Dr. James Bowman one of the Tuskegee Airmen from World War Two recently decorated by the President Bush with the Congressional Medal of Honor is pictured here from a Black History Month celebration at Mercy Medical Center. Also pictured with him is Mercy Medical Center’s Jacquie Easley.

President Maxwell appointed to Noel-Levitz Group

Drake University President David Maxwell (pictured) has been appointed to the inaugural Educational Leadership Advisory Group for Noel-Levitz, one of the nation’s leading higher education consulting firms.

According to Noel-Levitz, Maxwell was selected as a charter member of the eight-member group based on his professional achievements and recognition, high level of respect from others in higher education, diversity of perspective and experience, and willingness to serve. He will participate in a number of teleconference and in-person meetings to share insights and perspectives on identified issues, trends and concerns in higher education. His term will begin this summer.

“The leadership at Noel-Levitz discussed who would provide us with the best perspective on higher education issues facing four-year private institutions, and Dr. Maxwell’s name was the first that came up in that conversation,” said Jim Mager, associate vice president of Noel-Levitz. “We’re so pleased he accepted our invitation.”

The other seven members of the Educational Leadership Advisory Group are Carol Aslanian, CEO of the Ashton Group; John Gardner, executive director of the Policy Center on the First Year of College; Tally Hart, senior advisor for economic access at Ohio State University; Charles Schroeder, vice president of North Georgia College and State University; Candace Vancko, president of State University of New York at Delhi; Dennis Pruitt, vice president of the University of South Carolina; and Brenda Williams, professor of English and education at the University of New Haven.

“I am delighted to join this diverse group of higher education professionals to engage in an ongoing conversation about the challenges that confront us,” Maxwell said. “My participation in the group will also enable Drake University to have access to a vital stream of information and perspectives that will be of use to us as we shape the University’s future.”

Noel-Levitz is a nationally recognized consulting firm specializing in higher education student recruitment, financial aid, student retention, market research and Web and communications development. Since 1973, Noel-Levitz has partnered with more than 1,800 colleges and universities throughout North America. Noel-Levitz has offices in Denver, Iowa City, Iowa, and Braidtree, Mass., and is a wholly owned subsidiary of SLM Corporation—commonly known as Sallie Mae, the nation’s leading provider of education funding.

Polk County Health

Department to hold third “Diabetes Day”

On Friday, April 13, 2007, from 8am-12 noon, Polk County Health Department will hold the third “Diabetes Day” at its clinic at 1907 Carpenter Avenue in Des Moines. Spanish interpreters will be available.

“We will provide screenings, education about medication, and care management information for people with diabetes, or those at risk for diabetes, “said Terri Henkels, Polk County Health Department Director. It is recommended that people fast for 8 hours.

Fifty-one people were screened for diabetes at the Diabetes Day held on March 9, 2007. Ten people were identified as diabetic. Three of them knew they were diabetic, but the others were new diagnoses. Eighteen people were found to be pre-diabetic. The others were in the normal range.

“During their visits, someone with diabetes will be able to meet with a Drake pharmacist, a dietitian, a diabetic educator and a nurse practitioner. They will learn about diabetes and how best to manage their disease,” said Pam Lester, RN, Polk County Health Department Nurse Educator.

Diabetes is a chronic disease that can increase the risk for heart disease, kidney disease, peripheral vascular disease and blindness. Certain racial and ethnic populations, the elderly, rural residents and people who lower incomes are disproportionately affected by diabetes and its complications. Based on the 1999 Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System data, Polk County residents had been told they had diabetes.

Screenings will be available, free of charge, to any Polk County resident. “Patients diagnosed with diabetes will receive free care, except for their medication. They will also receive, for free, a diabetic meter, one month’s supply of strips and lancets”, said Nancy Thurtell, ARNP, Polk County Health Department Nurse Practitioner. Additional strips, at a reduced cost, are available while supplies last.

Former Clinton advisor Vernon Jordan to retire from J. C. Penney

PLANO, Texas (AP) - J.C. Penney Co. said Wednesday that bankr Vernon E. Jordan Jr. will retire from the retailer’s board on Aug. 15.

Penney said in a regulatory filing that Jordan will step down upon turning 72, in accordance with the company’s bylaws. He has been a director at the department store operator since 1973.

Jordan was an adviser to President Clinton in the 1990s and was previously president and executive director of the National Urban League. He has also been a senior managing director of investment bankers Lazard Freres & Co., and a senior partner at the law firm of Akin, Gump, Strauss, Hauer & Feld LLP.
The one cent sales tax

Should we pay an extra tax to fund real estate tax relief for large corpora-
tions and attractions like the zoo, ice skating, Principal Park, the river walk and
other planned developments that fall under the heading: cultural amenities? I
wrote a few weeks ago about our vote having meaning. Well on July 10th we
have an opportunity to have our voices heard loud and clear.

July 10th is the day we are asked to vote for or against the one cent sales tax
or a 17% increase in our sales tax. With that said we must ask questions about
the tax and who actually will benefit from a yes vote. The list of supporters is
long and full of who’s who of business. The biggest winners in this vote will
be the large property owners, apartment owners. Homeowners should receive
some relief, but at what cost?

Ask yourself should we pay extra so that corporations and attractions that
have not shown us we are even wanted in their businesses or venues, can get
large tax breaks and cash infusions to develop and enlarge their attractions?
We have to ask more questions and be strong in our resolve to get the respect
we deserve from people who think we don’t have an educated vote/voice.

The plan has some good aspects but it falls short in some major areas. The
City of Des Moines stands to gain big if this tax passes and the cash windfall
will be spent mainly on tax relief for big business and attractions.

The city does not have enough of a plan for human services or residents
major needs.

So ask! Do your research to find out who will gain and who loses with a vote
for the one cent sales tax on July 10th. Then, make an educated vote for or
against the tax, but at least it will be with your voice and it will be heard loud
and clear!

