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OPINION

Black Council prexy a must

Political circles are abuzz this week over the impending resignation of the city council president Walter Orlinsky, who will be stepping down from that office in the near future.

In this era of awakened political awareness in the black community, the selection of a successor to Orlinsky occupies an unpredented high priority —and rightly so.

The president of the city council, to paraphrase an expression, is "just a heartbeat away from the mayoralty." For proof, one need only to look at the past decade or so of activity, which points up the usual succession.

Under Mayor Thomas McKeldin in the late cities, the president of the city council was Thomas D'Alessandro, Jr. He later became mayor. The council president in the D'Alessandro, Jr. administration was 5th district councilman, William Donald Schaefer, who later became mayor.

Thus the political precedent exists which places extreme importance on the position of president of the city council.

Many names have been bandied about as possible successors to Orlinsky. The person picked must have a majority vote in the current city council—thus reports of logical candidates courting city councilmen are based in fact.

We feel that the black community, through its overwhelming vote in the primary election, has decreed that this top administrative spot MUST be filled by a black—this is of primary importance.

In addition, that black MUST represent the city at large, and the black community in particular. This is not unreasonable, since blacks comprise over 55 percent of the population in the city proper, yet have never won election to one of the three top spots in the administration.

Those slots are mayor, comptroller and president of the city council. That's the way it was—but not the way it will be, since the electorate has served notice that it is indeed a force to be reckoned with, and blacks have discovered that they can indeed dictate who shall or shall not be in power.

Elections of city officials will not occur until 1983. The Orlinsky slot will occur this year, so time is rather short to make the "will of the public" known to the city fathers. But—there is a way.

Elected officials in government, are put in office to respect and carry out the will of the people. But, they cannot, unless the people let them know their wishes. At the Federal level, all letters are closely read and a tally kept of the desires of constituents.

Black Baltimore should let its councilmanic representatives know how they feel. Either by mail, telephone or wire, expressions of opinion must be made. If you have never concerned yourself with the inner workings of city government in the past, now you should.

The president of the city council MUST be a black. Let your representative know—if they don't follow your mandate...1983 is just around the corner.

Parren J. **MITCHELL**

Convergent black groups

During the week of Sept. 13 through 19, two divergent sections of black America met in Washington, D.C. to discuss the policies of the Reagan Administration.

One group has designated itself as the black conservatives in support of the present Administration. The other group, to which I belong, is the Congressional Black Caucus. Each claims to be the standard-bearer, speaking on behalf of black America.

Because both groups claim to speak on behalf of the black community, and since their views and goals are very different, it is important to examine their stands and thus analyze how they best fit into the needs and aspirations of the constituency for which they claim to speak.

The black conservatives support the theory of supply side economics, despite the fact the current implementation of supply side policies creates excessively high unemployment, which affects the black community to a greater extent than any other racial group in America.

The Congressional Black Caucus argues such a policy is unfair and inhumane in its tendency to cause families to suffer economic deprivation. The black conservatives argue in favor of less social programs and more individual pursuits of economic gains.

The Congressional Black Caucus counters with the argument the social programs are essential if black America is ever to reach the point when all men and women are allowed to achieve individually free of racial prejudice and history.

The black conservatives feel that affirmative action is no longer necessary since all groups are treated equally within the public and private sectors of this country.

The Congressional Black Caucus points to evidence which clearly indicates that government R.I.P.s and private industries' cutbacks in hiring affect black Americans to a greater degree than any other group. Therefore, during these times of job scarcity, it is absolutely essential black Americans maintain some form of protection against arbitrary decisions by managers in both the public and private sectors.

Finally, the black conservatives want black America to support a President who claimed that while he was growing up he was never aware that racial prejudice existed.

A President who initially supported tuition tax credits for schools and universities that openly admitted they supported segregation.

A President who was endorsed by practically every racist group in this country; and a President who caters to the whims of the racist regime in South Africa.

On the other hand, the Congressional Black Caucus is opposed to the Reagan Administration and its unfair policies. They argue that any man, with a semblance of intelligence, is aware that America was and still is, a racist country; and Reagan is surrounded by advisors who push racist policies, both nationally and internationally.

