Home Sweet White House:



President-elect Barack Obama.

Obama's Ready for Move to White House

By Deanna Bellandi

CHICAGO (AP) -

Obama's daughter Malia is looking 1600 Pennsylvania Ave. forward to decorating her new room, and already their lives in boxes and there's talk of sleepovers adjusting like any other at the White House.

turned her attention to it under the watchful eye schools, asking Washing- of the media and the Seton staff members and cret Service. friends about what might Before the election, 71be the best fit for Malia year-old Marian Robinand 7-year-old Sasha.

move to Washington to daughters grounded. help shuttle the girls to

much of the attention has tant it is for her to see that been on the government Continued on Page 4

transition, but there is family transition unfolding, too, as the president-President-elect Barack elect, his wife and daugh-10-year-old ters prepare for life at

They will be putting family set for a big move, Michelle Obama has except they will be doing

son, Michelle's mother, And Grandma, a life- told The Associated Press long Chicago resident, is that she would be a big preparing to pick up and part of keeping her grand-

"I will do whatever soccer games and recitals. Michelle needs simply be-Since Election Day, cause I know how impor-

Michelle Obama Visits D.C. Private Schools



The soon-to-be first lady toured Georgetown Day Obama and 7-year-old School in the morning and Sasha now attend a private Sidwell Friends School, school in Chicago. Sasha which former President will be the youngest White Bill Clinton's daughter, House resident since the Chelsea, attended, in the Kennedy administration, afternoon. In between, she and Washington is abuzz spent about two hours vis- with speculation about iting the residential por- where they will attend tion of the White House school, how much they with first lady Laura Bush. will appear in public, and Their husbands met pri-



vately in the Oval Office.

Michelle Obama visited Michelle Obama flew at least two well-known from Chicago to Washingprivate schools in Wash- ton and back separately ington on Monday as she from her husband, who did and President-elect Barack not visit the schools. It was Obama prepare to move not clear whether the Obatheir two young daughters mas will look at other to the White House in Jan-schools, and their staff provided no details.

Ten-year-old Malia **Continued on Page 4**

Obama Picks First Black Attorney General

as U.S Attorney General.

job late last week and tenta- terday. tively accepted it, sources

serve President-elect Obama cans on the Senate Judiciary Committee last week, and the Holder, 57, was offered the vetting pace accelerated yes-

Sources close to the process said. The Obama team intends said Holder was a "near-certo make the nomination offi- tainty" to become the first

Eric H. Holder Jr., a former cial if he receives at least African American nominated Justice Department official moderate support from Re- to head the Justice Departwho was President-elect publican lawmakers and com- ment, which plays a leading Barack Obama's campaign pletes the vetting process, the role in enforcing civil rights co-chairman is now the next sources said. Intermediaries laws. Officials in the Obama U.S. attorney general and will began to reach out to Republi- transition office said no final decision has been reached.

> Holden will inherit significant challenges, including a workforce demoralized by allegations of political interference in the Bush years; the

Continued on Page 4 ▶

Prop. 8

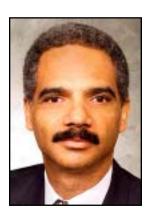
Goes to

Supreme

The California high court will

review legal challenges to Prop.

8. A hearing is set for March.



Eric H. Holder, Jr.

Al-Qaida Insults Obama with Racial Epithet

By Maamoun Youssef And LEE KEATH,

EGYPT (AP) -

Al-Qaida's No. 2 leader used a rights leader. racial epithet to insult Barack Wednesday, describing the president-elect in demeaning terms that imply he does the bidding of Powell and Condoleezza Rice whites. The message appeared "house Negroes." chiefly aimed at persuading

message, which appeared on mil-

itant Web sites, that Obama is "the direct opposite of honorable black Americans" like Malcolm X, the 1960s African-American

In al-Qaida's first response to Obama in a message posted Obama's victory, al-Zawahri also called the president-elect – along with secretaries of state Colin

Speaking in Arabic, al-Za-Muslims and Arabs that Obama wahri uses the term "abeed aldoes not represent a change in beit," which literally translates as U.S. policies. "house slaves." But al-Qaida Ayman al-Zawahri said in the supplied English subtitles of his **Continued on Page 6** ▶

Jobless Claims Jump to 16-Year High

Washington (AP) –

for unemployment benefits jumped weakening labor market.