Moving toward change JB

As sponsor and host, Des Moines University is proud to support the AIDS
Project of Central Iowa’s annual walk/ run on April 14.

“This event raises awareness of HIV/AIDS in central Iowa and honors friends
and family members who are living with, or had lived with HIV/AIDS,”
explained Luke H. Mortensen, Ph.D., FAHA, professor of physiology and
pharmacology at Des Moines University. “All proceeds from this event will
support The AIDS Project of Central Iowa which assists people living with
HIV/AIDS and works to prevent future HIV infection.”

The sixth annual race begins at 10 a.m. at Des Moines University. Particip-
ants can register online at www.aidsprojectci.org or at the door on race day beginning at 8 a.m. Race
packets can be picked up on Friday, April 13, from noon until 6 p.m. at the
Des Moines University Academic Cen-
ter (north entrance), 3440 Grand Av-
ue. The event will begin at the same
location the next morning. The course
takes participants on a one-mile walk
or 5K run through the south of Grand
neighborhood.

Participation fees are $25 for adults
and $10 for children 12 years old and
younger (both include a t-shirt.) Chil-
dren can participate for free if they opt
to not receive a shirt. “Des Moines University student,

Des Moines University site for
sixth annual AIDS walk/run

Build it and they will come! No statement could better sum up the past
year and the public’s response to the new library. Here are just a few of the
record-setting numbers that have been served. Since Saturday, April 8, 2006,
the Central Library, located at 1000 Grand Avenue, and its staff:

- Circulated over 500,000 items, more than 85,000 visi-
tors
- Made public computers available for more than 100,000 internet ses-
sions
- Answered (in person) more than 67,000 reference questions
- Retrieved almost 69,000 holds.

Sunday, April 8th marked the one-
year anniversary of the opening of the
new Central Library.

The new Central Library is the
centerpiece of a ten-year plan to rein-
vigorate the Des Moines Public Li-
brary system, designed to give current
and future library customers access to
the many resources they need and
desire.

For further comparison purposes,
(since the old library was closed dur-
ing the move) it is helpful to look at a
comparison of April to December 2006
with the same period at the old
library at 100 Locust Avenue.

During that period there was a 126%
increase in circulation of materials
from 170,570 to 389,221; there was a
218% increase in library visits from
141,337 to 450,008; and there was a
150% increase in patron assistance in
person from 21,169 to 52,854.

In addition to these outstanding
percentage increases, the library has
also experienced phenomenal growth
in programs—both in the number of
events offered and the attendance at
those events. Web site hits have sky-
rocketed and new online services such
as Online Book Clubs and Tumblebooks for kids have recently
been added. And for teen readers, the
library has just created its own My
Space! Several new teen programs
have been added and our storytime
hours continue to serve hundreds of
children in the downtown area.

Every day, we hear from custom-
customers who are happy with our new pickup
window, the wireless internet access,
the additional Saturday Specials for families, our Express Checkout serv-
ices, and the list goes on and on. To
help our out-of-town friends, the library has
been tremendous in the past and we
hope to have a terrific show of support
this year as well,” Mortensen said.

“Awareness and prevention of health
epidemics, such as HIV, is key to the
wellness of our community.”

Performances by the brass band
and appearances by Spike, the Drake Bull-
dog, and Cubbie, the I-Cubs mascot,
will entertain the crowd until awards
are presented at 11 a.m. Awards will be
given for several age and weight groups
and to those raising the most donations.

For more information about the
event, visit www.aidsprojectci.org. For
directions to the Des Moines Univer-
sity campus, please visit www.dmu.edu.

Central Library Celebrates First Year at 1000 Grand

Local “amenities” like the Principal Park will profit from the sales tax
increase. Do you feel welcome there? Ask yourself, who will this tax help?
“A Memorial and More” Celebrates the Power of Voices

Sitting at the dining room table with Reverend Henry Bevel, the question came from eleven-year-old Gabe San Elias, “If Dr. King was alive today, what do you think he would say to us?” Without hesitation, Reverend Bevel, said, “I think he would have the same message—love your enemies, don’t do evil for evil, love your neighbors.” He continued, looking directly at Gabe and his friends and fellow-eleven-year-olds, Shantnez Davis and Austin Leovan, “He would say to you, ‘You are special. Live out the gifts God has given you.’”

One of the gifts Austin, Gabe, and Shantnez have been given is the gift of their voices. They are using their voices to change the world. As participants in programs at Children and Family Urban Ministries (CFUM), these boys, and over forty other students, are preparing for “A Memorial and More” on Sunday, April 15 at 3:00 p.m. The voices of these children will lead the community in fulfilling two dreams: the dream of a Martin Luther King, Jr. Memorial in Washington D.C. and the dream of restored lives for children in war-torn Uganda.

Austin, Gabe, and Shantnez are a part of the planning team which also includes Michael Hardat, also eleven. All of the boys are students at Moulton Extended Learning Center. They came to Reverend Bevel because they heard that he had been privileged to hear Dr. King speak. Bevel told the boys that just a few minutes into Dr. King’s speech audience members who were clapping were vehemently shushed because others did not want to miss a word that Dr. King said. Reverend Bevel recalled that he used no notes, that he “drew word pictures,” that he urged the audience to self-respect and determination no matter what limits others tried to impose upon them.

There were limits. Reverend Bevel, as a young man aspired to be a dentist, but soon realized that in that time and place—mid-20th century in south Georgia—there was no process by which a Black man could study, be licensed for, and practice dentistry. Reverend Bevel instead turned to teaching. He was the only Black male teacher from the Black high school to be retained in his community when the Black and White high schools merged. His assignment was to teach history (his experience had been exclusively math and science) to a classroom of Black and White students who no one expected to succeed because they were from “the wrong side of the tracks.” The hope was that he would fail. He did not. He succeeded to the point that the next year he was deemed the “best history teacher” and “rewarded” with a classroom full of privileged students, his former students now relegated to the poorer teacher. Students from his first class still keep in touch with Reverend Bevel, including a successful dentist and a Lieutenant Colonel in the Air Force.