During the Congressional Black Caucus Legislative Weekend, I was interviewed by a local Washington reporter who asked me to respond to the black conservatives' claims that the Caucus' concerns with the Policies of the Reagan Administration "are unfounded and unnecessary."

My response was such claims are errant nonsense. In conclusion, I restate the conservatives' claim that their ideas and goals best represents the views of black America is again errant nonsense.

Madeline **MURPHY**

Euphoria or reality

After the dust has settled, we know for certain the 46,000 votes with which Kurt Schmoke was victorious over William Swisher, amounted to the huge turnout of blacks (one reporter called it a "tidal wave") in the Primary who elected Schmoke.

The figures show beyond a shadow of a doubt Kurt Schmoke ran poorly in the Jewish precincts, Homeland, Guilford, Roland Park and in all of the affluent white neighborhoods.

These votes indicated they refused to vote for qualifications even though Kurt Schmoke was the superior candidate.

This large vote was an indication in the black community, that blacks want change.

Now what does this say about these so-called interracial combinations?

Although they can put up more money than Swisher, they can not deliver the vote from their own neighborhoods.

The fact that no matter how the backers of Kurt Schmoke would not make race an issue; no matter how much they swore that they could get out the vote in their own precincts, blacks outvoted and outdistanced their white "liberal" counterparts.

Which says to us the old truism in Baltimore that whites vote for whites; blacks for blacks still holds. And any black candidate for city-wide office in next year's election better take heed.

Also in this dynamic is the question: Does it still hold that the man who pays the piper must dance to his tune?

Does it mean that because, as Ron Shapiro says, he called lawyers businessmen, manufacturers, insurance agencies, accounting firms to raise that $125,000, that like in any political contest, Kurt Schmoke now is beholden to these interests?

The suggestion that $125,000 was responsible for the huge black turnout is a racist insult and down grades the efforts of the black ministry and the black professional, political and civic groups who without exception campaigned for Kurt.

And certainly money did not elect Saundra Banks or Georgia Goslee.

Against this background, it bears watching when new appointments among the 123 lawyers hired by the State's Attorney's office, are made. Undoubtedly, at least 50 percent should be black.

Now let us look at the case of Georgia Goslee, now running against four other contenders for three spots on the Supreme Bench, with five contending for those seats.

With all the vitriolic pushing and shoving in the Primary, charges and counter-charges, there was bad blood between the two black contenders, Ken L. Johnson and Georgia Goslee, which should not be of any concern now.

Both are needed on the Supreme Bench. Both deserve to win.

Therefore, the same enthusiasm for Kurt Schmoke should be mounted for these two most important candidates in the November election.

Schmoke should lend all of his weight behind these deserving candidates. The same momentum must be sustained in the General as there was in the Primary, where candidates instruct their followers to vote for only two for the Supreme Bench.

If either one of these candidates believes the myth that in teaming up with an incumbent will help them, they had better read the figures again. Look to past history as prologue.

All the white candidate will do is ride the skirt or shirt-tails of the black contender, gaining more votes from the black community as well as the white community, while only giving lip service in return.

Sure they might give some money for ballots, but those ballots will read one thing in the black community and single shoot the white candidate in the white community. There was much of that going on during the Primary, and with the stakes so high in the General, more dirty tricks will surface.

With the huge turnout in the Primary that showed we could elect a State's Attorney singlehandedly, we should not drop the ball, in the General if blacks really yearn for change.

Let us not let the euphoria of victory exhaust us to the point where we will not be able to do it again. We have only just begun!

Letters

Police concerned about Druid Heights' problems

Dear AFRO:

On Aug. 14, the AFRO-AMERICAN published an article and letter addressed to me regarding citizen concerns over narcotics traficking in the Druid Heights Community.

I would like your readers to know we do share these concerns and our men and women have been working diligently in cooperation with area residents to abate these problems.

On April 28, members of the Department met with 30 community representatives to discuss ways to assist one another. At this meeting 20 people signed up as Block Watchers.