The Labor Department says new economists' expectations of sion. 505,000, according to a survey by Thomson Reuters.

claims since July 1992, the depart- early 1980s.

ment says, when the economy was The government says new claims coming out of a recession.

The four-week average of claims, last week to a 16-year high, provid- which smooths out fluctuations, ing more evidence of a rapidly was even worse: it rose to 506,500, highest in more than 25 years.

In addition, the number of people applications for jobless benefits continuing to claim unemployment rose to a seasonally adjusted insurance rose sharply for a third 542,000 from a downwardly re- week to more than 4 million, highvised figure of 515,000 the previest since December 1982, when the ous week. That's much higher than economy was in a painful reces-

Those figures partly reflect growth in the labor force, which has That's also the highest level of increased by about half since the

Prior to a ruling, gay weddings will not be allowed to resume. The California Supreme Court voted 6 to

1 on Wednesday to review legal challenges to Proposition 8, the voter initiative that restored a ban on same-sex marriage, but refused to permit gay weddings to resume pending a final decision. The court may hold a hearing on the law-

suits as early as March, a timetable that scholars said was swift considering the complexity and importance of the legal is-

The court's action, taken during a closed conference, suggested that the court wants to resolve all of the legal issues surrounding Proposition 8, including the fate of existing gay marriages, in a single ruling.

It also indicated that at least one of the court's seven members, Justice Carlos R. Moreno, may be leaning in favor of overturning the measure. Moreno, who joined the state high court's 4-3 ruling in May to strike down a state ban on same-sex marriage, was the only justice to support granting a stay of the proposition.

In a move that puzzled some legal analysts, Justice Joyce L. Kennard, a generally reliable supporter of gay rights, voted to deny review of the Proposition 8 challenges. The court gave no indication of her reasons but said she was willing to hear a separate case on the validity of existing gay marriages.

Some analysts said the timeline for a hearing in the spring bodes well for the challengers, while others said it indicated nothing about the court's leanings.

"If the justices were really leaning towards upholding Prop. 8, and that was clear, they would have wanted to do it as quickly as possible and put the issue to rest," said UCLA law professor Brad Sears, an expert on sexual orientation law. He said the delay could indicate that the justices were divided and needed time to resolve the issues.

UC Berkeley law professor Goodwin Liu **Continued on Page 4**

WITH '08 ELECTION,

Arkansas Continues History of Denying Blacks Elective Office

BY ANDREW DEMILLO

ARKANSAS (AP) –

elect an African-American to since Reconstruction - and last congressional districts. week it soundly rejected the man

set to become the nation's first black president.

Barack Obama lost by 20 per-Arkansas remains the only state centage points, even though fellow from the former Confederacy not to Democrats control all of Arkansas' statewide offices, both chambers of Congress or any statewide office the Legislature and three of its four

Continued on Page 6 ▶

POLICE: Obama Threatened More Than any Other President-Elect

Washington (AP) –

The Secret Service would postings and other activity so sensitive. Threats against a new not comment or provide the directed at Obama than has Earlier this week, the Sepresident historically spike number of cases they are in- been seen with any past cret Service looked into the right after an election, but vestigating. But since the president-elect, said offi- case of a sign posted on a from Maine to Idaho law en- Nov. 4 election, law en- cials aware of the situation tree in Vay, Idaho, with Obaforcement officials are see- forcement officials have who spoke on condition of ma's name and the offer of a ing more against Barack seen more potentially threat- anonymity because the issue "free public hanging." In Obama than ever before, ening writings, Internet of a president's security is Continued on Page 4



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'He Keeps Blesseing Me...'

By **Pauline Kimber**

EVERYBODY STOP... Lets just praise God today...

When I entered our church sancturary one beautiful Sunday morning, the choir and audience were singing:

"I don't know what you come to do. I don't know what you come to do. I come to praise HIS name/his name I come to praise HIS name/his name..."

Then we went into "E-v-e-r-y Day is a Day of Thanksgiving...God's been so good to me...Every day he's blessing me..."