When the boys asked how Reverend Bevel felt inspired by Dr. King, he responded, again without hesitation, “He did not forget where he came from. He didn’t have to go to pastor a small church in Montgomery. He had a Ph.D. but he went to that church, he remembered where he came from. He was a good student—which said to me ‘Hang in there with your books and you might go somewhere.’ He was not afraid to say what was on his mind.”

“Dr. King Lives! In You and Me!” is the theme of “A Memorial and More.” Although we remember in April the anniversary of Dr. King’s assassination, and although a memorial is being built in his memory on the National Mall in Washington D.C.—Dr. King’s spirit and ideals and legacy alive within and among us must be celebrated! At the event on April 15 that celebration will feature words of greeting from community leaders including Dr. Vincent Lewis, Ms. Marlene Dobly, Ms. Cynthia Hanafa, and Ms. Teresa Zilk; performances by local artists, including the Gateway Dance Theater; and poetry, essays, and art by children who participate in CFUM programs. The poetry, essays, and art are entries in contests in those respective fields. The poetry contest is being judged by poets, Brandie Young and Leonard Bell; the essay contest by writer, Rebecca Christian and retired teacher, Sherry Robinson; the art contest by artists Jean-Marie Salem and Robert Shultz. A free will offering will be taken at the event. Half of the proceeds will go to build the Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Memorial. The other half will go as a gift in Dr. King’s name to ChildVoice International, an organization with ties to Des Moines, working with children affected by the war in Uganda. Business contributions are also being sought.

Voices: Continued on page 9

Iowa Civil Rights Commission
Working Toward A State Free of Discrimination
Enforcement of Civil Rights Laws
Education and Training for Groups, Individuals and Organizations
Raising the Profile of Civil Rights and Diversity

For more information, or questions, or concerns, please contact us at:
400 E. 14th Street
Des Moines, Iowa 50319
515-281-4121 or 1-800-457-4416
www.state.ia.us/government/crc

“We have a powerful potential in our youth, and we must have the courage to change old ideas and practices so that we may direct their power toward good ends.”

-- Mary McLeod Bethune

Front: Reverend Henry Bevel, Back: Austin Leovan, Gabriel San Elias, and Shantnez Davis
Children and Stress

Children experience stress just as adults do but it often goes unrecognized. Today the pace of life is faster and changes occur rapidly and frequently. There are many factors that contribute to stress in children’s lives. Children often experience stress from ongoing situations, some of which may be beyond their control. Family upheavals due to death or divorce, family health problems, tension and quarrelling in the home lead to children’s fear and anxiety, and contribute to chronic stress.

Signs and signals that indicate a child might be experiencing undue stress include:

- Recurring headaches, tummy aches or neck pain
- Increased irritability, sadness, panic, anger
- Being more quiet than usual
- Trouble relaxing or sleeping
- Lethargy, daydreaming, withdrawal from activities
- Excessive energy or restlessness
- Reverting to less mature behaviors
- Nervous habits such as nail biting, hair twisting, or thumb sucking
- Trouble getting along with friends

Children who have experienced stress for some time need extra patience and reassurance. They might respond to a combination of the following:

- Physical contact- hugging helps children relax and builds self-esteem
- Listening- ask children how they feel
- Encouragement- help children find something they are good at and tell them how proud you are of them
- Honesty and openness- talk and encourage children to express their feelings openly
- Security- try to be consistent
- Physical Exercise- exercise helps burn off stressful feelings
- Humor- help children see the funny side of things
- Quiet- allow for quiet time
- Balanced diet- encourage children to eat a healthy, varied diet

Find out about any significant events in your child’s life. Caring adults are very important for children. Provide an environment that promotes a relaxed lifestyle.

For more information contact:
Children’s Center at Mercy
1-888-4122
www.mercydesmoines.org

Iowans in Transition RFP Released

The Iowa Commission on the Status of Women has issued a request for proposals (RFP) for grant awards to fund programs with pre-employment services to Iowans in Transition. Awards are contingent upon receipt of funding from the State of Iowa as appropriated by the 2007 Session of the 82nd General Assembly and signed by Governor Culver.

For these grant funds Iowan in Transition must meet the definition of displaced homemaker, single parent, or female offender. The deadline for receipt of proposals in the office of the Division on the Status of Women in the Department of Human Rights is no later than 4 p.m. on Friday, May 25, 2007.

The RFP is available on the website at www.state.ia.us/dhr/sw or by calling the office at 281-4461 or 800/558-4427.

It’s a sad dog won’t wag its own tail!

We complain because the “mainstream” media and the entertainment community portray Black youth in a negative light. We know the truth, however. We have kids in our community doing some amazing things. At Iowa Bystander we want to celebrate those accomplishments. To tell your child’s story email it and photos to iowabystanderarticles@yahoo.com.

“Put it before them briefly so they will read it, clearly so they will appreciate it, picturesquely so they will remember it and, above all, accurately so they will be guided by it’s light.” — Joseph Pulitzer
Beaten Ohio governor candidate upbeat about his new assignments

COLUMBUS, Ohio (AP) - The booming voice and conservative message were familiar.

Ken Blackwell (pictured) was speaking to an audience, most of them black men, about the joys and hard work of marriage and how important families are in life.

“We are not going to win back our schools, we are not going to strengthen our schools until we strengthen our marriages,” the 2006 Republican candidate for governor told the crowd during a recent luncheon speech.

Blackwell, 59, the first black Republican to seek the state’s highest office, has re-emerged into public life since his devastating loss Nov. 7 to Democrat Ted Strickland, who collected 60 percent of the vote.

After three months of laying low - for the spotlight-hugging Blackwell anyway - he’s been a busy man. On Feb. 15, the Buckeye Institute, a conservative think tank based in Columbus, announced Blackwell had signed on as a senior fellow.