At my direction on June 1, and again on July 27, senior officers from graduating recruit classes went door-to door to survey citizens concerns and enlist their aid. As a result 350 residents joined our Block Watcher Program.

Acting on information received from the community, the Department deployed members of our special Narcotics Task Force and Tactical Section in the area. To date the Narcotics Task Force has arrested and charged 36 people for drug violations, one for handgun, and one for violation of probation.

In addition to this, our Tactical Units have made 46 arrests, 12 of which are narcotics and handgun related, 26 for loitering and consuming alcohol.

The citizens of Druid Heights have my assurance that the Department has already directed its special forces to assist the regularly assigned officers in helping them to make their community safe.

I would also encourage everyone to become a Block Watcher, interested in the welfare of their community, and serve as additional eyes and ears for their police. I am confident, together, we shall make significant progress.

FRANK J. BATTAGLIA
COMMISSIONER

Urban League's Blue Print plan for action

Dear AFRO:

The National Urban League's (NUL) Annual Conference, which took place in Los Angeles, Aug. 1 through 4, provided a critical assessment of the impact of Reagan's "New Federalism" on the black community.

Details of the assessment were provided via workshops, plenary sessions and special forums. It was no surprise to anyone the assessment revealed the grim realities which face the black community today and in the coming years.

Thus, the NUL developed for each of its affiliates a "Blueprint For Action" which:

(1) Examines the rapid deterioration of black Americans.

(2) Focuses on black people at greatest risk (our young people aged 11 to 25).

(3) Details the problems black Americans face, and the special needs of young people.

The NUL contends, and we agree, that "A Youth and Community Initiative" that will deal with five critical areas (unemployment, teenage Pregnancy, female heads of households, crime and voter registration), in the black community would help mobilize our community to help ourselves.

Urban League data has indicated that poor black people, aged 11 to 25, are at greatest risk of never achieving their optimal potential. Thus, youth community consultations are an important first step in the development of a movement-wide effort to provide new approaches for addressing our problems.

We hope you will be able to join us in planning what we consider an important endeavor in meeting the crisis facing black America.

HAROLD K. KENNEDY
Interim President
Baltimore Urban League

No car towing for church-goers

Dear AFRO:

On Aug. 1, I was standing on the corner of Ashland Avenue and Bond Street. I was amazed to see a towing truck, towing away a car, belonging to some church-goer.

I have learned that the housing units that are in charge of the "Harry Mills," "Ashland East" and "Clay Court" housing in this area have a contract with a towing company to tow away cars of church people thus denying them the opportunity to park for two hours — to worship the Lord.

I am sure many of these residents attend churches in other areas and feel guilty parking in other people's places when they attend services. Why not give these people a break?

My concern is that only black people live in these houses and only black people attend churches in this area.

The black church is the only institution that a black family can go to receive aid in emergency situations. Why is it that we have to help make our white brother rich?

ROSE COLEMAN

G. JAMES **FLEMING**

More primary paragraphs

One of the astounding and happy surprises of the recent race for State's Attorney was the flawlessness of everything that Kurt Schmoke, the victor, did or said. He just did everything right.

Not even when he should have been very fatigued, as a campaign day was nearing its end, did he make any slip. He always was in control of himself. He never flew off the handle at anytime.

At least, this is the image left by the very historic Schmoke campaign — a primary nomination on the Democratic ticket that means election, there was no Republican candidate.

The latter absence was a notable contribution of the City Republican Party to Schmoke's certain taking over of the State's Attorney's office.

The Primary is over, however, and the hallelujahs have been sung! For Kurt Schmoke the days, weeks, months and years ahead are the real challenge, the real testing for the campaigner who promised "I shall be the best State's Attorney that Baltimore has ever had."

Yesterday he was beloved by more than 100,000 voters (and their families). Today he must be prepared for the brickbats, the Monday morning quarter-backing and the editorials which will mark his reign, since he can not please all the people all the time — not even his staunchest supporters.

Most of the time he will be damned both for what he does and for what he does not do; worst grueling of all, for what others imagine he is doing or not doing.