It didn't stop there...We praised him more with "The Lord is B-l-e-s-s-i-ng Me, Right Now, Ohooooo Right Now." Then. "God is a Good God, Yes He is," followed by "Oh Lord, Oh Lord, How Majestic is Your Name in all the

You should have been there...It was a beautiful time of worship and praise. But you were probably doing the same thing in your church...Let's just praise him some more...We are not going to ask him for a thing...Anyway he's heard our list so much he knows your list and mine....So, let's just talk about how good God is...Okay?

I'll go first.

"...And the clouds are the dust of his feet." Nahum 1:3

I have always liked pretty, fluffy white clouds in the sky against a blue heaven. As a young girl I loved to lie down on the lawn and look up in the sky at the clouds. I would hear people say, "What a beautiful day, not a cloud in the sky." I would think, but I *like* the clouds in the sky. Then, years later, I read in the Book of Nahun 1:3 that the clouds are the dust of the Lord's feet. I had to stop and re-read that...No wonder I love clouds! So I praise you Lord for the beautiful clouds in the sky...the dust of your feet. "I don't know what you come to do..."

"The Lord is gracious and full of compassion; slow to anger, and of great mercy." Psalm 145:8

He doesn't just "have compassion," he is full of it. He is eager and yearing and anxious to demonstrate to us his love and compassion. Then, not only is he slow to become angry with us, he has "great mercy." Not just mercy, but great mercy. Mercy is such a complex phenomenon that it is often preceded with "great" or "tender." And, of course, there is "Grace." "We are saved by grace, through faith..." Ephesians 2:4-9.

"Justice" is GETTING what you deserve.

"Mercy" is NOT GETTING what you deserve.

"Grace" is getting what you DO NOT deserve.

I hear some people say, "Well I want what's coming to me...I want what I deserve!" NOT ME. In fact, I pray that I don't get what I deserve. I want at least "mercy" and preferably "grace."

"His mercies are new every morning..." Lamentation 3:23

We praise you Lord for mercy and Grace. "E-v-e-r-y Day is a day of thanksgiving..."

"No good thing will he withhold from them that walk uprightly. **Psalm 84:11b**

But Lord, you gave me a "good thing" before I had even walked...let alone "walked uprightly"...I'm still trying to do that! You gave me a beautiful, sweet, Mother who wore "strength and honour" as her clothing. And when she spoke it was "wisdom in her mouth" and "kindness on her tongue." She and our wonderful dad trained up their ten children in the way they should

Lord, nobody can choose their parents...Yet you gave me the most wonderful of all earthly gifts. You blessed me that I may be a blessing.

"The Lord is b-l-e-s-s-i-n-g me, right now, Ohooooo, right now."

Now it's your turn...Tell me how good God has been to you... "God is a good God," isn't he? I absolutely love it when people stop me and tell me how they love God too...and how great he has been...and ask me, "What are you reading now?" ...and tell me that they are reading Proverbs every day too...I love it, I love it, I love it.

You can read with us too. Whatever day of the month, that's the chapter in Proverbs we are reading. It's only 31 chapters in Proverbs, and 30 or 31 days in a month. Read one verse if nothig else, and meditate on it. Today is November 21, so we are reading Proverbs, chapter 21.

Delight thyself also in the Lord, and he will give you the desires of thine heart. Psalms 37:4.

Lord, the desire of our heart to day is to praise you. Oh, Lord, Oh Lord, how majestic is your name in all the earth...

"Wherefore God hath...given him a name which is above every name." His name is JESUS...And he just keeps on blessing me...

You too?....I knew it, I knew it.

He's so wonderful.

Pauline Kimber has been a Bible Teacher for over 40 years. She and husband Les Kimber, a former Fresno City Councilman, founded The California Advocate Newspaper in 1967. They have three children and four grandchildren: Brittany, Brooklynn, Taylor, and Elias.

RELIGION

The Power of Love: **Faithmates Robert & Denise**

A True Story of Love and Devotion That Started at Faithmate.com

bride all over again when she describes her be with family since he could not work yet. match made in heaven. She recites every detail as if it were yesterday.

other and exchanged numbers." Though hundreds of miles separated them, they immediately found so many common bonds immediately began planning our wedding that they decided to take the next step.