The Washington, D.C.-based Family Research Council, a group that promotes conservative values, appointed Blackwell as a senior fellow for “family empowerment.” He also is writing commentary for Salem Radio Network, both associated with the religious- and family-oriented Salem Communications Corp.

Blackwell insists he’s not spreading himself too thin.

“Part of Blackwell’s loss can be blamed on voter frustration over the war in Iraq and scandals in Washington and in Columbus, the latter resulting in former Gov. Bob Taft pleading no contest to four misdemeanor ethics charges,” Binning predicted.

But Blackwell shoulders some of the blame himself, said William Binning, chairman of the political science department at Youngstown State University and a former chairman of the Mahoning County Republican Party.

“I think the game was going to be better,” Binning said. “The book on him was he could play better than he did. He’s an articulate guy. He believes in this stuff.”

Blackwell will remain in the public light, but not on the front lines politically, Binning predicted.

“I don’t really see him as a candidate,” he said.

Blackwell, who held statewide office as treasurer and secretary of state for more than 12 years, doesn’t have plans to run either, at least for now.

“I’m focused on being fully engaged in the public policy arena, advancing ideas. All the political plans will evolve and take care of themselves,” Blackwell said.

Iowa Bystander Mission

The responsibility of the Black press is to empower the Black community through meaningful communication and leadership nurturing, and to keep the Black community informed of those issues most vital to us as a people.

Iowa Bystander

President & CEO • Jonathan R. Narcisse
Publisher • Jerald Bramley, Sr.
Associate Publisher • Gaynelle Narcisse

Guidelines For Submitting Copy:

Iowa Bystander is published weekly. Copy must be typed. Editorial, news items and press releases should be 500 words or less. Public service announcements, thank you notes, etc...should be 300 words or less. All copy is subject to the editorial policy of Iowa Bystander.

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We Both Win

Please contact our 24 hour Job Line for information.

www.aric.com
House parties were held throughout Iowa Saturday, March 31st. One of those house parties was held at the home of Mrs. Willie Glanton.
THE STATION

Once again, KIBG-FM is on the move. This is our 30th year in business in the Cedar Valley. We have grown in many ways as reflected in this brochure. With 10,000 watts of power covering a 60-mile radius, 20 employees—seven of which are youth—we want to be poised to meet the challenges in providing programming that informs, education and self-empowering to the communities we serve.

Governed by a Board of Directors, KIBG-FM is the largest African American owned and operated, non-commercial, educational radio station in Iowa. We continue to be committed to our mission and motto: Communicate to Educate. We thankfully look back on our past and anticipate our future.

Together all things can be accomplished.

Hill Novell St. Waterloo, Iowa

THE NEED

Our prediction that the 21st century would produce change, challenge, and opportunity has come true. With your help we met the challenge of digital conversion that was mandated by the Federal Communications Commission (FCC). KIBG-FM now stands ready to launch The Power to Move II campaign, with a goal of $500,000, achievable with the help of individual and corporate support. One component of this campaign is the special Leadership Circle, comprised of African Americans, who are committed to promote and support KIBG-FM within the community.

THE VISION CONTINUES

In 1996, Dr. Ross Christensen stepped into the breach and headed what was to become a landmark in KIBG-FM’s growth. Dr. Christensen, along with many others, supported the vision of KIBG-FM’s Founder and CEO, Jimmie Porter, in order that the station could continue on the path of providing access and information that educates the communities we serve in Northeast Iowa.

THE BUDGET

$100,000 - Investments
100,345 - New Addition
200,000 - New Studio Equipment
95,650 - Miscellaneous
$500,000 - Total

THE FUTURE

The Power to Move II campaign presents a threshold of unlimited possibilities for KIBG-FM. With the expansion of our new studio addition, KIBG-FM will generate additional revenue by providing studio services and expanded training opportunities to the community.

REAL WORLD EXPERIENCES

KIBG-FM offers on-the-job training and hands-on experiences for youth, interns and adults. Eleven youth who trained during the past 12 months ranged from 14 to 20 years of age. Training encompasses: (1) on-air announcing, (2) script-writing, (3) engineering, (4) interviews, and (5) production. Interns can earn class credit and/or pay, if the budget allows, and adults who have trained at KIBG-FM have become producers and have created programs that speak to the needs of the community.

PROGRAMMING

Expand, expand, expand, but keep the gold! New programming is constantly coming to the KIBG-FM airwaves that interest our listening audience, such as Money Don’t Grow on Trees, and Parents Love Your Children, but KIBG-FM also continues to provide listener favorites like Family Rewards of Life. Guarded for preschool through 12 years of age, this program has been airing on KIBG-FM for more than 20 years. We listen to our listeners.

ACCOMPLISHMENTS

• Thirty years of business in Waterloo, Iowa
• Incorporated - College Street 5/17
• Applications filed with FCC 5/24/77
• FCC Construction Permit granted 6/26/78
• Tower erected 12/30/78
• First test on air equipment test 7/2/78
• Programming: 812/78
• Upgrade to I2K watts 7/1980
• Member supported station of Corporation for Public Broadcasting 1981
• Power to Move Campaign established 2/81
• Groundbreaking 10/23/84
• Construction begins 4/17/85
• FM tower towered 2/28/86
• First day broadcast from KIBG-FM 2/21/86
• Mortgage Burning Ceremony 7/1988
• Web site and On-Air streaming 12/99
• Internet streaming - worldwide 2005
• Virtual tour via Web site
• Associate Member of National Public Radio
• Affiliate of American Urban Radio News
• Expanded political coverage
• Live sports coverage - local high school
• Softball and baseball
• Youth training and employment
• Successful Job Fair for Ivy Vest
• Much more...