He may even displease those who want him to be Baltimore's next mayor, as he decides whether to be a candidate in 1983 or four years later. Certainly, he will not be loved by those he can not save from jail — those who, found guilty via due process, are only about to reap what they sow.

Kurt Schmoke

Enough for Kurt Schmoke. The figures were not all in when this column last appeared. We could not therefore take "hats off" to Saundra Banks, now concluding the final term as Clerk of the Court of Common Pleas and, who, for the second time, has won in a citywide election.

Verda Welcome

Ms. Banks will become the new "clerk" (really administrator) of all the courts of record in Baltimore City, following recent legislation merging the administration wing of all the courts. Her new title: Clerk of the Circuit Court.

Many congratulations, too, to Dr. C. Vernon Gray, professor of political science, Morgan State College, who made a breakthrough in Howard County and won the Democratic nomination to the County Council. He received more than 50 percent of the total votes cast, 35 percent from Columbia where the Grays reside.

With six nominees (one a Republican) running to fill five seats, Gray seems assured of being the first black member of the Howard County Council following the November general election.

Attorneys Georgia L. Goslee and Kenneth Johnson seem to be running "nip and tuck" for a seat on the Supreme Bench of Baltimore City — but there is only one vacancy! Ms. Goslee won a sure spot for the November runoff.

Residents and former residents of the 44th District (Morgan State University, Morgan Park, Northwood, etc.) are particularly delighted that, at long last, that area has achieved more representation, racially speaking, in the State Legislature.

When the new House of Delegates convenes, the 44th will be represented by Curt Anderson, a former TV newsman and one who grew up on the Morgan campus, where his father was assistant dean of men. A very good man for a uniquely interesting district (Alexander J. Walker, who labored zealously to make a Curt Anderson possible, should be very happy across the Jordan!).

Too bad, politics is both good and bad news. It is to be regretted there were six major defeats in the Primary — defeats of unusually hard-working and people-serving legislators: Senators Robert Douglass and Verda Welcome; Delegates Walter Dean, Joseph Chester, Isaiah Dixon and Frank M. Conaway.

These six lost their seats for different reasons, including no discernible reason. Incidentally, Morgan State University, by their departure, will lose some of its most dependable and committed of supporters. The new House of Delegates and the new Senate will, nevertheless, contain many other friends of the University, including several Morgan graduates.

So much seniority has been lost by the aforementioned defeats that it is especially to be celebrated that Senators Clarence Blount and Clarence Mitchell and Delegates John Douglass, Hattie Harrison, and some others, were re-elected.

Kenneth Johnson

Congratulations Baltimore!

By Yahya B. A. Muhammad

Congratulations are in order for the voters of Baltimore City, especially the African-American community, who, in the last few elections displayed so much apathy until one would have thought that they did not have the right to vote.

We also congratulate the candidates who were winners in their respective primaries and we look forward to having them give us better representation than we were getting in years past.

It is with great pride and appreciation we commend Kurt Schmoke for the victory he won against outgoing State's Attorney William Swisher.

We commend him because he would not allow himself to be dragged into the now too familiar game of name calling used by his opponent, William Swisher. A tactic which only degrades its users and shows the civilized world that they are not ready to be accepted as equals by them.

Swisher was quoted in a daily newspaper to have said, "They woke up the sleeping giant," referring to Baltimore's African American voters.

Of course he used the term "black" in his reference to us.

This writer takes issue with this term (black) to identify us ethnically because it is a term that degrades us and serves the ends of the caucasian (so-called white) people.

There was a time when the term had a good and special meaning to us as an ethnic group, but that time has long past.

When we were ashamed of our skin color and hated anything black.

When we were processing our hair and bleaching our skin to look more like so-called white folk, those were the times that the term "black" had significant meaning to us, now that we have or should have come of age, we put away childish things and move on up to a higher and more sophisticated level.

We demonstrated that level of sophistication by the way we turned out in the recent elections. It would be foolish for us to turn back to yesterday now.

If we continue turning back to yesterday's play pen, people will never take us seriously, they will think that magnificent turn - out at the polls was a fluke.