"He drove from Atlanta up to Maryland to meet me mid-August.'

The stars burst right away for these two – says Denise, "I knew, even from our first encounter, that he was special," and clearly he felt the same way. "We continued to communicate with one another," with Robert traveling to Maryland and Denise going to Atlanta.

But a challenge from above was laid before the happy couple.
On Dec. 7, 2007 Robert suffered a stroke.

Now, any Faithmate will tell you that bardoor is shut, use the window – Once Robert was released from the hospital in January, Denise flew to Atlanta for 11 days to care

"During that time, God brought us closer please visit www.Faithmate.com

"Faithmate was a blessing to Robert and together." Though he was getting better, I," says Denise H., who becomes a blushing Robert had to move back to New Jersey to

"We continued to see one another. I actually helped him with his move, driving his "Robert first contacted me through Faith- car from Atlanta," writes Denise, before mate on Aug. 1, 2007. We emailed each drawing a big breath for the beautiful next chapter of the story:

'Robert proposed to me Aug. 4, 2008. We for May 16, 2009."

But this love would not wait, so "we decided to get married in my home Sept.

To celebrate this union, Faithmate is bringing Robert and Denise to visit Bishop Noel Jones at the City of Refuge Church in Los Angeles in December.

Amen.

About Faithmate.com: Faithmate.com is a webbased community where single Christians are able to meet, form friendships and relationships with likeminded people. Our mission is to be one of God's riers are made to be stepped over. When a conduits to getting people into lifelong, Christ-centered relationships, thereby fulfilling the biblical mandate to be fruitful and multiply; a multiplication not just defined by getting married and having kids, but coming together as a part of God's Divine Plan to fulfill a purpose in the earth. To learn more,

'Christmas…Who Needs It' in Stores November 25, 2008

EMI Gospel and Fred Hammond have in retail outlets on November 25, 2008. partnered in order to release the first DVD fHammond Family Entertainment, entitled Christmas...Who Needs It.

surely put us all in the Christmas spirit. The inspiration for this play was based on the early Tyler Perry plays and I just took the idea and kicked it up a notch by shooting it which we presently find ourselves as a na-

leased by EMI Gospel and will be available with Fred Hammond."

"This movie is uplifting and as a Chrisof Hammond's Stage play produced by tian, this is the type of movie I have wanted in the marketplace for years," says Roy Campbell, Hammond's business partner "This is a faith based 'dramedy' that will and fHammond Family Entertainment Board Chairman.

> Christmas...Who Needs It is presently on sale on-line at www.fredhammondlive.com

"There is definitely a marketplace for this in Panasonic HD with Redrock Panavi- play and the agreement with EMI Gospel sion," said Fred Hammond, the Producer and Star of the movie. "The timing is divine and it will hopefully enable people to find Brown, of Brown & Rosen LLC, legal some joy during these difficult times in counsel to Fred Hammond. Ken Pennell, President of EMI Gospel also stated "We have great expectations for the film and Christmas...Who Needs It will be re- look forward to a continued relationship

Sheri Jones-Moffett Leads T.D. Jakes 'The Gift Remains'

The Title Song from Bishop T.D. Jakes' Latest Holiday CD Featuring Mary Mary, Brian McKnight, Kirk Whalum and BeBe & CeCe Winans, Among Others

Sheri Jones-Moffett has been a busy lady. lights and falling snow" in the song which gospel smashes as "Come Ye Disconsolate" and "Celebrate" with vocal partner Ted

more than just some mistletoe, blinking more information.

The singer best known for such Top Ten reminds the world that Jesus Christ's birth is the reason for the holiday season.