Your contributions will make it happen

For more information call Jim or Lee Porter at 319-235-1515
Dear Editor:

My name is William Tom Robinson, Grand Commissioner of the Elks Grand Lodge/Grand Temple National Fire and Safety Department. Hawkeye Elks Lodge #160/Rose Temple #33 Fire and Safety Department is hosting their 8th Annual May Day Celebration on May 7th from 10:00 a.m. until 4:00 p.m. at 1401 Walker Street in Des Moines.

There will be Food Vendor’s, Fire-Safety Tips, Drill Teams, Fire House, Speakers, DJ Mellow Music Man “Randy” and much more.

For more information I can be contacted at 515-262-8008, 515-953-8768 or trobinson_85@msn.com.

11th Annual Whispers & Screams Conference Set

Juvenile justice professionals from Iowa and neighboring states will examine various issues for girls in the juvenile justice and child welfare systems at the 11th annual Whispers & Screams are hard to hear: creating an audience for girls’ voices conference being held at the Hotel at Gateway Center in Ames, Iowa, May 24th and 25th, 2007.

The theme of this year’s conference is Stand Up & Be Counted and features speakers: Dr. Charlotte Kasl, and Joe Kelly, President of Dads and Daughters. Kasl will be addressing the impact of addiction and trauma as well as ways to overcome these experiences. Kelly will speak to the issue of advocacy and turning fathers into allies.

A variety of workshops designed to address pertinent issues for those who work with young women will be offered during the course of the conference. They include but are not limited to fund raising, relational aggression, sexuality education, dating violence, music therapy, gender specific services and feminist practice.

There will be art work by the women of the Iowa Correctional Institution for Women at Mitchellville on display and the young women of the Iowa Juvenile Home choir “True Colors” will perform on Friday.

The Whispers & Screams conference is coordinated by the Iowa Gender Specific Services Task Force in association with the Iowa Commission on the Status of Women and the Division of Criminal and Juvenile Justice Planning.

Sweet Success

Sweet Success was celebrated by recognizing the participants that have successfully completed Spectrum Resources PRI Program. The Prisoner Re-entry Incentive Program was designed to assist ex-offenders in transitioning smoothly back into the flow of the community. This transition takes a large amount of effort from both the participant as well as the community. Inspirational words were spoken by the founder of Spectrum Resources, Jerald to kick off an evening of celebration. His remark “This is about the clients, not us” set the stage to keep the focus on what the program was designed to do.

Brandy, participant, has shown exceptional growth in all areas of her life since entering the program. Brandi expressed how thankful she was to the specialist as well as all of the service providers that helped her on her critical path to success as a guest speaker at the celebration. She is currently furthering her education to pursue her career in the field of cosmetology. “If you are not a part of the solution, you are part of the problem” so passionately expressed by participant Roy as a guest speaker before accepting his certificate. Roy has been gainfully employed for well over a year and is soon to graduate with a degree in Human Services to lend a helping hand to others along their journey.

Along with the participants the Service providers and employers were recognized for their role in the Prisoner Re-entry Incentive Program. “People don’t need a hand out; they need a hand up” as strongly stated by Toussaint, a service provider,” in his captivating response upon receiving his certificate of appreciation. Allen, project manager at Spectrum, stated in his closing remarks T.E.A.M (Together Everyone Accomplishes More), which seems to be the glue that is used in the relationship between Spectrum Resources staff, the Service Providers, Participants and the Employers.

The service providers were greatly appreciated for their Faith-Based Mentoring service and Financial Educational support. The Employers were recognized for their continued support in giving participants a chance to be gainfully employed. This event was one to remember and not to be missed next year.

A special thanks goes to Jamal, Executive Director of the YMCA for being such a gracious host for the celebration of success.

Submitted by Nikolle Ross

Who Can Resist Sweet Success?

WASHINGTON (AP) - Oprah Winfrey (pictured) has agreed to speak at Howard University’s commencement. The prestigious historically black university is “blessed” to have to the talk show host for the May 12 ceremonies, Howard President H. Patrick Swygert said Monday. Winfrey will receive an honorary doctor of humanities degree.

“When one thinks about the criteria for a great commencement speaker, there are a few things that come to mind: engaging, inspiring, charismatic and a champion of change,” Swygert said. “Our commencement speaker this year is certainly all that and much more.”

Howard students said they were thrilled the Chicago-based talk show host would pay them a visit.

“Wow! said Jennifer Owens, 21, a graduating senior and president of the university’s Student Government Association. “Honestly, I have followed Oprah since I was very young, very young, and I have modeled my community service to people after her.”

Submitted by Nikolle Ross
Coach Robinson remembered as role model, patriot and legend

Eddie Robinson inspired young men to do great things, to make the most of their lives. And many of those he touched never played a down for him during a 57-year coaching career at Grambling State.

“There is no question that Eddie Robinson was a figure that was larger than life for most African-American young men of that era,” Washington coach Tyrone Willingham said Tuesday.

Robinson died Tuesday at the age of 88, 10 years after he retired. He built Grambling State, a small historically black school in northern Louisiana into a football powerhouse, sending more than 200 players into the NFL and winning 408 games in a tenure that began in 1941.

“At that time, Grambling was The Program and Eddie Robinson was The Man. One of the first football camps I ever attended was in Shenandoah, Va. The reason I attended was because Eddie Robinson was going to be there. ... He stood for all the right things,” said Willingham, one of six black head coaches at 119 major college football schools.

Those who played for Robinson remembered him as a role model who influenced lives far beyond the football field.

“Wow, this guy was bigger than life itself. He really impressed me by the way he handled himself, what he believed in and what he stood for. ... I couldn’t have learned from a better coach than Robinson,” said Raiders assistant coach Willie Brown, who went on to a Hall of Fame NFL career with Oakland.

Added former Grambling quarterback James Harris, now the vice president for player personnel of the Jacksonville Jaguars: “I remember Coach really, really concerned about graduating his players and his dedication to helping his players better themselves on the field, in the classroom, and in their communities,” Bush said.