If we turn back now we will be allowing ourselves to play into the hands of the racist so-called white folk who like nothing better than to have us dwell in blackness, which represents to them people who are destitute of light; dismal; gloomy; destitute of moral light or goodness; mournful; evil; wicked; atrocious.

We should ask ourselves the question: why do I have to be black to be successful? Why can't I just be human? You do not find people of the Cuban ancestry saying "I'm black, that's why I was able to create this and that."

You do not find any other race on earth dealing in this type of baby language other than the so-called white folk and the former slave who has not decided what to settle on as an ethnic identity.

Some of us identify ourselves as "the blacks, others the Negro, others, the coloreds and still others as just plain nigger.

The self confidence and self esteem we displayed in the Primary election must be maintained, if we expect to make genuine progress in the foreseeable future.

No one respects a spook as many of us used to call ourselves, but everyone gives recognition to a fighter, even if he does not win every battle. They respect him for having the courage to get involved.

No longer should we accept to be called black or any of the other silly names that were imposed on us by our former slave masters. It is now time for us to exercise that level of sophistication that we displayed in the Primaries by deciding on a name that would give dignity to all of us as an ethnic group of people, a name that we all can identify with, a name that means more than just color, color is just skin deep.

We should want a name that will allow us to grow in our God consciousness, one that will allow us to grow in our morality, in our capacity to be human, and a name that we can stand up and point to with pride and not have to dodge and duck when someone of another ethnic group calls us by it.

By adopting such a name it will help the so-called white people get away from the race game that they have been playing with us for centuries.

By adopting a name it will show the so-called white people and everyone else we no longer are walking with one leg and a crutch and using it as an excuse for not measuring up.

The so-called white folk already have said we are three-fifths of a man, and we have helped them by using the black crutch, now it is time to really demand our fair share of this country and the world by becoming producers of our needs in every field of endeavor.

We are not satisfied with just a job (or we should not be).

We should want for our children the same things that any good, decent, red blooded American wants for theirs. But this takes sacrifice on our part now.

We must pave the way and every civilized person including the so-called white people will respect us for it.

We should be grafified that other ethnic groups have carried us this long and should immediately make arrangements to turn our situation around. If we would do this, we would get help in our genuine efforts, we would be doing the government a favor because their welfare rolls would not be so large.

This is not to condemn anyone who legitimately needs welfare, but it is to encourage those who find dignity in work.

Let us begin by adopting the name Bilalian which is a name representing dignity, esteem, high morality, a reverance for God and patient perseverance.

In future articles it is our intention to give you a much broader history of the origin of the name Bilalian so that you will become more comfortable with its use. Again, congratulations on your mighty efforts of Tuesday, Sept. 14.

Elizabeth M. **OLIVER**

FOR ALL WE KNOW

MANY THINGS FOR YOU TO KNOW

SEPT. 24 - 26

AUTUMN INVITES YOU TO ENJOY a variety of events, big and small. The Workers Heritage Festival Sept. 24 - 26 at Dundalk Community College is great.

Featured are Sweet Honey in the Rock, Sparky Rucker, Joyce Scott, worshops, concerts, theatre, exhibits, folks, books, records, food and crafts. Please go.

TONIGHT

SEPT. 24

A Golden Plate Dinner sponsored by Good Samaritan Building Club at La Fontaine Bleu, Glen Burnie, Friday, Sept. 24 - 7:30 p.m.

Theme: "Reach Out And Touch" Showing How Cities, States and Counties can communicate as one community.

Benefit — To Erect the L.P.S. Hope Community Center of the Mt. Olive Freewill Baptist Church. Bro. James Williams, chairman of deacons. Bishop Leo K. Ceaser, pastor.

HISTORY AND PURPOSE OF CLUB

The Good Samaritan Club was reorganized as a Building Club in September, 1981. The purpose is to help sponsor financial affairs definitely for the church and its surrounding buildings.

The deacons and trustees made it known to the Club that they would appreciate their assistance to build for the church a kitchen-dining area, and a community center mainly to serve the youth and the entire church membership.

