

## C O M M E N T A R Y

## Ad links race, sex and Monday Night Football

By George E. Curry  
Special to Sentinel-Voice

The brouhaha over actress Nicollette Sheridan, star of "Desperate Housewives," seducing Philadelphia Eagles wide receiver Terrell Owens in the locker room prior to a recent Monday Night Football game is taking on a life of its own. This uneasiness over the



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commercial for one of ABC's hottest shows extends beyond what is appropriate viewing on network television. It goes to the core of White supremacists' greatest fear—a sexual union between a Black man and a White woman.

America has never had a problem with interracial liaisons as long as they were confined to White men and Black women. Thomas Jefferson and the late Sen. Strom Thurmond, a longtime segregationist from South Carolina, are but two examples. And although Americans now show far more tolerance toward interracial romance, opposition to the idea dates back to the earliest days of this country.

A 1691 Virginia law provided: "Whosoever White man or woman being free shall intermarry with a negro shall be committed to prison for six months without bail, pay 10 pounds to the use of the parish. Ministers marrying such persons shall pay 10,000 pounds of tobacco."

Writing in his excellent book, "In the Matter of Color," A. Leon Higginbotham Jr. noted that if a free Black man had sexual relations with a White woman in South Carolina during the Colonial period, he would automatically lose his freedom.

Gunnar Myrdal, in his landmark study, "American Dilemma," published in 1944, wrote about the South's "fixation on the purity of White womanhood." He said, "The South has an obsession with sex which helps to make this region quite irrational in dealing with Negroes generally..."

The book, "100 Years of Lynchings," a collection of newspaper articles edited by Ralph Ginzburg, carries numerous articles that illustrate that irrationality.

On April 10, 1912, the Montgomery Advertiser in Alabama carried a story from Shreveport, La. that stated, "Tom Miles, a negro, aged 29, was hanged to a tree here and his body filled with bullets early today. He had been tried in police court yesterday on a charge of writing insulting notes to a White girl, employed in a department store, but was acquitted for lack of proof."

The Chicago Defender carried a story datelined Feb. 26, 1915 from Cedar Keys, Fla. that stated, "Young Reed, Negro, of (See Curry, Page 10)

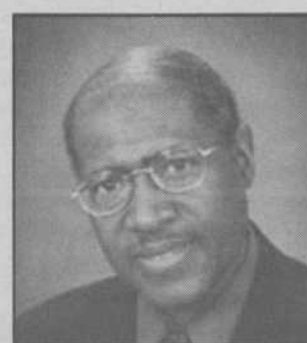
## It not morality, money won the election, stupid

By Ron Walters  
Special to Sentinel-Voice

Did you know that 28 percent of Black folks in Oklahoma voted for George Bush? Why? There has been a lot of talk about what drove this election and especially the miraculous Republican turnout edge against Democrats that was caused by the hot issue of gay marriage that stimulated the Religious Right to show up at the polls in big numbers. Well, I have my doubts about that.

The proof is that when you look at the national exit polls, of those who voted for George Bush, the top issue was "terrorism" at 86 percent. Those who valued "moral issues" were second, with 80 percent. Those who thought that the Iraq war protected them from terrorism supported Bush by 90 percent while those who wanted no legal recognition for same-sex couples was much less at 70 percent and those who supported civil unions for them was a healthy 52 percent. This tells me that the issues of terrorism and Iraq were the real driving issues and that the base motivation was fear.

I do not discount the moral issues altogether, since it appears that some folks, including some Black folks, did support it more than before. For example, Black support for Bush rose in the following states



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over the national average of 11 percent: California, 18 percent; Florida, 13 percent; New Jersey, 17 percent; Ohio, 16 percent; Pennsylvania, 16 percent; South Carolina, 15 percent; and Texas, 16 percent. These are some important states with big Black populations and big electoral votes.

So, why did this happen?

One answer is that the pre-election poll by the Joint Center for Political and Economic Studies was right. It showed a 100 percent increase in Black support for Bush, from 9 percent in 2000 to 18 percent this year. We know that the national average Black support for Bush was only 11 percent, but the reason that it increased in some states may have been due to the moral issues of gay-marriage, which was on the ballot in 11 states.

I wrote about this before the election expressing some concern that some of our ministers were ready to reduce the priority of the bread-and-butter issues of their congregations and elevate gay marriage as a voting issue in their place. In fact, a friend of mine told me that his sister's pastor said that she would go to hell if she voted for John Kerry because of his sinful views.