New York Yankees owner George Steinbrenner echoed the President. “He was a legendary coach, a great teacher and represented his school with pride, class and commitment.”

Doug Williams, the former NFL quarterback and Grambling star, called Robinson a true patriot.

“Nobody in America, not even the President, there ain’t nobody out there that can out-American Eddie Robinson. He loved to wave that flag,” Williams said.

And President Bush himself said Robinson was a “football legend.”

“He will be remembered for his passion for the game and his dedication to helping his players and in and out of a nursing home during the last year he had been in and out of a nursing home during the last year of his life. Robinson was diagnosed with Alzheimer’s shortly after he was forced to retire. He had been in and out of a nursing home during the last year of his life.

State education board ratifies new FAMU president

FAMU finds itself in the midst of a perfect storm.
The school’s current situation was affecting its bond rating, could affect its accreditation and was drawing concern from the Legislature.

GAINESVILLE, Fla. (AP) - James Ammons pledged to restore financial and operational integrity to Florida A&M University following his approval Thursday of the embattled historically black school.

The Florida Board of Governors ratified Ammons, 54, as the university’s 10th president. He takes over his new post on July 2, returning to the his alma mater and where he served as provost and vice president for academic affairs from 1999-01.

“I am confident we can fix the problems,” said Ammons, who added financial integrity will be his top priority.

Ammons, a former North Carolina Central University president, has managed $5 million in endowment funds and saw the enrollment grow from five thousand to eight thousand. He said Ammons would like to see FAMU’s student body grow from about twelve thousand to fifteen thousand.

The new president said it has hurt him to see the negative things that have happened at FAMU.

“We have what is an opportunity. I didn’t see anything that wasn’t fixable,” Ammons said.

He will replace Castell Bryant, who took the interim position on an interim basis in January 2005 when Fred Gainous was dismissed in 2004.

Ammons pledged to work with a task force appointed by the board to restore financial and operational control of the state’s only public historically black university.

Chalis Lowe, the chairwoman of the trustees at FAMU, said despite the board’s seven-year search for Ammons, she believes he is the right man for the job.

“All we hope his experienced guidance will help us resolve our chronic operational problems,” Lowe said.

It would appear that not much has improved since an audit by the KPMG accounting firm more than two years ago showed the university didn’t balance its books and frequently could not track how it spent money. Auditors found that Florida A&M staff had mixed up credits and debits on ledgers and could not provide budget policies.

A separate audit earlier that year revealed the university spent at least $3.1 million more than was budgeted and paid staff $19.5 million less in salaries than state records said it should. KPMG could not explain the discrepancy.

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“There are still concerns that need to be addressed,” Pappas said.

Last year, the university suspended the Kappa Alpha Psi fraternity and five members who were charged with using wooden canes to beat a pledge during an initiation ritual. They were the first people charged with violating a new state law that makes it a felony to engage in haz ing that results in serious bodily injury. Two were convicted and three received probation after entering plea.
Massachusetts educator choice to run Louisville school system

LOUISVILLE, Ky. (AP) - A Massachusetts school administrator is the choice of Jefferson County Public Schools to be the new superintendent.

The school board voted Friday to begin contract negotiations with Sheldon Berman, who heads the Hudson, Mass., school district. Board members will also visit Berman’s district on Tuesday.

Board Chairman Joe Hardesty said he and the school board’s attorney will immediately begin working out the terms of a contract for Berman, in the hopes of having him start July 1.

Berman, 58, said he’s ready to make the move to Jefferson County, a school district 30-times larger than his current school district, with a larger minority and low-income student population.

“I want to make sure that the school year wraps up well, and I would like to provide some transition time for Hudson,” he said. “I want to make sure that things go well here for them.”

Berman was the last candidate standing after two other finalists dropped out in recent days. That has left some in Louisville unhappy about the situation.

“We thought we made a strong case for opening the search back up. I think that the community will never know what other qualified candidates may be out there, and I think that is regrettable,” said Raoul Cunningham, president of the Louisville branch of the NAACP.

Berman has been superintendent in Hudson, a district of about 2,900 students located about 40 miles west of Boston, for the past 14 years. Berman, who makes $190,000 in Hudson, would replace Stephen Daeschner, who is paid $201,074 a year and will leave Louisville for a suburban Chicago district on June 30.

Berman underwent two full days of interviews with community members, business leaders and the school board in Louisville earlier this week.

Berman said that he, his wife and their three sons were impressed with Louisville and that he is “excited” about the job.

“I see this as an opportunity to have an impact on 98,000 students and the life of a community,” he said. “It’s also an important responsibility and I take the work very seriously.”

States are not moral agents, people are, and can impose moral standards on powerful institutions.

-- Noam Chomsky --

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Tune into “Black Iowa Today,” “Black Iowa Imperative,” and “KBBG’s Legislative Wrap.” “Black Iowa Today” airs the 1st and 3rd Monday of each month at 2:00 p.m., “Black Iowa Imperative” airs the 2nd and 4th Thursday of each month, and “KBBG’s Legislative Wrap” airs every Sunday at 5:00 p.m. on radio station KBBG 88.1 FM, Waterloo, Iowa or on the world wide web at www.kbbgfm.org.

The programs are hosted by Jonathan Narcisse, president of the State of Black Iowa Initiative.

If you are interested in joining a parent support group to advocate for our children call Jonathan R. Narcisse at: 515-280-8092 or email jon-narcisse@mchsi.com.