SPECIAL GUESTS

Former Harvey Johnson and Diggs Johnson Students.

Former Students of Lillian Pollard Sebree.

GOOD SAMARITAN CLUB MEMBERS

Margaree Massenburg, president;

Bernice House, vice president;

Lillie Tyson, secretary;

Ernestine Horton, treasurer;

Margie Terry, business manager;

Inez Bates, coordinator;

Ruth Coston, Elenora Winn, Lottie Mitchell, Mildred Ceaser, Alyce Harris, Mary Norfleet, Gladys Pennington, Janet Evans, Loretta Miller, Pearlie J. Gray, Gloria Wilson, Elizabeth Bolden, Rai Horton, Geraldine Brunson, Isaline Sample, Charlotte Dumas, Ida Jackson.

SEPT. 25

The Morgan State University Gallery of Art and The Pierians cordially invite you to a viewing of mixed media: drawings and paintings by Alberto S. Sangiamo Sunday, Sept. 26 7:00 p.m. to 9:p.m.

The exhibition continues through Friday, Oct. 29. Carl Murphy Fine Arts Center, Coldspring Lane and Hillen Road.

Sangiamo will be present during the opening reception. He will present two lectures on his work during the course of the exhibition.

SEPT. 26

100TH ANNIVERSARY of the Sharon Baptist Sunday School.

WHERE: Sharon Baptist Church, corner Stricker and Pressman Streets.

WHEN: Sunday, Sept. 26.

TIME: 8:30 - 9:30 Continental Breakfast. 9:30 - 10:45 Program of Worship & Sharing.

All former and current members are urged to be present for this rare and joyous fellowship.

Norma Faulkner, superintendent, Rev. James L. Moore, pastor.

SEPT. 30

BAZAAR

The churchwomen of the Holy Trinity Episcopal Church will hold their annual BAZAAR on the church lawn, 2300 Lafayette Ave., on Saturday, Sept. 30, from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m.

There will be a crab cake and chicken dinner, bake sale, consignment, flower and health booths. There will also be a fashion show, entertainment, and drawing for prizes.

For information call: 578-0901 or 542-6790.

OCT. 3

An evangelistic series is being held at Berea Temple.

Thrilling topics will be presented on a wide variety of Bible topics.

There will also be health, or medical talks by noted physicians, inspiring music, and question and answer sessions.

The principal speaker is Dr. Edward Richardson.

A SPECIAL feature of the last week will be discussion of the mystery surrounding Daniel and Revelation.

THE DATES of the evangelistic series are Oct. 3 thru 31st, at 7:30 p.m. at Berea Temple of Seventh Day Adventists, 1901 Madison Avenue. The music - spiration mini - concert is at 7:00.

MEMBERS OF THE BEREA TEMPLE CHURCH manifested their unity of purpose recently as they signed pledges of $200 or more for the renovation of their church building.

The building is a 90 - year - old edifice, the first of its kind built in this country.

It is the first structure erected in the United States of true Byzantine architectural design, manifested by around arches and vault - supported domes.

It is listed with the United States National Register of Historic Places, and is a well - known landmark to Baltimoreans and other Marylanders.

According to Pastor Edward L. Richardson the pledged funds will be used to clean the exterior and beautify the interior of this magnificent structure, that has a seating capacity of 1,100.

OCT. 5

HLM, Inc. community service project, part of the Mayor's Task Force on the Fight Against Illiteracy will again provide an Adult Reading Tutorial Program beginning October 5, 1982.

The program will offer remedial instruction in phonetic and structural analysis as well as comprehension skills and will be administered by certified reading specialists.

The Tutorial Program will be housed at Christ Edmondson United Methodist Church, at 3600 Edmondson Avenue. For more information, call 367-0203 or 488-3055 after 5 p.m.

OCT. 6

The James McHenry Recreation Center located at the intersection of Hollins and Poppleton Streets is inviting surrounding communities to an Open House October 6th, from 3:00 to 8:00 p.m.

The Open House will introduce a wonderful fall and winter lineup of sports programs, seminars and classes for the entire family. Entertainment foods, instant bingo and a raffle are a few of the attractions.

