a congratulatory phone call from President Clinton and daughter Chelsea from New Zealand.

"I thought for sure my day couldn't get any better," Williams said. "The next thing they told me is the president of the United States wanted to talk. I was, like, wow."

Williams' victory guaranteed that two Americans would carry away the U.S. Open singles titles, since Andre Agassi and Todd Martin will meet for the men's title Sunday.

Venus Williams had her shots at Hingis, but lost to her at 17 in the 1997 U.S. Open final and in an exhausting semifinal that left her quivering with cramps Friday.

"Venus was so bummed," Serena said. "She felt so bad because her legs had totally given out. She was really down, and that encouraged me to be even tougher out there."

Serena, who will move up in the rankings from No. 6 to No. 4, proved too much for Hingis to handle in the critical moments that made the difference in a brilliant match filled with feverish baseline rallies, speedy forays to the net and an array of lobs and drop shots.

Serena went on, saying that in the aftermath of her singles championship, there had been 21 messages on her cell phone, an all-time high. "I think I'm very popular now," she gushed.

Venus popped some peanuts as her kid sister went on.

There was the matter of the Williams' newsletter, published monthly. "I think I might make the cover," Serena said.

Venus smiled thinly.

"You know, there was an all-Czech quarterfinal or fourth round," she said. "We could do that for the front cover."

The sisters won \$1.5 million at the Open, \$915,000 going to Serena, the remainder to Venus. Had she thought about that, about what she might do with nearly \$1 million earned in two days? Serena let out a whoop that startled the puppy sitting on her lap.

Venus looked over at her sister and offered a reminder. "You have a quarterly (tax)



VENUS AND SERENA WILLIAMS

to pay pretty soon," she said.

It was as if Serena's conscience was speaking, reminding her about responsibility. The day before, Venus watched without much emotion as her kid sister won the singles crown.

Afterward, she said she felt she shared in the championship.

"I'm really glad she was able to win because that means that in a way, I also have a U.S. Open title," she said.

On Sunday, she really did, getting her name on the

doubles trophy — right alongside her little sister, Serena.

At the start of the doubles final, some people must have wondered if the girls had been out partying after Serena's victory the night before.

The Williams sisters dropped the first five games in the first set. It was as if they had never met, never played tennis together, never took over the U.S. Open.

And then, quite suddenly, they remembered where they were and who they are. And after that, it was just a matter of time.

looked weary.

"Usually I react much quicker, but today it was like slow motion," Hingis said.

Williams had a chance now to close out the match with two serves. On the first, she barely missed an ace, but in the ensuing rally she skimmed the net with an approach shot, forcing Hingis to try a defensive backhand lob that drifted long.

Williams finally put the match away on her next serve

when Hingis hit another backhand long.

Richard Williams, Serena's father and coach, said he thought Hingis looked scared late in the match, a comment that brought a surprised response from Hingis, who won the Australian Open this year and was runner-up at the French Open.

"I wasn't the only person at the end who was scared," (See Williams, Page 7)

Treat

Natural

Gas With

# Respect



General Safety:

365-1555

Call Before You Dig:

1-800-227-2600



If you ever smell the rotten egg odorant added to natural gas or suspect a problem, please call Southwest Gas anytime 24-hours a day, whether you're a Southwest Gas customer or not. And if you're digging a hole or trench, at home or on the job, always Call Before You Dig. Safety is a responsibility we all share.