Eboni Funderburk Grimes of EFG Pro-Winn, is enjoying a nice side career as a so-motions & Consulting in Nashville is worklo artist. Aside from leading Donald ing the song at radio and Capital Entertain-Lawrence & the Tri-City Singers' 2007 #1 ment is working it in the press. The twelve-gospel hit "Encourage Yourself," she re-cently gave birth to a son, Jamal. She and saxophonist Kirk Whalum, CeCe Winans' her husband, Dion, also have a three-year old daughter named Khady.

majestic "O Little Town of Bethlehem", Debbie Winans' cover of the David Foster-The songstress will soon announce a new solo recording deal with a major gospel mas List" and BeBe Winans' orchestral take recording label; but in the meantime, Jones- on "Joy to the World." Crooner Brian McK-Moffett adds her lush vocals to the breath- night offers an urban-flavored reading of taking title song of Bishop T.D. Jakes' new "The First Noel" while the project is roundholiday CD, The Gift Remains (Dexterity ed out with sing-a-long cuts by Mary Mary, Sounds/Rhino). This jazzy tune is destined to become a future Christmas classic with (daughter of Jacky Clark of the Clark Sisits heavenly backing vocals, acoustic guitar ters), and Cyndy Paisley. In between songs, strumming, an intro by Bishop Jakes him- Bishop Jakes' sonorous baritone offers inself and percussive Latin textures. In the spiring Christmas messages of hope and majestic track, Jones-Moffet sings, "It's faith. Visit www.dexteritysounds.com for

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Obama Picks First Black Attorney General...

wiretapping.

Holder has extensive expedinner party.

rience with the criminal vexing issue of how to justice system. He is widely er members of the Clinton 1964 and the Voting Rights close the U.S. military known within the city's le- administration who have Act of 1965, two of the prison at Guantanamo Bay, gal community and for his signed on to the Obama landmark pieces of legisla-Cuba; and the question of philanthropic work on be- team, including White tion affecting blacks and whether to open criminal half of troubled juveniles House counsel Greg Craig, investigations of adminis- detained at the Oak Hill fa- White House Chief of Staff tactics and warrantless partner at the Covington & President-elect Joseph R. Burling law firm, and he Biden Jr. As a former judge and took an active role in the

top federal prosecutor in presidential campaign after Holder would be in charge that he will be the first the District of Columbia, befriending Obama at a of a department that has African American attorney overseen enforcement of general."

Holder joins several oth- the Civil Rights Act of other minorities.

"It's fantastic that he will tration officials who ap- cility. In recent years he de- Rahm Emanuel and Ron be a great attorney generproved harsh interrogation fended corporations as a Klain, chief of staff to Vice al," said John Payton, president of the NAACP Legal Defense and Educational As attorney general, Fund. "It's also significant

Obama's Ready for Move to White House...

► Continued from Page 1 cipline and still have things the campaign. that children do at their diston, though the timing and to them about what would political meaning. where she will live remain happen if their father won

make sure life stayed as nor- to decorate their own rooms his household. mal as possible for their in the White House. girls. They plan to keep their versity of Chicago.

Cindy Moelis.

ger after his election. Resi- Rhode Island. dents must show ID to get onto his street. Neighbors Obama girls to keep up a Malia is in fifth grade and and making sure they were inside the zone have to wait full schedule of their fa- Sasha is in second. about an hour to receive de- vorite activities. For Malia Obama haunt.

Agents carrying guns also the piano and tennis.

Chicago home, a \$1.65 mil- aged them to talk to their is that Malia is allergic, so it lion mansion in a South Side cousins about what it is like has to be hypoallergenic," neighborhood near the Uni- to move, start a new school the president-elect said. "On from her job as a bank execand make new friends. the other hand, our prefer- utive secretary to help with "This has been their an- Michelle's brother, Craig ence would be to get a shel- her granddaughters, will be chor," said longtime friend Robinson, is a college bas- ter dog, but a lot of shelter a comfort to the Obama ketball coach who has dogs are mutts like me." Barricades were erected moved around for his job. long ago along two streets Robinson recently went to has already started looking pounded the campaign trail, running past his home, but Oregon State after coaching into schools for the girls, Robinson took care of them, the restricted zone got big- at Brown University in who now attend the private picking them up from

they go. But the family had to be made easier by a new to the White House. Her Michelle Obama's.

the presidency. The girls had news conference Friday, she moved into the execu-The Obamas worked hard plenty of questions, includ- Obama called the dog's se- tive mansion in 1961. She during the campaign to ing whether they would get lection a "major issue" in attended first grade in a

Their parents also encour- have to be reconciled. One House.