OCT. 9

All Day career & Sewing Seminar with pool side Luncheon and Fashion Show for working women (or men) who sew or have their garments made.

Others welcome too.

Saturday, Oct. 9, Ramada Inn Exit 17W off I-695 (1701 Belmont Ave.).

Presented by Dewilda B. Hairston, Fashion Designer Management Consultant.

DEWILDA

DeWILDA DEDICATES this event to the many women who are striving to improve their economic and social status in an austere era, and to those who find creating apparel and decbrative items for family and home, a fulfillment of love.

She began her fashion design activities as a hobby in Ohio in 1972 where her shows were widely acclaimed and attracted large crowds.

She has always emphazied the home sewing theme in an effort to help people help themselves.

With over 30 years experience in the business world, she has been a secretary, administrative officer, newspaper editor and program analyst.

In 1978 she moved to Maryland to become the national federal Women's Program Manager for the Bureau of Medical Services, U.S. Dept. Health and Human Svices.

She has been the recipient of numerous awards and citations.

Tony Brown's Comments

Harvard black law students defended

After being trampled on in the editorial pages of The Washington Post and The New York Times, both alleged to be "liberal" about Black issues, the Black law students at Harvard were defended in The Wall Street Journal by Professor Morris Freedman.

Rarely has a group of Afro-Americans been treated more unfairly and been accused of such nefarious racial conduct. But the White liberal Establishment (and its Negro envoys) felt its dominance over the Black community threatened.

Finally, the accused was given the witness stand. The Wall Street Journal published a letter from the president of the Harvard Black Law Students Association, Muhammad Kenyatta.

Perhaps I should say The Reverend Kenyatta since columnist Carl Rowan assumed that this Baptist preacher was a Muslim, who like others of the "Islamic mind-bent" would blame the controversial Jack Greenberg "for everything Israel has done in Lebanon."

Aside from being, obviously, a situation of exploiting the deep suspicions of Semitism that many Jews have, the remarks were insulting to the mild-mannered Kenyatta's years of civil rights work as a Christian missionary-community organizer. He was theologian-in-residence at Wooster College and a visiting professor at Temple University. Rev. Kenyatta wrote in the Journal:

Muhammad Kenyatta

Carl Rowan

"There are two reasons for all the fuss. The first is misinformation. Contrary to widespread reports, black students have not objected to a white person per se teaching a course on civil rights. Rather, we have insisted that, because blacks are so grossly underrepresented on its faculty, Harvard Law should seize the opportunity presented by the minority issues course to hire a full-time minority professor.

"Pseudo-liberal arrogance is the other and more profoundly disturbing reason for the tea pot tempt est. Inchoately, students have challenged the imposition of liberal hegemony upon America's black community. For many years, the distinction has been blurred between the orthodox liberal agenda and the autonomous aspirations of Afro-Americans. The students' boycott of a civil rights course taught by a controversial white liberal brings this distinction into stark relief. Implicit in Harvard's selection of a white teacher and explicit in Harvard's defense of that selection is the argument that a white liberal appointee is tantamount to a black appointee: that blacks have no identity autonomous of white liberalism.

"Such brazen ideological presumption deeply offends authentic values of classical liberalism, values dear to contemporary conservatives and liberals alike. But that ideological presumption has gone unchallenged because otherwise astute observers have accepted the liberal hegemony over the black community as an immutable fact of American racial politics.

Had Harvard appointed, say, Justice Rehnquist to teach minority issues, the students' boycott would have been applauded by many who now condemn it. Yet the basic issue of the students' quest for black faculty would be the same.

"To paraphrase Prof. Freedman, the right to black representation must be yielded to those who have lived their way into the knowledge of their own black needs."

Therefore, the students persist in their determination to boycott a course on racial issues taught by Jack Greenberg, head of the NAACP Legal Defense and Educational Fund.

TONY BROWN'S JOURNAL, the television series, can be seen on public television Saturdays, on channels 22 and 67, at 6:30 p.m. Please consult local listings.