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Executive Director

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Fax: (515) 243-6316
E-mail: ebame@willkiehouse.org

Linda Williams-Moore
Executive Director

YMCA of Greater Des Moines
YMCA of Greater Des Moines
101 Locust Street
Des Moines, IA 50309

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Fax: (515) 477-8558
Email: vernon.delpeche@ymcada.org

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Phone: 515-576-1050 Fax: 515-576-1057

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Church Listings & Weekly Schedules

Burns United Methodist Church
Rev. Dr. Curtis DeVance, JD, MDiv, Pastor
811 Crocker Street
Des Moines, IA 50309
Phone: Church 515-244-5883
Mailing Address: P.O. Box 258
Des Moines, IA 50316

Church Schedule:
Sunday Morning Worship: 11:00 a.m.
Sunday School: 9:45 a.m.
Wednesday Bible Study: 12:00 p.m. & 7:00 p.m.

Corinthian Baptist Church
Rev. Dr. Lee Zachary Maxey, Pastor
814 South Street
Des Moines, IA 50309-1207
Phone: 515-243-4073
Church Business Hours: Monday - Friday 9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.
Transportation to Sunday School and Morning Worship Service
Verna Smith: 515-243-8470
“The ultimate measure of a man is not where he stands in time of comfort and convenience but where he stands in time of challenge and controversy.” Martin Luther King.

Church Schedule:
Wednesdays - Prayer Service & Bible Study at 6:00 p.m.
Sundays - Christian Education at 9:45 a.m.
Sundays - Morning Worship: 8:00 a.m. & 11:00 a.m.
Sundays - Bible Study: 9:00 a.m.
Tuesday: Prayer Service at 7:00 p.m.
Thursday: Prayer Service at 7:00 p.m.
Thursday: Pastoral Teaching at 9:30 p.m.
Wednesday Bible Study Led By Pastor: 7:00 p.m.

St. Paul A.M.E.
Rev. Derek E. Bastian, Pastor
St. Paul A.M.E Church
1201 Day Street
Des Moines, Iowa 50314
Ministry Days & Times
Sundays 9:00 a.m.
Sunday School
Praise & Worship
New Membership Class
Training or Minister/Evangelist
Nursery Available

Sundays 10:00 a.m.
Morning Worship
Children’s Church
Nursery Available

Mondays 6:00 p.m.
Praise Dance rehearsal

Tuesdays
10:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m. Computer Classes for seniors
12:00 p.m. Bible Study
6:00 p.m. Prayer Meeting
6:00 p.m. Aerobics & Tae-Bo
7:00 p.m. Bible Study

Good Samaritan Youth Outreach
Nursery Available

Wednesdays
5:30 p.m. Women’s Ministry
6:00 p.m. Youth Choir Rehearsal

Thursdays
6:00 p.m. Aerobics
7:00 p.m. Praise Team
7:00 p.m. Unity Choir Rehearsal

Saturday
Men’s Ministry - 1st & 3rd Saturdays of each month at 8:00 a.m.
4:00 p.m. Traditional Service
For information please call 515-288-4419.

Union Missionary Baptist Church
Rev. Henry Isaiah Thomas, Pastor
E. University & McCormick Street
Des Moines, IA 50316
Phone: 515-262-1785
Transportation to Sunday School and Morning Worship Service
Bro. Donnie Williams: 244-4835 or Bro. Larry Welch: 771-4441
Mission Statement: Our mission is to win the lost, build the believer and equip the worker so as to make disciples who can make disciples who can make disciples.

Church Schedule:
Sundays - Worship at 8:00 a.m. & at 10:40 a.m.
Sundays - Christian Education at 9:30 a.m.
Sundays - Morning Worship at 9:00 a.m.
Sundays - Mid-Day Prayer Meeting at 12:00 p.m.
Prayer Meeting & Bible Study at 7:00 p.m.
J.A.M. (Jesus and Me) Youth Service 1st & 3rd Sundays 5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.

Marvin T. Perkins, Sr., Pastor
1639 Garfield Avenue
Des Moines, Iowa 50316
Mailing Address: P.O. Box 258

...how are they to hear without a preacher? Romans 10:14

Burns United Methodist Church
Address: 811 Crocker Street • DSM, IA 50309
Phone: 515-244-5883
Pastor: Pastor: Rev. Curtis DeVance, JD, MDiv
Sunday Morning Worship: 11:00 a.m.
Sunday School: 9:45 a.m.
Wednesday Bible Study: 12:00 p.m. & 7:00 p.m.

Corinthian Missionary Baptist Church
Address: 814 South Street • DSM, IA 50309
Phone: 515-243-4073
Pastor: Rev. Dr. Lee Zachary Maxey
Sunday Morning Worship: 8:00 a.m. & 11:00 a.m.
Sunday Church School: 9:15 a.m.
Wednesday Prayer Service: 5:30 p.m.
Wednesday: Bible Study 7:00 p.m.
Website: www.corinthianbaptism.org

New Friendship Church of God In Christ
Address: 1317 Forest Avenue • DSM, IA 50314
Phone: 515-243-7097
Pastor: Rev. R.L. Daye
Sunday Morning Worship: 11:00 a.m.
Sunday School: 9:45 a.m.
Tuesday: Prayer Service at 7:00 p.m.
Tuesday: Bible Study at 7:30 p.m.
Thursday: Prayer Service at 7:00 p.m.
Thursday: Pastoral Teaching at 9:30 p.m.
Wednesday Bible Study Led By Pastor: 7:00 p.m.

King of Kings Missionary Baptist Church
Address: 619 S.E. 15th Street • DSM, IA 50309
Phone: 515-282-3425
Pastor: Rev. Irvin Lewis, Sr.
Sunday Morning Worship: 11:00 a.m.
Sunday School: 9:45 a.m.
Wednesday: Prayer and Bible Study 6:00 p.m.

Maple Street Missionary Baptist Church
Address: 1552 E. Maple Street • DSM, IA 50316
Phone: 515-262-1931
Pastor: Rev. Keith A. Ratliff, Sr.
Sunday Morning Worship: 10:45 a.m.
Sunday School: 9:30 a.m.
Wednesday Bible Study: 7:00 p.m.