The soon-to-be first lady University of Chicago Lab- school and shuttling them to The family plans for the oratory Schools, where play dates or other activities

President George W. liveries from Medici on that includes acting and soc- Bush's twin daughters were continue that role in Wash-57th, a local restaurant and cer, while Sasha loves 19 when he became presisinging, dancing, playing dent, but President Bill Clinton's daughter, Chelsea, Grandma," escort the family wherever The transition is also sure was 12 when she moved in- Matthews, a close friend of

time to get used to the family dog the Obamas have parents sent her to the elite the children ... still have dis- heightened security during promised their daughters – a Washington private school promise set in stone in Oba- Sidwell Friends. Jimmy To prepare the girls for the ma's acceptance speech. Carter's daughter, Amy, posal," Robinson said. She big move to the nation's cap- What breed they select is who was 9 when her father plans to move to Washing- ital, the Obamas had talked sure to be analyzed for its took office in 1977, was sent to a public school. Caroline At his first post-election Kennedy was almost 4 when makeshift third-floor class-"We have two criteria that room inside the White

> Friends say having Robinson, who retired last year

> While their parents home in time for piano lessons. She will probably ington.

> "There's nothing like said

Prop. 8 Goes to **Supreme Court**

Lawyers pressing the The campaign the court order.

Shannon Price Minter, the measure. a lawyer for the National "We see today as a Center for Lesbian grand slam," said Andy time- table and disap- was granted." pointment that the court He said Kennard's vote pending a final ruling.

illness," Minter said.

► Continued from Page 1 vote to refuse to hear the said the court's refusal to challenges, Minter said: put Proposition 8 on hold "I am neither worried nor pending a ruling did not complacent. I just feel suggest that the court like with all of them we would eventually uphold have our work cut out to the measure. "A stay is an convince them. There is extraordinary measure," no telling where any of them stand."

legal challenges praised Proposition 8 also praised the court and also refused the court's action, which to draw inferences from granted the campaign the right to argue in favor of

Rights, one of the liti- Pugno, general counsel of gants, expressed gratitude Protect Marriage.com. for the "extremely fast" "Everything we asked for

did not permit same-sex "seemed to indicate that marriages to resume she thought the lawsuits had . . . little merit."

"We are concerned that California Atty. Gen. there may be some cou- Jerry Brown, whose ofples who will never be fice also will defend able to marry because of Proposition 8, called the this because of death or court's decision to review lness," Minter said. the cases "welcome Asked about Kennard's news."

Obama Threat

▶ **Continued from Page 1** candidate in early 2007. North Carolina, civil rights

betting pool on when Oba-Obama Shotgun Pool," saying the money would go to The

sign, since taken down.

Obama, of course, will be officials complained of the country's first black threatening racist graffiti president, and Funk said targeting Obama found in a that new element, not just tunnel near the North Car- race itself, is probably reolina State University cam- sponsible for a spike in anti-Obama postings and ac-And in a Maine conve-tivity. "Anytime you're gonience store, an Associated ing to have something that's Press reporter saw a sign new, you're going to have inviting customers to join a increased chatter," he said.

The Secret Service also ma might fall victim to an has cautioned the public not assassin. The sign solicited to assume that any threats \$1 entries into "The Osama against Obama are due to

The service investigates the person picking the date threats in a wide range. closest to when Obama was There are "stated threats" attacked. "Let's hope we and equally dangerous or have a winner," said the lesser incidents considered of "unusual interest" - such In the security world, as people motivated by obanything "new" can trigger sessions or infatuations or hostility, said Joseph Funk, lower-level gestures such as a former Secret Service effigies of a candidate or an agent-turned security con- elected president. The sersultant who oversaw a pri- vice has said it does not vate protection detail for have the luxury of discount-Obama before the Secret ing anything until agents Service began guarding the have investigated.

Michelle Obama Visits Private Schools

► Continued from Page 1 other details.