I'm sure that some of this happened. (See Walters, Page 10)

## George Bush's surgery and his new Rice-based diet

By James Clingman  
Special to Sentinel-Voice

After winning another chance to get things right, though many believe he will just continue to mess things up, and having his recent Colinectomy performed, George Bush is feeling great these days. He has a new lease on life, a new "mandate" from 51 percent of the people, which he plans to use to the fullest; and he can't wait to swear, once again, his allegiance to the people and to God, of course, on that glorious day in January 2005. By the way, Bush will pay even closer attention to his diet, especially after having that Colinectomy surgery, by making sure he has an even larger serving of that very important staple: Rice.

Don't get me wrong, George Bush was in pretty good shape prior to his surgery but now, as he adheres to his Rice diet, his endurance, his strength, and even his swagger will be much more pronounced. What's the reason for his state of rejuvenated health? His vibrant revival? His resurgence of strength? It's Rice. Bush has discovered a new source of Rice. He doesn't have to rely on someone laboring in a paddy to grow his special Rice; he discovered how to harvest it right in his own backyard, back in Crawford, Texas or there at the White House.

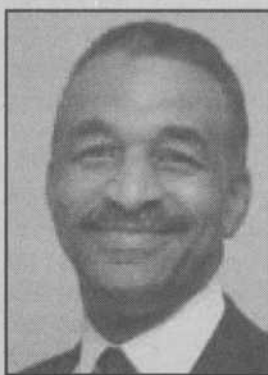
Daddy Bush really made the discovery, after hearing about the formula from his Uncle Reagan, back in late 1980s; he passed it on to his son George "Dubya" in 2000. During his first four years, Bush was not

getting enough Rice in his diet and began to suffer from a Colin problem. He began to have severe bouts of insomnia, cramping, and a lot of indigestion from having to eat his words about non-existent weapons of mass destruction and why he went to war. His Colin was really acting up; it started rejecting the Rice and the Rum Bush was ingesting. Thus, he had to take drastic measures to relieve his pain and suffering.

"More Rice!" Bush screamed, "I need more Rice in my diet." So he summoned his surgeons to the oval office and told them to take care of it. They had to make sure Bush could get more Rice into his system for the next four years, and not just any Rice; he wanted the best; he wanted Brown Rice in its purest unadulterated form. He wanted that special brand of Rice his father had introduced him to, that select harvest of Rice called Condi Rice.

"After all," he rationalized, "Now that my Colin has been taken out, I need something fine and smooth, yet high in fiber, to keep me going for next four years."

Bush has his supply of Rice now, all he will ever need, and little did he know that it grew very close by. Little did he know that this exclusive form of Rice grew in Bushes rather than in a field of shallow water. Of course, when the Rice was designated as the



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diet of choice for the president, the Rice responded by saying, "Mr. President, I am honored to serve you!" The Rice was so overjoyed it could hardly hold back its glee at having been elevated to such a prestigious position.

So, now that George Bush has what he needs to maintain his health, his glow, his strut, and especially his strength, the world had better watch out now.

Armed with his new Rice diet, Dubya will begin a barnstorming tour across the Middle East after January's inauguration; first stop: Iran. He will then take on Europe, Russia, China, and that pesky little mess between the Palestinians and Israelis, just as his advisers instructed him to do.

Funny, they didn't say anything about Africa. Go figure. Considering the hundreds of thousands of murdered and now starving Sudanese, maybe he will get around to it someday. Maybe he will even share his Brown Rice with those hungry children in Africa. Heretofore, that special brand of Rice has been denied entrance into Africa.

Things are looking up folks. Our president has thrown off his sackcloth and Ashcroft; he has turned the Paige on education in this country; he has promoted his good buddy, Speedy Gonzales, to "Top Cop" of the land; and he continues on a spending spree with his new political capital. As he said, "I intend to

spend it."

His next move will be to appoint more members of the Supremes. Can there really be another Sambo waiting in the wings to get in the chorus line and sing Swanee with Clarence "Set the ladder on fire" Thomas? Here's a thought: How about playing an even funnier joke than his father did, and elevate Ol' Clarence to lead singer in the Supremes? I'm telling you, brothers and sisters, watch out, George is feelin' his Rice.

His Republican Party is following suit. They arrogantly changed the rules to protect the dastardly Tom DeLay, just in case he gets indicted for political corruption.

They want to make sure he can keep his leadership position in the House. So what if he is corrupt? Maybe he will even be able to legislate from jail. Republicans are also turning against their own, which is obvious by the braggadocio followed by the mea culpa of Arlen Specter. It's going to be fun to watch, folks.

No more Colin problems for George Bush; he's on a strict Brown Rice diet now, and he is definitely ready to take it to his political adversaries. "And now, ladies and gentlemen, let's get ready to rumble! In the red corner, just back from his recent Colinectomy and now on his new Rice diet, the Lightweight Champion of the world, Geoooooerrrge Buuuuuussh!"

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