Mount Hebron Missionary Baptist Church
Address: 1338-9th Street • DSM, IA 50314
Phone: 515-280-9163
Pastor: Rev. Bobby Young
Sunday Morning Worship: 11:00 a.m.
Sunday Church School: 9:30 a.m.
Tuesday Bible Study at 7:00 p.m.
Wednesday Prayer Meeting at 7:00 p.m.

Philadelphia SDA Church
Address: 1639 Garfield Avenue • DSM, IA 50316
Phone: 515-262-7467
Pastor: Rev. Marlon T. Perkins, Sr.
Sabbath (Saturday) Morning Worship: 11:00 a.m.
Sabbath (Saturday) Church School: 9:30 a.m.
Wednesday Prayer Meeting Service: 6:30 p.m.
Sunday Radio Ministry: 9:00 a.m., Praise 940 AM
Email Address: sdaphiladelphia@msn.com

St. Paul A.M.E. Church
Address: 1201 Day Street • DSM, IA 50309
Phone: 515-288-4419
Pastor: Rev. Derek E. Bastian
Sunday Morning Worship: 10:00 a.m.
Sunday School: 9:00 a.m.
Tuesday Bible Study: 7:00 p.m.
Sunday Radio Ministry: 9:00 a.m., Praise 940 AM
Email: stpameloa@aol.com

Union Missionary Baptist Church
Address: E.Univ. & McCormick • DSM, IA 50316
Phone: 515-262-1785
Pastor: Rev. Dr. Henry J. Thomas
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Email: stpameloa@aol.com

Send your church news to: iowabystanderarticles@yahoo.com
CBS wins Peabody for Ed Bradley piece

ATLANTA (AP) - A “60 Minutes” investigation led by legendary television journalist Ed Bradley (pictured), who died in November, won a Peabody Award on Wednesday.

Judges noted that the CBS piece, which examines the rape allegations against Duke University lacrosse players, was one of Bradley’s last before he succumbed to leukemia. Bradley was CBS’s first black White House correspondent, first black “60 Minutes” correspondent and first black anchor for the Sunday night newscast.

Thirty-five recipients of the 66th annual George Foster Peabody Awards were announced Wednesday by the University of Georgia. The awards, for broadcasting excellence in both news and entertainment, will be handed out at a ceremony in New York on June 4 hosted by sportscaster Bob Costas.

A rare “institutional award” went to National Public Radio’s StoryCorps project letting people record oral histories on a variety of subjects in booths that tour the country. Edited versions are broadcast regularly on NPR, and the full recordings are archived in the Library of Congress.

Hurricane Katrina coverage made it into the awards again with HBO receiving one for Spike Lee’s documentary “When the Levees Broke: A Requiem in Four Acts” about New Orleans life after the devastating storm. Last year two Gulf Coast stations that stayed on the air throughout Katrina won Peabodys, along with CNN and NBC, for coverage of the hurricane.

HBO also won awards for: “Baghdad ER,” a documentary about medical personnel in a war zone, “The Music in Me,” a showcase of young performers playing everything from cello to zydeco accordion, “Billy Jean King: Portrait of a Pioneer” about the tennis great, and “Elizabeth I,” a biographical movie starring Academy Award winner Helen Mirren.

First-time Peabody winners include the Cartoon Network for “Return of the King,” an installment of animated series “Boondocks,” and the Food Network for “Good Eats,” a program that explores food, science, history and culture. The Independent Film Channel also won its first Peabody for its series of short films “Beyond Borders: Personal Stories from a Small Planet,” and mun2, a Telemundo subsidiary for younger viewers, won its first Peabody for “For My Country? Latinos in the Military.”

In the entertainment categories, award winners include “Friday Night Lights,” “The Office” and “Scrubs” from NBC, Showtime’s “Brotherhood,” ABC’s “Ugly Betty” and the BBC America’s “Gideon’s Daughter.”

The winners were announced at the University of Georgia in Athens. The university’s Grady College of Journalism and Mass Communication has administered the Peabodys since the program’s inception in 1940.

Rev. Jesse Jackson endorses Barack Obama in presidential candidacy

CHICAGO (AP) - Civil rights leader Jesse Jackson (right) said Thursday he’s backing Democrat Barack Obama (left) in his presidential bid, giving his support to a new generation of black politicians.

“He has my vote,” the Rev. Jackson told The Associated Press in a telephone interview.


Jackson represents a different era of black politician, battle-tested by the civil rights struggles of the 1960s with Martin Luther King Jr.

Obama, 45, is biracial - his white mother was from Kansas, his father Kenyan - and educated at Ivy League universities.

In his best-selling memoir, “Dreams From My Father,” Obama said he couldn’t even get in the door at national civil rights groups when he was younger. He wrote letters to them after graduating from Columbia University but said none responded.

In a statement responding to Jackson’s support, Obama said, “This campaign has been about giving hope since Day One and I am proud to have the support of my friend Jesse Jackson. It is because people like Jesse ran that I have this opportunity to run for president today.”

Jackson could help Obama to secure the support of black voters, a critical bloc in the Democratic primaries.

Jackson has a long history with one of Obama’s chief rivals, Sen. Hillary Rodham Clinton and her husband former President Clinton. He counseled the two when the president’s affair with former White House intern Monica Lewinsky became public.

But Jackson said his history with the Clintons doesn’t complicate his decision to back his home state senator, calling Obama Illinois’ “favorite son.”

“It’s not awkward at all,” he said, adding, “I don’t owe a debt to any of them.”

Jackson said he will support the winner of the Democratic nomination, whether it’s Obama or not, and he is talking to other candidates because of his agenda that includes the war on poverty and voter protection.

Although Jackson failed in his bids for the White House in 1984 and 1988, he said that helped make it easier for not only blacks, but women and other minorities to run for president and function at the highest levels of government.

“We broke down barriers,” Jackson said.

Jackson said Obama has not asked him to campaign for him and he is not in Obama’s inner circle of advisers and fundraisers.

“I just have an appreciation of him,” Jackson said.

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