And she's prettier in person," Ellie Lasater-Guttmann, an Friends had been the presi-skirt and jacket. She was ac-in integration and prides iteighth grader at Georgetown dential family's choice in the companied by four to five se-self on its diversity. A report Day, said in an interview past. near the campus after Students at Georgetown head of the school, they said. site says about 35% of its esglimpsing Michelle Obama.

would attend Georgetown the school sometime this and the Maret School. "She's so tall, oh my gosh! Day. "It's really our turn," week. She walked in shortly she said, noting that Sidwell before noon, wearing a black in 1945, was an early pioneer

Day said they were told Ellie, who is 13, said she Monday morning that had camped out at George-color.

cret service agents and the posted on the school's web-

hoped the Obama girls Michelle Obama would visit town Day, Sidwell Friends

Georgetown Day, founded Reporters and TV crews timated 1,000 students are of





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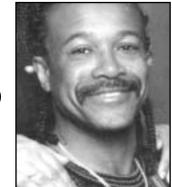
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Arkansas Denies Blacks Elective Office...

► Continued from Page 1

Arkansas' long and tortured Arkansas electorate." civil-rights history.

Elliott, who is black, said cent went for McCain. she would someday like to run for statewide or con- sissippi and Louisiana are understand that." gressional office but is not the only states where Presi-

the state to say this is some- loss. thing we want to do. This is to fill," she said.

was not unexpected. He tion" for Obama's loss in had gone Republican in ev- Bositis, senior political ana- Democrats in nominating ery presidential election lyst at the Joint Center for blacks to statewide office. since 1980 except when its Political and Economic Kenneth "Muskie" Harris former governor Bill Clin- Studies in Washington. ton was running for the White House.

College in Conway.

"There really wasn't a dialogue about his candidacy meanwhile, it took until er's race in 2006 to Demo-

the absence of that conver- nominate a black candidate. Many blacks say race is sation, it allowed certain Ron Sheffield, a lawyer in they have a chance to show the reason, and consider the stereotypes and assump- his first political run, lost in off their diversity in upcompoor showing to be another tions about Obama to really lieutenant governor's race frustrating chapter in lock in in the eyes of the that year to billionaire GOP Treasurer Joseph Wood,

Exit polls conducted with American at a statewide showed that 68 percent of level would show we're white voters went for Rewilling to move forward. publican John McCain, with seat that is in a district that We have an obligation to 30 percent voting for Oba- is 80 percent minority? OK, continue to belie that piece ma. In 2004, President Bush in people's brains," said white vote, compared to 36 Joyce Elliott, a Democrat percent for Democrat John ity, but should a political unopposed last week in a Kerry. Among white womstate Senate race in Little en in 2004, 60 percent voted tricts that are safe districts for Bush; this year 68 per-

"It's important for all of than Kerry did in his 2004 in

Obama's losing Arkansas race that was the explana-

have been elected to mer Nazi and Ku Klux Klan Since Obama did not Congress in Arkansas is decampaign here the way he mographics: Unlike many in 1990 but lost to Jim Guy did in the Southern states he Southern states, it has no Tucker in the general elecwon – Florida, Virginia and predominantly black contion. North Carolina – it's hard to gressional districts. In a predict how future black state of less than 3 million Bryant Jones ran for secrecandidates might fare in people, about 16 percent of Arkansas, said Jay Barth, a them black, it would be difpolitical scientist at Hendrix ficult to draw up such a district.

in the state," Barth said. "In 2002 for Democrats to even crat Martha Shoffner.

Sheffield said he wanted "To vote for an African- Arkansas voters last week to show other minority candidates what was possible.

> "Why run for a legislative you know a minority is gothat's predominantly minorcandidate only run in diswhere they know they're them to shine, with at least going to probably get elect- one black state senator eye-Arkansas, Alabama, Mis- ed?" Sheffield said. "I don't ing a race for secretary of

In 2004 and 2006, Apnonpartisan on political issues.

Arkansas won a GOP runoff for lieu-One reason no blacks tenant governor against forsympathizer Ralph Forbes

Retired educator Rose tary of state in 1998 but lost to Democrat Sharon Priest. Chris Morris, part of then-Gov. Mike Huckabee's ad-For statewide offices, minstration, lost the treasur-

ing elections. State Party incumbent Win Rockefeller. who is black, said he's likely to run for party chairman when the state committee meets next month and said he believes the party will have a diverse field of candidates.

"Do I think we'll see of history that is indelibly carried 63 percent of the ing to be elected in a district more? Absolutely," Wood

Democrats also say they think the state's 2010 elections will offer a chance for state.

"Arkansas over the years encouraged by the state's dent-elect Obama fared peals Court Judge Wendell has become a more progresworse among white voters Griffen lost statewide bids sive state than it's ever state been. The issues of race pol-Supreme Court races while itics are less prevalent than "It says to me that race is simultaneously fighting a they were in our previous an opportunity gap we need still a predominant issue in disciplinary panel over the history," said Sen. Hank those states and that it was rights of judges to speak out Wilkins, D-Pine Bluff. "I think there's a convergence Republicans of things that make it possimade no trips to a state that those states, said David have fared better than ble for that to happen in the future."

Black leaders in the state say both parties need to do a better job of recruiting black candidates who can run for higher office and win. If not, the state could suffer economically as much as politically, they

"That's why we're having a migration out of Arkansas of talented young black professionals," Griffen said. "They don't see an opportunity for real long-term progress in public policy involvement if they stay here in this state."

Al-Qaida Insults Obama with Epithet.

groes."

which he explains the Laden said. term, saying black slaves servile than those who cause Afghans will resist. worked in the fields. Malto whites.

In Washington, State to them," he said. Department spokesman ments from a terrorist."

Jewish skullcap as he see." meets with Jewish leaders. In his speech, al-Zawahri ry showed Americans acrefers to a Nov. 5 U.S. knowledged that President airstrike attack Afghanistan, meaning the were a failure and that the

Al-Zawahri said Obama's election has not of support for Israel during changed American poli- the election campaign cies he said are aimed at "confirmed to the Ummah oppressing Muslims and (Islamic world) that you others.

new face, but its heart full lims," al-Zawahri said.

▶ Continued from Page 1 of hate, mind drowning in speech that included the greed, and spirit which translation as "house Ne- spreads evil, murder, repression and despotism The message also in- continue to be the same as cludes old footage of always," the deputy of alspeeches by Malcolm X in Qaida chief Osama bin

He said Obama's plan to who worked in their white shift troops to Afghanistan masters' house were more is doomed to failure, be-

"Be aware that the dogs colm X used the term to of Afghanistan have found criticize black leaders he the flesh of your soldiers accused of not standing up to be delicious, so send thousands after thousands

Al-Zawahri did not Sean McCormack said the threaten specific attacks, latest message was just but warned Obama that he "more despicable com- was "facing a Jihadi (holy war) awakening and re-The 11-minute 23-sec- naissance which is shakond video features the au- ing the pillars of the entire dio message by al-Za- Islamic world; and this is wahri, who appears only the fact which you and in a still image, along with your government and other images, including country refuse to recogone of Obama wearing a nize and pretend not to

He said Obama's victoin George W. Bush's policies video was made after that result was an "admission of defeat in Iraq."

But Obama's professions have chosen a stance of "America has put on a hostility to Islam and Mus-

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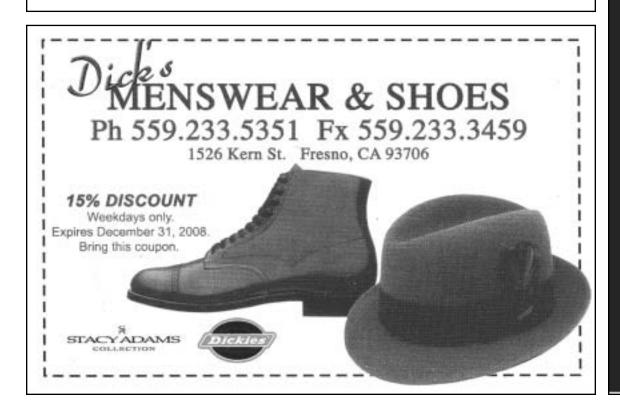








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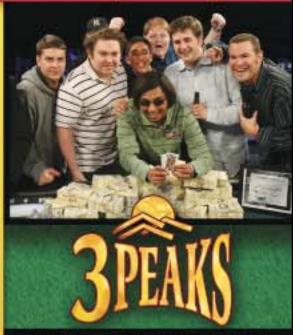
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